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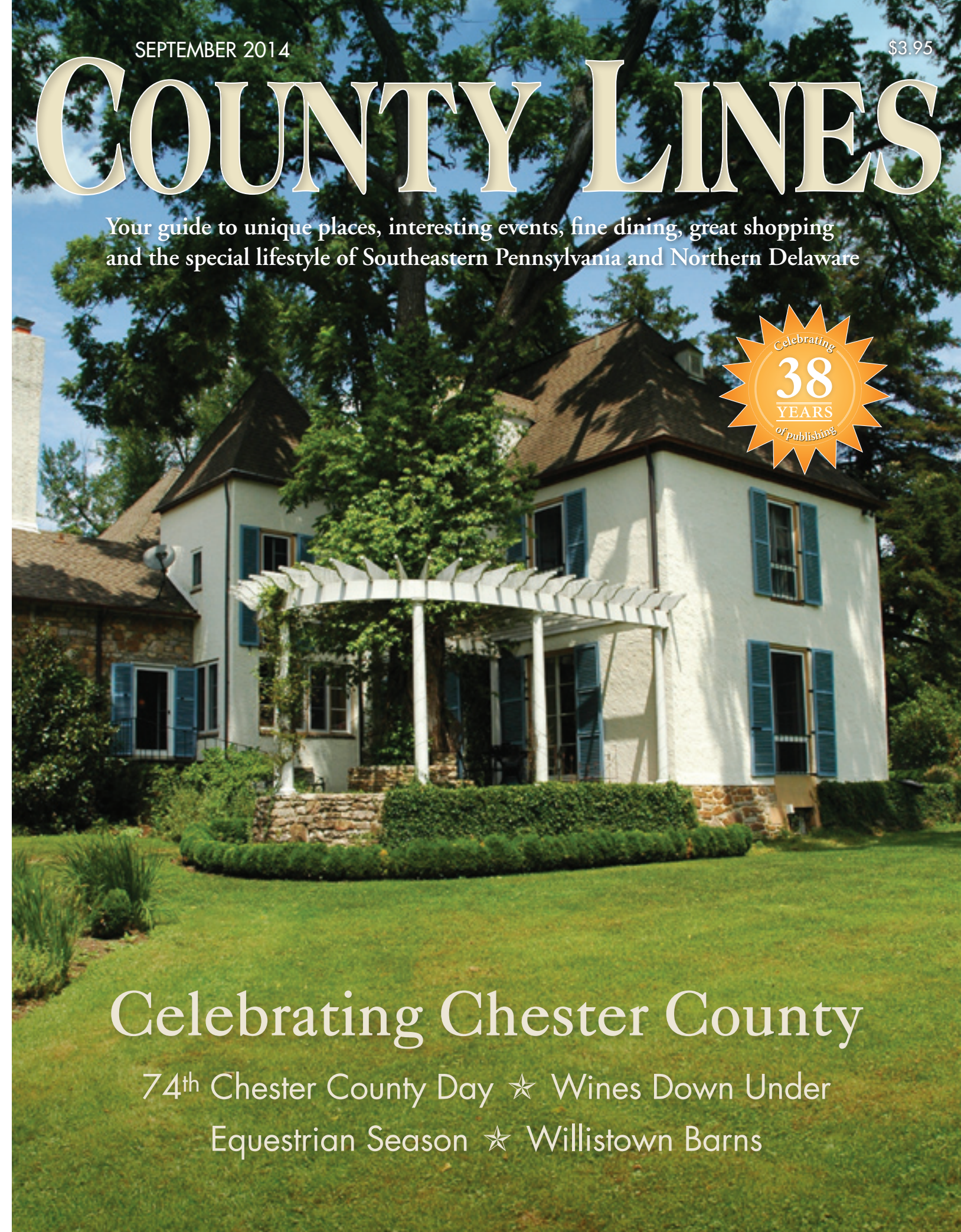
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Raised in Radnor, PA, Patricia Brennan has been providing Wealth Management advice right here in West Chester for over 25 years. She is a Georgetown University graduate and earned her CFP® designation in 1990. She is a recognized leader in her industry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

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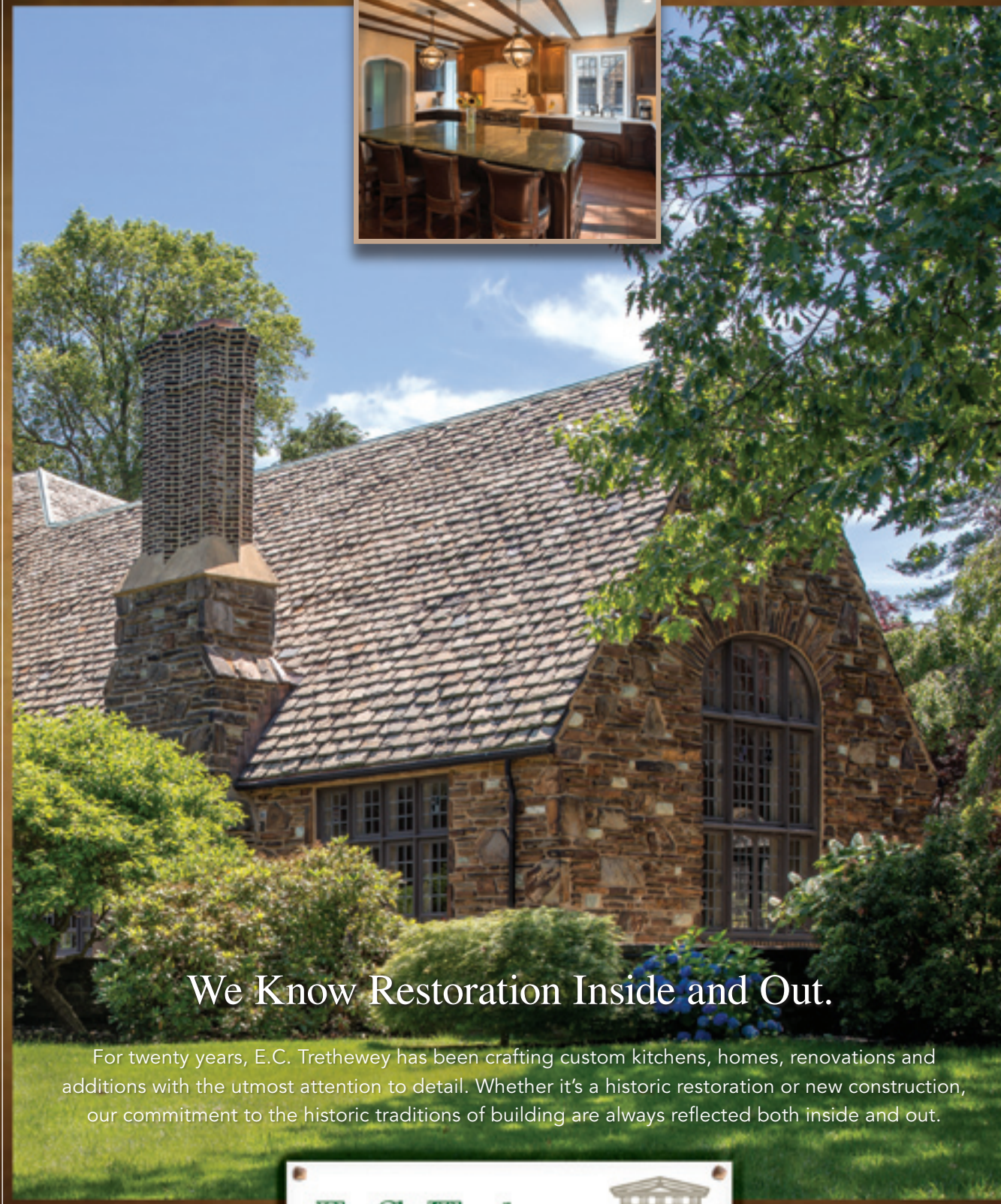
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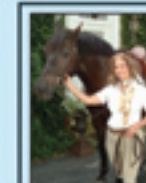


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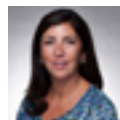


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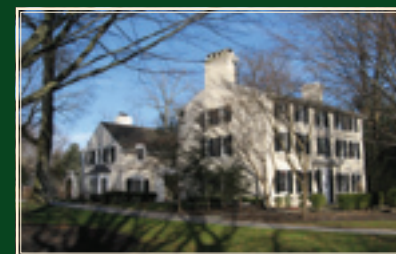


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From *the*
Editor

September. Change is in the air. Open the windows. Breathe deeply. We're celebrating Chester County all month long.

In our cover story we visit the northeast quadrant of Chester County for the oldest house tour in the country. Matt Freeman previews five fine examples of Chester County architecture and home design in "The 74th Tour of Tours: Chester County Day."

Farmhouse or waterfront? Laurel Anderson visits another home for "Home of the Month: Pickering Springs Farm"—a gentleman's farm on a 15-acre lake, with a house dating back to the late 1700s.

And we get an armchair tour of five working barns, plus a short history lesson, as part of Willistown Conservation Trust's celebration of open space at its Barns & BBQ fundraiser. Jodi Spraggins takes us there.

One of Chester County's favorite pastime—horse shows—is well represented as the fall equestrian season gets into full swing. Meghan Baddorf looks at "The Devon Fall Classic," Jake Ritzheimer reports on "Plantation Fields Horse Trials" and Ginny Simon shares behind-the-scenes stories in "Dressage at Devon ... We'll be Watching." And we learn about Penn Vet's New Bolton Center in "Talking With ... Corinne Sweeney."

September also means back to school and time to think about books. Andrea Kiliany Thatcher recommends books to help expand your mind in "Back to the Books." Laura Muzzi Brennan is thinking about school, too—school lunch, that is. Read Brandywine Table's "Better Brown Bags" for some fresh ideas.

I'm thinking about a glass of wine: chardonnay, cabernet, shiraz ... "Exploring Wine 'Down Under'" by Moira O'Neal takes us to Australia's McLaren Vale as she shares tasting notes on several excellent bottles.

September is also full of things to do. In "Exalted Nature: The Real and Fantastic World of Charles Burchfield," Audrey Lewis previews a visionary exhibit at Brandywine River Museum. And we bring you a full page of Family Fun in our expanded Events Section!

Thank you for reading this issue.



Jo Anne Durako
Editor

Coming in October!

OPEN
HOUSE

season is here at schools!

- What's New Across County Lines
- A Visit to Southern Chester County
- About Lagers—and Oktoberfest

Plus: Being Well, Home of the Month & the Best Events Coverage anywhere!



COUNTY LINES MAGAZINE

September 2014

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PUBLISHER

Edwin Malet

EDITOR

Jo Anne Durako

ART DIRECTOR / PRODUCTION

Alex Bianco

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Marci Tomassone

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Jaimielynn Cooper

DINING OUT EDITOR

Lise Monty

FOOD EDITOR

Laura Muzzi Brennan

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Sue Angelucci Sontagh

Chrisy Holsopple

Eva Greenholt

BUSINESS MANAGER

Debra M. French

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Laurel Anderson

George Fitzpatrick

Matt Freeman

Jane Gallagher

Emily Hart

Cooky McClung

Carol Metzker

Cindy Walker

William Woys Weaver

EDITORIAL INTERNS

Meghan Baddorf

Jake Ritzheimer

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Alix Coleman

Andrew Seymour

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ValleyDel Publications, Inc.

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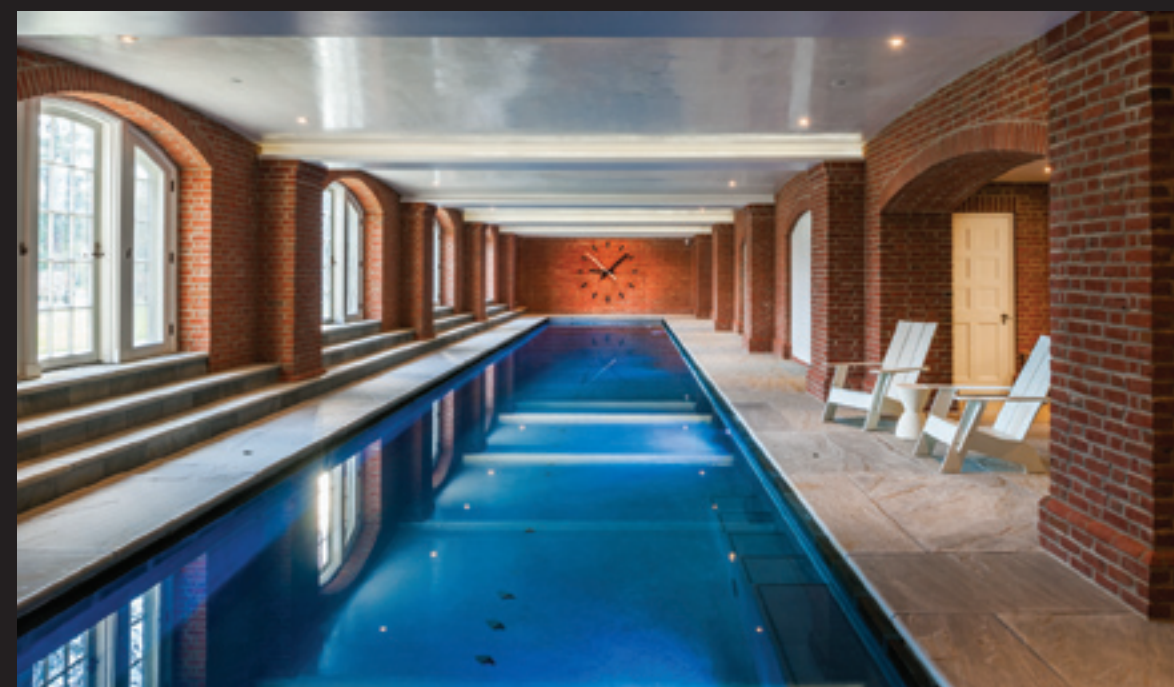
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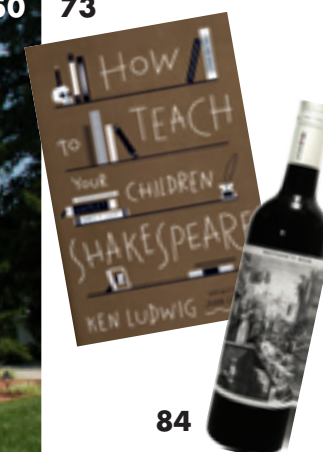
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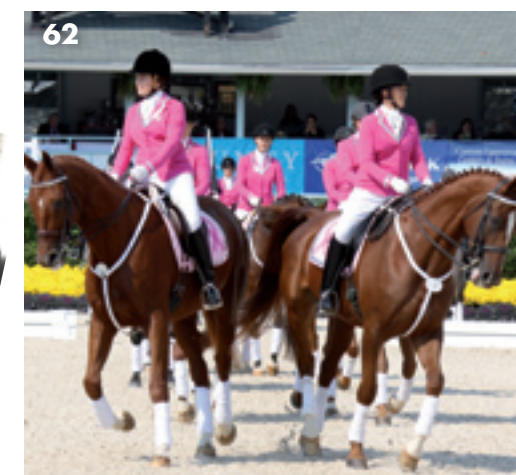
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How Do You Find the Right Family Doctor?

Charles P. Catania, M.D.

It's worth investing some thought into this long-term partnership.

Finding the right family doctor can be difficult. Most people find doctors through referrals from family, friends, co-workers and neighbors. Some patients choose a doctor who's affiliated with their insurance without knowing much else. Either way, choosing a physician can feel like a gamble. I hope this advice helps you choose the right physician for you and your family.

How to Start

Start by listing features of the medical practice that are most important to you. The first step may be to verify that the doctor takes your insurance, which can be a deal breaker.

Other questions to consider: Is the practice convenient to your home or office, to cut down on travel time? Is the doctor affiliated with your preferred hospital? What's the doctor's edu-

cational background? Does he have a specialty you're looking for (pediatrics, internal medicine, geriatrics)? Is the doctor board certified in relevant areas to care for you and your family? Physicians' backgrounds can shape how they practice.

Does the office offer ancillary services such as lab tests or x-rays on site? Ask your insurance referral source if the physician handles most issues in the office, or are patients usually sent to a specialist. Ask how long it takes to get an urgent appointment, and if the physician and staff return phone calls promptly. Who covers when the doctor is on vacation or unavailable?

Your goal is to find an office that's accessible when you need care—to accommodate most of your needs, not just your well visits. Most of this information can be found online or from a phone call to the doctor's office.

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About the Office

Other important characteristics to look for are friendliness of the staff and cleanliness of the office—things that reflect how the practice cares for patients' comforts. Find out about average wait-times for appointments, since waiting is a big factor in patient satisfaction and demonstrates how a practice values patients' time. A doctor who doesn't double-book patients values time spent with you.

Availability of appointments is important, too. For instance, will the physician be available when you need an appointment—after business hours, on weekends? If you're sick, will your regular doctor or an assistant, such as a nurse practitioner or a physicians' assistant, answer your call?

Office Staff

When you choose your new doctor, you should expect a smooth, friendly transition. The office should help you gather your prior medical records and answer questions about the practice.

From the initial office phone call, you should feel welcomed and confident in the people you speak with. It's important to know the staff is reliable, courteous and accountable before you join the practice. Good offices should have knowledgeable and well-trained staff who can answer questions correctly and courteously. It's a great way to gauge if the office trains staff properly.

Your New Doctor

A physician might be open to an initial meeting to talk about office policies and the practice. Most doctors will do this, and although there may be a small fee, it's worthwhile to assess your compatibility in this important relationship.

Look for someone who is open, easy to talk with, and explains things in a way you understand. The physician should listen to your opinions and concerns about your health as you form this doctor-patient partnership.

You may want to know if the doctor calls you back about all lab results and procedures, not just abnormal results. Many doctors believe if you take the

time to have procedures done, you deserve to hear the results from the person who ordered them. The more open and friendly a physician is with a patient, the better the care, compliance and follow-ups.

Choosing a primary care physician is an important task that can shape your health. Take your time and remember you're choosing a partner in your future health. Let that lead the way in your search. ♦

Dr. Charles P. Catania is Board Certified in Family Medicine and works at Gateway Medical Associates in their West Chester office. He has an interest in pediatrics, with an emphasis in genetics due to his previous experience at CHOP, and takes pride in creating a personal and friendly experience when caring for his patients and their families. GatewayDoctors.com; 610-431-1210.



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Good to Know

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



Life Hacks. It's the little things in life that can be the most irritating. The sting of a paper cut. The embarrassment of a missed high-five. Whether it's minor pains or major faux pas, you can get help. Put Chap Stick on that cut for instant healing. Look at the person's elbow to hit every high-five bull's eye. **Life Hacks** are little tips that make a big difference. Improve your life in a thousand ways. See more hacks at 1000LifeHacks.com.

A Ride Through History. September 20th and 21st you can ride along the Schuylkill River and take a dip in history on **Pedaling Through Our National Parks**. This third ride in the **Schuylkill River Trail Bike Tour Series** travels along the water, making stops at three National Parks—starting at Hopewell Furnace, then Valley Forge, and ending at Independence National Historic Park in Philadelphia. Riders will soak up natural beauty on the 30-miles-per-day ride then hit the breaks to absorb some history. Learn more about blending recreation and education at SchuylkillRiver.org.



Will Bike for Food. September 21st, join the **Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture (PASA)** for the **7th Annual "Bike Fresh Bike Local"** ride. Choose between a 10, 25, 50 or 75-mile excursion. Whichever you choose, all roads lead to Victory Brewing Company in Downingtown where you'll be greeted with local grub and a complimentary beer. The event's proceeds benefit PASA's work with local farms in eastern Pennsylvania. Help promote local farms that produce healthy food with respect for the environment. PASAfarming.org.



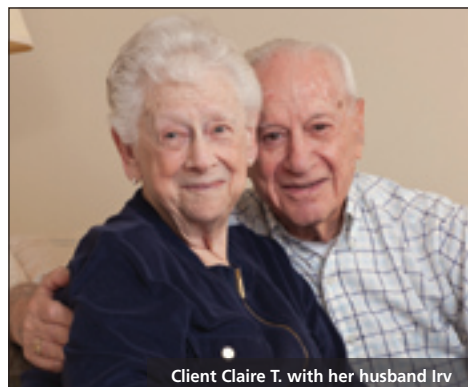
If These Walls Could Talk. Imagine coffee being made, your favorite tunes playing, the curtains being drawn to invite the morning sun—all while you're still in bed. Sound like something from a sci-fi flick? All this and more is possible using **Homey**, a device that connects to smart appliances and devices. Simply say your commands aloud and Homey responds accordingly. It even answers back to confirm directions. The future is here. SpringWise.com/Homey.



Mini-Regatta.

To mark the 20th anniversary of the Vintage Model Yacht Group, Marsh Creek State Park will be the site of a national championship regatta of remote controlled vintage model yachts (restored antiques or hand-built pre-1970s models). Hosted by the **Chester Springs Model Yacht Club**, this event will attract skippers from Florida to Maine as well as from our area. Though the sport of organized model yachting dates back to the early 1800s, you can catch a glimpse near the park entrance, September 25-28. For more, check their website, Sites.Google.com/site/csmyclub/home/usvmyg-nationals.





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Barclay Friends 10th Annual Festival of Gardens



September 6

Join an exclusive walking tour of 12+ private gardens in the south central neighborhood of West Chester. You'll find local artists working in many of the gardens and

a plant sale at Barclay Friends following the tour. Benefits Barclay's Horticultural Program. 700 N. Franklin St., West Chester. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$20–\$25. 610-696-5211; BF.Kendal.org.

September 20

Enjoy a fabulous afternoon and evening in Willistown's glorious open spaces as you Run or Muck (walk) along the 5K cross-country trail. End at the countryside bash with live music, a country supper, pet parade, climbing wall and lots of fun for the whole family. Leashed dogs are welcome at this fundraiser. *Heartwood, 912 Providence Rd., Newtown Square. 2:30 to 10 p.m. Runners must register in advance, \$15–\$60. 610-353-2562; WCTrust.org.*

Willistown Conservation Trust Run-a-Muck Event



3rd Annual Hootenanny Hoedown

September 13

The day begins at 9 a.m. with a 5K Trail Race for Conservation, then a Children's Run Over Obstacles for ages 10 and under at 9:45 a.m. Come back in the evening for the Hoedown featuring a BBQ, table games, a silent auction and dancing. Benefits The Land Conservancy of Southern Chester County's efforts to protect open space. *“The Ruins” on the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup Course, entrance on Rt. 842 (Upland Rd.), Unionville. 5:30 p.m. \$75–150. 610-347-0347; TLCForSCC.org.*



12th Annual People's Light Golf Classic



September 30

You'll have a fun, relaxed day that includes golf, lunch, cocktails, dinner, a small silent auction, putting contest, raffle, skill prizes and more. The Classic benefits the Arts Discovery Theater Education Programs at People's Light. *The Ace Club, 800 Ridge Pk., Lafayette Hill. For information and registration, 610-647-1900, ext. 119; PeoplesLight.org.*

Malvern Fall Family Festival & Bark in the Park

September 28

Malvern's autumn festival features over 150 artists and craftspeople, local businesses, live music, delicious food and KidZone with fun for children, plus Bark in the Park, promoting the adoption of dogs and an Octoberfest celebration, complete with a Beer Garden. *Along King St., Warren & Channing Aves., as well as in Burke Park, Malvern. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. Malvern-Festivals.com.*



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best Local Events

FAMILY FUN

SEPTEMBER 5-7

Hay Creek Fall Festival. A week-end of early American crafts, children's activities, food and music. Joanna Furnace, Rt. 10, Geigertown. 8 to 5. \$2-\$10. 610-286-0388; HayCreek.org.

SEPTEMBER 6-7

29th Annual Mushroom Festival in Kennett Square. Enjoy the tasty mushroom foods, mushroom-growing exhibits, cooking demonstrations, Antique and Classic Car Show, entertainment for children. Fri., 6 to 10; Sat., 10 to 7; Sun., 10 to 5. \$2 610-444-8188; MushroomFestival.org.

SEPTEMBER 6-7

Chadds Ford Days. The grounds of the Chadds Ford Historical Society come alive with entertainment, Colonial demonstrations, crafts, local restaurants and more. 1736 Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. 10 to 5. \$5. 610-388-7376; ChaddsFordHistory.org.

SEPTEMBER 7

Truck Zoo. Children can climb into fire engines, police cars, trucks, school buses and more. Radnor Memorial Library, S. Wayne Ave. parking lot, Wayne. 1 to 4. Free. Rain date, Sept. 14. RadnorRecreation.com.

SEPTEMBER 7

Fall Super Sunday in Media. State Street and Veteran's Square are the site for this annual street fair. Benefits local charities. Rain date, Sept. 14. 9 to 5. 610-583-4432, ext. 102; VisitMediaPA.com.

SEPTEMBER 7-28, SUNDAYS

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

SEPTEMBER 14

Shugart's Sunday—BBQ & Bluegrass. A festive afternoon with live music, BBQ, hayrides, family activities. Historic Sugartown, 690 Sugartown Rd., Malvern. 2 to 6. \$10-\$35. 610-640-2667; HistoricSugartown.org.



SEPTEMBER 20

4th Annual Pottstown Pet Fair. Chat with representatives from animal shelters, wildlife organizations and veterinarians. Vendors will offer goods and services. Pottstown Memorial Park, 75 W. King St., Pottstown. 9 to 3. Free. 610-970-6507.

SEPTEMBER 20

Willows Concert & Fireworks Celebration. The largest concert event of the season ends with a blast of fireworks at The Willows, 490 Darby-Paoli Rd., Radnor. 6 pm, fireworks at 9. Free. Raindate, Sept. 27. 610-688-5600; RadnorRecreation.com.

SEPTEMBER 21

Radnor Fall Festival. Endless activities for the whole family including magic shows, a dog show, rides for all ages, live music, food and the Valley Forge Military Academy Marching Band. N. Wayne Ave., Wayne. 1 to 5 pm. 610-687-7698; RadnorFallFestival.com.

SEPTEMBER 25

Chester County S.P.C.A. Horse Show. Annual horse show held at the Radnor Hunt Pony Grounds, Providence Rd., Malvern. Show begins at 8 am. For information phone 610-692-6113; CCSPCA.org.

SEPTEMBER 27

Tredyffrin Township Community Day. Celebrate Wilson Farm Park's birthday with local vendors, Touch-a-Truck display and more. 500 Lee Rd., Wayne. 10 to 4. Free. Tredyffrin.org.

SEPTEMBER 27

Goose Creek Duck Race. Numbered rubber duckies race down Goose Creek for cash prizes. Benefits West Chester Food Cupboard and Camp Dreamcatcher. Thornbury Twp. Park on Rt. 926 in Westtown. 10 am. Numbers, \$5. WeGoRotary.org.

SEPTEMBER 28

Downingtown Fall Fest. Street festival featuring food and craft vendors, Victory Brewing Beer Garden, live entertainment and a BMX bike show. E. Lancaster Ave. between Wallace Ave. & Green St. Noon to 4 pm. 610-269-1523; DTRCC.com.

SEPTEMBER 28

Community Ice Cream Social. Come for ice cream and toppings, kids activities, music, face painting and moon bounce. Grove United Methodist Church, 490 W. Boot Rd., West Goshen. 3 to 5. Free. 484-459-9260; GroveChurch.org.

OCTOBER 3-5

90th Annual Unionville Community Fair. Family activities, contests, displays, music, live animal exhibits, food, rodeo on Sat, 6 pm, \$10-\$15; auction on Sun, 5:30. Landhope Farms, Rts. 82 & 926, Unionville. Fri-Sat, 9 to 9; Sun, 10 to 5:30. UCFairInc.org.

OCTOBER 4

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

OCTOBER 4-5

Delaware Nature Society Harvest Moon Festival. Children's activities and crafts, hayrides, music, food, wagon and pony rides. Coverdale Farm, 543 Way Rd., Greenville, DE. No dogs. Festival hours, 10 to 5. 302-239-2334; DelawareNatureSociety.org.



OCTOBER 5

Delaware Humane Assoc. "Tails Around the Tower" Walk for Animals. A one-mile walk around the park by dogs and their people, a festive atmosphere, music, refreshments, pet-friendly vendors and contests. Rockford Park, 2000 Lookout Dr., Wilmington. 10:30. 302-571-8171; DEHumane.org.

OCTOBER 5

Radnor Fall Harvest & Great Pumpkin Patch. Tractor and pony rides, pumpkin patches and carving, a hay bale maze, moon bounce, helicopter piñata. The Willows, 490 Darby-Paoli Rd., Radnor. 1 to 4. Free. Rain date, Oct. 12. 610-688-5600; RadnorRecreation.com.

OCTOBER 5

Canine Partners for Life's Open House & 25th Birthday Party. Tour kennels, enjoy a free barbecue lunch, puppy kissing booth, party games, music, shopping and the ever-popular Cow Bingo. 334 Faggs Manor Rd., Cochranville. 610-869-4902; K94Life.org.

ART & CRAFT SHOWS.....

SEPTEMBER 6-7

Brandywine Festival of the Arts. Many artists and craftspeople display and sell their work. Enjoy a food court and free entrance into the Brandywine Zoo with your ticket. Brandywine Park, 1001 N. Park Dr., Wilmington. Sat, 10 to 6:30; Sun, 10 to 4. \$5; under 10, free. 302-690-5555; BrandywineArts.com.

SEPTEMBER 13

40th Colonial Day in East Berlin. Juried vendors of traditional and contemporary crafts display on W. King St., E. Berlin. 8 to 4. 717-259-7049.

SEPTEMBER 20-NOVEMBER 9 WEEKENDS

Brandywine River Museum Annual Harvest Market. From honey and apples to pottery and handcrafted jewelry, regional artisans showcase their crafts in the courtyard at the museum. Rt. 1, Chadds Ford. 9:30 to 4:30. \$6-\$12. Free Sunday mornings until Nov. 23. 610-388-2700; BrandywineMuseum.org.

SEPTEMBER 27

Art on the Green in Historic New Castle. Over 200 exhibitors will display on the scenic Delaware River in Battery Park, 3rd & South Sts., New Castle. 10 to 4. Free. 302-328-5466; ArtOnTheGreenDE.net.

SEPTEMBER 27

Community Arts Center's 12th Annual Fine Arts & Crafts Festival. Local artists bring their finest works in ceramic, fiber, clay, mixed media, wood, watercolor, jewelry, photography and more. Live music and festival fare. State St., Media. 10 to 5. 610-566-1713; CommunityArtsCenter.org.

OCTOBER 3-4

16th Annual Artisans' Porch Walk in Lititz. Show and sale of art and crafts on private porches and lawns throughout town. Lunch available and an auction to benefit the residents of Moravian Manor. Fri, 10 to 5; Sat, 10 to 4. 717-725-8637; MoravianManor.org (Porchwalk link).

OCTOBER 3

West Chester Fall Gallery Walk. Stroll through downtown West Chester for an evening of art, dining and shopping. The Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce hosts its Fall Gallery Walk celebrating the thriving community of artists and galleries that make West Chester their home. Gay & Market Sts., West Chester. 5 to 9 pm. GWCC.org.

OCTOBER 4-5

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.

AUTOMOBILE SHOWS.....

SEPTEMBER 12-14

18th Annual Radnor Hunt Concours d'Elegance. Sept. 12, Welcome Barbecue at



Thorncroft Equestrian Center, 190 Line Rd., Malvern, 6:30 pm, \$90; **Sept. 13**, Chester County Rally, 8 am, VIP luncheon (11:30, \$100) and, in the evening, a black tie gala, live auction and art show preview, 6:30, \$250; **Sept. 14**, The 100 Motor Cars of Radnor Hunt, 9 am, \$50. Benefits Thorncroft Equestrian Center. 826 Providence Rd., Malvern. 610-353-3536; RadnorConcours.org.

SEPTEMBER 14

The Hagley Car Show. More than 500 antique and restored cars that date from the early 1900s-1980s. The show features vehicle parades, motoring music, video and go-kart racing and a festival food court. 200 Hagley



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Rd., Wilmington. 10 to 4. \$5–\$14. 302-658-2400; Hagley.org.



BRIDAL SHOWS.....

SEPTEMBER 28

Historic Yellow Springs Bridal Fair. See and learn all about the options available, from a full range of vendors with displays holding everything you need to know. The Washington, village of Yellow Springs, Art School Rd. 1 to 4. \$5. 610-827-7414; YellowSprings.org.

DESIGN, HOME SHOWS.....

SEPTEMBER 5–7

Greater Philadelphia Fall Home Show.

Calling All Foodies ...

SEPTEMBER 12–21

West Chester Restaurant Week. A celebration of the culinary scene in downtown West Chester with more than 20 participating restaurants offering special multi-course, fixed price menus for lunch and dinner. The week culminates at the Chester County Restaurant Festival. For details visit DowntownWestChester.com.

SEPTEMBER 21

35th Annual Chester County Restaurant Festival. Over 60 restaurants, food vendors, craftspeople, live music and beer and wine garden at this very popular foodie event, one of the region's largest food festivals. Gay St. between Matlack & New Sts. and Market St. between Darlington & High Sts., West Chester. West-Chester.com/Recreation.php.



Find experts, inspiration and more at the Valley Forge Casino Resort, 1160 First Ave., King of Prussia. Fri, 11 to 9; Sat, 10 to 9; Sun, 10 to 6. Free. 855-449-3714; GreaterPhilly-HomeShows-VF.com.

OCTOBER 4

The 74th Annual Chester County Day House Tour. Visit historic and interesting houses, gardens and landmarks in the Northeast section of Chester County from Charlestown to Chester Springs, near Kimberton and Phoenixville and up to the Pottstown area. Tickets, \$40, are available at Chester

County Hospital, the Chester County Historical Society and other locations. A VIP ticket, \$100, includes wine and hors d'oeuvres at the private preview lecture on Sept. 28, an exclusive tour of Tutto Sorrisi estate in Malvern with a complementary picnic lunch prepared by Peter Gilmore. Benefits Chester County Hospital. 610-431-5329; CCHosp.com.

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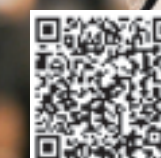


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events this year including new rides and games for children, exotic animals, a Pet Parade and Thorncroft Mainstreamers and more. The Horse Show begins each day at 8 a.m. and continues until dusk. 1326 Pottstown Pk., Glenmoore. Visit LudwigsHorseShow.com.

FRIDAYS & SUNDAYS THROUGH SEPTEMBER

Brandywine Polo. This is your last month this summer to take in a match. Bring a picnic and tailgate at the grounds. Toughkenamon Exit, Rt. 1 S. Fri, gates open at 5; polo, 5:30; music, 7:30. \$25; Sun, gates open at 1:30;

match at 3, \$10. Cancelled for rain or extreme heat. 610-268-8692; BrandywinePolo.com.

SEPTEMBER 5-7

Glen Willow Combined Driving Event. Nationally sanctioned combined driving event featuring the elegance of dressage, the excitement of marathon and the precision of the cones. **Sept. 5**, dressage; **Sept. 6**, marathon and competitor's party; **Sept. 7**, cones and championship awards. Food and a Trade Fair will be available in addition to the competition. Starts at 9 daily. 685 Woodview Rd., Avondale. 910-691-7735; GlenWillowCDE.com.

Local Farm Markets

Booths Corner Farmers Mkt., 1362 Naamans Creek Rd., Garnet Valley. Fri, 9 to 9; Sat, 9 to 8. 610-485-0775; Booths-Corner.com.

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

Coatesville Farmers Mkt., Rts. 30 & 82. Sat, 9 to 1. 201-888-8260; Facebook.com/CoatesvilleFarmersMarket.

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

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

Eagleview Farmers Mkt., Town Ctr., Wellington Sq. Thurs, 3 to 7. 610-836-1391; GrowingRootsPartners.com.

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

Kennett Square Farmers Mkt., downtown. 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; LancasterCountyFarmersMarket.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; PRC.org.

Oxford Village Mkt., 3rd & Locust Sts. Tues, 2 to 6. 610-998-9494; DowntownOxfordPA.org.

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

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

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

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

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

FILM.....

SEPTEMBER 14

Stroud Center Environmental Film Festival. *Watermark* is a feature documentary film that brings together diverse stories from around the globe about our relationship with water. Unionville High School, 750 Unionville Rd., Kennett Square. 4 pm. \$15. 610-268-2153; StroudCenter.org.

FIRST FRIDAYS, THROUGH NOV. 7

Uptown! Entertainment First Friday Film Series. Planned to coincide with First Friday in West Chester, the series offers an alternative by showing thought-provoking films for the community. Check their website for future titles. Knights of Columbus Hall, 110 W. Market St., West Chester. 8:30 pm. \$7.50. 484-639-9004; UptownWestChester.org.

FOOD & DRINK.....

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 24

Stroll, Shop, Dine — Dining Under the Stars in Media. Wednesday is the night to dine out in Media. Restaurants offer outdoor dining along State Street, from Jackson to Orange Sts. There's entertainment and children's activities on each block. 5 to 11 pm. 610-566-5039; VisitMediaPA.com.

SEPTEMBER 6

Historic Odessa Brewfest. Great food, live music and, of course, some of the best regional and national craft beers. 201 Main St., Odessa, DE. Doors open at noon for the VIP Tasting, \$65; the regular fest begins at 2, \$45. All taps close at 6. 302-378-4119; OdessaBrewfest.com.

SEPTEMBER 13

West Nantmeal Township Historical Commission's 2nd Annual Oktoberfest. "Get Your Oom-pah On!" at this event to raise funds for the township's Stone Wall Reconstruction Project. Featuring live German music, beer from Victory Brewing and Gretz Beverages, silent auction and food from Wyebrook Farm. 150 Wyebrook Rd., Honey Brook. 4:30 to 9. \$40. 610-286-9722; WestNantmealHC.org.

SEPTEMBER 25

4th Annual Taste of Media Event. Local restaurants offer tastings of their signature dishes to be voted on for the Best Media Restaurant. Open bar and live music. Community Arts Center, Duke Gallery, 414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford. 6:30 pm. \$75. 610-566-1713; CommunityArtsCenter.org.

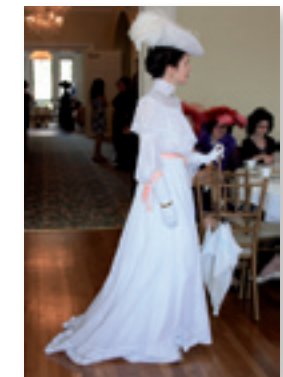
SEPTEMBER 27

Greener Partners "Remarkable Farms" Gala. Honoring our region's agricultural heritage, the gala celebrates the revitalization of local small working organic farms. This year, talented chefs from each of the Greater Philadelphia five Counties are paired with their

"go-to" farm partners to feature unique seasonal dishes. Ardrossan Estate, 811 Newtown Rd., Villanova. 6 pm. \$150-\$275. GreenerPartners.org.

SEPTEMBER 27

Victorian Tea at Pennypacker Mills. See the latest fashions of the early 1900s with all the accessories as you enjoy a Victorian afternoon tea and desserts, prepared by the Culinary Arts Institute of Montgomery Co. Comm. College. 5 Haldeman Rd., Schwenksville. 2 to 5. \$40. 610-287-9349; MontcoPa.org/PennypackerMills.



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SEPTEMBER 27-28, OCTOBER 4-5
Brandywine Valley Wine Trail's Annual Harvest Festival. All the sights and smells of harvest as the wineries of the Wine Trail celebrate the 2013 vintage. Enjoy picnicking, live music, hayrides through the vineyards, BBQs, wine tastings, tours and more. Purchase a Passport at any member winery, \$20. 866-390-4367; BVWineTrail.com.

OCTOBER 3
Longwood Gardens Meadow Harvest Dinner. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in the Lookout Loft Treehouse, a walk through The Meadow Garden then a multi-course farm-to-table dinner in the Orchard, with wine pairings and desserts. 1001 Longwood Rd. 6 to 10 pm. \$175. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

OCTOBER 4, 5-9
Phoenixville Food Festival 2014. Oct. 4, the food event includes a Food Truck Festival and a Pub Crawl with participating bars. Free parking and musical acts, as well as a vendor area. Oct. 5-9, is restaurant week in Phoenixville. For information, PhoenixvilleFoodFestival.com.

OCTOBER 5
Media Food & Crafts Festival. Many restaurants and craftspeople display on State Street. Music stages with bands playing throughout the day and children's activities. 9 to 5. Visitors are requested to bring canned or packaged goods for City Team Ministries. Rain date, Oct. 12. 610-566-5039; VisitMediaPA.com.

FUNDRAISERS.....
See also: Outdoor Activities

SEPTEMBER 11
Women's Race for the Pink Ribbon 5K. A run/walk to benefit Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition. Dravo Plaza, on the Riverfront, Wilmington. Registration at 5, race at 6:30 pm. \$30. 302-521-0134; Races2Run.com.

SEPTEMBER 12-14
Susan G. Komen 3-Day Event. The journey begins on Friday morning with an Opening Ceremony, then the 60-mile journey, approximately 20 miles each day, until the Closing Ceremony celebration Sunday afternoon. Begins at Willow Grove Park Mall and ends at the Navy Yard, Philadelphia. To register, The3Day.org.

SEPTEMBER 14
Delaware Museum of Natural History's "Wine & Dinosaurs" Wine and Beer Tasting Festival. Sample delicious wine, beer and hors d'oeuvres while bidding on the silent auction and enjoying live entertainment. Benefits programs at the museum. 4840 Kennett Pk. (Rt. 52), Wilmington. Noon to 4. \$65. 302-658-9111; DelMNH.org.

SEPTEMBER 20
Justice4PaKids 2nd Annual Motorcycle Ride. A 2-hour motorcycle ride then all are invited to join in the fun and festivities at The Office Bar and Grille, 1021 Morehall Rd., Malvern. Benefits the organization's community outreach programs. 9:30 to 5, ride begins at 11. \$25 per bike. Justice4PaKids.com.

SEPTEMBER 25
7th Annual Starlight Soiree. Cocktails, live music and fun with friends ... all while raising money for the Family Lives On Foundation, helping bereaved children continue traditions they once shared with a parent. Whitford Country Club, 600 Whitford Hills Rd., Exton. 7 to 10 pm. \$45. FamilyLivesOn.org.

SEPTEMBER 26-27
The Hickman's Presents "The Art of Caring." This year's event includes: a juried art exhibition, a retrospective exhibit at The Hickman and an Arts Festival at The Hickman on Saturday including artists and fine craftspeople, music and family activities. Benefits The Hickman and Chester County Art Association. 400 N. Walnut St., West Chester. 484-760-6413; TheHickman.org.

SEPTEMBER 27
Main Line Animal Rescue Presents Bark-O-Lounge. Guests will enjoy beer/wine and a special signature drink, delicious food, silent and live auctions and music. Pickering Meade Farm, 1149 Pike Springs Rd., Phoenixville. 5 pm. \$75. 610-933-0606 MLAR.org.

SEPTEMBER 27
Art With Heart Casino Night. Healing Art Works annual fundraiser features a light buffet supper, casino games and a raffle of original art. Their mission is to facilitate fine art donations to area hospitals, this year the Cancer Center of Paoli Hospital. Chester County Historical Society, 225 N. High St., West Chester. 7 to 11. \$75. 484-798-8656; HealingArtWorks.org.

SEPTEMBER 27
7th Annual Cocktails Against Cancer Event. "80s Prom" is the theme for this fundraiser, benefitting organizations that have an immediate impact on the lives of people battling cancer. Wear prom attire and enjoy food, music, raffles and cocktails. Old Pine Community Center, 401 Lombard St., Philadelphia. 7 to 11. \$55. 610-291-9656; CocktailsAgainstCancer.org.

SEPTEMBER 28
Annual Thorncroft Lobster Bake. Old-fashioned fun at Thorncroft Equestrian Center. Lobster (or chicken) dinner, a beer and wine bar and live music celebrating the launch of the book *As Way Opens*, the history of Thorncroft by Ellie Schneidman. 190 Line Rd., Malvern. 4:30 to 7:30. \$75; \$20 12 and under. 610-644-1963; Thorncroft.org.



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OCTOBER 15-18

54th Annual Shipley Shops. A shopping event featuring premier retailers and artists from across the country. The Shipley School, Yarnall Gymnasium, 814 Yarrow St., Bryn Mawr. Thurs, 10 to 6; Fri, 8:30 to 4:30; Sat, 9 to 1. \$5-\$10; free on Sat. 610-525-4544; ShipleySchool.org.

GARDENS & PLANT SALES.....

SEPTEMBER 6-NOVEMBER 23

Longwood Gardens Presents Autumn's Colors. The changing hues of the Meadow Garden and the whimsical Garden Railway shine in September. In October the Pumpkin Playground opens and in late October the Chrysanthemum Festival transforms the Conservatory into a vibrant feast of colorful chrysanthemum blooms. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.



OCTOBER 5

Scott Associates' Garden Day. Visit glorious gardens in the Portstown/Malvern area. Reception at Welkenweir follows tour, 4 to 6 pm. Tour, 1 to 5. \$25. Contact the Scott Arboretum office for map and directions. 610-328-8025; ScottArboretum.org.

MUSEUMS.....

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 21

Delaware Art Museum Exhibits. "Retro•Active: Performance Art from 1964-1987." 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Wed-Sat, 10 to 4; Sun, noon to 4. \$6-\$12. Free on Sun. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

THROUGH NOVEMBER 16

Brandywine River Museum Exhibits. See article in this issue. Rt. 1, Chadds Ford. \$6-\$12. Free Sunday mornings until Nov. 23. 610-388-2700; BrandywineMuseum.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 2015

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library Presents "Costumes of Downton Abbey." Forty costumes and accessories, worn on the period drama TV series are on display. Highlights: Lady Sybil's harem pants and Lady Edith's wedding dress. Rt. 52, Wilmington. Tues-Sun, 10 to 5. \$5-\$18. 302-888-4600; Winterthur.org.

On With The Show ...

SEPTEMBER 10-OCTOBER 5

Fences. August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning drama about a man of mythic proportions forced to wrestle with the reality of his life. People's Light & Theatre, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. Call for curtain times. \$27-\$47. 610-644-3500; PeoplesLight.org.

SEPTEMBER 24-NOVEMBER 2

The Addams Family. Music and lyrics by Andrew Lipa and book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice. This humorous show focuses on the family who adore the macabre. Media Theatre for the Performing Arts, 104 E. State St., Media. Call for curtain times. \$25-\$42. 610-891-0100; MediaTheatre.org.

OCTOBER 14-19

Sister Act: The Musical. Broadway's feel-amazing musical comedy smash with original music by 8-time Oscar-winner Alan Menken (*Beauty and the Beast*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Little Shop of Horrors*). DuPont Theatre, DuPont Bldg., 1007 N. Market St., Wilmington. Call for curtain times. \$55-\$85. 302-656-4401; DuPontTheatre.com.

MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT.....

THROUGH NOVEMBER

2nd TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

West Chester Story Slam. A monthly event where anyone can take the stage and tell a five-minute true story based on the theme of the night. No notes, no props and no music allowed. Side Bar & Restaurant, 10 E. Gay St., West Chester. 8 pm. \$8. 610-429-8297 or visit SideBarAndRestaurant.com.

SEPTEMBER 4

Swingin' Summer Thursdays in West Chester. Great food, live music, clowns, artists, magicians, jugglers and more. New Sweden and The Quixote Project performs. Along Gay St. 6:30 to 9:30. 610-436-9010; DowntownWestChester.com.

SEPTEMBER 6

Summer Concerts in the Park. Enjoy a late afternoon performance by ViVaCe Strings on the concert stage, in the shade of the centuries-old white oak tree. Glen Providence Park, 500 block of W. State St., Media. 4:30 pm. Free. GlenProvidencePark.org.

SEPTEMBER 6

5th Annual Phoenixville Blues Festival. Live music, food and beverages. Benefits Give the Gift of Music, PACS, Paint the Town Pink and the Phoenixville Library. Reeves Park, Main St.

& 2nd Ave. Begins at noon, last concert at 10 pm. PvilleBlues.org.



SEPTEMBER 13

Longwood Gardens Fireworks & Fountains. Ladies & Gentlemen ... The Beatles. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Tickets, \$22-\$38. Reservations required. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

SEPTEMBER 13

Kennett Symphony Orchestra Opening Night Concert, "Welcome Michael Hall." Introducing the new conductor and featuring violin soloist Eliezer Gutman, Concertmaster of the KSCC in a program featuring Ticheli, Bruch and Tchaikovsky. Madeleine Wing Adler Theatre, West Chester Univ., West Chester. 7:30 pm. \$10-\$45. 610-444-6363; KennettSymphony.org.

SEPTEMBER 13

Herman's Hermits Starring Peter Noone at The DuPont Theatre. A must-see performance

of this '60s group at The DuPont Theatre, 1007 N. Market St., Wilmington. 8 pm. \$20-\$79. 302-656-4401; DuPontTheatre.com.



SEPTEMBER 14

Vox Ama Deus-Camarata Ama Deus Chamber Orchestra. "Keyed on Bach & Mozart." Valentin Radu, piano, Thomas DiSarlo, violin and Edward Schultz, flute. Daylesford Abbey, 220 S. Valley Rd., Paoli. 6 pm. \$10-\$25. 610-688-2800; VoxAmaDeus.org.

SEPTEMBER 19

Raheem Devaughn Live at The DuPont Theatre. Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter at The DuPont Theatre, 1007 N. Market St., Wilmington. 7:30 pm. \$35-\$60. 302-656-4401; DuPontTheatre.com.

SEPTEMBER 19-OCTOBER 24

Point Entertainment Presents ... at The Colonial Theatre. Sept. 19, Asleep at the



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Wheel, \$22–\$39.50; **Sept. 20**, An Evening with Leo Kottke, \$24.50–\$38.50; **Sept. 25**, John Mayall, \$29.50–\$39.50; **Oct. 3**, Marc Broussard, \$20–\$33.50; **Oct. 16**, Shawn Colvin, \$20.50–\$44.50; **Oct. 24**, Mary Black, \$32.50–\$44.50. The Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. 8 pm. 610-917-1228; TheColonialTheatre.com.

SEPTEMBER 24

Kennett Flash Presents “Sip and Savor with the Serafins” Concert Series. Serafin String Quartet performs a program entitled “French Connection,” featuring Debussy’s *Quartet in G Minor* with samples from Grieg and Janacek. 102 Sycamore Alley, Kennett Square. 7:30. \$18. BYO. 484-732-8295; KennettFlash.org.

SEPTEMBER 25

Uptown! Entertainment Alliance Presents the Jazz Cocktail Hour Series. Diane Monroe and vocalist Paul Jost perform. Knights of Columbus Bldg., 110 W. Market St., West Chester. Doors open at 6, concert, 6:30. Cocktails and small bites available. Tickets \$15. 484-639-9004; UptownWestChester.org.

SEPTEMBER 27

TEDx Phoenixville. TED is a nonprofit devoted to ideas worth spreading, bringing together people from three worlds: Technology, Entertainment, Design. The Colo-

nial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. 10 to 4. \$20–\$50. 610-917-1228; TheColonialTheatre.com.

SEPTEMBER 27

Rich Little at The DuPont Theatre. Comedian and celebrity impressionist performs at The DuPont Theatre, 1007 N. Market St., Wilmington. 8 pm. \$20–\$65. 302-656-4401; DuPontTheatre.com.

OCTOBER 2

Music on the Brandywine at the Brandywine River Museum. Enjoy a performance by violinist Nikki Chooi, with full bar and small plate offerings available for purchase. Rt. 1, Chadds Ford. Galleries open at 6; concert, 7:30. \$10–\$25. 610-388-8326; BrandywineMuseum.org.

OCTOBER 4

Paoli Blues Fest 2014. The main stage has continuous live band performances from premier blues musicians. Food vendors, street fair, beer and wine garden, and children’s activities. Main stage, Paoli Village Shoppes, across from Paoli Train Station; other venues throughout Paoli. Noon to 6. 610-206-7743 or 610-644-6759; PaoliBluesFest.com.

OCTOBER 10, 16

WCU Live! Presents ... Oct. 10, The Williamsburg Salsa Orchestra performs innova-

tive, dynamic arrangements of indie rock salsa-style, 7:30. **Oct. 16**, Gaelic Storm will play traditional songs of the ocean, 8 pm. Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall, S. High St., West Chester. Both concerts, \$13–\$20. 610-436-2266; WCUPA.Edu/VisitingArtists/VAS.asp.



OCTOBER 11

Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood: Two Man Group at The DuPont Theatre. Two masters of improv comedy team up at The DuPont Theatre, 1007 N. Market St., Wilmington. 8 pm. \$20–\$60. 302-656-4401; DuPontTheatre.com.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES.....

SEPTEMBER 7

Kennett Square Mushroom Festival 6th Annual 5K Run/Walk. Registration, 7:30

am, in front of Kennett High School, Broad & W. South Sts. Start: 8:30 am. \$25. Benefits breast cancer research. 610-925-3373; MushroomFestival.org.

SEPTEMBER 13

Schuylkill River Pedal and Paddle. Take a 4.5 mile bike ride from Pottstown’s Riverfront Park to Historic Morlatton Village in Douglassville. Lunch, bikes, kayaks and all kayaking gear are provided. 9 to 2. \$25. To register, visit SchuylkillRiver.org.

SEPTEMBER 14

The Main Line Run/Walk. The course is down Lancaster Ave. through the heart of Wayne. Supports the Volunteer Emergency Responders Scholarship Program and PA Free Enterprise Week. Begin at Main Line Chamber/Executive Commons Office, 175 Strafford Ave., Wayne. Registration, 7:30 am, race at 9. \$25. 610-687-6232; RunTheDay.com.

SEPTEMBER 20–21

Philadelphia Rock ‘n Roll Running Festival. **Sept. 20**, 5K Run—start/finish lines at Eakins Oval, Fairmount Park between Kelly Dr. & Art Museum Dr. **Sept. 21**, half marathon, on a flat and festive course, starts at Ben Franklin Pkwy., finishes at Eakins Oval with festival, live music, refreshments. Races begin 8 am. For more details, visit RunRocknRoll.Competitor.com/Philadelphia.

SEPTEMBER 27

16th Annual Kimberton Run. A 5K run/walk and Kids Fun Run through the beautiful countryside of East Pikeland. Benefits the Kimberton Lions’ projects. Kimberton Fire Company, Rt. 113, Phoenixville. Reg., 8 am; run, 9 am. \$9–\$19. KimbertonRun.com.

SEPTEMBER 27–28

Bike MS: City to Shore Ride 2014. Bike from Cherry Hill to the Ocean City boardwalk. Benefits the Greater Delaware Valley Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. MSCycling.org.

OCTOBER 4

Philadelphia International Dragon Boat Festival. More than 140 dragon boat teams compete, racing along a 500-meter course in multiple races. Teams gather on the Schuylkill River in Fairmount Park, Phila. 8 to 5:30. 610-642-2333; PhilaDragonBoatFestival.com.



OCTOBER 5

41st Annual Marshalton Triathlon. Athletes, novice to ironman and their families, bike,



canoe and pace-walk through the countryside. A family and dog-friendly event (dogs on leash) with music, food and drink. Benefits the all-volunteer West Bradford Fire Co. and preservation of the town of Marshalton. Rt. 162. 8 am. \$30. MarshaltonTriathlon.net.

OCTOBER 19

Rally ‘Round the Races. Friends of the Radnor Hunt Races and its beneficiary, the Brandywine Conservancy, gather for this scenic drive. Prizes for optimum time and mileage are awarded. Rally begins 9:30 am and ends at noon for a luncheon party. \$165 per car includes lunch for four, children wel-

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11a - 4p

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TOWNS, BOROUGHES & SPECIAL EVENTS.....

SEPTEMBER 5

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

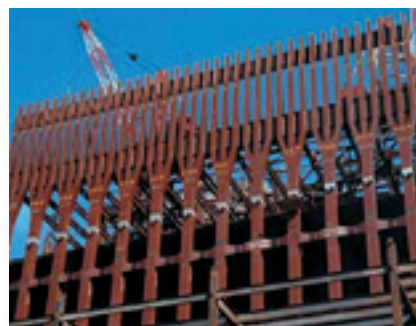
SEPT. 5, OCT. 3

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

SEPTEMBER 11

The National Iron Steel Heritage Museum

hosts **"Coatesville Remembers September 11."** Honoring those who lost their lives and the steelworkers involved with the building of the World Trade Centers' Twin Towers. A selection of World Trade Center steel "trees" will be on exhibit. Lukens Executive Office Building, in The Lukens National Historic District, S. 1st Ave. & Bus. Rt. 30. 8:30 to 10:30 am. 610-384-9282; SteelMuseum.org.



SEPTEMBER 13

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

SEPTEMBER 18

Malvern Stroll—Sip, Shop, Stroll. Merchants of King Street extend their hours until 8 pm on the Third Thursday of every month.

Each will have a different in-house event, special promo, sale or demonstration. Facebook.com/MalvernStroll.



SEPTEMBER 20

Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund Event. A Military Timeline and Veteran's Recognition Ceremony takes place at the battlefield site. Vendors on hand offering crafts, food and



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Harvest Moon Festival

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delnature.org/HarvestMoon

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SEPTEMBER 27

iVive tu Vida! Get Up! Get Moving! A family event that promotes healthy living, featuring live music and dance, pony rides, sports clinic, salsa tasting contest, free flu shots and more. Anson B. Nixon Park, N. Walnut Rd., Kennett Square. 10 to 2. Free. 610-444-7550; LaComunidadHispana.org.

OCTOBER 4

River Towns Ride & Festival in Delaware. A joint festival held in the two historic towns of New Castle and Delaware City, connected by the bike-friendly corridor of Route 9. Cyclists can pick their distance and ride between the towns for fun or for a medal. Activities in each town include live music, rides, attractions, games, tours, food and a craft beer festival. RiverTownsFestival.com.

OCTOBER 4

24th Annual Blessing of the Animals at Ryerss Farm. Bring your small pet on a leash or in a carrier to a short service, then enjoy a hayride and refreshments. 1710 Ridge Rd., Pottstown. 1 to 4 pm. Free. 610-469-0533; RyerssFarm.org.

OCTOBER 11

13th Annual Chocolate Walk in Lititz. A "Chocolate for Charity" event put on by the Kiwanis of Lititz. Visitors enjoy chocolate morsels made by the region's most talented chefs and candy makers to raise money for children in need. 10 to 4. Buttons, \$30; sales are limited. 717-560-2295; LititzChocolate-Walk.com. ♦



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

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DEVON FALL CLASSIC

We're in for another exciting ride at this year's event.

WHEN PICTURING HORSES, you may conjure up visions of elegant creatures galloping across rolling hills or along a beach—maybe even in slow-mo. When we picture horses, we envision the combined grace and speed of the Devon Fall Classic, held at the Devon Horse Show grounds, September 11-14. But then, that's just us.

Come September, Chester County is abuzz with horse shows. They fill the September calendar—from Ludwig's Corner to Plantation Field Horse Trials to Dressage at Devon. And for the past two years, the Devon Fall Classic has captivated local horse enthusiasts as the second show in that lineup.

Speed, action and passion are at the core of this jumper show—that's right, a *jumper* show. Cheer on skilled riders as they navigate horses over difficult jumps while racing to beat the clock. The schedule may not be as lengthy as its eleven-day counterpart in May—aka "Big Devon"—but the same energy and competition are packed into four exciting days that will leave you wanting more.

The third year of the Fall Classic has arrived. Are you ready?

Three Cheers for the Third Year

If you're a regular at Big Devon, you've probably been eagerly awaiting the fall equestrian season. Devon's third annual Fall Classic will help satisfy your horse show craving.

Gather at the Dixon Oval to watch these horse-and-rider duos race against the clock to be named number one. Unless the ride is fast and flawless—faults occur if a horse knocks a rail, travels too slowly or refuses to jump a fence—whichever horse emerges with the lowest number of faults in the fastest time is declared the winner.

You'll see classes of competitors that range from Young Jumpers to Adult Amateur and Children to Juniors. Check out the Open Speed Stake on Friday as the fastest competitors duel to win, and mark your calendar for Saturday evening for the highlight—the \$25,000 Devon Fall Classic. The intricate course and fast pace of this jumper show will keep you on the edge of your seat!

Don't understand the rules of a jumper show? No problem. An appreciation of the sheer speed and agility of these athletic horse-



and-rider pairs is all you need to have a blast! With competitors including children and adults plus women and men, the Fall Classic captivates everyone. Even good dogs get in the act on Saturday!

The Fun Has Just Begun

The horses won't be the only ones jumping—you'll be jumping at the chance to explore the Fall Festival. If you've been to the Devon Country Fair in May, you'll want to join the Fall Festival fun. The Fall Classic may be shorter than Big Devon, but the after-hours shindig doesn't fall short!

With the excitement of the day's equestrian events still in the air, guests are invited to delight in plenty of unique shopping and great food. Browse 40 boutiques

offering equestrian art, antiques, accessories, clothing, jewelry and more! Stop by Gina Johnson Designs for handcrafted jewelry that captures the bond between horse and rider.

And let's not forget the live music! Get your groove on Friday night with the dance band Concrete Charlie or get in touch with your country rock roots on Sunday with Hey Fever. Bring the kids to the midway for the Ferris wheel, carousel, pony rides and plenty of games!

We know you've been waiting for the horse shows this fall, so pull on your boots and meet us there. ♦ ~ Meghan Baddorf

Devon Fall Classic. Sept. 11-14, Devon Horse Show Grounds, Lancaster Ave., Devon. \$5 adults, 610-688-2554; DevonHorseShow.net/fall-classic.



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Plantation Field Horse Trials Return

A CHESTER COUNTY EVENT AND WELCOMED TRADITION

EACH SEPTEMBER IN UNIONVILLE a familiar sound returns. Past the ringing of school bells and crunch of leaves underfoot, you'll hear the clip-clops of horse hooves. September 19-21, the Plantation Field Horse Trials will trot back into town, this time with the promise of presenting the biggest and best show to date.

While enjoying growing popularity and providing consistent entertainment over 14 years, the Trials have become recognized as a premier equestrian event. Nearly 300 riders will participate in the three different trials over three days.

The three main trials remain the same—Dressage, Stadium Jumping and Cross Country Riding (details below)—but plenty else has changed. The Trials are keeping things fresh with new obstacles and a completely new track. Even if you've attended before, there are surprises—including this year's theme.

Dancing, Dining and Horse Riding

When you think 'horses', you think 'dancing'. No? Well, the folks at Plantation Field sure do. The theme for this year's event is "Dancing with the Stars." Don't see the connection?

Riding and dancing have more in common than you may think. Consider the non-verbal communication, precise movements and the pageantry at equestrian events, plus that dressage is often described as ballet on horseback. Organizers promise the fun and festivities accompanying year's fresh theme will delight both the riders and spectators. Here's some of what you can expect.

As spectators enjoy their lunch on Friday, they'll be treated to a choreographed Dressage Show. Riders will display graceful and classical movements in an enclosed ring, showcasing their finesse, expertise and control.

That night, the riding gets a little rougher. During the BBQ, Beer and Bull Party, competitors will see who can rein in the mechanical bull. Whoever bests the buckin' bull will earn a \$1,000 prize.

During the Stadium Jumping trial Saturday, riders will leap over a series of jumps and obstacles. That evening, cast members of *Dancing With the Stars* join the action. Dancers will partner up with riders for a dance-off as spectators eat and drink. Don't get too full, though. Audience members will be treated to a salsa lesson.

If you wake up feeling a little odd on Sunday, don't worry.



Dance fever is known to linger for a few days. Put it to good use. Early Sunday, celebrity judge Carson Kressley will pair with folks from The Whip Tavern to determine which tailgaters do the best tango.

At lunchtime, riders in the main arena will traverse natural terrain and try to clear the biggest wall in the whole event during the Cross-Country Riding. Whoever clears the wall without touching any of the blocks takes home a \$1,000 prize.

More to Explore

If you want a break from the action, there's plenty to do. Check out Vendor Village to peruse country clothing, gourmet food, outerwear and more. Grab a beer at the Victory Beer Garden or sip a chardonnay at the Galer Estate Wine Bistro.

The kids have their own getaway—Kid's Korner, where they can enjoy games and activities. There's really something for everyone.

Beneficiaries For a Good Cause

The Cheshire Land Preservation Fund and Chester County Food Bank return as beneficiaries of the event this year. The

Food Bank aids over 70,000 households in Chester County that struggle with hunger, and the Land Preservation Fund helps maintain agricultural resources and natural ecological systems in Southern Chester County. The Trials also welcome a new beneficiary, Work to Ride, which provides disadvantaged youth opportunities to participate in constructive activities focusing on horsemanship, sports and education.

Come out to benefit these great causes and enjoy the fun. ♦ - Jake Ritzheimer

387 Green Valley Rd., Unionville. Free on Friday; \$20/carload general admission Saturday & Sunday. Order tickets: PlantationFieldHorseTrials.com.



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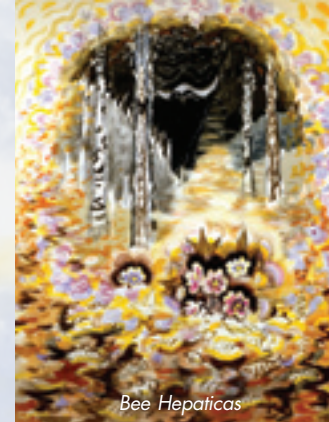
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Exalted Nature

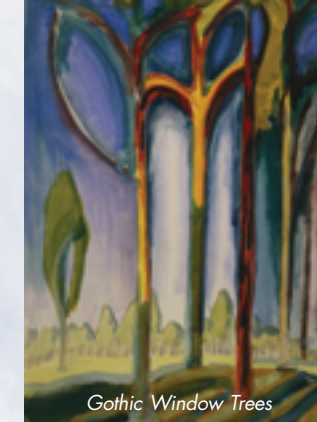
The Real and Fantastic World
of Charles E. Burchfield

Vibrant, visionary landscapes by Charles Burchfield (1893-1967),
will be on view through November 16 at the Brandywine River Museum of Art.

Early Spring



Bee Hepaticas



Gothic Window Trees

Like Andrew Wyeth, Charles Burchfield is considered one of the greatest watercolor artists of the 20th century. Both artists drew constant inspiration from nature—in particular from the landscapes surrounding their homes and studios—transforming even the most ordinary subject into something sublime. Perhaps not surprisingly, Wyeth held Burchfield in high regard. The two met in 1945, when Wyeth visited Burchfield in his studio.

Burchfield immersed himself in the natural world, transforming it into transcendent, fantastic landscapes that expressed his passionate response to the forces of nature. The new exhibition, “Exalted Nature,” focuses on his landscapes—from his early expressionistic works influenced by modernist movements to his late visionary compositions representing his singular interpretation of the world.

Working almost exclusively in watercolor, Burchfield infused his paintings with his sensory reactions to the sights and sounds of the weather, the seasons, the call of birds and the hum of insects. In paintings such as *Gothic Window Trees* (1918) and *Bee Hepaticas* (circa 1962), viewers will experience the artist’s response to nature and his transformation of it through memory, imagination and spirituality into an extraordinary blend of the real and the fantastic.

One of Burchfield’s last paintings, still on his easel at the time of his death in early 1967, was *Early Spring* depicting the landscape around his home near Buffalo, New York. The transition from winter into spring was one of the artist’s favorite themes.

In this painting, Burchfield projects a mystical, dreamlike quality through the blurring of details of the flowers, treetops and sky. A luminous yellow halo line surrounds the tightly grouped trees in *Gothic Window Trees* recalling the nave of a cathedral and suggesting the spirituality that the artist found in nature. For Burchfield, spring always carried with it a sense of hope and sorrow—hope because spring represented renewal, sorrow because of the fleeting quality of its beauty.

“Exalted Nature” is the first in a series of exhibitions that will examine artists who have strong affinities with those whose work is in the Brandywine River Museum’s collection, placing the Museum’s collection in a larger context of American art. ♦

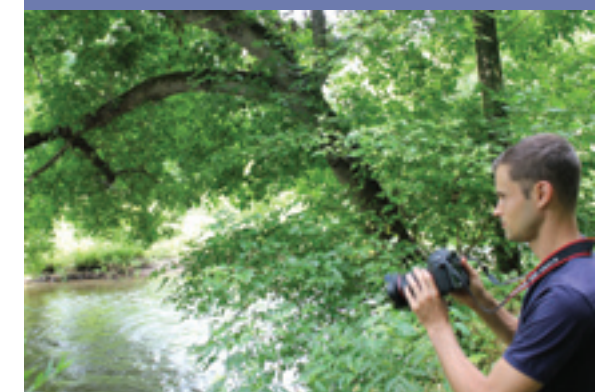
~ Audrey Lewis, Associate Curator, Brandywine River Museum

Alongside Tall Grasses

The scenic landscape of the Brandywine inspired a new work by Brooklyn-based artist Matthew Jensen, which will be on view at the Museum through November 16.

Jensen’s interest in the Brandywine springs from childhood experiences exploring ruins along rivers and creeks and the work for this exhibit developed from a series of immersive walks around the river. The project itself focused on and around Chadds Ford and includes photographic and walking-based projects, with the resulting images and found objects displayed in a setting designed by the artist in the Museum’s third floor corridor, directly juxtaposed with the landscape that inspired the work. A map created by Jensen will invite visitors to explore the environment surrounding the Museum.

In the fall, Jensen will host a public walking exploration of the local landscape and present an artist talk as a culmination of his Brandywine project. For more information, check BrandywineMuseum.org.



If You Go:

Exalted Nature and Alongside Tall Grasses,
through November 16, 2014

Brandywine River Museum, Rt. 1, Chadds Ford
610.388.2700; BrandywineMuseum.org



4th Tour of Tours

Story and photos by Matt Freeman

When Chester County Day opens the doors to magnificent area homes.

HOUSES CHANGE AND GO THROUGH PHASES, much as people do. That timeless-looking fieldstone farmhouse you've admired from the road might have spent many decades as a stuccoed-over Victorian when that was in fashion, before a later owner revealed the original, period-appropriate look.

That sort of transformation is one of the fascinating discoveries you can make on the Chester County Day House Tour, when scores of the finest examples of original, reclaimed, restored, new and historically significant homes open to the public on the first Saturday in October.

It's one thing to see a house in the distance and very much another to visit and see it inside and out. You discover that a classic-looking house may have a surprisingly imaginative, contemporary decor, or sumptuous gardens, or has been a home-away-from-home for an A-list rock star.

This year the featured houses are in Chester County's northeastern quadrant, and five of them are profiled here, all perfect examples of the surprises and pleasures within, waiting to be discovered on Chester County Day.

We hope you enjoy our annual preview. For tour information, see our Events sections.



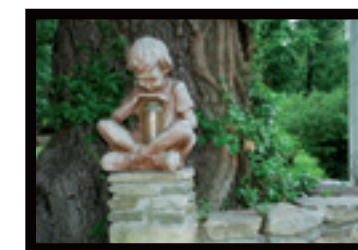
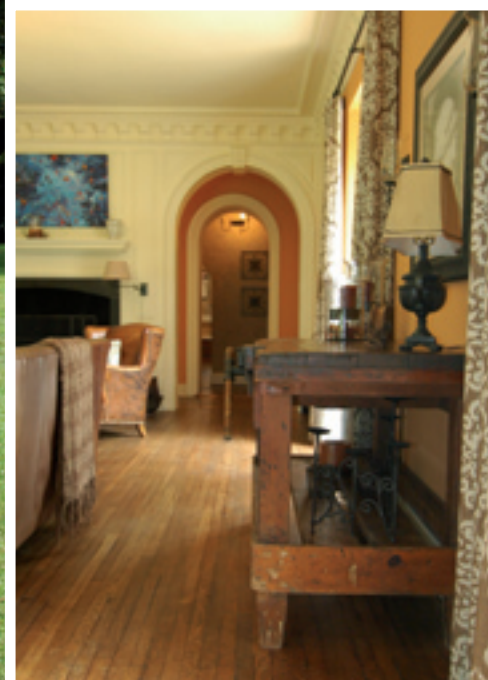
Willowbrook Farm

Meg Veno says she and husband Chris searched for a farmhouse for five years before they moved to Willowbrook Farm on North Valley Road. “We’re lovers of history and all things old,” Veno says. She would go out looking at properties, and when she got home her husband would ask, “Does it speak to you?” Nothing did, until she saw Willowbrook.

The setting is secluded, well shaded with mature trees over a pond, and Valley Creek flows through it. The house was a typical farmhouse until about 1920, Veno says, when the owners, who enjoyed traveling in Europe, hired an architectural firm to renovate it as a typical European country home.

The European touches include soaring free-standing white stuccoed chimneys, white stucco exterior walls contrasting with fieldstone sections, a terrace with a pergola, a courtyard, and a hipped roof. The interiors are decorated with a variety of art and objects that are elegantly historical but arranged with a lighthearted whimsy. Meg Veno collects and makes an eclectic variety of furnishings and sells them through a business called Life’s Patina, based in a repurposed barn on the property.

Over the years many notable people have visited the farm, including Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards. And now maybe you...





Flyaway

When you first see Peter and Eliza Zimmerman's fieldstone house and pastoral grounds on Chester Springs Road, they seem unchanged by the centuries since Colonial times. In fact, the original house was built in the 1760s, but the 1850s saw the addition of a structure with a mansard roof. A later owner gave it the Colonial-style stone exterior so prevalent in Chester County.

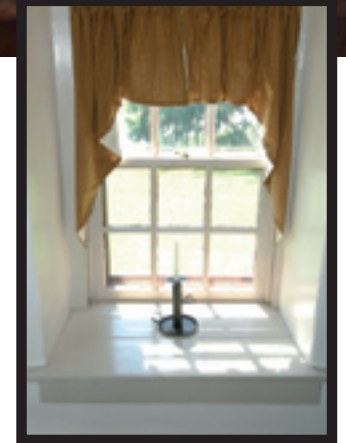
An acclaimed architect whose specialties include historic preservation, Zimmerman and wife Eliza, who works with him, set about transforming the house and the 10 acres they acquired around it. They planted trees to screen neighboring houses from view, and bought land to preserve historic outbuildings and a charming pond. On their spacious yard, once farmland, they installed more trees to "pull back the imposition of man on the landscape," Zimmerman says. An extensive brick terrace allows them to enjoy the peaceful-by-design views.

The house reflects Zimmerman's practice of combining the charm and grace of historic architecture with the comfort and functionality of modern construction. The ground floor includes a formal dining room and two living rooms, one cozily wood-paneled, another larger and airier, meant for summer use.

The Zimmermans felt the original kitchen's design impeded the flow through the house, so they raised the ceiling, put windows all along the exterior, and connected it to the family entrance. A French oak table, butternut cabinets and soapstone sink add to the décor.

Other changes are in store. The house, the Zimmermans say, is a kind of laboratory for them, always a work in progress.





The Whelen House

The Whelen House on Conestoga Road, now Vivian McCardell's home, is another example of a house you might assume, if you drove past it, was charmingly preserved from its earliest years. It was built as a log house in about 1750, with a stone addition 30 years later, and a summer kitchen added in 1820. (A large barn also graces the property.) At some point it was stuccoed over, a common practice at the time.

Happily, it was restored to its original appearance by the time McCardell encountered it. She'd seen it and heard about it being for sale several times over the years before she first looked at it. "When I walked in, I was like, 'this is it,'" McCardell says. "It was kind of serendipity."

Or was it destiny? McCardell says she has Quaker ancestors who lived in the area, and the Whelen family knew members of her family. But whether fate or chance brought her there, McCardell liked the house.

The rooms tend to be very large for an 18th-century home, and McCardell says it was described as a mansion from its early days. Three large walk-in fireplaces are part of the appeal, with exposed-beam ceilings in many rooms and much of the original flooring adding character.

The house is furnished with pottery and other decorative items McCardell has collected.



Snapfinger Farm

When Cindy Howe and her husband Doug first saw Snapfinger Farm, it was winter, and the Dewees Lane property didn't strike them as the sort of horse farm they had in mind. But then they saw it again when the weather had warmed and the property was green, and they thought, Howe says, it "had possibilities."

On Chester County Day, visitors can stroll about the 10-acre property and see those possibilities realized. Howe is an avid gardener, and there are plantings all around the house and garden, and a large 30-by-60-foot garden between the house and the barn, both of which were built around 1790.

The Howes renovated the barn—Doug is an avid equestrian—and the house as well. The original kitchen was cramped, so they added a larger one, with a laundry and mudroom downstairs and new master bedroom above. The decor is a contemporary mix of white and black with splashes of color throughout, and like many such updates, it works surprisingly well in this traditional Chester County farmhouse.

Another unique feature is the swimming pool outside with a round fieldstone hot tub next to it. When not in use, the hot tub cascades cool water into the pool, but when switched on, the cascade stops and the water warms.



For a VIP—Lunch and Tour

Those with a special VIP ticket (\$100, all of which benefits the Chester County Hospital) have a special treat in store: a private tour of Casa di Tutto Sorrisi (House of All Smiles) and a gourmet lunch prepared by Peter Gilmore, acclaimed chef and veteran of Le Bec Fin and his former restaurant Gilmore's, alongside homeowner Cindy McClure.

The Rosewood Lane home is like many houses in one, an eye-popping phantasmagoria of classic European architectural styles along with an elevated walkway and elaborate fountains front and back. More than 100 artisans, including stonemasons from Italy, helped craft the home, which sits on a 13-acre estate with sweeping views of the surrounding countryside. The indoors features a French style luxury kitchen, wine cellar and two-story media room.

The VIP lunch will be served on a large open terrace created in the style of a Mediterranean villa, and the menu includes a variety of turkey, salmon and vegetable sliders, pasta salad, fruit and cheese, homemade soup, beverages and desserts.

To celebrate Chester County Day in style, VIP tickets also include a preview party and reception at Vickers Restaurant on Sunday, Sept. 28, and the chance to drive a BMW on the day of the tour, courtesy of Otto's BMW.



Tally Ho!

It's early morning on Chester County Day. The weather is crisp and the sunlight filters through the treetops at the West Meadow in Historic Yellow Springs. Men and women in riding coats, high black boots and helmets, mingle and eat. The aromas of strong coffee, hot mulled cider and freshly baked pastries—provided by the Chester County Hospital Women's Auxiliary—waft over the autumn morning and growing group of spectators.

The whippers-in are sharing last minute advice. Gradually, the 20-or-so riders finish and put aside their stirrups cups. Riders mount their horses, whose warm breath hangs in the air, their hooves shuffling, still testing and scratching the slightly muddy ground. A restless horse whinnies and rears.

In the near distance, the hounds are approaching. They are alert, speak and busily sniffing the air, their noses already casting for a fox's scent. The onlookers, who have come to admire the countryside and pageantry, wish the riders good luck and back away.

At 9 a.m., the field is off! After a short while, the hounds have caught the scent. Galloping horses follow. The pace speeds up. Horns sound. A bushy red tail darts beneath a wooden fence, then hustles through a field.

After a few miles of turning and backtracking through bramble and mud—the fox is very clever—the quarry will “go to ground,” finding a hole and staying there. In America the foxhunt is really a foxchase. The fox is not harmed.

The hunt will continue for several hours. Back at West Meadow, Dr. Don Rosato, assisted by his wife Judy, will start the day by speaking on the origins of the sport and hunt attire. Sandy Dunn, Master of the Kimberton Hunt, shares the history of that Club.

By day's end, all—horses, hounds and humans—will be muddy and tired, yet exhilarated. Another Chester County Day will be done. ♦

WHERE: West Meadow in Historic Yellow Springs, across from the Washington Bldg.

WHEN: Saturday, October 4. Cars must be parked by 8:30 a.m.

BREAKFAST: Served by Chester County Hospital Women's Auxiliary



We'll Be Watching...

at DRESSAGE AT DEVON!



Ginny Simon



Alexa Derr



Damascus



As **Dressage at Devon** celebrates 40 years of world-class competitions, we bring you three stories, behind the scenes and outside the Dixon Oval—a young rider with a dream, a colt worth watching, and a special group of local riders.

Dedication to Riding

Alexa Derr says her love of horses started when she was just six. At first, she focused on riding low-level hunters but lost her confidence after she took a fall during a jump. Not willing to give up on horses, Alexa switched disciplines to dressage, where she could focus on the “flat.”

She quickly learned that dressage had its own challenges, including the importance of creating a partnership between horse and rider. “That’s when I realized how exciting it is to be connected with your mount,” said Alexa.

Now 19, Alexa lives and trains out of her home in Reinholds, PA at Vue de Lou Stables. She says she’s fortunate her parents purchased extra land adjacent to their house, where there’s a six-stall barn and full-size dressage arena. The barn is home to Just Livingston, a 17.1-hand, chestnut Hanoverian thoroughbred with lots of chrome (an equine term for lots of white and a hand is 4 inches, so that’s a 6 foot, 8 inch horse!).

Alexa has learned that equestrian activities take devotion and commitment. Her day begins around 7 a.m. when she gets ready for classes at Albright College, feeds the four horses (Livingston, her first pony Louie, and two others) and prepares them to spend the day outside. When she gets home from class around 3, she’ll sometimes clean stalls but will always make time for a ride. It doesn’t stop there, though.

“Luckily, I have supportive parents who help tremendously with barn work so I have enough time to complete my homework, train and travel about an hour and a half every Monday for a lesson,” Alexa explained.

It’s important to remember that horses have personalities too. “My favorite part of riding is riding a quirky horse that will teach me when I am incorrect, but reward me when I am correct.”

Alexa competed at Dressage at Devon for the first time in 2011, then on another mount in the Junior Division and the Young Rider Division with Just Livingston in 2013. And she’s not stopping. “My goal for this year is to focus on improving the quality of presentation in the ring. Two years ago I went from riding my training-level, off-the-track thoroughbred to riding

an FEI schoolmaster at a more advanced level in two months. It was quite the learning leap,” says Alexa. [Note for the lay reader: FEI, Federation Equestre Internationale, is the international body covering equestrian sports and a schoolmaster is a horse with good training and experience.]

In October of 2012, Alexa began leasing Just Livingston, which gave her a glimpse of the upper levels. Two months later she packed up and went to Wellington, Florida, a venue with high-level shows in several equine disciplines, including dressage. She began to show in divisions with higher and higher levels of difficulty and, over the next year, continued to make great strides.

“I couldn’t be more grateful for these countless opportunities. Ultimately I would like to train and compete at the Grand Prix Level.” This year Alexa will be riding Just Livingston in the FEI Young Rider Division—a big move ahead toward her Grand Prix goals.

We’ll be watching!

Damascus: Friendly, Curious and Very Handsome

Riders and trainers have spent years—decades—building their skills and talents. And, in the end, all that experience and knowledge is dependent on the horse. More specifically, the riders and trainers depend on the breeding and training of the magnificent animals, something that starts way before these special horses are even conceived.

Take Damascus, a foal who will be spending the summer frolicking in his pasture at Iron Spring Farm, one of the nation’s largest and most well-respected breeding farms for dressage horses in the nation. He’s come to this Coatesville, PA farm from Germany and to make the U.S. his new home.

Damascus was bred and is owned by one of the world’s top dressage riders, Catherine Haddad-Staller. Catherine was first known in Germany for her success in breeding horses, long before she was recognized as a competitive rider. While her fame and success grew as a rider, Catherine remained focused on breeding the best dressage horses.

In 2010 a filly named Raureif that Catherine bred was born and shipped to the

A Handy Guide to Dressage Terms

Here’s some background from the U.S. Dressage Foundation that might be useful when listening to the judges. Or check out **Dressage with the Experts**, a personal headset that lets you listen to expert commentary by the judges as you watch the action in the ring.

Let’s start with **Dressage**, French for training. Most Americans pronounce it “dreh-SAZH.” The ubiquitous British show announcers seem to prefer “DREH-sazh.” The common mispronunciation “DREH-sidge” will brand you a novice!

Activity—energetic, lively movement, especially of the horse’s hind legs.

Aids—the rider’s means of communicating cues to the horse. The aids are: seat, legs, hands (rein aids) and voice. (Voice is not permitted in dressage.) Advanced riders may use artificial aids (whip and spurs) to amplify basic aids.

Cadence—expressive movement, with accentuated rhythm and tempo in accordance with gait (trot and canter).

Class—a single competitive division at a show, grouped by task or skill level.

Contact—a connection between the horse’s mouth and the rider’s hands, maintained through the reins.

Flatwork—schooling that does not incorporate jumps.

Levels—stepping-stone stages of difficulty in dressage training as set in the tests used in competition.

Piaffe—a challenging “trot on the spot.”

Passage—an elevated trot with a moment of hesitation between footfalls.

Rein—the direction of travel. To be on the right rein means to be traveling clockwise.

Seat—the rider’s primary aid, consisting of the weight influence and actions of the area from hips to knees.

U.S. as a yearling. Now four years old, Raureif is the mother with father Don Principe—a prize winning stallion—of a colt named Damascus.

“Standing next to his mother, Damascus looks like the type of horse that should be stamped on a coin,” said Catherine proudly.



Damascus is friendly and curious already doing well with his introduction to things like being handled and groomed and walking with a halter. The Dressage at Devon Breed Division will be his first show. He's entered in "Colts of the Current Year" on Tuesday—with mom at his side—and the possibility of moving on to a championship class.

We'll be watching!

Delaware Valley Combined Training Association

Some members of the Delaware Valley Combined Training Association (DVCTA) ride, some compete, some breed and train horses, while others just love being around the equestrian life. All are horse enthusiasts, primarily interested in dressage and combined training, which requires horse and rider to compete in three different competitive areas—cross country, show jumping and dressage—a kind of equine triathlon!

If you've been to Dressage at Devon in the past, you may remember seeing the DVCTA Quadrille—eight horses performing in unison with riders from the Delaware Valley. Riders are mainly adults, but juniors participate as well.

Practice for these performances goes on all year. "We host quadrille 'play-dates' at Melissa Stubenberg's beautiful



Delaware Valley Combined Training Assoc. Quadrille in action

Kealani Farm in West Grove in the winter," explains Anne Miller, DVCTA Quad Squad Manager. These playdates introduce riders new to quadrille, and offer an alternative to training that can get monotonous and lonely during those cold months. The horses love it, and it's a great social time for riders.

Currently DVCTA fields three quadrille teams. The First Level Team draws riders from the quadrille playdates and performs in low-key environments. The Second Level team traditionally performs at Dressage at Devon, and the Travel Team, in addition to participating at Dressage at Devon, has performed "THINK PINK," a tribute to breast cancer awareness, at Ride for Life's Dancing Horse Challenge, an annual event held in the Baltimore/Washington area to raise funds for breast cancer research.

The Quadrille idea started when Anne Moss, then president of DVCTA, asked Anne Miller, the current squad leader, to help a group of riders tweak a standard four-horse quadrille pattern to accommodate eight horses for an exhibition ride at Dressage at Devon.

Each year has a theme. For instance, the riders decided a patriotic theme would be appropriate for the 10th anniversary of 9/11. Flag bearers on paint ponies added a little flair to the performance. For the

finale, one of the horses—Mickey Blue Eyes ridden by Karen Walsh—bowed to the firefighters who had been recruited to represent the First Responders from that fateful day. There was not a dry eye in the house!

The region is very supportive of DVCTA and many local farms open their facilities at no cost to the team, leaving more money in the budget for costumes. As the group says, the more bling, the better!

We'll be watching! ♦

Of course, Dressage at Devon is about more than the horses! Boutique shopping and great food round out the experience for spectators. You'll also see Guy McLean, horseman extraordinaire, return with his horses, riding (sometimes two at once) and performing equine tricks that are amazing!

If You Go

What: Champions from around the world and the largest open breed show in the world. Plus food, shopping, Ladies Hat Day and more.

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State of Barns

FROM PRAIRIE BARNs TO PARTY BARNs, BANK BARNs TO BOOK BARNs, BARNs ARE ICONIC SYMBOLS OF AMERICA'S HERITAGE.

Jodi Spraggins

I NTERESTED IN A LITTLE BARN HISTORY 101? Here's just a taste and some great photos of local barns that were on tour recently.

Coming to the New World in search of a better life, American settlers didn't settle for European-style barns, which historically had been small structures. Instead, these adventurers built symbols of their big hopes and even bigger plans for life in America as they erected barns in their new homeland.

Here in Chester County, barns are literally built into our land. Popularized by German and English settlers, local "bank barns" were built into the side of a hill, or bank, so that both the upper and the lower floors could be accessed from ground level. These 18th-century outbuildings were well-suited for our hilly landscape, and allowed easy access for both farmers and livestock.

Recounting an 1874 visit to Pennsylvania, the editor of the *Minnesota Tribune* wrote: "In Chester and Lancaster Counties, I think, is the most finished farming in the Union... Every field is a park. Every barn is a cow palace. Every pigpen a porcine paradise. Pennsylvania is preeminently the State of Barns."

Celebrating Barns

Thanks to 35 years of committed conservation efforts, Willistown Conservation Trust (WCT) is working to ensure that these iconic landmarks don't disappear from our modern landscape by protecting nearly 7,200 acres of Chester County's rich landscape.

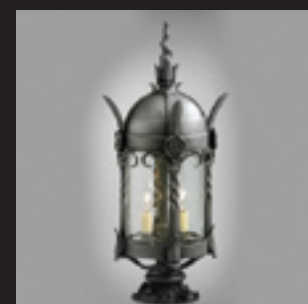
From historic stone barns to faithful reproductions, the collection of barns on tour at Willistown Conservation Trust's second annual Barns & BBQ fundraiser delighted—and educated—the almost 300 guests who secured a ticket for the sellout event. The twilight tour and farm-to-table meal showcased not only the barns, but also the preserved lands of the Willistown area—land permanently protected from development by conservation easements.

The distinctive barns on the Barns & BBQ tour symbolize the importance of open space, as they continue to function as working barns—still relevant in the 21st century. Bonnie Van Alen, the Trust's Executive Director, explains why barns are so special. "These barns are not sitting

in the middle of a housing development," she shared recently. "They would likely cease to be of viable use without the preserved lands that surround them. They continue to house and facilitate agricultural activities even today—primarily equestrian pursuits, small-scale meat production, and vegetable farming. Thanks to years of community conservation efforts, our barns and the countryside where they reside have retained their rural uses and character."

We hope you enjoy this armchair tour of the Willistown barns. Sorry there's no BBQ. ♦

Barns & BBQ raises funds for the continuing preservation of the Willistown countryside. Next year's event is scheduled for May 9, 2015. For information and to learn more visit WCTrust.org.



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★ The Barns of Willistown ★



KNOLL N FARM

A Willistown landmark, the Yarnall house has kept watch over the farmlands on either side of Delchester Road since 1862. The original bank barn was destroyed by a tragic fire, but working closely with John Milner Architects, Warren Claytor Architects and King Construction, the new owners were able to restore the historic house and barn. Along the Okehocking Indian Trail, Knoll N Farm is a little bit of old juxtaposed perfectly with the new.



BRUSHWOOD STABLE

Owned by WCT's 2013 Conservationist of the Year, Brushwood Stable is more than a classic bank barn—it's a symbol of equestrian excellence and the owner's passion for her horses and the land where they're raised. While the original manor house is no longer standing, Brushwood features a working barn, complete with a state-of-the-art breeding program. Dedication to Chester County's equestrian heritage ensures that future racing champions will always have a home.



DELCHESTER FARM

Dating back to 1737, in the heart of the Okehocking Land Grant, sits Delchester Farm. A storied district on the National Register of Historic Places, the 23.5-acre farm has been extensively renovated, with additions most recently added by the current owners. A modern space, Delchester Farm is a living tribute to the agricultural legacy of the region.



GRAMERCY FARM

Featuring a "Double Decker" bank barn—a structure born in southeastern Pennsylvania in the late 18th century—Gramercy Farm boasts a house and outbuildings that were created by "an extraordinary team of artisans and craftspeople" in a partnership that's spanned almost two decades. Gramercy Farm is a protected property and was redesigned by Mark D. Slouf Custom Building and Design. This is a working barn with a specific purpose—a cultural function, rather than an agricultural one. The barn houses an extensive library.



BRAEBURN FARM

Steeped in Radnor Hunt history, this 19th-century barn is a hallmark of Chester County architecture, with a wooden overhang supported by conical stone columns. Continuously used to stable horses for the past two centuries, the barn is a testament to Chester County's enduring equestrian history.



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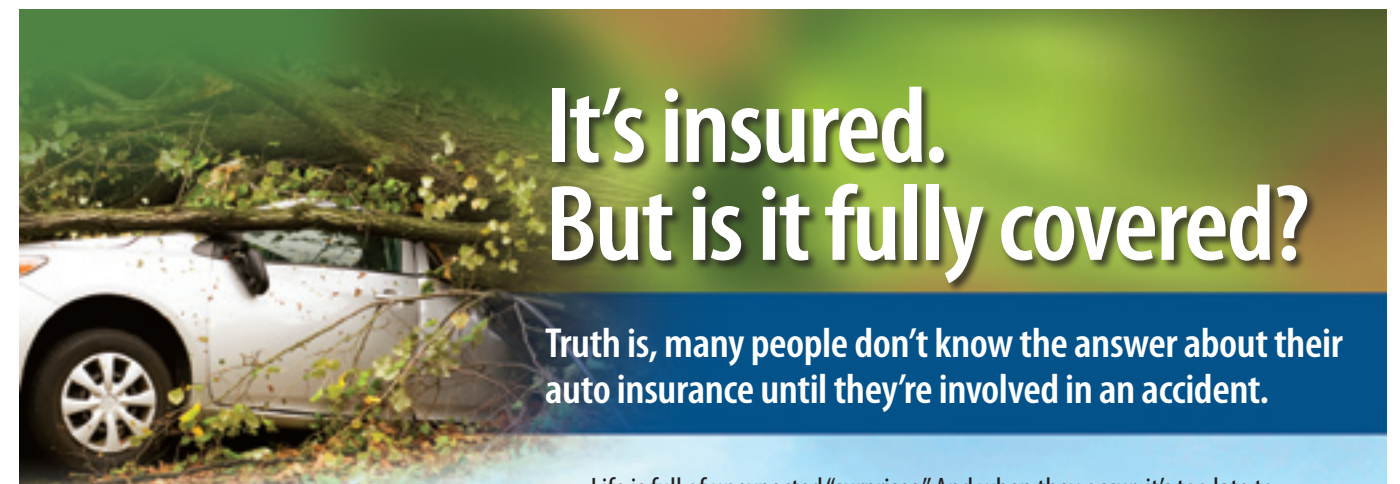


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has always been at the heart of Willow Valley Communities' success.

With the opening of The Clubhouse, Willow Valley breaks through convention to create something that once again helps redefine senior living. Every amenity in this 30,000-square-foot building illustrates the spirit of “agelessness” that guides the philosophy of development at Willow Valley. The building is also a reflection of our organization’s commitment to intergenerational engagement. The Clubhouse opens a new world of possibilities for those who live at Willow Valley and creates a spirit of vibrancy compelling to people of all ages.



MEAN GIRL

Jaimielynn Cooper

Hollywood’s favorite funny girl has a soft spot for the Delco stage where it all began.

WHOMEVER SAID YOU CAN’T GO HOME again obviously never met a Delco girl. Before she was Liz Lemon, Sarah Palin, Sharon Norbury or a writer, producer and Emmy Award-winning actress and comedienne, Tina Fey was just a Delaware County girl with stars in her eyes. And while she may have moved on to bigger stages and grander sets, Fey will tell you herself that she hasn’t moved on to one that’s better.

Because what could be better than the stage that first introduced you to show business?

Helping kick off the Upper Darby Performing Arts Center 40th season of Summer Stage, Fey returned home to attend a fundraiser screening of the 10th anniversary of *Mean Girls*, a film based in part on her years at Upper Darby High School. Proceeds help fund a new sound system for the Performing Arts Center, a \$300,000 investment for both the theater and the community.

“Whatever the problem, be part of the solution. Don’t just sit around raising questions and pointing out obstacles,” Fey wrote in her 2011 autobiography *Bossypants*. And on August 16th, Fey proved she’s a woman of her word as nearly a thousand Mean Girls filled the auditorium to see the woman who

gives them hope that something big can happen for them one day, too. “Arts programs like Summer Stage are vital to our children—and our community as a whole—and we have a responsibility to make sure they don’t become just another item on a budget list. The next generation’s success is dependent on more than the basic school curriculum.”

One of the longest running and most successful children’s theater programs in the country, Summer Stage is a proud part of the Delaware County community, putting on six children’s shows and a Mainstage Show annually, each with its own professional production staff.

“It’s a fantastic program that continues to this day, and I can’t recommend it highly enough,” Fey says.

After all, it’s where she became who she is today, according to the Center’s current executive and artistic director, Harry Dietzler. Dietzler founded Summer Stage in 1976 and his admiration and gratitude for Fey’s support is obvious. “As we move into our 40th year, we are pleased, excited, and grateful that Tina is helping us raise the bar on the level of family-friendly entertainment we offer the community.”

To learn more about Fey’s time acting and directing Summer Stage, pick up a copy of *Bossypants*. She devotes an entire chapter to the program, fictionalizing it as “Summer Showtime” and calling Dietzler “Larry Wentzler.”

If you haven’t already had the pleasure, make plans to “go to there” sometime soon.

The Performing Arts Center will continue the fundraising campaign until they reach their goal. To learn more visit them online at UDPAC.org.



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Back to the Books

**September.
Back to Work.
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Back to Books.**

Andrea Kiliany Thatcher
Chester County Book Company



NO MATTER HOW FAR YOU ARE FROM YOUR OWN ENROLLMENT DAYS, September always brings a "back to school" feeling in with the cooler air. While you're out shopping for cozy sweaters, be sure to stop at your local independent bookseller to satisfy that back-to-school shopping itch.

Fall is the perfect time to turn your attention to something new. Want to master your cocktail mixing skills for the holiday party season? Or pay closer attention to an aspect of history that eluded you the first time around? No matter what you're interested in learning, your local indie bookseller is happy to help you find the right book.

Here are a few suggestions.

How Not To Be Wrong: The Power of Mathematical Thinking

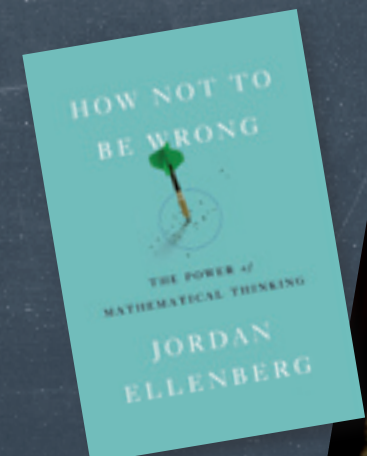
by Jordan Ellenberg

Why not start your quest for learning with what everyone really wants to know: How Not To Be Wrong. This book promises to arm you with the tools of mathematics so you can see the true meaning of information we take for granted. For example, after reading you'll be able to hold forth on such topics as: How early should you get to the airport? What does "public opinion" really represent? Why do tall parents have shorter children? Who really won Florida in 2000? And how likely are you, really, to develop cancer? Won't you be a hit at cocktail parties?

My Salinger Year

by Joanna Rakoff

Was last year's hefty biography of literary heavyweight J.D. Salinger a little more than you'd like to bite off? *My Salinger Year* is the memoir of a lowly assistant to J.D. Salinger's literary agent. Tasked with responding to the larger-than-life literary figure's fan mail, Rakoff abandons the script to respond to deeply felt letters in the voice of Salinger himself. This poignant and entertaining story is a much lighter companion to the great work of the literary giant, but gives some





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of the gossipy book world atmosphere you'd otherwise need to find by slogging through ambitious biographies.

The 12 Bottle Bar: A Dozen Bottles. Hundreds of Cocktails. A New Way to Drink.

by David Solmonson & Lesley Jacobs Solmonson

As you'll learn if you pick up the illuminating *The Trip to Echo Spring: On Writers and Drinking* or, indeed, much of the mid-20th-century American canon, nothing goes together quite like great writing and great drinking. *The 12 Bottle Bar* makes building a home bar less overwhelming (and less expensive) by focusing on 12 bottles and the perfectly crafted cocktails you can make with them. If you master your 12 Bottle Bar, you might want to move on to *Winter Cocktails* by Del Mar Sacasa and Tara Striano, the advanced course for next semester.

How To Teach Your Children Shakespeare

by Ken Ludwig

In this book, playwright Ken Ludwig gives you ways to inspire an understanding and a love of Shakespeare's works in your children—no small accomplishment. And he promises that you'll have fun together along the way—even better! If you want to take this back-to-school theme more literally, why not learn how to introduce your children to one of the greats that will serve them well throughout their studies. Ludwig's methods are, as they say, "kid tested" as he tried them out on his own wee ones. Don't be put off if you don't have kids, this is a great refresher course in the Bard for novices of any age.

The Wes Anderson Collection

by Matt Zoller Seitz

Always wished you'd taken Film 101? Well, fans of Wes Anderson films like *Rushmore*, *The Royal Tennenbaums*, *The Life Aquatic* and *The Darjeeling Limited* can create their own crash course in Andersonian cinematography with this truly beautiful book. Watch the movies and read the accompanying section of *The Wes Anderson Collection* to delve deeply into the many layers of this auteur's filmmaking. Not a Wes Anderson fan? *100 Ideas That Changed Film* or *Awake in the Dark* by Roger Ebert also make a great companion for a watch-then-read adventure.

Suri's Burn Book

by Allie Hagan and

How to Quinoa: Life Lessons from My Imaginary Well-Dressed Daughter by Tiffany Beveridge

If you're more than happy to be done with intellectualism and learning projects, you may appreciate a more whimsical approach to back-to-school with the decidedly juvenile but charmingly in-the-know internet-originated phenoms *Suri's Burn Book* and *How to Quinoa*. Both based on a Tumblr and Pinterest board, respectively, these adorable conversation starters make great guest room fodder or road trip talk pieces.

Suri's Burn Book is a fictionalized account with snarky commentary on other celebrity toddlers from a parodied Suri Cruise (daughter of Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes).

How To Quinoa lambasts the surge in the children's luxury goods industry as well as the hipster parents who buy into it. With names like Quinoa, Hashtag and Chevron, the characters deliver gems like "Quinoa had a lovely time at Charcuterie's summer home. Everything was perfectly whitewashed and all the industrial fans were set to 'medium Beyoncé,' just the way she likes." ♦

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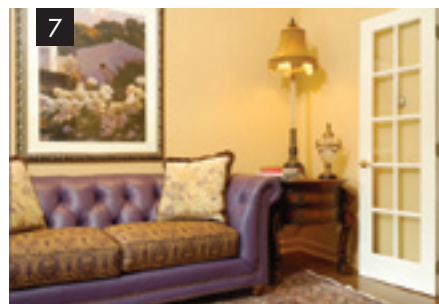
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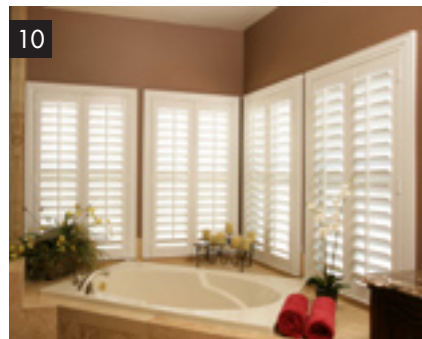
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10

Changing the look and feel of your home is a must as we move from warm sunny days to cool autumn afternoons. Whether you decide to go big or small—redesign a whole room or simply add a throw pillow—these finds are perfect for any room.

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2. Annie Sloan Chalk-Painted Furniture
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610-444-9290; ConsignItFurniturePA.com

3. Professional Design Services
Heritage Design Interiors
1064 E. Main St., New Holland.
717-354-2233; HeritageDesignInteriors.com

4. Yuthica Candle & Incense Set.
R P Nurseries
649 Unionville Rd., Kennett Square.
610-444-1116; RPNurseries.com

5. Chandler-4-Corners Fox Face Pillow
Eleanor Russell Ltd.
2948 Conestoga Rd., Glenmoore.
610-321-2777; Facebook.com/EleanorRussellLtd

6. Cathy Heitznecker Rag Rug Ottoman
Merchant of Menace Gallery
1351 W. Strasburg Rd., West Chester.
610-344-7774
TheMerchantOfMenace.Wordpress.com

7. Professional Design Services
Carole Lee Interiors
14 Bonnie Ln., Media.
610-459-4383; CaroleLeeInteriors.com

8. Antique Desk
McLimans Furniture Warehouse
940 W. Cypress St., Kennett Square
610-444-3876; McLimans.com

9. American Made Sleigh Sofa
Alegacy Furniture
1486 S. Hanover St., Pottstown.
610-970-4340; AlegacyFurniture.com

10. Plantation Shutters
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5 Fall MUST HAVES

You may be missing cool drinks by the pool and weekends in the sun, but our mind's been on fall—fashion, that is. Check out these must haves—they'll have you wishing autumn got here sooner.



1

Bundle Up

The best part about the first cold snap of autumn? Cozy coats, of course. Yellow Motorcycle Jacket, *Luit*; Polka Dots Boutique. 29 Leopard Rd., Paoli. 610-640-2714; ShopPolkaDots.com



2

Refresher Course

Cooler air means drier skin, which means it's time to refresh your skincare routine—and update your color palette. Daytime Shadow Kit, *Jane Iredale*; Pumpkin cleanser, *Rhonda Allison*; Eden Day Spa. 378 W. Main St., Trappe. 610-489-0800; EdenDaySpaAndSalon.com



Best Dressed

3

There's something to be said for warm dresses and tights ... mainly that they're one of our favorite parts of fall. Knit Dress, *Indigenous*; Element Six. 503 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne. 610-688-1519; ElementSixClothing.com



4

Flaunt It

Whether you prefer to flaunt them solo or stack them up, bangles are back, baby. Silver and gold bangles, *Lika Behar*; Walter J. Cook Jeweler. 36 Chestnut Rd., Paoli. 610-644-5347; WalterJCookJeweler.com

Bare It All

5

They say it's what's inside that matters. Sometimes it's what's underneath, too. Embrace Lace Chemise, *Wacoal*; Gie Gie Lingerie. 36 Chestnut Rd., Paoli. 610-296-7626; GieGieLingerie.com



Pickering Springs Farm

Laurel Anderson

Historic Equestrian Property with Waterfront Living

EVER WANTED TO OWN YOUR OWN FARM—old world charm, a picturesque barn, an iconic silo, a few horses gazing in the fenced paddock? Or is your dream home focused more on thoughts of waterfront living—swimming, boating, fishing and enjoying views of the water?

It's a rare property that lets you combine both lifestyles, yet Pickering Springs Farm in Chester Springs does just that. You can down-size the agrarian responsibility to a more manageable six-acre gentleman's farm, but keep the barn, silo, paddock and more, and combine that with a property set on a 15-acre, spring-fed pond—big enough to be considered a lake!

As a bonus, you get a bit of history with the main house including a section dating back to the late 1700s and situated on property that was owned by the chief surveyor of the Mason-Dixon Surveying Company and builder of nearby Anselma Mill. The stone home has had only two well-designed additions—one in 1850 and another in 1960, suggesting no need for further expansion before 2050 at the earliest.

The current owners were drawn to this unique property after tiring of new construction and searching for a place to ride and keep horses and dogs and perhaps a few other animals. Although there were several false starts in their three-year quest to own this special property, the owners knew it was meant to be.

The Farm

So many special features are found on the six acres of Pickering Springs Farm. You'll see the farm's sign as you head into the drive to the main residence, a two-story, stone farmhouse-style Colonial, now with stately columns, set at the top of a hill.

The requisite bank barn is there, with its six working stalls below and large upper floor perfect for a spacious party-barn redo,

but now storing 12 classic cars, including an award-winner at the Concours d'Elegance. A three-story white silo punctuates the hill and is surrounded by the paddocks, working wishing well, two-car detached garage, and overlooks the lovely gazebo where you can enjoy the protected views of the pond, your pier and lush property with mature trees.

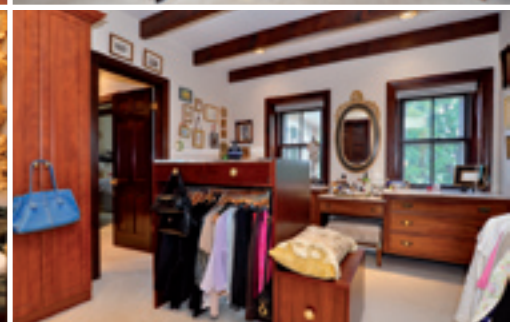
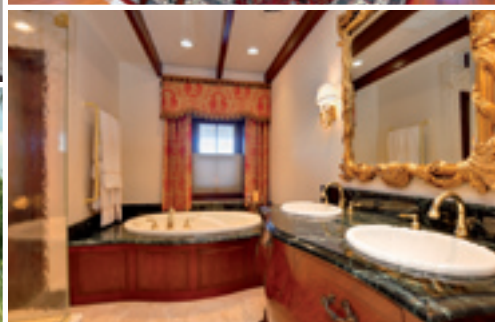
Pristine white rail fences mark the property lines, stone walls echo the façade and

brick paths lead to the 52-foot diving pool and kitchen garden. A serene oasis, yet just minutes from everything.

The Main House

Seamlessly blending the newer stone additions with the historic home, this residence was skillfully renovated, updated and impeccably maintained. Now you'll find ten rooms full of natural sunlight, with high, beamed ceilings and an open,





livable floor plan encompassing five-plus bedrooms and four and a half baths.

The grand, two-story marble foyer, with dramatic staircase and balcony, anchors the formal living room to the left and dining room to the right. Both rooms boast classic fireplaces, hardwood floors, crown moldings and beamed ceilings.

Overlooking the brick patio through French doors, the sunny living room is warmed by the rich hues of the chestnut mantle surrounding the fireplace and accenting the built-ins and wet bar. The dining room and adjacent study have traditional deep windowsills and period details, such as an original door to the 1800s staircase.

The gourmet kitchen, with custom cherry cabinets, granite countertops, polished brick floors and more beams, makes the most of the walk-in fireplace, now home to a four-oven

Aga stove. Views to the gazebo and pond through the 16-pane window add light as the adjacent back staircase adds convenience.

More brick floors and ceiling beams accent the modern, all-season great room, with windows on three sides—all the better to capture the views and provide access to the heated pool, spa and gazebo. Well designed for entertaining or a private dip, the secluded pool area has a quartzite patio and a tall evergreen hedge.

A large marble-floored mudroom/laundry room, bathroom with shower, and elegant powder room round out the first floor. Both the attic and basement offer standing-room height space for storage and for further development, if desired.

Other Floors

Like the first floor, the second floor spans the old and new structures, giving a mix of

charm and modern amenities to the master suite plus four additional bedrooms and three more bathrooms.

The spacious and elegant master suite, with fireplace, beamed ceiling and decorative moldings, has windows on three sides, including a bay window framing the pond view. A former bedroom was converted into an enviable dressing room, complete with custom built-ins displaying the owner's extensive designer scarf collection. Opulent his-and-her bathrooms have radiant-heated marble floors and custom mahogany cabinetry.

A serene oasis steeped in history. ♦

A six-acre, exclusive retreat with stately elegance, Pickering Springs Farm in Chester Springs is offered at \$2,299,000. For more information, contact Lorna Isen, at Long & Foster. 610-658-8900, 610-812-4600; LornaIsen.com.

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EXPLORING WINE

Down Under in McLaren Vale

Moira O'Neal

Take your palate on a trip to Australia's premier wine country.
And make sure you save some extra time for the Shiraz!

With great trepidation, this 24-year-old woman boarded a plane for a trip that would take her halfway around the world. This trip not only ignited a flame of passion for wine, but also launched a lifelong career. After 25 hours, I landed in South Australia and headed to McLaren Vale, home to a world-class grape-growing region and renowned vineyards.

This adventure was my college internship, and I'd found a wonderful agricultural exchange program that taught me much more than I'd learn in any classroom. The program had me live with the Kentish-Harrison family, owners of Ulithorne Vineyard, and work in the vineyard for a season. My wine education started with pruning and tying the vines and ended, appropriately, with the harvest. It was an unforgettable experience that shaped my life and my taste for wine.

About McLaren Vale

For those who don't know much about Australian geography, McLaren Vale is located on the Fleurieu Peninsula, about 20 miles south of Adelaide, the capital of the state of South Australia. Or if that didn't help, it's 450 miles northwest of Melbourne, along the southern coast of Australia.

Although it's unclear for whom the Vale, or valley, was named, the top two contenders are John McLaren, who surveyed the area in 1839, or David McLaren, the colonial manager of the South Australia Company. Either way, it was all in the family, though they were not related.

Roots of the wine industry date back to 1838 when John Reynell planted grapevines in the Vale. Dr. Rawson Penfolds also planted vines around this time, and the Penfolds name has become synonymous with great Australian wine. Thomas Hardy followed suit, planting his vineyard in 1853, and his name is still recognizable as the namesake of Hardy's Winery, which bottled its first vintage in 1857. Remarkably, some of the vines in the area are more than 100 years old and are still producing!

The topography of the Vale is diverse. The highest elevation is around 1,100 feet above sea level, but the majority of the area consists of gently rolling hills with elevations between 165 and 500 feet. Soil types differ greatly, from sandy loams to black clay loams. Different soil types can be near each other, resulting in quite different wines in this area enjoying Mediterranean-style climate.

The Distinctive Wines

McLaren Vale is home to over 70 wineries, mostly family-owned or boutique operations. The most widely planted and renowned grapes there are the Shiraz—about 51 percent of the acreage is planted with Shiraz. Other key red varieties are Cabernet Sauvignon (17 percent), Grenache (6 percent), Merlot (3.5 percent) and Mourvedre and Pinot Noir (1 percent each).

The white varieties include Chardonnay, the most widely planted at just under 7 percent of vineyard totals. Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon and Viognier vines round out the remainder, with around 1 percent each of vineyard plantings.

Some Tasting Recommendations

Any suggestions would have to be heavy on Shiraz, given its prominence—the intense flavors with berry and spice, deep purple color and velvet texture make Shiraz from McLaren Vale so popular. But you should consider other varieties from the region. Here are a few, plus, of course, some favorite Shirazs.

Try *Spring Seed Wine Co.'s Four O'Clock Chardonnay 2011* (\$16.99), a fantastic white that's made from organically grown grapes. Notes of honey and nutmeg on the nose are followed by peach and pear flavors. Bright acidity carries this wine to a tangy finish. Enjoy this white wine with fresh seafood (think “shrimp on the barbie”) or roasted chicken salad.

For a red wine choice, *Mother's Ruin 2011 Cabernet Sauvignon* (\$16.99) is a hearty wine that shows a bouquet of black currants and plums with notes of tobacco and black tea. Black fruits deliver on the palate with firm tannins and a chewy finish. Drink this cab with roasted game or grilled steak.

Dandelion Vineyards "Pride of the Fleurieu Peninsula" Cabernet Sauvignon 2010 (\$17.99) is an unfiltered wine that's a rich, dark purple in color. The nose offers black fruit notes and hints of clove and cola. This red has a full-bodied mouthfeel with flavors of blackberries and currant followed by a long finish and drying tannins. Pair it with a roasted leg of lamb or braised short ribs.

And now for some Shiraz recommendations. *Overhill Winery Red Silk Shiraz 2011* (\$16.99) offers blackberry and cola aromas mingling with black pepper and spice. The palate brings ripe blackberries and spice with a hint of anise on the finish. Firm tannins and good acidity round out this wine, which has a lengthy finish. Enjoy this with burgers on the grill or lamb sausages.

Flegenheimer Bros. Reserve Red 2010 (\$26.99) is a blend of Shiraz and Petite Sirah—a huge wine that's dark in color with aromas of cassis, dark plums and earth. On the palate, you'll taste tremendous fruit that delivers ripe black plums, plus chocolate and anise. It's full-bodied with hearty tannins and good acid and will age well for another five years. It complements hearty meats, from grilled wild boar or classic barbecue.

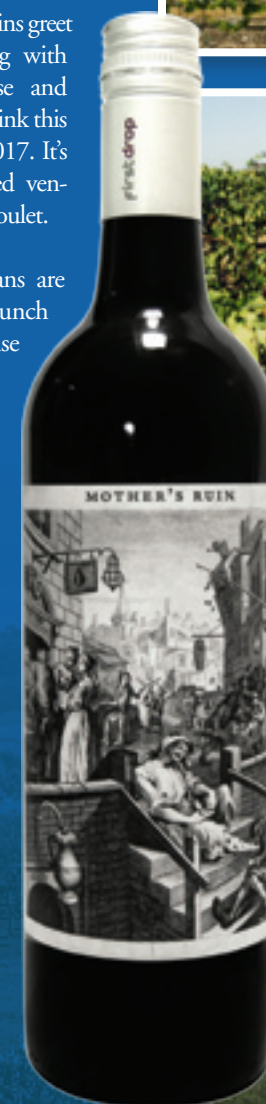
And finally, *Wirra Wirra RSW Shiraz 2007* (\$49.99) shows a nose of blueberries and chocolate with toasted oak nuances. Leather and black pepper are evident as well. Dense tannins greet the palate along with blackberry, anise and toast. You can drink this wine through 2017. It's great with grilled venison loin or cassoulet.

The Australians are an irreverent bunch with a great sense of humor. They

do, however, take their wine quite seriously. That being said, if you feel the need to throw something on the barbie, think about cracking open a wonderful bottle of wine from McLaren Vale.

Good on ya and gd'day, mate! ♦

Moira O'Neal, a Chester County native, has 15 years of experience in the wine industry. She credits her experience in McLaren Vale, South Australia as shaping her tastes and launching her in a career in wine. After returning to the States, Moira grew grapes in the Finger Lakes region of New York, and in 2002, she became an assistant winemaker at The Chaddsford Winery. She's currently a Retail Wine Specialist at the Fine Wine & Good Spirits West Goshen Store.



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



NICE CANS

The new Boxcar cans have arrived.

Honest, Abe. It's true. Tea lovers can now rejoice. The closing of West Chester's charming tearoom, **The Lincoln Room**, had us wondering where to score our next scone. But, happy day, the tearoom is returning in all its glory with its new owner Amy Hamlet. Join the re-opening by sipping loose-leaf teas and nibbling tea sandwiches. All the charms of this historic building remain. Abe himself would be excited about this news! Keep an eye on the

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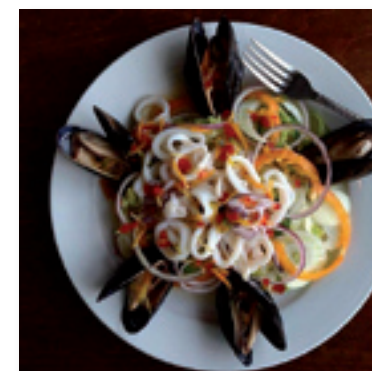
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BEST NEW RESTAURANT VENTURE - COUNTY UNITS MAGAZINE



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the mouth-watering Scampi alla
a white wine sauce. Enjoy dinner
nce the true heart of Italy. 700 W.
3; LagunaMiramare.com.

food is tough to satisfy. Luckily **RapiDOUGH** Pizza in Collegeville is up to the challenge. Brothers Nick Farrell of Sovana Bistro and Tom Farrell of The Classic Diner promise toasty brick oven pizzas in less than five minutes. Customize your toppings for any pizza, salad or calzone on the handy iPads used for ordering or try the special Mushroom Pie. Then devour your delicious creation! 99 E. Market St., Collegeville. 484-961-8898; [RapiDough PizzaPies.com](http://RapiDoughPizzaPies.com).



bigger deal at **First Friday Film Series**. Join **Uptown! Entertainment** on Fridays through November for a film and get discounts at choice West Chester restaurants. Buy your ticket online and bring it to the restaurant on movie night to get your discount. Try 25% off your bill at Barnaby's or Side Bar & Restaurant—you can't go wrong with that! 484-639-9004; UptownWestChester.org.



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Better Brown Bags

Laura Muzzi Brennan

A little imagination and an adventurous palate is all you need.

A close second to the oft asked “What are we having for dinner?” is “What should I pack for lunch?” While the tried-and-true combos of PB & J, ham and cheese, yogurt and fruit have fueled us through many an afternoon, they soon become ho-hum. So this September, as school starts up and work schedules return to normal, get creative with the midday meal.



Turkey Club from Westtown

both Ryan and Penni Bogda, co-owner of **Westtown Meat Market & Deli** in West Chester, assure me that’s not the case. Best-sellers include the chicken salad at both places, CB’s Italian chicken panini and Westtown’s turkey club as well as the BLT with cheddar. When I visited Westtown, I picked up a loaf of Bogda’s homemade white sandwich bread and became convinced that with its light yet chewy interior

Connor Ryan, chef of prepared foods at **Country Butcher** in Kennett Square, meets lots of folks looking for healthy lunch options. “The trend is toward more veggies and whole grains,” says Ryan. He offers a farro salad with grilled portobellos, wheat wraps filled with vegetables and a garlic-hoisin hummus as well as quinoa burgers. And he’s been experimenting with salads made of freekeh, a young wheat that boasts a low glycemic index, twice as much fiber as quinoa and a taste and texture similar to barley.

Lean meats as salad toppers are also popular at Country Butcher. Baked salmon topped with blackening seasoning or grilled chicken complements CB’s Tex-Mex, wedge or signature salad (lettuces, house made candied walnuts, blue cheese, sliced pears, dried cranberries and raspberry vinaigrette). Those craving red meat with their greens can’t go wrong with slices of London Broil or a grilled-to-order ribeye steak.

And lest you think that sandwiches have fallen out of favor,

and burnished crust, it could turn an ordinary brown bag lunch into an extraordinary one.

Another easy way to liven up your lunchbox: raid your dinner leftovers. A piece of baked salmon combined with a teaspoon of capers, a squirt of lemon and a dollop of mayo equals a salmon salad you’ll be proud to call lunch. That extra helping of grilled vegetables? Dice and stir into spicy tomato juice or Bloody Mary mix for a quick gazpacho.

Perhaps the quickest way to add punch to lunch is to expand your condiment horizons. At Country Butcher, find over 20 varieties of mustards as well as many house-made sauces and dressings such as horseradish, chipotle ranch and Thousand Island. For more ideas on jazzing up condiments and sandwiches, see the sidebar.

The lunch question can be a real stumper, but approach it with an adventurous palate and the answers will be plentiful.



Baked Salmon with blackened seasoning Country Butcher



Grilled Vegetable Pasta from Country Butcher



Homemade white sandwich bread from Westtown Meat Market & Deli

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Farro with Grilled Portabello Mushrooms

Farro is the Italian name for emmer wheat, an ancient grain cultivated in western Asia. It's got a nutty flavor—some people liken it to cashews with a hint of cinnamon—and a chewy texture. If you buy whole farro, soak it overnight before cooking. Semipearled or pearled varieties need no soaking and take less cooking time. Recipe courtesy of Connor Ryan, Country Butcher.



- 1 C. farro
- 3 portabello caps, stems removed and gills cleaned
- 2 fresh chopped garlic cloves
- 1 chopped shallot
- ½ C. chopped parsley
- 2 Tb. white balsamic vinegar
- 2 Tb. good quality olive oil
- Golden raisins and pistachios (optional)
- Salt and pepper to taste

Cook farro for about 30 minutes until slightly tender. (Chef Ryan cooks his in vegetable stock.) Grill the portabello caps until tender, about 3 minutes on each side. Remove from grill and roughly chop.

When farro has finished cooking and is still hot, add the garlic, shallot, parsley, vinegar, oil and raisins and pistachios. Season with salt and pepper.

Makes 6-8 servings.

Tex-Mex Salad with Chipotle Ranch Dressing

Chef Connor Ryan of Country Butcher prefers using fresh corn in this flavor-packed salad, but if you can't get fresh, canned will do. Top the salad with grilled chicken, steak or salmon for even more protein.

For the salad:

- 1 large head of green leaf lettuce

Sandwich Makeover in 5 Easy Steps

Been there, tasted that? Try these tweaks and twists on familiar sandwich ingredients for a lunch that's the best thing since sliced bread.

Build a tasty foundation. Don't settle for white, wheat and rye sandwich bread when you can have lavash, pita, bagel and croissant.

Brighten the condiments. To mayonnaise, stir in wasabi powder, curry paste, roasted garlic or chipotle powder. To add a fruity flavor to grainy Dijon mustard, pulse with dried cranberries or cherries in a food processor.

Dress up the cream cheese. Think of cream cheese as a neutral just waiting for a pop of flavor. Combine with crumbled feta,

finely diced shallot and ground black pepper. (If necessary, add milk to thin.) Another idea: try stirring in mango chutney or hot pepper jelly to make a sweet-tart spread.

Accessorize with crunch. Cucumber pickles aren't the only accessories in your pantry. Try carrot pickles, red pepper strips, hearts of palm or barely roasted asparagus spears to add snap between the slices. Potato and tortilla chips work well, too!

Trade in the PB & J for newer models. You've probably heard of cashew butter, but what about pecan, walnut or chocolate sunflower seed almond butter? In the jelly category, sour cherry jam provides a welcome tart contrast to nut butters.

Grilled Veggie Pasta

This healthy, easy-to-prepare salad comes courtesy of Connor Ryan, Country Butcher.

- 1 lb. pasta (chef's choice)
- 1 yellow squash
- 2 zucchini
- 2 red bell peppers
- ¼ C. olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste
- White wine, optional
- 1 white onion
- ½ C. chopped fresh parsley
- 1 C. grated Parmesan cheese

Get grill hot. While grill is heating, halve the squash, zucchini and peppers. Take the seeds out. Toss in oil, salt and pepper. Grill squash, zucchini and peppers until tender. (Leaving them in larger pieces makes them easier to grill.) You may grill the onion as well or add it to the salad raw as Chef Ryan does.

Dice all the vegetables after grilling and add to pasta. Toss in parsley, Parmesan, salt and pepper. Add a splash of white wine at the end, if you'd like.

Makes 8 servings.

Grilled Lamb and Vegetable Sandwiches with Walnut-feta spread

I learned how to make this grilled lamb from the modern classic, The New Basics Cookbook. When I have some left over, I make sandwiches, stuffing it into pitas or layering it on baguettes with grilled vegetables and this feta spread. Add some arugula for a peppery bite.

- 2 bell peppers (red, yellow and green are all fine)
 - 1 C. fresh or canned corn kernels
 - 1 C. black beans, rinsed
 - 1 C. queso fresco*
- For the chipotle ranch dressing:
- 1 C. ranch dressing
 - 1 Tb. chipotle powder (or chopped canned chipotles)**
 - 1 tsp. ancho chile powder**
 - 1 Tb. chopped fresh garlic
 - 1 tsp. onion powder
 - 1/2 tsp. paprika



Combine all salad ingredients together in a large bowl.

Whisk together all dressing ingredients in a small bowl. Toss dressing with salad right before serving.

Makes 8 servings.

* This mildly flavored, creamy cheese is a common ingredient in Mexican cooking.

** Chipotle peppers are dried smoked jalapenos. Ancho peppers are dried poblanos. For this recipe, the ancho powder is not essential but adds complexity to the dish, so if you can find it, use it.



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For the lamb:

- ¼ C. olive oil
- 1 Tb. balsamic vinegar
- 1 Tb. chopped fresh rosemary leaves
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- Juice from ½ lemon
- 1 tsp. salt
- Pepper to taste
- 1½ lbs. boneless lamb, cut into 2" cubes or ½" thick strips

In a bowl, whisk together olive oil, vinegar, rosemary, garlic, lemon juice, salt and pepper. Add lamb and toss to coat. Put in a Ziploc bag or shallow dish and cover. Refrigerate for 1 hour or overnight.

Heat grill or grilling pan and cook lamb until medium-rare or medium. Remove from grill and allow to rest 10 minutes.

For the grilled vegetables:

- 2 Tb. balsamic vinegar
- 2 Tb. olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 bell peppers, any color, cut into 8-10 strips each
- 2 small zucchini or squash, cut lengthwise into ½" thick slices

Whisk together vinegar, olive oil, salt and pepper. Toss peppers and zucchini into dressing and toss to coat. Allow to sit for 15 minutes and grill until vegetables are soft but not mushy.

For the walnut-feta spread:

- ½ C. walnut halves
- ¾ C. crumbled feta
- ½ C. Italian parsley leaves, loosely packed
- 3-4 Tb. milk or liquid from feta
- Freshly ground black pepper to taste
- Splash of red wine vinegar, optional

In a small skillet over medium heat, toast walnut halves for 1-2 minutes. Stir walnuts frequently to prevent burning. Discard any burned pieces.

Place walnuts, feta and parsley in a food processor and pulse. Add milk or liquid from feta 1 Tb. at a time and continue to pulse until spread is the consistency of hummus. (The walnuts give it a slightly grainy texture.) Add vinegar for extra tang.

Makes ½-¾ C.

For the sandwiches:

- 3 pitas, cut in half, or 2 baguettes cut into 3-4 pieces each

Spread walnut-feta spread on inside of pita or baguette. (You will have leftover spread.) Layer with lamb and vegetables.

Makes 6-8 servings.

Chilled Yogurt-Cucumber Soup

Yogurt and fruit populate many a lunch bag, but if you are looking for a savory twist on that meal, try this soup which I adapted from the Williams-Sonoma Complete Seasons Cookbook.

- 1 large English cucumber or 2 small regular cucumbers
- ½ tsp. salt
- 3 C. plain yogurt, (lowfat is fine, but avoid nonfat)
- 2 cloves garlic, green kernel removed if necessary and minced
- 1 Tb. extra virgin olive oil
- 2-3 Tb. chopped fresh mint leaves
- 2-3 Tb. chopped fresh dill
- 1½-2 C. milk (not skim)
- 3 Tb. white wine or champagne vinegar
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper

If you're using regular cucumbers, peel and remove seeds. (The easiest way to remove seeds is to cut the cucumber in half and use a teaspoon to scrape out the seeds.) If you're using an English cucumber, skip the peeling and seeding steps.

Either coarsely grate the cucumber using the grating disc of a food processor or the large holes of a box grater. For a chunkier soup, simply cut the cucumber into ½" dice.

Toss cucumbers with ½ tsp. salt. Place in a colander set over a plate and allow to drain for 1 hour.

In a large bowl, mix cucumbers, yogurt, garlic, olive oil and herbs. Add milk gradually until you reach desired consistency. Stir in vinegar, salt and pepper. Cover and chill for at least one hour or overnight to allow flavors to develop.

Before serving, taste and add more salt and pepper as needed.

Makes 6-8 servings.

Herbed Chicken Salad with Champagne Grapes and Almonds

Despite their name, champagne grapes are not used in making champagne. These small,

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Alix Coleman

black seedless fruits have a sweet flavor and hold their shape well. If you'd rather use fresh basil than chives, reduce the quantity to ¼ C. and cut the basil into a chiffonade (thin ribbons).

4 C. cooked chicken
½ C. mayonnaise or more to taste
½ C. chopped chives
½ C. sliced raw almonds
Salt and pepper to taste
1 C. champagne grapes

Mix chicken with mayonnaise, chives, almonds, salt and pepper. Just before serving, fold in champagne grapes.

Makes 4–6 servings.

Ham and Pimento Cheese Sandwiches

From the Lee Brothers to Paula Deen, every Southern cook seems to have a unique twist on pimento cheese. It makes a satisfying spread for crackers or a gooey grilled cheese sandwich. Once I bit into Penni Bogda's white sandwich bread at

Westtown Meat Market, I knew I'd found the perfect match for my favorite way to eat pimento cheese: topped with ham and tomatoes fresh from the garden. Use a hand or stand mixer, not a food processor, for this recipe. A food processor will chop the cheese too finely while the mixer preserves the cheese's texture.

For the pimento cheese:

2 C. shredded sharp cheddar cheese
8 oz. cream cheese, softened
½ C. mayonnaise
¼ tsp. garlic powder
1–2 tsp. minced shallots
1, 4-oz. jar diced pimentos, drained
Tabasco or other hot sauce
Salt and pepper to taste

For the sandwiches:

8 slices white sandwich bread,
thickly sliced (between ½" and 1")
8 slices of baked ham
2 large or 4 small tomatoes, sliced

In the large bowl of a mixer, combine the cheeses, mayonnaise, garlic powder,

shallots and pimentos. Add the Tabasco 1–2 drops at a time, tasting after each until you reach the desired level of heat. Season with salt and pepper.

Makes 2–½ C.

To assemble sandwiches:

Spread pimento cheese thickly on 4 pieces of bread. (You'll have plenty of cheese left over to use as a spread for crackers or to spoon directly into your mouth!) Top each with 2 slices ham and tomatoes and remaining bread.

Grill if you like.

Makes 4 sandwiches.

Turkey Rollups with Roasted Asparagus

These days lots of people are looking for low- or no-carb lunch options. If you're one of them, try this recipe. You'll hardly miss the bread!

20 stalks asparagus
1–2 tsp. olive oil
Salt and pepper to taste

1, 5.2-oz. container Boursin cheese,
garlic and fine herbs flavor
10 slices deli smoked turkey, sliced thick

Preheat oven to 400°. Remove woody ends from asparagus. Toss with olive oil, salt and pepper. Place on a baking sheet and roast until you can just pierce the stalks with a fork. (The roasting time depends on how thick the stalks are but usually takes from 10–15 minutes.)

Allow stalks to cool to room temperature. Spread Boursin on turkey slices. Top with 2 stalks asparagus and roll up.

Makes 10 rollups.

Rachel's Double Chocolate Fudge Brownies with Sea Salt

Every lunch (or at least every other) deserves a sweet ending. I rarely say that something is the BEST I've ever tasted, but these sea salt brownies deserve that superlative. My neighbor Rachel adapted this recipe from one she found on the website Epicurious. You can make them gluten-free by using almond flour in place of the all-purpose flour.

½ C. plus 2 Tb. all-purpose flour*
½ C. plus 1 Tb. cocoa powder
1 ½ C. sugar
1 tsp. sea salt plus more for sprinkling on top
6 oz. unsalted butter
6 oz. Belgian dark chocolate, 60% cacao or higher, roughly chopped
3 large eggs, room temperature

* Substitute almond flour for gluten-free.

Preheat oven to 350° and position rack in the center of the oven.

Line a 9 x 13" baking pan with aluminum foil.

In a bowl, mix together the flour, cocoa powder, sugar and 1 tsp. sea salt. Set aside.

Microwave butter and chocolate in a bowl for 1 minute. Stir to combine. If necessary, reheat in 20 second intervals until chocolate and butter are fully melted together. Allow mixture to cool slightly.

In a small bowl, whisk eggs together. Add to cooled chocolate mixture.

Mix egg-chocolate mixture into flour mixture. Pour batter into baking pan. Sprinkle sea salt evenly over batter.

Bake for 35–45 minutes, until you can smell them.

In Rachel's words: "When you jiggle the pan, they should not wiggle raw but instead have a nice crust on them and look fudgy and gooey and yes, slightly undercooked, as long as a fork comes out clean. They will firm up as they cool."

Once the brownies have fully cooled, gently lift the foil out and cut the brownies. Transfer to an airtight container. They

taste even better after a night in the fridge and freeze beautifully.

Makes 12–16 brownies, depending on how big you cut them!

Blueberry Muffins

For the muffins:

1½ C. all-purpose flour
2 tsp. baking powder
¼ tsp. salt

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½ C. butter, softened
½ C. sugar
1 egg
½ cup milk
2 C. frozen (or fresh) blueberries

For the topping:

¼ C. flour
¼ C. sugar
½ tsp. cinnamon
3 Tb. butter

Preheat oven to 375°. Place cupcake liners in a muffin tin.

Mix flour, baking powder and salt in a bowl. In a separate bowl, cream softened butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in egg.

Alternate adding flour mixture and milk to butter mixture. Mix until well-combined and batter resembles cookie dough. Gently fold in blueberries and mix until just combined. Divide batter among muffin cups.

With a fork, mix together topping ingredients until crumbly. Sprinkle over batter.

After 18-20 minutes, insert a toothpick in the center of a muffin. If it comes out clean, the muffins are finished cooking. If not, cook for a few minutes more.

Makes 12 servings. ♦

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

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



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talking with

Corinne R. Sweeney, DVM

With the fall equestrian season in full swing, we thought it was a good time to find out about Chester County's world-class veterinary facility. We talked with the Associate Dean for Penn Vet's New Bolton Center.



New Bolton Center occupies almost 700 acres outside Kennett Square. Can you tell us how this world-class hospital came to our area?

New Bolton Center dates back to 1937 when Effingham Morris gave the University of Pennsylvania a farm in Bucks County—Bolton Farm. By the 1950s, urbanization prompted a move to southern Chester County and to South Brook Farm, which became the "New" Bolton Center. A full-service hospital and research facilities were built to be a home for education, clinical care and research.

Today it's considered one of the world's finest equine hospitals, also caring for other large animals and livestock, along with providing diagnostic laboratories and monitoring infectious diseases.

What is the relationship with the University of Pennsylvania?

This may surprise many people, but New Bolton Center IS the University of Pennsylvania. Penn Vet, with another campus in Philadelphia, is the only veterinary school in the state. Our students get a wide range of experience, from small exotic species to large animals, and our faculty both teach and conduct important research on conditions such as laminitis, colic and infectious diseases.

New Bolton Center specializes in large animals and is one of the busiest veterinary hospitals in the country. What animals do you help and what services do you offer?

Most of our 4,000 patients each year are horses, but we also treat llamas, alpacas, zebras, sheep, goats, cows and even pot-bellied pigs. I see them walk past my window and into barns, exam and operating rooms every day. Another 29,000 patients are treated by our Field Service on our clients' farms.

We have equipment for virtually every kind of diagnosis or treatment—ultrasound, endoscopic machines, surgical facilities—and specialized facilities, including a neonatal intensive care unit, post-operative recovery pool, high-speed treadmill and much more. Plus world-renowned experts, such as a board-certified specialist in both large animal internal medicine and neurology.

Your veterinarians treat animals on local farms, too. How does that work?

Our William Boucher Field Service provides routine and emergency health care for horses and other large animals within 30 miles of the Center. We have two teams with board-certified specialists, one for horses, the other for livestock. These doctors work closely with our hospital specialists, such as our surgeons and ophthalmologists.

How is New Bolton Center funded?

From several sources—hospital fees, state money, research grants, tuition and donations. Most facilities are made possible through the generosity of private donors, many of them Chester County horse

owners. For example, Betty Moran has been a tremendous supporter, responsible for the James M. Moran, Jr. Critical Care Center, a sophisticated facility for animals with life-threatening or infectious diseases. Mrs. Moran is also a longtime client who has brought her horses here for care.

Kentucky Derby winner Barbaro was one of your most famous patients. What brought him to New Bolton Center?

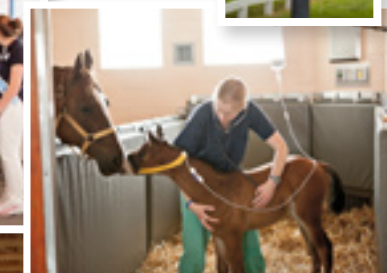
Barbaro had many local connections: owners Gretchen and Roy Jackson of West Grove, trainer Michal Matz of Doe Run, veterinarian Dr. Kathy Anderson of nearby Fair Hill, MD. And Barbaro was racing 75 miles away in Baltimore's Preakness Stakes when he shattered his right rear leg.

Barbaro was cared for by world-renowned orthopedic surgeon Dr. Dean Richardson and had access to the C. Mahlon Kline Orthopedic and Rehabilitation Center. That facility allows horses, after surgery, to awaken and float in a rubber raft in a pool of water rather than jumping to their feet, greatly reducing the chance of reinjury. Ultimately, Barbaro's life ended not because of the bone fracture, but because of laminitis, the second-leading cause of death for horses, after colic.

Do you use volunteers?

For nearly 30 years, volunteers have helped care for mares and foals during foaling season as "foal sitters" in our Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Each year about 90 volunteers work in eight-hour shifts, February through June.

Anyone interested should e-mail us at foalsitters@nicuvet.com. ♦



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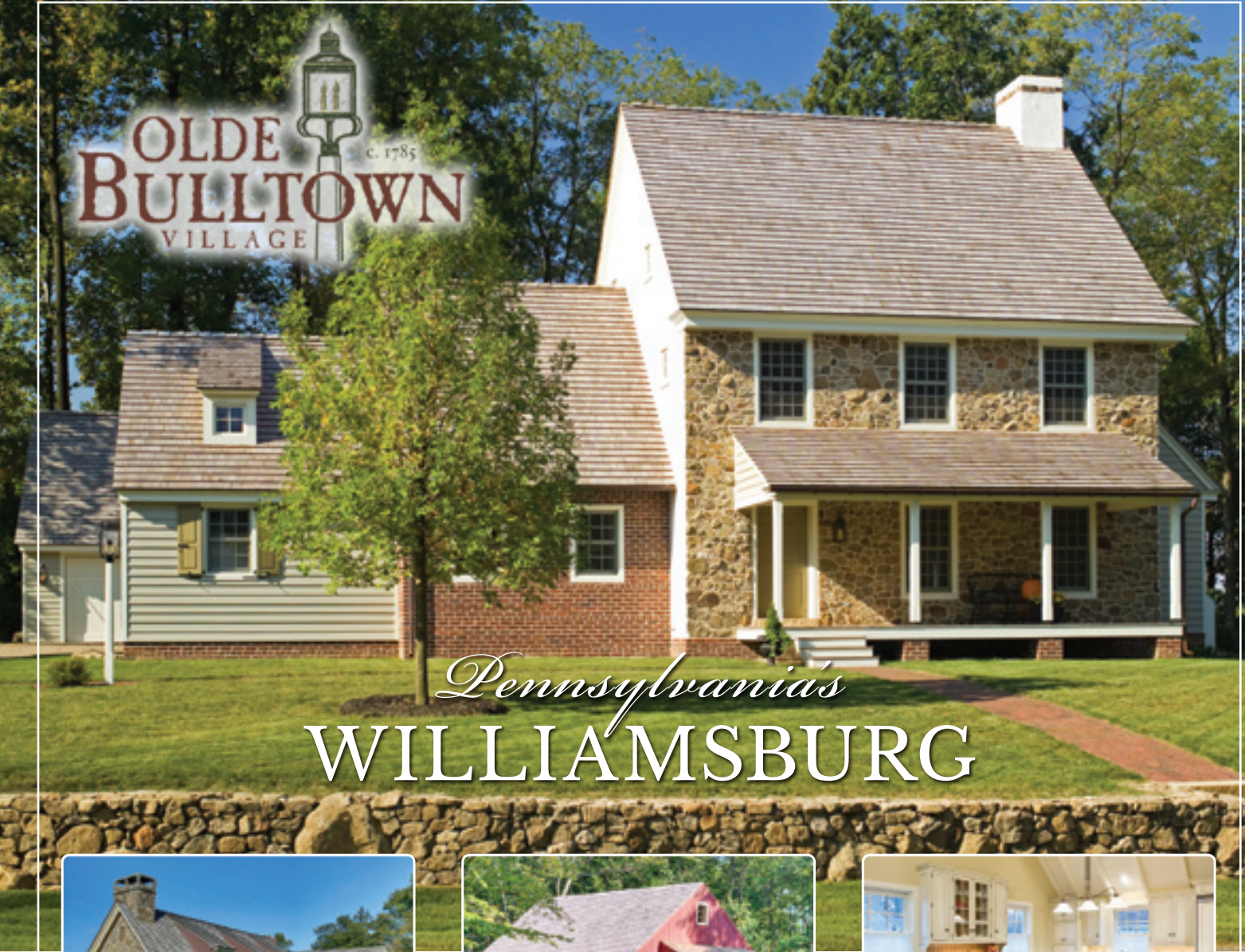
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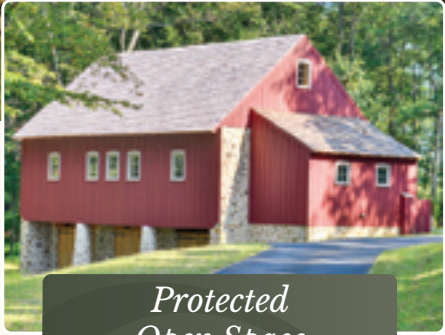


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