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MAGAZINE

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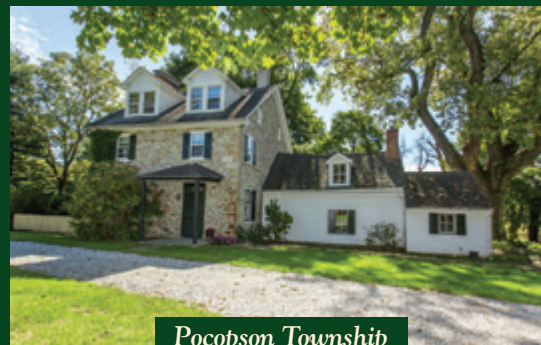
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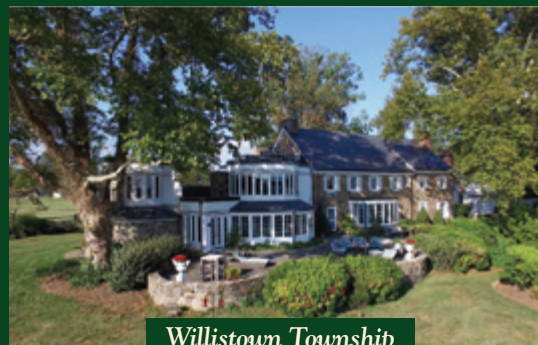
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#### Pocopson Township

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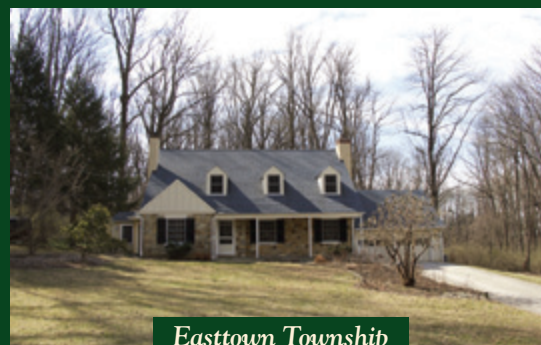
#### Willistown Township

Spectacular Radnor Hunt Estate. Iconic Heartwood Farm on 72 acres, includes stunning Chester County stone home, 24 stalls, riding ring, pool, tennis court & breathtaking views.  
Price Upon Request



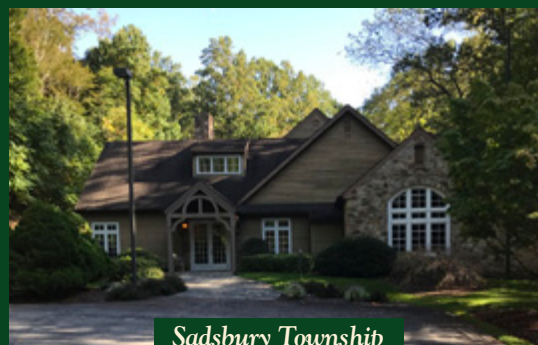
#### Willistown Township

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## from the EDITOR

Happy New Year! Start the year off right with a celebration of local food. Let our 14th Annual Local Dining Guide help you enjoy the finest local flavors.

For starters, we offer our picks for “Best of the Best.” Nearly 100 eateries and drinkeries made the cut for Local Stars, Buzzworthy, Places to Watch ... in over 70 categories. There are coffee spots, farmers markets, pizzas for every mood and plenty of craft beer options. Look for our decal on winners’ doors in the next few months. And try them out!

See even more options in our Dining Guide. And tell us what we’ve missed!

For West Chester dining, Malcolm Johnstone takes us on a tour of about a dozen new restaurants—internationally inspired—adding to about four dozen long-term favorites in “A Foodie Trek Around The World In West Chester.”

In “Brews & Foods,” Mary Dolan highlights some stars in beer-burbia, a new segment of dining matched with strong beer offerings at brewpubs, gastropubs and pour houses. There’s more on beer in “Making 2018 the Year for Sour Beer” by Dan Popernack of La Cabra—a primer on the special pleasures of this acquired taste.

Our Dining Editor, Laura Brennan, admits that her cookbook collection topped 700 this year, in “Confessions of a Cookbook Addict.” In her charming essay, she shares why she and area chefs love these books and the special meaning they have.

We also include advice for plant-based eaters, from medical nutritionist Judy Rodkey-Matusky in “Healthy Eating Tips for Vegans and Vegetarians.” And if you like “dining well” and “doing good,” read about the Taste of Phoenixville fundraiser on January 18.

This issue includes handy calendars of upcoming food events, beer events and senior happenings, along with highlights of the fall sports season at independent schools, and our usual coverage of Family Fun and Best Local Events.

We wish you the best for 2018! Thank you for reading this month and all year long.

Jo Anne Durako  
Editor



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Fine Homes & Design

Guide to Private Schools  
Education Feature • Home Buying Tips  
Kitchens • Home Resource Guide  
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## COUNTY LINES MAGAZINE

**January 2018**

Volume XLI, Number 5

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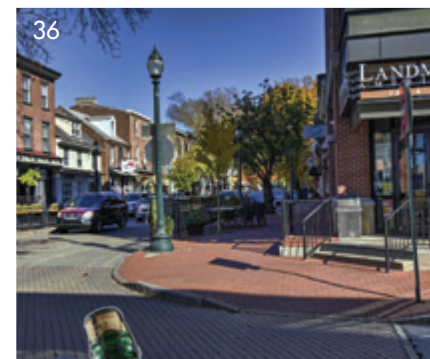
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## Chester County Hearth & Home



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



.....  
**Locomotive Motel.** How do you find a missing train? Follow its tracks! So train lovers should follow the tracks to the Red Caboose Motel in Lancaster. This unique destination lets guests stay in train cabooses restored and converted into motel rooms. Since opening in 1970, the motel has attracted fans to over 38 cabooses, as well as an on-site restaurant where diners can watch trains depart from the Strasburg Rail Road Center. For more, [RedCabooseMotel.com](http://RedCabooseMotel.com).

.....  
**Calling all Sci-Fi Lovers.** On January 2nd, join science fiction fans worldwide to celebrate writer Isaac Asimov's birthday on **Science Fiction Day**. Science fiction has become a popular genre in literature, movies and TV (think *Stranger Things*), with roots dating back to the Sumerian *Epic of Gilgamesh* from 2000 BC. Mark your calendar, visit your local independent bookstore to stock up on the latest, and cozy up with your favorite sci-fi novel or movie. Or go crazy and hold a sci-fi themed party! [NationalDayCalendar.com](http://NationalDayCalendar.com).



.....  
**History 101.** Although you may have spent New Year's Day watching parades and football, did you know Abraham Lincoln issued the **Emancipation Proclamation** on January 1st, 1863, soon after the Union defeated the Confederacy at Antietam? Contrary to popular belief, the proclamation did not actually free slaves. Instead, it shifted the focus of the Civil War to fighting for the freedom of slaves and ending slavery altogether. More fun facts at [History.com](http://History.com).

.....  
**New Year, New You.** Are you ringing in the New Year with a list of resolutions? Need some help making those changes? Award-winning *New York Times* writer Charles Duhigg has ideas and techniques—based on research—in his best-selling book *The Power of Habit*. Learn why habits exist and how they can be changed using the habit loop of cue—routine—reward. Hint, replace the routine with something new. Start some new habits for 2018! Find copies at your local bookstore.



.....  
**Tipsy Touring.** For all those tipplers out there, the **Tippler's Tour Colonial Pub Crawl** in Philadelphia is the place for you! Celebrate Ben Franklin's 312th birthday this month and toast our favorite Founding Father. Combining history, pubs and beer, the tour is led by a guide decked out in Colonial attire, or in this case, dressed as Franklin himself. Learn the history behind Philadelphia's storied beer-drinking past. For tickets, search "Tippler's Tour" at [HistoricPhiladelphia.org](http://HistoricPhiladelphia.org).

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## January Picks Our Picks for top events this month

### WCU-Live! Presents Tapestry: A Tribute to Carole King

January 19



Don't miss this "beautiful," high-energy tribute to Carole King that has audiences across the country singing along. The show recreates the glorious sounds of such favorites as "You've Got a Friend," "Natural Woman," "It's Too Late," "So Far Away," "I Feel

the Earth Move" and "Beautiful"—the title song of the mega-hit Broadway musical about the life and times of this prolific, honored and revered singer-songwriter. *Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall, 700 S. High St., West Chester. 7:30 p.m. \$15–\$27. 610-436-2266; WCUPa.edu.*

### Hagley Museum & Library Invention Convention

January 13–15

Learn how the ingenious design and capabilities of insects inspire innovations and inventions that improve people's lives. Get a taste of crickets, admire the artistry of maggots and be amazed at how insects help detectives solve mysteries and how house flies and wasps are the muses of drone technology. *Held in the Soda House, 298 Buck Rd., Wilmington. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$6–\$8. 302-658-2400; Hagley.org.*



### Wild West Murder Mystery Nights

January 5–27, Friday & Saturday

A series of murders sends the town of Chadds Ford into despair, but a certain cowboy steps in to get things right again. Along with mystery and

suspense, expect some finger-lickin' hors d'oeuvres and, of course, some Pennsylvania wine. *Chaddsford Winery, 632 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford. 6 to 9:30 p.m. \$60. 610-388-7376; ChaddsFordHistory.org.*

### Greater Philadelphia Spring Home Show

January 5–7

Come out to be motivated and excited for your next home improvement project. Whether it's a minor renovation, new landscaping, decorating or a major remodel, this is your first stop for ideas and inspiration. *Valley Forge Casino Resort, 1160*

*First Ave., King of Prussia. Fri., 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free. 855-449-3714; Greater-PhillyHomeShows.com.*

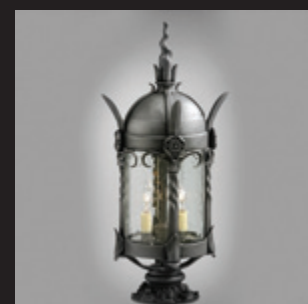


### 2018 Philadelphia Auto Show

January 27–February 4

A nine-day fantasy camp on wheels! From the new breed of luxury small cars to the latest gen of muscle cars, super-smart eco-rides and big hog trucks, there's something for everyone at the Philly Auto Show! Black Tie Tailgate, Jan. 26, 7 p.m., benefits the Dept. of Nursing at Children's Hospital of Phila.

Tickets \$250 and up. *PA Convention Center, 1101 Arch St., Philadelphia. Check website for hours and info. \$7–\$14. 215-418-2000; PhillyAutoShow.com.*



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## FAMILY FUN

THROUGH JANUARY 7  
**A Brandywine Christmas.**

It's a wonderland with trees and displays, lights, music, the O-gauge model train display and more. *Jan. 6*, Terrific Trains Family Program, create a colorful train to display at home. 1 Hoffman's Mill Rd., Chadds Ford. Daily 9:30 to 4:30. \$6-\$18. 610-388-2700; BrandywineMuseum.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 7

**Longwood Gardens Garden Railway.** Bring the whole family to Longwood to see G-scale locomotives travelling over almost 400 feet of track with models of favorite Longwood buildings. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. \$10-\$27. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 7

**Delaware Museum of Natural History—Here Be Dragons.** The exhibit explores human/dragon cultural connections through hands-on activities and encounters with live reptiles. 4840 Kennett Pk., Wilmington. Mon-Sat, 9:30 to 4:30; Sun, noon to 4:30. \$3-\$9. 302-658-9111; DelMNH.org.



THROUGH JANUARY, Tuesdays  
**Story Time at Wellington Square Bookshop.** Ages 2-5 enjoy songs and cookies and listen to stories come alive in the bookshop. 549 Wellington Square, Exton. 10 to 11 am. 610-458-1144; WellingtonSquareBooks.com.

THROUGH JANUARY, Tuesdays  
**Kiddie Academy of Phoenixville hosts Story Time at Steel City Coffeehouse.** Enjoy the Winter Wonderland stories, interactive activities and a light treat in the new book nook. 203 Bridge St., Phoenixville. 10 am. 484-924-8425; SteelCityCoffeehouse.com.

JANUARY 6-7, 13-14, 20-21  
**Schuylkill Valley Model Railroad Club Open House.** Railroads, hundreds of buildings, people and trees create realistic scenes. Thomas the Tank Engine and a scavenger hunt, too. 400 S. Main St., Phoenixville. 1 to 5. Free. 610-935-1126; SVMRRC.com.

JANUARY 12-14

**Family Pet Show 2018.** Designed to educate and entertain the public about the wonderful world of pets. Special attractions include: the Parade of Breeds, Superfit Canine, Flyball Tournament, Rainforest Reptile Shows and more. The Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, 100 Station Ave., Oaks. Fri, 4 to 9; Sat, 10 to 7; Sun, 10 to 5. \$6-\$13. 631-423-0620; FamilyPetShows.com.

JANUARY 15, FEB. 15, MARCH 17  
**Longwood Gardens Presents OrKid Days.** Explore orchids first hand at discovery stations, enjoy interactive story reading and partake in a family seek-and-find in the orchid-filled Conservatory. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. 9 to 5. Free with gardens admission, \$12-\$23. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

JANUARY 16

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service at Delaware Art Museum.** Celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at the Museum in partnership with One Village Alliance and Raising Kings. Activities include gallery highlights, art making, mentorship opportunities and more. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. 10 to 4. Free. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

FEBRUARY 6

**Theatreworks USA Presents The Cat in the Hat.** Everyone's favorite cat comes to mischievous life in this theatrical adaptation of the Dr. Seuss classic. Keswick Theatre, 291 N. Keswick Ave., Glenside. 10:30 am and 12:30 pm. \$8.50-\$14.25. 215-572-7650; KeswickTheatre.com.

## MORE HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS.....

See also: Family Fun

THROUGH JANUARY 7

**Yuletide at Winterthur.** Tour Henry Francis du Pont's former home decorated with sparkling holiday displays, including a tree in celebration of the exhibit "Royal Splendor: The Coronation Gown from The Crown." 5105 Kennett Pk., (Rt. 52), Winterthur, DE. Tues-Sun, 10 to 5. \$5-\$20. 800-448-3883; Winterthur.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 7

**Holidays at Pennypacker Mills.** See how the holidays were celebrated in the early 1900s. Tours of the mansion, Tues-Sat, 10 to 4; Sun, 1 to 4. 5 Haldeman Rd., Schwenksville. \$2 donation. 610-287-9349; MontcoPa.org.

## ART, CRAFTS & ANTIQUES.....

THROUGH JANUARY 27

**Craft Forms at Wayne Art Center.** An international juried exhibition of contemporary crafts and companion show, "Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Women in Glass." Wayne Art Center, 413 Maplewood Ave., Wayne. Mon-Fri, 10 to 5; Sat, 10 to 4. 610-688-3553; WayneArt.org.



THROUGH JANUARY 28

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

JANUARY 26-FEBRUARY 4

**Academy of Notre Dame de Namur 45th Annual Fine Art Show & Sale.** The exhibition and sale opens with a catered pre-view reception with the artists, *Jan. 26*, 6 to 9 pm, tickets \$50 in advance and \$60



at the door. Advance registration available through January 19. The Mansion, 560 Sproul Rd., Villanova. Daily noon to 4. Free. NDAPA.org/ArtShow.

FEBRUARY 7-11

**Malvern Retreat House Art Show & Sale.** Featuring nearly 100 juried artists. The theme this year will be: "Flora and Fauna—Inspired by Nature." *Feb. 8*, complimentary wine and cheese social, 5 to 8 pm. Malvern Retreat House, McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center, 315 S. Warren Ave., Malvern. Wed-Sat, 10 to 7; Sun, 10 to 4. Free. Benefits Malvern Retreat House. 610-644-0400; MalvernRetreat.com.



## BOOKS.....

THROUGH MARCH

**Wellington Square Bookshop.** *Through Jan.*, "All the Light You Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr; *through Feb.*, "The Rosie Project" by Graeme Simsion. 549 Wellington Square, Exton. Check website for times. 610-458-1144; WellingtonSquareBooks.com.

## DESIGN HOMES/HOME SHOWS.....

JANUARY 12-15, 19-20

**Philly Home Show.** Be inspired by celebrities like Kevin O'Connor, host of the award-winning PBS series *This Old House*, and experts who turn your ideas into reality. PA Convention Center, 1101 Arch St., Phila. Check website for hours. \$3-\$13. 215-274-1948; PhillyHomeshow.com.

## FOOD & BEVERAGE.....

JANUARY 26

**11th Annual Robert Burns Memorial Whisky Tasting.** Renowned expert, Riannon Walsh, returns. Attendees will each receive the fine whisky tasting glass they use and be able to bid



on silent auction items including rare bottles. Seating is limited. Benefits the Colonial Theatre. 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. 6 pm. \$125. 610-917-1228; TheColonialTheatre.com.

## FUNDRAISERS.....

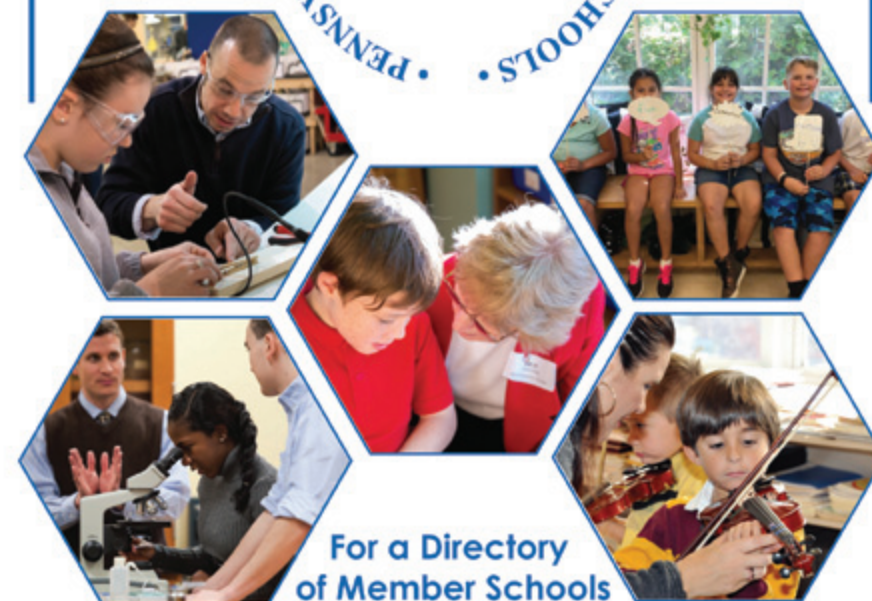
JANUARY 14

**Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation's 11th Annual Lemon Ball.** Enjoy a fabulous evening of dining, dancing, auctions and listening to amazing stories of heroes big and small. Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, 1201 Market St., Phila. 6:30 pm. \$275. 610-649-3034; AlexsLemonade.org.



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## GARDENS.....

JANUARY 21-MARCH 31

**Longwood Gardens—Orchid Extravaganza.**

The conservatory transforms into a tropical oasis featuring an astonishing display of orchids. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. 9 to 6. Timed tickets req., \$12–23. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.



## MUSEUMS.....

THROUGH JANUARY 7

**Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library.**

*Ongoing*, unique displays crafted by Winterthur curators with selections from the collection of nearly 90,000 objects; *through Jan. 7*, “Treasures on Trial: The Art and Science of Detecting Fakes” and “Royal Splendor: The Coronation Gown from the Netflix series, *The Crown*.” 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur. Tues–Sun, 10 to 5. \$15–\$30. 302-888-4600; Winterthur.org.



THROUGH JANUARY 28

**Delaware Art Museum. *Through Jan. 7*,**

“Tableau: The Art of Richard Cleaver,” *through Jan. 14*, “the seeing glass,” a pop-up virtual reality experience for the Pre-Raphaelite galleries; *through Jan. 28*, “An American Journey: The Art of John Sloan.” 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Wed, 10 to 4; Thurs, 10 to 8, free after 4; Fri–Sun, 10 to 4. \$6–\$12, free, Sun. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

THROUGH APRIL 14

**Chester County Historical Society.** “You’ve Got Mail!” highlights the changes in stamps, delivery and postage rates between 1790 and 1890, with rare early examples of covers (the

## Local Farm Markets

Bryn Mawr Farmers Mkt., Lancaster Ave. at Bryn Mawr train station parking lot. *1st, 3rd & 5th Sat., 10 am to noon.* 215-733-9599; FarmToCity.org.

Downingtown Farmers Mkt., Log Cabin Field, Kerr Park, Pennsylvania Ave. *2nd & 4th Sat, 10 to noon.* 610-836-1391; GrowingRootsPartners.com.

Eagleview Farmers Mkt., Chester County Food Bank, 650 Pennsylvania Dr. *1st & 3rd Thurs., 3 to 5 pm.* 610-836-1391; GrowingRootsPartners.com.

Kennett Square Farmers Mkt., 112 S. Broad St., Kennett Square. *2nd & 3rd Fri, 3 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., First Baptist Church of Malvern, 146 Channing Ave. *1st & 3rd Sat, 10 to noon.* 610-836-1391; GrowingRootsPartners.com.

Phoenixville Farmers Mkt., 200 Mill St., Phoenixville. *2nd & 4th Sat, 10 to noon.* PhoenixvilleFarmersMarket.org.

West Chester Growers Mkt., Chestnut & Church Sts. *1st & 3rd Sat, 10 to noon.* 610-436-9010; WestChesterGrowersMarket.com.

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

outside of an envelope or package with postage stamps that have been cancelled) and stamps. 225 N. High St., West Chester. Tues–Sat, 9:30 to 4:30. \$4–\$8. 610-692-4800; ChesterCo-Historical.org.

THROUGH JUNE 3

**Brandywine River Museum of Art. *Through***

*Jan. 7*, “Dylan Gauthier: highwatermarks” and “Recent Acquisitions,” works of art acquired by purchase, donation or promised gift; *Jan. 27–June 3*, “The Way Back: The



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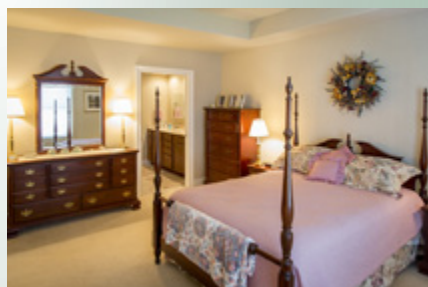
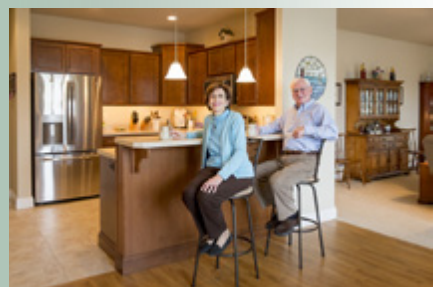
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Paintings of George A. Weymouth," featuring approximately 65 of Weymouth's best works of art. 1 Hoffman's Mill Rd., Chadds Ford. Daily 9:30 to 5. \$6-\$18. 610-388-2700; Brandywine.org.

#### MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT.....

##### THROUGH JANUARY

**Uptown! Events at Knauer Performing Arts Center.** Live music, theater, dance and film. *Jan. 12*, Joe Conklin Comedy Show, 8 pm, \$32-\$37; *Jan. 14*, Opera Tutti Caberet, 3 pm, \$20-\$25; *Jan. 18*, Jazz Cocktail Hour: One Night, Two Legends, Two Horns, McKenna & Vaché, 6:30, \$15-\$25; *Jan. 25*, Kiss the Sky, the Jimi Hendrix re-experience with special guests Heavy Cream—tribute to Cream, 8 pm, \$25-\$50; *Jan. 27*, Better Than Bacon Improv Show. 226 N. High St., West Chester. Check website for details. 484-639-9004; Uptown-WestChester.org.



##### JANUARY 6-FEBRUARY 9

**The Keswick Theatre Presents.** *Jan. 6*, Tribute Revival to U2, Meatloaf and Journey; *Jan. 13*, Steven Wright; *Jan. 20*, Kathleen Madigan; *Jan. 21*, Tina Karol; *Jan. 25*, Lalah Hathaway; *Feb. 3*, Tommy Emmanuel CGP; *Feb. 8*, George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic; *Feb. 9*, Masters of Illusion. 291 N. Keswick Ave., Glenside. Visit website for times and tickets. 215-572-7650; Keswick-Theatre.com.



##### JANUARY 6-FEBRUARY 17

**Valley Forge Casino Resort.** Hosting headline comedians and national musical acts, weekly comedians, karaoke and more. *Jan. 6-Feb. 17, Saturdays*, Dueling Pianos; *Jan. 12*, Colin Quinn; *Jan. 14*, Matthew Fraser, psychic/medium and author. 1160 1st Ave., King of

Prussia. Visit website for times and tickets. 610-354-8118; VFCasino.com.



##### JANUARY 18

**Delaware Art Museum—Concerts on Kentmere and Performance Series.** *Jan. 18*, Concerts on Kentmere, "Musical Journey" celebrates the works and career of John Sloan and features music by Mozart, Gershwin and Hahn, 7:30 pm. Snow date, Jan. 21 at 4 pm. \$50. *Feb. 8*, Performance Series featuring New Orleans-born trumpeter Nicholas Payton, 8 pm. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

##### JANUARY 22

**Makin' Music Rockin' Rhythms at Villa Maria Academy.** Children up to age 4 are invited with a parent or guardian for a morning of fun and music. Villa Maria Academy Gymnasium, 1140 King Rd., Immaculata. 10 am. Free. 610-361-0730; MakinMusic.com.

#### OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES.....

##### THROUGH JANUARY, Thursdays

**West Chester Birding Club Field Trip.** Founded in 1910, this is one of the oldest continually active bird clubs in the country. The field trip is to Exton Park, in the area formerly known as Church Farm Pond, where surrounding wetlands have been a popular birding spot for years. 800 E. Swedesford Rd., Exton. 8:30 am. WestChesterBirdClub.org.



##### JANUARY 1, FEBRUARY 3

**Supermoon Night Hikes at Tyler Arboretum.** Take a fast-paced hike on moderate-to-steep trails to view a series of full moon supermoons, which occur on Jan. 2 and Jan. 31 (the 31st is a blue moon, the second full moon in one month!), around the time of the hikes. Teens

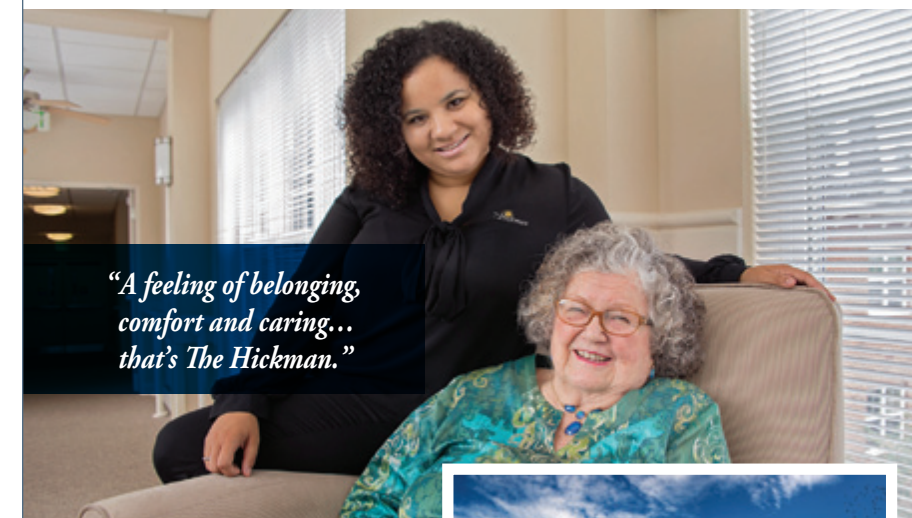
and adults should bring a flashlight. 515 Painter Rd., Media. 6 to 7:30 p.m. \$20. 610-566-9134; TylerArboretum.org.

##### JANUARY 31

**The Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County—Once in a Blue Moon Hike.** A nocturnal hike that will enhance your sense of smell, touch and hearing. This is a "once in a blue moon" chance to be able to enjoy the 2nd full moon of the month. Bucktoe Creek Preserve, 432 Sharp Rd., Avondale. 7 to 8:30 pm. \$5-\$10; under 12, free. 610-347-0347; TLCforSCC.org.



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## THEATER.....

THROUGH JANUARY 7

**Aladdin: A Musical Panto.** The holiday tradition continues with young Aladdin and his animal pals finding a mysterious lamp. People's Light, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. Check website for show times and tickets. 610-644-3500; PeoplesLight.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 14

**Disney's Beauty and the Beast.** The Academy Award-winning film comes to life at Media Theatre, 104 E. State St., Media. Show times and tickets: 610-891-0100; MediaTheatre.org.



JANUARY 10–FEBRUARY 4

**Morning's at Seven.** The lives of four close-knit sisters overturn when one of their sons

brings his fiancée home to his eccentric, irreverent family. People's Light, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. Check website for show times and tickets. 610-644-3500; PeoplesLight.org.

JANUARY 17–28

**Go Figure: The Randy Gardner Story.** A look at the astonishing world of figure skating starring World Champion figure skater Randy Gardner and his skating partner of 45 years Tai Babilonia, along with Olympic figure skating royalty, gold medalist Dorothy Hamill. Delaware Theatre Company, 200 Water St., Wilmington. Check website for show times and tickets. 302-594-1100; DelawareTheatre.org.



JANUARY 31–FEBRUARY 25

**Next To Normal.** The Pulitzer Prize winner featuring award winning actors Krissy Fraulich and Ben Dibble, in which a suburban household is affected by mental illness. Presented with heart, much love and inspiration. Media Theatre, 104 E. State St., Media. Check website for show times and tickets. 610-891-0100; MediaTheatre.org.

## TOWNS, TALKS & TOURS.....

JANUARY 5, 13, 18

**First Fridays, Second Saturdays, Third Thursdays.** Jan. 5, First Fridays: **Kennett Square Art Stroll**, 610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com. **Lancaster City**, 717-509-ARTS; VisitLancasterCity.com. **Oxford**, 610-998-9494; DowntownOxfordPA.org. **West Chester**, 610-738-3350; West-Chester.com. **Wilmington Art Loop**, 302-576-2135; CityFestWilm.com. Jan. 13, **Second Saturday Arts Stroll: Media**, 484-445-4161; MediaArtsCouncil.org. Jan. 17, **Malvern Stroll**, MalvernBusiness.com. ♦

Stay in the know with everything going on in *County Lines* country. Sign up for our monthly Events Newsletter at [Newsletter@ValleyDel.com](mailto:Newsletter@ValleyDel.com)

Send a description of your activity to [Info@ValleyDel.com](mailto:Info@ValleyDel.com) by the first of the month preceding publication.

For more events visit:

[CountyLinesMagazine.com](http://CountyLinesMagazine.com)

Whether you're in the mood for chocolate or chili, cupcakes or quinoa, **County Lines Country** offers an enormous number of events, many benefitting worthy causes. So plan to eat, drink and be festive for good causes. Here's an overview for 2018, but check the monthly events column in our magazine, online and in our events newsletter for more details.

# FOOD EVENTS

## JANUARY

**18 Taste of Phoenixville** Good Samaritan fundraiser. 610-933-9305; TasteOfPhoenixville.com

**26 Robert Burns Memorial Whisky Tasting** Colonial Theatre fundraiser. Phoenixville. 610-917-1228; TheColonialTheatre.com

## FEBRUARY

**11 Kennett Chocolate Lovers Festival** United Way of So. Chester County fundraiser. 610-444-4357; KennettChocolate.org

## MARCH

**9 Team CMMD Food Fight** Radley Run, West Chester. Guests vote for best food. Benefits the Am. Cancer Society. TeamCMMD.org



**19 Chester County Community Foundation's Sweet Charity** Fundraiser. Chadds Ford. 610-696-8211; ChesCoCF.org

**\* King of Prussia Restaurant Week** Craft beer fest with food. 484-681-9452; VisitKoP.com/DineKoP



**\* Emergency Aid's Taste of the Main Line** Radnor. Benefits Emergency Aid of PA. 610-896-7588; TasteOfTheMainLine.com

## APRIL

**1st Week Media Rest. Week** 610-566-5039; VisitMediaPA.com

**16–21 City Restaurant Week in Wilmington** Prix fixe lunch and dinner menus at premier restaurants. CityRestaurantWeek.com

**19 Dining Out For Life** Fundraiser for AIDS organizations. In the Delaware Valley. DiningOutForLife.com  
**29 21st Celebrity Chefs' Brunch** Hosted by Anne Burrell. Benefits Meals On Wheels. Wilmington. 302-656-3257; MealsOnWheelsDE.org  
**\* Philly Farm & Food Fest** Sustainable food and products. PA Conv. Center, Phila. PhillyFarmFest.org



## MAY

**May–September, Wednesdays** Media's Dining Under the Stars On State St. 5 to 11 pm. 610-566-5039; VisitMediaPA.com

**5 Phoenixville Food & Food Truck Festival** PhoenixvilleFoodFestival.com

**\* Great PA FlavorFest** Wineries, food, vendors. Ren. Fairgrounds, Manheim. 717-665-7021; PAREnFaire.com

## JUNE

**2 West Chester's Annual "Up On the Roof"** Fundraiser. 610-738-3350; DowntownWestChester.com

**23–24 New Castle County Ice Cream Festival** Great food, ice cream, music. Wilmington. RockwoodIceCream.com

**\* Great Chefs Event for Alex's Lemonade Stand** Fundraiser. Phila. 610-649-3034; AlexsLemonade.org



**\* Rotary Clubs of Thorndale & Downingtown's Mac-n-Cheese Cook-Off** Benefits Rotary. Downingtown. MacNCheeseCookoff.com

## JULY

**\* Willistown Conservation Trust Annual Tomato Tasting** Newtown Square. 610-353-2562; WCTrust.org

## AUGUST

**\* Brandywine in White** Pop-up summer evening for wine/food fans. Benefits local charities. Facebook.com/BrandywineInWhite

**\* Delaware Burger Battle** Top chefs compete. DEBurgerBattle.com



## SEPTEMBER

**8–9 32nd Mushroom Festival** Fundraiser. Kennett Square. 610-444-8188; MushroomFestival.org

**10–15 Brandywine Valley Restaurant Week** Northern DE and Southern Chester County, PA. BrandywineTaste.com

**20 Annual "Taste of the Town"** Wallingford. 610-566-1713; CommunityArtsCenter.org

**29 Phoenixville VegFest** Vegan food and drink specials. Facebook.com/PhoenixvilleVegFest.com

**\* Chester County Restaurant Festival** West Chester. 610-738-3350; DowntownWestChester.com

**\* Greener Partners "Remarkable Farms" Gala** Local purveyors offer fine selections. Benefits Greener Partners. RemarkableFarmsGala.com



**\* Malvern's Harvest Oktoberfest** Malvern-Festivals.com

**\* Taste of Trolley Square** Small plates, beer, wine and spirits. Wilmington. TasteOfTrolley.com

## OCTOBER

**6 Phoenixville Food & Food Truck Festival** PhoenixvilleFoodFestival.com

**7 Annual Media Food & Crafts Festival** VisitMediaPA.com

**14 15th West Chester Rotary Chili Cookoff** Fundraiser. 484-343-4577; WestChesterChiliCookoff.com

**\* A Taste of Berwyn** Fundraiser for Daemion Counseling Center. 610-647-1431; TasteOfBerwyn.com

**\* Boyertown Pickfest** Boyertown Rail Yard, 101 E. Third St., Boyertown. BoyertownPickfest.com

**\* Chocolate Walk in Lititz** LititzChocolateWalk.com

**\* Dilworthtown Inn Wine Festival & Crush Cancer Event** Benefits Chester County Hospital. 610-431-5329; Dilworthtown.com



**\* Thorncroft Equestrian Center "Lobstah" Bake** Fundraiser. Malvern. 610-644-1963; Thorncroft.org

**\* Take a Bite Out of Autism Fundraising Event** Paoli. TakeABiteOutOfAutism.com

**\* TASTE! Philadelphia—Food & Wine Festival** Valley Forge. GourmetShows.com

**\* Vendemmia da Vinci Wine & Food Festival** Wilmington. 302-631-1556; SocietaDaVinci.com

## NOVEMBER

**1st Week Media Rest. Week** 610-566-5039; VisitMediaPA.com

**\* 5th Coffee & Tea Festival** Seminars, pairings, tastings. Greater Phila. Expo Center, Oaks. CoffeeAndTeaFestival.com

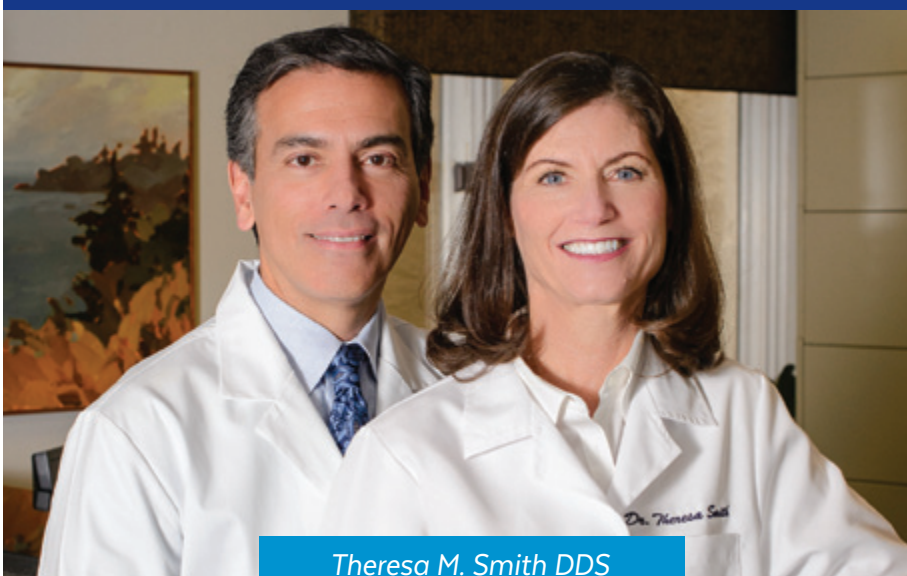
**\* Lancaster Taste—Food, Wine & Spirits Festival** Lancaster County Convention Ctr. LancasterGourmetShows.com

**\* Taste of Chester County** Fundraiser for Safe Harbor. West Chester. SafeHarborOfGWC.org ♦

\* – Dates To Be Determined.

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# taste of PHOENIXVILLE

JUST WHEN WINTER SEEMS BLEAK  
... ALONG COMES THE TASTE  
OF PHOENIXVILLE FUNDRAISER  
—A JANUARY HIGHLIGHT.

Edwin Malet

### RESTAURANTS AT 2017 TASTE OF PHOENIXVILLE (likely returning)

- Aman's Indian Bistro
- Artisans Gallery and Cafe
- Bistro on Bridge
- Bluebird Distilling
- Bridge Street Chocolates
- Flour & Oats
- Foresta's Market
- Great American Pub
- J. Scott Catering
- Majolica
- Molly Maguire's
- Nook & Kranny Kafe
- Paradox Vineyard
- Penns Woods Winery
- PJ Ryan's Pub
- Queen of Hearts
- Rivercrest
- Robert Ryan Catering
- Sips
- Sly Fox Brewing
- St. Peter's Bakery
- Tony's Family Restaurant
- Uncle B's
- Valley Forge Trattoria and Lounge
- Vecchia

**M**USIC AND DANCING. TINKLING glasses and clattering plates. About 600 happy people glow in the soft lights of the Phoenixville Foundry, the renovated steel mill in this former steel town.

This year, more than 20 of Phoenixville's best restaurants (see sidebar) will serve up signature dishes—appetizers, kabobs, barbecue, seafood, pizzas, cupcakes, pastries, chocolates—to be washed down with craft beer, whiskey and other spirits and, of course, coffee. You'll eat as much as you like, and like as much you eat.

In its 16th year, the fundraiser had been organized by the Good Samaritan Shelter, which offers a roof, a bed and warmth to those who are homeless. In 2017, the Shelter merged with Bridge of Hope in Lancaster & Chester Counties, forming Good Samaritan Services. The combination will serve nearly 200 people daily. And, it will provide much more: matched savings and loan programs; parenting and family-building classes; mentoring and employment services, plus, through its Nourish Mobile Market start-up, fresh, local food to the community and jobs to its residents.

How did the shelter get started? Good Samaritan began providing shelter about 19

years ago. Bishop William Washington, Jr., of New Beginnings Church of God, led the effort. Other churches joined in, wanting to help people "get back on their feet." The Taste of Phoenixville was conceived as a fundraiser.

Starting small in 2003, the Taste of Phoenixville has grown through its popularity and broad community support. Spearheaded by Nate Hoffer, Good Samaritan's Executive Director, along with many volunteers, the fundraiser helps provide a "compassionate response" to a lingering problem.

About 40 churches, over 150 organizations and nearly 500 individuals have contributed \$100 or more—96% of its funding comes from the community, not government sources—to the Shelter's work. Last year, before the merger, the fundraiser provided more than 10% of the Good Samaritan's \$1.3 million budget. The budget is now, after the merger, \$1.6 million.

We suggest you do good and eat well at this year's Taste of Phoenixville. ♦

**WHAT:** 16th Annual Taste of Phoenixville  
**WHEN:** January 18, 2018, 6 to 10 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Phoenixville Foundry, 2 N. Main St.  
**TICKETS:** \$100 and up  
**INFO:** TasteOfPhoenixville.com

IF YOU GO





# Confessions of a Cookbook Addict

Laura Muzzi Brennan

I think what drives my mother-in-law is the same as what drives me: in some deep part of ourselves, we believe that one cookbook will have it all, will give the answer to breakfast, lunch and dinner for the rest of our lives.



WHEN I STARTED AS FOOD EDITOR AT *COUNTY Lines* nearly six years ago, I had 600+ cookbooks. As of this writing, the number edges toward 720. I like cookbooks for the same reason most people do: the recipes, the photographs, the peeks into other lives and cultures. Through cookbooks, I've eaten thousands of meals I've never actually eaten.

But why collect? And why so many?

It all started with the dopamine hit I got every time I cracked open my mother's copy of *Betty Crocker's Cookie Book* in the mid-1970s. While my sister and I fantasized about the day we'd make the Cookie House on page 64, we busied ourselves with snickerdoodles, chocolate crinkles and tiny fudge tarts. I read and re-read the "Best Cookies" section about each decade's most popular cookie—from 1880's nutmeg-spiced hermits traveling on Clipper Ships to 1960's French Lace Cookies, a reflection of America's budding interest in international cuisine. That history could be told through cookies thrilled every cell of my 10-year-old self.

While I continued to cook the occasional meal for my family and friends from high school through my early twenties, food and cookbooks did not consume me until I met my husband, Bill, and more importantly (for the purposes of this article), his mother, Georgie.

The first time I visited the Brennans in Princeton was the day after Thanksgiving in 1988. Georgie had set the table with Dijon yellow Indian block print placemats and served butternut squash soup. The fire was going in the red brick hearth. Cookbooks lined the shelves. Again, blame dopamine or cite Pavlov, but since then, cookbooks signal contentment and abundance and home for me.

Georgie had the first *Chez Panisse* cookbook and the entire 28-volume set of Time Life's *Good Cook Series*. She was the first person I ever knew who read cookbooks cover to cover. To this day, she calls to tell me when she scores a new cookbook at Sam's Club (where she often buys me a copy, too). When she visits, I leave all my recent acquisitions on the coffee table for her reading pleasure. Thirty years on, every birthday and Christmas, she builds my collection and I build hers.

I find my cookbooks everywhere: small independent bookstores, large retail shops, yard sales, friends' shelves, libraries. One of the first things I do when visiting a new city is to scout out its used bookstores. (Cue my children saying, "Sad, Mom" and shaking their heads.).

A quick scan of the cookbook section in a city's bookstore gives me a sense of the place and its values. It's my take on "Tell me what you eat and I will tell you who you are." And then there are cities with stores devoted entirely to cooking, culinary biography and agriculture. How I love Bonnie Slotnick Cookbooks in Greenwich Village, Omnivore Books in San Francisco, and Appetite for Books in Montreal!

In the past few months my collecting habits have broadened. I've been rescuing home cooks' recipe boxes at estate sales. While I have not stumbled upon a lost letter from Julia to Paul Child, I did discover Eddie Temple's Icebox Cake—"Out of this world" notes the unknown home cook (Temple is a character in the 2004 British thriller, *Layer Cake*)—and a crazy concoction called Spaghetti







## WHAT'S ON LOCAL CHEFS' BOOKSHELVES

When we asked local chefs to name their first cookbook and their current favorites, we learned so much! Andrew Deery has cooked his way through both Julia Child's *Mastering the Art of French Cooking* and Thomas Keller's *The French Laundry Cookbook*. Silenia and John Rhoads were inspired to move to Bainbridge, Washington after reading *Cooking with Shelburne Farms*, and Aimee Olexy goes to any book by Alice Waters to get her creative juices flowing. Read on for the books that influence our local kitchens.

**Andrew Deery**, Majolica

**First** *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*, Julia Child  
*Larousse Gastronomique*

**Favorites** *The French Laundry Cookbook*, Thomas Keller  
*Culinary Artistry*, Andrew Dornenburg and Karen Page  
*Cooking by Hand*, Paul Bertolli and *Essential Cuisine*, Michel Bras

**Aimee Olexy**, Talula's Table

**First:** *The Moosewood Cookbook* and *The Enchanted Broccoli Forest*, Mollie Katzen  
*The Frog Commissary Cookbook*, Anne Clark and Steven Poses  
*The Silver Palate Cookbook*, Julee Rosso and Sheila Lukins

**Favorites:** *The Zuni Café Cookbook*, Judy Rodgers  
*The Greens Cookbook*, Deborah Madison  
*The River Cottage* cookbooks, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall  
Any cookbook by Alice Waters

**Silenia and John Rhoads**, Malvern Buttery

**First:** *Cooking with Shelburne Farms*, Melissa Pasanen and Rick Gencarelli

**Favorites:** *Tartine* cookbooks, Chad Robertson, Elisabeth Prueitt, et al.  
*The River Cottage* cookbooks, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall  
Any books by Yotam Ottolenghi

**Sean Weinberg**, Alba and Biga

**First** *Larousse Gastronomique*

**Favorite** *Bocca Cookbook*, Jacob Kennedy

**Dan Cellucci**, Roots

**First** *The Farm: Rustic Recipes for a Year of Incredible Food*, Ian Kanuer

**Favorites** *New American Table*, Marcus Samuelsson  
*The Red Rooster Cookbook: The Story of Food and Hustle in Harlem*, Marcus Samuelsson

**Bryan Sikora**, Hearth Kitchen and La Fia Bistro

**First** *Larousse Gastronomique*, *The Professional Chef*  
Any books by Charlie Trotter

**Favorites** Any books by Jamie Oliver  
*The River Cottage* cookbooks, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall  
Any books by Francis Mallman

Ring. Preserving these recipe boxes is my way of paying respect to home cooks who got dinner on the table night after night without the help of takeout and Ubereats.

I have few hard and fast rules for my collection. I'll buy anything written by Ina Garten, Melissa Clark, Deb Perelman or Cook's Illustrated. I will, however, no longer buy anything with the words "sneaky" or "deceptive" in the title, having learned the hard way that preschoolers *do* know when you've slipped mashed chickpeas into their chocolate chip cookies.

Sometimes, I follow my friend Kath's standard: buy only books with at least five recipes your family will like. Mostly, though, I choose what strikes me, often a title that makes me laugh, which explains why *The Eating-In-Bed Cookbook* shares shelf space with *Cold Spaghetti at Midnight* and *Everybody Eats Well in Belgium*.

My oldest cookbook is a 1909 *Good House-keeping Woman's Home Cook Book* with sections like "invalid cookery" and "baking powder breads." I unearthed it at a Philadelphia hospital's thrift shop and still feel slightly guilty that I paid only \$1.

As for my prized cookbook, it's a typed collection of recipes from the Montchanin estate of Wilhelmina du Pont Ross, where my mother worked as a private waitress from 1956 until 1964. Mrs. Ross gave this cookbook to my mother for Christmas 1966, and as far as I know, there are under 100 copies in existence.

When I leaf through it, I'm in the kitchen roasting grouse with Nessie Foote, Mrs. Ross's Scottish cook. And then I'm in the dining room with my mother—24 and recently emigrated from Ireland—as she serves jellied tomato consommé and wonders at the food of her new home.

I don't keep a diary, I gave up scrapbooking long ago, and I never did put a guest book in our guest room. It's my cookbooks—and the notes scribbled in their margins—that hold my history. They show the evolution of my interests and the places I've traveled. They remind me not only of the dishes I served but who was at the table and what a good, good time we had. ♦

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# Brews & Foods

Mary Irene Dolan

THIRSTY? HUNGRY? YOU'RE IN LUCK!  
BAR + RESTAURANT OPTIONS ARE THRIVING, WITH NO END IN SIGHT.

**W**HEN YOU THINK CHESTER COUNTY AND THE surrounding suburbs, do you think beer and food? You should!

In fact, it's been called "Beer-burbia" with all the breweries, brewpubs, gastropubs and pour houses that offer an astounding selection of local craft beer, many with unique food menus to match.

Don't take our word for it. Get out and see the best for yourself!

## MAIN LINE & KOP FAVES

You can't talk about beer and food on the Main Line without beginning with the one that started it all ... **Teresa's Next Door** in Wayne, fondly referred to as TND. With one of the most eclectic menus around, serving a variety of animals—think rabbit, goat, goose, even snails—this is the place where adventurous foodies meet beer geeks. The wood-burning grill turns out favorites like the exotic Game Burger with ever-changing meat and goat tacos with cactus slaw. And the tap drink selection is one to brag about with 27 beers, 7 ciders, red and white wine and even a mead ready to fill your glass. A must-visit. And revisit.

Newer to the scene but making waves with a growing list of awards, **La Cabra Brewing** in Berwyn should be next on your list. Their very own seven-barrel brewhouse allows experimentation with many different styles of homemade brews—from German pilsners to barrel-aged fruit beers—that change with the seasons, making sure their lineup never gets stale. The Latin-inspired menu is similarly seasonal with interesting small plates, tasty tacos and sandwiches sure to satisfy. Pick from IPA mac & cheese, charred octopus, jerk chicken tacos and the Hangover burger—or sample them all!

Another Wayne destination to try is **The Goat's Beard's** second location complementing the original in Manayunk. With a focus on local, sustainable and responsible on both tap and table, their brunch, lunch and dinner menus offer inventive takes on American cuisine that are both familiar and a little different. You'll feel good about their craft beer options including many PA brews and their so-called Whiskey Bible, paying homage to the USA with over 70 varieties made in America.

Close by in King of Prussia, **City Works Eatery and Pour House** is celebrating a one-year anniversary in the Town Center. The tap

selection here is unparalleled with 90—yes, you read right—local and global beers on draft, 14 of which rotate to include rare, limited and seasonal brews and 25% dedicated to local breweries. The eatery options include lots of bar bites and shareable goodies, making this the place to relax and stay a while. Come back in the warmer months for their inviting outdoor patio!

## MUST-SEE MEDIA

If you really love beer and food, you need to take a trip to Media. **Brick & Brew**, also in Havertown, has become a happening hangout since their opening. With classic gastropub fare, the menu is made from scratch and kept interesting with weekly specials. Some, in fact, have huge followings like their chicken & waffles, shrimp & grits and peanut butter & jelly burger, with fans waiting patiently for more. Other tried-and-true favorites like confit wings, fried pickles and their line-up of wood-fired pizzas keep people coming back for more. Their well curated 12-tap draft selection features options from highly regarded breweries like Bells and Allagash along with a handful of local craft breweries with similar passion, vision and quality. Be on the lookout for special releases!

Brewing their own beer in small batches on Baltimore Pike, **Sterling Pig Brewery** is another Media must-try. Featuring eight rotating taps with everything from IPAs and pilsners to porters and stouts, the carefully crafted lineup is perfectly paired with the tasty food options. Share their wood-fired pizza—complete with rustic charred edges—with a friend or dig in to their signature barbecue options like St. Louis ribs and smoked brisket.

Media's newest gastropub, **Tap 24**, opened in November with a friendly atmo-

sphere and an emphasis on local brews. Their 24 (no surprise) rotating taps feature familiar names like Levante, 2SP, Stickman Brews, Victory and nearby Sterling Pig, and cover the range from popular IPAs to more niche sour and barrel-aged beers. You'll find classics on their traditional pub menu with wings, burgers and their signature rosemary-brined fried chicken—and more to come.

A list of Media beer and food spots wouldn't be complete without **Pinocchio's Restaurant & Beer Garden To Go**. In the biz for over 60 years, their award-winning bottle shop is amazing and sure to satisfy any beer fanboy—1000 specialty beers, 200 craft beers and growler fills from the 25 rotating options on draft. Plus you can stay for the pizza—take your pick of Neapolitan, Sicilian or their famous white gourmet styles—and other bar-friendly grub. Just in case you needed another reason to come back!

## BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE

Over in Exton's Eagleview Town Center—a.k.a. Restaurant Row—award-winning **Suburban Restaurant & Beer Garden** serves up a selection of all-Pennsylvania beer, most brewed in very small batches. Try exclusive brews like Stickman Brews' Table to Face, made especially for their menu, or favorites from La Cabra and Sterling Pig. Their food satisfies locavores with grass-fed burgers from Wyebrook Farm, pork from Green Meadow Farm and cheese curds from September Farm—both in Lancaster County—and veggies from the Eagleview Farmers Market right across the street. Try their cheese and meat board to sample the range.

For a more worldly selection with a helpful cheat sheet, **Grain Craft Bar +**



La Cabra Brewing



The Goat's Beard



Brick & Brew



City Works Eatery & Pour House



Teresa's Next Door



Sterling Pig Brewery



Pinocchio's Restaurant & Beer Garden To Go





Suburban Restaurant & Beer Garden



Grain Craft Bar + Kitchen

**Kitchen** in Kennett Square is perfect for beer newbies and veterans alike. Their Beer Bible helps you navigate among the many sweet, bitter, fruity and malty beers on the menu. And with 23 on tap and over 50 in the fridge, there's sure to be something to suit your mood. Stop in for Weekend Brunch on Saturday and Sunday—the Scrapple Cheesesteak and Sunrise Nachos are highly recommended. For lunch, dinner, happy hour and late night, sample the hearty menu—with favorites like Yard's Love Stout braised short ribs over cheesy grits—to match.

Phoenixville keeps turning out new beer options, but oldies-but-goodies like **Bistro on Bridge** are always worth a visit. Their 21 rotating beers on draft cover a variety of styles from stouts and sours, to pale ales, porters and IPAs. Be sure to try one of the four Prospects—their very own beer blends made in-house from a local base beer plus their choice of ingredients—for something different. And, true to their name, the contemporary Mediterranean-inspired bistro menu is a winner with snacks, apps and much more. Come by in the warmer months to chill out on the outdoor couches.

West Chester also has plenty of places to whet your whistle, like long-time favorite **Side Bar & Restaurant**, boasting a huge craft beer selection from PA and beyond. On tap you'll see familiar brews including Tired Hands, Dogfish Head, Yard's, Locust Lane, Sterling Pig and Sly Fox while the bottle selection of nearly 200 will expand your horizons. Take your pick from their globally influenced menu with unique options like chicken & hummus and a bison burger while enjoying the neighborhood atmosphere.

If you haven't gotten enough of the food and drink options in West Chester, head out of the downtown to **Righteous Tap House**. With a combo of local, national and international brews, their 25 ever-rotating taps won't bore you. And the seasonal menu with plenty of munchies and shareables—complete with cleverly named options like Resurrection Fries and the Inquisition Burger—is sure to delight.

Know where you want to try first? Our tip: start close to home! ♦

## Beer Events

Beer-burbia has plenty of beer-focused events!

### ALES & ASANAS

Yoga, beer and healthy snacks ... What more could you want? Last year **Iron Hill Brewery's** Media and Wilmington locations held this popular event Saturday mornings on the floor of the brewery. Stay tuned for more this year!

### BEERUNCH

Every Saturday and Sunday at **World of Beer** in Exton, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., enjoy brunch after a night out with eye-opening drinks like the Beermosa and tasty breakfast and lunch options like the Hangover Skillet.

### KEGS N' EGGS

Celebrate Superbowl Sunday at **Levante Brewing Company** in West Chester with bacon, eggs and beer! This year will be their third running and hopefully the first with the Eagles in the Superbowl.

### THANKSBREWING TOUR

**Kennett Brewing Company** in Kennett Square does this 50-mile bike tour twice a year, stopping at places like Buckley's Tavern and The Whip Tavern along the way. And all for a good cause benefitting Kennett Food Cupboard.

### YOGA & HOPPINESS

Exton's **World of Beer** offered Saturday summer morning yoga on the patio with a side of beer—Dogfish Head's Namaste White to be specific. Stay in the loop for word of future classes this year.



Bistro On Bridge



Righteous Tap House



Side Bar & Restaurant

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# Take a fun foodie trek around the world in **WEST CHESTER**

Story by Malcolm Johnstone

Photos by Timlyn Vaughan Photography

## DESTINATION DINING WITH INTERNATIONAL OPTIONS

**D**OWNTOWN WEST CHESTER HAS PLENTY TO OFFER, particularly with its wide selection of eateries. After all, the Borough got its reputation for destination dining the old fashioned way—it earned it restaurant by bistro by bar by café by diner by bakery.

But one thing that stands out from a quick review of the over 50-some dining choices is the international range of culinary styles served up with a heaping helping of cosmopolitan flair. And the West Chester dining scene just keeps getting bigger. And better.

In the past few months, international flavors have been introduced from around the world. So why not take your taste buds on a tableside trip?

### TRAVEL FROM CHURCH TO GAY STREETS

Starting close to home, locavores will be delighted that Elena Mascherino opened **Love Again Local** (18 S. Church St.; [LoveAgainLocal.com](http://LoveAgainLocal.com)). Not only is every effort made to bring fresh Brandywine Valley food to the table, it's easily the most extensive vegan menu around. Enjoy healthy and satisfying sandwiches from ingredients that are all plant-based. Plus a selection of all-vegan GMO-free meats, cheeses and dressings. And save room for a delicious Love Chunk Vegan Cookie for dessert.

Chef John Brandt-Lee of Avalon Restaurant fame has recreated this popular downtown bistro, and transformed it into **Bar Avalon** (116 E. Gay St.; [AvalonRestaurant.net](http://AvalonRestaurant.net)). It's now being discovered by new fans of the expanded upscale bar menus that take you back in time with Prohibition-era novelties and handcrafted specialty cocktails and bourbons. The casual, bistro-style menu offers gourmet pizzas, handmade pastas, fresh fish and braised meats. For casual get-togethers and conversation, there's an extensive wine list and a dozen draft beers to complement meals and snacks.



In addition to the stylish wine cellar and bar, the restaurant has large and small rooms, perfect for private events of all sizes—10 to 70 guests.

After months of expansion and remodeling, **Dolce Zola** (134 E. Gay St.; [DolceZola.com](http://DolceZola.com)) is now welcoming diners. No longer an intimate Italian restaurant like its predecessor, i-Pasta, Dolce Zola describes itself as a “Northern Italian Chef House.” The feeling of a family-run restaurant is still there, but the enlarged seating area provides a more relaxed and gracious experience. It's still BYOB, so bring your favorite Italian wine. Inside tip: all plates are made to order, so on busy evenings, an appetizer or cheese plate adds to the relaxed experience.

Inspired by the beautiful Greek island of Mykonos, **Opa Opa** (122 E. Gay St.; [OpaOpaGR.com](http://OpaOpaGR.com)) refers to itself as “The Small Big Greek Place,” perfect for those looking for quick, fresh and authentic Greek food. Simple and freshly made gyro sandwiches and platters, melitzano-salata (eggplant dip), salads and traditional Greek entrees—moussaka and spanakopita—make for a quick lunch or easy dinner. Of course, their Greek yogurt is “unlike anything you’ve ever tasted.” Eat in, take out or try their catering.

Restaurateur Anthony Mastroianni has fashioned his new eatery as a neighborhood bistro with a name that makes it easy to find: **39 West American Bistro** (39 W. Gay St.; [39WestAmericanBistro.com](http://39WestAmericanBistro.com)). It's a wine-friendly BYOB, focusing its menu on seasonal ingredients from local sources, prepared with a contemporary flair. Whether it's a flat iron steak with house made fries and Bearnaise (the classic steak frites of every French bistro), or bucatini and littleneck clams, pancetta, with parsley and bread crumbs, all is served up in a casual and friendly atmosphere.

### TO MARKET AND HIGH

It's not often you see a restaurant billed as American Thai, but Matt and Tew Gourley—yes, one was born in America and the other in Thailand—decided there could no better combination. So they opened the **Spicy Pig Café** (234 W. Market St.; [SpicyPigCafe.com](http://SpicyPigCafe.com)). Looking for a traditional breakfast or brunch menu? Spicy Pig has it. Craving Asian soup or fried rice? You'll find that, too, at Spicy Pig.

When Tom Strauss and George Zeppos opened **Pure Fire Pizza** (30 S. High St.; [PureFirePizza.com](http://PureFirePizza.com)), they did so believing it would be their customers who would build their own best pizza.





39 West American Bistro



Insomnia Cookies



Pure Fire Pizza



Spicy Pig Café



Baked

Don't worry: the friendly staff will walk you through it. Start by selecting a dough, there are four kinds (including gluten-free or cauliflower); then sauce, choose from six different kinds; cheese, seven kinds of cheese; then pick your protein, garden varieties, and top it all off with one of eight after-bake sauces (balsamic fig glaze, anyone?). You now have your own customized personal pizza to enjoy!

A college town like West Chester can never have too many places for great pizza, so there's another new option just a few blocks east. The first thing you notice at **Rize Pizza** (124 E. Market St.; [RizePizza.com](http://RizePizza.com)) is that there are two types of crusts. The signature Rize Crust is used for their selection of slices. It's square, airy, coated with sesame seeds on the bottom, and deceptively light. The Traditional Crust is thin and round, like a classic Neapolitan pie. Try the upside-down pizza served with a thick, deep, crispy Rize crust.

Authentic Japanese ramen and Hawaiian-inspired barbecue dishes are a welcome treat each day starting at 11 a.m. at **Rai Rai Ramen & Hawaiian BBQ** (124 E. Market St.). Menu items include miso ramen, crispy fried shrimp ramen, curry chashu ramen, spicy kim chee ramen, Japanese fried rice, rib eye steak, barbecue short ribs and barbecue chicken. Most orders can be prepared for vegetarian diets. Tofu is an excellent substitute for pork buns. And if you like it spicy, this is the place for you.

## COOKIE EXPLOSION

For those who enjoy a little something sweet after a meal, be happy to be in West Chester, which can now brag that it's becoming a cookie capital. So get ready for some serious cookie sampling.

**Baked** (34 S. High St.; [BakedWC.com](http://BakedWC.com)) has warm cookies, plus edible dough, along with their signature ice cream. **Insomnia Cookies** (142 W. Gay St.; [InsomniaCookies.com](http://InsomniaCookies.com)) loves serving warm, delicious cookies right to your front door. And **Cookie Dope** (28 S. High St.; [TheCookieDope.com](http://TheCookieDope.com)), which should be open by now, offers edible cookie dough, ice cream, divine toppings and self-described dope combinations, thus the name.

And, yes, late night delivery requests are welcome by all three! Who will know if you try them all? ♦



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# Other Dining Options in *West Chester*

## BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND MORE

**Buddy's Burgers, Breasts & Fries** (11 W. Gay St., 484-631-1006; [BuddySBBF.com](http://BuddySBBF.com)) makes great burgers, boardwalk-quality fries, amazing chicken sandwiches and thick milkshakes.

**The Classic Diner** (16 E. Gay St., 484-947-0809; [TheClassicDinerPA.com](http://TheClassicDinerPA.com)) serves generous portions of breakfast and lunch that's not your typical "diner food."

**The Couch Tomato Café** (31 W. Gay St., 484-887-0241; [TheCouchTomato.com](http://TheCouchTomato.com)) offers soups, sandwiches, pizza and snacks that are organic, all-natural and non-GMO.

**De Starr's Restaurant & Bar** (112 E. Gay St., 610-692-4160) is where locals go for a good meal and a good deal. Greek dishes, a specialty.

**Gramm's Kitchen**, (557 E. Gay St., 610-429-3903; [GrammsKitchenFR.com](http://GrammsKitchenFR.com)) serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, from homemade healthy selections to sweets and fresh-baked goods.

**La Baguette Magique** (202 W. Market St., 610-620-4279; [MagicBaguette.com](http://MagicBaguette.com)) is a traditional French bakery and café featuring hand-made breads, breakfast pastries, lunch and desserts.

**The Lincoln Room** (28 W. Market St., 610-696-

2102; [LincolnRoomWestChester.com](http://LincolnRoomWestChester.com)), in one of West Chester's most famous historic structures, is the place to enjoy a mid-day meal served in the classic style of fine American tea rooms.

**Lorenzo and Son's Pizza** (27 N. High St., 484-999-8756; [LorenzoAndSons.com](http://LorenzoAndSons.com)) is known for their giant slices of pizza, extra large pies, specialty sandwiches and more.

**Market Street Grill** (6 W. Market St., 610-429-5328; [MarketStreetGrillWC.com](http://MarketStreetGrillWC.com)) is a popular breakfast and lunch café getting raves for their avocado omelettes and breakfast burritos.

**Nudy's Café** (300 W. Market St., 610-696-4550; [NudysCafes.com](http://NudysCafes.com)) is a crowd-pleasing local breakfast and lunch chain with tons of choices.

**Penn's Table** (100 W. Gay St., 610-696-0677; [PennsTableRestaurant.com](http://PennsTableRestaurant.com)) serves breakfast and lunch in a warm, comfortable atmosphere.

**Rams Diner** (907 S. High St., 610-701-8080; [RamsDiner.com](http://RamsDiner.com)) offers breakfast, lunch and dinner 24-hours/day with a children's and senior citizen menu.

**Roots Café** (133 E. Gay St., 610-455-0100; [RootsCafeWC.com](http://RootsCafeWC.com)) makes great food while supporting a sustainable environment, using local produce from nearby farms.

## BARs, PUBs AND MORE

**Barnaby's of West Chester** (15 S. High St., 610-696-1400; [BarnabysWestChester.com](http://BarnabysWestChester.com)) serves comfort food, ice cold drafts, perfect cocktails.

**Boxcar Brewpub** (142 E. Market St., 484-947-2503; [BoxcarBrewingCompany.com](http://BoxcarBrewingCompany.com)) brews fine craft beer and serves locally sourced food.

**Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant** (3 W. Gay St., 610-738-9600; [IronHillBrewery.com/WestChester](http://IronHillBrewery.com/WestChester)) is known for a great selection of craft beer and fresh, delicious food.

**Jaco Juice & Taco Bar** (8 W. Gay St., 610-436-4177; [JacoJuiceandTaco.com](http://JacoJuiceandTaco.com)) serves made-to-order fresh juice, smoothies and tacos.

**Jitter's Sports Bar** (146 W. Gay St., 610-696-0427; [KildaresPub.com](http://KildaresPub.com)) has big-screen TVs to catch all the action, along with a lively bar.

**Kildare's Irish Pub** (18-22 W. Gay St., 610-431-0770; [KildaresPub.com](http://KildaresPub.com)) has an extensive whiskey selection, monthly 4-course beer dinners and is a convenient spot for business lunches.

**Landmark Americana** (158 W. Gay St., 610-701-9900; [LandmarkAmericana.com](http://LandmarkAmericana.com)) is an upscale-casual restaurant and sports bar with contemporary design and a menu to match.



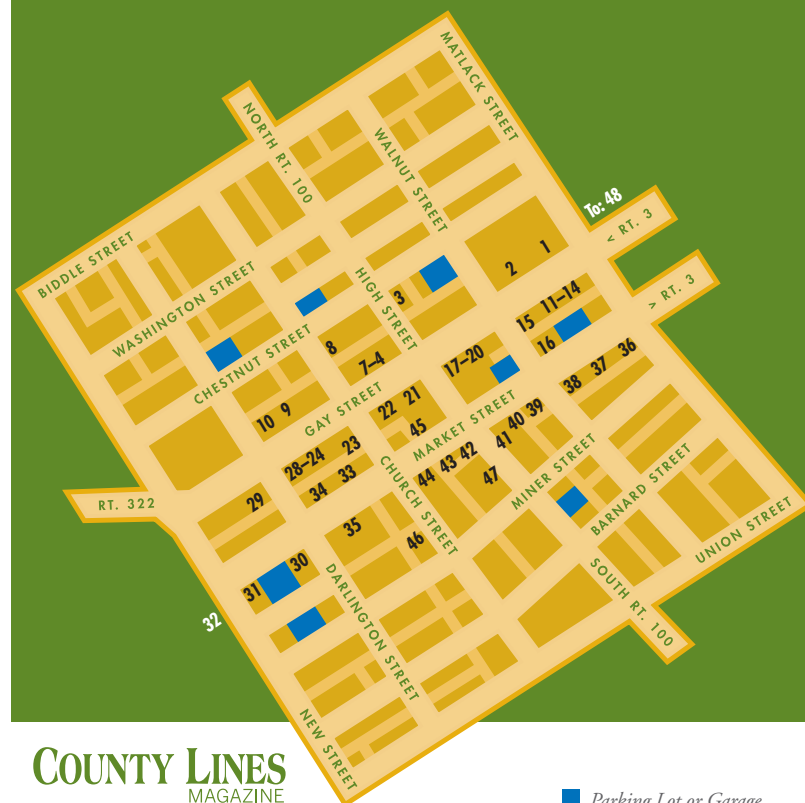


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## DOWNTOWN WEST CHESTER



## Restaurant Guide

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Roots Cafe                | 26. Jitter's Sports Bar                   |
| 2. The Social                | 27. The Mediterranean                     |
| 3. Spence Cafe               | 28. Landmark Americana                    |
| 4. Iron Hill Brewery & Rest. | 29. Bon Bon Sushi                         |
| 5. Buddy's Burgers           | 30. La Baguette Magique                   |
| 6. The Couch Tomato Café     | 31. The Spicy Pig Café                    |
| 7. 39 West American Bistro   | 32. Nudy's Café                           |
| 8. Kooma Japanese Rest.      | 33. Nagasaki Noodle House                 |
| 9. Saloon 151                | 34. Pietro's Prime                        |
| 10. Star of India Restaurant | 35. Carlino's Specialty Foods             |
| 11. Dolce Zola               | 36. Boxcar Brewpub                        |
| 12. Opa! Opa!                | 37. Rai Rai Ramen                         |
| 13. Bar Avalon               | 37. Rize Pizza                            |
| 14. DeStarr's Rest. & Bar    | 38. Más Mexicali Cantina                  |
| 15. Split Rail Tavern        | 39. Rams Head Bar & Grill                 |
| 16. Limoncello Ristorante    | 40. Shawarma                              |
| 17. Lorenzo & Sons Pizza     | 41. Barnaby's                             |
| 18. Teca                     | 42. Market Street Grill                   |
| 19. The Classic Diner        | 43. Tsunami Bistro                        |
| 20. Side Bar & Restaurant    | 44. The Lincoln Room                      |
| 21. Jaco Juice & Taco Bar    | 45. Mercato Ristorante & Bar              |
| 22. Kildare's Irish Pub      | 46. Love Again Local                      |
| 23. Rest. 51 Tap & Spirit    | 47. Pure Fire Pizza                       |
| 24. Penn's Table             | 48. Pho Xua Vietnamese Noodle & Tea House |
| 25. Ryan's Pub & Restaurant  |   |



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**Rams Head Bar & Grill** (40 E. Market St., 484-631-0241; [RamsHeadBarAndGrill.com](http://RamsHeadBarAndGrill.com)) is an American bar and grill with a comfortable atmosphere and a menu you're sure to like.

**Ryan's Pub & Restaurant** (124 W. Gay St., 610-344-3934; [Ryans-Pub.com](http://Ryans-Pub.com)) is an enjoyable neighborhood pub where you can relax and enjoy good food in a comfortable setting.

**Saloon 151 Whiskey Bar & Grill** (151 W. Gay St., 610-701-8489; [Saloon151.com](http://Saloon151.com)) pairs a serious whiskey menu with slow-cooked meats in a brightly lit space that's lively and attractive.

**Side Bar & Restaurant** (10 E. Gay St., 610-429-8297; [SideBarAndRestaurant.com](http://SideBarAndRestaurant.com)) is a popular place for after-work drinks and appetizers, followed by a great dinner.

**The Social Lounge** (117 E. Gay St., 610-738-3948; [TheSocialWC.com](http://TheSocialWC.com)) specializes in Cajun creations, handcrafted cocktails and live entertainment.

**Spence Cafe** (131 N. High St., 610-918-1272; [SpenceCafe.com](http://SpenceCafe.com)) is a BYOB serving quality meats and seafood, along with locally sourced produce.

**Spicy Pig Cafe** (234 W. Market St., 484-999-2150; [SpenceCafe.com](http://SpenceCafe.com)) offers burgers, sandwiches and Thai dishes as well as vegan and vegetarian.

**Split Rail Tavern** (15 N. Walnut St., 484-999-8805; [SplitRailTavern.com](http://SplitRailTavern.com)) serves locally sourced food, craft beer and cocktails.

## INTERNATIONAL CHOICES

**Bon Bon Sushi** (22 N. Darlington St., 610-696-3069; [BonBonSushi.com](http://BonBonSushi.com)) offers Maki rolls and Asian burritos made with fresh ingredients.

**High Street Caffe & Vudu Lounge** (322 S. High St., 610-696-7435; [HighStreetCaffe.com](http://HighStreetCaffe.com)) has a funky-eclectic atmosphere, plus specialties like Cajun gator and gumbo.

**Kooma Japanese Restaurant** (123 N. Church St., 610-430-8980; [KoomaRestaurants.com](http://KoomaRestaurants.com)) is a hip fusion sushi bar with stylish décor, serving fresh sushi, sashimi, maki and more.

**Limoncello Ristorante** (9 N. Walnut St., 610-436-6230; [LimoncelloWC.com](http://LimoncelloWC.com)) offers authentic, home-cooked, southern Mediterranean cuisine, plus a great patio. Try the lunch buffet.

**Más Mexicali Cantina's** (102 E. Market St., 610-918-6280; [WestChester.MasCantina.com](http://WestChester.MasCantina.com)) hip cantina ambiance sets the stage for family favorites like spicy tacos, plus veggies and tofu, too. With great roof-top views.

**The Mediterranean** (150 W. Gay St., 610-431-7074; [TheMedWCPA.com](http://TheMedWCPA.com)) is a comfortable BYOB known for authentic ethnic dishes.

**Mercato Italian Ristorante & Bar** (33 W. Market St., 610-701-6326; [Mercato33.com](http://Mercato33.com)) offers casual dining with a southern Italian influence.

**Nagasaki Japanese Noodle House** (113 W. Market St., 484-887-8532; [NagasakiSushiRamen-Noodles.com](http://NagasakiSushiRamen-Noodles.com)) offers a noodle house and Japanese cuisine for lunch and dinner. BYOB.

**Pho Xua Vietnamese Noodle & Tea House** (237 E. Gay St., 484-947-5772; [PhoXuaNoodles.com](http://PhoXuaNoodles.com)) specializes in pho, banh mi, spring rolls, egg rolls, Vietnamese coffee, black bubble milk tea and more.

**Pietro's Prime** (125 W. Market St., 484-760-6100; [PietrosPrime.com](http://PietrosPrime.com)) serves only Pureland Premium Black Angus Beef and great martinis.

**Shawarma** (38 E. Market St., 610-436-1500) has authentic shawarma served fresh. The beef and lamb platter with Tahini Sauce is recommended.

**Star of India Restaurant's** (155 W. Gay St., 610-429-0125) simple décor sets the mood for exotic meals of northern Indian fare.

**Teca** (38 E. Gay St., 610-738-8244; [TecaWC.com](http://TecaWC.com)) offers a light-fare, tapas-style menu, paninis and Italian specialties.

**Tsunami Bistro** (10 W. Market St., 610-430-3300; [TsunamiBistro.com](http://TsunamiBistro.com)) serves Japanese and Thai cuisine in a casual environment. ♦

See the 2018 Dining Guide in this issue for many more dining destinations in County Lines Country.

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# 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Best of the Best

SO MANY NEW AND NOTABLE ADDITIONS to an already enviable local dining scene!

Two area favorites got 4-bells from Philly food critic Craig LaBan, while Eagleview developed into a restaurant row and KOP saw a dining bonanza (we highlight some favorites).

Once again we lifted a pint to local craft beer, bottle shops, “green” beer, new spirits, whisky bibles and the best places for drinks—after work, with BFFs or with a view.

Best picks for every meal spanned best breakfasts anytime, lovely lunches and Italian Sunday suppers. We found pop-ups and pies of the month, plus top spots for tailgates and tea with history.

Check out the ethnic delights from dim sum, fish & chips, soul of the south and old school French. And enjoy game-day wings and veggie options.

We also made a big heart award, along with a special wish for 2018.

Read these pages to find out more. But most important: dine local and often this year.

*Check our website for more on restaurants, food news, recipes, beer, wine and more. [CountyLinesMagazine.com](http://CountyLinesMagazine.com).*





Birchrunville Store Cafe



Talula's Table



DanDan



Founding Farmers

## LOCAL 4-BELL STARS

### THE BIRCHRUNVILLE STORE CAFE

1403 Hollow Rd., Birchrunville  
610-827-9002 / [BirchrunvilleStoreCafe.com](http://BirchrunvilleStoreCafe.com)

Clearly, Chef Francis Pascal's new life is going well. Though tucked away off-the-beaten-path, the Birchrunville Store Cafe offered for many years the best, most inspired, 4-LaBan-bell, French-Italian cuisine in Chester County. A few years ago, U.S. citizenship, a name change (Trzeciak to Pascal) and marriage (to Nui Kullana of Thai L'Elephant) made life for the owner-chef even better. Asian influences appeared—rice vinegar, fish sauce, rice paper rolls—though the menu remains solidly Continental. Another change: Butterscotch, a pastry shop, opened across the street, with creations by cafe's pastry chef Jane Urban. An intersection in culinary heaven!

### TALULA'S TABLE

102 W. State St., Kennett Square  
610-444-8255 / [TalulasTable.com](http://TalulasTable.com)

Over 10 years ago, Aimee Olexy opened a cozy gourmet grocery and cafe in Kennett Square, serving a sumptuous farmhouse table after hours. Soon after *Inquirer* food critic Craig LaBan's 4-bell review (the only other area eatery so honored), business boomed and Olexy's fame begat the famous one-year waiting list for reservations. And it held. That's right: it still takes a year to sit down at the BYOB farmtable (there's a smaller kitchen table with a shorter wait). The menu, about 10 courses, is seasonal, local, constantly changing yet without repeats of menus. Rest assured it will be special and superb. Call now! It will truly be a meal to remember ... and well worth the anticipation!

## PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT

### DANDAN

214 Sugartown Rd., Wayne  
484-580-8558 / [DanDanRestaurant.com](http://DanDanRestaurant.com)

DanDan is yum yum, wrote a wag on a food blog, and the consensus supports that review. Replacing Ella's Bistro, this branch of the Center City Sichuan and Taiwanese eatery is larger but still hip/zen, if you get our oxymoron. Kevin and Catherine Huang (she of the Han Dynasty family) serve up authentic, spicy variety—watch the number of circles on the menu. Crisp spicy cucumbers, scallion pancakes and soup dumplings get thumbs up as starters. Then try a hot pot dish (choice of protein) served in a sizzling mini-wok, or the crowd-pleasing cumin lamb or cumin tofu. Add flavorful green beans and, of course, signature Dan Dan noodles. Three yums.

### FOUNDING FARMERS

255 Main St., King of Prussia  
484-808-4008 / [WeAreFoundingFarmers.com](http://WeAreFoundingFarmers.com)

Fans of the DC-area chain rejoiced when Founding Farmers put down stakes in KOP. The restaurant cap-

tures all that's good in the foodie zeitgeist: it's majority farmer-owned, devoted to scratch cooking and boasts a menu and vibe we'll call hipster comfort. Translation: you can eat your deviled eggs and pierogies while sipping a local brew or Manhattan flavored with chai-infused vermouth. Upstairs, find an eclectic menu from soups and salads to steaks, seafood, burgers and pizza. Every FF location pays homage to local ingredients, so there's PA mushroom pizza and to-die-for Bell & Evans fried chicken (with glazed donut on the side!). Downstairs, the First Bake Café & Creamery serves up breads, donuts, breakfast sandwiches and hand-churned ice cream.

### HEARTH KITCHEN

859 E. Baltimore Pk., Kennett Square  
484-732-8320 / [HearthKennettSquare.com](http://HearthKennettSquare.com)

Viva Bryan Sikora's return to Chester County! About ten years ago Sikora opened Talula's Table with then-wife Aimee Olexy, before splitting and launching La Fia, Cocina Lolo and Merchant Bar in Wilmington. He's back with a new venture (and new spouse). The classy, casual spot is named Hearth Kitchen, with, of course, a wood-burning stove turning out wonders like pizzas of fig and bacon or prosciutto and pear. The small, medium and large plates menus are drool-worthy. For smalls, consider truffled foie gras toast, wood-oven-fired tomato fondue. Handmade pastas include mafalde, bucatini, papardelle and pork cheek ravioli. Osso buco, branzino, crispy fried lobster stuffed zucchini flowers in summer. Plus Merchant-Bar-worthy cocktails.



Hearth Kitchen

### MISTRAL

160 N. Gulph Rd., King of Prussia  
610-768-1630 / [MistralKOP.com](http://MistralKOP.com)

Like the strong Mediterranean wind for which it's named, Mistral is breathing fresh air into the local culinary scene. Executive Chef Scott Anderson's "interpretative American" seasonal shared plates have everyone talking, from *Food and Wine's* Regan Stephens to Craig LaBan to the man at the mall. And here's what they're saying: they *like* the bright, open dining space and upscale, casual vibe. They *love* sipping craft cocktails at the tiled bar and sitting at the small counter with its view into the kitchen. But they *adore* the food: pork belly ramen, burger with bacon jam, scallop crudo, chicken thigh satays, grilled ricotta toast with figs, honey and sea salt.

## BUZZWORTHY

### AT THE TABLE (BYOB)

11 Louella Ct., Wayne  
610-964-9700 / [AtTheTableBYOB.com](http://AtTheTableBYOB.com)

Just 24 seats. Yet 25 ingredients are in the signature garden salad, described as meriting a spot in MoMA as still life with beets—tweezers are involved in arranging micro-greens. So it's no surprise that At the Table's cooking garners adjectives like creative, ambitious, daring. Chef Alex Hardy (schooled by Perrier, Gilmore, the Feury brothers) admits he aspires to Michelin stars. This intimate, elegant BYOB seeks to elevate Main Line dining with its changing tasting menus and a la carte options befitting a special date night—



Mistral

think Wagu beef, Tasmanian sea trout, deconstructed desserts. Mushroom toast, foie gras apps and sous vide entrees get raves, as do the amuse buces. Why *not* aim for the stars?

### COTTAGE CAFÉ AT VALLEY FORGE FLOWERS

503 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne  
610-687-5566 / [ValleyForgeFlowers.com](http://ValleyForgeFlowers.com)

There's yet another reason to stop and smell the roses at Valley Forge Flowers. Mid-2017 saw the opening of the Cottage Café, a cozy spot offering tastes from some favorite local cooks: Good Spoon soups, Bakery House quiches, Tredici salads, Dia Doce cupcakes. Did we mention La Colombe coffee on tap? Here's our recipe for an ideal Cottage afternoon: 1. Browse European antiques and home décor items in the inviting room off the Café. 2. Order a draft latte, mushroom veloute (served in a china cup), wedge of quiche Lorraine. 3. Find a table with a view of the atrium and watch the light play on the patterned brick floor. 4. Pretend it's your home.

### DE LA COEUR CAFÉ

1836 Lovering Ave., Wilmington  
3629 Silverside Rd., Talleyville Shopping Center  
302-660-7178 / [DeLaCoeurCafe.com](http://DeLaCoeurCafe.com)

Un is good, but deux is better especially when it comes *de la coeur* (from the heart)! In fall 2017, husband-and-wife team Alex and Gretchen Sianni opened a second location of their French-inspired café in the North Wilmington space Bon Appetit had called home. The new location's menu is more extensive than the



At The Table





Eatnic Urban Farmhouse



Eagleview Restaurant Row



original's and offers quiches, sandwiches, salads, soups and La Colombe coffees. Breads and pastries—baguettes, croissants, donuts—for both cafés are baked here. With its friendly counter service, Parisian café music, inviting seating—settle on the sofa inside the front door—De La Coeur is fast becoming a De La Ware favorite.

### EATNIC URBAN FARMHOUSE EATERY & BYOB

231 W. Lancaster Ave., Paoli  
484-320-8155 / EatNic.com

The full name is a good summary for EatNic, a new-ish farm-to-fork spot in a shabby-chic, vintage-decorated space, where you can use crystal glasses for an upscale BYOB experience. An all-scratch kitchen serves a changing menu from the bounty of local farms—the soup du jour claims it's “created everyday from the morning's farm deliveries” and the Urban Farmhouse Breakfast cites four farms sourced for the dish. Order anything on the menu any time—lobster risotto for breakfast?—or stick with yummy breakfast fare (omelets, Benedicts, pastries), salads (roasted beet, roasted pear), sandwiches (signature burgers to Cubans), six pizzas or about eight entrees (pasta, Korean BBQ, pork chop, king Salmon, and specials).

## PLACES TO WATCH

### AGAVE

1620 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford  
484-770-8345 / AgaveBYO.com

Holy guacamole! If the test of a Mexican restaurant is the quality of its tacos and guac, then Agave is a welcomed addition to an area already rich in that cuisine. The guac gets raves, as does the taco sampler—ranging from surprising cauliflower to the popular fish. And despite its two Italian connections—ownership by Media's Spasso

Italian Grill and its location in the former Fellini spot—Agave brings an upscale Mexican option to Chadds Ford dining. This casual, rustic chic BYOB—or BYOT for the pitchers of various flavors of margarita mix—offers authentic, freshly prepared traditional dishes like Camarones a la Diabla, Chile Relleno and Pollo con Mole.

### TERRAIN CAFE & AMIS TRATTORIA

Devon Yards, Lancaster Ave., Devon

Devon Yards, the lifestyle development and controversy-magnet in the former Waterloo Gardens location, promises notable additions in 2018. The Pinterest-perfect wedding venue, Terrain Gardens, got early buzz with catering by James Beard-award-winner Jeff Michaud. But beyond the garden shop and Anthropologie store, will be a Terrain Garden Cafe and Amis Trattoria to tempt diners (Pizzeria Vetri was nixed). Expect the same charm for this cafe as the Glen Mills location (bread in flower pots with lavender honey butter?). Arrival of a new Amis Trattoria (Center City, Navy Yard), part of URBN's acquisition from the Vetri group, will bring simple food, family recipes and Vetri verve—“house-made pastas that boast inventiveness while paying homage to tradition.”

## RESTAURANT ROW

### EAGLEVIEW RESTAURANT ROW

Bluefin Eagleview,  
610-458-3234 / BluefinEagleview.com  
Al Pastor, 484-341-8886 / EatAlPastor.com  
Bella Vista, 484-341-8621 / EatBellaVista.com  
Brickside Grille Seafood & Oyster Bar,  
610-321-1600 / BricksideGrille.com  
Nudy's Cafe, 610-458-7667 / NudysCafes.com  
Suburban Restaurant and Beer Garden,  
610-458-2337 / SuburbanBG.com  
Wellington Square, Exton

We love restaurant rows. Clusters of restaurants—often in dining meccas like West Chester, Media, North Wayne Ave.—where you go when you know you want to eat out but not what you want to eat. So when a sixth restaurant opened in Eagleview Town Center, it was time to deem that a restaurant row. Choose from the latest addition, sushi BYOB Bluefin Eagleview, to trendy Suburban Restaurant and Beer Garden under Chef Eric Yost, to the conjoined Al Pastor and Bella Vista offering approachable Mexican and Italian-American options, respectively, or veterans Brickside Grille's American fare and Nudy's Cafe for breakfast and lunch. Oodles of options on the row!

## DINING BONANZA

### KING OF PRUSSIA TOWN CENTER AND KING OF PRUSSIA MALL

Last year we recognized some of the serious restaurants establishing a critical mass at KOP Town Center: Davio's, Fogo de Chão, Paladar Latin Kitchen. That was followed by smaller chains and more casual eateries like City Works, Founding Farmers, b. good, Choolaah Indian BBQ, Mission BBQ, Duck Donuts, Habit Burger Grill, Honeygrow, Naf Naf Grill, True Food Kitchen and MidCi. Not to mention even more dining options opening in the KOP Mall (Yard House, Mistral, is a standout), and elsewhere in the area (Tiffin at Valley Forge Plaza). Over 4,000 new seats for diners in the past 18 months, with more to come. Wowza!

## CHEERS FOR CRAFT BEERS & BREWPUBS

Each year there are more great breweries and brewpubs to celebrate. Those with substantial food offerings are recognized in our article “Brews & Foods.” Other favorites focus on serving up great craft beer.

### CROWDED CASTLE BREWING COMPANY

242 Bridge St., Phoenixville  
484-252-0077 / CrowdedCastle.com

Phoenixville's strong bar scene is boosted to another level by recent additions. Crowded Castle has a stylish bar and seating area—comfy seats by the window on busy Bridge Street—and serves beers that the founding homebrewers and extended family—now owners and staff—decided were “too good not to share.” Enjoy great beer names—Maibock is Killing Me, Talk Like a Pirate Stout—and their IPAs, ales, porters and stouts. Some faves: Tangerine porter and dark and fancy Tuxedo stout on nitro. Bar bites are available, but in Phoenixville, BYOF makes sense. Local wines and ciders are on the menu—Paradox, Grace Wineries, Stone Barn Cellars—making drinking local easy.

### ROOT DOWN BREWING COMPANY

1 N. Main St., Phoenixville  
484-393-2337 / RootDownBrewing.com

Comfortably filling the large industrial space (a former root beer brewery) just off Bridge Street, Root Down's vibe is reminiscent of Tired Hands' Fermentaria in the old Ardmore trolley shop. The l-o-n-g bar allows a view of the brewery at one end with food-ordering station at the other. Choose from a one-page menu of small plates, smokehouse specialties, sandwiches (brats to veggie wraps), tacos and sweets, but know you're there for the beers and atmosphere. Saison, German pils, plus plenty of ales—unfiltered pale ale, all PA APA, hoppy golden ale, double IPA, honey cream ale—and our favorites, Bine, an American IPA, and Mic Check, an imperial oatmeal stout.

### LOCUST LANE CRAFT BREWERY

50 Three Tun Rd., Malvern  
484-324-4141 / LocustLaneCraftBrewery.com

Simply crafted is the motto of Malvern's only craft brewery (at press time), opened in April

by a trio of friends with a beer-loving history. The focus is on a few classic, fresh beers with simple names: Pale Ale, Saison, ESB, Coffee Porter, (OK, there's Experimental IPA #4: Cascade & Lemon-drop). The small family-friendly, 10-tap taproom in an industrial space is anchored by a 35-foot live-edge bar with a view of the brewhouse, for which the owners will happily give tours. Indoor and outdoor seating allow patrons to enjoy food from the rotating cast of food trucks (Saloon 151, Baby Blues BBQ). Sometimes it is the gift to be simple.

### EAST BRANCH BREWING CO.

202 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown  
484-593-0815 / EastBranchBrewing.com

Two buddies dreamed of starting a brewery in Downingtown. No, not the Victory Brewing guys, but Dylan Meanix and Kevin McGovern of East Branch, the newest brewery, this one in the old fire station/Molly Maguire's space. Taking its name from the source of the water for its beer, East Branch opened in September with big plans. Though now relying on the fleet of food trucks and BYOF to feed clients, they're thinking of a restaurant and rooftop bar. You'll find plenty of IPAs (American, West Coast, double, oat), some pilsners, saison, porter and a spelt beer, among others. There's cider and wine, too.

### STICKMAN BREWS

326 N. Lewis Rd. #240, Royersford  
484-938-5900 / StickmanBrews.com

For brewing in the sticks (a Philly writer wrote that first), try Stickman Brews in Royersford, where they brew small batches with an American twist on Belgian-inspired beers in their bare-bones brewpub in a strip mall. Theirs is a particular take on sipping beer: no TVs (they prefer you talk, play Jenga or Cards Against Humanity), no food (other than food trucks), no growlers (though they'll fill yours if you BYOG), and no elaborate labels (hence the stick figures). Proud of their

house culture and wild yeasts, they offer about a dozen choices on tap with cans to go. Faves include a farmhouse ale, First World Problems, and a solid Baltic porter, The Nuclear Option.

### TUNED UP BREWING COMPANY

135 N. Main St., Spring City – on Facebook

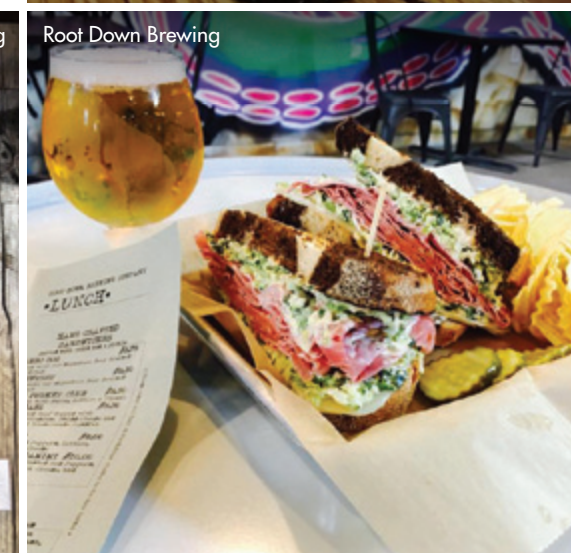
Across the river from Stickman is Spring City's Tuned Up Brewing, another no-frills spot with no TVs or kitchen (yes, conversation and food trucks) but a glowing fireplace, regular live music and cheeky messages on its outdoor chalkboard (Hoppy Thanksgiving). We'd read their peanut butter brown ale was better than Duclaw's Sweet Baby Jesus (chocolate, peanut butter porter), but alas, this crowd-pleaser disappeared before Thanksgiving, returning early March. The solid beer menu featured Little Booty Stout, Baltic Porter, Scorned Woman (American IPA), and more. We'd go back for the brown ales and bourbon-barrel porter. The brewers' music background—their band was called The Fermentors—inspired the name.



The Foodery



Crowded Castle Brewing



Root Down Brewing



## NEW BEER GARDEN

### LEVANTE AT THE STABLES

160 Park Rd., Chester Springs  
484-302-5118 / LevanteBrewing.com

Got to love beer gardens! And so we raised a pint last summer when Levante at the Stables joined the growing list of family-friendly outdoor spaces with communal tables, games, fire pits, live music in the gazebo and good times everywhere. Set on over two acres in Chester Springs at an 1840s farmhouse and stable, it's a new fave spot to enjoy beer (mostly Levante, but guest taps, too), PA wines and craft cocktails from the 32-tap bar. Food options include the ubiquitous food trucks or BYOF. This joint venture of West Chester-based Levante Brewing and Split Rail Tavern had a stellar season (they even ran shuttles from West Chester) and reopens Memorial Day weekend. Can't wait!

## BOTTLE SHOP

### BOTTLE ROOM

209 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown  
484-593-2972 / BottleRoomDTown.com

So many beer choices, so little time. Luckily beer-mecca Station Taproom created the adjacent Bottle Room to offer guidance. Exposed brick and wood shelving showcase the well-curated collection of bottles, as the Bottle Room combines the best of local breweries—Tired Hands, Evil Genius, Free Will—with enough surprises to keep beer geeks returning. Nosh from the light menu (small plates, charcuterie, plus nachos, tacos and more) and sample 16 rotating taps or savor your growlers/crowlers to go. But what makes this place special is the depths of knowledge that manager Kerry Watson and staff bring to each customer's desires. Let them be your beer guru.

## PLACE TO BUY BEER

### THE FOODERY



Bottle Room

325 Bridge St., Phoenixville  
610-933-1150 / FooderyBeer.com

You can get any beer you want at ... Phoenixville's Foodery. Don't let the name fool you. Yes, there are sandwiches ordered from touchscreens—hoagies, paninis, wraps—but the main attraction at this fourth branch of the Philly chain is beer (call it the Beerery?). This addition to Phoenixville's beer scene sports 17 taps for beer, 2 for wine, even 1 for kombucha, and nitro taps for beer and for coffee. Plus 29 refrigerated doors along the right wall showcasing beer from around the country and the world. That's the kind of wall we like to see built! Buy a single bottle, a mixed six-pack, or \$9.99 six-pack from the brewery of the month.

## BEST "GREEN" BEER

### VICTORY BREWING COMPANY

420 Acorn Ln., Downingtown  
610-873-0881 / VictoryBeer.com

When Bill Covalleski and Ron Barchet chose Downingtown for Victory's first brewery, the pristine waters of the East Branch of the Brandywine Creek were its source and flavor. Since then, their Parkesburg plant was added, also drawing from the East Branch. Five years ago, Victory celebrated—and sought to protect—those waters by establishing a monitoring program, building riparian buffers with tree plantings, setting up scholarships to study the watershed, and dedicating a portion of the revenue from Headwaters Pale Ale to the fund. A worthy cause, and also, it tastes great, especially for a different kind of green beer.

## NEW SPIRITS

### LIQUID ALCHEMY BEVERAGES

28 Brookside Dr., Wilmington  
302-438-0252 / LiquidAlchemyBeverages.com

When you feel a need for mead (sorry, Maverrick), Liquid Alchemy should be your destination for this historic drink with a modern twist. Delaware's first meadery and cidery after a

Liquid Alchemy



130-year hiatus offers tastings and tours and several award winners in the honey wine category from the Mead Free or Die competition. Made with locally sourced whole fruit and spice, this gluten-free drink was enjoyed by Queen Elizabeth I, King Tut and ... you? Red Cowabunga, Overly Hoptimistic, O4 Orange Mead are choices served separately and in flights in the converted industrial space. Small batch limited releases and barrel-aged options, too.

## CHEESE & WINE PARTY

### GRACE WINERY

50 Sweetwater Rd., Glen Mills  
610-459-4711 / GraceWinery.com

Think of the best wine and cheese party you've ever attended. Now invite writer and cheese maven Tenaya Darlington (aka Madame Fromage). Then, make the setting the historic Inn at Grace Winery. Finally, pair award-winning Birchrun and Doe Run cheeses with Grace's vintages. This magical scenario came to life last summer when Anna Juhl, founder of Cheese Journeys, partnered with Madame F. to lead guests on a four-day local cheese tour. Other highlights: dinner in Grace's vineyard and three-night stay at the Inn, dinner at Talula's Table, visits to local cheesemakers and West Chester's Artisan Exchange, and an after-hours party at DiBruno's in the Italian Market. This year's July tour promises to be equally spectacular.

## FUN COCKTAIL MENU

### BLACK POWDER TAVERN

1164 Valley Forge Rd., Wayne  
610-293-9333 / BlackPowderTavern.com

We like cocktails with a hint of whimsy and twist of history. Black Powder Tavern delivers both. During the Revolutionary War, the Tavern was designated a secret black powder munitions stash by Baron Von Steuben, who transformed ragtag Valley Forge soldiers into a profes-



Autograph Brasserie

sional army. A bourbon, maple syrup and apple cider concoction bears his name. Other patriot-inspired drinks—General Varnum Midnight Manhattan, Philip Mazzei Bellini—belly up to the bar next to decidedly modern libations. Check out the Jalapeño Margarita, Flirtini and Pottsgrove Sling, made with local Bluecoat gin and pineapple juice. We know it's not politic to mention religion, but The Pied Presbyterian (Dewars, club soda, ginger beer) strikes our fancy.

## FERMENTATION

### A CULTURE FACTORY

333 Morgan St., Phoenixville  
267-738-1973 / ACultureFactory.com

If there ever was a fermentation evangelist, Olga Sorzano is it. Since 2015, she's been bottling her Baba's Brew kombucha, a sparkling probiotic tonic made from sweet tea and a bacteria-yeast culture. Happily 2017 debuted A Culture Factory, a community gathering space where "culture meets culture." It houses a nano-brewery where Sorzano develops new and seasonally inspired kombucha flavors like turmeric-laced Golden Glow, Rosy Apple and Asian Pear Ginger. On Saturdays and First Fridays, she offers kombucha and other fermented food samples—kimchi, kraut, miso, chocolate. DIYers enjoy yogurt- and kombucha-making classes and then head to the health and wellness room for yoga, hula hooping and aerial fitness.

## PATIO BAR

### TAVOLA

400 W. Sproul Rd., Springfield  
610-543-2100 / Tavolas.com

Our dream patio bar would have tables with sun umbrellas, comfy seating areas, fire pits, palm trees, spritzing to cool off and heat lamps to warm up. Add live music, a golf course view and a secluded rattan cocoon "love nest" and that's



Grace Winery

Tavola's outdoor bar area. Happy hours include plenty of drink specials plus fun bar snack specials—short rib quesadilla, burgers, wings. For sipping try the award-winning People's Choice Bloody Mary, build your own Bloody Mary, or the Prickly Mango Daiquiri we featured in our June issue, as yummy as it is pretty!

## WHISKEY MENU

### SALOON 151

151 W. Gay St., West Chester  
610-701-8489 / Saloon151.com

You may know folks who care about the differences between Tennessee whiskey, Canadian whisky, Irish whiskey, Scotch whisky, rye whiskey and bourbon whiskey. Sure, it's all whiskey (with or without the e), but who cares? One place that does, a true saloon—in fact, called Saloon 151—takes all varieties of whiskey seriously. Don't ignore the food menu, including 11 types of whiskey bar wings, as well as an assortment of starters, burgers, flatbreads, sandwiches, salads, soups, fries. But, belly up to the bar, and order a glass of 12-year Tullamore D.E.W. or Whistle Pig and see if you care about the e.

## WINE SLUSHIE

### CHADDSFORD WINERY

632 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford  
610-388-6221 / ChaddsFord.com

The perfect summer drink may be a wine slushie—a cool adult beverage that brings out your inner kid. And it stays cold longer than that chilled glass of pinot grigio. When you need a refreshing twist on frosé or red wine coolers, dream about Chaddsford Winery's summer Wine Slushie weekends. Last year featured specialty concoctions with fresh seasonal fruits and the vineyard's wine to sip or order in flights. Do sangria daiquiri, peach bellini, mojito mint freeze, cider shandy and raspberry blast sound good? We thought so.

## DRINKS WITH FRIENDS

### AUTOGRAPH BRASSERIE

503 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne  
610-964-2588 / AutographBrasserie.com

Whatever you're toasting, Autograph's wood-paneled bar is the place to raise a glass with your BFFs. If there's a lull in the conversation (ha, ha) cast your eyes upward to the brass horn chandelier or toward the album-cover-lined walls and you'll be talking music like a Rolling Stone stringer. Weekday happy hours feature libations including signature cocktails—sip Don't Quit Me Baby or It's Cool Honey Bunny, depending on your mood. Wines by the glass and bottle hail mainly California, Italy, France and Spain. Happy hour menus offers snacks and small plates: deviled eggs, tuna tartare and a prime steak burger that earned Craig LaBan's praise. Wednesdays are Girls Nights Out, if you need a reason.

## DRINKS AFTER WORK

### FIREPOINT GRILL

3739 West Chester Pk., Newtown Square  
484-428-3093 / FirepointGrill.com

It's hard to ignore: one of the big, new modern buildings in Ellis Preserve at the intersection of Route 252 and West Chester Pike. Firepoint Grill arrived in late 2016, with a center bar that's broad and deep. Order a drink and last week will dissolve, as next week gets put on hold. The drinks—a long list of craft beers, plus a full complement of whiskey, scotch, bourbon, rum, gin, vodka. The chic surroundings—inside relaxing in the low lighting, or outside on the heated patio—invite colleagues to brag, complain, argue and laugh, all without disturbing anyone else. Or assume you'll stay awhile and choose a booth.





Dilworthtown Crush Cancer



Kennett Brewfest



Majolica



Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant

## DRINKS WITH A VIEW

### HARRY'S SEAFOOD GRILL

101 S. Market St., Wilmington  
302-777-1500 / [HarrysSeafoodGrill.com](http://HarrysSeafoodGrill.com)

Drinks taste better with a view. So we suggest you enjoy sipping on the patio at Harry's Seafood Grill along Wilmington's Riverwalk. Watch strollers parade along the Christina River, as sculls skim the surface and the River Taxi and pleasure boats cruise by. A strong drinks list and small plates menu add to the pleasure. We're fans of the signature cocktails, particularly the Dark and Stormy (Goslings Rum and ginger beer) and Margarita (Patron Tequila and fresh squeezed lime juice), but there are plenty of wine and beer choices. Sample the tapas menu—heavy on seafood, of course, with raw bar choices—plus delights like mini crabcake sliders, big eye tuna tacos and Maine lobster roll.

## SIPPING WITH A PURPOSE

### DILWORTHTOWN INN WINE FESTIVAL CRUSH CANCER EVENT

1390 Old Wilmington Pk., West Chester

Drinking red wine is linked to good health, so a wine tasting to help put a cork in cancer must be doubly good. Last year marked the 26th Crush Cancer fundraiser at the Dilworthtown Inn sponsored by the Brandywine and Greystone branches of Chester County Hospital's Women's Auxiliary.

Those who come to drink for a good cause enjoy sampling over a hundred wines, craft beers and hard ciders, as they shop the Gallery of Artisans, bid in the silent auction, cruise the Performance Car Show, listen to live music and enjoy food from the Inn and food trucks. Designated driver packages are a responsible choice at an event that surpasses our grape expectations.

## BREWFEST

### KENNETT BREWFEST

600 S. Broad St., Kennett Square  
610-444-8188 / [KennettBrewfest.com](http://KennettBrewfest.com)

It all benefits Historic Kennett Square. One Saturday in late September, nearly 120 breweries—too many to list—shared their beers among food trucks for the 20th Brewfest celebration. For a pricier ticket, you got a larger commemorative tasting glass, a selection from 50 top-shelf labels, and food prepared by Talula's Table. Some brewfests at first were cautious, sticking to the familiar and loved, like Guinness Draught. Others stepped up, trying local winners, like Levante or La Cabra. The more adventurous sampled globally, imbibing a St. Barnabus' Abt 12 or Einstock's Icelandic Toasted Porter. Since you can't try them all, mark your calendar for next year. Or February's Winterfest.

## BYOB

### MAJOLICA

258 Bridge St., Phoenixville  
610-917-0962 / [MajolicaRestaurant.com](http://MajolicaRestaurant.com)

Lucky 13 years and counting, the BYOB that put Phoenixville's restaurant scene on the map continues collecting accolades. This past fall, Majolica garnered 3 bells from Craig LaBan and—this just in—Chef Andrew Deery will be *Art Culinaire Magazine's* featured chef for January. When it comes to seasonal, local, inventive, Deery is the real deal and the reason discerning diners return to the quietly sophisticated BYOB for special occasions or stellar food anytime. Highlights include tuna tartare on a housemade potato chip, rabbit ragout on pappardelle pasta, and grilled octopus. For dessert, coffee-cardamom pots de crème with spiced donuts draws raves. Or choose six- and eight-course chef's tasting menus. Aren't we the lucky ones!

## FOOD & ART

### DELAWARE ART MUSEUM

2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington  
302-571-9590 / [DelArt.org](http://DelArt.org)

Art is Tasty. Yes, that's the name of the First Friday discussions + lunch events at the Delaware Art Museum. For \$12 (\$14 for non-members), elevate your mind and your palate with a 30-minute talk about a work of art and enjoy lunch in the Thronson Café with a view of the Copeland Sculpture Garden and food by Toscana Catering. You missed the October session on Robert Motherwell's "Raw Sienna with Gray," but you can catch the January 5 talk on "Reclining Nude" and the April 6 event with Andrew Wyeth's work. The complete 2018 schedule is on the museum website. Resolve to improve your mind at lunch this year.

## BREADS

### MALVERN BUTTERY

233 E. King St., Malvern  
610-296-2534 / [MalvernButtery.com](http://MalvernButtery.com)

Malvern Buttery's laid back vibe makes us forget how serious they are about bread. Owners John and Silenia Rhoads and head chef and baker Nicole Petrongolo take pride in sourcing the finest ingredients including whole grains from Bucks County's Castle Valley Mill, which the Buttery mills in house. They lavish such attention on their naturally fermented levains (starters) that you just know their breads are destined to make the world—or at least our area—a better place. Country white and baguettes are made daily with varieties like olive rosemary, cranberry walnut and brioche available on a rotating basis. On the serve-yourself buffet table, the toast bar with housemade jams and butters promises comfort by the slice.



Malvern Buttery

## BREAKFAST ANYTIME

### THE CLASSIC DINER

16 E. Gay St., West Chester  
484-947-0809 / [TheClassicDinerPA.com](http://TheClassicDinerPA.com)

"I went to a restaurant that serves 'breakfast at any time,' so I ordered French Toast during the Renaissance," quipped comedian Steven Wright. The desire for a great breakfast defies the clock and history. For years our Best Of choice was the stellar breakfasts from The Classic Diner. It's time now for a shout-out for the catering arm with a morning menu that's "available all day"! Salivate over pastries for the Continental option (including Stickiest Buns), egg dishes like garden frittata and 3-meat strata, brioche French toast, pancakes, waffles, all with hardy options for sides. Plus Sammys (breakfast sandwiches) and Bennys (variations on eggs Benedict), EGG-Cellent burritos, bagels with salmon. Worth getting out of bed for.

## BURGERS

### IRON HILL BREWERY & RESTAURANT

3 W. Gay St., West Chester, 610-738-9600  
Over a dozen locations / [IronHillBrewery.com](http://IronHillBrewery.com)

A burger and a beer is a singular dining pleasure. So when Iron Hill celebrates National Burger Month each May with 31 different burgers, paired with beers, we should take notice. And partake. Last year's list started with the Fickle Burger (fried pickles, plus more), featured other imaginative combinations, like the Asian Elvis (yes, peanut butter was involved), Kentucky Derby (bourbon BBQ glaze), ending with the Drunk Monk (Abbey Dubbel-braised onions). The line-up differs each year, though some favorites return—Armed Forces Tribute. Mark your calendar for juicy flavored fun.

Pour Richard's Coffee Co.



## ALT-BURGER

### BITTERSWEET KITCHEN

18 S. Orange St., Media  
610-566-1660 / [EatAtBittersweet.com](http://EatAtBittersweet.com)

We've come to accept that not everyone craves a red-meat burger. Okay. But how often do alt-burgers engender the same visceral response as the originals? Interestingly, fans of Media's Bittersweet Kitchen, a popular creative comfort food spot serving breakfast and lunch, rave about the turkey burger served on a brioche roll with a slab of cheddar, even calling it flavorful, moist, tender and the best they've ever had! No less than Craig LaBan sang the praises of both the turkey and black bean version in his dining guide to the 'burbs.

## COFFEE CULTURE

### GRYPHON COFFEE CO.

105 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne  
610-688-1988 / [GryphonCoffee.com](http://GryphonCoffee.com)

### POUR RICHARD'S COFFEE CO.

36 Berkley Rd., Devon  
484-857-9406 / [PourRichardsCoffee.com](http://PourRichardsCoffee.com)

### THE FARMHOUSE COFFEE & ESPRESSO BAR

115 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown  
610-269-1400 / [FarmhouseCoffee.com](http://FarmhouseCoffee.com)

### HORN AND HARDART COFFEE

24 Veterans Sq., Media  
610-744-2501 / [HornAndHardartCoffee.com](http://HornAndHardartCoffee.com)

Behind every great town is a great coffee shop. Wayne and Rosemont have Gryphon cafes with a down-to-earth vibe, rotating art exhibits and house-roasted coffee. Try the Louella blend with notes of caramel and almond or kombucha and

... Continued on page 70



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# Dining Guide 2018

Keep this guide handy all year long and make a resolution to try as many of these great restaurants as you can!

COUNTY LINES  
MAGAZINE

## SOME OF OUR FAVORITES

### PENNSYLVANIA

#### Avondale

\* **The Farmhouse Restaurant at Loch Nairn**  
514 McCue Rd.

610-268-2235; LochNairn.com

This is a jewel in the country with two restaurants and a marvelous event facility on a golf course, all open to the public. The Farmhouse Restaurant fine dining experience offers food and service of rare excellence. The Greathouse is the quintessential destination offering casual dining, Sunday Champagne Brunch and celebrations. There are two outdoor dining facilities and a chef's table in their 18th-century subterranean wine cellar.

#### Berwyn

**30 Main Bistro**

660 Lancaster Ave.

610-220-2367; 30MainLine.com

**Nectar**

1091 Lancaster Ave.

610-725-9000; TasteNectar.com

#### Birchrunville

\* \* **Birchrunville Store Cafe**

1403 Hollow Rd.

610-827-9002; BirchrunvilleStoreCafe.com

#### Bryn Mawr

\* **BIGA Pizza + Beer**

810 Glenbrook Ave.

610-525-4800; RestaurantBiga.com

**Bryn & Dane's**

915-925 W. Lancaster Ave.

BrynAndDanes.com

**Restaurant Cerise**

1011 Lancaster Ave.

610-527-4400; RestaurantCerise.com

\* **Yangming**

1051 Conestoga Rd.

610-527-3200; YangmingRestaurant.com

Always included in "Best Of Awards," this Chinese-fusion rock star offers cuisine to delight your taste buds in a newly renewed and redesigned interior. Jumbo lump crabcakes, firecracker veal and capellini with shrimp are can't-miss choices. Happiness hour, Mon-Fri, 4:30 to 6:30. Also named in Best Chinese Restaurants list in *Travel & Leisure Magazine*. Banquet facilities. Open 7 days.

#### Chadds Ford

\* **Brandywine Prime**

1617 Baltimore Pk. (Rts. 1 & 100)

610-388-8088; BrandywinePrime.com

\* **The Gables at Chadds Ford**

423 Baltimore Pk.

610-388-7700; TheGablesAtChaddsFord.com

You'll find a combination of fresh seasonal cuisine, rustic yet elegant charm and enchanting outdoor dining that will keep you coming back time and again. Have a cocktail in the lounge while listening to live piano Thurs-Sat evenings, or sample their new bar menu outside in the new fire pit area. Enjoy a three-course prix fixe dinner in the dining room every Tues and Wed and great Happy Hour specials weekdays, 4:30 to 6:30 pm.

#### Chester Springs

\* **Limoncello Chester Springs**

499 W. Uwchlan Ave.

610-524-3112; LimoncelloRestaurant.com

See their listing under West Chester.

\* **Yellow Springs Inn**

1657 Art School Rd.

610-827-7477; YellowSpringsInn.com

#### Concordville

\* **Concordville Inn**

Baltimore Pk. (Rt. 1)

610-459-2230; ConcordvilleInn.com

#### Downingtown

**Amani's BYOB**

105 E. Lancaster Ave.

484-237-8179; AmanisBYOB.com

\* **Bangles Indian Cuisine**

889 E. Lancaster Ave.

610-269-9600; BanglesIndianCuisine.com

\* **Station Taproom**

207 W. Lancaster Ave.

484-593-0560; StationTaproom.com

\* **Victory Brewing Company**

420 Acorn Ln.

610-873-0881; VictoryBeer.com

#### Drexel Hill

**Shere-E-Punjab**

Drexel Line Shopping Center, 5059 State Rd.

484-452-8140; ShereEPunjab.com

#### Exton

\* **Al Pastor**

560 Wellington Square

484-341-8886; EatAlPastor.com

Al Pastor, a modern-Mexican eatery is now open in Eagleview Town Center. Along with Bella Vista, these two restaurant concepts are heralded by former Stephen Starr alums Justin Weathers and Chef Joe Monnich. Expect a wide range of Mexican influences on favorite dishes in the always-changing menu—and don't miss the signature Pork Belly Al Pastor Tacos! Make your reservations now.



The Whip Tavern



The Gables at Chadds Ford



General Warren





Emily's



The Farmhouse Restaurant at Loch Nairn



Pietro's Prime Steakhouse & Martini Bar



Yangming



Ron's Original Bar & Grille



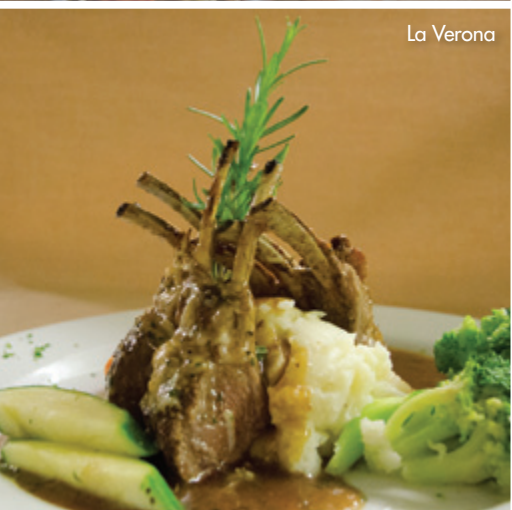
Iron Hill Brewery, West Chester



Tonino's Pizza & Pasta Co.



Más Mexicali Cantina



La Verona

### ★ Appetites on Main

Main Street At Exton, 286 Main St.  
610-594-2030; AppetitesOnMain.com  
Casual American comfort food at a good value. This bar/restaurant has a taproom atmosphere in front and a family/quieter section in back. During warmer months, they open the huge pet- friendly outdoor patio. Happy hour daily, 4 to 6 and weekly entertainment including Free Texas Hold'em tournaments, karaoke, live music and DJs. Daily specials, ½ price wings on Mon. Open daily 11 am to 2 am, full menu until 1:30 am.

### ★ Bella Vista

560 Wellington Square  
484-341-8621; EatBellaVista.com  
Bella Vista, is a trattoria-style Italian restaurant in Eagleview Town Center. Along with Al Pastor, these two restaurant concepts are heralded by former Stephen Starr alums Justin Weathers and Chef Joe Monnich. Only the freshest ingredients, handmade pastas and pizzas will be featured in the always-changing menu.

### ★ Bluefin Eagleview

555 Wellington Square  
610-458-3234; BlueFinEagleview.com  
Bluefin Eagleview serves contemporary Japanese cuisine and sushi with innovative, modern interpretations by Master Chef Nishi San in a relaxing and contemporary ambience—ideal for a casual meal with friends or for entertaining special guests. Bring wine and an appetite to this inventive BYOB.

### ★ Brickside Grille

540 Wellington Square  
610-321-1600; BricksideGrille.com  
Innovative American cuisine with ethnic influences in an upscale, casual atmosphere. Oyster bar, Sunday Brunch and Banquet facilities. Open Mon–Sat, from 11 am; Sun, from 10 am.

### ✱ Duling–Kurtz House & Country Inn

146 S. Whitford Rd.  
610-524-1830; DulingKurtz.com

### ★ Nudy's Café

541 Wellington Square  
610-458-7667; NudysCafes.com  
Nudy's, now with 7 locations in Chester County, has been comforting diners in a casual setting for breakfast and lunch since 1979. With over 110 items on the menu, there's a meal for everyone's

taste, from young children to college students and their families. They also do corporate catering. Mon–Fri, 7 to 4; Sat–Sun, 7 to 3.

### The Pour House

116 N. Pottstown Pk.  
610-280-7900; PJsPourHouse.com

### Red Star Craft House

146 Exton Square Mall  
610-524-5893; RedStarCraftHouse.com

### ★ Ron's Original Bar & Grille

74 E. Uwchlan Ave. (Rt. 113)  
610-594-9900; RonsOriginal.com  
Serving real food, for the health of it! Prepared from scratch on site daily with all natural ingredients. American/Italian cuisine with daily specials and a School Night Value Menu Sun–Thurs. Live music, Wed–Fri–Sat; Happy hour, Mon–Fri. Lunch and Dinner, Mon–Thurs, 11 to 9:30; Fri, 11 to 11; Sat, 11 to 10; Sun, 11:30 to 9. Bar is open until midnight; Thurs until 1 am, Fri–Sat until 2 am.

### ★ Suburban Restaurant & Beer Garden

570 Wellington Square  
610-458-2337; SuburbanBG.com  
Suburban is a farm-to-table focused beer garden. Owned and operated by Chef Eric Yost, Suburban brings big city cuisine to the suburbs and showcases local farmers, brewers and distillers. 24 craft beers on tap and prohibition-style cocktails accompany the delectable farm fresh menu. Voted Best of Philly 2017.

### ★ ✱ Vickers Restaurant

192 E. Welsh Pool Rd. (corner of Gordon Dr.)  
610-363-7998; VickersRestaurant.com  
Don't miss the famed Steak Diane prepared table-side at this Chester County gem. Specialties like bison, lamb and Dover sole have been menu staples at this historic farmhouse-turned-fine-dining spot since 1972. Dine fireside or cozy up to the mahogany bar to enjoy an award-winning wine list, vintage cocktails and live piano. Mon–Sat, 5:30 to 9; Happy Hour, Mon–Fri. Private rooms for rehearsal dinners, special events and weddings.

## Glen Mills

### Bluefin Sushi & Asian Cuisine

Cross Road Center, 1102 Baltimore Pk.  
610-459-2055; BlueFinGlenMills.com

### Harvest Seasonal Grill & Wine Bar

549 Wilmington-West Chester Pk.  
610-358-1005; HarvestSeasonalGrill.com

### Not Your Average Joe's

561 Glen Eagle Square; 610-500-2222  
NotYourAverageJoes.com/GlenMills

### Shere-E-Punjab

301 Byers Dr.  
484-841-6345; ShereEPunjab.com

### Terrain Garden Café

914 Baltimore Pk.; 610-459-6030  
ShopTerrain.com/Glen-Mills-Restaurant

### Zoe's Kitchen

1751 Wilmington Pk. Ste. B-1  
484-800-8914; ZoesKitchen.com  
*Other locations: Newtown Square, Wayne, Bryn Mawr, Collegeville*

## Kennett Square

### Country Butcher Fine Foods Market

145 S. Walnut St.  
610-444-5980; CountryButcherMarket.com

### Floga Bistro

826 E. Baltimore Pk.  
610-444-6500; FlogaBistro.com

### ★ ✱ Grain Craft Bar + Kitchen

108 W. State St.  
610-444-7232; MeetAtGrain.com

### ✱ Kennett Square Inn

201 E. State St.  
610-444-5687; KennettInn.com

### ★ La Verona

114 E. State St.  
610-444-2244; LaVeronaPA.com  
Using only the finest and freshest ingredients, highlighting the northern region of Italy, they're committed to making your meal a memorable one, with professional service in a welcoming social atmosphere. There's a private dining area for parties up to 65. Join them for Happy Hour, Mon–Fri, 4 to 6. Serving lunch and dinner, Mon–Thurs, 11:30 to 9:30; Fri, until 10; Sat, noon to midnight; Sun, noon to 9.

### ★ Lily Asian Restaurant

104 W. State St.  
610-925-3700  
LilySushiAndGrill.com

Drawing fans in Kennett since 2011, this stylish, modern Asian restaurant serves Japanese, Chinese and Thai dishes insisting on high quality food, freshly prepared with the finest ingredients. Meet friends for lunch, have dinner with family or come for a celebration. Tuesday is all-you-can-eat sushi. BYOB, enjoy the comfortable ambience, delicious food and excellent service. Lunch and dinner 7 days, Sun–Thurs, 10:30 to 9:30; Fri–Sat, 10:30 to 10:30.

### ★ Nomadic Pies

132 W. State St.  
610-857-7600; NomadicPies.com

### Sovana Bistro

696 Unionville Rd.  
610-444-5600; SovanaBistro.com

### Sunrise Café & Tearoom

127 E. State St.  
610-444-8141; SunriseCafeKSQ.com

### ★ Talula's Table

102 W. State St.  
610-444-8255; TalulasTable.com

### ★ The Creamery

401 Birch St.  
484-732-7040; KennettCreamery.com

### Two Stones Pub

843 E. Baltimore Pk.  
610-444-3940; TwoStonesPub.com

### Victory at Magnolia

650 W. Cypress St.  
484-730-1870; VictoryBrewing.com

## Kimberton

### ✱ The Kimberton Inn

2105 Kimberton Rd.  
610-933-8148; KimbertonInn.com

## King of Prussia

### Davio's Northern Italian Steakhouse

King of Prussia Town Center, 200 Main St.  
610-337-4810; Davios.com/KoP

### Fogo de Chão Brazilian Steakhouse

Kind of Prussia Town Center, 155 Main St.  
484-965-9655; FogoDeChao.com

### Hai Street Kitchen & Co.

KOP Mall, 160 N. Gulph Rd.  
610-290-8576; HaiStreetKitchen.com



Side Bar & Restaurant



Rize Pizza



La Baguette Magique





Broad Table Tavern



Landmark Americana Tap & Grill



Columbus Inn



Nudy's Café



Bella Vista



The Lincoln Room

### Nicoletta Pizzeria

KOP Mall, 350 Mall Blvd., 610-312-0171  
Simon.com/Mall/King-of-Prussia

### Paladar Latin Kitchen & Rum Bar

King of Prussia Town Center, 250 Main St.  
484-965-9779; PaladarLatinKitchen.com

### Pizzeria Vetri

KOP Mall, 640 W. DeKalb Pk.  
267-422-4201; PizzeriaVetri.com

### sweetgreen

KOP Mall, 350 Mall Blvd.  
610-312-0195; Sweetgreen.com

## Landenberg

### Paradocx Vineyard

1833 Flint Hill Rd., 610-255-5684  
Paradocx Vineyard, a 100-acre farm nestled in the rolling hills of southern Chester County offers a memorable wine experience. At Paradocx Vineyard you'll enjoy award winning wine and a local artisan menu in a beautiful location. You will also find PA distilled spirits and PA brewed beer.

## Malvern

### Anthony's Pizza & Italian Restaurant

127 W. King St., 610-647-7400  
AnthonysItalianRestaurant.com

### Bunha Faun

152 Lancaster Pk.  
610-651-2836; BunhaFaun.net

### Christopher's A Neighborhood Place

335 E. King St.; 484-568-4127  
ChristophersANeighborhoodPlace.com

### ★ The Classic Diner

352 W. Lancaster Ave.  
610-725-0515; TheClassicDinerPA.com

### \* The Farmhouse Bistro

39 Conestoga Rd.  
610-647-8060; TheFarmhouseBistro.com

### ★ Fattoush Restaurant

182 Lancaster Ave.  
484-568-4465; On Facebook

### ★ \* General Warren

9 Old Lancaster Rd.  
610-296-3637; GeneralWarren.com  
A charming 18th-century historic country inn

serving new American cuisine paired with classic Continental specialties. Fresh fish, steaks, lamb, small plates, vegetarian and vegan entrées, too. Private party rooms for 15 to 60 guests. Rehearsal dinners and intimate weddings. Beautiful Spring-house Terrace for al fresco dining and all-season receptions. Eight lovely guest suites available for overnight accommodations. Lunch, Mon–Fri, 11:30 to 2:30; Dinner, Mon–Sat, 5 to 10.

### The Hunt Room at the Desmond

1 Liberty Blvd.  
610-296-9800; DesmondGV.com

### ★ Malvern Buttery

233 E. King St.  
610-296-2534; MalvernButtery.com

### Margaret Kuo's Mandarin Restaurant

190 Lancaster Ave.  
610-647-5488; MargaretKuo.com

### ★ Restaurant Alba

7 W. King St.  
610-644-4009; RestaurantAlba.com

### The Office Bar & Grille

1021 Morehall Rd.  
484-318-7806; TheOfficeBarAndGrille.com

### ★ Tonino's Pizza & Pasta Co.

235 Lancaster Ave.  
610-240-9566; ToninosPizzaAndPasta.com  
This is a family-run business that prides itself on using the freshest ingredients to make authentic homemade Neapolitan pizza, pasta and signature Italian dishes. Inviting you to come in and dine, BYOB, Mon–Sat, for lunch and dinner, Sun, 12 to 9 pm.

## Media

### 320 Market Café

21 W. State St.  
610-565-8320; The320MarketCafe.com

### \* Azie Restaurant

217 W. State St.  
610-566-4750; Azie-Restaurant.com

### Desert Rose

305 W. State St.  
484-442-8012; DesertRoseMediaPA.com

### Fellini Café Trattoria

106 W. State St.  
610-892-7616; FellinisCafe.com



European-style cuisine with New American flavors & even a touch of Southern flair!  
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104 W State St, Kennett Square, PA 19348 610.925.3700 lilysushiandgrill.com lilyspa





Al Pastor



Paradoxx Vineyard



Lily Asian Restaurant



Suburban Restaurant & Beer Garden



Spence Cafe



Black Powder Tavern



Pinocchio's Restaurant



George & Sons' Seafood & Market



Bluefin Eagleview

### Hidalgo

30 W. State St., 484-443-8945  
Facebook.com/HidalgoTasteofMexico

#### ★ Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant

30 E State St.; 610-627-9000;  
IronHillBrewery.com

*See their listing under West Chester.*

#### Jaco Juice & Taco Bar

21 W. State St.  
484-444-2838; JacoJuiceAndTaco.com

#### Margaret Kuo's Media

4-6 W. State St.  
610-892-0115; MargaretKuo.com

#### La Padella

100 State St.  
484-445-4445; LaPadellaMedia.com.com

#### La Porta

1192 Middletown Rd.  
610-358-5104; LaPortaRistorante.com

#### ★ Pinocchio's Restaurant

131 E. Baltimore Ave.  
610-566-7767; PinPizza.com

Recognized as the very first pizzeria in Delaware County more than 60 years ago, this family-owned restaurant is still setting the standard for fresh, homemade pizza of all types. The extensive menu also offers cheesesteaks, strombolis, appetizers, sandwiches and pasta. Their award-winning Beer Garden To Go offers over 1,000 specialty beers, 25 rotating on draft as well as crowlers and growlers.

#### Quotations Restaurant

37 E. State St.  
610-627-2515; On Facebook

#### Riddle Ale House

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

#### Shere-E-Punjab

208 W. State St.  
610-891-0400; ShereEPunjab.com

#### ★ Tom's Dim Sum

13 E. State St.  
610-566-6688; TomsDimSum.com

### Mendenhall

#### ★ Mendenhall Inn

323 Kennett Pk., Rt. 52  
610-388-1181; MendenhallInn.com

### Mohnton

#### ★ Emily's

3790 Morgantown Rd.  
610-856-7887; EmilysBerks.com  
Charming 1827 historic inn offering casual fine dining in one of five dining rooms, the unique bar or on the spacious covered deck that accommodates up to 130 people. Located on 5 acres 10 minutes from downtown Reading, it is great for small intimate settings, group gatherings, weddings, banquets. Open Tues-Fri, 11:30 to 1:30 for lunch and Tues-Sat 4:30 to 9 for dinner.

### Newtown Square

#### Firepoint Grill

3739 West Chester Pk.  
484-428-3093; FirepointGrill.com

#### ★ Ristorante La Locanda

4989 West Chester Pk. (Rt. 3)  
610-353-7033; LaLocandaPA.com

#### Teca Newtown Square

191 Newtown Street Rd.  
484-420-4010; TecaNewtownSquare.com

#### Teikoku

5492 West Chester Pk.  
610-644-8270; TeikokuRestaurant.com

#### Trattoria Giuseppe

4799 W. Chester Pk.  
610-353-4871; Mussotra.com

#### Le Saigon Restaurant

82 E. Lancaster Ave.  
610-889-4870; LeSaigon.com

#### Trattoria San Nicola

4 Manor Rd.  
610-695-8990; SanNicola.net

### Phoenixville

#### ★ Bistro On Bridge

210 Bridge St.  
610-935-7141; BistroOnBridge.com

#### Black Lab Bistro

248 Bridge St.  
610-935-5988; BlackLabBistro.net

#### Gangster Vegan Organics 2

6 Gay St.  
610-616-0000; GangsterVegan.com

#### Great American Pub Hotel, Bar & Grill

148 Bridge St.  
610-917-3333; GreatAmericanPub.com

#### ★ Il Granaio Italian Restaurant

184 Bridge St.  
484-924-8423; IlGranaioPA2.com

#### ★ Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant

130 E. Bridge St.  
610-983-9333; IronHillBrewery.com

*See their listing under West Chester.*

#### ★ Majolica

258 Bridge St.  
610-917-0962; MajolicaRestaurant.com

#### ★ Seven Stars Inn

263 Hoffercker Rd.  
610-495-5205; SevenStarsInn.com

#### Sly Fox Brewhouse & Eatery

520 Kimberton Rd.  
610-935-4540; SlyFoxBeer.com

#### ★ Steel City Coffee House

203 Bridge St.  
484-924-8425; SteelCityCoffeeHouse.com

#### ★ TASTE

236 Bridge St.; 484-924-9530  
SandCastleWinery.com/Taste-Phoenixville

#### Thai L'Elephant

301 Bridge St.  
610-935-8613; ThaiLElephant.com

#### ★ Vecchia Pizzeria

249 Bridge St.  
610-933-1355; VecchiaPizzeria.com

### Pottstown

#### Lily's Grill

115 E. High St.  
484) 945-1008; LilysGrill.com

#### Sly Fox Tasting Room

520 Kimberton Rd.  
610-935-4540; SlyFoxBeer.com

### Radnor

#### 333 Belrose Bar & Grill

333 Belrose La.  
610-293-1000; 333Belrose.com

#### Estia Greek Taverna

222 N. Radnor-Chester Rd.  
484-581-7124; EstiaTaverna.com

#### Pietro's Pizzeria & Birreria

236 N. Radnor-Chester Rd.  
484-367-7072; PietrosPizza.com

### Springfield

#### ★ Tavola Restaurant + Bar

400 W. Sproul Rd.  
Springfield Country Club  
610-543-2100; Tavalas.com

### Swarthmore

#### ★ Broad Table Tavern

10 S. Chester Rd.  
610-543-7500; TheInnAtSwat.com  
With menus inspired by the seasons, Broad Table Tavern showcases locally sourced ingredients and regional artisan products. Located in Swarthmore, this full service restaurant was created to celebrate the partnership with local farms, vineyards, breweries and purveyors who share their vision for the finest flavors. Offering an approachable beverage selection, convivial atmosphere and warm staff, the Broad Table Tavern is the ideal gathering spot for colleagues, family and friends.

### St. Davids

#### Glenmorgan Bar & Grill

593 E. Lancaster Ave.  
610-341-3188; Glenmorgan.com

#### The Radnor Hotel

591 E. Lancaster Ave.  
610-341-3188; RadnorHotel.com

### Unionville

#### Catherine's Restaurant

1701 W. Doe Run Rd.  
610-347-2227; CatherinesRestaurant.com

#### ★ Foxfire at The Stone Barn

Rt. 842, (3 mi. N. of Rt. 1)  
610-347-2414; TheStoneBarn.com

### Villanova

#### Azie On Main

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



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Limoncello Ristorante



Domaine Hudson



Brickside Grill



Love Again Local

## Wayne

### A Taste of Britain

Eagle Village Shops, 503 W. Lancaster Ave.  
610-971-0390; ATasteOfBritainInWayne.com

### Ardé Osteria & Pizzeria

133 N. Wayne Ave.  
484-580-6786; ArdeWayne.com

### ★ Autograph Brasserie

503 W. Lancaster Ave.  
610-964-2588; AutographBrasserie.com

### ★ ★ Black Powder Tavern

1164 Valley Forge Rd.  
610-293-9333; BlackPowderTavern.com  
Located just outside Valley Forge National Historical Park, combining local flavors with American history. The menu features a variety of small and entree-sized plates that pair well with the extensive craft beer offerings. Ask about private dining options. Mon–Thurs, 11 am to 10 pm; Fri–Sat, 11 am to 11 pm; Sun, 10:30 am to 9 pm, brunch until 2. Daily Happy Hour.

### Christopher's A Neighborhood Place

108 N. Wayne Ave., 610-687-6558  
ChristophersANeighborhoodPlace.com

### ★ The Goat's Beard

103 N. Wayne Ave.  
484-584-4979; TheGoatsBeardWayne.com

### Margaret Kuo's, Wayne

175 E. Lancaster Ave.  
610-688-7200; MargaretKuo.com

### Matador

110 N. Wayne Ave.  
484-580-8303; MatadorRestaurante.com

### ★ Paramour

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

### ★ The Silverspoon Restaurant

503 W. Lancaster Ave., Eagle Village  
610-688-7646; SilverspoonWayne.com

### ★ Teresa's Café and Next Door Bar

120–126 N. Wayne Ave.  
610-293-9909; Teresas-Cafe.com

### White Dog Café

200 W. Lancaster Ave.  
610-225-3700; WhiteDog.com/Wayne

## West Chester

*(See the West Chester article in this issue for more dining options.)*

### Bar Avalon

116 E. Gay St.  
610-436-4100; AvalonRestaurant.net

### Boxcar Brewpub

142 W. Market St.  
484-947-2505  
BoxCarBrewingCompany.com

### ★ The Classic Diner

16 E. Gay St.  
484-947-0809; TheClassicDinerPA.com

### The Couch Tomato

31 W. Gay St.  
484-887-0241; TheCouchTomato.com

### ★ ★ Dilworthtown Inn & The Inn Keeper's Kitchen

Old Wilmington Pk.  
610-399-1390; Dilworthtown.com

### Dolce Zola

134 E. Gay St.  
484-887-0760; DolceZola.com

### Éclat Chocolate

24 S. High St.  
610-692-5206; EclatChocolate.com

### High Street Caffè / Vudu Lounge

322 S. High St.  
610-696-7435; HighStreetCaffe.com

### ★ Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant

3 W. Gay St.  
610-738-9600  
IronHillBrewery.com  
Find fine handcrafted beers, creative yet informal cuisine, and friendly, attentive service in a casual, upscale atmosphere. Each brewery/restaurant has its own scratch kitchen and craft brewery, allowing individual chefs and brewers the creativity to pair the freshest ingredients with the highest quality grains and hops. There 12 locations across the mid-Atlantic region, including PA, DE and NJ.

### Jaco Juice & Taco Bar

8 W. Gay St.  
610-436-4177; JacoJuiceAndTaco.com

### Kildare's

18–22 W. Gay St.  
610-431-0770; KildaresPubWC.com

### Kooma

123 N. Church St.  
610-430-8980  
KoomaRestaurants.com

### ★ La Baguette Magique

202 W. Market St.  
610-620-4729; MagicBaguette.com

An authentic taste of France in the heart of West Chester. Artisanal, all-natural bread baked fresh every day, luscious French viennoiserie, the best croissants this side of the Atlantic and a savory array of lunch options. Open every day but Monday, eat in or take home. Catering orders and private on-site events custom designed.

### Landmark Americana Tap & Grill

158 W. Gay St.  
610-701-9900; LandmarkAmericana.com

This is the spot to watch the big game or just to get together with family and friends. Serving a wide variety of burgers, tacos, mac 'n cheese, finger foods as well as healthy options of soups, salads and lighter fare. They carry a full gluten-free menu plus Kids' and late night menus. A large private room with full bar is available for parties, meetings and other events. Open Mon–Sun, 11 am to 2 am.

### ★ ★ Limoncello Ristorante

9 N. Walnut St.  
610-436-6230  
LimoncelloRestaurant.com

Serving Southern Italian cuisine and featuring a full-service bar and a charming atmosphere for private functions and banquets. Happy hour, Mon–Fri, 4 to 6:30. Lunch buffet Mon–Fri, 11:30 to 2:00; BYO, Sun, Mon, Tues, \$5 corkage. Daily lunch and dinner. Off-premise catering available.

### ★ ★ The Lincoln Room

28 W. Market St.  
610-696-2102; On Facebook

Located in one of West Chester's most famous historic buildings, this is the place to enjoy a quiet lunch or cozy tea for two. Select from their extensive menu of specialty teas, sweet and savory scones and other seasonal favorites. Leave room for their signature dessert—Croissant Bread pudding with Crème Anglaise. BYOB. Private parties, Sun–Tues. Lunch and tea, Wed–Sat, 11 to 3. Reservations suggested.

### ★ Lorenzo and Sons Pizza

27 N. High St.  
484-999-8756  
LorenzoAndSonsPizza.com

### Love Again Local

18 S. Church St.  
484-266-7381; LoveAgainLocal.com  
They specialize in 100% plant based, clean, healthy and satisfying sandwiches exactly the way you want them. They have an extensive selection of all vegan, GMO free “meats,” “cheeses,” dressings and veggies to choose from to be stacked on your choice of rolls and breads. Ingredients, snacks and products are locally sourced whenever possible.

### ★ Más Mexicali Cantina

102 E. Market St.  
610-918-6280; MasMexicali.com  
Owners Joanne and John Caulfield invite you to enjoy award-winning Mexicali Fresh cuisine with a rock-n-roll flair in the first floor Cantina, second floor Velvet Lounge & Tequila Bar or “Más on the Roof” with a great view. The hip Cantina ambiance sets the stage for family favorites like traditional tacos, plus veggies and tofu, too. Perfect and unique spot for your next private party or catering for your offsite event.

### ★ The Mediterranean Restaurant

150 W. Gay St.  
610-431-7074; TheMedWCPA.com

### ★ Pica's Restaurant

1233 West Chester Pk.  
610-789-7770; Picas-Restaurant.com

### ★ ★ Pietro's Prime Steakhouse & Martini Bar

125 W. Market St.  
484-760-6100; PietrosPrime.com  
Family owned and operated, Pietro's Prime is the place to eat in West Chester, serving nothing but prime beef



Vickers Restaurant



Appetites on Main





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<i>Kobe Steak</i>	<i>Crab &amp; Asparagus</i>

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and fresh seafood in a casual, comfortable atmosphere. They have live music in the bar Wed–Sat. Lunch Mon–Sat, 11 to 4. Dinner Sun–Sat, 4 until ... Bar is open until 2 am. Come have a drink and/or a bite to see what you're missing.

#### ★ Rai Rai Ramen & Hawaiian BBQ

124 E Market St.  
610-738-8808; On Facebook

#### ★ Rize Pizza

124 E. Market St., Bldg. A  
484-473-8924; RizePizza.com  
Rize Pizza is excited to serve the community in their new space in West Chester. They use non-

bomated (chemical free) flour, sesame seeds on the bottom of their signature crust, fresh gluten-free salads, sandwiches and pastas. It's BYOB friendly and offers a unique atmosphere for families, parties and large events. Open Saturdays till 2:30 am. Online ordering and delivery available as well.

#### ★ Roots Cafe

133 E. Gay St.  
610-455-0100; RootsCafeWC.com

#### ★ Ryan's Pub

124 W. Gay St.  
610-344-3934; Ryans-Pub.com

#### ★ Saloon 151 Whiskey Bar & Grill

151 W. Gay St.  
610-701-8489; Saloon151.com

#### ★ Side Bar & Restaurant

10 E. Gay St.  
610-429-8297; SideBarAndRestaurant.com  
With 20 years experience cooking in the finest restaurants, the chef at Side Bar is excited to present his vision to you. This casual restaurant and bar focuses on excellent, affordable food, craft beer and local spirits, catering to the young professional, the established business professional and families. It has a neighborhood feel and strives to make it a place where a complete stranger will feel like a "regular."

#### Social Lounge & Bar

117 E. Gay St.  
610-738-3948; TheSocialWC.com

#### ★ Spence Cafe

131 N. High St.  
610 918-1272; Spence.Cafe  
Recently winning 2017 Best of the Mainline and Western Suburbs for "overall lunch", The Original Spence Café will not disappoint those looking for a quick and delicious lunch or a romantic, refined dinner enjoyed with a favorite bottle of wine. Specializing in fresh seafood, Chef Andrew Patton's attention to detail and culinary expertise make this quaint BYOB a place you will want to visit over and over again.

#### Star of India Restaurant

155 W. Gay St.  
610-429-0125; On Facebook

#### Teca

38 E. Gay St.  
610-738-8244; TecaWC.com

#### ★ Westtown Meat Market & Deli

1030 Old Wilmington Pk.  
610-696-5588; WesttownMeatMarket.com

### West Grove

#### \* Twelves Grill & Cafe

10 Exchange Place.  
610-869-4020; TwelvesGrill.com

### West Marlborough

#### ★ The Whip Tavern

1383 N. Chatham Rd.  
610-383-0600; TheWhipTavern.com  
Nestled in the Chester County countryside, the warm and inviting atmosphere of this English pub radiates at the heart of horse country. If you're nearby, stop and settle in for a cozy toast by the fire and share glad tidings and flavours from The Whip. Enjoy traditional pub fare and American favorites. BYO for wine or choose from over 50 seasonal, local and imported beers. Lunch, 11 to 4; dinner Sun, Mon, Wed, Thurs, 4 to 9, Fri–Sat, 4 to 10; brunch, Sun, 11 to 2. Closed Tues.

## DELAWARE

### Centreville

#### \* Buckley's Tavern

5812 Kennett Pk.  
302-656-9776; BuckleysTavern.com

### Hockessin

#### George & Sons' Seafood Market and Oyster House

1216 Old Lancaster Pk.  
302-239-7204; GeorgeAndSonsSeafood.com  
This family business wants to ensure that future generations can buy and sell fresh seafood. You'll find wild caught and sustainably raised options, live lobsters, clams, crab, smoked fish and sushi-grade. A traditional raw bar, run by seafood mongers with a true love for the oyster, has a wide variety that is consistently fresh. Craft beer, wine, champagne and saki served at lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Taking reservations and private bookings.

### Montchanin

#### \* Krazy Kat's

Rt. 100 & Kirk Rd.  
At the Inn at Montchanin Village  
302-888-4200; KrazyKatsRestaurant.com

### Wilmington

#### Café Verdi Ristorante Italiano

12A Trolley Square  
302-656-5411; CafeVerdiDelaware.com

#### Chelsea Tavern

821 N. Market St.  
302-482-3333; ChelseaTavern.com

#### Columbus Inn

2216 Pennsylvania Ave.  
302-571-1492; ColumbusInn.net  
One of Wilmington's most beloved and oldest restaurants, Columbus Inn has welcomed guests for decades to enjoy its contemporary American cuisine, warm hospitality and excellent service. After renovating and reopening in 2010, the Inn continues to serve a superb selection of seasonal American fare, eclectic wines and classic to craft cocktails. There is a dining atmosphere for every occasion in the rustic tavern, romantic dining rooms, seasonal outdoor seating and private dining.

#### Domaine Hudson Wine Bar

1314 N. Washington St.  
302-655-9463; DomaineHudson.com  
Named "a must-visit restaurant" by *The News Journal*, Domaine Hudson features Zagat-rated New American food, an award-winning wine list, and impeccable service. Enjoy private dining, exclusive wine dinner events, happy hour specials and more. Awarded Open Table's "Best Wine List in the Greater Philadelphia Region," this has been noted as one of Wilmington's best restaurants.

#### ★ Harry's Seafood Grill

101 S. Market St.  
302-777-1500  
HarrysSeafoodGrill.com

#### Hotel du Pont, The Green Room

11th & Market Sts., 302-594-3154  
HotelduPont.com/Dining/Green-Room

#### ★ Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant

620 Justison St.  
302-472-2739  
IronHillBrewery.com  
*See their listing under West Chester.*

#### La Fia

421 N. Market St.  
302-543-5574; LaFiaWilmington.com

#### Merchant Bar

426 N. Market St.  
302-543-5574; MerchantBarWilmington.com

#### Mikimotos Asian Grill & Sushi Bar

1212 Washington St.  
302-656-8638; Mikimotos.com

#### Tonic Bar & Grille

111 W. 11th St.  
302-777-2040; TonicBarGrille.com ♦



# THE DEVON

## SENIOR LIVING



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- Our Bridge to Rediscovery Memory Care program dedicated to enriching and supporting lives affected by memory care needs

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Devon, PA 19333 • [www.TheDevonSeniorLiving.com](http://www.TheDevonSeniorLiving.com)







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# Healthy Eating Tips for Vegans and Vegetarians

Judy Rodkey-Matusky, RDN, LDN

MERELY CHOOSING A PLANT-BASED DIET IS NO GUARANTEE THAT YOU'RE EATING FOR OPTIMAL HEALTH.

**W**HETHER you're a veteran vegan or a newbie to a plant-based diet—or the parent of a vegan or vegetarian—it's essential to educate yourself and be proactive about diet and lifestyle choices. Living a healthy vegan or vegetarian life comes down to planning and being knowledgeable about the food and nutrition requirements that will contribute to your success.

The advice below addresses some special nutritional challenges for those eating a plant-based diet.

has about 7 or 8 grams, depending on its size, and some Greek yogurts have as much as 18 grams of protein in a single serving.

Remember that because protein isn't stored in the body, it must be replenished regularly.

## EAT ENOUGH PROTEIN

Not only does protein contribute to our feeling of fullness, it's critical to our nutrition and helps with the health of our muscles, blood, connective tissues and antibodies—not to mention the added benefits of healthy hair and nails.

The U.S. recommended daily allowance (RDA)—a minimum nutrition requirement—is 0.36 grams of protein per pound that we weigh. But vegans and vegetarians should increase that number by 10 percent (to 0.41 grams per pound) because some plant proteins don't digest as well as animal proteins. For vegetarians, that's 61.5 grams of protein per day for a 150-pound person.

Fortunately, there are many foods rich in protein and beneficial for vegans and vegetarians including quinoa, chickpeas, lentils, tofu, edamame, chia seeds, whole grains, seitan, nuts and nut butter.

If you're a vegetarian who eats eggs and dairy products, it's easy to get generous servings of protein. A hard-boiled egg, for example,

## GET SUFFICIENT IRON, ZINC AND VITAMIN C

Iron helps our bodies produce red blood cells, which carry oxygen throughout the body. Without enough iron, we can become fatigued, irritable and dizzy.

Vegans and vegetarians are in luck: many plant-based foods—broccoli, beans, lentils, dried fruits—provide plenty of iron. Some of these same sources (beans, seeds, nuts) are also good sources of zinc, which is needed for metabolism. And interestingly, vegans and vegetarians are no more at risk for iron deficiency than meat-eaters.

Vegans and vegetarians must also be sure to include foods that are high in vitamin C to help with absorption of iron and zinc in our bodies. Some foods, such as broccoli, are blessed with both iron and vitamin C, so the work is done with one food.

Keep in mind that certain people are more prone to iron deficiency, such as menstruating women, pregnant women, teenage girls and the elderly. If you have concerns about iron deficiency, be sure to talk with your doctor.

## WATCH YOUR CALCIUM AND VITAMIN D

Calcium and vitamin D deficiencies are becoming more prevalent in vegans, vegetarians and meat-eaters alike. Calcium contributes to





Yogurt, Chia Seed, Kiwi and Banana Bowl

optimal bone health, and vitamin D helps with its absorption.

For vegans and vegetarians, it's important to get these from sources such as fortified soy milk, orange juice or cereal, or from a vitamin supplement. Also, look for tofu options that are fortified with vitamin D.

#### CHECK YOUR ENERGY LEVEL

Vegans and vegetarians certainly aren't the only ones who need an energy boost. Many people feel run down, fatigued and low-energy just going about their daily lives. Other factors—sleep, caffeine, sugar intake—also affect energy levels.

To get the energy needed, vegans and vegetarians should include a wide variety of plant-based whole foods at regular intervals throughout the day. This gives you a steady supply of nutrients, including complex carbohydrates and antioxidant-rich vitamins and minerals, while also providing increased energy.

Vegans and vegetarians must also be aware of their risk of having a vitamin B12 deficiency. Found almost exclusively in animal foods such as meat, seafood and some dairy products, B12 helps build DNA in the body, shields us against heart disease and stroke. Among its many other benefits, it also boosts energy.

A simple solution for adequate levels is to take a B12 supplement. Nutritional yeast, often used as a vegan substitute for Parmesan cheese, is also a good source of B12.

#### AVOID BOREDOM WITH YOUR PLANT-BASED DIET

Don't let a plant-based diet fool you into thinking there aren't enough options to keep your meals new, different and exciting. The variety of plant-based foods and combinations, as well as websites and recipe books with tips, are plentiful.

To eliminate boredom, try grilling or roasting vegetables. Or try making your own veggie burgers, whipping up a healthy smoothie or baking black bean brownies for a sweet treat. Salads can get an exciting boost when you add quinoa, sunflower seeds, nuts, dates, apples, edamame or chickpeas—all rich in iron and zinc!

You can also shake things up simply by going on a grocery shopping "adventure" and challenge yourself to reach for food items you've never tried before. Be sponta-

neous! Go online and search for a simple recipe that uses your new ingredients.

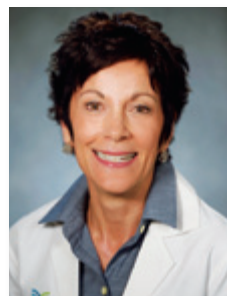
#### FOR FAMILIES WITH KIDS ON VEGAN OR VEGETARIAN DIETS

Whether you're a vegan or vegetarian who chose to raise your children the same way or if your kids chose to follow this diet on their own, parents should consult with a pediatrician or family doctor, as children's nutritional needs differ from those of adults.

By eating a plant-based diet, you're well on your way to optimal nutrition. But there's always room for improvement. The nutritional journey is never over as your body, your health needs and lifestyle change over time. Keep making adjustments to ensure you're getting the nutritional benefits from your food sources so you can live a full and active life.

To make sure you're getting the proper intake of vitamins and minerals, and to ensure you're making the best choices for optimal health and nutrition, schedule regular appointments with your doctor. ♦

*Judy Rodkey-Matusky, RDN, LDN, is a medical nutrition and education specialist at Main Line Health and an Adjunct Clinical Professor at LaSalle University, School of Nursing and Health Sciences. She's a registered dietitian, licensed dietitian/nutritionist and is certified in child, adolescent and adult weight management. She's also held positions as a clinical dietitian, certified fitness instructor and assistant director of health promotion.*



Tofu with Broccoli and Assorted Veggies

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nitro on tap to accompany your Sugartown Smokehouse salmon bagel, chocolate croissant and hummus sandwich. In Devon since 2012, Pour Richard's Coffee offers small batch craft coffees roasted in house as well as pastries, sandwiches and soups from local soup maker, Good Spoon. Go on Sundays at 2 p.m. for free cuppings (like wine tastings, but with coffee). Newcomer Farmhouse Coffee and Espresso Bar in Downingtown feels like, well, a well-lit farmhouse. With coffee from Lancaster-based Square One Coffee Roasters, its own in-house bakery, a drive-thru window, and state-of-the-art meeting room, Farmhouse is a welcome addition to the local coffee scene. Other good news: If you've been feeling nostalgic for Horn and Hardart coffee, it's now based in Media and can be ordered online. No matter which spot you choose, remember—it's not just about the caféine, it's about the community.

## CAFÉ IDEA

### TREETOPS KITTY CAFÉ

305 W. State St., Kennett Square  
610-925-2908 / [TreetopsKittyCafe.com](#)

If you thought your only exposure to a cat café would be through Shoshanna, of *Girls* fame, when she was assistant manager in Tokyo, fear not. Kennett Square has its own Treetops Kitty Café, the state's fourth happy, cage-free environment to interact with cats needing forever homes. A small donation lets you sit with adoptable cats as you sip, snack (or bring your own) and shop for pet products. Use the WiFi, read a book, play a game and feel the serenity that comes from watching kitties at play (hearts beat more slowly). There's a reason the Internet is full of cat videos! Even better IRL.

## DIM SUM

### TOM'S DIM SUM

13 E. State St., Media  
610-566-6688 / [TomsDimSum.com](#)

Tom's Dim Sum is smallish, lively and almost always busy. It feels like a piece of Shanghai. Start by ordering the explode-in-your-mouth soup dumplings—must-have amazing! Try the shumai and the scallion pancakes—authentic, beautifully presented. And you'll still be on the dim sum menu, looking at the other appetizers, soup, noodles, rice, entrees ... wondering what to try next. Watch as the waiters exit the kitchen, carrying some dish you wish you ordered. Or go full dim sum. Tom's in Media is the sister spot to Tom's Dim Sum in Philly. And it's all good.

## PLACE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

### RON'S ORIGINAL BAR & GRILLE

74 E. Uwulchlan Ave., Exton  
610-594-9900 / [RonsOriginal.com](#)

Contrary to popular wisdom, you can be all things to all people. For nearly 30 years, owner Ron Inverso has created menus to appeal to vegetarians, gluten-free folks, low-carbers and garden variety omnivores. In fact, offerings at his family-friendly place are so extensive the new menu will sport “quick reference” pages. Finding gluten-free chicken fingers, Italian specialties and vegetarian Ovals (pizzas) just got easier! What's not new: Ron's commitment to healthy ingredients free of hormones, preservatives and other bad stuff. Ron's also offers special drawings and deals (BOGO Ovals, anyone?) through ROCK (Ron's Original Customer Klub), so taking the family out to dinner won't ding the college fund.

## FARMERS MARKETS

*Among the bounty of local farm markets, we single out four—actually at six different locations—for special recognition.*

### LANCASTER COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

389 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne, 610-688-9856  
[LancasterCountyFarmersMarket.com](#)

First, a Main Line mainstay that sounds like it's from another county—the Lancaster County Farmers Market is an indoor, year-round mix of traditional Amish and upscale stalls in Wayne. A popular source for fresh meat, dairy, produce and baked goods, the market also offers specialty and ethnic options—Chinese, Mediterranean—plus coffee, candy, pasta and more. You'll find a wide variety of fresh and prepared foods (roast chickens, side dishes, sushi), giving you the option to cook at home or buy everything here—from wine to flowers, gourmet desserts and hostess gifts.

### WESTTOWN AMISH MARKET

1165 Wilmington Pl., West Chester  
610-492-5700 / [WestChesterAmishMarket.com](#)

Get a more traditional Amish experience at the newish Westtown Amish Farmers Market, with primarily Amish vendors along with some local purveyors. The Pretzel Log House at the entrance, several Stoltzfus signs, an Amish furniture shop, and a half dozen kinds of whoopie pies set the scene. There's variety, too, with Spot's Pet Corner, Cap'n Chuck's Crab Cake Co., H&L Grill, Paradoxx Winery, Sugartown Smoked Specialties, plus bulk food and flower stands.

### PETE'S PRODUCE FARM

1225 E. Street Rd., West Chester  
610-399-3711 / [PetesProduceFarm.com](#)

For the love of sweet summer corn, Pete's (as locals call it), on 200 acres of the Westtown School property, should be your choice. Their Mirai corn has folks making weekly detours in high season to chat up workers who pick the divine ears daily. April through October, the open-air farm market is full of high quality produce and gourmet delights—a rainbow of heirloom tomatoes, jarred goods (heirloom spaghetti sauce), veggie noodles, DiBruno cheese, grass-fed meat, and My House Cookies, Shady Maple pies and other sweet treats.

### GROWING ROOTS PARTNERS GROUP

[GrowingRootsPartners.com](#)  
Eagleview Farmers Market  
Wellington Square, Eagleview Town Ctr., Exton  
610-836-1391

Malvern Farmers Market  
Burke Park, Roberts Rd. & South Warren Ave.  
Malvern, 610-836-1392

Downingtown Farmers Market  
Kerr Park, Pennsylvania Ave., Downingtown  
610-836-1391

We don't know how they do it, but Growing Roots Partners organizes three regular farmers markets—Malvern, Downingtown, Eagleview—plus corporate markets, pop-ups and special events. Farm markets during the growing season are moved indoors and become less frequent in cold months, but remain the life-blood of community for residents and livelihood for farmers. Visit top-shelf vendors for produce (Down to Earth Harvest), meats and dairy (Canter Hill Farm), bakeries (Nomadic Pies, Malvern Buttery), local products, crafts, services and treats like Whiskey Hollow's Bourbon Barrel Aged PA Maple Syrup.

## FISH & CHIPS

### STATION TAPROOM

207 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown  
484-593-0560 / [StationTaproom.com](#)

Across from Downingtown's train station, behind a nondescript door, stands a pub. Station Taproom. It's nothing to write home about at first glance, but outstanding if you sit down and order. There's a rotating selection of about 15 beers on tap and another 30 or so in bottles. Plus, about 30 whiskeys and scotches, and an inventive food menu. But, it's the Fish—fried and beer-battered cod—& Chips—hand-cut and crispy—that provide a perfect pairing. Not long ago, the dish was entered in a national contest for best in the nation. It didn't win, but that means more for us!

## FLAMBÉ

### VICKERS RESTAURANT

192 E. Welsh Pool Rd., Exton  
610-363-7998 / [VickersRestaurant.com](#)

Oh, the magic of fire—especially when it's tableside. Drama is added to the old-school elegance of Continental cuisine by flambéed dishes on Vickers' menu—steak Diane, bananas Foster, cherries jubilee. The atmosphere is amped up when several diners choose the flaming option, instantly causing a buzz in the room. Fan the flames of refinement with tableside service—classic Caesar salad or personally filleted Dover sole. Both traditions create the special occasion vibe at the historic 1820s farmhouse once owned by renowned potter and abolitionist John Vickers. Add a vintage cocktail and other classic dishes—escargot, shrimp cocktail, lobster Louie. A culinary visit to another time.

## OLD SCHOOL FRENCH

### LA MAISON

1470 Old Ridge Rd., Coventryville  
484-680-1193 / [MartinsKitchen.com](#)

When the world is too much, take refuge at La Maison. On the first floor of the 300-year-old stone home where they live, award-winning Chef Martin Gagne and wife Janet conjure classic country French dishes and extend such hospitality diners feel as if they're in the company of old friends. On Fridays and Saturdays, enjoy 8-course prix fixe dinners, while Thursdays offer 4-course soup-centric suppers. Menus change weekly, but no matter what the chef dreams up—filet de veau au truffes, tarte au fromage de chèvre—satisfaction is a given. So is generosity: all dishes at this BYOB are served family-style, often with enough to take home and savor—along with memories.

## FROZEN TREATS

### LA MICHOCANA ICE CREAM

231 E. State St., Kennett Square  
610-444-2996 / [MichoacanaGrill.com](#)

### TROPICAL HOMEMADE ICE CREAM

125 N. Church St., West Chester  
610-696-4027 / [on Facebook](#)

We all scream for the exotic ice cream flavors at Kennett's La Michoacana—corn, avocado, and mamey sprinkled with chile powder or cinnamon. That family-run cold spot, with long lines, reasonable prices and 35 flavors, has

been attracting locals, visitors and veeeps (yes, Biden was there July 2016) even before *Philly Mag* gave it a nod in 2009. But did you know a sister location with the same icy delights opened summer 2016 in West Chester? Yep, Tropical Homemade Ice Cream offers Mexican flavors—along with more common options like chocolate, vanilla, strawberry cheesecake—plus tamarind and guanabana water ices. You'll have to wait until March to visit either place.

## AT THE GRILL

### RESTAURANT ALBA

7 W. King St., Malvern  
610-644-4009 / [RestaurantAlba.com](#)

No Instagram photo, Facebook post or dining guide blurb can capture Sean Weinberg's way with fire. Most every dish on his rustic Italian-inspired menu has been touched by the oak- and mesquite-fueled grill at the center of Alba's kitchen. We could make an entire meal of the bruschette—ricotta, honey and sea salt, wood roasted mushrooms, burrata and charred green onions. But always calling to us are grilled octopus, trout with hazelnut brown butter and a simple grass-fed ribeye, medium rare. This winter, we're tucking into wood-roasted goat and creamy polenta with toppings ranging from grilled country ham and dates to grilled and braised duck legs. Craig LaBan gave Alba 3 bells, *Wine Spectator* gave their Award of Excellence, we're giving 127 words of pure love.

## BIG HEART

### WEST CHESTER FOOD COOPERATIVE

*No location yet, WCFood.Coop*

A special award goes to the Co-op for caring about everyone from farmers to locavores to people suffering from food insecurity. While a brick-and-mortar store remains on their bucket list, they spent 2017 building community and increasing access to healthy, sustainable food. One shining example: partnering with Crawford Organics on a CSA with subscriptions on a “Pay what you can” basis. Unclaimed food and farmer seconds went directly to hunger relief programs. This year sees rebranding, partnering with West Chester Food Cupboard and reminding us that when it comes to strong communities and healthy food, we're all in this together.

## HONEY WITH A TWIST

### ROOTS CAFE

## Best of the Best 2018

133 E. Gay St., West Chester  
610-455-0100 / [RootsCafeWc.com](#)

With rustic Dutch doors set into one wall and an antique marble fireplace on another, Roots' intimate Tuscan yellow dining room evokes both farmhouse and townhouse. Many dishes on its rotating seasonal menu reflect homey with a twist of hip. Breakfast and lunch extend to 3 p.m., letting you start the day with coffee and a smoked duck bacon sandwich or crab ratatouille salad, then return for root vegetable latke bennie and French toast with berries. For dinner (Thurs.-Sat.), try short ribs with gnocchi, pork belly mac and cheese, then pumpkin butter-milk pie or chocolate pots de crème. If choosing among comfort foods is akin to picking a favorite child, go for the chef's tasting.

## RUB ELBOWS WITH THE HORSEY SET

### THE WHIP TAVERN

1383 N. Chatham Rd., West Marlborough  
610-383-0600 / [TheWhipTavern.com](#)

If you fancy yourself a horsey type (read that two ways), Chester County's Whip Tavern is comfortable turf. Races air on Wednesday nights during the season. The patio with views of Doe Run Creek opens during warm weather. British pub fare satisfies all year round. Fans consistently bet on shepherd's pie, Welsh rarebit, Scotch egg and fish and chips. For dessert, sticky toffee pudding wins the purse. Weekend specials—anything from roast beef and Yorkshire pudding to haggis—draw comfort food seekers, Anglophile or not. On tap: lagers, ales and For Fox Sake cider, an off-dry cider made exclusively for The Whip. Plus a new chef.

## INDIAN CUISINE

### BANGLES INDIAN CUISINE

889 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown  
610-269-9600 / [BanglesIndianCuisine.com](#)

Bangles catapults us out of our chicken tikka-and-samosa rut—not that there's anything wrong with that. The upscale, spacious BYOB offers both Northern and Southern Indian dishes, often with a modern twist. From chaats (savory street food snacks) and tandoori entrees to biryanis (rice dishes) and a dizzying variety of dosas (rice and lentil crepes), the menu satisfies every taste. Diner favorites include lamb pepper fry, bhel puri (puffed rice with mangoes, potatoes, onions) and corn and curry leaf soup. The 3-course chef's tasting menu and lunch buffet, served Friday through Sunday, are good options for adventurous palates.





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Best of the Best 2018

## ITALIAN FAMILY RECIPES

### TONINO'S PIZZA AND PASTA CO.

235 Lancaster Ave., Malvern  
610-240-9566 / [ToninosPizzaAndPasta.com](http://ToninosPizzaAndPasta.com)

When you name a restaurant after the family patriarch, you better make him proud. Nonno Tony launched the Scotto family in the restaurant biz over 40 years ago. Nowadays, at this welcoming BYOB, son Benny and wife Lucy along with their son Giovanni, honor Nonno's memory with dishes from family recipes. Eggplant Parmesan, pastas made in-house, and Sunday ragu are crowd pleasers. Specials—beef short ribs in red wine sauce over pappardelle and barramundi with capers, olives and spinach—further showcase their range. Homemade focaccia with caramelized onions? A meal in itself. For casual dining, hoagies, cheesesteaks and pizza fit the bill. As for the family's generosity, let's just say you won't go home hungry.

## ITALIAN SUNDAY DINNER EVERYDAY

### LIMONCELLO RISTORANTE

9 N. Walnut St., West Chester  
610-436-6230  
499 E. Uwchlan Ave., Chester Springs  
610-524-3112 / [LimoncelloRestaurant.com](http://LimoncelloRestaurant.com)

The Mingrino family believes you shouldn't have to wait until Sunday or dinner to experience a feast reminiscent of Grandmom's table. Monday through Friday at both West Chester and Chester Springs locations, they host a lunch buffet complete with a bounty of pastas, pizzas and strombolis, plus meat and fish entrees. On any given day, the lineup might include meatballs, salmon piccata or chicken parm. Salads, fresh fruits, grilled and sautéed seasonal vegetables are plentiful, too. We like that you can do a dine-and-dash with co-workers or enjoy a leisurely lunch with friends and a glass of wine.

## OLD SCHOOL ITALIAN

### LA VERONA

114 E. State St., Kennett Square  
610-444-2244 / [LaVeronaPa.com](http://LaVeronaPa.com)

In restaurant years, La Verona is not old: it celebrated its sixth anniversary in November. But in that time, it's become a go-to for Old School Italian. Regulars return for the triumvirate of Parmesans (chicken, eggplant, veal) and do a happy dance when lobster ravioli topped with crab and scallops is a special. Two appetizers—mushroom soup and

mushroom gratin—make Kennett Square proud. The roasted artichoke appetizer also earns kudos. Snag a window table for people watching on State Street or choose a cozy table by the fire for lingering over tiramisu. On Thursdays through Saturdays, live music adds to the La Verona experience.

## LEISURELY LUNCH

### THE SILVERSPOON

503 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne  
610-688-7646 / [SilverspoonWayne.com](http://SilverspoonWayne.com)

It is a truth universally acknowledged that bacon makes everything better, or at least it is a truth acknowledged by those who lunch and brunch at The Silverspoon. Fans rave about the BLT with caramelized pepper bacon, chicken salad studded with crispy bacon and Granny Smith apples, and French toast accompanied by caramelized breakfast bacon. Lest you think bacon is the only reason it's wise to make reservations at this BYOB, let us add to the list: mushroom bisque, truffle fries and seasonally inspired omelets, including a goat cheese and herb version. In warm weather, lunch on the patio.

## MEDITERRANEAN

### FATTOUSH RESTAURANT

182 Lancaster Ave., Malvern  
484-568-4465 / [Facebook.com/TheFattoushRestaurant](http://Facebook.com/TheFattoushRestaurant)

We've all heard about the wonders of the Mediterranean diet, so it's a wonder squared when we find the cuisine wonderfully prepared. In less than two years at its Malvern location in a strip mall, Fattoush has wowed locals with classics from the region's cuisine. The Lebanese mezze sampler gets raves (hummus, baba ganoush, falafel, kibba) as do the chicken shwarma, lamb gyros, grape leaves and wraps. Though some diners yearn for a broader menu, excellence and consistency may require the kind of concentration and personal attention that Chef/owner Roger Sleiman lavishes on food and guests alike.

## MEXICAN EVERYTHING

### MÁS MEXICALI CANTINA

102 E. Market St., West Chester  
610-918-6280 / [MasMexicali.com](http://MasMexicali.com)

When it's warm outside, the rooftop bar is the best place to be in West Chester. Getting cool outside? Try inside. The first and second floors of Más are fanciful and delightful. The san-

gria, margaritas (frozen or up), freshly made guacamole, “bad boy” nachos, homemade salsa and chips are superb—everything you'd expect and more. The tacos—at least nine including blackened mahi—and fajitas—try them with grilled steak or shrimp—are also excellent. When the sun sets over the borough, and the second or third margarita is settling in ... all is well with the world.

## OLD SCHOOL BUTCHER SHOP

### WESTTOWN MEATS

1030 Old Wilmington Pk., West Chester  
610-696-5588 / [WesttownMeatMarket.com](http://WesttownMeatMarket.com)

After 30 years in business, owners Jerry and Penni Bogda have seen food fashions come and go. But for this husband-and-wife team, high quality meats are always on trend. Westtown's dry aged prime beef inspires patrons to wax poetic with one Facebook fan posting “the bone-in top sirloins tasted like they were carved off the hind quarters of a unicorn and dipped in pure magic.” Burgers made with a secret blend of New York strip and short ribs, fresh-made sausages, chicken and lamb keep loyal patrons returning to this off-the-beaten-track shop. What's more, specialty sandwiches—brisket cheese steak, rustico Italiano, bacon mac and cheese burger—are as delicious as they sound.

## PASTRIES

### LA BAGUETTE MAGIQUE

202 W. Market St., West Chester  
610-620-4729 / [MagicBaguette.com](http://MagicBaguette.com)

We're resisting the urge to say “ooh la la” and “c'est magnifique.” What we can't resist are the pastries at this authentic French bakery where Old World baking methods rule. Owner Catherine Seisson's pain au chocolate, croissants and brioche have gained a devoted following as have her chausson aux pommes (apple turnover) and pain aux raisins (raisin Danish). It's a good idea to stop in often to peruse the daily offerings and contemplate life from a café table, coffee in one hand, cannelé in the other. Coming in early 2018: a daily traditional French dish (think coq au vin) and sweet and savory crepes. Resistance is futile: Ooh la la!

## PASTA

### VERA PASTA

319 Westtown Rd., Ste. K, West Chester  
610-701-5400 / [VeraPasta.com](http://VeraPasta.com)

A self-professed “nutritional nerd,” Vera Pasta owner Joe D'Andrea introduced his ancient

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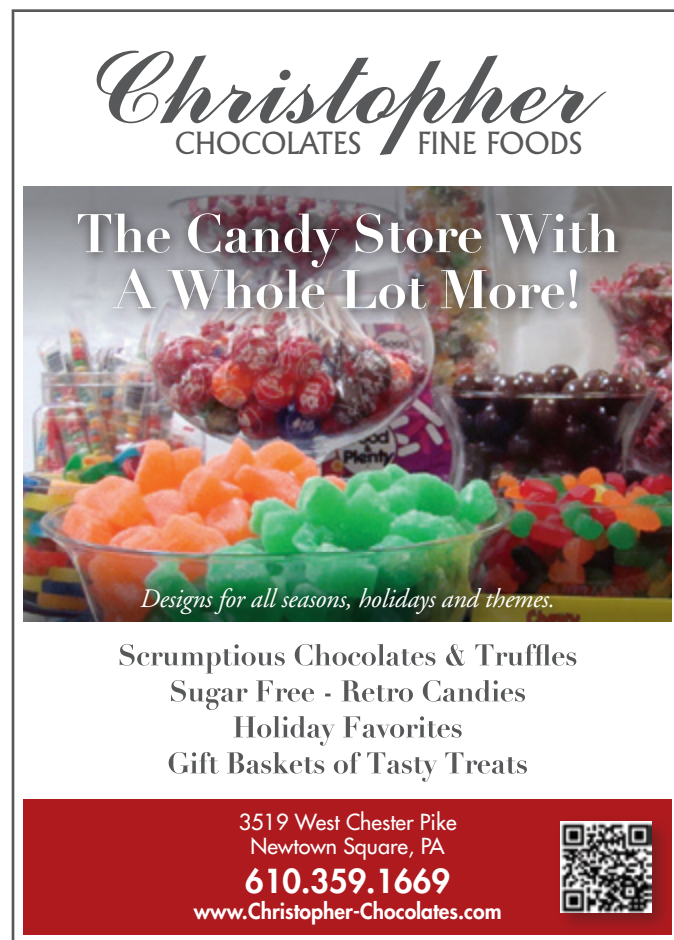
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grain pasta in 2017. Made from organic, non-GMO kamut flour, its texture resembles regular durum wheat pasta, but it packs 25% more vitamins and minerals. If you're gluten-free by choice (not Celiac) and haven't embraced rice-based pasta, Vera's ancient grain fusilli, rigatoni and penne rigate could be your happy compromise. In other good news, Vera now has a retail shop at their production facility, and in spring 2018, will debut Bronze Table in Philadelphia's Bourse Building. The fast casual will offer an extensive ravioli list, Sunday Gravy, Bolognese with home-made pappardelle, and ancient grain pasta with the sauce of your dreams.

## PET FRIENDLY

### APPETITES ON MAIN

286 Main St., Exton  
610-594-2030 / [AppetitesOnMain.com](http://AppetitesOnMain.com)

The "doggie menu" at Appetites on Main sends a clear message: we love you and your little/medium/big dog, too. Dishes include beef and chicken steak (add bacon for a happy pooch), grilled chicken breast and—yes—hot dogs. Dogs are welcome on the patio, open April to October, or anytime Fido fancies dining al fresco. On summer Tuesdays, dogs eat free when owners order an entree. And dogs with philanthropic bones in their bodies love Yappy Hours and Halloween costume contests benefiting All for Paws. Coming up in 2018: doggie dessert biscuits on the menu and TV on the patio so owner and pooch can root for the Phillies together.

## PIE OF THE MONTH CLUB

### NOMADIC PIES

132 W. State St., Kennett Square  
610-857-7600 / [NomadicPies.com](http://NomadicPies.com)

Here's a subscription we can literally sink our teeth into. Sign up for 3, 6, 9 or 12 months and one sweet pie stuffed with local ingredients will be yours! Bonus: the 9- and 12-month subscriptions come with an artisan crafted pie box. Newly introduced bourbon butterscotch and honey lavender are popular winter choices, while strawberry rhubarb sings of spring. For summer, it's blueberry and sour cherry, and fall is not fall at all without a wedge of caramel apple crumb or seasonal pumpkin pie. Picking up your pie is part of the fun: chat with effervescent founder Molly Johnston, and her little one. By all means, pop a savory pie or quiche into your basket for dinner. You'll be glad you did.

## PIZZAS FOR EVERY MOOD

*Some pizza lovers don't stray from their favorite style. We believe true pizza passion requires a variety of types to compare, contrast and match to your mood.*

### BIGA

810 Glenbrook Ave., Bryn Mawr  
610-525-4800 / [RestaurantBiga.com](http://RestaurantBiga.com)

While most pizza menus don't excite, ingredients and side dishes at Biga Pizza make many salivate and earned 2 LaBan bells. Last year we raved about wood-oven, blistered crust, Neapolitan-style gems Da Bomb (soppresatta, Calabrian chilis) and Kingdom (bacon, beer braised onions, scamorza) from Chef Sean Weinberg (also of Restaurant Alba). Now we crave the Half-Nelson (pancetta, long hots, olives), The Eazy-E (spinach, rosemary, caper, onion crema), and whatever's the special (speck and fig, lamb sausage with spinach and arugula). Not your average pizza joint. Charred carrots, buttermilk fried cauliflower, faro salad—also far above average. Even without its superlative list of craft beers and new wines and cocktails, Biga owns the artisanal pizza category.

### VECCHIA PIZZERIA

249 Bridge St., Phoenixville  
610-933-1355 / [on Facebook](http://onFacebook)

Another 2-LaBan-bell winner takes a different tack—pure simplicity in the tight menu from Frank Nattle of Vecchia's, now only in Phoenixville (the Wayne spot closed). It's grown since 2012, with just four pizzas on the menu (now eight), plus a few specials, all in the Neapolitan style. Most try the Regina Margherita, with fresh, fresh, fresh, top-quality ingredients of San Marzano tomatoes, mozzarella di bufala and basil—though the Covacino (arugula, prosciutto) is also a fave. Enjoy a gradient of flavors and textures from crispy crust to soupy center. There's a reason Napoli locals showed Anthony Bourdain how to eat pizza with knife and fork (check YouTube). An expanded menu includes pastas, but we wonder why.

### LORENZO & SONS PIZZA

27 N. High St., West Chester  
484-999-8756 / [LorenzoAndSonsPizza.com](http://LorenzoAndSonsPizza.com)

For big pizza fans, Lorenzo's has BIG pizzas (28 inches, or a 14-inch *personal* pizza!) and a big reputation, again landing a spot on the *Daily Meal's* top 101 in the country. The busy shop on the busy corner of Gay and High Streets in West Chester feeds thin-crust goodness (well, there's a Sicilian option, too) to local college students (there's a Ram Runner with BBQ chicken and ranch dressing),

## Best of the Best 2018

borough workers and residents who hope there's no wind when they walk out with a very big box. Now that there's delivery, you can enjoy the crispy, classic, cheesy, gooey street pizza even if you have a compact car.

### PICA'S RESTAURANT

1233 West Chester Pike, West Chester  
484-983-3704 / [Picas-Restaurant.com](http://Picas-Restaurant.com)

It's hip to be square sang Huey Lewis in a possible theme song for Pica's pizza style. Third generation Pica family members opened a second location in West Chester, and Delco fans who migrated west found the new source of square pizza with sauce on the top, cheese on the bottom. The website for the Upper Darby location still boasts a pic of #1 fan, Tina Fey, while the West Chester site shows the big stone building that has a parking lot filled with converts. So-called upside-down pizzas have a lighter, chewy crust that's crispy throughout. Fresh-tasting, sweet tomato sauce and plenty of classic toppings make for a choice that's uniquely local.

### RIZE PIZZA

124 E. Market St., Bldg. A, West Chester  
484-473-8924 / [RizePizza.com](http://RizePizza.com)

Another square pie option with a Delco connection (Broomall), is Rize Pizza, which is seeking to elevate pizza with its light, fluffy, yet crispy crust with toasted sesame seeds on the bottom. A self-proclaimed Roman style pizza, the eight-piece Rize pie gets its distinctive crust from dough that rises for three hours. The extensive menu—with round, thin-crust and upside-down options—includes intriguing choices like the Southern Belle (fried chicken), Angry Bird (Cajun chicken), Monte Carlo (ham), Snap Dragon (sausage, long hots) and Venus (veggie, of course).

## POP-UP WITH LEGS

### THE CREAMERY OF KENNETT SQUARE

401 Birch St., Kennett Square  
484-732-7040 / [KennettCreamery.com](http://KennettCreamery.com)

What started as a pop-up beer garden evolved into a community gathering space, as the Creamery ended its second successful season in October. Crowds continued to be attracted to the funky converted industrial space by the craft beer selection (16 taps, more in cans), casual eats from their kitchen plus a revolving group of food trucks (ribs, brisket, pulled pork, links), and a welcoming space dotted with picnic tables, lawn games and gardens. That families come to sip and visit creates the community vibe. And adding off-season events—the



Mushroom Cap Half-Marathon post-race party in November and the Holiday Village Market in December—extends the fun.

## PRE-THEATER / POST-THEATER

### SPENCE CAFE

131 N. High St., West Chester  
610-918-1272 / [Spence.Cafe](#)

Spence Cafe has served West Chester diners well. For more than a century, the Spence

Cafe—originally an oyster house on Gay Street—catered to the borough's elite. Now in a cozy spot on North High, this reimagined BYOB is down the block from the converted armory, home to the Knauer Performing Arts Center and the Resident Theatre Company, making it the closest spot for pre-theater fare. With its kitchen commanded by Andrew Patten, the menu includes braised short ribs, rack of lamb, filet mignon plus crab cakes, pan roasted halibut and specials. You and the many other diners holding tickets may be tempted to linger, as it's just a short dash to catch the curtain.

### HOTEL WARNER

120 N. High St., West Chester  
610-692-6920 / [HotelWarner.com](#)

Though the current Warner Hotel was built in the 1930s Warner Brother's Theater, it has a new theater connection. It's just a short post-theater amble from Knauer Performing Arts Center and a splendid place to dissect the latest production in the Marquee Bar. Hungry? Order from West Chester favorites. Thirsty? Select from a strong beer and wine list, or choose a specialty cocktail—perhaps the French 75 or rye boulevardier.

## SEAFOOD SOURCE

### HILL'S QUALITY SEAFOOD MARKETS, INC.

Newtown Square, Media, Exton, Glen Mills  
610-359-1888, 610-566-3788, 610-594-1290,  
610-579-6010 / [HillsQualitySeafood.com](#)

When it comes to seafood, you want to trust the source—one bad oyster will convince anyone. Maybe a place where you can inspect the seafood before eating it, that doesn't smell fishy, with a reputation dating back to 1975 and that cares about sustainability? Like Hill's Quality Seafood, which displays its fresh fare in pristine cases at its area locations. With a wide variety of fish (arctic char to wahoo, with four kinds of salmon), other seafood (crabs, clams, scallops, oysters, mussels), plus prepared foods (crab cakes get raves), soups (try the classic snapper), dips and side dishes, it's a top choice. So, look your next fish in its clear eye.

## SOUL OF THE SOUTH

### THE GABLES AT CHADDS FORD

423 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford  
610-388-7700 / [TheGablesAtChaddsFord.com](#)

Well, we declare: it sure is nice to have a Yankee menu with Southern charm. After an outing to nearby Brandywine River Museum or Longwood Gardens, stop at this 1800s converted dairy barn for shrimp and grits, fried green tomatoes, and loaded pimento, crab and artichoke dip. For dessert, choose between Dave's Bourbon Pecan Pie or Ann's Chocolate Banana Cake with bananas foster mousse and caramelized bananas. When the weather's pretty as a peach or even a little nippy, lounge on the front patio (it's got fire pits) or covered stone terrace. In all weather, (Thurs. through Sat.) soak up live piano music in the bar.

## SWEET TREAT

### GENERAL WARREN

9 Old Lancaster Rd., Malvern  
610-296-8084 / [GeneralWarren.com](#)

Life is indeed sweet when tasting good and doing good meet on the same (dessert) plate. At 2017's Sweet Charity event, a benefit for Chester County Community Foundation, General Warren's Praline Pecan Cheesecake wowed professional judges, capturing "Best Dessert" honors. Created by executive pastry chef Andy Sciarretta and proprietor Patrick Byrne, the cheesecake boasts candied pecan crumble, gluten-free crust and caramel sauce. If you missed Sweet Charity, fear not: this winner is on General Warren's dessert menu. Order away but beware that no amount of sweet talk will get the chefs to divulge the secret ingredient.

## STEAKHOUSE

### PIETRO'S PRIME STEAKHOUSE AND MARTINI BAR

125 W. Market St., West Chester  
484-760-6100 / [PietrosPrime.com](#)

As it marked its 10th anniversary last summer, Pietro's reminded us why we don't need to travel to the city for a great steakhouse experience. Regulars wax poetic about the filet mignon, New York strips and ribeyes. They're equally passionate about seafood appetizers and entrees: colossal crab cocktail, black and white tuna, and seared jumbo scallops. Classic steakhouse sides—creamed spinach, onion ring—also earn compliments. When the lobster mac and cheese is a special side, it's a special night. "Martini bar" is in the restaurant's name, so what to drink is a foregone conclusion. Live music and outdoor seating in warm weather are two more reasons we're happy this steakhouse is right around the corner.

## ALL YOU CAN EAT SUSHI

### LILY ASIAN CUISINE

104 W. State St., Kennett Square  
610-925-3700 / [LilySushiAndGrill.com](#)

GITu is an acronym dear to the heart of local sushi fans. Tuesdays at Lily's mean lunch and dinner guests pay one price, and order to their tastebuds' content from the All You Can Eat sushi menu ... which includes so much more than sushi. Popular appetizers are chili garlic edamame, crab Rangoon and teriyaki steak. The impressive variety of raw and non-raw sushi and rolls guarantees that eel, salmon and tuna lovers can happily break rice together. All-you-can-eat dinners also include entrées—bang bang shrimp, orange chicken, Chilean sea bass. Our sage advice: get

there early or make reservations, and if you like your sushi with sake or sapporo, BYOB.

## SWARTHMORE CELEBRATION

### BROAD TABLE TAVERN

10 S. Chester Rd., Swarthmore  
610-543-7500 / [TheInnAtSwat.com/Broad-Table-Tavern/About](#)

It's high time Swarthmore College got a good restaurant. Intimate, quiet, artful, with happy,

conversant servers, the Broad Table Tavern is right on campus, popular with parents visiting their brainy offsprings. Chef Keith Ahern works wonders, from grilled octopus to Greek salad to vegetarian "Impossible Burger." Appetizers include a risotto whip with honey and fruit, crispy and lightly fried broccoli and radishes, and a veggie flatbread with or without bacon. All outstanding, farm-to-table, exquisitely prepared. Note the enviable list of beers, wines and cocktails. Follow the wine list to the bottom: Dom Perignon goes for \$290 a pop. Parents can celebrate the end of paying tuition.

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## TAILGATE

## BRANDYWINE POLO CLUB

232 Polo Rd., Kennett Square  
610-268-8692 / BrandywinePolo.com

Chester County tailgating is worlds away from the experience in the Linc parking lot. Here, tables are set with flowers and silver for guests wearing bright colors beyond dark green. And tailgating at Brandywine Polo Club offers extra panache for spectators watching the sport of kings. Sip champagne and cocktails, often from crystal and never from cans, as you replay the scene from *Pretty Woman* (wear polka dots and a big hat). Park by the field to tailgate from your car, an easy walk to the mid-match divot stomping, when spectators mingle, sip champagne and help replace turf kicked up by the ponies. Just beware the steaming divots!

## TEA WITH HISTORY

## THE LINCOLN ROOM

28 W. Market St., West Chester  
610-304-9576 / on Facebook

According to legend, tea's invention dates back to 2737 B.C., when leaves blew into the boiling water of a Chinese emperor who liked the taste and restorative powers of the brew. Some years later, tea's history connected with Boston Harbor in the 18th century. In West Chester, tea with history abounds in the charming Lincoln Room tearoom, in the 1833 Lincoln Building, notable for sightings of horse thief John Tully's ghost and site of the publication of the first biography of Abraham Lincoln. Try the shared Tea for Two, with special teas, tea sandwiches and desserts, or enjoy quiche, scones, signature croissant bread pudding and other treats while learning more about this piece of history.

## THE SPOT TO BE

## STEEL CITY COFFEEHOUSE

203 Bridge St., Phoenixville  
484-924-8425 / SteelCityCoffeeHouse.com

It was music to everyone's ears when Steel City was saved in 2016 by new owners, Laura Vernola and Ed Simpson. This coffeehouse/music venue/community spot has it all: great food, concerts and open mic (musicians, poets, performers), story time, pop-up holiday bookshop. Come for Hobo Ed's coffee, a Breakfast Bowl, flatbreads or artisanal ice cream (blackberry sage with lychee). Support local and the rebirth of this community hub.

## VEGGIE OPTIONS

## GREYHOUND CAFÉ

81 Lancaster Ave., Malvern  
610-240-0222 / TheGreyHoundCafe.com

## TASTE

236 Bridge St., Phoenixville  
484-924-9530 / SandCastleWinery.com/  
Taste-Phoenixville

I'm not a vegan but that was delicious!" That's the line we're hearing from omnivores wowed by Malvern's Greyhound Café and Phoenixville's Taste. Since they debuted in 2017, the two restaurants have proven vegan food can be flavorful and filling—in an umami-protein not just leafy-green kind of way. A welcoming BYOB, Greyhound serves Italian and Texican dishes as well as a range of starters, pizzas, sandwiches, salads and desserts. Buffalo chicken wings, Smokey Craig's Ba Be Que, Rigatoni and Sausage Fra Diablo earn high praise as does weekend brunch.

Taste began life as Sand Castle Winery's retail store, but last spring, it was re-conceptualized as a chic, chill restaurant-bar. Meat-free meats from renowned Herbivorous Butcher shine in dishes such as blackened ribeye steak, huli huli rib sliders and Korean bbq wraps. To drink: Pennsylvania spirits and brews and Sand Castle wines, of course.

## GAME DAY WINGS

## P.J. WHELIHANS

12 General Warren Blvd., Malvern  
610-981-4600 / PjsPub.com  
Other area locations

With its newest location in our area, PJ's recently opened in Malvern, adding to 14 others and a food truck. Roomy and cavernous, there are 48 taps and more than 50 TV screens for sports fans. And wings! With 12 kinds of sauces—Hot'n Honey, Sweet Chili, Kickin' Korean, Garlic Parm, Ghost Pepper, for example. You'll have a hard time choosing. If wings don't satisfy, try juicy burgers, signature sandwiches, various entrees and all kinds of stuff to eat with your fingers. Is there a better place to watch the Eagles fly?

## WISH FOR 2018

## WYEBROOK FARM

150 Wyebrook Rd., Honey Brook  
610-942-7481 / WyebrookFarm.com

Our fingers are crossed that Wyebrook's doors will swing open again, after the restaurant,

butcher shop and market on the 360-acre farm closed in December to resolve zoning and infrastructure issues. Since 2012, Wyebrook continuously redefined "sustainable" and "farm-to-table" through imaginative cuisine and hands-on classes. We'll never forget our first (and last?) butchering class and sampling pork pate, local cheese and chocolate boudino with new friends. We'll also remember its community spirit, from an Oktoberfest fundraiser for West Nantmeal Historical Commission to a fried chicken benefit for Chester County Food Bank. While Wyebrook meats are still at Reading Terminal Market, we're waiting for the day we can pick them up in the 18th-century stone barn at the end of a country road.

## LOCAL COOKBOOK

## THE DINNER PLAN

Getting dinner on the table shouldn't be a monumental task ... but sometimes it just is. That's why we're huge fans of *The Dinner Plan* co-authored by Hockessin resident Kathy Brennan and Caroline Campion. The 135 simple dishes call for ingredients found in your grocery store (no juniper berries). Recipes have color-coded tabs so it's a snap to find "make ahead/one-dish" or "pantry/extra-fast" options. Some favorites: Mexican Skillet Lasagna, Go-to Scalloped Potatoes, Fast Bolognese and Lemony Quinoa with Add-ins. Scattered throughout are tips on worthwhile kitchen gadgets and easy ways to give dishes extra zing. Like their first book, *Keepers*, this is one, too.

## FOODIE CLASSES

## COLLIER'S OF CENTREVILLE

5810 Kennett Pk., Centreville  
302-656-3542 / ColliersWine.com

Interested in getting schooled on all things wine? Then head for Collier's. The charming, intimate Centreville shop's second floor is where on-site classes are held, but the accommodating cellar mistress and owner, Linda Collier, will also arrange classes in your home or office—perfect for team building and *way* better than ropes courses. A master's class of topics, with titles like Big, Bold Beauties (no wimpy wines need apply), Bubbles from Around the World, and Wines of Eastern Europe (Hungary, Romania, Croatia, Bulgaria—who knew?) show Collier's broad knowledge. And there's humor: who else would post wine pairings for Halloween candy and fried chicken? ♦

More Food News on  
CountyLinesMagazine.com



Kaitlin Battiste & Taylor Stenroos

WHAT FOOD MEMORY TAKES YOU BACK TO YOUR college years? Likely not a madeleine. If it's food trucks, take a stroll down memory lane toward those nostalgic eats that fueled you for four years and visit West Chester University's outdoor food court on wheels.

Located on South Church Street, these food trucks attract university students and faculty, and well, anyone, and it's no surprise. Offering a wide selection of budget-friendly, curb-side fare, the trucks are bound to have whatever you're craving.

Here are a few regulars you'll find there.

## FOR EARLY RISERS

Open bright and early, these options offer the perfect pick-me-ups before heading to class or to work.

**Grateful Bean's Coffee Truck** – Those propelled by caffeine are grateful for Fenn's Coffee's Grateful Bean's Coffee Truck. It's been around for 20 years, and though the menu has changed, the food truck itself hasn't—it's a classic! Bleary-eyed WCU students can attest it's the perfect stop for a caffeine fix or a quick bite. Drinks are locally sourced and include favorites from the Barista Specials list—try the Divine Caramel, a double latte with Ghirardelli caramel, cocoa, vanilla and whipped cream, sure to get you through the day!

**Curbies** – Another option for early birds craving a cuppa, Curbies opens at 7:30 a.m. on weekdays, with enough breakfast and lunch choices to keep you going all day. Try their Big Daddy breakfast sandwich with scrapple and egg or specialty sandwiches like The Intimidator hot dog complete with bacon, cheese and chili. Lighter options include fresh PB&J or homemade soup. This food truck may be small in size, but its big menu keeps fans coming back.

## ETHNIC EATERIES

These food trucks cater to different tastes with authentic cuisine.

**The Greek Express** – One of the hottest spots on Church Street, this truck will have you saying "Nai" (yes) to Greek food! The Greek Express offers plenty of meals with Greek flare—try their lamb and

beef gyros with tzatziki sauce, or chicken shish kebab with rice and pita bread. Want even healthier options? Order the Greek veggie wrap that comes stuffed with feta, olives and sweet peppers. The budget-friendly menu will send your tastebuds around the world.

**The Lunchbox** – This truck is known for fusing American and Thai foods—not surprising with owners from Thailand! For a quick meal, snack on their popular \$1 spring rolls or a side of veggie fried rice. Craving something more filling? Grab a classic bacon cheeseburger with fries or the drunken noodle with rice noodles, spicy thai basil sauce and vegetables. This food truck will have you leaving your own lunch box at home.

**Sabatino's Mobile Pizzeria & Grill** – From the owners of West Chester's Sabatino's Grill and Edgemont's La Laconda II Go, Sabatino's food truck is the spot for pizzas, sandwiches and salads. Two slices of cheese pizza and drink for less than \$5? Yep. Really hungry? Add their largest order of fries for half that. When not parked on Church Street, the truck may be found at weddings, birthdays, graduations and corporate parties. Sabatino's proves campus eating doesn't have to be expensive or anything but delicious!

**Mexicali** – This truck rounds out Church Street's dining stops with a selection of burritos, quesadillas, tacos and nachos, with vegetarian options, too! It's been the spot for authentic Mexican cuisine at WCU for four years. The clear fave is their burritos—easy to grab-and-go with lots of options. Try the pulled pork, chicken or veggie burrito, all made with fresh ingredients. ¡Que delicioso!

Give yourself an excuse to revisit your college days at WCU's mobile food court in the heart of campus. After ordering, head for a nearby picnic table to savor your selection and the fact you're not studying for exams! ♦

*Tip: Check the food trucks' social media for hours, closings or change in location.*





# MAKE 2018 THE YEAR OF SOUR BEER: YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID

Dan Popernack, La Cabra Brewing

THIS QUICK PRIMER SHOULD OPEN UP MINDS AND INTRODUCE  
PALATES TO THE SPECIAL PLEASURES OF SOUR BEERS.



## FIRST RULE OF SOUR BEER CLUB ...

It happens too often: a well-intentioned beer guru hands an unwitting friend a beer and says, “Drink this. It’s good.” The friend’s palate is walloped by tart, funky, intense flavors and, without fair warning, the friend summarily writes off the world of sour/wild beer. And maybe writes off the friend.

I know. You’re as mad as I am. That poor friend is going to miss out on some primo beers. Particularly, if the friend was a devout wine drinker. Sours can be some of the best transitional beers on the market. You just need to be prepared.

So, in the interest of spreading the love for these quirky, masterful beers, here’s a quick primer to prepare you for your first sour sip along with some reasons to expand your beer horizons this year.

## WHAT MAKES SOUR BEER? PARDON MY GREEK

Most of the beer you’ve consumed in your life was fermented by one of the myriad strains of yeast know as *saccharomyces cerevisiae*. These yeasts have been scientifically stewarded—particularly after pioneers like Louis Pasteur revealed how they work—by brewhouses to be the workhorses of beer production that they are today.

Relatively reliable, rugged in industrial settings, and with a massive span of applications, these magical yeasts are responsible for everything from your crisp, peppery saison to your malty, bulky double bock. All hail great yeast!

But brewing relies on other yeasts as well. The terms “sour,” “wild” and “kettle sour” denote (in an admittedly vague manner) beers that have undergone mixed fermentation with other strains of yeast and bacteria. In mixed fermentation, brewers use *saccharomyces* alongside different strains—including *brettanomyces* (brett), *lactobacillus* (lacto), and *pediococcus* (pedio)—to produce flavors that contrast or complement the malt and hop bill.

Still with me?

“Brett” refers to many different strains of wild yeast that, lore has it, originated from the skin of orchard fruits. Brett strains can produce aromas and flavors of pineapple, tobacco, leather, cherry-pie filling, musky cellar and funk. While some of these varieties of brett may seem daunting at first, at nuanced levels and in the context of a beer, they add a singular complexity.

Consider for a moment: in a fruity, malty barleywine or Belgian quadruple, the musky, leather tones of particular brett yeast strains can balance an otherwise heavily sweet beer. American brewers with a penchant for hops have experimented with pineapple/mango-forward strains of brett to “pop up” the tropical hop flavors that beer-drinkers crave.

On the bacteria side, “lacto” and “pedio” refer to strains of bacteria employed in the brewery or cellar to produce tart flavors reminiscent of lemon and sweet tarts candy. Although the terms “bacteria” and “beer” typically don’t go together for brewers or beer drinkers, in certain styles of beer and in the hands of a skilled brewer/blender, the acidic tart flavors produced by lacto lend a bright, refreshing edge to the beer.

Got it?

## PHEW! SO WHY SHOULD I DRINK THEM?

Now that we got through the technical stuff, I’d like to convince you to consider the special pleasure of sour beers.

Here are my top three reasons to spend 2018 trying to find a few sours. Preferable, a few each month.

## 1) Authenticity ... Like Real Authenticity

Craft brewers are constantly innovating and trying to distinguish themselves in the market while relying on, essentially, the same sources of hops, malt and yeast. One route to a unique flavor is to use a barrel room’s “house cultures”—the yeasts and bacteria that drift in that brewery in ways that are unique to that place. Worts (pre-fermentation liquids) produced using different techniques will favor some microbes over others and will create a kind of “flavor Galapagos” that reflects the thumbprint of that particular brewer.

To further this kind of experimentation, some American brewers have gone a more traditional path and cultured microbes found in the flora around the brewery. Some of the yeast cultures produced by brewers of the most renowned lambic (an elegantly sour, funky Belgian blonde aged 1–3 years in oak) are, in part, formed by cooling hot wort overnight in *coolships* (open containers, see photo) that are exposed to drafts of outside air. The microbes floating in that air create a true sense of place, as unique to Brussels as cultures from Berwyn or Burbank, for that matter.



A local example. Forest and Main in Ambler ferments saisons with cultures found around their brewery and uses these strains for about a year. As the seasons pass, the brewers reset the culture in a beautiful expression of beer reflecting the particular surroundings.

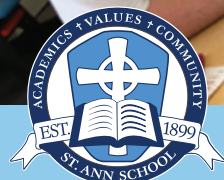
Some breweries have gone as far as to drive fresh wort out into orchards in open vessels, inoculate them with the air-borne microbes overnight, then drive the wort back for fermentation in their cellars. Yes, brewers can be a tad eccentric.



A coolship gives the wort contact with the surrounding air.



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These are a few of the many examples of the authentic, novel and place-driven flavors that sour beers can deliver. Are you convinced yet?

### 2) Cellar Building

As you work your way into sour beers, you also can take advantage of their long shelf-life—some up to 10 years. The experience of sharing a meal at a brewpub with friends, buying a few bottles to go, and then breaking them out on special occasions is unique to sours and only the sturdiest of non-sour beers.

As I write this, I'm looking at the boxes and boxes of memories on my shelf that these collected bottles represent, and I'm transported back to when I bought them. Hop bombs are yummy, but sours permit time travel (if you're the nostalgic type).

Even more, sours are among the few beer styles that truly mature, morph and change character as they age. Go out today with a friend and buy a 12-pack of Orval (highly

fermented Trappist beers with a distinctive fruity and bitter taste). Every three months, share a bottle together and notice as the beer changes from a funky, fruity Belgian Pale to a musky, papery, bone-dry masterpiece. Your patience will be rewarded! And your friendship cemented.

### 3) Gastronomic Possibilities

Finally, if you need more convincing, here's the big one, saved for last. Sours open up a whole new world of food and beer pairings. Try the Orval mentioned above with a rustic bread topped with goat cheese. Then you can appreciate that some level of "funk" is the common denominator in many of the fermented foods you enjoy.

Another Belgian beer worth trying, Duchesse de Bourgogne's plum, dark caramel and slightly acetic (balsamic) bite are the perfect accompaniment to a braised shank or pot roast in the winter.

Closer to home, we had the delicious luck of pairing La Cibra's Brun Nouveau with a Belgian chocolate waffle prepared by Nectar's pastry chef at a recent beer dinner. Its sweet, tart and lightly acetic tones both reflected and enhanced the luscious chocolate and golden sweet pastry.

The possible pairing are endless. And part of the fun.

There's a time and place for each beer style but, particularly for the foodies out there, an open mind to new and bold flavors will reveal the nuanced, varied and puckeringly yummy world of sour beers.

So, in a world that's been seemingly dominated by the rush for more and more hops, take 2018 to step into a new realm of flavors or revisit some old sour stalwarts. ♦

*A former Spanish and English teacher who began brewing beer in the garage of his Malvern home, Dan Popernack opened La Cibra (Spanish for the goat) last year to meet the needs of his growing fan base. The seven-barrel, two-story brewpub and restaurant across from the Berwyn train station has gathered accolades from the likes of Craig LaBan ("impressive take on lambic") and Philly Mag (2017 Best Brewpub, 'Burbs). 642 Lancaster Ave., Berwyn. [LaCibraBrewing.com](http://LaCibraBrewing.com).*

## BEER EVENTS IN 2018

**Feb. 24, Kennett Winterfest.** 600 S. Broad St., Kennett Square. [KennettBrewFest.com](http://KennettBrewFest.com).

**Feb. 24, Pottstown Firkin Fest.** Memorial Park, 75 W. King St. [PottstownFirkin.com](http://PottstownFirkin.com).

**Mar. 3, Philly Craft Beer Festival.** Navy Yard, 4747 S. Broad St., Phila. [PhillyCraftBeerFest.com](http://PhillyCraftBeerFest.com).

**Apr. 7, Rails & Ales—Railroad Museum of PA.** 300 Gap Rd., Strasburg. [RailsAndAles.org](http://RailsAndAles.org).

\* **May, Sly Fox Bockfest & Goat Race.** Pottstown. [SlyFoxBeer.com](http://SlyFoxBeer.com).

\* **May, Brandywine Val. Craft Beer Festival.** E. State St., Media. [IronHillBrewery.com/Media](http://IronHillBrewery.com/Media).

**May 12, BrewFest at Mount Hope.** PA Renaissance Fairgrounds, Manheim. [PARenFaire.com](http://PARenFaire.com).

**June 1–10, Philly Beer Week.** Philadelphia and suburbs. [PhillyBeerWeek.org](http://PhillyBeerWeek.org).

\* **July, Blues & Brews.** PA Renaissance Fairgrounds, Manheim. [PARenFaire.com](http://PARenFaire.com).

**July, Newark Food & Brew Festival.** [NewarkFoodAndBrewfest.com](http://NewarkFoodAndBrewfest.com).

\* **Aug., Lancaster Craft Beerfest.** Downtown Lancaster. [LancasterCraftBeerFest.com](http://LancasterCraftBeerFest.com).

\* **Sept., Newtown Sq. Pints in the Square.** Rts. 3 & 252. [PintsInTheSquare.com](http://PintsInTheSquare.com).

\* **Sept., Malvern Harvest Oktoberfest.** Burke Park, Warren Ave. [Malvern-Festivals.com](http://Malvern-Festivals.com).

\* **Sept., Historic Odessa Brewfest.** 201 Main St., Odessa, DE. [OdessaBrewfest.com](http://OdessaBrewfest.com).

\* **Oct., Conshohocken Beer Festival.** Garthwaite Stadium. [ConshohockenBeerFestival.com](http://ConshohockenBeerFestival.com).

\* **Oct., Kennett Brewfest.** 600 S. Broad St., Kennett Square. [KennettBrewFest.com](http://KennettBrewFest.com).

\* **Oct., Pottstown Brewfest.** Manatawny Park, 75 W. King St. [PottstownBrewfest.com](http://PottstownBrewfest.com).

**Oct. 5, 7, KOP Beer Fest Royale.** 690 W. DeKalb Pk., King of Prussia. [KOPBeerFest.com](http://KOPBeerFest.com).

\* **Dec., Valley Forge Beer Festival.** Greater Phila Expo Center, Oaks. [ValleyForgeBeerFest.com](http://ValleyForgeBeerFest.com).

\* **Dates to be determined.**





The Hill School was MaxPrep's #3 in boys' soccer.

# Independent Schools FALL SPORTS UPDATE

Edwin Malet

## TEAM STARS HEAD TO TOP COLLEGES

**I**N COUNTY LINES COUNTRY, THE INDEPENDENT schools fielded excellent teams this fall season. Some of the athletes with strong academic records have already committed to leading colleges. Here are some highlights.

### BOYS' SOCCER

The **Salesianum School** boys' soccer team had a stellar 18-1 season. It was ranked by MaxPreps as #1 in Delaware and #7 in the country, and was led by forwards, Bryce Wallace and Gavin Ford, the #1 and #2 players in the state, who scored 37 goals between them. Wallace was a "tremendous player," according to Coach Scott Mosier. Of Ford, he said, "His ability on the ball and craftiness to wrong foot defenders is second to none." Both are contemplating Division 1 colleges. Next year, the team looks to juniors Tommy McGrail, Jack Leonard and Casey Kurlej—all made Delaware's First Team.

The **Hill School** Rams were MaxPrep's #3 in Pennsylvania. Leading the team were seniors midfielder Phillip Bell and forward Greg Zimmerman with junior center back Euan Forrest. Zimmerman has been recruited by Hamilton College, while Bell is awaiting news from Centennial Conference schools. Forrest, a top student, according to Coach Christopher Drown, is attracting interest from Divisions I, III and other top universities.

### GIRLS' SOCCER

The girls' soccer team at **Episcopal Academy** scored 13 shutouts in 21 matches to finish 17-4, thanks in large part to senior goal-

keeper Hannah Moriarty. According to Coach Andrew Fraggos, Moriarty allowed only 16 goals all season, but is not pursuing soccer at the college level. Olivia Dirks and Anna Salvucci, however, with 16 and 7 goals, have committed to Penn State and South Carolina.



### FIELD HOCKEY

**Villa Maria** had a fantastic field hockey season. Coach Daan Polders reports a 24-1 record and titles at the Catholic League, Districts and States. Seniors Danielle Acuna, goalkeeper, with an 85% save percentage has committed to American University, while Emily Doyle, with 40 goals, will play for Bucknell. Also committed to Buck-

nell, Erin Zielinski, senior defender, who has a 4.0 GPA. Two other senior defenders, Brianna Deitz and Ryan Doran, have committed to Siena and to Catholic University. Lindsay Dickinson, senior midfielder, with 17 goals, 29 assists and a 4.0 GPA, is on her way to Connecticut College, while junior Adele Iacobucci with 18 goals, 15 assists, and a 4.0 GPA, has committed to U. of Virginia. Two juniors—Hannah Miller, forward, with 45 goals, and Mary Harkins, defender—will head to Duke University.

In Delaware, **Tower Hill** ruled, scoring 14-0-1 in league play—the sole loss, by one goal, in the championship. Coach Robin Adair reports their 4-year varsity player Isabelle Pilson, committed to Stanford, "has been outstanding in every way" and "never stops hustling or playing." Natalie Hobbs, the "great play maker and communicator" will take her skills to Amherst, while Allison Smith's "explosiveness and toughness" are headed for Columbia University.

### VOLLEYBALL

Coach Lauren Disabatino is very proud of **Padua Academy**, with an 18-1 record, ranked #1 in Delaware and #12 nationally. Their senior captain and outside hitter Emily Jarome set the state record with 1166 kills and was selected Delaware Player of the Year—again! Jarome will attend Towson University. Emma Lucey, also a senior captain, was named President of the National Honors Society, while two others—Jessica Molen and Katie McGonigal—were named to the All State team. McGonigal will play for the Huskies at Bloomsburg University.

With a record of 25-0, **Bishop Shanahan's** Eagles were favored to capture their second state title in program history. They'd been ranked #1 in the PA Volleyball Coaches Association poll since preseason. Sadly, they lost in the finals, finishing #2. Senior setter Renee Shultz had 46 aces, 105 kills, 699 assists and 46 blocks. Outside hitter, Tess Elder, also a senior, had 276 kills and 60 blocks.

### WATER POLO

In water polo, **Malvern Prep's** Friars finished their best season in history, according to Coach Jay Schiller, with a 24-1 record and winning the 33rd Eastern Prep Water Polo Championship for the first time! Isaac Salinas, scoring 17 goals in the tournament, was named Eastern Prep MVP. Contributing to the season, Stephen Salle had 6 goals and 14 assists, Andrew Knaus had 11 goals, and goalkeeper Griff Delaney had 62 saves: each was named to the All Eastern tournament First Team. Salle and Salinas both played in the All-Star game at the Naval Academy.



### FOOTBALL

**Malvern Prep's** football team was undefeated in the Inter-Ac after experiencing what Coach David Gueriera described as "ups and downs" in non-league play. Several stars nevertheless emerged. Senior O'Shaan Allison was a 1000-yard rusher who's committed to Ohio University. Junior Keith McGuire played linebacker and is getting a lot of offers—from Army, Duke, Vanderbilt, U. of Virginia and other schools. And Quincy Watson, also a junior, plays all over on offense, and linebacker on defense, and has interest from, among others, Temple, Rutgers and Villanova.

### CROSS-COUNTRY

**Episcopal Academy's** Elias Lindgren was triumphant this year in men's cross-country. He won the Briarwood Invitational (16:35), the Inter-Ac (16:26) and Pennsylvania Independent School Championship (16:24). An excellent student with a 4.25 GPA with 19 AP and honors classes under his belt, he's also an "exceptional competitor and leader" with an "incredible work ethic," says Coach James Farrell. Williams, John's Hopkins, Swarthmore and Haverford College think so, too—they're recruiting him.

The PA Independent Schools championship was the highlight of the season for the **Friends' Central** girls' team, according to Coach Venetia Ricketts, where sophomore Rebecca Wusinich, senior Gabrielle Wilkinson and sophomore Lydia Russell finished 4th, 5th and 6th. Wilkinson signed a letter of intent with the University of Florida in late November, saying it's "where the magic happens." ♦



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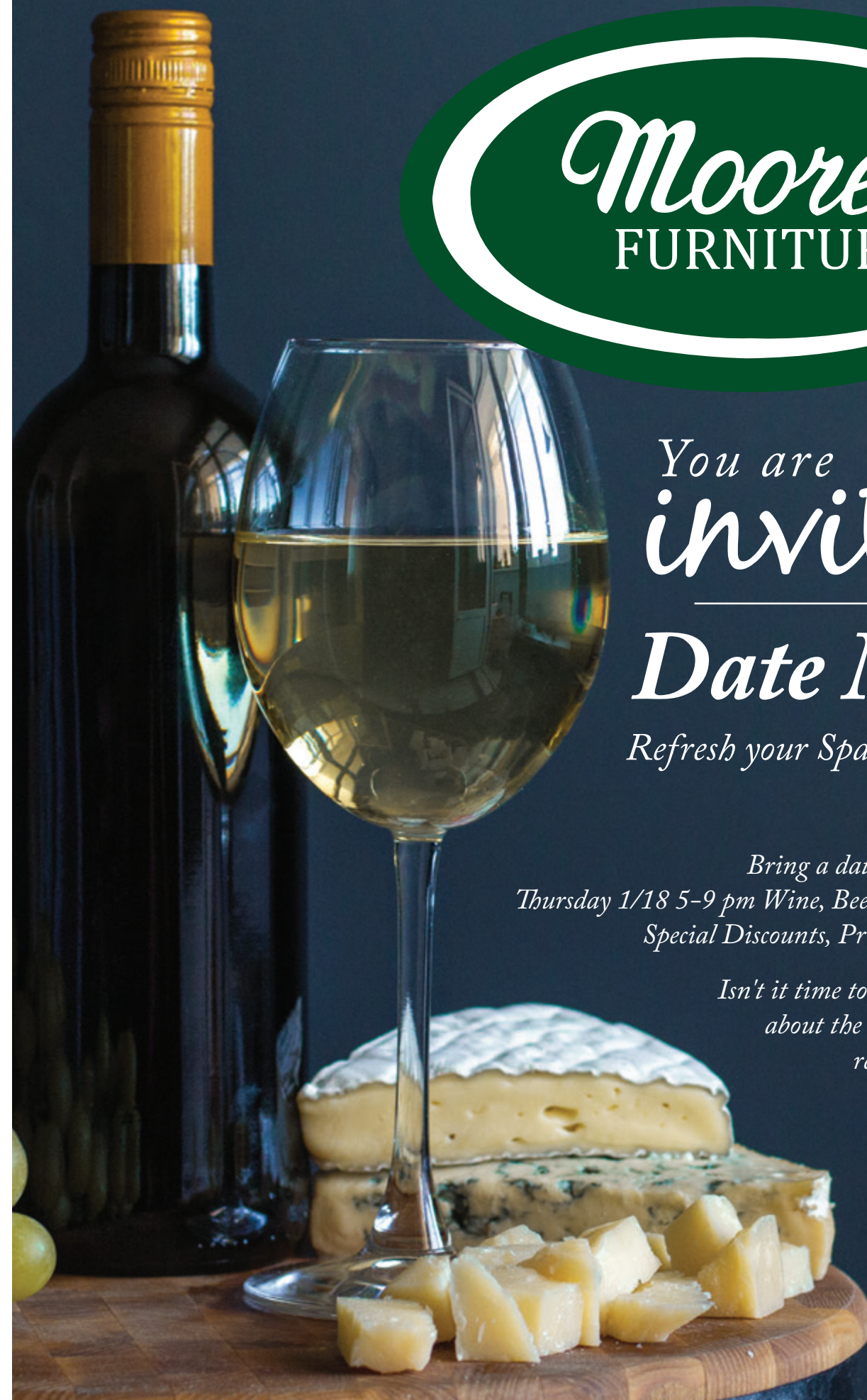
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