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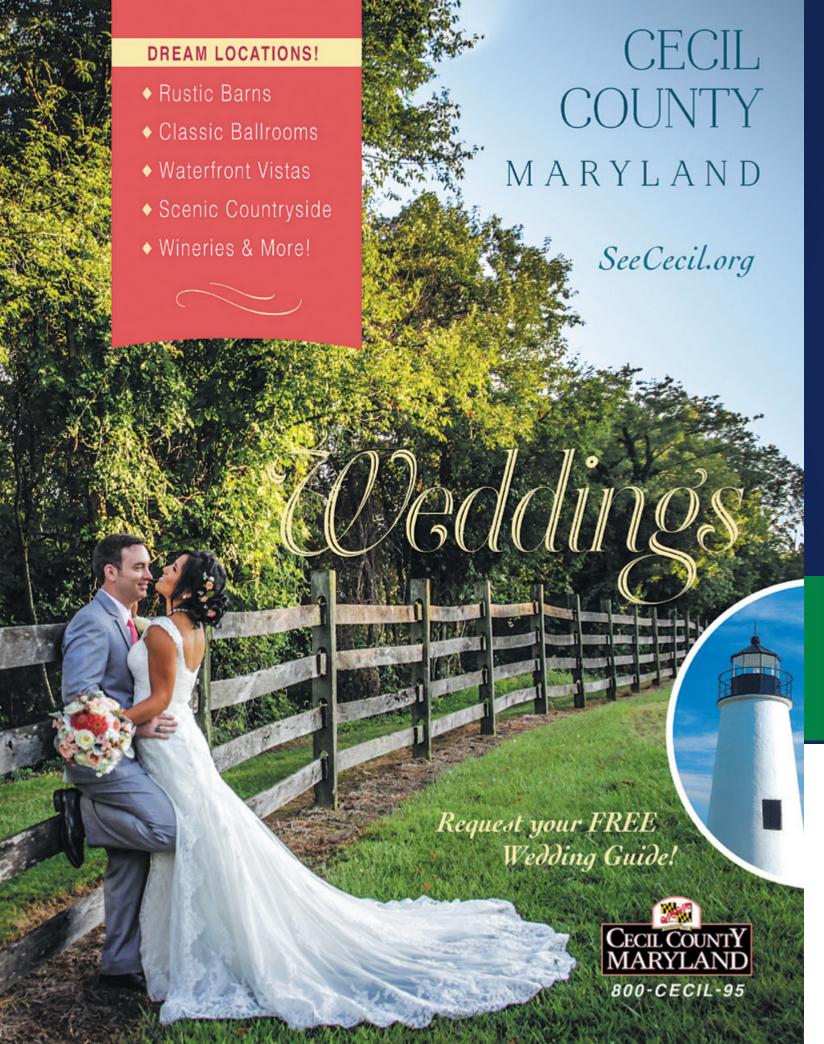


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The "Barron's Winner's Circle Top 1200" is a select group of individuals who are screened on a number of different criteria. Among the factors that advisors are assessed include their assets under management, revenues, the quality of service provided to clients, and their adherence to high standards of industry regulatory compliance. Portfolio performance is not a factor. Please see Barrons.com for more information.

The "Barron's Winner's Circle Top 100" is a select group of individuals who are screened on a number of different criteria. Among factors the survey takes into consideration are the overall size and success of practices, the quality of service provided to clients adherence to high standards of industry regulatory compliance, and leadership in "best practices" of wealth management. Portfolio performance is not a factor. Please see Barrons.com for more information.

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6 BR, 5.1 BA | 22.8 Acres Pool | Tennis Court | Pond Stream | Close to Ludwigs Corner \$2,499,000



Chester Springs 5 BR, 7.1 BA | 36.6 Acres | Views Grand Spaces | Very Private 10 Stall Stable | Ring | Paddock



Unionville Area 5 BR, 3 BA | 91.9 Acres | Bank Barn Stone Farm House | Pond/Stream | Indoor Pool | Barn | Large Riding Ring Organic Farm | Cheshire Hunt \$2,191,000



5 BR, 4.2 BA | 23+ Acres In-Law Suite | Unionville Schools



Unionville 6 BR, 4.1 BA | 74 Acres | Updated Private Pool | Amazing Barn Excellent Equestrian Facility Call for Info



Chester Springs 4 BR, 2.1 BA | 39.6 Acres Gorgeous Landscaping | Ponds Serene & Private | Preserved Views



Unionville Area 5 BR, 5.2 BA | 31.6 Acres Private | Separate Apt | Barn Riding Ring | Cheshire Hunt



Chester Springs Historic Mill | Scenic Waterfall Perfect Family Compound 5 Residences | Paradise Awaits \$1.383.000



Chester Springs 4 BR, 2.1 BA | 14.90 Acres Charles T. Ókie Design | Guest Cottage Beautiful Details | Privately Set



West Chester 5 BR, 3.2 BA | 2.1 Acres Noteworthy Chester County Home Beautiful Details | Spacious Kitchen



Pocopson Township 5 BR, 4.1 BA | 1 Acre Dazzling Home | Unionville Schools Cinema Room | Ideal Commuting \$1,000,000



West Chester 4 BR, 3.1 BA | 12.8 Acres 2 BR Cottage | Attached Garage 6 Stall Stable | Unionville Schools \$1,050,000



Unionville 20.5 Acres Land Lot | Paved Driveway Hilltop Space Cleared For Home Cheshire Hunt | Unionville Schools \$648.800



Chadds Ford 4 BR, 2.1 BA | 1.09 Acres | Quiet Great Floorplan | Commuter Convenient Unionville-Chadds Ford Schools



Chadds Ford 4 BR, 3.0 BA | 2.43 Acres | Pool Single Family Home or 3 Apts \$529,000



Glenmoore 10 Acres Land Lot East Nantmeal Twp | Idyllic Setting Private | Big Garage | Easy Commute Preserved Views | Near St. Peter's Village



When will winter be over? It's March, so ...

Reading County Lines will help pass the time while you wait.

This issue is packed with suggestions for interesting diversions: special books to read to your kids, unique wines to sample from Italy's Piedmont, numerous antiques shows to visit in our area, tasty recipes in our Brandywine Table column for "Breakfast Anytime," and reasons to support our local professional soccer club—the Philadelphia Union, playing in the Talen Energy Stadium in Chester, PA.

If you're still enjoying that sense of hygge (the Danish word for the coziness craze) in your home, we hope you enjoy our photo layout with dream bathrooms to inspire you to create a personal oasis or mini-spa in what could become your favorite room.

For those looking for something new and unique for their home, Mary Dolan surveys local sources of handcrafted, upcycled and creative furnishings. If you're looking for a new home, Laurel Anderson visits a country retreat—Stoney Ridge Farm in charming Birchrunville.

Want to take a short drive or armchair tour? Join Carol Metzker to discover sustainable, local foods and craft beers, spirits and coffees in Downingtown and Exton in "Just Your Taste." Whether you want burgers with a side of amusement, upscale dining or one-of-akind cups and plates, there's something to suit all tastes there.

In our "Healthy Through the Ages" feature, four local physicians share advice on some common problems: building your child's immunity; distinguishing and treating colds, flu, bronchitis and pneumonia; avoiding eye strain in a world of screens; and dealing with a fall onto an outstretched hand—a so-called FOOSH injury. Good advice for staying healthy.

Finally, be sure to check out our Best Local Events section for things to do this March.

Thank you for reading.





COUNTY LINES

April 2018

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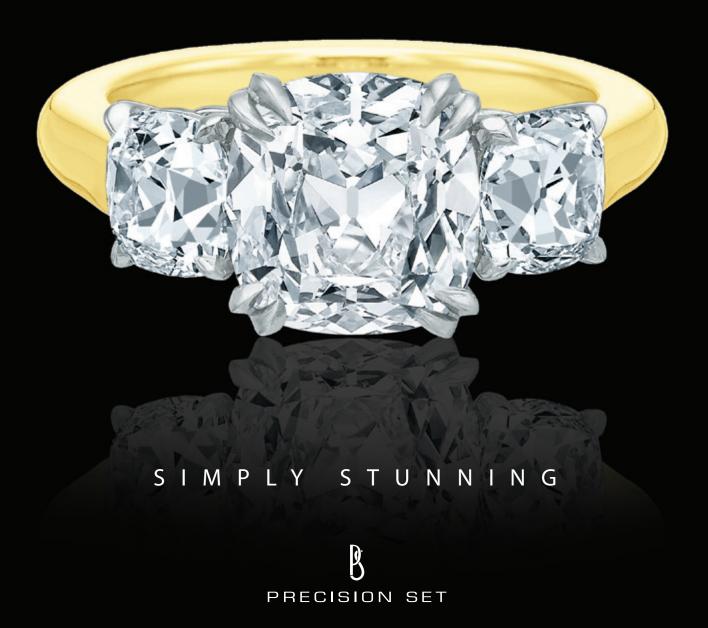
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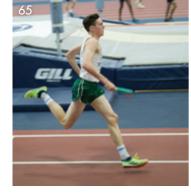
CONTENTS

VOLUME 41, NUMBER 8 @ APRIL 2018











29	BULLETS OVER BROADWAY THE MUSICA
	At Resident Theatre Company

WHAT TO SEE AT CHANTICLEER THIS SPRING

There's inspiration at every turn. Erin McKeon, Chanticleer

NEWTOWN SQUARE AND PAOLI

So many gems you've likely overlooked along busy Routes 3,252 and 30 Laurel Anderson

36 IT'S MOM'S BIG DAY, TOO

Mothers of the bride and groom getting ready Mary Irene Dolan

WITH THIS RING.

Do-It-Yourself Marraige Patricia T. Brennan

42 SAY "I DO" TO AN **UNCONVENTIONAL WEDDING**

Weddings today are as unique as the love stories behind them. Carol Metzker

GUIDE TO WEDDING VENUES AND SERVICES

Some of the finest in the area

58 WEDDING SPARKLE

Area style-makers add their take on ways to sparkle.

60 SUMMER CAMPS

Keeping the kids energized and engaged all summer

STUDENT ATHLETES WIN ON A BIG STAGE

Highlights from the high school winter sports season

SIP, SAVOR, SHOP & ENJOY KENT COUNTY

Spring on the Eastern Shore of Maryland

72 CHANGES ARE BREWING

The craft beer business continues to grow and change. Bryan Kolesar

BRANDYWINE TABLE

Fresh Eggs-Pure Protein Laura Muzzi Brennan

departments

10 BE FIT 12 BEING WELL 15 GOOD TO KNOW

17 APRIL PICKS 18 BEST LOCAL EVENTS 75 FOOD NEWS 82 INDEX

Cover photo and top photo by Pat Robinson Photography

Bridal Boot Camp

Ann Marie Catania

THE BENEFITS BEHIND THIS GROWING TREND

OU'VE PROBABLY HEARD ABOUT BRIDAL BOOT camp or the phrase "sweating for the wedding." Both may conjure up comical images of a beautiful bride dressed up in her flowing white gown, wearing a veil and combat boots while doing pushups.

What may seem like just another gimmick in the bridal industry is actually a surprisingly helpful part of wedding planning that can reap benefits that last long after memories of the toasts and "I do's."

WHY EXERCISE BEFORE THE BIG DAY?

We all know exercise is a great way to get in shape, and a workout can do much more than build muscle and burn fat to help you look great in a wedding gown or tuxedo. The mental and emotional perks of exercise are also important for brides and grooms as they prepare for their big day. And exercise will help improve the quality of your sleep, too.

The stress of planning a wedding—and, let's be honest, life in general—can take a toll on everyone involved, even extending to the couple's family members and busy members of the bridal party. Mothers of the bride are known to feel pressure before the nuptials, and those of a certain age may be attending several weddings during the busy peak wedding season.

Luckily our bodies have a way of combatting this stress naturally. All we have to do is get moving!



SPECIAL PLANS FOR THE WEDDING PARTY

Many gyms and fitness studios offer special programs and packages geared specifically towards brides. And most are happy to extend these offerings to others involved in the wedding—like the groom, mothers of the bride and groom, maid of honor and even the entire wedding party.

The goal for the pre-wedding exercise plan is simple: to help you look and feel your best on your special day. There are countless ways to accomplish this. The trick is finding the right exercise plan for you—one that doesn't have to feel like boot camp.

Of course it's best to start your training as early as possible—especially for ambitious goals for the big day—but four to six weeks out can produce noticeable results you'll see and feel.

Here are some options.

One-on-One. Whether you want to shed extra pounds or just tone your arms for the beautiful strapless wedding or bridesmaid gown you'll be wearing, a personal trainer can help you get specific results in the shortest time. Workouts are tailored to your personal fitness level and fitness goals. And a trainer can work around your busy pre-wedding schedule.

Better Together. Working out with your fiancé can be a powerful bonding experience where you support one another and work together toward shared goals. Or, maybe someone else in your life would make a great workout buddy—your mom or your maid of honor. It can be a great motivator to work out with someone who can help keep you on target, while you do the same for them. Ask your trainer about partner rates to share your training session.

Make It a Party! What better way to shake off those pre-wedding jitters than with a fun workout class filled with your friends? As more people realize a good sweat session might be what they need when they feel overwhelmed, Bridal Bootcamp Parties are becoming a regular part of the wedding weekend festivities. It's a great way to boost your energy and calm your nerves at the same time. And if your bridal party is local, you can even make it a weekly

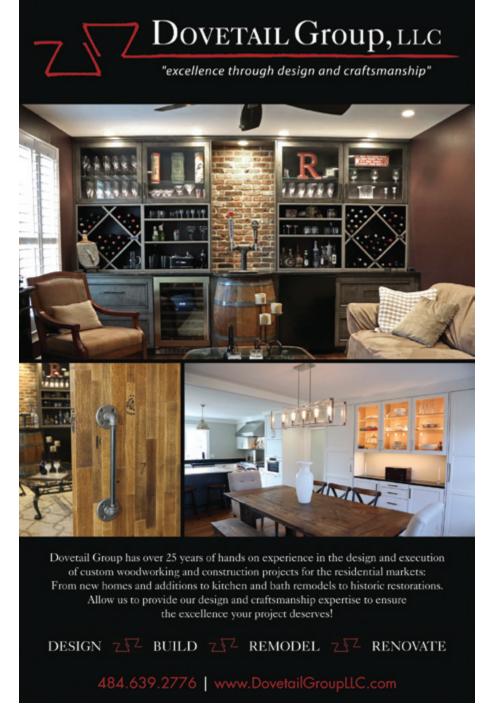
workout building up to the big event of the wedding day.

The right fitness routine will stick with you long after the dress gets packed away. Starting healthy habits now will be the best investment you can make in yourself as you begin a brand new chapter of life.

Showing off your hard work as you stand next to your life partner in front of your family and friends will make all the sweat and effort worth it!

Ann Marie is co-owner of Class-Fit Studio, a boutique fitness studio in Newtown Square. The studio offers a variety of fitness classes and specializes in personal training and small group training, with special packages for brides and others preparing for weddings. ClassFitStudio.com.





10 County Lines | April 2018 | CountyLinesMagazine.com

How to Get the Whitest, **Red Carpet Smile**

Dr. Eric Fort

PORCELAIN VENEERS ARE A POPULAR CHOICE

VER WONDER HOW HOLLYWOOD CELEBRITIES get their perfect, pearly whites? Although some may be blessed by good genes, for most stars that dazzling smile likely comes with the help of porcelain veneers.

And with the advances of modern dentistry, you too can have that same beautiful smile! Thanks to their natural appearance, porcelain veneers rank among the most popular procedures in cosmetic dentistry. Veneers instantly transform a smile, helping patients easily achieve the coveted "wow-factor" results, whether for a special day or for every day.

What Are Porcelain Veneers? Through the use of thin pieces of porcelain placed on the surface of teeth, veneers are used to enhance a tooth's appearance, shape, size, color or positioning without sacrificing the strength and resilience of natural tooth enamel. Veneers are a surface treatment, different from less permanent bonding and more substantial dental crowns.

Are Porcelain Veneers Right For You? If you have cosmetic or structural dental issues—such as discoloration, chips, cracks, stains, breaks, gaps, or worn or misaligned teeth—porcelain veneers may be an ideal solution. To optimize results and determine if veneers are the right choice, you should talk with your dentist about the exact improvements you'd like to see for your smile and your teeth overall.

What's Involved? If you think you may want veneers, your dentist may prepare a diagnostic mock-up of how veneers will look. Using temporary tooth-colored materials applied to your teeth and a cosmetic simulation program, your dentist can show you options for

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the new tooth color, size and shape. That way you can decide what you want for your

Depending on the method your dentist uses, a thin layer of enamel is generally removed from your teeth and veneers are then molded directly to the front of your teeth. Molds or impressions of your teeth are made to ensure the veneers will fit well.

Once the veneers are crafted by a specialty dental laboratory, they're permanently bonded to your teeth. To do that, bonding cement is applied to the veneer, and the veneer is placed on the tooth. A light beam activates the cement's quickdrying adhesive.

After some final adjustments and an evaluation, you're done!

Getting used to the feeling of the veneers in your mouth may take a few days. A follow-up visit to your dentist will ensure that the placement and edges of the veneers are correct, your bite and gums all feel comfortable, and your mouth is reacting well to the new addition.

How Do You Care for Veneers? Maintaining your beautiful new smile is simple and no different from caring for your original teeth. Your dentist may recommend a non-abrasive fluoride toothpaste, and if you grind or clench your teeth while sleeping, a bite guard may be recommended to prevent damage to your veneers. With proper care, your porcelain veneers may last 20 vears or more.

What Are the Pros and Cons? On the positive side, in addition to fixing imperfections, veneers can provide significant benefits for those seeking an amazing smile. They're nearly impossible to notice because they're custom-made and designed to fit your mouth perfectly. Porcelain resists stains from coffee, tea and cigarettes and will even brighten teeth that resist whitening. Numbing ensures the application process is painless, and it's much less invasive than getting a crown.

As for any cosmetic procedure, there are potential downsides to consider. Because the tooth's enamel may be removed, this treatment is non-reversible. Enamel removal may cause sensitivity to hot or cold temperatures, lasting a few days. And

porcelain veneers are an investment. The price varies depending on such things as how many veneers you need, the type of veneers, where you live, and the qualifications and reputation of your dentist.

What's Next? If you're ready to dazzle friends, family, coworkers and social media with a red-carpet-ready smile, contact a cosmetic dentist to learn more. Many offer free consultations to help you decide if porcelain veneers are the right choice to give you that Hollywood smile. ◆

Dr. Fort graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, School of Dental Medicine.

After dental school, he was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy. Dr. Fort began private practice in dentistry in his hometown and joined West Chester Dental Arts in 2008. WCDentalArts.com.





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



The Variety Venue. Get ready to tap your feet—local live music is growing! 118 North is Wayne's newest and freshest concert venue. Its intimate stage, Southwest-inspired kitchen and full bar all provide the perfect spot to discover your new favorite band. What makes 118 North stand out? Their commitment to presenting a diverse range of high-quality performances—spanning genres from power pop, to brass bands, to reggae, rock and beyond. Even better—tickets are just \$5! Get yours at 118NorthWayne.com.

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Library in a Box. Want a library on your lawn? Little Free Library is dedicated to increasing access to books and bringing neighbors together, all through a little wooden

box. With a policy of "take a book, leave a book," Little Free Libraries help your community share and connect by swapping classics and new reads. Discover a nearby Little Free Library using their online map or start your own local exchange. Info on building, buying, maps and more at LittleFreeLibrary.org.



Mini Movements. Time is hard to find, but you don't need much to make a difference. April 15th is Micro Volunteering Day—a holiday for helping others in bite-size ways. Only a few minutes can make someone's day shine brighter. Retweet a charity's fundraising page, drop-off unused clothes or canned goods, sort recyclables or write a letter to a veteran. These things seem small, but they add up in a big way. More ideas at GlobalGiving.org.

Bye Bye Prom Traditions. Prom has long been a celebration and a rite of passage for teens. But with Prom Season on its way, it's time to give old

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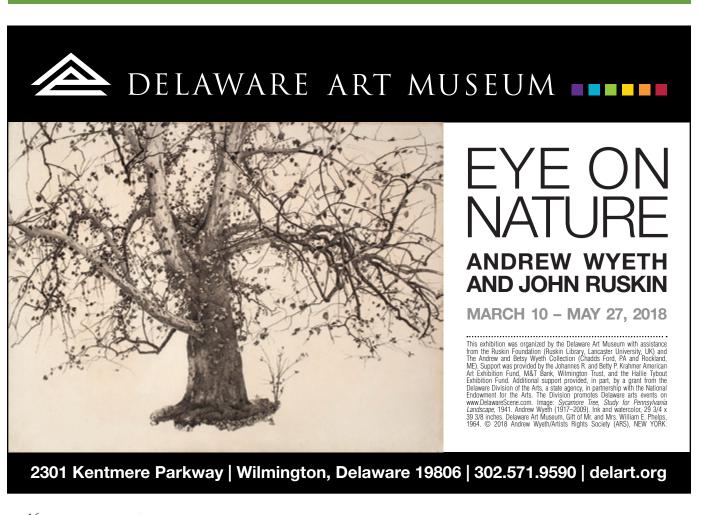
traditions an update. Make your gifts mean more with customdesigned corsages and boutonnieres that add personal flair to flowers. Steal the spotlight with elegant illusion-top gowns or playful twopiece party dresses. Catch

eyes with patterned lapel tuxes or textured or printed suitcoats. The options are endless! For more inspiration check out Pinterest.com.

Prizes, Pictures and More! Want to be in the know about the best of Chester County? Follow County Lines Magazine on social media. Snag our weekly Ticket Tuesday giveaways on Facebook to see professional shows, concerts and festivals for free! Access striking pictures, relevant articles, helpful guides and community spotlights by following our Twitter and Instagram. Like us on Facebook and turn on notifications to be first to see our exclusive info and deals. Find us at Facebook.com/CountyLinesMagazine. Instagram: @CountyLinesMagazine. Twitter: @County_Lines.







April Picks Our Picks for top events this month

Delaware Marathon Running Festival April 28-29

Travel across Brandywine Park, along the parkways, through the historic neighborhoods and past Rodney Square. Choose a full marathon, half-marathon or 4-person relay on Sunday or the 5K or kids fun run on Saturday, all to benefit area



charities. Non-runners can join in at start/finish line at Tubman-Garrett Riverfront Park for a party with live music, vendors and activities for the whole family. Tubman Garrett Riverfront Park, 815 Justison St., Wilmington. Visit website for registration, DelawareMarathon.org.

People's Light Auction - Laughter & Light

April 13





WCU Live! Tamagawa University Taiko Drumming & Dance Troupe

Tap your feet as nearly 30 drummers and dancers from Tamagawa University in Japan, make a return appearance for an athletic and graceful performance that includes thundering Taiko drumming and Japanese folkloric dance. Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall, 700 S. High St., West Chester. 7:30 p.m. \$12-\$17. 610-436-2266; WCUPa.edu/Live.

Americana Roots Ramble

April 14

A wide variety of music from early rock 'n' roll, classic rhythm and blues to alternative, reggae and more, featuring Charlie Gracie, Reggae Thunder, Danie Ocean,



Rock-A-Fillies, Ken Kweder and many more. State St., Media. 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. \$15-\$20. Free parking at meters. Rain or shine. 610-566-5039; StateStreetBlues.com.

Wheels of Wayne

April 29

Cruise on in for the 7th Annual Car and Motorcycle Show in downtown Wayne! Come out to see the antique, classic and custom cars and motorcycles while you enjoy entertainment,

food, prizes and more for the whole family. Participate in the pulled pork and pizza contests to help determine the best of the best. N. Wayne and West Aves. 1 to 4 p.m. Free. Rain date, May 6. 610-688-5600; Radnor.org



best Local Events

THROUGH APRIL,

FAMILY FUN

Story Time at Wellington Square Book-

shop. Ages 1–5 enjoy songs and cookies and alive in the bookshop. 549 Wellington Square, Exton. 10 to 11 am. 610-458-

THROUGH MAY 6

Zoo in You: The Human Microbiome at Delaware Museum of Natural History. Explore the world of our inner microorgancovering who our constant microbial companions are, where they live and the ways are to our health. 4840 Kennett Pk., Wilmington. Tues-Sat, 9:30 to 4:30; Sun, noon to 4:30. \$3-\$9. 302-658-9111; DelMNH.org.

Join the Continental Army at Valley Forae National Historical Park, Children are invited to join the Continental Army and soldier. Visitors Center, 1400 N. Outer Line Dr., King of Prussia. 11 am. Free. 610-783-

APRIL 7

Victorian Tea & Tour at Landis Valley Museum. Tour the Visitor Center then enjoy tea and light lunch in the historic Landis

APRIL 8

Annual Spring Eggstravaganza. Fun for the entire family with egg hunts for children and adults, live entertainment, crafts, food, prizes, the Easter Bunny and more. Villanova University Stadium, 800 E. Lancaster Ave., Villanova. 2 to 5 pm. Free. Rain date, Apr. 15. 610-688-5600; RadnorRecreation.com.

Books & Boots at Myrick Conservation Center. Children 3-5 listen as Potter the Otter reads a book to inspire the kids. Next, the story continues into a real-life, outdoor snack provided. Register by the April 11. 1760 Unionville-Wawaset Rd., West Chester.

10 to 11:30. \$8. 610-793-1090; Brandywine-RedClay.org.

Saturday Club's 3rd Annual Shuffle 5K & Kids Race. All ages welcome in downtown tial neighborhoods. Benefits local women's and children's charities. Course starts and ends at The Saturday Club, 117 W. Wayne Ave.,

Wayne. \$10-\$30. Kids race, 8:30 am; 5K, 9 am.

APRIL 21

All Parks Clean Up in West Chester, Celebrate Earth Day by signing up for a particular park and pitch in to help keep the borough beautiful. 9 to 10:30 am. 610-436-9010; West-Chester.com.

APRIL 21–22

Chester Valley Sportsman Assoc. Youth Trout Derby. Boys and girls ages 5 to 13 are invited. Free hot dogs and sodas plus trophies to those catching the 10 largest fish. Darby Creek at Saw Mill Park, 666 Earles Ln., Newtown Square. Sat, 8 to 11 and 4 to 7; Sun, 9

Arbor Day Celebration in Wayne. Radnor Township holds an annual tree planting ceremony. Clem Macrone Park, 810 Conestoga Rd., Wayne. Phone for time. 610-688-5600;

Philadelphia Science Festival, Tump in the fun with non-stop family-friendly experiments, interactive activities, games and live delphia. 10 to 4. Free. PhilaScienceFestival.org.



Sheep and Wool Day at Springton Manor Form. The sheep are losing their winter wool, and you're invited to the shearing. Enjoy live music, demonstrations and animals. 860 Springton Rd., Glenmoore. 11 to 3. Parking, \$5. 610-942-2450; ChesCo.org/CCPark

Malvern Blooms Festival. Celebrate Malvern at the festival that includes activities for the whole family—live music, kids activities, artists and crafters, a food court with food trucks and restaurants, and more. King St.



May Day Festival of the Arts in West Chester, A celebration of the arts with live music and entertainment, art, crafts and kids' activities. Everhart Park, 100 S. Brandywine West-Chester.com.

Brandvwine River Museum of Art-First Sundays for Families. Join in the fantasy of folklore and fairytales through hands-on art activities inspired by illustrations from the Museum's collection and "Folktale Fun" with acclaimed storyteller Tahira. 1 Hoffman's Rd., Chadds Ford. 11 to 2. Free. 610-388-2700; Brandywine.org.

5th Annual Haverford Spring Fest. Allday music, food and fun with vendors, beer/ wine gardens, inflatable park, children's activities. Benefits music education and local HaverfordSpringFest.com.

ART, CRAFTS & ANTIQUES.....

APRIL 13-15

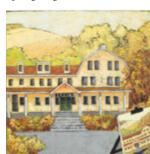
The Artists Circle Annual Art Show & Sale. Member artists showcase original works. St. Luke Lutheran Church, 203 N. Valley Forge Rd., Devon. Opening reception Fri, 5 to 8, live music and refreshments; Sat, 10 to 5; Sun, 1 to 4. Free, 484-514-2001; TheArtistsCircle.net.

APRIL 19-22

Philadelphia Antiques & Art Show. In its 56th year and offering many exceptional dealers. The loan exhibit is "Philadelphia Collects Philadelphia." Benefits the Philadelphia Museum of Art and Penn Medicine. The Navy Yard, 11th St. & Kittyhawk Ave., Phila. Gala Preview, Thurs, 6 to 9 pm, \$150-\$600. Show: Fri-Sat, 11 to 8; Sun., 11 to 5. \$15-\$25. 610-902-2109; PhiladelphiaAntiques-AndArtShow.com.

APRIL 27-MAY 13

45th Annual Yellow Springs Art Show. Over 200 juried artists from the Delaware Valley and beyond present their work. Apr. 27, Opening Gala, features a silent auction of this year's poster competition winner, 6 to 9, \$75. May 4, Wine & Cheese Happy Hour, 5:30 to 8, \$5, 1685 Art School Rd., Chester Springs. Daily, 10 to 4. Free. 610-827-7414; YellowSprings.org.



Gallery Walk in Downtown West Chester. Receptions and exhibits provide the perfect opportunity to experience downtown West Chester. Downtown West Chester. 5 to 9. Free parking after 5. 610-696-4046; Greater-WestChester.com.

MAY 4

West Chester's Vintage Market. Booths selling many items, food vendors, live music. Chestnut Street Parking Garage, 14 E. Chestnut St., West Chester. 4 to 8. 610-436-9010; West-Chester.com.

BOOKS

APRIL 3.5

Wellington Square Bookshop. Apr. 3, Stephanie Dray and Laura Kamole, authors of America's First Daughter talk about their upcoming release of My Dear Hamilton. Apr. 5, Non-

Fiction Book Club: This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War by Drew Gilpin Faust. 549 Wellington Square, Exton. Check website for more activities. 610-458-1144; WellingtonSquareBooks.com.

DANCE.....

APRII 13-15

First State Ballet Theatre—Romeo & Juliet. A world premiere choreographed by Viktor Plotnikov. The Baby Grand Theater, 818 Market St., Wilmington. Fri, 7 pm; Sat, 2 & 7 pm; Sun, 2 pm. \$30-\$50. 800-37-GRAND; The-GrandWilmington.org.

APRIL 28

Plated: A 6 Course Food & Dance Pairing by Ballet 180 / Nova Dance. Exploring concepts of layers, taste, perception and restriction. Each piece of choreography presented features a curated small dish to enhance the audience experience. 484-639-9571 or visit Ballet180.org.

DESIGN HOMES/HOME SHOWS......

APRIL 13-15

The 24th Annual Philadelphia Furniture Show. Meet the best furniture makers in the country along with the freshest contemporary art in Philadelphia, presented by the



PREVIEW RECEPTION

Friday, May 25, 6–9 p.m. \$125 members, \$150 non-members

BREAKFAST. LECTURE & TOUR Saturday, May 26, 9 a.m.

A PASSION FOR COLLECTING. May 27 & 28, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

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Proceeds from the Antiques Show support the Museum Volunteers' Purchase Fund and Art Education and Programming.

BRANDYWINE RIVER MUSEUM OF ART US Route 1, Chadds Ford, PA 19317 • 610.388.2700 • www.brandywine.org

Center for Emerging Visual Arts. 23rd Street Armory, 22 S. 23rd St., Philadelphia. Friday Preview, 6 to 9, \$45-\$75; Sat, 10 to 6, Sun, 10 to 5, \$8-\$15. 207-781-2982; Philadelphia FurnitureShow.com.

APRII 27-MAY 27 Bucks County Designer House & Gardens. Designers show their creativity at Cedaridge Farm, 93 Stover Park Rd., Pipersville. Apr. 27, Preview Gala, 7 to 10, \$150 and up. Show: Mon-Wed, Fri-Sat, 10 to 4; Thurs, 10 to 7; Sun, noon to 4. \$30. 215-345-2191; Bucks-

CountyDesignerHouse.org.

EQUESTRIAN.....

Brandywine Hills Point-to-Point. Watching the horses over cross country jumps, enjoying children's activities, tailgating and the pony races have made this a traditional family event. Myrick Conservation Center, 1760 Unionville Wawaset Rd., West Chester. Gates open at 10, first race at 11. \$20 per carload. 610-793-1090; BrandywineRedClay.org.

APRIL 29

73rd Kimberton Hunt Club Horse Show. This is the first outdoor USEF "C" show of the



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season and considered an opportunity for area riders to "warm up" before The Devon Horse Show. Food tent and vendors are always a great draw. Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Grounds, 1325 Pottstown Pk., Glenmoore. 8 to 6. Free. 610-469-0227; KimbertonHunt.org.



MAY 6

40th Annual Point-to-Point at Winterthur.

Enjoy a day of elite horse racing, kids' activities, festive tailgating, carriage parade, Delaware State Police Pipe Band, pony races, beautiful hospitality tents with elegant luncheons and more. Gates open 11:30; first race at 2. \$25-\$60. 800-448-3883; Winterthur.org.

FESTIVALS & FAIRS

APRIL 7–15

2018 Subaru Cherry Blossom Festival. A celebration of traditional and contemporary Japan with demonstrations, live music and dance. Sakura Sunday is held at the Horticulture Center in Fairmount Park in Phila. For details visit SubaruCherryBlossom.org.

FILM.....

APRIL 6-7

11th Annual Media Film Festival. Independent short films by regional, national and international filmmakers. Films will be shown at The Media Theatre, 104 E. State St., Media. For details visit MediaFilmFestival.org.

APRIL 27-29

West Chester Film Festival. The mission is to "Entertain, Enlighten and Educate" through global independent and innovative short film. For venues and tickets, WestChesterFilmFestival.com.

FOOD & DRINK....

See also: Fundraisers.

APRIL 2-7

City Restaurant Week in Wilmington. This year the week has expanded to include fine dining restaurants on Wilmington's West End, offering everything from Thai to Chilean to Italian. Two-course lunch, \$15; three-course dinner, \$35. CityRestaurantWeek.com.

APRIL 2-7

Media Restaurant Week. Select restaurants offer fixed priced menus, \$25-\$45. Free street parking after 6. VisitMediaPA.com.

APRIL 7

3rd Annual Rails & Ales at the Railroad Museum of PA. All aboard for a craft beer tasting event that includes food trucks, live music and historic trains. 300 Gap Rd. (Rt. 741), Strasburg. VIP hour: 6:30 to 7:30 pm, \$50; 7:30 to 10:30 pm, \$40; designated driver, \$15. 717-687-8628; RRMuseumPA.org.

MAY 5

Phoenixville Food Truck Festival. Food trucks line Bridge St. offering a wide variety of fare and vendors will be selling their wares, noon to 6 pm. Free shuttle service from Schuylkill Elementary School or University of Valley Forge. Details at PhoenixvilleFoodFestival.com.

FUNDRAISERS.....

APRII 7

Thorncroft's 33rd Annual Victory Gallop.

This year's theme, "Passing on the Reins," honors the work of long-time Thorncroft supporter, George Rubin, Black-tie dinner, dancing and silent auction benefit the therapeutic riding programs at Thorncroft. The Bellevue, 200 S. Broad St., Phila. 5:30 to 11:30. \$225. 610-644-1963; or Thorncroft.org.

APRIL 7

Rockin' Docs for Diabetes Cure. Fans of all ages will be rockin' at this concert/fundraising event at World Café Live, 3025 Walnut St., Philadelphia. All profits go directly to JDRF to find a cure for Type I diabetes. 7 pm. \$30. 215-222-1400; WorldCafeLive.com.

APRIL 11, 13-15

Life's Patina Picnic on the Farm and Spring Barn Sale. Shop for new and vintage home furnishings. Benefits The Barn at Spring Brook Farm, a nonprofit dedicated to empowering children with disabilities through animalassisted activities. Preview Wed, 11:30 to 2, \$25. 1750 N. Valley Rd., Malvern. Barn sale Fri, 10 to 5; Sat, 9 to 5; Sun, 10 to 4. 610-952-2254; LifesPatina.com.



Coaches vs. Cancer BasketBall. Hosted by Philadelphia's NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Coaches and their wives, this black-tie evening features dinner, entertainment, auctions and dancing. Park Hyatt at the Bellevue, 200 S. Broad St., Philadelphia. 6:30 pm. To register, PhiladelphiaBasketBallGala.org.

APRIL 15

Wine Women & Shoes. Gather for a fun day of shopping, wine tasting, delectable bites, a fashion show and more. Benefits The Alzheimer's Association. Merion Cricket Club, 325 Montgomery Ave., Haverford, 2 to 6 pm. Tickets \$150 and up. 800-272-3900; Wine-WomenAndShoes.com.

Dining Out for Life. An annual dining fundraising event raising money for AIDS service organizations in the area. Visit DiningOutFor-Life.com/Philadelphia/Restaurants.

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APRIL 19

Delaware College for Art & Design Art Party Fundraiser. Visitors can purchase student art as they enjoy music, cocktails and local catering. Benefits student operations and scholarships. 600 N. Market St., Wilmington, 5:30 to 8:30. \$50. DCAD.edu.

APRIL 21

American Helicopter Museum-12th Annual Fundraising Gala. "Copters in the Caribbean," featuring cocktails, dinner, entertainment and dancing. Caribbean costumes are encouraged. 1220 American Blvd., West



20 County Lines | April 2018 | CountyLinesMagazine.com





22 County Lines | April 2018 | CountyLinesMagazine.com

Chester. 5 to 10 pm. \$150. 610-436-9600; AmericanHelicopter.Museum.



APRIL 2

Community Arts Center Boots and Bandanas Bash Spring Fundraiser. Wear your Western-style best, grab some delicious food, a few beers or a bourbon and branch water, and two-step the night away to live music. 414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford. 7 to 11 pm. \$75. 610-566-1713; CommunityArtsCenter.org.

APRII 21

Safe Harbor's Spring Celebration. Enjoy cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dinner and auctions. Benefits Safe Harbor of Chester County, providing shelter and support to men and women experiencing homelessness in the county. Chester Valley Golf Club, 430 W. Swedesford Rd., Malvern. 5:30 to 10 pm. Tickets, \$125. 610-692-6550; SafeHarborOfGWC.org.

APRIL 22

Unite For HER—Bloom Spring Fashion Show.

A spring celebration of life, fashion and community, featuring Unite for HER participants and families. Merion Golf Club, 450 Ardmore Ave., Ardmore. 11 to 2. \$75. 717-461-6988; UniteForHer.org.

APRIL 26

"Toste of Spring" Fashion Show. "Get Your Glam On!" Enjoy a delicious lunch, raffles and a silent auction with items donated by local merchants round out the afternoon. Benefits Paoli Hospital. Free valet parking. Waynesborough Country Club, 11:30 am. \$55. 484-565-1380; PaoliAuxiliary.org.

APRIL 26

Human Services, Inc. Recovery Gala. An evening with dinner and drinks, silent auction and raffles, raising awareness and money for people who are affected by mental illness and homelessness. Downingtown Country Club, 93 Country Club Rd., Downingtown. 5:30 to 8:30. \$125. CCCBI.org/Recovery-Gala-2018/.

APRIL 26-28

The Saturday Club Women & Children's Consignment Sale. Benefits women's and children's charities. *Apr. 26*, Preview Night, complimentary wine and cheese, 5 to 9; *Apr. 27*, 9:30 to 5; *Apr. 28*, half-price sale, 8 to 1:30. The Saturday Club, 117 W. Wayne Ave., Wayne. 610-688-9746; Saturday Club.org.

Local Farm Markets

Bryn Mowr Formers Mkt., Lancaster Ave. at Bryn Mawr train station parking lot. *1st, 3rd & 5th Sat,. 10 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* & 4th Fri, 3 to 6. 610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com.

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

Malvern Farmers Mkt., First Baptist Church of Malvern, 146 Channing Ave. Ist & 3rd Sat, 10 to noon. 610-836-1391; Growing Roots Partners.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.

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

APRIL 28

Surrey Services for Seniors Gola and Auction. April in Paris is the theme for this year's gala fundraiser featuring cocktails, dinner and entertainment with a French flair and live and silent auction. Aronimink Golf Club, 3600 St. Davids Rd., Newtown Square. 5 pm. \$150.

610-647-9774; SurreyServices.org.

APRIL 28

Baker Industries' 36th Anniversary Spring Gala. Dinner and silent auction to celebrate the accomplishments of Baker Industries, a nonprofit work program for adults who are on parole or probation, in recovery, homeless, or have a diagnosed disability. Merion Cricket Club, Haverford. 6 pm. Tickets \$150 and up. 610-296-9795; BakerIndustries.org.

APRIL 29

21st Annual Celebrity Chef's Brunch. Enjoy an indulgent morning of gourmet cuisine pre-

pared by renowned chefs plus exquisite fine wines and delicious brunch cocktails. This year's Honorary Chair, Chef John Teasar. Benefits Meals on Wheels in Delaware. DuPont Country Club, 1001 Rockland Rd., Wilmington. 11:30 to 2:30. \$125. 302-656-3257; MealsOnWheelsDE.org.

MAY 5

Chester County Hospital Gala—Masquerade Ball. Arrive incognito wearing your finest mask, enjoy cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, a live performance from the Broadway cast of *Phantom of the Opera*, then dancing.

Longwood Gardens, 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Pre-party, 5:45 at Galer Estate Vineyard & Winery then over to Longwood at 7 for the gala. \$500 and up. ChesterCountyHospital.org.





CountyLinesMagazine.com | April 2018 | County Lines 23

GARDENS & GARDENING

APRIL 28

DE Center for Horticulture 38th Annual Rare Plant Auction. Rare or newly introduced plants are auctioned. Benefits communities and urban greening programs. Celebrated plant expert Bill Thomas of Chanticleer is guest speaker. Open bar, fine food and an exclusive after-hours Main Fountain Garden performance. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. 6:30 to 10 pm. \$125 and up. 302-658-6262; TheDCH.org.

APRIL 29

Arbor Day Open House at Scott Arboretum.

Bring the family to receive a free sapling tree and enjoy refreshments and a scavenger hunt through the Arboretum. Swarthmore College, 500 College Ave., Swarthmore. 9 to noon. Free. 610-328-8025; ScottArboretum.org.

APRIL 29

Wildflower Celebration at Mt. Cuba Center. Stroll through the native plant gardens, enjoy live



music, gardening activities, family programming and more. Food available and the first 1,000 families receive a free native plant. 3120 Barley Mill Rd., Hockessin. 10 to 4. Free. 302-239-4244; MtCubaCenter.org.

MUSEUMS...

THROUGH MAY 27

Delaware Art Museum. *Through Apr. 29*, "Point, Counter-Point: Alan Soffer, Brian Dickerson, Moe Brooker;" *through May 27*, "Eye on Nature: Andrew Wyeth and John Ruskin." 2301 Kentmere Pkwy, Wilmington. Wed, 10 to 4; Thurs, 10 to 8, free after 4; Fri–Sun, 10 to 4. \$6–\$12, free on Sun. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

THROUGH JUNE 3

Brandywine River Museum of Art. *Through May 20*, "Southwestern Son: The Lithographs of Peter Hurd;" *through June 3*, "The Way Back: The Paintings of George A. Weymouth," featuring more than 60 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.

THROUGH DECEMBER

Chester County Historical Society. *Through Apr. 14*, "You've Got Mail!" highlights the changes in postage between 1790 and 1890; *through Dec. 31*, "Many Nations/Chester

County." 225 N. High St., West Chester. Tues—Sat, 9:30 to 4:30. \$4—\$8. 610-692-4800: ChesterCoHistorical.org.

APRIL 12-JANUARY 6, 2019

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library. "Follies: Architectural Whimsy in the Garden;" "Dining by Design: Nature Displayed on the Dinner Table." 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur. Tues—Sun, 10 to 5. \$15—\$30. 302-888-4600; Winterthur.org.

MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT...

THROUGH APRIL 13

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater at Mount Hope Estate & Winery. An interactive, culinary "who-done-it." You'll enjoy a four-course meal as you become the detective—interrogate the suspects, put the clues together and uncover the truth. 2775 Lebanon Rd., Manheim. Fri—Sat, 7 pm; Sat—Sun, 1 pm. \$54.95. 717-665-7021; PARenFaire.com.

APRIL 2, 4, 13

Point Entertainment Presents ... Apr. 2, An Evening with Acoustic Hot Tuna, 7:30; Apr. 4, Billy Cobham's Crosswinds Project, 7:30; Apr. 13, Christopher Cross, 8 pm. The Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. Call for tickets, 610-917-1228: The Colonial Theatre.com.

APRIL 2-MAY 6

Events at Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center. Apr. 2 & 24, Curtis on Tour: Violin & Guitar: Wanchi and Jordan Dodson; Apr. 23, West Chester Area School District Sensational Strings Concert; Apr. 25, Berlin to Broadway with Kurt Weill; Apr. 26, Jazz Cocktail Hour with Tap Trio; May 6, "Great Balls of Fire" starring Linda Gentile. 226 N. High St., West Chester. Check website for details. 610-356-2787; UptownWestChester.org.

APRIL 6-28

The Keswick Theotre Presents. *Apr. 6*, Cry Cry Cry (Dar Williams, Lucy Kaplansky, Richard Shindell); *Apr. 7*, The Fab Faux; *Apr. 8*, An Intimate Evening with David Foster; *Apr. 12*, Iyanla Vanzant; *Apr. 13*, One Night of Queen; *Apr. 21*, Dweezil Zappa; *Apr. 23*, Rodriguez; *Apr. 25*, An Evening with Steven Wilson; *Apr. 27*, Tenors of Rock; *Apr. 28*, Always & Forever: An Evening of Luther Vandross starring Ruben Studdard. 291 N. Keswick Ave., Glenside. Visit website for times and tickets. 215-572-7650; Keswick Theatre.com.

APRIL 13

Delaware Art Museum Presents Step Afrika! The world's first professional company dedicated to stepping, where dancers create extraordinary performances using their bodies as instruments. The Grand, 818 N. Market St., Wilmington. 8 pm. \$22–\$28. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

APRIL 14, 15

Kennett Symphony Concerts. *Apr. 14*, A Reimagined Symphony Experience: *Beethoven & Bellinis*, Grand Ballroom, Mendenhall Inn, 1 pm, \$10–\$40; *Apr. 15*, Romance & Revelry, Exhibition Hall, Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square. 7:30 pm. \$10–\$50. 610-444-6363; KennettSymphony.org.

APRIL 21

WCU—Live! The Mickey Finn Show. Piano virtuoso Fred "Mickey" Finn and his wife, American Banjo Hall of Fame inductee Cathy Reilly Finn perform. Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall, 700 S. High St., West Chester. 3 pm. \$15–\$22. 610-436-2266; WCUPa.edu/Live.

APRIL 22

Chesco Pops Spring Concert. Music director Joseph Gehring leads the orchestra in their spring performance at Phoenixville Area Middle School, 1330 Main St., Phoenixville. 3 pm. Free admission. 610-594-9178; Chesco-Pops.org.

APRIL 27

Community Arts Center Friday Night Live Concert. Lisa Chavous with R&B, Motown, Philly and Beyond. 414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford. 7 to 10 pm. \$10–\$15. 610-566-1713; CommunityArtsCenter.org.

APRIL 28

5th Annual Wyebrook Farm Music Fest. Welcome spring with great music and fun overlooking the pond. Food trucks will be on hand. Bring a lawn chair and a cooler (it's BYOB), sit back and enjoy. 150 Wyebrook Rd., Honey Brook. 10 to 6. \$30–\$40; under 12, free. 610-942-7481; WyebrookFarm.com.

APRIL 28, MAY 6

OperaDelaware 2018 Spring Festival—Puccini. *Il Tabarro* and *Suor Angelica* at The Grand Opera House, 818 N. Market St., Wilmington. *Apr. 28*, 7:30, *May 6*, 2 pm. \$29–\$99. 302-442-7807; OperaDE.org.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES...

APRIL 7

24th Annual Dash 4 Diabetes. The 5K Run, 2.5-Mile Walk and Kids Fun Run take place in downtown West Chester. Chester County Justice Center, 201 W. Market St. Benefits Diabetes Education at Chester County Hospital. Reg. 2:30. Kids run, 3:30, race at 4. \$10–\$20. CCHosp.com.

APRIL 7

Tyler Arboretum 10K Trail Run. A 10K course, known to be fast and challenging for the fittest trail runner and fun for novices, due to wide paths, frequent elevation changes and

creek crossings. 515 Painter Rd., Media. 9 am. \$34. Runners must register, 610-891-0806; TylerTrailRun.com.

APRIL 2

The 2018 Schuylkill River 50K Relay & Ultra Marathon. Race solo or in teams of 3 or 6 runners. Starts and ends at St. Michael's Park in Mont Clare, across the river from Phoenixville. Benefits the Schuylkill River Heritage Area. 9 am. \$92–\$219. 484-945-0200; Schuylkill-RiverRelay.com.



APRIL 28
14th Annual Family Lives On Race for Traditions. The Race is more than just a 5K and 1 mile run, but fun for the whole family with games, music, special guests, a Tot Trot and more. Family Lives On raises money, awareness

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auction-bid.org or call 610-869-4902 ext.

225. To learn more, visit www.k94life.org.



and support for children who have experienced profound loss. Wellington Square, Exton. 8 to 11. To register, FamilyLivesOn.org.

MAY 5

Cinco de Mayo Benefit Bike Ride. Cyclists with and without disabilities come together to support the PA Center for Adapted Sports. 25- and 50-mile road routes for avid cyclists, plus up to 23 miles on the Chester Valley Trail for more recreational riders. Valley Creek Corp. Ctr., 220 Valley Creek Trail, Exton. Reg., 7:30 am. \$40. Post ride fiesta at noon. CincoDeMayoRide.org.

MAY 6

Blue Cross Broad Street Run. A 10-mile, pointto-point course starting at Central High School Athletic Field, Broad St. and Somerville Ave., Phila. and finishing inside the Navy Yard. Benefits the American Cancer Society. 8 am. \$53. 215-683-3594; BroadStreetRun.com.

THEATER

THROUGH APRIL 1

Always Patsy Cline. Sing along to this tribute to the legendary country singer. Media Theatre, 104 E. State St., Media. Check website for show times and tickets. 610-891-0100; Media-Theatre.org.

THROUGH APRIL 15

I Will Not Go Gently. A faded rock-n-roller reclaims the spotlight in this award-winning, one-woman show with original songs by Jennifer Childs and Christopher Colucci. People's Light, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. Check website for show times and tickets. 610-644-3500; PeoplesLight.org.

THROUGH APRIL 15

Bullets Over Broadway. See article in this issue.

APRIL 18-MAY 13

Ella: First Lady of Song. Virtuosa Freda Payne brings the immortal singer to life in this show that follows Ella from her childhood struggles of living with abuse and her time on the streets through her career. Delaware Theatre Company, 200 Water St., Wilmington. Check website for times and tickets. 302-594-1100; DelawareTheatre.org.

TOWNS, TALKS & TOURS.....

APRIL 6, 14, 19

First Fridays, Second Saturdays, Third Thursdays. Apr. 6, 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; City-FestWilm.com. Apr. 14, Second Saturday Arts Stroll: Media, 484-445-4161; MediaArtsCouncil.org. Apr. 19, Malvern Stroll, MalvernBusiness.com.

APRII 12

Chadds Ford Hist. Society Tavern Talks.

Hugely popular series for adults, focusing on early American history and culture with activities, food and drinks. This month, "Law And Order: Colonial Intent," explores the ways in which laws were enforced (or not) during the Colonial period. Barns Brinton House, 6030 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford, 7 to 9. \$15-\$20. 610-388-7376; ChaddsFord History.org. ♦

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

For more events visit:

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AT RESIDENT THEATRE COMPANY THROUGH APRIL 15

OT OFF THE HEELS OF THREE BARRYMORErecommended shows (Monty Python's Spamalot, Next to Normal, A Christmas Carol: A Live Radio Play), The Resident Theatre Company continues its mission of bringing professional New York theater to West Chester with its spring production of Bullets Over Broadway: The Musical.

Loaded with big laughs, unforgettable characters and the songs that made the 1920s roar, Bullets Over Broadway: The Musical brings musical comedy back with a bang. Based on the screenplay of the acclaimed 1994 film, this six-time Tony-nominated musical features hits from the 1920s, including "Let's Misbehave," "Tain't Nobody's Biz-ness If I Do" and "There's a New Day Comin'!"

Set smack-dab in the heart of Prohibition Era Broadway, the story begins with a struggling playwright who can't get his play produced until he finds a big money backer. Little does he know, his new investor is a gangster, whose no-talent girlfriend will play the lead!

The Resident Theatre Company's new production features actors from New York City and Philadelphia, including Jennie Eisenhower,

the two-time Barrymore award-winning actress and RTC Broadway in the Borough Alumna.

Be sure to catch this final show of the season.

Come enjoy live theater and support the The Resident Theatre Company as it inspires people to come together, turn off their devices and experience live theater and the community it creates in the heart of West Chester. •

IF YOU GO:

Where: Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center 226 N. High St., West Chester

When: March 30-April 15

Tickets: \$25-\$53 (student and senior discounts) at Resident Theatre Company RTCWC.org and UptownWestChester.org; 610-356-2787

Information: RTCWC.org



Written by Erin McKeon, Chanticleer Photos by Lisa Roper, Chanticleer

THERE'S INSPIRATION AT EVERY TURN FOR THE HOME GARDENER.

PRING IS A VERY ATMOSPHERIC SEASON AT Chanticleer in Wayne. From cherry petals blowing in the wind like falling snow, to birdsong filling the air there's no denying the sensation of life springing forth from to grow plants, spring ephemerals can be an excellent solution. the fertile ground.

With the onset of warmer temperatures, trees begin to unfurl their leaves, bulbs and fiddlehead ferns push up through garden beds and lawns, and gardeners begin the work of tending the garden for the season. Visitors who arrive at Chanticleer in spring will enjoy both brisk walks through the garden to see seasonal displays, as well as the chance to sit and absorb the peaceful surroundings of a garden awakening from a long winter's rest.

PLANTING SPRING EPHEMERALS

Spring is personified in Chanticleer's five-acre woodland garden that features a wide range of native plants and spring ephemerals. The garden is named for the creek that runs through it—Bell's Run—and has been a living laboratory for growing unusual specimen plants that emerge in spring then fade with the rising daytime temperatures of summer.

Favorite specimens that can be seen only in spring are some trillium species, woodland poppy (Stylophorum diphyllum) and Virginia bluebells (Mertensia virginica). Another must-see, the delicate blooms of the Quaker ladies (Houstonia caerulea) are abundant alongside fresh-green moss that's carefully weeded and kept free of debris.

For gardeners with deep shade and dry soil, where it's difficult In late April, the horticulturist who manages the gardens in Bell's Woodland will lead a class that discusses how to introduce spring ephemerals and shade perennials into tough garden conditions.

USING BULBS FOR COLOR

The Gravel Garden at Chanticleer, though designed for strong displays that peak in the heat of summer, is an inviting place to see how bulbs create a strong color statement.

Colors of orange and blue characterize the drought-tolerant garden in early spring. Orange tulips in two shades (Tulipa Shogun & T. Orange Emperor) are mixed with two types of grape hyacinth (Muscari Valerie Finnis & M. armeniacum). Blue spurge (Euphorbia myrsinites) ties it all together with its chartreuse, yellow-green flowers.

Descending the steps in the garden, visitors will relish the scent of the fragrant yellow blossoms of Crandall's clove currant (Ribes odoratum Crandall). Later in spring, the ornamental alliums— Early Emperor, Purple Sensation and White Giant—bloom in concert with wisteria (Wisteria sinensis Amethyst).

Two distinct phases of spring blooms make the Gravel Garden

an interesting place to get ideas for successional planting.

ing cherries bloom at the Gravel Circle in front of the Chanticleer Ho

FLOWERING TREES

Flowering trees are an important yet sometimes overlooked part of the garden palette. Defined as flowering trees less than 40-feet tall, these plants make spectacular statements, accents and specimen trees in the landscape.

Many fine examples can be viewed in the Orchard Lawn at Chanticleer. Formerly a functional apple orchard that supplied the Rosengartens (former owners of the property) with fall fruit, the trees were replaced with cherries and disease-resistant flowering crabapples (Malus David & M. Indian Summer are two favorite specimens).

In the early months of spring, these flowering trees bloom in concert with thousands of pale yellow daffodils that create large drifts and nod in the wind. Chairs dot the Orchard Lawn, inviting visitors to step into the painterly landscape. Timed for peak bloom, an April class at Chanticleer will demonstrates how to use small flowering trees in the home landscape.

FOR INSPIRATION

Chanticleer can be a place of respite and relief from the pressures and distrac-

tions of the outside world. As guests enter the gate, they shed responsibilities and feel invited to enter a world of creativity, texture, color and movement. From creative bed edging to reliable groundcovers, Chanticleer is a font of ideas for avid and amateur gardeners alike.

To learn more, register for an exclusive plant walk with R. William Thomas, Chanticleer's Executive Director and Head Gardener. The program, "Wine, Cheese and Trees" will be held on June 14th, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and will offer participants the chance to walk the garden with an expert.

Chanticleer is a dynamic garden that's ever changing. The staff welcomes visitors to come often, observe the garden through each season, and ask questions of those tending the gardens. To learn more about the classes and to find out how you can learn from the Chanticleer horticulturists, please visit the website.

Chanticleer has been called the most romantic. imaginative and exciting public garden in America. It's a garden of pleasure and learning, relaxing yet filled with ideas to take home. The garden opened March 28th and remains open through October, Wednesday through Sunday, 10 to 5, and until 8 p.m. on Friday evenings May through Labor Day. 786 Church Rd.,



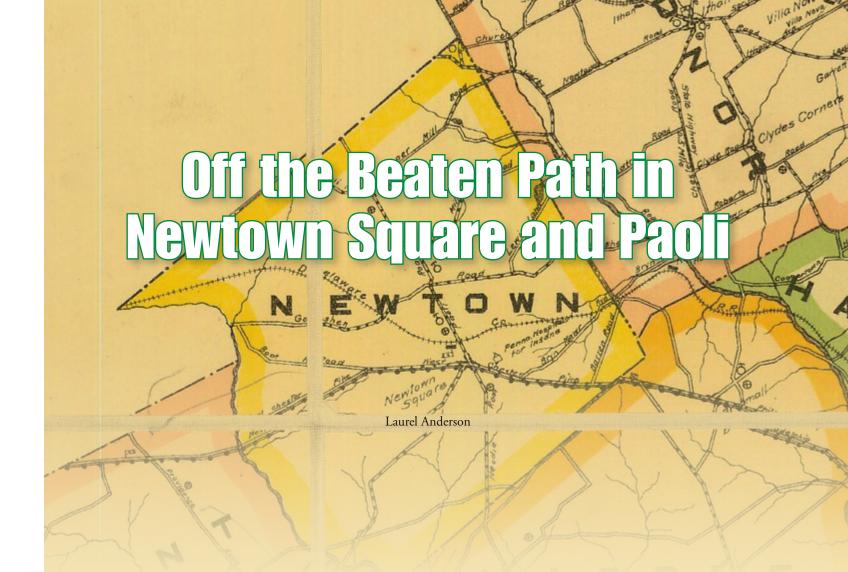
Narcissus bloom in the Orchard Lawn underneath flowering cherry t











SO MANY GEMS YOU'VE LIKELY OVERLOOKED ALONG BUSY ROUTES 3, 252 AND 30

IGH PROFILE AND SPRAWLING DEVELOPMENTS—like Toll Brothers' Liseter housing development and Ellis Preserve's mixed-use, live-work community—have made an indelible impact on Newtown Square. But there are small gems scattered along the busy Routes 3 and 252 corridors you may have missed as you've sped by. Similarly, tucked into and behind strip malls lining the blocks on Paoli's portion of Lancaster Pike/Route 30 are surprising shops, boutiques and even the Philadelphia Curling Club.

Having previously taken readers through the history and newer businesses in these two towns connected by Route 252—formerly known as Great Providence Road—it's time to shine a light on lesser-known points of interest.

STARTING IN NEWTOWN SQUARE

While we wait for Phase 2 of Ellis Preserve—plans headed to the township likely include a dine-in theater, more restaurants and entertainment venues, says Steven Spaeder of Equus Capital Partners—it's worth taking a closer look at businesses that add texture to the township.

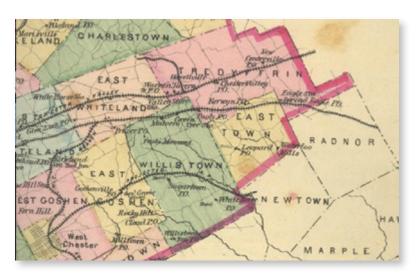
Yes, there are new additions: Himalayan Salt Wellness Cave, an

oasis with the healing powers of salt and alternative therapies, plus the expanding P.J. Whelihan's Pub chain, a different kind of oasis with 56 TV screens, outdoor firepits and their famous wings.

But on this tour we'll cruise past the many car dealerships—from pre-owned cars to Porsches—past office clusters with a District Courthouse, past time-honored restaurants like La Locanda Ristorante Italiano (since 1997), Teikoku (Asian fare in a teahouse), and the Upper Crust Restaurant & Pizzeria (serving breakfast anytime just feet from Route 3 traffic).

Instead, we'll delight in the McDade-Cara School of Irish Dance, dedicated to preserving the rich tradition of Irish step and figure dancing. Then head for the Newtown Square Railroad Museum, with its preserved steam engine, box car, caboose and passenger car from the early 20th century at Drexel Lodge Park. And nearby, hit a few balls at MGolf Driving Range and Learning Facility.

For niche shops, it's worth a trip to Newtown Square to visit Slip Knot for a guided knit-a-long and knitting events, Main Line Monograms for you-know-what, or Boutique Sorelle for ethically sourced handmade and sustainable products and trendy jewelry. Runners can race into the Running Place to get their gait analyzed, worn out shoes



inspected for wear patterns, and injury history reviewed before being matched with their next pair of trainers.

Fashion fans may visit Hassis Men's Shop, which boasts 40 years of custom fitting for fashionable men, or B&D Tailors, which has stitched up bespoke custom suits since 1966, including for Villanova's well dressed Coach Jay Wright. For women, try élan for a boutique shopping experience and their styling expertise.

And while waiting for the Whole Foods to open—latest update pushed back the date to winter 2018—there's still family-owned and operated Gentile's Market, serving Newtown Square and beyond for over 50 years, and not far away is a branch of Hill's Quality Seafood Market, with over 40 years of service. Though the only edibles at Mostardi Nursery are what you can grow in

your garden, this is another local business with over 40 years in Newtown Square.

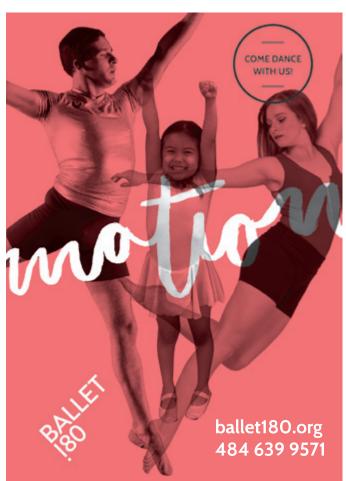
Local foodies also head for Christopher Chocolotes, a family-owned shrine to all things made with or covered in that sweet goodness. Or for 100 years of German donuts, tortes, breads, pies and cakes, there's Weinrich Bokery just steps away. Looking for Italian delights? Try Fellini's Cofé with 70-some menu items or Luigi and Giovanni's Deli nearby at St. Alban's Circle.

NORTH TO PAOLI

Just four miles north on Route 252, past what many still call the "new" Episcopal Academy campus even after almost ten years here, past the turn for Historic Waynesborough and the Waynesborough County Club, plus assorted places of worship—St. Albans Episcopal Church, Newtown Square Friends Meeting House, Congregation of Shalom, and St. Norbert's Church and school—there's Paoli. At the intersection of Routes 252 and 30 (aka Lancaster Pike), this was the end point on the original Main Line railroad line.

Now the former Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike is lined with strip malls and shops of all varieties, from new-ish Aneu Kitchen & Catering to the soon-to-close Main Line Lighting (since 1958), and the two-story family-owned Paoli Pharmacy, home to customized personal service, plus the pretty in pink VanCleve Wedding Pavilion, where you'll find non-wedding businesses, like Sugarbridge Kitchen & Bath Design.





Farther west you'll spot a sign for a psychic and for Clockworks, Inc., unlikely businesses at this busy intersection. Next there's Vintage Home, where shabby chic trends toward casual sophistication, and behind that shop is Your Organic Bedroom, since 2007 the source of mattresses made of just natural cotton, eco-wool and natural rubber latex.

Next of note are Style of Man, a barbershop/salon hybrid for the discerning gent, and the Main Lion Cat Grooming Salon, for fear-free and creative grooming, including the lion cut to make your cat look ... fierce.

Eateries abound, too, from national and regional chains like Skinny Pizza, Nudy's Café and Rita's Water Ice to singular locations with longer names, like TJ's Restaurant & Drinkery and EatNic Urban Farmhouse Eatery and BYOB.

Athletes, dancers and wellness fans will find their destinations here, too. The Paoli Shopping Center is home to one of the 40-some locations for Lacrosse Unlimited, the largest lax retailer for apparel and equipment in the U.S. Dance fans will head for Ballet 180 for performances and lessons.

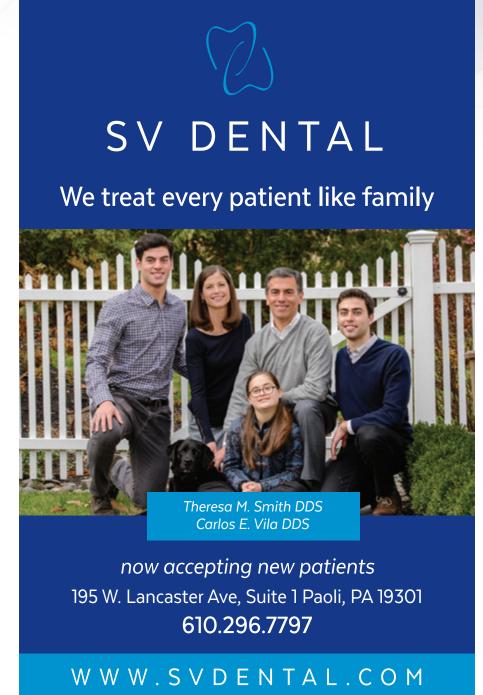
The Depot Shoppes are the place for spin, aerial yoga, pilates, boxing, nutritional counseling and more at Purenergy Fitness Studio. Just a cartwheel or so away is the smaller, quieter Sweet Pose, your stop for more holistic energy healing like Tibetan singing bowl meditations, Pranic healing, "body talk" therapy and the like.

Perhaps the most surprising find on this idiosyncratic tour is the Philadelphia Curling Club, just north of Lancaster Pike on Plank Avenue, behind SV Dental. With interest in curling peaking after the first U.S. gold medal at the Winter Olympics, if there ever were a time to consider the sport, this is it!

Self-described as thriving, welcoming and providing a great curling environment for players of all levels of experience, the Curling Club has been around since 1957. So, if you have a clean pair of sneakers and some loose fitting clothing (sweatpants allowed!), check out the recently updated facilities at this two-sheet club.

That alone is worth the drive to Paoli! •





34 County Lines | April 2018 | CountyLinesMagazine.com | April 2018 | CountyLinesMagazine.com



HE'S BEEN THERE FOR YOU THROUGH IT ALL. Helped you choose your dress, venue, flowers and favors. Brought the family together. And gave you her blessing. All for your big day.

But a wedding is a big day for mothers of the bride and groom, too. As she supports you at this milestone, your mom deserves to look and feel her best, both in person on the day of your wedding and in the photos she'll cherish for years.

Luckily our local salons and spas are here to pamper, beautify and rejuvenate your mom as she prepares to watch you walk down the aisle—and try not to ruin her makeup with tears.

FOUNDATIONS

Glowing skin and a fresh face aren't important just to the bride! Mom will have her fair share of the limelight and will benefit from making sure her skin is in radiant condition.

First and foremost, owner and bridal coordinator Lindsey Kress of Luxe Salon & Spa advises getting on a skincare regimen a few months before the day. "This way you can get a head start on improving or correcting any concerns you have," she says.

For moms, their concerns might be a little different from their daughters'-from hyper-pigmentation and sunspots to dryness and fine lines—and their skincare regimens will likely look very different as well. Many spas are happy to offer individualized advice and product lines that will work for your mom's individual, specific needs.

For an in-spa treatment at Luxe's Lancaster or Lititz locations, Lindsey recommends a Zo Medical Skin Brightening Facial to help cleanse, exfoliate and brighten skin that may be uneven or blotchy. Their Ultra Hydration Facial is another option if dryness and sensitivity are an issue.

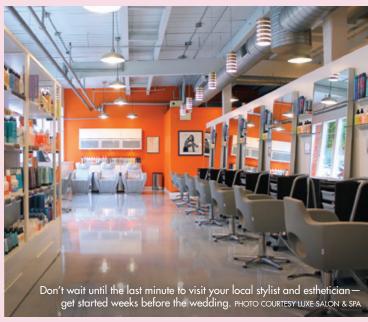
In the weeks and days leading up to the wedding, Joe Gaglioti of Joseph Anthony Retreat Spa & Salon of Glen Mills warns to stay away from heavy extractions or intense peels. Skin may be a bit tender or irritated after these more in-depth treatments, so it's best to go for something gentle, but still potent. Instead, he suggests their Hydrafacial or anti-aging, ingredient-packed Oxygen Facial for mom closer to the big day.

CAMERA READY

Mom's gorgeous dress won't be complete without the hair and makeup to match. Her goal should be to look her best while still staying true to herself. After all, she'll be bombarded with countless family members and friends offering their congratulations, so

In preparation, esthetician and makeup artist Stephanie McCray of Jillian Grace Salon in West Grove recommends getting a hair cut and—if she uses it—color touch-up one to two weeks before the wedding. "This way the ends will look fresh whether she's wearing it up or down," says Stephanie, and her roots won't begin to grow in.

"For added shine, a service I encourage before a special event is a color glaze," she suggests. Whether mom is a regular hair-dyer





or has never touched color in her life, the glaze will make hair glossier, smoother and appear healthier—all of which will bring out the beauty of any hairstyle. Natural looking highlights are another option to add dimension, especially in photos.

Stephanie advises mothers of the bride and groom—similarly to the bride—not to stray too far from their everyday look. "You really want to feel comfortable in your own skin," she stresses. And when working with a professional makeup artist and hair stylist, they will get a feel for Mom's best features, lifestyle and personality and know how best to enhance her beauty without changing it.

RELAX IN & OUT OF TOWN

With all the hard work she does, Mom deserves a break! After spending innumerable non-billable hours prepping, advising and most likely—worrying over the wedding details, a day of TLC is the perfect gift to show her your appreciation.

At Joseph Anthony Retreat Spa & Salon, "We really cater to mothers of the bride and groom," says Joe Gaglioti. "A stress-free day of massage combined with our unique soft pack body treatment is the ultimate treat."

Not sure what a soft pack treatment entails? One hour of pure euphoria, including a gentle body exfoliation, sumptuous soothing wrap and pressure-free float experience—so relaxing you'll want to book one yourself. Plus you can hang out together in the Brine Light Therapy Salt Room and let your wedding worries melt away.

Many spas like Luxe Salon & Spa offer custom packages with a little bit of everything. Their Half-Day Escape package with a 60-minute massage, 60-minute personalized facial and mani/pedi complete with a complimentary lunch—may be just the thing to help your mom re-center in the days or weeks prior.

Others, like The Inn & Spa at Intercourse Village in Lancaster, have spa specials for guests at the Inn, perfect for out-of-town wedding guests in desperate need of relaxation after a long drive. Maybe treat both your parents—if Dad is willing!—to a Tranquility for Two spa day to let parents unwind and reconnect before the ceremony.

They'll be sure to thank you!

MOTHER-DAUGHTER TIME

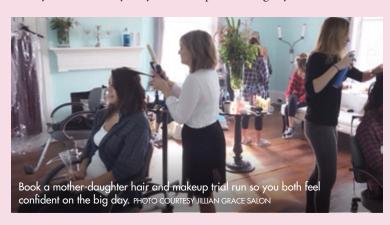
Maybe Mom wants some company on her spa day escape? Especially if stress has left you both feeling more distant than usual. If so, a mother-daughter retreat is in order!

At Currie Hair Skin & Nails—with locations in West Chester, Glen Mills, Kennett Square and Wayne—try their Mom & Me package, perfect for brides-to-be and their moms. Enjoy mini facials, half-hour massages, French manicures, specialty pedicures and lunch while you catch up and de-stress. And with a range of other services available-including teeth whitening, acupuncture, hair removal and more—consider booking other treatments on your list while your mom is there for moral support.

Another thing you might want to book together is a makeup and hair trial run. "Trial runs aren't just for brides!" says Stephanie McCray of Jillian Grace Salon. No one else will give you a more honest opinion and Mom can feel confident about her look for the day as well.

When it comes time to get ready on the big day, you'll want all the support you can get. Privé Salon & Style Bar lets you pick where you want to do that—at their Newtown Square salon or on location at your venue—and offers a range of hair and makeup services for mothers of the bride and bridesmaids, in addition to the bride-to-be. Get the whole wedding party together—complete with your mom, your groom's mom, maid of honor, bridesmaids and flower girl—to beautify yourselves with the help of their pro stylists and spend that special girls' bonding time together.

Then you'll all be ready for your close-ups on the big day! •



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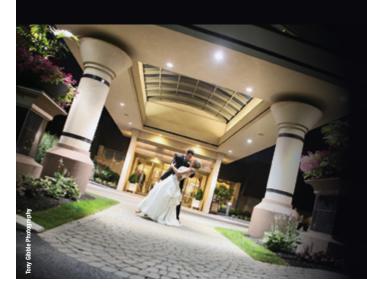
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With This Ring ... The Do-It-Yourself Marriage

Patricia T. Brennan

BECAUSE OF HISTORY AND STATE LAW, COUPLES DON'T NEED AN OFFICIANT TO MARRY IN PENNSYLVANIA.

HEY SAY IF YOU WANT SOMETHING DONE RIGHT, duce the various readers, supervise the exchange of rings, and lead ting married.

A do-it-yourself marriage is one way for a couple to eliminate some pesky problems like accommodating families with dueling religious beliefs, blended families who don't get along, the long wait for the venue for the ceremony, or the couple's wish to have their ceremony sooner rather than later.

The beauty of a self-uniting marriage is it allows a couple the freedom to create a unique and meaningful event with only those elements that are important to them. The couple may perform their self-uniting ceremony in any setting, with any number of guests, as long as there are two witnesses to the vows.

Self-uniting marriage is an option in Pennsylvania, one that's authorized by state law.

SOME EXAMPLES

Recently, my husband and I attended a self-uniting wedding ceremony for the daughter of close friends. The event had all the trappings of a large-scale, traditional wedding ceremony—the venue, decor, bridesmaids and groomsmen in matching attire, the band, the cake, the toasts and tons of catered food.

The only difference was the absence of any officiant, since neither the bride nor the groom wanted a religious element to their wedding.

An uncle of the bride served as emcee, sharing stories about the couple and eliciting tears and laughter from family and guests. The couple recited the vows they wrote and then said the words of intent required to make their self-uniting ceremony official. It was a lovely ceremony and one unique to these two individuals.

Last October, my older daughter officiated at a self-uniting ceremony. Her role was to tell the story of the romance, lead the guests in supporting the couple's dedication to each other, intro-

you have to do it yourself. That may even be true for get- the required vows. Again, a lovely ceremony and very personal to the couple.

Is this a trend?

THE QUAKER TRADITION

Because of its Quaker origins, Pennsylvania has a long history of religious tolerance and has recognized self-uniting marriage for decades. These marriages were often called "Quaker

In the Quaker faith, the self-uniting marriage is the formal wedding ceremony. The couple walks into the ceremony and later rises and states their vows to each other. When the vows are completed, the witnesses sign the marriage certificate.

CHANGING LAW

Historically, most county officials in Pennsylvania didn't even require proof of membership in the Quaker religion before issuing a self-uniting license.

That changed when Pennsylvania abolished common law marriage in January 2005. After that date, clerks at the county Register of Wills offices throughout Pennsylvania began to enforce the requirement that couples requesting a self-uniting marriage license had to prove at least one was a member of the Quaker or B'Hai faiths—two religions that don't have officiating clergy.

Happily for couples who want a self-uniting marriage, in September 2007, a federal judge in Pittsburgh ruled that a marriage ceremony could be valid without having it solemnized by any third party, regardless of whether it was religious or secular.

Now the license requirements for self-uniting marriage ceremonies in Pennsylvania are set out in the statutes:

Marriage performed by parties. — If the marriage was solemnized by the parties themselves, the original certificate shall be signed by the parties to the marriage, attested by two witnesses and retained by the parties contracting the marriage. The duplicate certificate shall be signed by the parties to the marriage, attested by the same two witnesses and returned for recording within ten days to the court issuing the license.

Note there's no requirement of a presider or officiant of any sort—religious or not—and no requirement for membership in any established religion.

GETTING A SELF-UNITING MARRIAGE LICENSE?

If you decide you want a self-uniting ceremony, getting your license is fairly simple.

You and your betrothed go together to the Register of Wills Office at either your home county courthouse or another courthouse in Pennsylvania.

Not all counties issue self-uniting marriage licenses, though. So check before you go. In Chester County, clerks are happy to

issue self-uniting licenses and list that option on the website.*

You must specifically request a selfuniting marriage license before you start the application process. The process and fee are the same as for a standard license. (In Chester County the fee is \$75; no refund if the marriage does not take place.). You both will need photo ID showing your current legal name and date of birth.

If either person was previously married, you'll need the date of the most recent divorce, legal annulment, or death of the previous spouse. You'll also need a certified copy of the Final Decree of any divorce or legal annulment that was final within six months before your application date. (Special rules apply for those under 18.)

After a three-day waiting period, either person may pick up the license, which is valid for 60 days from the date issued. The license can be used in any county in Pennsylvania, but it's *not* valid in any other state. The marriage, of course, will be valid in all other states.



Once you have your license, pick a date, time and place and be sure you have the two required witnesses to your vows.

You can write your own ceremony, including an explanation of what a self-uniting ceremony is, and have as many or as few people as you want to do readings, recite poems, say something inspirational and so forth.

After your ceremony, your witnesses must sign and date the license. Then you mail the signed form back to the county that issued your license. That's it.

Although a self-uniting ceremony may not be for everyone, it's nice to know Pennsylvania offers couples the freedom to choose.

Patricia T. Brennan is an attorney in West Chester whose practice includes family law, estate planning, probate and mediation. More at PatriciaBrennan.com.

*Chester County website: ChesCo.org/435/ Marriage-License.









County Lines | April 2018 | County Lines | April 2018 | County Lines | 41



HEN FORD MARRIED LIZ—EXOTIC-ANIMAL nurse and former zookeeper—he embraced her love of creatures. With help from local bird whisperer Phung Luu, soaring owls and parrots graced the aisle at their wedding. Thrilling their guests, sun conures—small parrots with brilliant yellow and green plumage—joined the bride and groom after their vows, making wedding photos and memories spectacular.

As millennials, creative, unconventional and fun-loving couples plan their special day, some keep traditions that are meaningful, but toss others as brides once tossed the bouquet. They're saying good-bye to Saturday ceremonies, fluffy white wedding cakes and gowns and ... throwing the bouquet.

Today's couples are inviting guests to festivities in unique venues with *Star Wars, Harry Potter* and dinosaur themes. They're dishing up special food, flowers and entertainment over a full weekend or making a Thursday night extraordinary.

A LOVE STORY THAT SHINES

Just out of college in 1963, Isaiah married Julia. At that time—before joining the Peace Corps, returning to Philadelphia, and transforming a community through their love of art—Isaiah had no idea what magical moments he would provide for Philly-area couples decades later.

Using found objects and folk art, Isaiah created Philadelphia's Magic Gardens. There, in 2006, the Zagars renewed their vows among his mirrored and stained-glass mosaics, enchanting staircases and glittering treasures.

Today Philadelphia's Magic Gardens hosts weddings that sparkle and shine like no others.

For one wedding, the garden was the charmed site for vows under twinkle lights, breakfast food for dinner, dessert from an ice

cream truck and sparkler send-off. Newlyweds held hands walking alluring paths, danced in the courtyard, and shared a kiss by the word "kiss." Guests were enthralled.

If a dinosaur in top hat and bow tie is your preferred greeter, marry at the Delaware Museum of Natural History and let your imagination run wild. A Tyrannosaurus rex skull sculpture dons twinkle lights or a floral crown. *Jurassic Park's* music theme becomes the recessional.

One bride made centerpieces from ostrich eggs, evoking images of dinosaur eggs. Naturally, she saved one for the bridal party's preceremony breakfast.

LOVE AT FIRST BITE

If an ice cream truck doesn't suit your taste, Honey Bee Sweets and Treats offers unsurpassed dessert tables. Tiers of French macaroons and pyramid stacks of donuts—honey-lavender glazed or chocolate topped with strawberries—delight all ages.

Serock Catering has conveyed couples' stories through food at the Elmwood Zoo, vineyards, barns, Power Plant Productions—at











the old Wilbur Chocolate factory—and other venues. John Serock suggests sharing original or unusual fare at cocktail hour. While couples might be foodies, Grandma might prefer to avoid a seared raw tuna steak at the reception dinner, he says. Serock, along with a Philly bride and Chicago groom, designed cocktail hour food stations to bring family and friends together over mini Philly cheesesteaks and pretzel bites, and mini Chicago pizzas.

Couples are also accommodating dietary restrictions creatively. A gluten-sensitive bride enjoyed Serock's wedding "cake"—cheese wheels decorated with figs, berries, grapes and flowers.

Oxford's Neuchatel Chocolates has the sweetest gifts and favors around. Their chocolate high heels and wine bottles filled with truffles make great bridal party gifts. Bowls of Neuchatel's fair-trade chocolates are coveted additions to party tables.

SOMETHING PINK, SOMETHING NEW, SOMETHING BORROWED, SOMETHING BLUE

Sabrina Ann Couture sees brides who are less traditional, more relaxed and comfortable expressing individuality through unique wedding gowns. They're selecting dresses in shades of blush or ballet pink, adding bright sashes and accessorizing with floral wreaths instead of veils.

Inventive brides are also choosing ankle-length dresses to show off their fabulous stilettos, crystal foot jewelry for beach ceremonies, rhinestone-enhanced ankle tattoos, and Lirika Matoshi's dazzling crystal-studded tulle glam socks with either vintage or new high heels.

Some are saying yes to barefoot sandals after kicking off heels on the dance floor or for outdoor weddings. Blue barefoot sandals hand-crocheted by Ally for her upcoming nuptials at the family farm got such a favorable response that they're now available from her Trinity Willows Etsy shop.

Finally, the groom's best man isn't the only one in a bow tie. A white leash and bow tie make his best friend the wedding's best dressed dog.

As for jewelry, choices extend beyond the classic Tiffany solitaire. There's an uptick in rose gold (adding copper creates the rosy glow), a smattering of colored gems (think Kate Middleton's sapphire) or pricey colored diamonds (like Blake Lively's pink sparkler).

Increasingly, millennials are foregoing a big engagement bauble and opting for a unique wedding band, in a design with personal meaning for the couple, says Michael Cook of Paoli's Walter J. Cook Jeweler. Custom designs may also include mixing metals, or different cuts and colors of stones so the ring's setting is distinctive, says Cook.

ADORED AND ADORNED

Anna never thought much about weddings until she met her beloved Sean. With few expectations, they've been intentional about keeping or changing traditions for their August celebration. Along







with bridesmaids, Anna has a man of honor; Sean's female friends and brothers are his attendants. Their multi-event day honors family and friends they adore.

Starting with their processional, an electric guitar version of Stevie Wonder's "I Believe," their morning family wedding accommodates older relatives who don't drive at night. Friends are flocking to their evening party by the pool, with dancing and—since Anna and Sean are musicians—a jam session.

Decorating reception tables, bridesmaids' hairdos and attendants' jackets are colorful satin flowers Anna fashioned. In the works: a matching satin sash to adorn her white gown.

Ally and Steve, too, are focused on bringing together loved ones. Their wedding weekend will include bonfire s'mores and a dinner where everyone brings a favorite dish plus the recipe to make a keepsake cookbook.

ROMANCE BLOOMS

Some brides express unique personalities through wedding flowers as well, says Cameron Peters Floral Design. Hot pink and jewel tones replace whites and creams for bouquets. Floral hoops hang from ceilings. Table centerpieces become favors for attendees. Wildflowers add to the mix.

Matlack Florist helps couples use plants in innovative ways: planting trees instead of lighting unity candles to join families; creating walls of greenery—ferns and succulents—for nuptial backgrounds; and draping lanterns with flowers to hang from trees at outdoor celebrations.

For out-of-season or unusual flowers, or butterflies that won't flit away, origami bouquets and boutonnieres are the solution.

OVER THE MOON

Unconventional finales send newlyweds off with panache—sparklers, bubbles and balloons. They head to grand honeymoons in exotic Africa, Asia, or Australia, says WhirlAway Travel. Or they take a minimoon—a weekend resort trip within driving distance—until they have time and resources for a bigger vacation, especially if they've traveled for their bachelor's and bachelorette's parties.

For pre-nuptial destination parties, most couples bypass Vegas and choose fun towns like Austin, Nashville or New Orleans. Others opt for local but unusual activities, like duck hunting at Thousand Acre Farm in Middleton, Delaware. Mostly bachelor groups head for this prime location near the Delaware and Chesapeake Canal for water fowl. An afternoon of hunting in the marshland duck blinds (one has heat and electricity) followed by a wild game dinner with beer and bourbon tastings before cards, pool and hanging out.

Meanwhile, the bachelorettes may do a full spa day, bridal boot camp session or wine tasting. Something for every taste!

Donuts, dinosaurs, magic gardens and minimoons. As original as weddings may be, the love behind "I do" still endures. •











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610-287-8771; BarnOnBridge.com

Barn at Silverstone 62 Bowman Rd., Lancaster 855-687-8920: TheBarnAtSilverstone.com

Barn at Bournelyf 1066 South New St., West Chester 484-574-6631; Brinehart4.wixsite.com/mysite

The Barn at Stonybrooke
4740 Lower Valley Rd., Atglen
717-723-5183; TheBarnAtStonybrooke.com

Brandywine Manor House

120 Germany Hollow Rd., Honey Brook 610-942-2200; BrandywineManorHouse.com

The Country Barn

211 S. Donerville Rd., Lancaster 717-872-1554; CountryBarnWedding.com

Farm at Eagles Ridge

465 Long Ln., Lancaster 717-584-5179; FarmAtEaglesRidge.com

The Gables at Chadds Ford

423 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford
610-388-7700; The Gables At Chadds Ford.com
The Gables at Chadds Ford is the perfect venue to host your next special event. Their charming, sophisticated, rustic design blends with any décor. They use only the freshest ingredients to put together a menu for your guests, and you work with your own event coordinator to customize details for 30–140p.

Harvest View Barn at Hershey Farms

338 Sunnyburn Rd., Elizabethtown 717-665-7284; HarvestViewBarn.com

The High Point at St. Peter's

2475 St. Peter's Rd., Malvern

610-644-2261; TheHighPointGV.com

The High Point at St. Peter's sits on a hilltop in Malvern on sixteen acres; the property is an historic landmark reached by a winding, country road that opens to a hilltop meadow on the highest point in Great Valley. It's an exquisite site for wedding receptions, corporate meetings, showers and birthday parties. 50p in historic church; 195p in bank barn, I/O.

Inn at Grace Winery (Sweetwater Farm) 50 Sweetwater Rd., Glen Mills

610-459-4711; GraceWinery.com

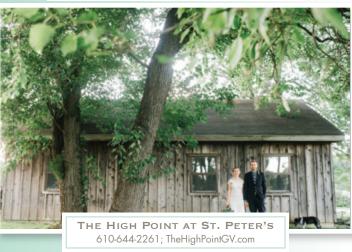
John James Audubon Center 1201 Pawlings Rd., Audubon

610-990-3411; JohnJames.Audubon.org









Lakeview Farm

3440 Admire Rd., Dover, PA 717-825-1121; LakeviewFarmEvents.com

Life's Patina at Willowbrook Farm 1750 N. Valley Rd., Malvern 610-952-2254: LifesPatina.com

Meredith Manor

2270 Pottstown Pk., Pottstown 610-469-1700; ChesterCountyWedding.com

MOYO

4335 Skippack Pk., Skippack 267-334-4127; Moyo-Yoga.com/Weddings/

Normandy Farm

1401 Morris Rd., Blue Bell 215-616-8500; NormandyFarm.com

The Stone Barn

100 Stone Barn Dr., Kennett Square 610-347-2414: TheStoneBarn.com

Thousand Acre Farm

260 S. Reedy Point Rd., Middletown, DE 443-922-6637; ThousandAcreFarm.com

With sweeping waterfront views and a convenient location, the picturesque, 110-acre farm is situated along the waterfront of Thousand Acre Marsh and boasts views of the Reedy Point Bridge and the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal. Thousand Acre Farm seats 180 inside (more room in tents outside) and boasts a loft and lounge overlooking the first floor. Can bring your own liquor. No sales tax.

BED & BREAKFAST / INNS AND RESORTS

Eden Resort

222 Eden Rd., Lancaster

717-569-6444; EdenResort.com

Six unique, beautiful reception/banquet rooms including a 3-story atrium Courtyard and newly-designed Garden Terrace for outdoor ceremonies. Overnight accommodations include luxurious 2-room suites and numerous wedding packages offer 25% savings for Friday and Sunday. Wedding spaces are beautifully appointed; outside vendors welcome for additional decorations. Food and beverages handled by the resort (except cake). 500p. I/O. Live bands and DJs permitted.

Faunbrook Bed & Breakfast

699 W. Rosedale Ave., West Chester 610-436-5788; Faunbrook.com

General Warren

9 Old Lancaster Rd., Malvern

610-296-3637; GeneralWarren.com

Historic 1745 country inn with on-site lawn and gardens for outdoor ceremonies and receptions, along with 8 guest suites. Perfect for intimate weddings and receptions for 15–125 guests, rehearsal dinners for 75p, three private dining rooms, honeymoon/guests suites. Award-winning American cuisine with attentive, professional service. Formal wedding and casual celebrations are their specialty.

The Inn at Swarthmore

10 S. Chester Rd., Swarthmore 610-543-7500; TheInnAtSwat.com

The Inn at Osprev Point

20786 Rock Hall Ave., Rock Hall, MD

410-639-2194; OspreyPoint.com

Osprey Point is a premier wedding venue located in the charming village of Rock Hall on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Surrounded by 30 lavish acres of landscapes and spectacular water views, it offers a variety of beautiful settings. The Inn features 18 rooms, and their gourmet restaurant will provide top notch catering and service to make your dream wedding come true.

COUNTRY CLUBS

The Greathouse at Loch Nairn Golf Club

514 McCue Rd., Avondale 610-268-2235; LochNairn.com

Springfield Country Club

400 W. Sproul Rd., Springfield; 610-690-7600; SpringfieldCC.net

GARDENS & ARBORETUMS (With Manor House or Mansion)

Bolingbroke

424 King of Prussia Rd., Radnor 610-825-8082; BolingbrokeMansion.com

Tyler Arboretum

515 Painter Rd., Media

610-213-3097; TylerArboretum.org

Welkinweir Estate

1368 Prizer Rd., Pottstown 610-469-7543; Welkinweir.org

MUSEUMS & GALLERY SPACES

Brandywine River Museum of Art

1 Hoffman's Mill Rd., Chadds Ford

610-388-8112; BrandywineMuseum.org

The Brandywine River Museum of Art features an outstanding collection of American art housed in a 19th-century mill with a dramatic steel and glass addition overlooking the stunning banks of the Brandywine. Ceremonies and seated dinners up to 120p; stations receptions up to 400p.

Community Arts Center, Wallingford

414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford

610-566-1713; CommunityArtsCenter.org

Chester County Historical Society

225 N. High St., West Chester

610-692-4800; ChesterCoHistorical.org

Delaware Art Museum

2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington 302-571-9590; DelArt.org

Unique, inspiring and sophisticated—whether a lively cocktail party, intimate dinner or unforgettable wedding in their grand public spaces, the staff will make your event memorable. Located near I-95, just 30 miles south of Philadelphia, in a historic Wilmington neighborhood. Seated: up to 200p, cocktails and ceremony: up to 300p.

The Delaware Contemporary

200 S. Madison St., Wilmington 302-656-6466; DEContemporary.org











The Delaware Contemporary is a unique, industrial chic art space with compelling contemporary art exhibitions offering guests a dynamic experience. This flexible event facility is perfect for a variety of special occasions and can accommodate anything from an intimate dinner event to an affair for 300 guests.

Delaware Museum of **Natural History**

4840 Kennett Pk., Wilmington 302-658-9111; DelMNH.org

A unique and fun location for your wedding, where you can impress your guests with dinner by dinosaurs and cocktails near a walkover coral reef, creating naturally wonderful memories. Weddings can take place both inside and outside the museum and during evening hours. All public gallery space is easily accessible on one level. 100p., with limited availability for up

Franklin Institute

222 N. 20th St., Philadelphia 215-448-1165; www.FI.edu

Hagley Museum & Library

298 Buck Rd., Wilmington 302-658-2400; Hagley.org

From the moment your guests drive through the Hagley gates, they will be transported to a peaceful setting—a hidden treasure tucked away in the Brandywine Valley. Built in 1888, Hagley's unique wedding venue, The Soda House, is full of rustic elegance. Tented wedding spaces are also available near Hagley's historic French garden. Up to 150p in Soda House; 200p in outdoor tent location.

Independence Seaport Museum

211 S. Columbus Blvd. & Walnut St. Philadelphia 215-413-8655; PhillySeaport.org

Penn Museum

3260 South St., Philadelphia 215-898-4000; Penn.Museum

PA Academy of the Fine Arts 118 & 128 N. Broad St., Philadelphia 215-972-1609; PAFA.org

Rockwood Museum

610 Shipley Rd., Wilmington 302-761-4340; Rockwood.org

Wayne Art Center

413 Maplewood Ave., Wayne 610-688-3553; WayneArt.org

Winterthur Museum & Gardens

5105 Kennett Pk. (Rt. 52), Winterthur 800-448-3883; Winterthur.org

HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Anthony Wayne House

at Historic Waynesborough 2049 Waynesborough Rd., Paoli 610-647-1779; PhilaLandmarks.org

Appleford

770 Mt. Moro Rd., Villanova 610-527-4280; ApplefordEstate.com

Ballroom at Ellis Preserve

3821 West Chester Pk., Newtown Square 215-627-5100; FinleyCatering.com

Columbia Station

4 Bridge St., Phoenixville 610-933-6336; TheColumbiaStation.com

Duportail House

297 Adams Dr., Chesterbrook, Wayne 610-644-4840; DuportailHouse.com

Fairmount Park Conservancy

1617 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Ste. 1670 Philadelphia; 215-988-9334; FairmountPark.org

The Farmhouse at People's Light

39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern 610-647-1900; FarmhousePeoplesLight.com Celebrate your special day in the relaxed elegance and charm of The Farmhouse, the premier wedding venue in Chester County. The recently renovated ballroom and indoor pavilion accommodate celebrations of up to 250 guests, and provide a breathtaking on-site ceremony space. 250 p. I/O, on-site ceremony space for weddings and events.

Franklin Hall, Franklin Commons

400 Franklin Ave., Phoenixville 610-983-4640; Franklin Commons Events.com

Garrett Williamson Foundation 395 Bishop Hollow Rd., Newtown Square 610-353-7690; Garrett Williamson.org

Greystone Hall

1034 Phoenixville Pk., West Chester 610-696-1272; GrevstoneHall.com Spring Open House, Apr. 22, 11:30 to 1:30. For an intimate, family-oriented or black tie affair, distinctive architectural styles, fine antiques and oriental rugs in a destination setting. Fifty-six-column pergola, statues and decorative fountains are lit at night creating a stunning backdrop. Ceremony: 220p; reception only: 250p. I/O. Select from four caterers. BYO alcohol. Music per township restrictions.

Hillton House

570 Beaumont Rd., Devon 610-341-3928; Hilltop Devon.com Formal gardens and breathtaking views, Hilltop House is an elegant 200-year-old farmhouse (the former country manor estate of William N. Wilbur of Wilbur Chocolates) with large rooms and multiple entryways, porches and terraces. Accommodates 240p. Extensive list of caterers. Hotel accommodations nearby.

Historic Rock Ford Plantation

881 Rockford Rd., Lancaster 717-799-8751; RockFordPlantation.org

Manor House at Springton Manor Farm

860 Springton Rd., Glenmoore 610-733-2516; SpringtonManorFarm.com

Merion Tribute House

625 Hazelhurst Ave., Merion Station 610-664-1267; TributeHouse.com

Oakbourne Mansion

1014 S. Concord Rd., West Chester 610-692-1930; OakbourneMansion.org Experience the grandeur of this Victorian mansion and 93-acre park. Quaint indoor chapel can be used for small ceremonies, or the distinctive castle-like water tower is a unique backdrop for outdoor ceremonies. Indoor seating up to 128p or tent outdoors. Select from recommended caterers, or use your own. Curfew at 10 p.m. for music and bar.

Pennsbury Inn

883 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford 610-388-1435; PennsburyInn.com

Philander Chase Knox Estate

151 Liberty La., Malvern 610-647-4711; RobertRyanCatering.com

Phoenixville Foundry

2 N. Main St., Phoenixville 610-917-8400; PhoenixvilleFoundry.com

Radnor Hunt

826 Providence Rd., Malvern 610-644-4439; RadnorHunt.org

THE FARMHOUSE AT PEOPLE'S LIGHT

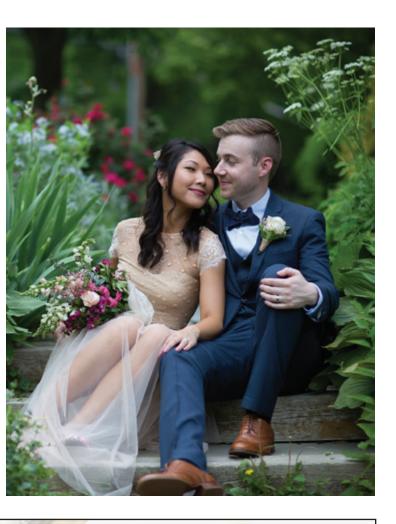
Celebrate your special day in the relaxed elegance and charm of The Farmhouse, the premier wedding venue in Chester County.

Our recently renovated ballroom and new indoor pavilion accommodate celebrations of up to 250 guests, and provide a breathtaking on-site ceremony space.

> Contact the Farmhouse Sales Team at 610-647-1900 x156 or thefarmhouse@peopleslight.org to schedule a private tour.











OAKBOURNE

The historic Oakbourne Mansion and surrounding park grounds provide a beautiful setting for indoor or outdoor weddings, large or small. The unique water tower and stained glass windows offer stunning backdrops for photographs.

1014 South Concord Road, Westtown PA OakbourneMansion.org • 610.692.1930



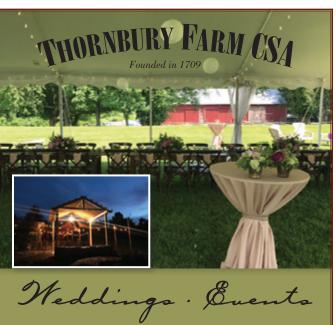


estled in the heart of the historical Brandywine Valley, The Gables is the perfect venue to host your next special occasion. Our fresh, seasonal cuisine and rustic, elegant charm will keep you coming back time and time again. Our private banquet room can accommodate any special event. Whether you are planning a wedding, rehearsal dinner, baby shower or corporate event, let our experienced staff handle all the details.

610.388.7700 • www.thegablesatchaddsford.com







Thornbury Farm is the perfect property for creating the outdoor wedding of your dreams. Expansive open fields, rustic 1740 barn & covered pergola area with fireplace allows you to create your perfect wedding or event.

> 1256 Thornbury Road, West Chester, PA 610-793-2933 ThornburyFarmCSA.com









The Sage Farmhouse

5561 Pennell Rd., Media 610-361-9301; SageFarmhouse.com

Saturday Club

117 W. Wayne Ave., Wayne 610-688-9746; Saturday Club.org

Springton Manor Farm 860 Springton Rd., Glenmoore 610-733-2516; SpringtonManorFarm.com

Thornbury Farm

1256 Thornbury Rd., West Chester 610-793-2933; ThornburyFarmCSA.com Enjoy large views of open fields—beautiful for weddings—at this charming historic farm just 2 miles south of West Chester, accommodating 200p. The pergola reception area hosts a large beehive oven and the 1740 barn (holding 50-60p) has a large pipe organ. The farm garden seats 75p by the fireplace. Music, beverages and catering are performed by outside services.

Union Trust

717 Chestnut St., Philadelphia 215-627-5100; FinleyCatering.com

University & Whist Club

805 N. Broom St., Wilmington 302-658-5125; UniversityAndWhistClub.com

The Ballroom at Vickers Restaurant

192 E. Welsh Pool Rd., Exton 610-363-7998; VickersRestaurant.com Adjacent to this 1820s farmhouse sits a ballroom perfect for weddings and rehearsal dinners for 50-130p. Brass chandeliers illuminate the space that is outlined with custom millwork, scaling windows and French doors leading to a garden patio perfect for cocktails. Photogs rave about the historic photo ops by the remnants of the original barn. Additional private rooms for 15-40 guest events.

The Washington at Historic Yellow Springs

1701 Art School Rd., Chester Springs 610-827-7414 Washington. YellowSprings.org

Quaint, historic village with vintage charm. Indoor reception space at The Washington and three picturesque outdoor ceremony locations to fit the needs of each unique wedding. 150p. I/O. Ceremony can be on site. Preferred caterers. No music restrictions. Alcohol provided by couple, served by caterer.

Wheatland

1120 Marietta Ave., Lancaster 392-4633; Wheatland.org

The Willows

490 Darby-Paoli Rd., Wayne 610-688-5600 Radnor.com/557/Willows-Mansion

SCHOOLS & UNIVERSITIES Ballrooom at the Baldwin School

701 W. Montgomery Ave., Bryn Mawr 484-988-2973; BaldwinEvents.com

Great Hall at Immaculata Univ. 1145 King Rd., Immaculata 610-647-4400; Immaculata.edu

Valley Forge Military Academy 1001 Eagle Rd., Wayne 610-989-1509: VFMAC.edu

Villanova Univ. Conference Center 601 County Line Rd., Radnor 610-519-7580 VillanovaConferenceCenter.com

TRANSPORTATION VENUES American Helicopter Museum

1220 American Blvd., West Chester 610-436-9600; American Helicopter. Museum













Wilmington & Western Railroad 2201 Newport-Gap Pk., Wilmington 302-998-1930; WWRR.com

OTHER VENUES

Ballroom at the Ben

The Ben Franklin, 834 Chestnut St., Philadelphia 215-627-5100; FinleyCatering.com

Ballroom at the Westside

430 Hannum Ave., West Chester 610-431-9378; BallroomAtTheWestside.com

Brandywine Outfitters

2096 Strasburg Rd., East Fallowfield 610-486-6141; CanoePa.com; PicnicPa.com

Clothier Room

630 Clothier Rd., Wynnewood 215-627-5100; Finley Catering.com

Columbus Inn / Taste Catering

2216 Pennsylvania Ave., Wilmington

302-571-1492; ColumbusInn.net

302-545-5743; TasteCICatering.com

Unique and cozy private dining spaces accommodate parties up to 75 guests for bridal showers, rehearsal dinners and weddings. The staff will ensure your vision is achieved to perfection and tailored to accommodate your style and culinary needs. They also offer off-premise catering and strive to execute an unforgettable event for you and your guests.

Crystal Tea Room

100 Penn Square Eastt, Wanamaker Bldg., Philadelphia 215-627-5100; FinleyCatering.com

Wedding Services

FLOWERS & FOOD

Christopher Chocolates / Fine Foods

3519 West Chester Pk., Newtown Square 610-359-1669; Christopher-Chocolates.com

Matlack Florist

210 N. Chester Rd., West Chester 610-431-3077; MatlackFlorist.com

GUIDE BOOK

Cecil County Wedding Guide

800-Cecil-95; SeeCecil.org

Say "I Do!" in an enchanting destination that's off the beaten path yet centrally located along I-95. From classic elegance to casual country charm, Cecil County Maryland offers stunning indoor venues, barns, and tents surrounded by picturesque scenery. Transform your daydream into a reality. Located between Philadelphia and Baltimore, Cecil County is a short drive to lasting memories! Request your free wedding destination guide.

JEWELERS

Walter J. Cook Jeweler

Chestnut Village Shops, 36 Chestnut Rd., Paoli 610-644-5347; Walter J Cook Jeweler.com

Sunset Hill Jewelers

23 N. High St., West Chester 610-692-0374; SunsetHillJewelers.com ♦



www.MatlackFlorist.com







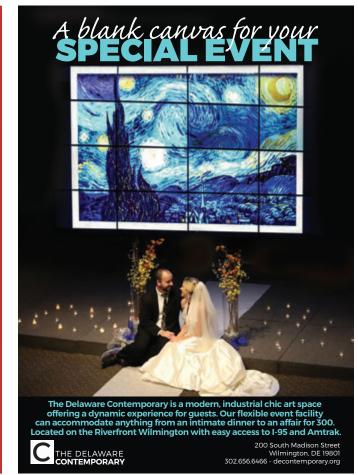
and reception sites are available.







3790 Morgantown Rd. (Rt. 10), Mohnton, PA 19540. visit us on facebook





RKLE

very bride sparkles. To do it with style, we checked in with DEBORAH VAN CLEVE, of the VAN CLEVE WEDDING PAVILION in Paoli. With over 30 years in women's fashion and ten focused on bridal styling, she's dressed generations of brides. Her selection of gowns includes top designers-Sareh Nouri, Matthew Christopher-yet all styles are customizable so the final product is one-of-a-kind. Like the bride herself.

Deborah says current trends focus on clean lines, lush fabrics and architectural details. Bows are back. Along with plenty of sparkle. Choose a subtle under-layer of sparkly tulle or glitter all over with the "cracked ice" finish of glitter ingrained in or applied to the fabric itself, shown in the gown below.

Other area style-makers added their take on ways to sparkle at your wedding. So many choices!



WALTER J. COOK JEWELER



WILMINGTON COUNTRY STORE

THE HICKORY STICK



CHRISTOPHER CHOCOLATES







SUNSET HILL JEWELERS



CFS CHURCH FARM SCHOOL

1001 E. Lincoln Hwy., Exton 610-363-9622 ext. 2923; YMCAGBW.org June 11-August 17

The Lionville Community YMCA is accepting registration for camp programs located at Church Farm School. Camp Leo is a traditional day camp, where campers participate in activities like swimming, crafts and games! Also available: Sports Camp, STEAM Camp and Leadership Develop-

DELAWARE ART MUSEUM

2301 Kentmere Pkwy, Wilmington 302-351-8551; DelArt.org

painting, ceramics and more in the Museum's studios, galleries and sculpture garden. Ages 6-16, eight sessions, full day: 9 to 4. Tuition grants available. Phone for information.

THE DELAWARE CONTEMPORARY

200 South Madison St., Wilmington 302-656-6466; DEContemporary.org July 9-20

Innovative summer programming with their new CREATORSPACE! Ages 7–13 will discover creativity in an environment encouraging selfexpression through the arts in week-long programs. laborative projects that push traditional materials through non-traditional investigations.

DELAWARE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

302-658-9111; Delmnh.org Museum Babies: Tuesdays and Wednesdays in July and August

Museum Peeps (ages 4-6): June 4-8 Full Day Camps: June 11-August 17 Hands-on, interactive learning and play, with time trails and wildlife blind, plus inside the museum's galleries. K-6th grade: choose from a variety of full day camps. Museum Babies: 3 or 4 half-hour ses-

sions, July and Aug. for toddlers (age 3 and their

DEVON PREP

grown-ups.)

363 N. Valley Forge Rd., Devon

June 18-August 10

focus on technology problem-solving skills such as Robotics, Minecraft and Coding. There will also be a CIT Leadership Program for teenagers ages 13 to 15 interested in developing leadership skills.

EDISCOPAL ACADEMY **EXCEL SPORTS CAMPS**

484-424-1732; ExcelatEA.org

Hosted on The Episcopal Academy campus, Excel skill level. Excel offers individualized attention and customized programming to empower campers to progress through their own personal development. Full and half day camp options available for chil-

HISTORIC YELLOW SPRINGS SUMMER KIDS CAMP

1668 Art School Rd., Chester Springs 610-827-7414; YellowSprings.org June 25-August 17

Discover the world of art and archaeology at this Kids Half-Day Summer Camp in the scenic village of Historic Yellow Springs. Each week includes a theme as children explore drawing, painting, collage or participate in an actual archaeological dig!

LINDEN HALL SUMMER

212 E. Main St., Lititz 717-626-8512 x154; LindenHall.org/Summer July 8-August 4

Linden Hall offers GIRLS (Growth, Imagination, Recreation and Learning in the Summer, ages 8-17) and Equestrian (grades 6-12) overcampers choose electives—writing, coding, archery, cooking—and enjoy evening activities. Riders have a complete equine experience, with lessons, horse

PILOT SCHOOL

208 Woodlawn Rd., Wilmington 302-478-1740; PilotSchool.org July 9 - August 6 Children ages 5–12 benefit from this multisensory approach, which offers them the oppor-

tunity to engage in activities while learning.

This fun, hands-on camp focuses on social skills,



















team building, science experiments and nature while integrating reading and math. Morning or full day sessions.

ST. ANN SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP

2006 Shallcross Ave., Wilmington, DE 302-652-6567; TheSaintAnnSchool.org June 25 - August 17

This camp, designed for younger campers ages 3–5, ensures a safe and nurturing environment where your child can learn and have fun. The camp has weekly themes, arts and crafts, story time, free play and special activities. Camp schedule runs from 9 to 3, with before and after care provided at an additional cost.

76ERS CAMPS

610-668-7676; SixersCamps.com June-August

Overnight Camp, Day Camp, Little Sixers & Sixers Skills Academy.

Day Camp: boys/girls 7-13; 17 locations. Little Sixers Day Camps: boys/girls 5-7 Overnight Camp: 4 wks. Valley Forge

The Sixers Skills Academy: 12-15-year-olds serious about their game.

WESTTOWN SUMMER CAMP

975 Westtown Rd., West Chester 610-399-7569; Summer-Westtown.com June 18-August 10

Join us for **Pilot** Summer Camp



Children ages 5-12 will experience our multi-sensory approach, which offers the opportunity to engage in activities while learning.

Five full or half-day sessions: **July 9 through August 10**



208 Woodlawn Road Wilmington DE, 19803 302.478.1740

www.pilotschool.org/ summercamp

The Westtown Summer Camp program offers countless adventures for kids ages 4-14. There are opportunities to grow and learn through a variety of experiences such as organic farming, forest exploration, high and low ropes, swim lessons, Turkish metal-smithing, archery, canoeing and athletics. Full- and half-day options available, as well as extended care hours. The program is ACA accredited. •















HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULES CAN'T FIT EVERYTHING!

Summertime is a perfect opportunity for students to explore new and interesting electives, such as Gothic Literature: Monster Stories, 3D Art and Veterinary Science: The Care of Animals - to name only a few.

www.bvapa.org/summer for course details and registration

SUMMER 2018

your own

Interactive



SUMMER OPTIONS: Daily teacher

> TRUE SUMMER JUMP START April 16-July 25 May 29-July 25

> > Credit recovery is also available: May 29-July 25

Registration opens April 2, 2018



Have a middle schooler interested in coding? Learn more about BVA's summer Lunch and Code at www.bvapa.org/summer

LINDEN HALL

We invite vou to learn about:

- Our distinctive curriculum
- Why an all-girls education?
- The five-day boarding program
- · Athletics, arts, and much more!



EQUESTRIAN Camp

A complete equine experience, including twice-daily lessons, discussions about horse care, field trips, and visits from equine professionals

GIRLS Camp Athletic, art, and academic offerings to match all girls' interests, tailored for elementary,

middle school,

school levels

and high

Schedule a personal campus visit by emailing admissions@lindenhall.org

> 212 EAST MAIN ST, LITITZ, PA 17543 LINDENHALL.ORG

ENROLL IN SIXERS SUMMER CAMP **Overnight Camps | Ages 9-17** Day Camps | Ages 7-13 **Little Sixers | Ages 5-7 Camps Run June - August** Locations in PA, NJ & DE SIXERSCAMPS.COM | 610.668.7676

LOCAL **STUDENT** ATHI FTFS **BIG STAGE**

Edwin Malet

THE BEST HEAD FOR OREGON. PENN STATE, DUKE AND OTHER TOP COLLEGES.



HAT AN INCREDIBLE SEASON! JOSH HOEY of Bishop Shanahan's track team set a national record in the 800 meter race! The Villa Maria Academy Hurricanes swam for their 16th straight district title! And Malvern Prep's Michael Beard finished the wrestling season with 144 wins and 0 losses!

TRACK

Track is a solitary, unforgiving sport. It lacks the camaraderie of football or soccer. There are few winners. First place gets gold. Second place, though only by hundredths of a second, barely gets mentioned.

Josh Hoey, on the other hand, gets mentioned. The Bishop Shanahan senior ran 1:47 in the 800 meters—considered by many as track's toughest event—a national high school record by more than a second and a half! He's previously won the mile at the Millrose Games this year and at the Penn Relay Carnival the year before. Next year, he'll attend the University of Oregon.

If you're wondering, the world record for running 800m is 100 seconds ... plus 91 hundredths of a second. Hoey is now at 107 seconds.

WRESTLING

Malvern Prep senior Michael Beard's record is 53-0. He's won his last 144 matches. Straight! What's left to say? He's won National Preps, Prep States, Beast of East, Ironman, Escape the Rock ... and is committed to Penn State.

And the Friars' wrestling dynasty doesn't end with Beard. Seniors Chris Hisey, All-American, recently earned his 200th career win; PJ Crane, finished 4th at National Preps and was the Prep State champ; and Brendan Devine, All-American, was 4th at National Preps. All three will go the Naval Academy next year. Mark Salvatore was 2nd at Prep State, 3rd at National Preps and committed to Franklin & Marshall. The Friars topped the Inter-Ac for the 4th straight year and were ranked 15th in the country.

In Delaware, Tower Hill was the Delaware Independent Schools Conference team champion, with a 9-2 dual meet record. Their seniors, Luke Frietz and William Borda, however, will be playing football next year at Johns Hopkins and Grinnell, respectively.

Wilmington Friends was 10-2 for the season. Senior captains were John Blackwell (10-2), headed for Connecticut College to play lacrosse, Jack Coons (12-13), who's undecided, and Dalton Ramsey (10-5), committed to Cabrini College for baseball. All three are Delaware All-State wrestlers.

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Ranked 3rd among independent schools in Pennsylvania, Westtown School dominated the Friends League (10-0) for the second year. This year, forward Cam Reddish, next year headed to Duke, led the team, scoring 26 ppg (points per game). Jake Forrester, small forward, averaging 12 ppg and 10 rpg (rebounds per game), will go to the University of Indiana.

At the Hill School, the Rams finished 17-6 for the season, helped by top scorer, forward Nick Alikakos (13 ppg, 8 rpg). He has several offers but has yet to sign. The second leading scorer, with 12 ppg, was senior guard Chase Audige, who's committed to William & Mary.





Spring Open House

Saturday, April 21, 2018 9:00AM - 11:00AM

7th Grade Practice **Entrance Exam**

Saturday, April 21, 2018 8:30AM - 11:30AM

AWARD WINNING LAVNER SUMMER CAMPS at Devon Prep for boys and girls ages 6-14

Robotics Camp, 3D innovation & Design with Minecraft, Coding Camp and more.

JUNE 18 - AUGUST 10

For more information: www.DevonPrep.com

Devon Prep is a private, Catholic, college prep school, grades 6-12, focused on the holistic education of young men for life.





Offered to Students Ages 3-14

Our morning program is designed to reinforce academic skills and strategies. Our afternoon orogram provides a nurturing environment where children can focus on building social skills and having fun.

addressing individual student needs. Two on campus sessions/week, with course work to be completed in between sessions. Contact with the instructor is available via email and video conferencing.

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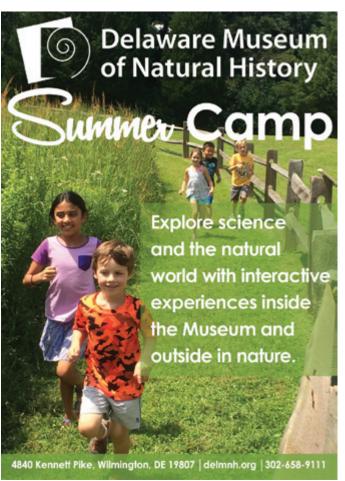
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GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Girls' basketball was big in Delaware. The Sanford Warriors were 10-0 in the Delaware Independent Schools Conference. Lauren Park-Lane, senior point guard, averaged 16 ppg and had 9 apg (assists per game). Kanisa Tucker, shooting guard, scored over 1,000 points and averaged 18 ppg. And Allie Kubek, a junior, shot 66% at forward and averaged 17 ppg, 11 rpg. All have drawn interest from Division 1 schools.

Tatnall followed Sanford closely in the regional standings, ending the season at 13-5. The Hornets were led by two seniors, point guard Kennedy Brown and forward Shelby Bailey-Smiley. Brown was the Hornets' primary ball handler, averaging 13 ppg and will play at Rowan University. Bailey-Smiley averaged 14 ppg with 9 rpg, and had 13 double-doubles this year. She's still undecided.

SQUASH

Agnes Irwin won its first Inter-Ac title in squash since 1995, headed by Lily Zelov and Rose Lawrence. Zelov is ranked #16 in U19 in the U.S. and will be off to Cornell next year. Lawrence is ranked #45 in U19 and has committed to Drexel.

The Baldwin School was 3rd in the National Championship, though Meghna Sreedhar, its number one player, is only a sophomore. Its senior co-captains, Sara Syed and Grace Steelman, will head to Brown and Harvard next vear.

The two top players at Tower Hill squash teams are co-ed in Delaware were Ben Schiltz and Jennifer Cleary. Both sophomores, Cleary has already been recruited by the University of Virginia on a golf scholarship. Schiltz was the school's MVP, playing the number one position for the entire season. The team's one senior, Bo Anderson, is heading to Washington University in St. Louis on a baseball scholarship.

SWIMMING

16 straight! Villa Maria Academy scored it 16th straight district title in the PIAA AA Girls State Championship. Katherine Fronczak, Kaitlyn Agger and Alexa Turco finished 1-2-3 in the 500 freestyle. Senior Kira Buchler was 1st in 100 backstroke. Agger, the Hurricanes' senior captain, will attend Wingate University next year, while Nina Smith, the other senior captain, who finished 2nd in the 50-yard freestyle, will go to Bucknell. Next year, the team will contend for their 17th straight, with Turco, who's only in 11th grade, and Fronczak in 10th.

Episcopal Academy's girls' swimming and diving team had a 5-1 dual meet record, highlighted by their performance at the Inter-Ac and Eastern Prep Championships. There, sophomore Chelsey Liu won in the 50 freestyle, sophomore Hadley DeBruyn won in the 100 backstroke, and senior Wren Sablich, who heads to Bowdoin College, won in 1-meter Diving. At Eastern Preps, Sablich won again in 1-meter diving, as did Alex Sumner, headed to UC Berkley, in the 100 backstroke. Maia Golub came in 2nd in 1-meter diving and is going to Tufts. The team finished 2nd in a field of 50 from all over the country.

The boys' swim team at Episcopal was 3-2 in dual meets this season, but finished 5th of 50 at Eastern Preps. Key to the team was junior Ivan Puskovitch, who won 2 individual Inter-Ac championships in the 200 individual medley and 500 freestyle. Sophomore brother, Vlad Puskovitch, a diver, junior Theo Vadot, and several underclassmen—Cole Whitsett, Ben Wesley, Sam Welsey, Jack Christian—also turned in key performances, shattering 6 school records over the course of the season. Coach Brian Klein called the performance of the young team "nothing short of spectacular."

A great summary of the performances and prospects of local independent school athletes this past season. ◆



From rediscovering nature's beauty to engaging with an art-rich community, you'll be excited by the adventures that spring and summer in Kent County promise.*

Rich in agricultural history, Kent County also has strong traditions around working the water. Farm-fresh food and straightfrom-the-water seafood are the standard for local dining—from the wine and cheese shop in Chestertown to charming cafes to fine dining restaurants throughout the County.

On Saturday mornings Fountain Park bustles with local farmers selling their fruits, veggies, wines, flowers, baked goods and more. Meanwhile artisans offer everything from hand-made furniture to soaps and jewelry—all at the award-winning Chestertown Farmers and Artisans Market.

Local harvests also create amazing wines and spirits in Kent County. Just outside Kennedyville, you'll spot a scenic vineyard, home to award-winning Crow Winery, which offers wine tastings on a working farm with a farm stay B&B, along with many events. More must-see stops include Cassinelli Distillery and Wine Bar and Bad Alfred's in downtown Chestertown, where visitors watch as vodka, gin and brandy are made, and then taste the spirits directly from the stills.

Foodies will want to visit during Rock Hall Restaurant week, kicking off with The Taste of Rock Hall, April 21, with plenty of local food and fresh seafood. There's seafood so fresh you may spot a waterman unloading his catch from the stern of his vessel. Look for rock fish, clams, oysters and the famous Chesapeake Bay Blue Crab.

Whether you're looking for name brands, aloha shirts and dresses, nautical one-of-a-kinds, fine arts and crafts, or anything in between, you'll enjoy old-fashioned, friendly service. No stuffy malls here. Designated an Arts and Entertainment District by the State of Maryland, Chestertown is home to an inspiring collection of galleries, studios and creative events.

For those dreaming of the sweet sound of music, Kent County can nourish your soul. Visit a variety of venues, like The MainStay in Rock Hall and The Garfield Center for the Arts and Washington College, both in Chestertown.

Nature-lovers will enjoy Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge, a protected habitat and home to a wealth of wildlife and plants, seven miles from Rock Hall. This refuge offers tons of fun, including kayaking, bird watching, hiking and biking. Walk the trails to see groves of brightly colored flowers, just making their springtime appearance. Then continue to the shoreline to find panoramic views of the Chesapeake Bay.

Kent County offers you a full springtime experience. Be sure to book your stay in a historic inn, lovely B&B, hotel, vacation rental or campground. Don't miss your chance to enjoy this season along one of the most scenic shorelines in the mid-Atlantic. We're certain you'll find this destination to be one of your favorite springtime getaways. •

IF YOU GO: Check in with KentCounty.com for information about lodging, dining, attractions and events.

*Find more events and information on the next page.



April 6. Broadway by the River with Marti Gould Cummings Garfield Center for the Arts, 210 High St., Chestertown 8 pm. 410-810-2060; GarfieldCenter.org.

April 6. First Friday—The Artists' Gallery Features Marc Rubin, "Textures"

The Artists' Gallery, 239 High St., Chestertown Reception, 5 to 8 pm. 410-778-2425; TheArtists GalleryCTown.com.

April 21. Washington College Concert Series

Decker Theatre at Washington College, 300 Washington Ave., Chestertown ~ Concert Series presents Lydia Artymiw, pianist. 7:30 pm. WashColl.edu.

April 21–28. Rock Hall Restaurant Week

Rock Hall restaurants. 410-639-7719; RockHallMD.com.

April 26-29. Paint the Town 2018

Chestertown RiverArts, 315 High St., Suite 106, Chestertown Over 50 artists from the East Coast participate in four days of plein air painting/drawing of Kent County. ChestertownRiverArts.net.

April 29. Annual Draw For Sight Bicycle Ride

Starts at Betterton Fire Hall, 2 Howell Point Rd., Betterton A 36- or 60-mile ride through the beautiful Kent County countryside. Prizes, sag wagon and food stops. Register on Active.com. ChestertownLions.org.

May 4. First Friday – The Artists' Gallery, Bonnie Howell, "Water Level"

Reception from 5 to 8 pm. 410-778-2425; TheArtistsGalleryCTown.com.

May 11. An Evening with Author Kate Clifford Larson Kent County Public Library, 408 High St. Chestertown 5:30 pm. Limited space; registration required. KentCounty-Library.org.

May 19. Summer Rosé Tasting

Chester River Wine & Cheese Co., 117 S. Cross St., Chestertown

Celebrate the start of summer with the 2018 rosé collection. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and desserts. 5 to 8 pm. ChesterRiver

May 25–27. Chestertown Tea Party Festival

Downtown Chestertown and Wilmer Park Reenactment of residents gathering at the town center, marching down High Street to the brigantine Geddes

anchored in the Chester River, and tossing her cargo of tea overboard on Sat, 2 pm. ChestertownTeaParty.org. May 25-28. 36th Annual Kent County Spring Fling

Washington College, 300 Washington Ave., Chestertown Great cycling on scenic roads, flat to rolling terrain along the Chesapeake Bay. See Betterton Beach, Rock Hall and lunch on the pier, Centreville, Galena and more. Music,

May 27. Rock Hall Beach Party and Street Dance

Public Beach and Main St. ~ Rock Hall Music, dancing on Main St., bonfire, games and fun while enjoying the beautiful Rock Hall sunset. 6 pm. Rock-HallMD.com.

June 3-16. National Music Festival

Throughout Kent County

dancing. BaltoBikeClub.org.

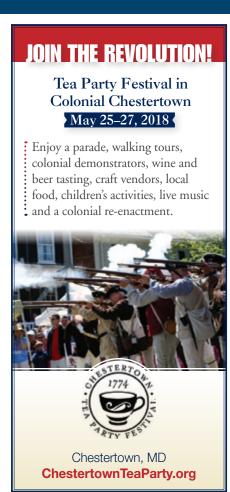
From a solo violinist to a symphony orchestra with chorus, from Beethoven to symphonic jazz. Find it at the Festival. Check website for details. National Music, US.

June 16 & 17. RHYC Annual One-Design Regatta

Rock Hall Yacht Club, McKinleyville Rd., Rock Hall One-design sailboat classes compete in a two-day regatta in Langford Bay and the Chester River. 8 am to 5 pm. RockHallYachtClub.org.

June 24, 33rd Annual Bay to Bay Bicycle Ride

Betterton Fire Hall, 2 Howell Point Rd., Betterton Ride from the Fire Hall on the Chesapeake Bay to the Delaware Bay and back. Routes from 26 to 102 miles are available. Sag wagon and food stops. Register at Active.com. 6:30 am to 4 pm. ChestertownLions.org.





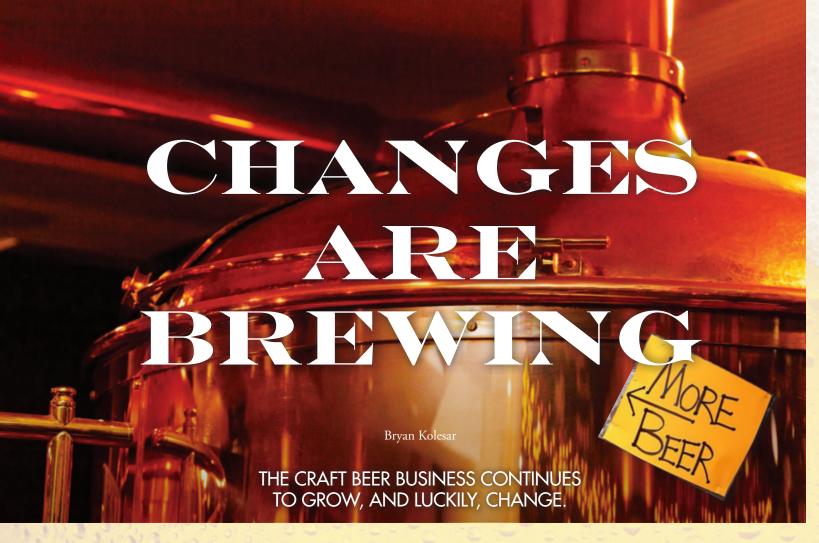












OU'VE HEARD THE SAYING "THE MORE THINGS change, the more they stay the same"? That's far from true these days in the beer world. Instead, the zeitgeist in this sector of the beverage business is better captured by "the only constant is change."

Grab a beer and let's catch up on a few new developments.

SOMETHING NEW, SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING OPENED. SOMETHING CLOSED

Looking back to just 2005, there were fewer than 1,500 brewing establishments in the entire country. Now? The 6,000 mark has been breached and the number is still climbing.

Competition for making and selling beer has intensified. Many brewers want to be the next big thing, wholesale distributors clamor for new breweries to carry, retail spots now include grocery stores added to the competitive mix (at long last in Pennsylvania), and consumers want more beer and more variety—all driving the cycle.

Pennsylvania, at the end of 2017, ranked seventh among states, with close to 300 brewing establishments identified as "craft" by the Brewers Association (BA), the industry's not-forprofit trade association.

What does that mean for beer fans in Chester County? Well, in 2017, we gained Crowded Castle, East Branch, La Cabra, Locust Lane and Root Down breweries. It means small towns like Oxford have two brewing establishments, as do larger towns like Frazer/Malvern, Downingtown and West Chester.

Phoenixville proper leads the county with five brewing establishments, not to mention a couple of wineries and distilleries and a few more breweries in neighboring towns. Number six, Rebel Hill Brewing, recently opened. Yes, Phoenixville ranks 10th nationally for beer places per capita.

This proliferation supports another Brewers Association statistic at least 83% of the country lives within ten miles of a brewery.

The greater Philadelphia region lost just one brewery in 2017—Prism in Lansdale. On the bar scene, one of the first bars in the western Philadelphia suburbs to serve a wider variety of beer in the 1990s was The Drafting Room in Exton, which, sadly, closed last year. Many remember it fondly as the meeting place for industry insiders and consumers searching out events that showcased the best of the beer world.

SMALL BREWERIES, BIG BUSINESS

It should come as no surprise that as beer from the non-macro segment of the industry has nearly doubled by volume, from 6.5% in 2012, and dollar share is up over 20%, that big brewers have taken notice. The largest brewing and marketing organizations can no longer ignore both the consumers' desire for a variety of beer options as well as their own near annual drop in market share by both volume and dollars.

Here a Beer, There a Beer ..

here can you get a beer these days? The short answer is, where

are the rage. Try the Kennett Cream ery, Victory Beer Garden in Longwood Gardens and Constitution Yards in Wilmington's Riverfront.

Working or playing in Philly? You can hardy get from one neighborhood to another without stumbling across a pop-up beer garden. Philly's Fairmount Park system has a traveling beer garden—Parks On Tap—with beer garden

in 20 spots over 20 weeks. Citizens Bank Park has long been known for having one of Major League Baseball's top-notch beer selections And you can even grab a good beer before a show at The Kimmel Center. No need to be thirsty!

Recognition of this growth began many moons ago when Blue Moon was launched in 1995 by the Coors family (now a part of the Miller-Coors family) at its Sandlot Brewery at Coors Field in Denver. Blue Moon grew extremely popular through the years and spurred experimentation and funding for flavorful beers that other large, multinational breweries attempted to mimic—think Shock Top from Anheuser-Busch.

But that wouldn't be enough. In what was shocking news in 2011, Anheuser-Busch purchased Goose Island of Chicago—an independent craft brewery—rather than creating their own "craft" label. Since then, Anheuser-Busch has also picked up and absorbed into its High End division Blue Point, 10 Barrel, Elysian, Golden Road, Four Peaks, Devils Backbone, Wicked Weed and others.

The consolidation trend continued. Constellation Brands owns Ballast Point, Anchor Brewing was sold to Sapporo, and Heineken snapped

up the remaining 50% of Lagunitas Brewing it didn't already own.

Smaller craft brewing organizations have stepped up their own games and have become larger, in some cases much larger, versions of themselves. Stone Brewing has two new locations—one in Richmond, Virginia and one across the pond in Berlin. Green Flash has an East Coast facility in Virginia Beach and New Belgium, Sierra Nevada and Oskar Blues all opened second locations in North Carolina.

Other breweries have teamed up, partly as a defense strategy, rather than sell to a large, multinational macro brewer. Our local Victory Brewing Company joined forces with Southern Tier (of Lakewood, NY), where they continue to coexist as separate brands but under a parent company named Artisanal Brewing Ventures.

CLAMORING FOR CROWLERS

You know what a growler is, right? How about a crowler? A portmanteau of can and growler, crowlers have exploded on the scene in the past few years at some bars, but mostly brewery taprooms.

Even though 32-oz. glass growlers have joined their traditional 64-oz. partners for to-go draft beer, 32-oz. crowlers have quickly become popular for three primary reasons—less spoilage due to a tighter seal and protection from light, less chance of breakage, and less beer to consume or need to share.

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF HAZE

Another development that continues to stir lively debates in breweries and barrooms across the country is NEIPAs or New England IPAs, sometimes called juicy IPAs. These beers are both praised as delicious and dissed as improperly made beer.

It's not unheard of for breweries to do special releases of these usually fruity, not bitter, hop-forward beers









and pull down \$20+ thousand in sales in just a few hours. There's not nearly enough room here to dissect the arguments for and against NEIPAs.

Suffice it to say, breweries young and old are realizing that if they're not selling at least

one beer that's orangish-goldish in color and nearly, if not completely, opaque and described as juicy, hazy, cloudy, etc., then they run the risk of being perceived as not relevant.

I didn't say it's fair. Actually I am saying it's not fair. But it is, nevertheless, the latest trend consuming the industry.

CHECK THE DATE **BEFORE YOU CHECK OUT**

Breweries can make the highest quality beer, distribute it with the utmost care, and have it promoted by some of the savviest marketers and sales forces. But, beer that's not fresh is beer not likely to be purchased again, since nearly all beer is best when consumed fresh.

I've seen too many world-class beers on the market—such as oft-awarded Pilsners and IPAs-that show brewed-on dates of more than six months earlier!

What to do? Don't buy it!

As a general practice, ask your retail store and brewery staff either when the beer was brewed or when it was delivered. It's a

reason to shop where beer is taken seriously.

Some breweries stamp their product with a Best By date. The Brewed On date is even more important. In the perfect world, both dates would appear on all bottles or cans as well as the packaging to give the consumer information to make an informed purchase.

There's so much happening in this stillexpanding world of wonderful beer. Be aware of what's driving the industry and the impact that has on your enjoyment. Ask questions, demand the best, and we'll continue to drink great beer for years to come.

Cheers! ♦

Bryan Kolesar, local to Chester County, has been writing about beer for over ten years and maintains a blog, BrewLounge.com. His book—Beer

Lover's Mid-Atlanticis available online and in physical bookstores. It's a complete 416-page guide to breweries, brewpubs, beer bars and homebrew of PA, NJ, MD and DE.





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

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Chef News. West Marlborough's award-winning English pub, The Whip Tovern, welcomes Tim Baker as Executive Chef. Baker's culinary experience spans 20 years—recently at Sullivan's Steak House in Wilmington. Baker will preserve The Whip's traditions while adding personal flair to the menu. Try his new Southern-inspired Shrimp and Grits and Chicken



Fried Pork Belly, or stick to the classics with Welsh Rarebit and Scotch Eggs. Stop by for craft beer, English and seasonal brews, or local cider, too. 1383 N. Chatham Rd., West Marlborough; The Whip Tavern.com.

Birds & Brews. What happens at Newlin Grist Mill after hours, you ask? Sip Behind the Scenes, of course! On April 12th, Newlin Grist Mill partners with Wild Birds Unlimited and Tri-State Bird Rescue for Birds and Brews, an evening dedicated to enjoying nature, the Mill and beer. Chat with staff about what's happening at the Mill, or learn about finches, woodpeckers and more ... all while sampling a local brew. Join the fun at this free after-hours session. 219 Cheyney Rd., Glen Mills; NewlinGristMill.org/Calendar.

American Beauty. Following a brief hiatus and change in ownership, Verbena BYOB debuted at the former loca-



tion of La Madera Bistro in Kennett Square. Executive Chef Scott Morozin brings years of experience in the Philly dining scene and Steven Starr restaurants to this BYOB, which serves an American menu highlighting local farms and organic produce. With

only 40 seats, Verbena is rustic and cozy, the perfect setting to savor serious food—from ribeye to rosehip crème brûlée. 102 State St., Kennett Square; VerbenaBYOB.com

Winning Miss Winnie's. Are you

jumping for jerk chicken? Eager for oxtail soup? Miss Winnie's has you covered. This special spot is a loving homage to owner Bert Johnston's mother, the restaurant's namesake, and her dedication to food, family and friends. Try authentic Jamaican dishes like plantain tarts and curry

chicken, or American favorites like burgers and wings with a distinct Caribbean twist. Sample Miss Winnie's recipes and the fruits of her legacy for yourself! 211 E. Market St., West Chester; MissWinnies.com.

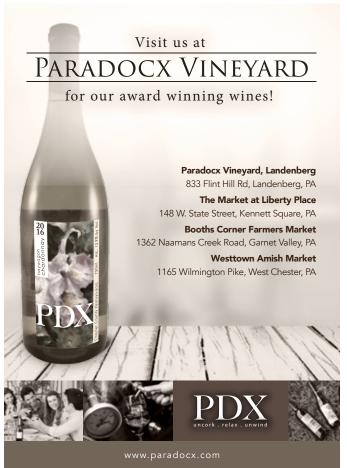
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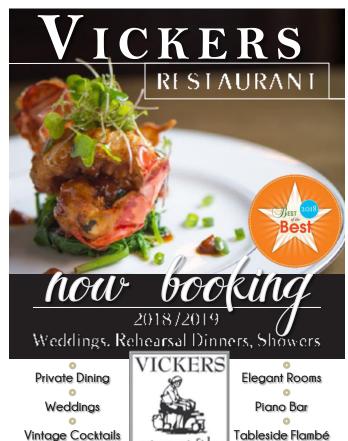


Veggie Volunteers. Winter is finally over, so celebrate springtime by volunteering at a farm! On April 28th, lend a hand with the Delaware Center for Horticulture at SIW Vegetables in Chadds Ford to honor owner H.G. Haskell's contributions to DCH's Urban Agriculture programs. Get a taste of real farm work as you transplant seedlings, adjust row covers, clear tunnels and more. Help SIW Vegetables, a farm market and CSA, keep growing and giving to the community. Contact Ruth Arias, 302-658-6262, ext. 113.

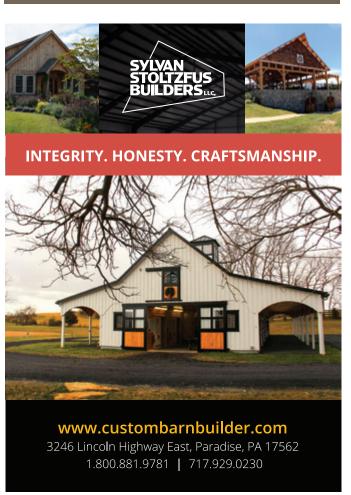
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Brandywine Table

Fresh Eggs Pure Protein

RIGHT IN OUR BACKYARD

Laura Muzzi Brennan

HEN DUANE REHMEYER WAS WOOING Deborah Ellis, he showed up outside her 5th grade classroom with a dozen eggs. Some women might not know what to make of such a gesture, but Deb, who comes from an Iowa farming family, was charmed by the gift.

That was 1998. Back then, Duane was working as an engineer by day and raising 50 chickens on his Glenmoore farm as a hobby. Fast forward two decades: Duane and Deb have been married 19 years. Duane still works as an engineer. Deb retired from teaching in the Coatesville School District and Pennsylvania's Mobile Agriculture Education Science Laboratory Program. And the chickens of Highspire Hills Forms? They now number 2,000, and with a little help from Duane and Deb, they supply home cooks and local chefs with

eggs whose freshness and quality elevate any dish. I became interested in Highspire eggs when EatNic chef Seth Arnold raved at length about them during an interview for last month's article, "Breakfast Anytime." Turns out, Arnold's got lots of company: Amani BYOB, the newly opened Suburban Restaurant and Beer Garden, The Silverspoon, Ron's Original Bar and Grille, Kimberton Inn and

Malvern Buttery all source their eggs from Highspire.

When I visited Highspire on a freezing February day, I learned a couple of secrets behind these sought-after eggs. Most importantly, the eggs come from well-cared-for hens. I saw chickens roaming freely through the poultry house and dining on soy-free, non-GMO feed. In warmer weather, the house's computer-controlled curtains are raised, opening the building to fresh air and sunshine. From March to October, older hens live out in the pasture and lay earthy, grassy flavored eggs reflective of the terroir.

Another reason for Highspire's stellar quality

is that eggs are only a few days old when Deb delivers them to restaurant kitchens. And they don't have to travel far: Deb makes a 60-mile round trip every Tuesday, ensuring eggs arrive fresh with a minimum of bouncing around.

Home cooks in search of Highspire eggs can purchase them at Kimberton Whole Foods or at the farm. (The farm has the extra attraction of 4 alpacas, 7 fainting goats and a goose named Lola, a story for a future article.)

Inside the poultry house, there's a small room off the egg sorting area where refrigerators hold crates of brown eggs in large, extra large

and jumbo sizes. Payment is by the honor system—just leave your money in the small basket on the bookshelf.

And if you happen to run into Duane or Deb, by all means, ask them your egg questions. Besides sharing their family egg recipes, they gave me a mini-course on chickens and eggs (see sidebar). Short of answering which came first, this down-to-earth couple will happily share what they know about the protein at the center of your plate.





Bacon Cheddar Quiche

Deb Ellis learned to make the pie crust for this quiche from her mother, Marge, who was a terrific pie maker.



For the crust: 2 C. flour 1 scant tsp. salt ²/₃ C. shortening (Crisco or other) Up to 6 Tb. ice water

For the filling:

12 eggs

2 C. half and half

1/4 tsp. garlic powder

1/4 tsp. onion powder

Salt and pepper, optional

16 slices bacon, cooked crisp and crumbled

2 C. shredded cheddar cheese

1/2 C. grated Parmesan cheese

2 Tb. chopped onion, optional

To make the crust:

Mix flour, salt and shortening by hand with a serving fork. Add water 1 Tb. at a time, just until the mixture becomes crumbly. Push together to make a ball. Split ball in half.

On a floured surface, roll each ball and flatten to 1/8" thickness.

To make the filling and assemble:

Preheat oven to 350°. With a mixer, mix eggs, half and half, garlic powder, onion powder, salt and pepper until fluffy. Place a crust in each of two pie plates. Layer bacon, cheeses and onion on top of crust. Pour in egg mixture.

Bake for 50 minutes to 1 hour, until a knife inserted into the center of the quiche comes out clean.

Makes 2 quiches, about 8-12 servings.

Fun Facts for Aspiring Eggheads

fter raising chickens for 25 years, Duane Rehmeyer and Deb Ellis are, ahem, eggheads. In the few hours I spent with them, they schooled me in some basic chicken and egg facts and referred me to All About Eggs, Lucky Peach's recipe-packed guide to the history and mystery of the protein eaten around the world. Tuck away the tidbits below so the next time you're around the table with friends, wow them with your eggs-pertise.

- A hen starts producing eggs when she's between 4 and 6 months old. She can produce an egg every 25 hours.
- Older hens lay fewer eggs, but those eggs are bigger and paler.
- Egg categories are determined by weight, not size. Large eggs weigh 2-2.24 oz., extra large 2.25-2.49, while jumbos tip the scale at a whopping 2.5+ oz.!
- Older eggs (1–2 weeks old) make the best deviled eggs because they have bigger air pockets, making them easier to peel.
- Americans refrigerate eggs while Europeans do not. Why? The simple answer is that U.S. eggs are washed before being sold while European eggs are not. Washing damages the egg's cuticle (also called "bloom"), which is the thin coating that naturally prevents water loss and blocks bacteria. Without its cuticle, the egg needs the refrigerator's protection.

45° is the ideal storage temperature for eggs in the U.S. Don't store them on the refrigerator door where they're subject to temperature fluctuations and lots of jiggling.



Veggie Patties

This recipe was passed down to Deb Ellis from her Aunt Cappie who, as a Seventh Day Adventist, avoided eating meat. Deb says the nuts and eggs give the patties a meaty flavor, so the dish will satisfy carnivores, too.



1 sleeve Saltine crackers

1/4 lb. shredded cheese, any kind

1 large onion, minced

8 eggs, beaten

1/2 C. finely ground walnuts or pecans

Garlic powder, to taste

Dried sage, to taste

Salt and pepper, optional

1-2 Tb. peanut oil

1, 11.5-oz. can tomato juice

Smash the saltines with a rolling pin until they become crumbs, but not powder.

In a large bowl, mix all ingredients except oil and tomato juice together and form into 20 patties (about 3" in diameter). Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat.

Working in batches if necessary, brown patties on both sides. Patties burn easily, so keep a close eye on them. Keep finished patties warm in oven.

When all are browned, add tomato juice to the skillet and simmer with patties for 30-45 minutes. When ready to serve, carefully take them out and put on a serving dish or platter. Then, have the extra sauce on the side if folks want more.

Makes 20 patties.

Deb's Deviled Eggs



Older eggs are easier to peel because they have a larger air pocket. Deb likes to use eggs that are one week old.

12 large eggs

1/2-1 C. ranch dressing

1 Tb. Diion mustard

1/3 C. crispy, finely chopped bacon

1 Tb. dill pickle juice

1/4 C. shredded cheddar cheese

Bring a large saucepan of water to a rolling boil. Using a large spoon, place eggs in water one by one. Boil for 15 minutes, keeping

the heat the same. Drain and add cold water to saucepan.

Let eggs sit in cold water for 1 hour. Drain and put in refrigerator for 24 hours. Peel under running water.

Cut in half. Remove yolks and mix yolks with all other ingredients. Place mixture in whites.

Makes 24 deviled eggs.

Avgolemono

In her cookbook My Kitchen Year, Ruth Reichl has a recipe for this Greek lemon and egg soup. After making it many times, I decided that I'd like it to be hearty enough for a main dish. The shredded poached chicken does the trick.



7 C. chicken broth

1 lb. bone-in, skin on, chicken breast

1/2 C. rice

1 large lemon

4 egg yolks Pinch of salt

In a large pot, bring chicken broth to a boil. Add chicken breast skin side down. Cover and reduce heat to medium-low. Simmer for 20-25 minutes until nearly cooked through. Turn heat off and let chicken sit in broth to finish cooking, about 15 minutes. Remove chicken from pot and when cool enough to touch, shred

Bring broth back to a boil. Add rice. Reduce heat and simmer uncovered until rice is tender, about 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, finely grate the rind of a large lemon, squeeze the juice from it and mix zest and juice together in a bowl. Whisk in the egg yolks and a pinch of salt.

Once the rice is tender, mix a ladleful of the hot broth into the eggs. Slowly add egg-broth mixture back into pot and cook on low for a few minutes. Add shredded chicken and cook for a few minutes more.

Makes 6-8 servings.

Popovers

As I've learned from Ina Garten, popovers turn any meal into a celebration. But because I can be a lazier cook than Ina, I've eliminated a couple of her steps. To wit: I do not sift the flour, and because I use a really sturdy, non-



stick popover pan by Nordicware, I sometimes skip buttering the pan before I heat it. Having ingredients at room temperature is absolutely essential, as is NOT opening the oven while the popovers bake.

1½ Tb. butter, melted, plus more for

the pans (see headnote) 1½ C. all-purpose flour 3/4 tsp. kosher salt 3 extra-large eggs, room temperature 1½ C. whole milk, room temperature

Preheat oven to 425°. Whisk all ingredients together by hand or in a blender. Grease pans with butter (or don't). Place pans in oven for 2 minutes.

Fill each popover pan just under the halfway mark. Because every popover pan is slightly different, you might not have enough batter to fill every well. Add water to the ones that are empty to prevent them from burning.

Bake for 25 minutes. Look through the oven window to see whether popovers look golden brown and puffed on top. If not, bake for 5 minutes more. Serve

Makes 10–12 popovers. ♦

Laura traces her love of all things culinary to the first time she leafed through her mother's Betty Crocker's Cooky Book—which still occupies a place of honor among her 700+ cookbooks. A passionate supporter of local food, she co-founded a farmers market, judges area food contests, and anticipates restaurant openings with the excitement most people reserve for winning a Mega Millions jackpot.



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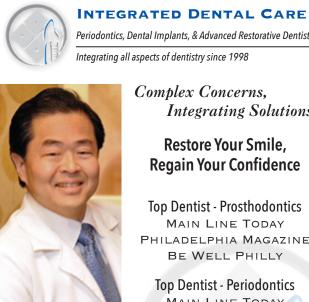
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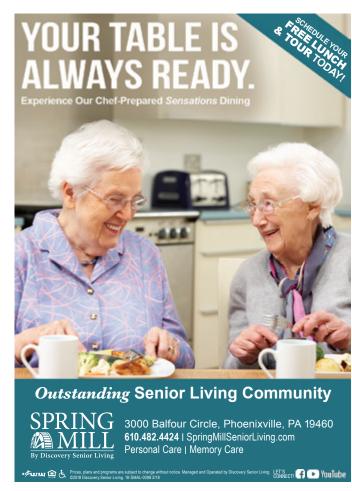
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Black Powder Tavern	
Boyles Floor & Window Designs	32
Brandywine River Museum of Art	
Brandywine Virtual Academy - CCIU	
Bucks Co. Designer House and Gardens.	
Canine Partners for Life	
Cecil County, MD	2
Centreville Layton School	66
Chestertown Tea Party	71
Christopher Chocolates / Fine Foods	34
Church Farm School Community Day	28
The Columbus Inn / Taste Catering	53
Delaware Art Museum	16
The Delaware Contemporary	57
Delaware Museum of Natural History	66
Delaware Theatre Company	
Devon Preparatory School	66
The Devon Senior Living	
Dilworth's Custom Design, Inc	

Donald Pell Gardens	32
Dovetail Group, LLC	11
Eden Resort & Suites	
Emily's Restaurant	57
Episcopal Academy	63
The Farmhouse at People's Light	
Finley Catering	48
Flowing Springs Landscape Design	13
The Gables at Chadds Ford	54
General Warren	41
Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerc	e
Art Gallery Walk	25
Greystone Hall	38

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St. Ann School
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& Fine Arts Gallery 57
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Sylvan Stoltzfus Builders LLC
Thornbury Farm CSA 54
Thousand Acre Farm 4
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