

COUNTY LINES

MAGAZINE

893 S. Matlack St., Ste. 150 • West Chester, PA 19382

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Your guide to unique places, interesting events, fine dining, great shopping
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Holiday Gift Guide • Easy Appetizers
55+ and Retirement Communities

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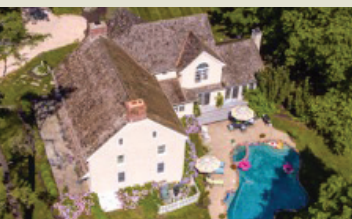
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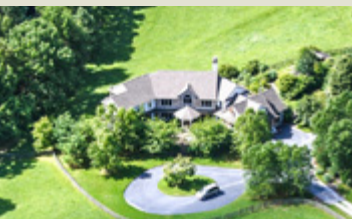
Chester Springs
63 Acres | Converted Barn | Pool
Par 3 Golf Hole | Apple Orchard
Pond | Subdivision Possible
\$3,900,000



Birmingham Township
7 BR, 4.2 BA | 28.5 Acres
Greenhouse | Pool | 4-Car Garage
Bank Barn | Unionville Schools
\$2,450,000



Unionville
6 BR, 4.1 BA | 74 Acres | Updated
Private Pool | Amazing Barn
Excellent Equestrian Facility
\$1,799,000



Unionville
5 BR, 4.2 BA | 23+ Acres
Indoor Pool | Barn | Large Riding Ring
In-Law Suite | Unionville Schools
\$1,795,000



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24 Stall Barn | Unionville Schools
\$1,748,000



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\$1,675,000



Chester Springs
4 BR, 2.1 BA | 39.6 Acres
Gorgeous Landscaping | Ponds
Serene & Private | Preserved Views
\$1,488,000



Chester Springs
4 BR, 4.1 BA | 20.1 Acres
In-Law Suite | 3 Car Garage
Gourmet Kitchen | Stunning Property
\$1,249,000



Unionville Area
5 BR, 5.2 BA | 31.6 Acres
Private | Separate Apt | Barn
Riding Ring | Cheshire Hunt
\$1,198,000



Downingtown Schools
4 BR, 5 BA | Barn Conversion
Volumes of Space | Gourmet Kitchen
Fabulous Master Suite | Barn & Pastures
\$950,000



West Chester
5 BR, 5.1 BA | On Cul-de-Sac
Each Bedroom has own Full Bath
Finished Lower Level | Unionville Schools
\$899,000



Chadds Ford
4 BR, 2.1 BA | 1.09 Acres | Quiet
Great Floorplan | Commuter Convenient
Unionville-Chadds Ford Schools
\$634,900



Pocopson
4 BR, 2.1 BA | 0.93 Acres | 2x Garage
Natural Gas System | Great Spaces
Unionville Schools | Commuter-friendly
\$610,000



Cochranville
4 BR, 4.1 BA | 1.90 Acres
Open Floor Plan | Custom Kitchen
Finished Lower Lvl | Stunning Living Rm
\$459,000



Villages at Hillview
3 BR, 3.0 BA | 0.46 Acres | Open Floorplan
Finished Lower Level | Chef's Kitchen
Magnificent Woodwork
\$450,000



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\$219,900



from the EDITOR

November has arrived, and we're practically smelling turkey. And taking time to give thanks. In this issue, Mackenzie Jaros reviews 125 years of good works by the Women's Auxiliary of Chester County Hospital, our Local Heroes, and Abbey Bigler celebrates so-called retired researchers at Stroud Water Research Center in "Science Never Retires."

Thinking about family gatherings at Thanksgiving dinner, Laura Brennan helps free you from the kitchen to enjoy more family time with "Easy Appetizers" in Brandywine Table.

For those planning a strategy for Black Friday and Small Business Saturday, check out our Holiday Gift Guide for inspiration and Holiday Sparkle for ideas on how to shine this season.

And while there are plenty of shopping options in Kennett Square, Cindy Walker finds many reasons to visit Southern Chester County—to find collectibles, great restaurants, wine tours and lots of breweries and taphouses. It is indeed "Much More Than Mushrooms."

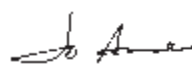
No need to wait for the New Year to think about your health. Ed Malet checks out area 55+ retirement communities, specifically in their exercise rooms, pools, gyms, classes and so much more. In "Finding Fitness" he reports on state-of-the-art programs. We've also included a Guide describing more services at these communities.

If you're looking for a new fitness routine, "Down for the Count" by Ray Porreca explains why boxing is a growing trend—especially among women.

But if all you want for this holiday season is a Shingle-style stunner on over 16 acres in Malvern, then read Laurel Anderson's "Home of the Month" article. The current owner fell in love with it at first sight. You may, too.

For November fun, we suggest catching *Cinderella: A Musical Panto* at People's Light, a holiday tradition for 15 years! The Roaring '20s theme will keep you in stitches. And there's lots more Family Fun in our Best Local Events coverage this month and every month.

Do vote on Facebook for your favorite in our photo contest, "Capturing Chester County." Thank you for reading and Happy Thanksgiving!


Jo Anne Durako
Editor



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COUNTY LINES MAGAZINE

November 2018

Volume XLII, Number 3

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Subscriptions: \$39/year

To find *County Lines*, check our web-site's "Get A Copy" page, pick one up at Wellington Square Bookshop, West Chester Book Outlet and other newsstands, buy one at Wegmans, or visit advertisers listed in the Index.



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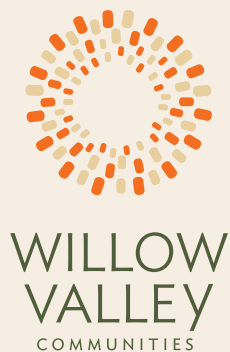
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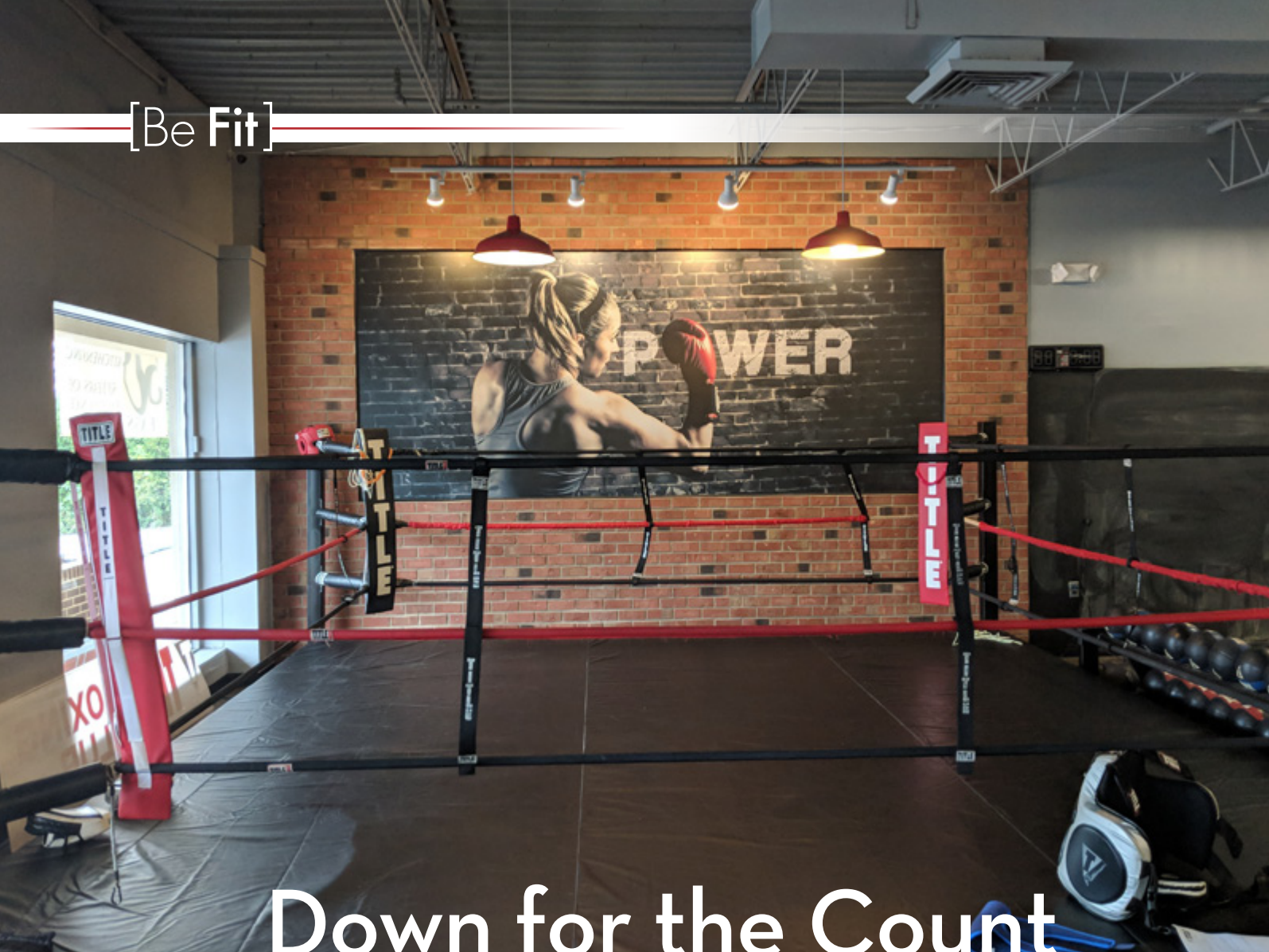
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Down for the Count

BOXING'S BENEFITS GO BEYOND THE RING

Ray Porreca

BOXING HAS A “TOUGH GUY” IMAGE PROBLEM. The sport’s physical nature calls to mind images of black eyes and dark bruises. But recently, a growing number of local gyms are dedicating themselves to demystifying boxing. Even if you’re not interested in becoming a proficient pugilist, many trainers believe that incorporating boxing into your workout routine is a great way to start feeling—and looking—better.

Finding a gym, trainer and routine that work for you might sound like a daunting task. However, Chester County is home to dozens of gyms, many specializing in boxing training for beginners. There’s never been a better time to lace up a pair of boxing gloves.

FEEL THE BURN

Even at a beginner’s level, boxing is an exceptional form of both cardiovascular exercise and resistance training. But when you’re just starting out, learning proper boxing form and technique are more important than burning calories. Your first training session should

focus on the basics—how to wrap your hands, put on gloves and hit the heavy bag without injuring yourself.

Once you’re comfortable, trainers will work with you based on your current skill level. Don’t worry if you’ve never thrown a punch before. Most gyms employ expert-level trainers who are happy to work with people new to the sport.

Typical training sessions will vary between gyms and participant skill level. The most common form of boxing exercise involves rhythmically hitting the heavy bag. This routine builds upper-body strength and boosts cardio functions. It’s a great workout with the added benefit of blowing off stress. Trust me, there’s nothing more satisfying than hitting a heavy bag after a tough day.

“We have a flagship program called the Power Hour,” says Noel Sanchez, a professional trainer at TITLE Boxing Club in Malvern. “It’s a 15-minute warmup, followed by eight 3-minute rounds on the heavy bag, a minute of active rest in between, and then 15 minutes on core.”

Sanchez notes that routines like TITLE’s Power Hour combine cardio exercise and high-intensity interval training, two of boxing’s best fitness traits.

PULLING PUNCHES

Everyone knows that boxing matches are brutal. Philly’s fictional hero Rocky Balboa got pummeled countless times across six movies. But don’t let that discourage you. Most boxing gyms don’t throw students directly into the ring. In fact, non-combat training is one of the sport’s biggest draws. Sparring might attract some people to the sport, but for those just looking for a solid workout, you’ll never have to worry about getting hit.

Most fitness-focused gyms have more than enough heavy bags to go around. These large bags are a cornerstone of boxing training. They’re designed to be punched—repeatedly—to help build muscle strength and stamina.

In addition to heavy bag training, gyms offer specialized workouts. “We do personal training, too, which is a lot more technical,”

says Sanchez. Personal training sessions afford participants a chance to hone their skills by punching target mitts. According to Sanchez, working out with the target mitts allows people to emulate what serious boxers do on a daily basis, like performing specific punches and jabs.

GET THE GEAR

Although boxing gloves are iconic pieces of equipment, what you wear under the leather mitts is just as important. Hand wraps are essential to boxing training. They’re pieces of cloth designed to reduce damage to the wrist joint and help reduce the raw impact of a punch. Hand wraps are available at gyms, as well as sporting goods stores, and are required to participate in training and boxing classes.

Similarly, gyms should have boxing gloves available on site. Some, like TITLE Boxing Club, will loan a pair to first-timers, and most provide rental services if you don’t want to commit to buying a pair. Of course, if you fall in love with the sport, buying

gloves is a worthwhile investment.

Finally, it’s important to bring a pair of durable, supportive (and comfortable) tennis shoes.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Boxing attracts people of all ages. Although it’s often viewed as a male-dominated sport, plenty of women are stepping into the proverbial ring. In fact, when Claressa Shields won the Olympic gold medal for Women’s Boxing in 2012, many women took notice.

“It’s actually quite the opposite of what you might expect,” says Sanchez of boxing’s gender breakdown. “At our gym, it’s nearly a 70–30 [female-to-male] split.”

Learning the basics of boxing is physically and mentally rewarding. Training sessions and classes are designed to work your core and upper body. Even the most basic boxing workouts help tone muscle, and a one-hour class can burn around 1,000 calories.

With practice and dedication, boxing might just be the best alternative to the weight room you’ve never considered before. ♦



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

Low-key Zoo. Is the zoo too overwhelming for your child? **Elmwood Park Zoo** recently became the world's first zoo registered as a **Certified Autism Center**. Parents with kids on the spectrum can get a head start with Early Access Mornings to avoid noisy crowds. The zoo also has sensory backpacks with special guides to attractions, noise-canceling headphones, fidget aids and more. For a break, head for the designated quiet space across from the prairie dogs. ElmwoodParkZoo.org.



Doggy TV. Give thanks for man's best friend. Check out 190 breeds showing off agility and search and rescue skills, plus therapy dogs at the **National Dog Show**, November 17 and 18. See champion dogs up close and meet their owners on site, or snuggle with your pet and watch the show broadcast on TV on Thanksgiving Day. But make sure your best friend doesn't get jealous—toss 'em an extra treat! *Greater Phila. Expo Center, Oaks. NationalDogShow.com.*



Snap. Ever wonder why we wish on the **wishbone**? The tradition dates back to the ancient Etruscans, who believed birds were oracles that could predict the future and that their preserved bones had mysterious powers to grant wishes. Later, the Romans carried on the tradition. Legend has it that demand for these bones was so high, they had to be broken in half. And when the custom came to America, breaking the wishbone and wishing became a family tradition at Thanksgiving dinner.

Living History. Travel back in time to celebrate **Brandywine Patriot's Day** on November 24 as living history demos and musket drills bring the Revolutionary War to life. Tour George Washington's headquarters and a farmhouse plundered by British soldiers, or watch as the blacksmith shapes fiery orange metal into old-fashioned tools. Fun for adults and children alike. 1491 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford. BrandyWineBattleField.org.



Spare Turkey. Want some new fun with your turkey this year? And you don't even have to cook it! Try **Frozen Turkey Bowling**. Created in a West Coast grocery store, this twist on the classic uses a frozen turkey as the ball and bottles for pins. A lane made of ice or painter's plastic coated in soap gets the ball rolling. Impress your family with "the gobbler," three strikes in a row, instead of an embarrassing gutterball, aka "the butterball."



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[November Picks] *Our Picks for top events this month*

Home of the Sparrow's Annual Fashion Show
November 1

This event shows the power of women supporting women in the community under the theme "The Power of the Purse" as it promotes local businesses during boutique shopping. A great way to start your holiday shopping or find a special gift for yourself. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres are served from 5 to 7 p.m. Runway fashion show and dinner follow from 7 to 9 p.m. *The Desmond Hotel, 1 Liberty Blvd., Malvern. \$75. HomeOfTheSparrow.org/Event/Fashion.*

84th Running of the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup
November 4

Join the crowd for an exciting day of horse racing, shopping and tailgating with friends and neighbors in the rolling hills of beautiful Chester County. Benefits the Chester County Food Bank, Work to Ride and Upland Country Day School. *North of Rt. 926 & Newark Rd., Unionville. Gates open, 10:30 a.m. PA Hunt Cup begins at 3 p.m. \$50/car. 484-888-6619; PaHuntCup.org.*

Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center '50's Come Alive Doo Wop Concert.'
November 10

Pookie Hudson's Spaniels will headline a huge all a cappella concert singing "Goodnight Sweetheart, Goodnight," "Peace Of Mind," "Heart & Soul" and more favorites. They'll be joined by Joel & the Dynamics, Grand Central Echoes, Paragons and Jesters' lead Perry Martin and 5/3 Woodland. *226 N. High St., West Chester. 7 p.m. \$40-\$55. 610-356-2787; UptownWestChester.org.*

43rd Annual Art Gala at Unionville High School
November 16-17

This annual event showcases local celebrated working artists, UHS alumni, and current UHS students along with live music and great food. The gala strives to include a variety of artists—both new and more established—who express their talents through diverse mediums including oil and watercolor paintings, photography, glass, metal, pastels, mixed media and more. Benefits educational projects at UHS as well as funding outreach efforts in the community. *Unionville High School Art Center, Auditorium Entrance, 750 Unionville Rd., Kennett Square. Fri., reception from 6 to 9 p.m. with live music and hors d'oeuvres. Sat., 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. UnionvilleArtGala.com.*

Main Line Notable Kitchen Tour and Chefs' Tastings
November 8

This popular self-guided tour of some of the Main Line's unique kitchens benefits The Philadelphia Orchestra. Each of the impressive kitchens in six private homes in the western suburbs will showcase a notable local chef offering a variety of samples of their cuisine for tasting by tour-goers. Tickets are available at The Little House Shop in Wayne, Kitchen Kapers in Ardmore and Paoli, and Via Bellissima in Bryn Mawr or online. *NotableKitchens.com.*

best Local Events

FAMILY FUN

NOVEMBER 1-4

Phoenixville Harvest Festival.

Fun all weekend long; night market on Thursday, then a craft carnival, movie in Reeves Park, beer garden, pet day, pop-up garden and **Nov. 3**, Bed Races (see PXVBedRaces.org). Held throughout town. *More info at PhoenixvilleHarvestFestival.com.*

NOVEMBER 1, 8

Children's Read-Aloud Tours at Brandywine River Museum of Art. **Nov. 1**, *Amazing Grace* by Mary Hoffman; **Nov. 8**, *Square* by Mac Barnett. *1 Hoffman's Mill Rd., Chadds Ford. 10:30 am. Reg. req. \$5 per child. 610-388-8382; BrandywineMuseum.org.*

NOVEMBER 3

Delaware Museum of Natural History—Night at the Museum & Star Party. After-hours event—live bird encounters, experiments, games, crafts, and a look at the Fall/Winter constellations. Snacks, beverages (and adult beverages) will be available for purchase. *4840 Kennett Pk., Wilmington. 5 to 8 pm. \$3–\$9. 302-658-9111; DelMNH.org.*

NOVEMBER 4

Veterans Day Parade in West Chester. Bring the family to the parade beginning at Henderson High School, 400 Montgomery Ave., and ending with a ceremony in front of the Courthouse on High St. 2 pm. *DowntownWestChester.com.*

NOVEMBER 4

First Sundays for Families at Brandywine River Museum of Art. On Pirate Adventure Day, create pirate-themed crafts, hunt for art treasures in the museum, meet the Pirates of Fortune's Folly, and experience "Storytime Peter Pan" presented by Hedgerow Theatre. *1 Hoffman's Mill Rd., Chadds Ford. 10 to 1. 610-388-8382; BrandywineMuseum.org.*

NOVEMBER 17-18

The Kennel Club of Philadelphia National Dog Show. 2,000 dogs from 190 top breeds contend for Best In Show. Broadcast on Thanksgiving Day. Benefits a variety of causes. National Dog Show Month holds several events—visit *NationalDogShow.com* for a complete list. *Greater Phila. Expo Center, 100 Station Ave., Oaks. Sat, 8 to 6; Sun, 8:30 to 5. \$7–\$16. 610-644-2902; National-DogShow.com.*

NOVEMBER 17-DECEMBER 23

West Chester Railroad Santa's Express.

Join Santa for a 90-minute journey through the Chester Creek Valley, from Market Street Station to Glen Mills. Passengers receive treats from Santa and enjoy live music. *Market Street Station, 230 E. Market St., West Chester. \$7–\$24. 610-430-2233; WestChesterRR.com.*

NOVEMBER 23-DECEMBER 29

Celebrating the Holidays in Kennett Square. **Nov. 23**, Holiday Light Parade, 6 pm; **Nov. 24**, Small Business Saturday; **Nov. 24, Dec. 1, 8**, Brandywine Singers caroling, 2 to 5; **Nov. 24–Dec. 29**, Saturday shuttle to and from Longwood Gardens, timed tickets 1:30 to 6:30; **Dec. 1, 2, 8, 9**, Kennett Holiday Village Market, 11 to 5 at The Creamery; **Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23**, carriage rides. *610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com.*



NOVEMBER 24

Patriot's Day at Brandywine Battlefield. Firing demos, 18th-century baker with fresh breads and cookies, military life and drum music, open fire cooking and military medical display and demonstration. *1491 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford. 10 to 4. \$5–\$8. 610-459-3342; BrandywineBattlefield.org.*

NOVEMBER 24

Steamin' Thanksgiving at Auburn Heights Preserve. Climb into an antique automobile or board one of the trains. *3000 Creek Rd., Yorklyn, DE. 12:30 to 4:30. \$8–\$11. 302-239-2385; AuburnHeights.org.*

NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 1

Old-Fashioned Christmas in West Chester.

Nov. 30, Soup & Sandwich Parlor, Knights of Columbus, 5:45; Jingle Elf Run, 6:30; Holiday Village, 5 to 9; QVC West Chester Christmas Parade, 7:15 pm. **Dec. 1**, Breakfast with Santa at The Chester County Historical

Society, 8:30 & 10 am, \$16. *For a schedule of weekend events, GreaterWestChester.com.*

NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 1

Christmas in Wayne. **Nov. 30**, strolling open house, train display, carolers, ornament decorating, trolley and horse-drawn carriage rides, tree lighting at Wayne train station at 7:30; **Dec. 1**, Santa Parade at 10 am, meet Santa at The Wayne Hotel until 11:30 am. *See website for details, WayneChristmas.com.*

DECEMBER 1

Christmas on King. Malvern is set to deck the halls with this new event, featuring lots of activities, trolley rides, a Santa Parade, tree lighting, food trucks and great shopping. *Everything happens on King Street and in Burke Park, Warren Ave. & Roberts Rd. Noon to 8 pm. Malvern-Festivals.com.*

DECEMBER 2

Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center. Performing hits seen on *Disney Jr.*, Disney's "Choo Choo Soul with Genevieve" features sing-alongs with the kids, dancing and audience participation. *226 N. High St., West Chester. 1 & 4 pm. \$35. 610-356-2787; UptownWestChester.org.*



DECEMBER 8

American Helicopter Museum Santa Fest.

Santa arrives via helicopter to greet and hear the wish lists of good girls and boys. Bring your own camera for a photo with him in Santa's Workshop. Features music, snacks, crafts and more. *1220 American Blvd., West Chester. Starts at 10 am. Santa arrives at 11 am. AmericanHelicopter.museum.*

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.....

See also: Family Fun

NOVEMBER 13-DECEMBER 30

2018 Holidays in Historic Odessa, DE. Celebrating the 175th anniversary of *A Christmas Carol*, the Corbit Sharp House will be transformed into scenes based on the classic book. **Nov. 27, 29**, Holiday Candlelight Tours; 201 Main St., Odessa, DE. Mon by reservation; Tues–Sat, 10 to 4:30; Sun, 1 to 4:30. \$8–\$10. 302-378-4119; HistoricOdessa.com.



NOVEMBER 16-18

Delaware Hospice Festival of Trees. Beautifully decorated trees and wreaths and a variety of events and activities help make the weekend truly special. The Summit, 5850 Limestone Rd., Hockessin. Free. Visit website for more info. 302-235-6000; DelawareHospice.org.

NOVEMBER 17-JANUARY 6

Yuletide at Winterthur. Tour Henry Francis du Pont's former home decorated with sparkling holiday displays, including a specially built bandstand in a re-creation of a Christmas tree lighting in early 20th-century small-town America. *5105 Kennett Pk. (Rt. 52), Winterthur, DE. Tues–Sun, 10 to 5. \$5–\$20. 800-448-3883; Winterthur.org.*

NOVEMBER 20-JANUARY 6

Holidays at Pennypacker Mills. See how the holidays were celebrated in the early 1900s. Tours of the mansion, Tues–Sat, 10 to 4; Sun, 1 to 4. **Dec. 8**, Victorian Christmas Open House, 2 to 8 pm. *5 Haldeman Rd., Schwenksville. \$2 donation. 610-287-9349; MontcoPa.org.*

NOVEMBER 22-JANUARY 6

A Longwood Christmas. This year Longwood Gardens pays homage to the Christmas tree displaying traditional favorites and new twists. Outdoor firepits, colorful fountains,



music, a half-million lights and carolers fill the gardens. *1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Timed admission tickets req. LongwoodGardens.org.*

NOVEMBER 23, 25

Visit Media for the Holidays. **Nov. 23**, Holiday Stroll, 10 am to 11 pm and the Festival of Lights and Tree Lighting at the Armory on State & Church Sts. at 5 pm. **Nov. 25**, 5th Annual Santa Parade and Fun Run with exhibits, give-aways, refreshments and activities at the block party on Veterans Square between State and Front Sts. 2:30 to 6 pm. *VisitMediaPA.com.*

NOVEMBER 23-JANUARY 6

A Brandywine Christmas. Enjoy a gallery filled with a model train display, trees decorated with critter ornaments, events and programs such as Breakfast with the Trains, Breakfast with Santa, caroling and parties. *Brandywine River Museum of Art, Rt. 1, Chadds Ford. 9:30 to 4:30 (closed Christmas Day). \$6–\$18. 610-388-2700; Brandywine-Museum.org.*

NOVEMBER 25

Garrett Hill Tree Lighting Celebration. Bring an ornament to decorate the tree, sing carols then enjoy hot chocolate and snacks. *Clem*



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Macrone Park, 810 Conestoga Rd., Bryn Mawr. 5:30. 484-222-6106.

NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 2
DECEMBER 7-9

Historic Poole Forge—Christmas at the Ironmasters. Enjoy homemade refreshments, music, vendors, Sat. evening Welsh bonfires and photos with Santa. 1940 Main St., Narvon. Fri, Fri, 4 to 8; Sat, noon to 8; Sun, noon to 5. 484-797-5302; HistoricPooleForge.org.

DECEMBER 1

Scott Arboretum Selections: Holiday Sale. Greens, holiday accents, wreaths, living gifts

and fun for the whole family. Roast marshmallows and create kids nature crafts. 500 College Ave., Swarthmore. 1 to 3 pm. 610-328-8023; ScottArboretum.org.

DECEMBER 1

Coatesville Christmas Parade. Lively event with bands, floats, antique cars, cartoon characters and entertainment. Strode Ave. to 11th St. Starts at 10. CoatesvilleChristmas-Parade.com.

DECEMBER 1

West Chester Public Library's Holiday Home Tour. Standard tickets: (\$40–\$50) 9 homes, the Chester Co. Art Assoc. and

Antique Ice Tool Museum. VIP: (\$60) adds a tour of a West Chester Preservation Award winner and a small box of Éclat Chocolate. 10 to 3. Tickets at library, 415 N. Church St. or online. 610-696-1721; WCPublicLibrary.org.

DECEMBER 1

Christmas in Marshallton House Tour. The Marshallton United Methodist Church hosts a tour of 19 homes and public buildings in this quaint village. Box lunch available plus an arts and crafts show and live music. 1282 W. Strasburg Rd., West Chester. 10 to 4. \$25–\$30. 484-653-1622.

DECEMBER 1

Annual Candlelight Holiday Tour in Phoenixville. Homes decorated for the holidays, complete with Christmas trees, lights and other classic elements. Benefits Ann's Heart Code Blue Shelter and Firebird Theatre. 3 to 7. \$25. Details 610-933-9181; PhxHoliday-Tour.weebly.com.



DECEMBER 7

Historic Yellow Springs Holiday Stroll. Lots of activities including holiday stories, snacks, music and holiday music. Art School Rd., Chester Springs. 5:30 to 8 pm. Free. 610-827-7414; YellowSprings.org.

DECEMBER 7

National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum Holiday Open House. Stroll through candle-lit grounds, listen to carolers, enjoy refreshments and see a train display. Canned goods donations are welcome. 50 S. 1st Ave., Coatesville. 5 to 8. Free. 610-384-9282; SteelMuseum.org.



Local Farm Markets

Artisan Exchange, 208 Carter Dr. Unit 13 B, West Chester. **Sat, 10 to 2.** ArtisanExchange.net.

Bryn Mawr Farmers Mkt., Lancaster Ave. at Bryn Mawr train station parking lot. **Sat, 10 to noon.** FarmToCity.org.

Downingtown Farmers Mkt., Log Cabin Field, Kerr Park, Pennsylvania Ave. **Sat, 9 to 1.** 610-836-1391; GrowingRootsPartners.com.

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

Eagleview Farmers Mkt., Eagleview Town Crt., Wellington Sq., Exton. **Thurs, 2 to 6.** 610-836-1391; GrowingRootsPartners.com.

Jennersville Mkt., 352 N. Jennersville Rd. **Wed, 3 to 7.** 610-345-1763; Facebook.com/JennersvilleFarmersMarket.

Kennett Square Farmers Mkt., 101 E. State St. **Fri, 3 to 7.** 610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com.

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

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

Oxford Village Mkt., 3rd & Locust Sts. **Tues, noon to 5.** 610-998-9494; DowntownOxfordPA.org.

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

Phoenixville Farmers Mkt., 200 Mill St. **Sat, 9 to 1.** PhoenixvilleFarmersMarket.org.

Pottstown Farmers Mkt., 300 E. High St. **Thurs–Fri, noon to 7; Sat–Sun, 9 to 5.** 610-323-5400; PottstownFarm.org.

SIW Farmers Mkt., 4317 S. Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. **Daily, 8 to 6.** 610-388-7491; SIW-Vegetables.blogspot.com.

Swarthmore Farmers Mkt., 432 Dartmouth Ave. **Sat, 9:30 to 1:30.** SwarthmoreFarmersMarket.org.

Thornbury Farmers Mkt. & CSA, 1256 Thornbury Rd. **Fri, 9 to 5; Sat–Sun, 11 to 5.** ThornburyFarmCSA.com.

Thornton Farmers Mkt., 330 Glen Mills Rd. **Sat, 10 to 1.** Facebook.com/ThorntonFarmersMarket.

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

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

DECEMBER 7

Phoenixville Christmas Parade. Parade starts at 7 pm from the 200 block of Bridge St., then move towards the 100 block of Bridge Street and on to tree lighting at Bridge & Main Sts. at 8 pm. 610-933-3070; Phoenixville.org.

DECEMBER 8

Delaware Art Museum Council's Holiday House Tour. This year's theme is "Celebrating Timeless Classics," a look into some of the newest grand homes of the Brandywine Valley. 10 to 4. Tickets \$35–\$39; luncheon, \$25. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

DECEMBER 8

The Spirit of Christmas in New Castle, DE. A full day of concerts, house tours, shopping and refreshments, ending with a tree lighting. New Castle Presbyterian Church, 25 E. Second St., New Castle, DE. Free. 302-328-3279; NewCastlePresChurch.org/Spirit.

DECEMBER 8

15th Annual Firebird Festival in Phoenixville. Annual burning of the Firebird. Shuttle buses from Veteran Field connect with downtown, where for street performances and a pub crawl. At 6:30 back to Veteran Field,

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192 Mowere Rd. Events start at 4, burning of the Phoenix at 8. 610-933-9199; Firebird-Festival.com.

ART, CRAFT & ANTIQUES.....

THROUGH NOVEMBER 4

Plein Air Brandywine Valley. Artists paint and photograph scenic properties of the Brandywine Valley. Benefits Children's Beach House, a nonprofit for children with special needs. **Nov. 2,** reception at The Visitor Center of Winterthur Museum, 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur, DE. Fri, 7 to 10 pm, \$100. Display continues Sat-Sun, 10 to 4. Free. PleinAirBrandywine-Valley.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 27

Juried Craft Exhibition at Delaware Art Museum. Contemporary crafts by artists working locally and throughout the region. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Wed, 10 to 4; Thurs, 10 to 8, free after 4; Fri-Sun, 10 to 4. \$6-\$12, free, Sun. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

NOVEMBER 1-4

Phila. Museum of Art Contemporary Craft Show. Show and sale of top contemporary crafts. PA Convention Center, 1101 Arch St., Phila. Preview Thurs, 4 to 9 pm, tickets \$350 and up. Fri, 11 to 9; Sat, 10 to 6; Sun, 10 to 5. \$5-\$20. 215-684-7930; PMACraftShow.org.



NOVEMBER 2-4

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. High quality arts, crafts and design. Greater Phila. Expo Center, 100 Station Ave., Oaks. Fri-Sat, 10 to 6; Sun, 10 to 5. \$8-\$10. SugarloafCrafts.com.

NOVEMBER 4-JANUARY 27

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

NOVEMBER 8-11

55th Annual Delaware Antiques Show. The finest offerings from more than 60 distinguished dealers in art, antiques and design. Chase Center on the Riverfront, 800 S. Madison St., Wilmington. Opening Night Party,

Thursday, 5 to 9, \$125-\$225. Fri-Sat, 11 to 6; Sunday, 11 to 5. \$15. 800-448-3883; Winterthur.org.

NOVEMBER 9-11

Historic Yellow Springs Fine Arts & Craft Show. Regional artists offer a beautiful selection of works in ceramics, glass, wood, paper, photography and more. Lincoln Building Galleries & The Washington, Historic Yellow Springs, 1685 Art School Rd., Chester Springs. Fri, reception, 5:30 to 8:30. Sat-Sun, 10 to 5. \$5. 610-827-7414; YellowSprings.org.



NOVEMBER 10-11

Birchrunville Art Tour. Visit the studios of 10 artists located within four square miles in the bucolic Birchrunville area. Peruse original paintings, baskets, ceramics, sculpture, folk art, fiber and handmade jewelry. 10 to 5. Free. For a map visit BirchrunvilleArtTour.com.

NOVEMBER 10-11

The 2018 Annual Bucks Co. Antiques Dealers Association Show. High quality show with 30 exhibitors. Eagle Fire Hall, Rt. 202 & Sugan Rd., New Hope. Sat, 10 to 5; Sun, 11 to 4. \$6. 215-290-3140; BCADAPA.org.

NOVEMBER 15

Dunwoody Village Holiday Bazaar. Holiday decorations, attic treasures, bake sale, jewelry, scarves, plants, gift baskets, raffles and more. 3500 West Chester Pk., Newtown Square. 9 to 3. Free. 610-723-4642; Dunwoody.org.

NOVEMBER 17

Spring City Mill Studios. You'll find fabulous gifts for the holidays at this open house as more than 20 artists display in this beautifully renovated building. Mingle and enjoy art, food and drink. 20 E. Bridge St., Spring City. Noon to 8. On Facebook.



NOVEMBER 17-18

Antiques at Kimberton. Long-running quality show featuring over 65 dealers from several states. Food available. Kimberton Fire Company, 2276 Kimberton Rd., Kimberton. Sat, 9 to 5; Sun, 11 to 4. \$7, free under 12. 717-431-7322; AntiquesAtKimberton.com.

NOVEMBER 20

Workshops at Scott Arboretum. **Nov. 20,** Thanksgiving Table Arrangements, with fresh autumn greens and flowers. **Nov. 29-30,** Green Wreaths. The Scott Arboretum, 500 College Ave., Swarthmore. \$55. Phone to register. 610-328-8023; Scott-Arboretum.org.

NOVEMBER 23-DECEMBER 24

20th Annual Miniature Show & Annual Bow Lighting Event. Over 20 of Chester County's best artists' paintings ready for holiday gift giving. Opening reception Nov. 23, 4 to 8 pm. 23 N. High St., West Chester. 610-692-0374; SunsetHillJewelers.com.

NOVEMBER 29-DECEMBER 8

Community Arts Center's Holiday Sale. Featuring handmade work by members of the Potters Guild. **Nov. 29,** preview, 6:30 pm to 9 pm, \$5, Free to CAC Benefactors. Refreshments served. Holiday Sale, **Nov. 30, Dec. 3,** 10 to 8; **Dec. 1, 8,** 10 to 5. 414

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Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford. 610-566-1713; CACHolidaySale.org.

NOVEMBER 30–DECEMBER 2
Havertown Open Studio Tour 2018. More than 25 fine local artists in 12 Havertown art studios open for tours. Maps available at each location. Fri, 5 to 8; Sat, 10 to 6; Sun, 11 to 4. Free. www.HavertownOpenStudioTour.com.

BOOKS.....
NOVEMBER 21–22
Wellington Square Bookshop. Fiction: *The Essex Serpent*, by Sarah Perry. Non-fiction:

Into the Gray Zone: A Neuroscientist Explores the Border Between Life and Death by Adrian Owen. 549 Wellington Square, Exton. 610-458-1144; WellingtonSquareBooks.com.

DANCE.....
NOVEMBER 9–10
Revival, A Dance Concert. West Chester University Dance Company's annual performance. Madeleine Wing Adler Theatre, Performing Arts Center, 817 S. High St. Fri, 7:30; Sat, 2 & 7:30. \$13–\$16. 610-436-2266; WCUPaTix.com.

NOVEMBER 16–17
Up Front with First State Ballet Theatre. Classical and contemporary highlights and private reception with FSBT's dancers. Grand Studio One, 818 N. Market St., Wilmington. 7. \$45. 800-37-GRAND; FirstStateBallet.com.

FOOD & BREWS.....
NOVEMBER 1
Chester County Futures "Harvest Dinner and Wine Tasting." Dinner with wine pairings and auction benefitting Chester County Futures, providing academic mentoring and scholarships for disadvantaged youth. The High Point, 2475 St. Peter's Rd., Malvern. 6 pm. \$150. 610-314-3811; CCFutures.org.

NOVEMBER 16–17
TASTE! Lancaster Festival of Food, Wine & Spirits. Celebrity chef demonstrations, tastings from wineries, breweries and distilleries, food from the best chefs and restaurants in the region. Lancaster Marriott Convention Center, 25 S. Queen St., Lancaster. Fri, 6 to 10; Sat, 11 to 3 and 4 to 8. \$60–\$70. GourmetShows.com.

DECEMBER 1
8th Annual Valley Forge Beer & Cider Festival. Try over 150 beers and ciders, enjoy food trucks, holiday festivities and more. Session 1, 12:30 to 4; session 2, 5:30 to 9. Gen. adm., \$40; VIP, \$55. Designated driver, \$10. 631-940-7290; ValleyForgeBeerFest.com.



DECEMBER 1–2
6th Annual Coffee & Tea Festival: Valley Forge. A celebration of all things coffee and tea with seminars from well-known industry pros and pioneers, pairings, tastings, sweet and savory foods and more. Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, 100 Station Ave., Oaks. Sat, 10 to 5; Sun, 10 to 4. \$20. 877-987-4687; CoffeeAndTeaFestival.com.



FUNDRAISERS.....
NOVEMBER 2
Delaware Theatre Company Wine Feast & Auction. Sip and savor some wine, craft beer, light bites and musical delights. Benefits the theater. Chase Center on the Riverfront, 815 Justison St., Wilmington. 6 pm. \$250. DelawareTheatre.org.

NOVEMBER 2
12th Annual "Empty Bowls" Event. Buy a simple meal of soup and bread served in a bowl handcrafted by an area artist and help fight hunger. Benefits PACS. Technical College High School, Pickering Campus, Charlestown Rd. 5 to 8. \$25. 610-933-1105; PACSPHx.org.

NOVEMBER 3
Linda Creed Breast Cancer's Jazz Brunch. Fabulous music, raffles, silent and live auction, and shopping. Hilton Philadelphia, 4200 City Line Ave., Philadelphia. 11 am to 2 pm. \$65. 215-564-3700; LindaCreed.org.

NOVEMBER 3
T&E Care Fall Fest 2018 – Blue Jeans Ball! Fundraiser featuring dinner, dancing, silent auction and raffle. T&E Care provides assistance to those in need in Tredyffrin and Easttown township. St. Davids Golf Club, 845 Radnor Street Rd., Wayne. 6:30 pm. \$125. TECare.org.

NOVEMBER 4
French & Pickering's 36th Annual Auction Party. Enjoy live and silent auctions and delicious food. Benefits French & Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust. Stonewall Golf Club, Bulltown Rd., Elverson. 6 pm. Tickets \$125 and up. 610-933-7577; FrenchAnd-Pickering.org.



NOVEMBER 4
Career Wardrobe's Empowering Tea & Fashion Show—Through the Looking Glass. Enjoy networking, fashions, shopping and party games. Career Wardrobe is an organization committed to helping participants be prepared for an interview or new work experience. The Baldwin School, 701 Montgomery Ave., Bryn Mawr. Noon to 3. \$100. Career-Wardrobe.org.

NOVEMBER 8
Phoenixville's Wine, Wit & Wisdom.

Annual library benefit with wine tasting, dinner, auction and guest speakers Lisa Scotoline & Francesca Serritella. Rivercrest Golf Club & Preserve, 100 Golf Club Drive, Phoenixville 5:45. \$90–\$125. 610-933-3013; PhoenixvilleLibrary.org.

NOVEMBER 10
Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health's Hope Gala—"Secret Garden." Black-tie event raising money to support programs and services provided by Devereux. It features amazing music, food and auctions of once-in-a-lifetime experiences and other extravagant

items via live and silent auctions. Moulin at Sherman Mills, 3502 Scotts La., Philadelphia. 7 pm. Tickets \$400 and up. Devereux.org.



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NOVEMBER 17

Phoenixville Chamber of Commerce Charity Gala, "A Season of Giving." Dinner, dancing and silent auction with great items. Benefits the Senior Center. Phoenixville Country Club, 355 Country Club Rd., Phoenixville. 5:30. \$90. 610-933-3070; PhoenixvilleChamber.org.

NOVEMBER 28-29

Women's Committee of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Holiday Boutique. The finest boutiques participate to benefit CHOP.

Merion Cricket Club, 325 Montgomery Ave., Haverford. Preview Wed, shopping and hors d'oeuvres, 5 to 9, \$150; Thurs, 9 to 5, lunch available, \$10 (\$35 for shopping and lunch). 267-426-6498; CHOPHolidayBoutique.org.

NOVEMBER 29

The Water's Edge—Stroud Water Research Center. The 2018 Stroud Award for Freshwater Excellence will be presented to American Rivers and its president, Bob Irvin for their continued dedication to freshwater resources. Winterthur Museum, 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur, DE. Begins at 6 pm. \$500. 610-268-2153; StroudCenter.org.

DECEMBER 1

West Chester Charity Ball. Dinner, dancing and auction. Benefits The Friends Association for Care and Protection of Children, Outreach, Emergency Family Shelter and the Homeless Prevention Program. West Chester Golf and Country Club, 111 W. Ashbridge St., West Chester. 6 to 11:30. \$175. 610-431-3598; FriendsAssoc.org.

DECEMBER 1

Paoli Hospital Auxiliary Mistletoe & Magic—A Night in Monte Carlo. The evening includes open bar, cocktail hour, hors d'oeuvres and a sit down dinner. Entertainment and casino gaming for prizes, a live and silent auction,

as well as a "Raise the Paddle" for Unite for Her. Benefits Paoli Hospital. The Desmond, 1 Liberty Blvd., Malvern. 6:30 to 11 pm. \$200. 484-565-1380; PaoliAuxiliary.org.

GARDENS

THROUGH NOVEMBER 18

Longwood Gardens Chrysanthemum Festival. The Thousand Bloom Mum has more than 1,500 flowers arranged on a single stem. Enjoy the Meadow Garden, Pumpkin Playground and Garden Railway. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. 9 to 6. \$12-\$23. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

MUSEUMS

THROUGH DECEMBER

Chester County Historical Society. "Many Nations/Chester County." 225 N. High St., West Chester. Tues-Sat, 9:30 to 4:30. \$4-\$8. 610-692-4800; ChesterCoHistorical.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 6, 2019

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library. "Follies: Architectural Whimsy in the Garden." 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur, DE. Tues-Sun, 10 to 5. \$15-\$30. 302-888-4600; Winterthur.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 13

Delaware Art Museum. Gifts from the Hotel du Pont Collection. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Wed, 10 to 4; Thurs, 10 to 8, free after 4; Fri-Sun, 10 to 4. \$6-\$12, free, Sun. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

NOVEMBER 3-JANUARY 6

Brandywine River Museum of Art. "Holidays & Snowdays: Illustrations for Three Children's Books," delightfully illustrated stories for the holidays by three highly talented artists. 1 Hoffmans Mill Road, Chadds Ford. 9:30 to 5. \$6-\$18. 610-388-2700; Brandywine.org.



MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

NOVEMBER 2, 9

WCU—Live! Nov. 2, "ArtRAGEous—Interactive Art & Music Experience," 8 pm. **Nov. 9,** "Natural Wonder: The Stevie Wonder Experience," 7:30. Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall, University Ave. & S. High St., West Chester. \$15-\$27. 610-436-2266; WCUPa.edu/Live.

NOVEMBER 3-DECEMBER 1

Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center **Nov. 3,** Ben Smith; **Nov. 4,** Eduardo Betancourt; **Nov. 9,** Mason Porter; **Nov. 10,** "50's Come Alive Doo Wop Concert;" **Nov. 15,** Jazz Cocktail Hour with Sherry Wilson Butler & The Aaron Graves Trio; **Nov. 16,** Laughs for Literacy comedy show; **Nov. 23,** Dueling Pianos; **Nov. 24,** Better than Bacon; **Nov. 25,** Opera tutti Cabaret; **Dec. 1,** Pennsylvania Philharmonic Holiday Brass. 226 N. High St., West Chester. 610-356-2787; Uptown-WestChester.org.

NOVEMBER 3

Chester County Concert Band. The Fall Concert entitled "Musical Tales" highlights *Battle of Trenton*, *The Chariot Race*, and selections from *Chicago*. J.R. Fugett Middle School, Paoli Pk. and Ellis La., West Chester. 3 pm. \$7-\$10, under 12 free. 484-639-9118; CCCBand.org.

NOVEMBER 3, DECEMBER 2

Immaculata Symphony Orchestra Concerts. **Nov. 3,** program entitled, "Our New World," 7:30 pm. **Dec. 2,** the Christmas Concert features the Immaculata Univ. Chorale, 3 pm. 1145 King Rd., Immaculata. \$10-\$15. 610-316-1731; ImmaculataSymphony.org.

NOVEMBER 9

The Colonial Theatre. Point Entertainment Presents: Found Footage Festival hosts are Joe Pickett and Nick Prueher taking audiences on a guided tour of their all-time favorite VHS finds. 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. 610-917-1228; TheColonialTheatre.com.



NOVEMBER 10-DECEMBER 21

Longwood Gardens Concerts. **Nov. 10,**

Abigail Washburn and Wu Fei; **Nov. 16,** The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia; **Nov. 22-Jan. 6,** Christmas performances. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Check website for details. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.



NOVEMBER 18

Delaware County Symphony Chamber Series. Featuring the music of Schumann and Schubert. Neumann University, Meagher Theatre, One Neumann Dr., Aston. 3 pm. \$15. 610-879-7059; DCSMusic.org.

NOVEMBER 18, DECEMBER 9

Theatre Organ Society of Delaware Valley Concerts. **Nov. 18,** concert with David Wickerham; **Dec. 9,** Holiday Concert. The Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. 2 pm. \$5-\$10. 610-917-1228; TOSDV.org.

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DECEMBER 1

Kennett Symphony Orchestra—"Pops Goes the Holidays." Special guests Kara Mulder, soprano, and the Kennett Symphony Children's Chorus. West Chester East High School, 450 Ellis Ln., West Chester. 7:30 pm. \$10-\$58. 610-444-6363; KennettSymphony.org.

DECEMBER 2

Delaware County Symphony Concert. The program is called "Over the River and Into the Woods." Neumann University, Meagher Theatre, One Newmann Dr., Aston. Sunday 3 pm. \$17-\$20. 610-879-7059; DCSDMusic.org.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES.....

NOVEMBER 2

Día de los Muertos Luminaria Labyrinth Walk at Delaware Art Museum. Celebrate the traditional Mexican holiday honoring ancestors and friends who have passed. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. 6 pm. Free, donations accepted. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

NOVEMBER 3

Trinity Berwyn 5K Run/Walk and Pancake Breakfast. Family-friendly run/walk begins at 9 am at the church parking lot, 640 Berwyn Ave., Berwyn, then a pancake breakfast. \$25;

children, \$15. Benefits outreach efforts. 610-644-0932; BerwynTrinity5k.org.

NOVEMBER 4

Philadelphia Free to Breathe 5K Run/Walk. Benefitting Free to Breathe, a lung cancer research and advocacy organization dedicated to increasing lung cancer survival. Memorial Hall at Fairmount Park, 4231 Avenue of the Republic, Philadelphia. 7 am. \$30-\$35; walkers, free. 619-955-5285; FreeToBreathe.org.

NOVEMBER 10

Chester County Color 5K Run/Walk. A family-friendly fun run to raise awareness and funds to educate, treat and prevent the opioid and heroin epidemic. Everhart Park, 100 S. Brandywine St., West Chester. Reg. 8 am, race at 9. \$35. 610-344-6279; Chesco.org/Color5k.



NOVEMBER 16-18

Philadelphia Marathon & Half Marathon. Nov. 16-18, Health and Fitness Expo, PA Convention Center, 12th & Arch Sts., Phila. Nov. 17, Half Marathon, 7:30, \$135; Nov. 18, marathon at 7 am, \$155. 22nd St. & Ben Franklin Pkwy., Phila. Philadelphia-Marathon.com.

THEATER.....

NOVEMBER 6-JANUARY 1

Bird-in-Hand Stage. Nov. 6-Dec. 29, A Christmas to Remember—Unexpected Treasures ... in Unlikely Places. Nov. 7-Jan. 1, Magic & Wonder: Christmas—Holiday Fun for the Whole Family. 2760 Old Philadelphia Pk., Bird-in-Hand. Mon-Sat, 1 & 7 pm. \$17-\$57. 800-790-4069; Bird-in-Hand.com/Stage.



NOVEMBER 14-JANUARY 6

Cinderella: A Musical Panto. See Theater Spotlight in this issue.

NOVEMBER 14-JANUARY 13

The Wizard of Oz. Two-act Broadway musical comes to life at Media Theatre, 104 E. State St., Media. Check the website for show times and tickets. 610-891-0100; Media-Theatre.org.

NOVEMBER 17-DECEMBER 9

Saturday, Sunday Delaware Children's Theatre Presents Scrooge The Musical. The Christmas Carol story always delights. 1014 Delaware Ave., Wilmington. 2 pm. \$14-\$15. 302-655-1014; DEChildrensTheatre.org.



NOVEMBER 25-DECEMBER 30

Media Theatre Presents Jack Frost Saves Christmas. The heartfelt musical about a

boy who is unique because everything he touches turns to ice. 104 E. State St., Media. Sun, noon. \$12-\$15. 610-891-0100; Media-Theatre.org.

NOVEMBER 28-DECEMBER 23

A Sign of the Times. Regional premiere of this new musical. Delaware Theatre Company, 200 Water St., Wilmington. Check website for show times. \$40-\$60. 302-594-1100; DelawareTheatre.org.

TOWNS, TALKS & TOURS.....

THROUGH DECEMBER

Best Kept Secrets Tours. Shopping tours to off-the-beaten-track small businesses. Tickets \$10. Visit website to get in on the next tour! BestKeptSecretsTour.com.

NOVEMBER 2, 10, 15

First Fridays, Second Saturdays, Third Thursdays. Nov. 2, First Fridays: Kennett Square Art Stroll, 610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com. **Lancaster City,** 717-509-ARTS; VisitLancasterCity.com. **Oxford,** 610-998-9494; DowntownOxfordPA.org. **West Chester,** 610-738-3350; West-Chester.com. **Wilmington Art Loop,** 302-576-2135; CityFestWilm.com. **Nov. 10, Second Saturday Arts Stroll: Media,**

484-445-4161; MediaArtsCouncil.org.

Nov. 15, Malvern Stroll, MalvernBusiness.com.

NOVEMBER 8

Chadds Ford Historical Society Tavern Talks. "Sugar & Spice." Test your taste buds with spice challenges and delight your sweet tooth with sugary treats at the Barns Brinton House, 630 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford. 7 to 9. \$15-\$20. 610-388-7376; ChaddsFordHistory.org.

NOVEMBER 8

TEDxWest Chester—Crossroads. This year's speakers are Dr. Priya Mammen, Virginia Marcille-Kerslake and Shea Rhodes. Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center, 226 N. High St., West Chester. Attendee networking, 5 pm; TEDxWestChester, 6 pm. \$55. 610-356-2787; UptownWestChester.org. ♦

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SUNDAY
Dec. 2, 4pm

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Cinderella

CINDERELLA: A MUSICAL PANTO NOVEMBER 14–JANUARY 6, 2019
AT PEOPLE'S LIGHT

WHAT DO A MURDER MYSTERY, SLAPSTICK, MAGIC, mistaken identity, the Roaring '20s and a glass slipper all have in common? Why, it's *Cinderella: A Musical Panto* at People's Light, of course!

What has become a beloved holiday tradition is celebrating its 15th year of joyfully inviting audiences to engage in its song, dance, hilarity and madcap merriment. So mark your calendar!

And what's a Panto, you ask? Following the British Panto tradition of putting a new spin on old fairytales, playwright Kathryn Petersen explored many versions of a folk story that's been passed through ancient Greece and China, to Italy, to France, to the Brothers Grimm, to Disney. Peterson sets her own twist on the tale in the culturally and linguistically carousing American 1920s.

The Panto's heroine, Ella Opfinder (derisively called Cinder-Ella after she's made to clean the fireplace), dreams of being an air show barnstormer pilot like Bessie Coleman. Ella's animal pals are street-wise tough guys. When her widowed father, Oliver, thinks they're all heading for the Prince's Ball, he exclaims, "Well ain't this the berries! I'm gonna drag a sock with all my girls tonight!" The infamous stepsisters, Invasia and Poisianna, want to be flappers and dance or "Charlie this joint."

Petersen stays true to the essence of the Cinderella tale, but aims to "tell it in a way the audience has never heard it before." Of this unique twist, Director David Bradley says, "I love the way Kathryn and [composer and lyricist] Michael Ogborn shape the classic Cin-

derella story. At its heart the story shows the power of getting to make your own way in the world. In this version, Ella stands up for what she wants and who she wants to be. I love that choice—and how the play celebrates that."

And enhancing all this masterful storytelling are People's Light crowd-pleasing Panto elements:

- The Dame: a larger-than-life mother figure played by a man in dazzling dresses.
- A "messy bit": a slapstick routine that's anything but clean and orderly.
- A "candy bit": when candy is thrown to the audience!
- Audience participation: cheer on the heroes and boo the villains!

Another Panto practice that delights grown-up kids in the crowd are the winks and references to local places and events. The Panto antics are set in Malvernistan and the Prince, frustrated with his overly restricted life, threatens to leave on the Septa R5 line. There may even be an Eagles cheer to join in on, depending on our Super Bowl Champions' performance as the season progresses.

Although there are set lines, lyrics and choreography, the Panto form allows room for fun and fanciful immediacy to emerge as the production is put together. Choices depend on the artists gathered in the room. Of this work, Bradley says, "I can't wait to make this version with this group of people—from artists I've known and worked with for almost 30 years (!!) to newcomers. Tradition, new

invention and multi-generational connection. That's a fun combination to be in the midst of."

But the final element that truly makes a Panto experience is the audience. Bradley explains, "The Panto form is about generosity—performers really opening up to the audience, inviting them in, making it an event where everyone in the room is in it together. It's about welcoming families. It's about fun in lots of forms—song, dance, outrageous costumes, zany slapstick. Panto lets us laugh together, connect to each other, be open to each other. We need things like that!" ♦

—Gina Pisasale

PHOTOS BY MARK GARVIN, FROM THE 2013–2014 PRODUCTION OF CINDERELLA

IF YOU GO:

Where: Leonard C. Haas Stage, People's Light
39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern

When: November 14th to January 6th

Tickets: \$30–\$53, available online at PeoplesLight.org
and at 610-644-3500

Coming Soon: *Sweat and Nina Simone: Four Women*



LOCAL SUPERWOMEN



Members of the Auxiliary at Hershey Mill from May 2018 Annual Luncheon

WOMEN COMING TOGETHER TO MAKE A CHANGE

Mackenzie Jaros

CELEBRATING ITS 125TH YEAR OF SERVICE WITH A bang, the Women's Auxiliary of Chester County Hospital raised an impressive \$1.25 million for a two-year pledge to mark this landmark in their organization's history.

Over the years this dedicated community of women has raised awareness and funds to improve Chester County Hospital. Helping departments from neonatal to emergency, their energetic and generous efforts set a standard for volunteers.

A LITTLE HISTORY

Although this Women's Auxiliary is the oldest such organization in Chester County, that's not its only distinction.

Founded in the summer of 1893, just a year after the Hospital was built and when similar organizations were typically formed by doctors' wives, the Women's Auxiliary was created by diverse women in the community who were determined to make a change and decided to do just that—regardless of who their husbands were or if they even had husbands.

These resourceful and dedicated women saw Chester County Hospital's need for supplies, like fresh linens and even chickens to feed the patients. The group began to host spelling bees and donation days to raise funds, setting the foundation for the steadfast and lively women who now run the organization over a century later.

WHO ARE THEY TODAY

Founded on these philanthropic and progressive ideals, it's no surprise the organization has grown today to over 400 members in 10 branches. Working out of the Chester County Foundation office, they continue to help support the Hospital and the community.

Current Auxiliary President, Marie Robinson, credits the organization's community-based values as a key reason they're continuing to thrive after 125 years.

Robinson says, "It's so inspiring to see women who are willing to give up their time for such a charitable cause." She says it also helps that the Hospital continuously shows its appreciation for the organization.

Hospital President and CEO, Michael Duncan, sponsors breakfasts in the boardroom to discuss what's going on in the Hospital and to thank the Auxiliary members for their service. Robinson says, "That spurs you on and motivates you to do more when you know you're appreciated and making a huge impact."

WHAT THEY DO

When you've been raising funds for 125 years, you've got to get creative about how you go about it. While you might not see chicken donations or spelling bees these days, you will see plenty of glamorous events that make donating to charity both altruistic and fun.



Chester County Day Volunteers: Debbie Hess, Co-Chair for the Day, and from the Greystone Auxiliary: Carol Burkhardt, Amy Coral and Debra Glancey.

If you're interested in educating your palate at a wine festival, the Brandywine and Greystone Auxiliaries sponsor one at the Dilworthtown Inn that benefits the Abramson Cancer Center and Neighborhood Health Hospice. This year was their 27th year to "Uncork the Cure to Cancer." They had over 100 wines to try as well as craft beers, live entertainment and plenty of food trucks.

Want to check out the sport of kings at one of the local polo tournaments you've heard so much about? The Turks Head Auxiliary sponsors the Polo Cup in June that benefits the Hospital's prenatal clinic. Be sure to wear a hat and prepare an elegant tailgate to fully enjoy the event!

Or try your luck at a golf invitational. The Willistown Auxiliary sponsors the Fore Health Golf Invitational benefitting the Health Services for Women and Children.

Other branches organize fashion show luncheons, pocketbook bingo, raffle sales, crab cake sales and other wide-ranging, creative events.

But these lively events aren't the only fundraising the organization does. The Kennett Square Auxiliary operates the highly successful Encore Shop, an upscale consignment shop near Longwood Gardens that's filled with everything from antiques to apparel so you can shop for a good cause. The shop is a major source of on-going funds during the year.

These fundraising activities have enabled the Auxiliary to provide the Hospital with an improved cardiology lab, mammography machine, monitoring systems for the emergency department, new mother and baby pavilion, and many other valuable services.

CHESTER COUNTY DAY

Among the assortment of engaging events, the Auxiliary's most popular fundraiser is Chester County Day, a day when beautiful and tastefully furnished houses and historic landmarks throughout the County open their doors to the public. In the early years, Auxiliary members served tea to the tour-goers from silver tea services.

Although the idea for this fundraiser came from a similar event held in Nantucket, it's been an ongoing tradition for the Auxiliary—aside from a brief hiatus during World War II. Celebrating its 78th year in 2018, this fundraiser has raised around \$5 million for the Hospital since 1936.

And even though it's called Chester County Day, the appeal of this event is not limited to this county or even this country. People from all over the world come for what's known as "The Day."

Robinson recalls receiving a call from Australia because the caller was interested in attending. The popularity of this event has indeed spread worldwide!

GET INVOLVED

Interested in helping to support a key community resource, Chester County Hospital? Reach out to volunteer or just attend one of the fabulous events. Attend a fashion show and support a good cause. Tour exquisite houses and help support the Hospital. Drink wine at a festival and know you're making a difference. And be sure to keep an eye out for their Remembering Our Angels project this holiday season. ♦

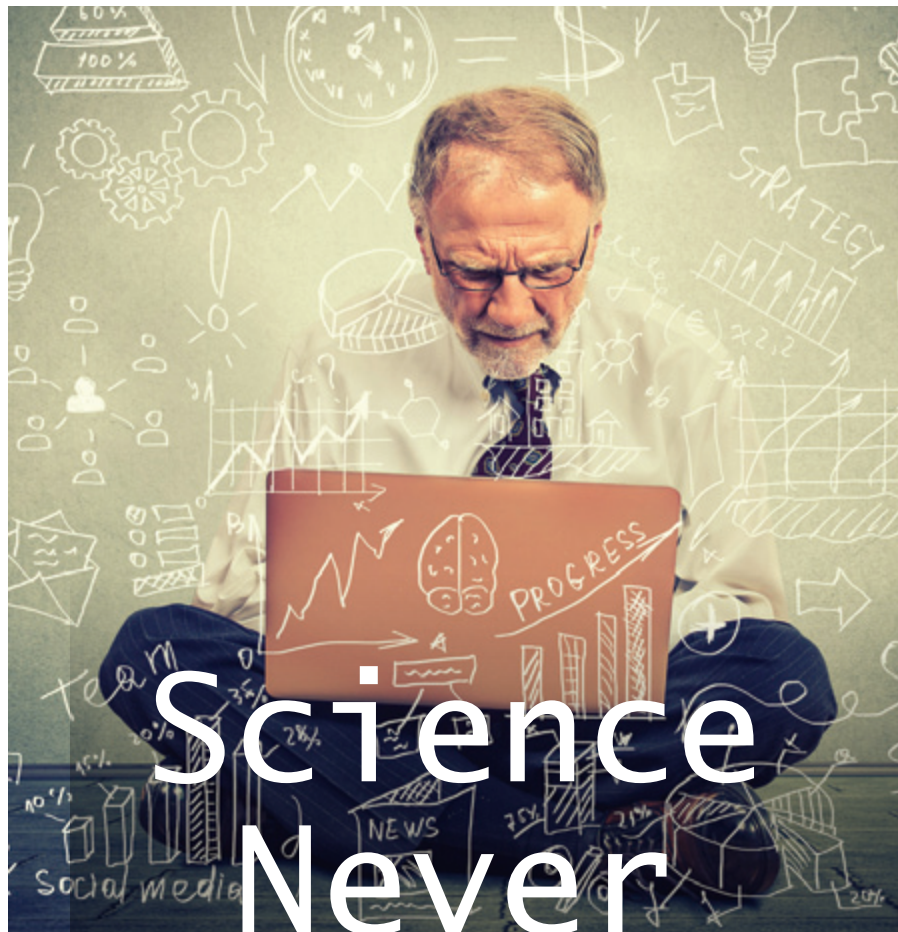
To volunteer or for further information, contact the Women's Auxiliary Office at 610-431-5054.



Members at the Turks Head Auxiliary Polo Cup



Auxiliary President Marie Robinson.



Science Never Retires

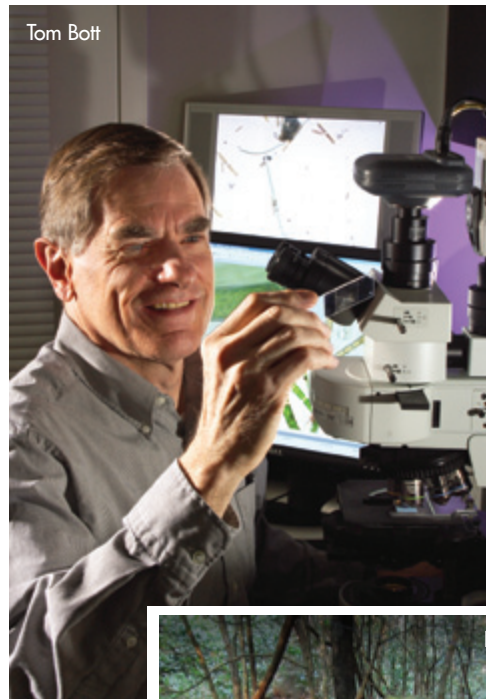
Abbey Bigler
Stroud Water Research Center

LOCAL SCIENTISTS ARE FINDING SECOND ACTS AT STROUD WATER RESEARCH CENTER.

THERE'S A REMARKABLE SPECIES TO BE FOUND AT STROUD Water Research Center. While our sample size is small—only four observed so far—the subjects have a wide range of travel. They can be found anywhere between the laboratory and the field, so catching them requires skill and precision. Or at least an email chain to find out when they'll next be in the office. This species is *Scientist retiretus*.

Tom Bott, Bern Sweeney, Lou Kaplan and Denis Newbold—all Ph.D.s—are among those using their retirement in order to continue to pursue their passions in freshwater science. The Stroud Center is fortunate to have these scientists available to drive its research agenda.

Here's a bit of what these so-called "retired" scientists are up to in their encore careers.



Tom Bott



Bern Sweeney

HEALTH OF THE WATERSHED

Joining the Stroud Center in 1969, Tom Bott spent the next 39 years pursuing freshwater science as a microbiologist. When Bott retired in 2008, he was a senior research scientist, head of the microbiology department, and vice president of the board.

Ten years after his retirement, he's in his office working on a paper on the growth of algae, which can be affected by surrounding land use, in White Clay Creek over 40 years and how it relates to the health of the watershed. Retirement has given Bott the freedom to explore the backlog of interesting questions that built up during his previous research.

When he's not at the lab working on these issues, Bott enjoys taking in many of our local cultural attractions, especially the Philadelphia Orchestra. And he's also found time to improve his skill painting with watercolors.

AQUATIC INSECTS AND STREAMSIDE FORESTS

Bern Sweeney first came to the Stroud Center in 1972 as a graduate student and was later offered a post-doctoral researcher position. Over the years, he became a senior research scientist, and in



Lou Kaplan

1988, the executive director. Although he officially retired in December 2017, he was right back in the office after the holidays.

Sweeney says, "Working while retired has allowed me to focus 100 percent of my effort on my research." He's currently looking at how and why climate change affects the distribution and health of aquatic insects, as well as how restoring streamside forests can help improve the quality of fresh water.

He hopes to continue publishing his work and helping younger scientists advance in their research.

Though Sweeney still comes into the office on most weekdays, generally his overall hours are reduced. This lighter schedule, he says, allows more time for his family and his hobbies, like golf and oil painting.

He admits his wife recently joked that he's "flunking retirement, royally." His reply, "That's true, but I'm having a lot of fun!"

DATASETS TO NATIVE TREES

Arriving at the Stroud Center in 1977 to conduct his Ph.D. research, Lou Kaplan later joined the staff in 1981 after securing research funding from the National Science Foundation. Kaplan used the NSF funding to establish a laboratory that studies how streams affect how elements

like carbon become more or less available as an energy source.

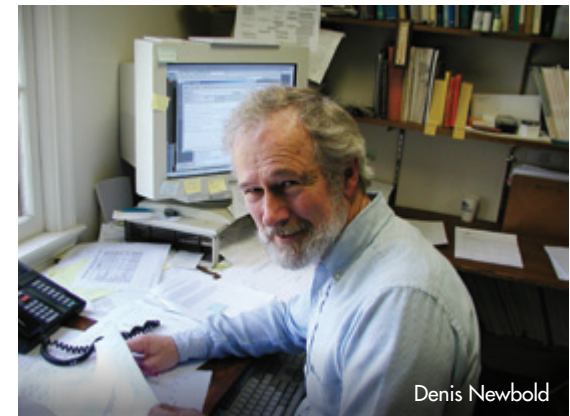
Since retiring last December, Kaplan has worked to make some of his long-term datasets more readily available to the public. One includes a 40-year record of over 11,000 measurements of organic carbon concentrations in the waters of White Clay Creek. He plans to submit the datasets to a publicly accessible archive of environmental data.

Kaplan also mentors younger scientists at the Stroud Center, orienting them to the research infrastructure and historical datasets produced during his career and providing his perspective on their research ideas. He continues working with three graduate students, helping them develop their writing skills on research papers.

Now Kaplan enjoys the freedom of his retirement to be more involved in managing a wildflower meadow and woodlands at his home. He's spent the last three decades planting and nurturing this patch of nature, which includes several hundred native trees, some now over 50 feet tall.

STREAMBEDS AND MUSIC

Denis Newbold came to the Stroud Center in 1983 as a Ruth Patrick Scholar, and later became a research scientist, working for 28 years before his 2011



Denis Newbold

retirement. The Stroud Center's outdoor experimental stream channels were Newbold's creation.

He continues to use them to study how algae and bacteria that grow in streambeds help regulate water quality. This work could add to the research on whether restoring mussels to streams could improve water quality.

Newbold cites some of the benefits of retirement—removing the stress of publishing a certain number of papers or getting things done in a specific timeframe, along with giving him the freedom to focus entirely on his research and work at his own pace.

He's also found time for doing some hands-on work that students or volunteers would have helped with. He says he "enjoys that in a big way because ... a lot of the fun, the real rewards of doing science, is what the people that are actually in the field and in the lab are doing."

Newbold has more time to be involved in a local Friends Meeting, play flute and piano, and serve on his township's planning commission and on the boards of local environmental organizations.

Looking at the legacies and ongoing contributions of these Stroud Center scientists who demonstrate the multiple benefits to organizations, young scientists and themselves of "working while retired," one thing is clear: science never retires. ♦

Stroud Water Research Center, based in Avondale, advances global freshwater research, environmental education and watershed restoration. The nonprofit organization helps everyone make informed decisions that affect water quality and availability around the world. To support its education programs, go to StroudCenter.org/Donate.



Much More than Mushrooms

Cindy Walker

Time to go deeper into Southern Chester County

FROM THE MUSHROOM-SHAPED WATER TOWER proudly marking the Mushroom Capital of the World, to the two-day fungi festival in September drawing six-figure crowds, to the Mushroom Cap half-marathon in November, and various shops selling mushroom-themed souvenirs plus restaurant names declaring that they honor more than toadstools, Kennett Square is clearly known for mushrooms.

But there's so much more to the charming town and its surroundings.

TAKE A TOUR

To start, this area is home to the top three area tourist destinations, all within an easy drive—from legendary Longwood Gardens to the treasure trove of Wyeth-family art at the Brandywine River Museum of Art, to the stately former du Pont estate at Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library.

For those who prefer to forego museums to tour vineyards and breweries, this area has additional appeal. Southern Chester County enjoys a micro-climate similar to the south of France, so it's not surprising to find a noteworthy collection of local wineries. From one of the first—Chaddsford Winery, now rebranding as CFW—to the highly touted Va La, the area is home to nine other stops for your wine tour—Galer, Grace, Penns Woods, Paradox, Harvest Ridge, Kreutz Creek, Wayvine, Borderland and 1723 Vineyards.

Beer fans also have reason to head to Southern Chester County. Victory Brewing and Kennett Brewing are scheduled to be joined soon in Kennett Square by Bräeloch Brewing.

Head farther south and you'll find Bog Turtle Brewing and Hollow Earth Brewing just a few blocks apart in downtown Oxford. Read more about your sipping options in our sidebar at the end of this article.

COLLECT SOME COLLECTIBLES

Antiques collectors will find a range of dealers to visit, with most clustered along Route 1, aka Baltimore Pike. No less than *Condé Nast Traveler* put Brandywine River Antiques Market on their list of "The Best Antique Stores and Flea Markets, According to the Pros"—up there with the Crystal Palace Antiques in London—and describing it as "alcove after alcove of treasures."

More variety awaits just down the road at Pennsbury-Chadds Ford Antiques Mall, with two levels displaying over a hundred dealers in everything from architectural items to signed Wyeth prints. Brandywine View Antiques offers three levels and five thousand square feet worth browsing. And Springhouse Furnishings specializes in custom furniture handcrafted from reclaimed local barn wood.

You'll also find an artisans village at Chadds Ford Barn Shops—art gallery, florist, accessory shop, plus a café, salon, yoga studio and more—clustered together in a charming oasis in the middle of Chadds Ford.

Around the corner is a not-to-be-missed gem, the Sanderson Museum, home to a truly avid collector, Christian C. Sanderson. Eight rooms house 200 years of history and 30 thousand artifacts! A wonder in Southern Chester County.

Southern Chester County is wine country.

Brandywine River Antiques Market is a top stop for collectibles

Chadds Ford Barn Shops is a new community gathering spot.

Sanderson Museum is a treasure trove of local memorabilia.



Verbena BYOB, great food and exquisite presentation



Talula's Table, still a dining destination

CHECK OUT KENNETT SQUARE

A first stop on your town tour of Kennett Square should be on the outskirts of the downtown shopping and dining area, in a developing area called the Arts & Culture Community District.

Though relatively new, **workS** (note the strategic capital letters) has become a hip shopping destination and offers a “curated group of high end purveyors of artisan, designer, handcrafted, vintage and one-of-a-kind good for the home, the person and the connoisseur” or so wrote *Philadelphia Mag* in their Best Shopping award.

Savvy shoppers from New York join Philly folks to pick up mid-century treasures, handmade jewelry, caressable pottery and more from the eclectic collection of booths that fill the up-cycled space. Repeat visits are required to see each month's featured artist, including photographer Natale Caccamo's work in November.



workS

Around the corner is the site of **The Creamery**, a bold experiment that housed a beloved seasonal community beer garden and active event space used for the after-party for the November Mushroom Cap half-marathon and a Holiday Village in December. Plans are afoot to host those two events again this year. Here's hoping the beer garden reopens in 2019 after missing 2018.

The third leg supporting the emerging Arts & Culture Community District is **Braeloch Brewing**, scheduled to open in November. Actually, it was scheduled to open sooner, but this 9,000-square-foot space is an ambitious undertaking that's taking a tad longer to get up and running.

A passion project for two couples—Kent and Amy Steeves along with Kathy and Matt Drysdale—the site will house three main areas: the impressive 10-barrel brewery, visible through glass garage doors from the tap room, which will have a mix of booths, community tables and comfy sofas in addition to a massive bar, plus an annex with a meeting/conference room and warming kitchen providing bar food. If that's not enticing enough, there are plans for an outdoor beer garden, too.

DOWNTOWN KENNETT

Fans of walkable small towns with plenty of options for dining and browsing will enjoy Kennett Square. *Forbes* magazine recently profiled the town, dubbing it “head of its class in the world of fungi-culture” and a must visit for tourists who enjoy “small towns and great cuisine.”

Mainstays, like the **Kennett Square Inn**, known not surprisingly for their mushroom soup and serving guests for over 180 years,

are joined by new additions including **Verbena BYOB**, Chef Scott Morozini's 40-seat gem featuring modern American cuisine.

Many popular spots have hit or are approaching the ten-year mark—the golden years for restaurants. For over a decade, the farm table at **Talula's Table** has been the toughest reservation in the country, which might strike some as unnecessary given the number of other choices nearby. **La Verona** serves up fine Italian favorites and hosts a



La Verona serves up Italian favorites.



Lily Asian Cuisine is known for sushi.

vibrant “Happier Hour, while **Portabellos** offers a menu featuring exotic mushroom crepes, portabello fries and roasted mushroom soup, and is now moving into a larger space down the block.

Sunshine Café has you covered for breakfast, while **Lily Asian Cuisine's** got lunch and dinner, plus all-you-can-eat sushi on Tuesdays. And **Michoacana** is the name on the spots for the best ice cream and authentic Mexican food around.

Outside of town, but still part of Kennett, are two other notable dining options: **Savona Bistro** near the Willowdale Steeplechase and **Hearth Kitchen**, the latest venture of Bryan Sikora, of La Fia fame in Wilmington.

STROLL STATE STREET

State Street is the main, one-way street through Kennett's shopping district, lined with unique boutiques alongside the restaurants, making a postprandial stroll an obvious choice. Window shopping will take you past trendy clothing shops like **Ashely Austin**, for shoes and accessories, **No. 109** for women's clothing and accessories, **Chantilly Blue** for premium denim, **Penny Lane Emporium** for surprises for the younger set or “fresh finds for hip kids.” Newly opened **Maura Grace** adds to the mix.

While two jewelers—**Bove** and **Kennett Jewelers**—face off across the street from each other on the west end of State Street, **Alexis Kletjian's** bespoke jewelry shop greets you on the east end.

You'll find inspiration for your house in **Marché**, a lifestyle goods boutique filled with must-haves for your home plus women's apparel and perfect hostess gifts, like scented candles. If art is what you're after, there's the **Square Pear Gallery**.

Of course there's more to discover. Molly Johnston's delectable pies at **Nomadic Pies**—from sweet to savory—are always worth a visit. And finally, on your way out of town, stop by **Treetops Kitty Café** and you may just find a new furry friend among the rescued cats needing forever homes.

And mark your calendar to return for Midnight in the Square for the **5th annual Mushroom Drop** on New Year's Eve. Yes, there's an eight-foot, 500-pound stainless steel ... mushroom. ♦

Find out more at HistoricKennettSquare.com



Square Pear Gallery



New Year's Eve Mushroom Drop

Enjoy a Beer. Or Two.

Southern Chester County is full of places to enjoy a cold one. With plenty of breweries and taprooms, beer fans have their pick. From well-known old favorites like Victory Brewing to the promising newcomers like Braeloch Brewing, your pint glass will surely runneth over. Here's our guide for your next visit to Southern Chester County.

BREWERIES

Victory Brewing: Headquartered in Downingtown, this 22-year-old brewery has been expanding, with its second big brewpub in Kennett Square. Offering pub grub plus flavorful and innovative beers daily, Victory also has seasonal beers like Winter Cheers. 650 W. Cypress St., Kennett Square. Victorybeer.com/BrewPubs/KennettSquare.

Kennett Brewing Company: After 12 years of research, the founders crafted a unique beer style featuring flavorful experiences from around the world. Try their Anniversary Ale—Gordy's Walkabout—crafted from 30 pounds of blueberries or Bollocks Bayard Black IPA that's considered "black as night." 109 S. Broad St. #2, Kennett Square. KennettBrewingCompany.com.

Braeloch Brewing: Opening soon, this 10-barrel brewery will offer a broad range of beers from its 12 taps, including one for experimental beers. Tap room will serve bar snacks, supplemented by food trucks on weekends and a beer garden come summer. 225 Birch St., Kennett Square. BraelochBrewingBeer.

Bog Turtle Brewing: With a thirst for the science that goes into making good beer, this brewery takes their brewing game seriously. With almost 30 years of brewing experience, the brewers have created their formulas with the utmost care. Try their large selection of beer and live music. 14 S. 3rd St. Ste #1, Oxford. BogTurtleBrewery.com.

Hollow Earth Brewing: Constantly creating new craft beers, this brewery's tap list rotates often so best to be quick about trying their new releases before they're gone. Check out their new sour beer, Good Belly, or the fun mix of Motueka and Mosaic hops in their new release, Righteous Earth. 19 N. 3rd St., Oxford. HollowEarthBrewing.com.

TAP ROOMS & BEER GARDENS

The Creamery: Opened during the warm months of 2017, this seasonal beer garden was a big community hit. Zoning issues interrupted its beer flow in 2018, but not its use for events. 2019 looks promising! 401 Birch St., Kennett Square. KennettCreamery.com.

The Gables Beer Garden: A seasonal treat to anticipate, this beer garden pops up to quench beer fans' thirst every now and then (often on Thurs. and Sat.). Enjoy your beer bottled, canned or on tap. In cold months a strong beer list is available at their inside bar. Try dark and delicious Milk Stout Nitro. 423 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford. TheGablesAtChaddsFord.com.

Grain: Although this taproom has won awards for its food, it also has 23 different beers on tap and more than 50 in the fridge, along with a unique "Beer Bible" for you to peruse all the choices. With two different bar areas to serve you, there are plenty of options to explore. 108 W. State St., Kennett Square. MeetAtGrain.com.

Two Stones Pub: Started in Delaware and expanded to Kennett Square, this pub has not only a large food menu but also their own selection of brews to go with any order. Pop in for their Happy Hours, Monday–Friday, or enjoy their Game Day Features every Sunday until Dec. 30. 843 E. Baltimore Pk., Kennett Square. TwoStonesPub.com.



COUNTY LINES MAGAZINE

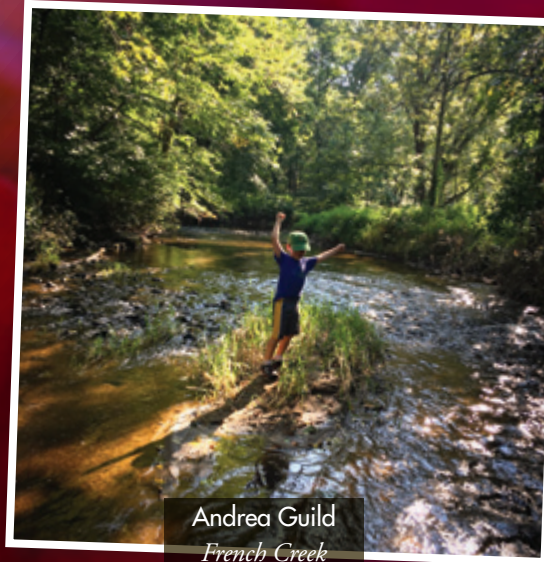
WE HOPE YOU'RE HUNGRY!

Our Guide to our Area's Best Dining
Best Restaurants, Bars, Breweries and More
COMING JANUARY 2019!

Capturing Chester County PHOTO CONTEST

For four years now, we've asked our readers for their most stunning images of fall in Chester County. And this year's contestants didn't disappoint! These semifinalists' shots capture the essence of the season in *County Lines* Country. In November, we'll showcase each photo on Facebook. To vote, just *like* us, then *like* your favorite photo. The photo with the most likes will win a \$100 gift certificate to **Wellington Square Bookshop!** The winner will be announced on Facebook in late November.

** Check the rules on our website.*



Andrea Guild
French Creek



Carol Slocum
Hibernia County Park



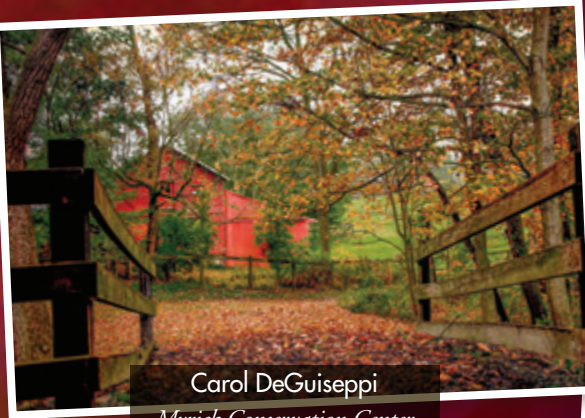
Dawn Rise Ekdahl
Honey Brook



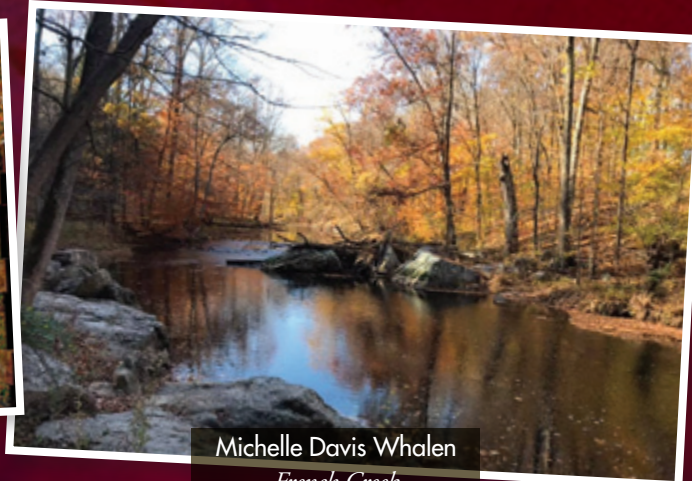
Evelyn Connor
Marsh Creek



Ed Williams
Crebilly Farm



Carol DeGuiseppe
Myrick Conservation Center



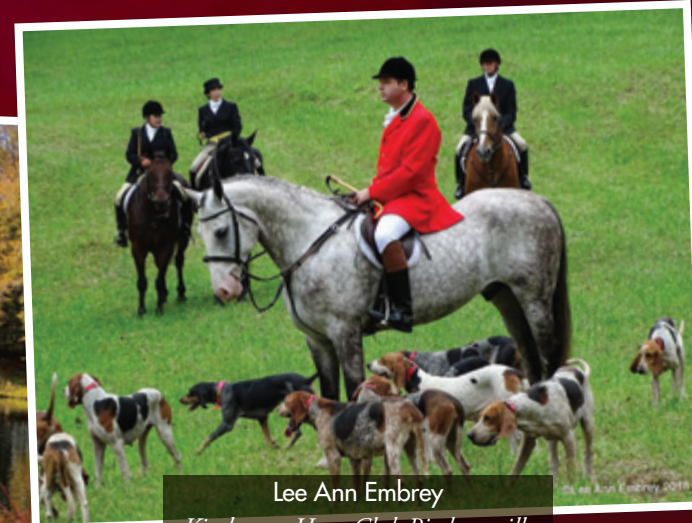
Michelle Davis Whalen
French Creek



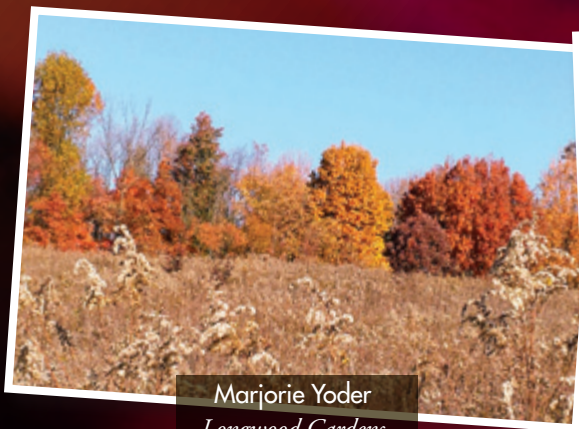
Krista Jones
Winding Country Roads



Mary Fahner Short
Longwood Gardens



Lee Ann Embrey
Kimberton Hunt Club Birchrunville



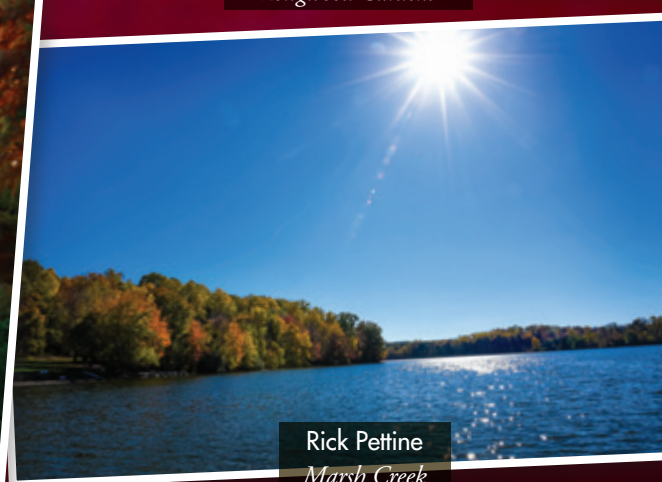
Marjorie Yoder
Longwood Gardens



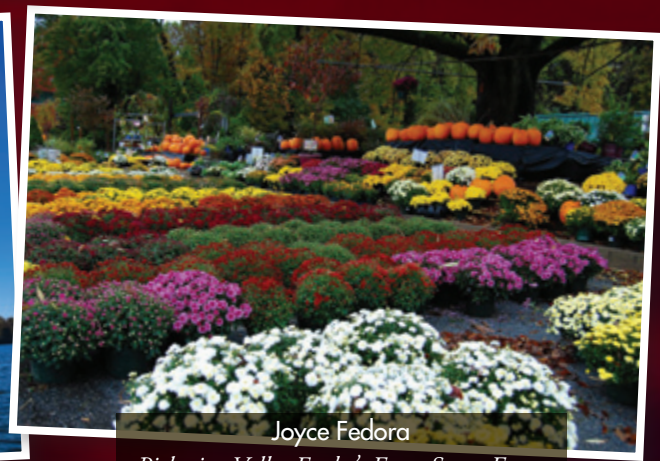
Sandy Duncan
Fall Tableau



Laurie Holder Meyer
Changing Leaves



Rick Pettine
Marsh Creek



Joyce Fedora
Pickering Valley Feed & Farm Store, Exton

Holiday SPARKLE



For new ideas on putting sparkle in your wardrobe for the holidays, we asked Kiki Comerford, owner and inspiration for the **Kiki Boutique** in West Chester's Jane Chalfont shop. Kiki expects seasonal must-haves to include flutter sleeves, pleats and plenty of velvet and lace.

With styles ranging from casual to formal and a firm belief that "customers trust us to interpret current fashion trends and find what's flattering for each individual," Kiki Boutique will keep mothers and daughters dressing fashionably for generations. To sparkles this season, Kiki recommends a more subtle look—like an intricately detailed shirt or a sparkly clutch as an accent.

Other area shops add their ideas for making your holidays bright!



Kiki Boutique

While the holidays are perfect for bold looks, this lace top woven with Lurex threads is a softer approach to bling. Pair with dress pants or jeans and add even more sparkle with this hand-beaded clutch by Mary Frances that converts to a shoulder bag, dressing up any outfit. JaneChalfant.com



Walter J Cook

This year's must-have statement gift? The stackable Sapphire and Diamond Wave ring by Gumuchian. Designed to stack, these sapphire and diamond bands are available in white, yellow or rose gold with a variety of festive colored stones. Gumuchian is designed by women, for women. WalterJCookJeweler.com

Merchant of Menace

Looking for a dainty, shiny pair of earrings to liven up any holiday outfit? Try these handcrafted sterling silver Maidenhair Fern earrings by Hattie Weselyk in Unionville. They could be the perfect finishing touch for your holiday look. TheMerchantofMenace.net





Holiday GIFT GUIDE

Get started early on your holiday shopping. Shop local for unique gifts for everyone on your list—including yourself! We recommend some perfect picks



TANZANITE AND DIAMOND PENDANT

If she really loves jewelry, she will love this Tanzanite and Diamond Pendant by Spark Creations.

Walter J. Cook Jeweler, Paoli

Holiday Open House: Nov. 24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

See ad on page 7

HOLIDAY CHOCOLATE BOX

Chocoholics will love this basket overflowing with decadent treats. Gift one ... keep one!

Christopher Chocolates, Newtown Square
Holiday Open House & Chocolate Pairings:

Dec. 1-2

See ad on page 68



DRIFTWOOD STARS

Great year-round, and for any holiday decor. 4 sizes, ranging from 8" to 34"

Matlack Florist, West Chester

Holiday Open House: Nov. 30, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 1, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

See ad on page 67



DOOR KNOCKER

Brighten up any door with this small, cast solid brass fox door knocker.

Ball and Ball, Exton

See ad on page 16

IT'S HOLIDAY SHOPPING TIME

Put HO! HO! HO! in Holiday Shopping! Visit 35 shops, get exclusive deals and a chance to win \$1000 in gift cards.

Chester County Best Kept Secrets Tour

Self-guided Tour: Nov. 24-Dec. 8

See ad on page 29



FESTIVE HOLIDAY ACCENTS

Five trees, five mantels & open staircase ~ all decorated with different colors, styles & themes.

Heritage Design Interiors, New Holland

Holiday Open House: Nov. 1-14,

Fri. 9-8 / Sat. 9-5 / Sun. 12-4

See ad on page 24

MINI POINSETTIAS

Liven up your gift list with holiday greenery from local plant experts.

Mostardi Nursery, Newtown Square

See ad on page 24

WINE AND STRAWBERRIES

Original oil painting by Victor Mordasov at Historic Yellow Springs Fine Arts & Craft Fair

Historic Yellow Springs, Chester Springs

Reception Nov. 9, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Show: Nov. 10-11, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

See ad on page 30

THE GIFT OF ART

Mingle and shop 20 artist studios featuring: painting, fiber art, photography and mixed media.

Spring City Mills Studio, Spring City

Holiday Open House: Nov. 17, noon to 8 p.m.

See ad on page 75



ARTWORK BY RACHEL ROMANO





Finding Fitness

Area 55+ and Retirement Communities offer plenty of options beyond shuffleboard!

Edwin Malet

TURNING 55? 65? A HIGHER NUMBER?

Are you becoming increasingly sedentary, or as others may say, well, lazy? Watching instead of doing? Is capability replacing willingness in your vocabulary? Do you talk about the “old days” when you were trim, fit and active?

Take a look in the mirror. A *good* look. Staying or getting in shape shouldn't be something that *other* people do. You *may* down-size your house, closets and property but you shouldn't downsize your active lifestyle. If anything, you finally have the time to focus on your health. Whether it's walking a mile or completing a 5K, you can muster what it takes.

But what's out there? Are there places where seniors can thrive? More specialized than the local gym, with the right kinds of exercise equipment and loads of classes? Appealing fun activities? Are there any truly new ways of thinking about senior fitness? Equally important, what about those around you? Are they active and inspired?

NO EXCUSES

You'll find a wide variety of activities at senior communities in *County Lines* country.

On the east side of Newtown Square is the large retirement community of **Dunwoody Village**. Management calls it “decidedly different.” Dunwoody has a pool, fitness center, 18-hole putting green, and popular **Pickle Ball Court**: like tennis, but played with a wiffle ball on a smaller court.

Dunwoody also has a wildlife refuge—birding is a popular hobby—and spaces for croquet, woodshop, card games and other activities. Local golf courses and public tennis courts are available nearby. The community, in short, is quite engaged and has many choices for keeping fit and active.

At the other end of *County Lines* country is **Pleasant View Retirement Community**, located in Manheim. At its health club—open to anyone over 40—fitness begins with a heated indoor salt-water pool, sauna, hot tub and golf simulator. Not to mention its gym, cardio and free weights. The club also recently added **HydroRider bikes** in the pool, attractive because of their high-calorie burn, lean muscle-building, increased circulation and low joint impact.

You'll also find over 25 different fitness classes at Pleasant View's club. A recent addition is **Aqua Stand-Up**—basically, stand-up paddle-boarding. Set to music, the class delivers a full body workout, incorporating balance and stability, cardiovascular training, muscle conditioning, yoga, pilates and stretching in 45 minutes. Just imagine you're in the Caribbean.

At **Meridian Eagleview**, a 55+ apartment complex north of Exton, there's 11,000 square feet of space devoted to its health club—larger than some public gyms—and 10 miles of trails for walking and cycling nearby. It has an indoor pool, group fitness classes, spa, cardio equipment, free weights, golf simulator, yoga studio, stationary bikes and even more variety to challenge your fitness level.

SPECIALIZED AND EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAMS

Also in Newtown Square, **White Horse Village** has the usual recreation facilities of a full service senior community: large pool, gardens and woodlands, walking and bike paths, cardio and strength training gym, along with numerous classes: yoga, tai chi, pilates and the like. And the community has interesting specialized programs. One, called **Fall-In**, is intended to help reduce the incidence and impacts of falls. Designed with a military theme—for the men—Fall-In promotes camaraderie, determination, consistency, training, discipline and a quest for improvement.

Because balance becomes a priority among many seniors, White Horse Village uses equipment with brand names like **Biodex**, **MoveMor**, **Core Stix**, **Quick Board** and **WAV Proprioception**. And to overcome some seniors' fear of negative effects from intense workouts, White Horse Village is experimenting with heart rate sensory technology where participants get real-time feedback and learn the value of high-intensity interval training.

Kendal-Crosslands, an assisted living community in Kennett Square, also offers state-of-the-art programs. Investing heavily in cycling, it has about 100 participants whose health—that is, their blood pressure, heart rate, cadence, time and distance—will be measured over time in a long-term study. The program may expand its number of water cycles, initiate indoor spin classes and lead to creating a campus share-a-bike program.



Pleasant View Retirement Community

The parent organization, Kendal Corporation, has additionally created **Vitalize 360**, a multi-dimensional, holistic approach to wellness used by over 30 retirement communities nationwide. Over a hundred Kendal-Crosslands residents in the program are currently reaching wellness milestones, including maintaining current health and mobility, dancing at a granddaughter's wedding, and becoming more engaged with others in the community.

NEW COMMUNITIES EMPHASIZING MOVEMENT

Opened in 2017 and offering apartments for the 55+ population, **Canvas of Valley Forge** has an active community, featuring an outdoor pool, fitness center and **Fitness Concierge** to help residents with cardio equipment and strength exercises. **Transformation Fitness**, a company that supplies the instructors, offers a host of weekly classes—aqua fitness, stretch and tone (similar to yoga), meditation and various dance classes such as Swing, Rhumba and Ball Room.

In **SageLife's** Echo Lake community in Malvern—other SageLife communities are in Wallingford and Daylesford Crossing, plus several outside *County Lines* country—the approach to fitness is called “aging well.” Echo Lake will have 4,500 square feet of space devoted to wellness, boasting “everything from a **Sports Simulation Lounge** to a state-of-the-art fitness center.” Its partnership with Main Line Health puts “specialists right in the community.”

Planning for a November 15 opening in Glen Mills, **Ivy Creek** is in “pre-rental” now. It will have a full fitness exercise room, complete with air-compression equipment, which produces a more consistent and controlled resistance than traditional machines. In addition, it touts off-site excursions—horseback riding, rafting, zip-lining—as examples of activities to keep its residents active and healthy.

In April of 2019, **Brightview** will open by Whole Foods in Devon, providing long walkable trails as one amenity. Overall Brightview has 42 facilities in eight states, mostly between Boston and Washington, D.C. The Devon location will have a fitness center and refers to its wellness philosophy as **SPICE: Spirit, Physical, Intellectual, Cul-**

WHEN YOU'RE READY TO COMPETE

For some, the primary motivation for fitness is competition. Maybe it's the trophy, the recognition, the new personal best. In any event, some folks want to win.

Others are satisfied with cheering for the Eagles or the Sixers. Perhaps they'll even get excited enough to elevate their heart rate. Yet there remain those who still want to mix it up and prove themselves.

In May 2019, for the 37th time, Chester County will conduct its annual **Senior Games**—three weeks of events, including softball throw, bowling, bocce, horseshoes, darts, table tennis, hot shot basketball, Frisbee putting, football throw and corn hole. Usually accompanied by a picnic, the Senior Games are generally held at the Brandywine Picnic Park in West Chester. The Games are conducted by the County's Department of Aging and medals are awarded to winners.

Delaware County has its version of the Senior Games, too. Also in May, these games are held at various venues and feature competition in bowling, golf, table tennis, track and field, shuffleboard, pickle ball and more.

Be aware though. Participation in the games is open to anyone 50 or older. Well, at least you have six months to get in shape!

tural and Emotional. It expects 50–75% of the residents to participate in some aspect of the fitness center and has contracted with **Bayada Home Health Care** to run it.

FITNESS WITHOUT FRILLS

In downtown West Chester, the **Hickman**, almost 130 years old but architecturally updated earlier this year, emphasizes its eight fitness classes. Accompanied by upbeat songs, these classes focus on improving strength, balance, range of motion and flexibility. Using balls, bands, weights, bean bags and multiple exercise techniques, the Hickman's classes include tai chi stretch, strength and balance, cardio and seated yoga.

Five Star Senior Living spans 280 facilities and 32 states. In *County Lines* country, that includes **Glen Mills**, **Exton** and **Devon Senior Living** in Pennsylvania, as well as **Shipley Manor** and **Foulk Manors North and South** in Wilmington. Under the rubric **Ageility Physical Solution**, Five Star communities offer strength training, orthopedic rehabilitation, fall prevention, pain management, balance and gait assessment and more. Featuring complimentary screening as well as

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55+ DRIVER DISCOUNTS

Interested in a 5% or higher discount on your auto insurance? For those 55 and older, check out the Mature Driver Improvement Courses.

Take the course online, while sitting on your couch sipping ... better make that a cup of tea than a glass of wine. Or get out of the house and head for a classroom setting to feel like a student again. Either way, class is usually around \$20.

No matter the method, these courses cover a range of topics from aggressive driving to how drowsiness can affect you behind the wheel. You'll also learn about distractions while driving, the distance to keep between two cars, age-related visibility concerns, effects of medications and alcohol when driving, and road rage.

And the discount isn't the only benefit. The class reminds experienced drivers of safe driving techniques and shares information

about new safety technology now available on cars. So if you're wondering how back-up cameras work, how warning systems alert you when someone's in your blind spot, or other safety technology on newer model cars, this course is for you.

If you're thinking about cost/benefit, know that in Pennsylvania the course is seven hours of instruction for the standard course and just four hours for the refresher—required hours vary from state to state—and the discount lasts for three years before you have to renew.

Some course providers are AAA, AARP and Seniors for Safe Driving. For details, check online and with your insurance company to make sure the one you choose saves you that extra cash.

Not yet 55? You may still qualify for an insurance discount by taking a defensive drivers course. Check with your DMV.

one-on-one training, many of its services—personal fitness, trainers, classes and circuit training—are open to the public for a fee.

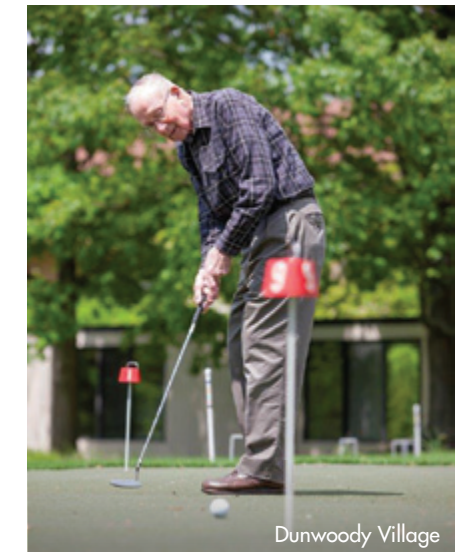
OPTIONS IF YOU STAY AT HOME

For a modest fee, **Surrey Services** provides a variety of services to seniors who

wish to stay in their homes and operates its fitness center in Devon. Its gym includes weight machines, treadmills, recumbent bikes and elliptical machines, while its low-impact, air resistance machines—they're easier on the joints—are “designed specifically for older adults.”

Surrey also conducts an extensive set of classes, including zumba, tai chi, pilates, yoga, chair yoga, meditation, strength & stretch, balance/strength, line dancing and yoga stretch plus *Silver Sneakers*, *Silver & Fit* and *Drums Alive!*

For more information about fitness options in our area, check out the Guide following this article. ♦



Dunwoody Village

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CHESTER COUNTY'S AFFORDABLE, LUXURY RENTAL COMMUNITY FOR ADULTS OVER 55

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- Kitchens w/ Granite & Cherry Cabinets
- Washer Dryer in Every Unit; Fitness Center; Media Room
- Peace of Mind, Secure, Cost Effective, Independent Senior Living

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www.HarrisonHillApts.com



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A Continuing Care
Retirement Community

★★★★★
Five-Star Rated Healthcare





Guide to 55+ and Retirement Communities

55+ Communities for the Fit, Active and Independent

There are a variety of communities in our area built and managed for active seniors living an active and healthy lifestyle with amenities geared toward that group. Whether you're looking for a townhouse, condo, apartment or single home, these communities cater to older adults and offer settings that generally feel like resorts. They are designed to make retirement healthier and more enjoyable.

PENNSYLVANIA Downingtown

Ashbridge Manor
610-269-8800; AshbridgeManor.com

Exton
Meridian at Eagleview
484-873-8110; MeridianEagleview.com

Glen Mills
Ivy Creek
610-981-2740

Glen Mills' newest and best option for independent retirement living is opening soon. At Ivy Creek, all utilities (except telephone) will be included in monthly rent—there are never any buy-in fees or leases. They'll take care of the cooking, housekeeping and local transportation, leaving you the time to enjoy your retirement.

Gordonville

Watson Run
717-575-4059; BerksHomes.com

King of Prussia

Canvas Valley Forge
844-279-9865; CanvasValleyForge.com
Canvas Valley Forge is a new concept in 55+ apartment living. Sophisticated, thoughtfully crafted residences set the scene for a life well-lived, one rooted in connections and meaningful experiences and brimming with vitality and independence. Here, "simplify" is not code for "compromise," but rather a password that unlocks the next part of your journey. This is what you worked for—now go out and play.

Media

Springton Lake Village
610-356-7297; SpringtonLakeVillage.com

Phoenixville

Coldstream Crossing
610-321-1977; ColdstreamCrossing.com

West Chester

Harrison Hill Apartments
610-430-6900; HarrisonHillApts.com
Harrison Hill's five stories offer 114 apartment homes comprised of one bedrooms and one bedrooms with dens. The grounds feature a community patio, a walking trail, gazebo and dog park. Residents enjoy coffee and each other's company at "Monday Mingles," holiday barbecues and pizza parties.

ties, games in the activities rooms and once-a-week free transportation to set destinations. Call for details and to schedule a tour.

Hershey's Mill
610-436-8900; HersheysMill55Plus.com

Westtown Reserve
215-910-3064; WesttownReserve.com

West Grove

Jennersville Farm
610-368-5549; WalshAndAssociates.net

DELAWARE

Wilmington

Methodist Country House
302-654-5101; PUMH.org

Communities for the Independent, with Continuing Care and Life Plan Communities

Many seniors are currently independent, but want or need, for themselves or their spouse, to live with support—moving from independent living to assisted living, followed by skilled nursing and several kinds of specialized facilities. When the sequence is combined on a single campus, it's called a continuing care community or life plan community. Others provide these services in a community where seniors rent apartments. Those listed have strong "independent living" programs.



Echo Lake



White Horse Village



Kyffin Grove



Daylesford Crossing



Willow Valley Communities

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Devon

Brightview at Devon

484-519-0097; BrightviewDevon.com

Brightview Devon, conveniently located at 301 E. Conestoga Rd. in Wayne, will open in Spring 2019 with 171 apartments. Brightview Senior Living is a leader and pioneer in senior living and dementia care, delivering resort-style independent living, vibrant assisted living, and innovative memory care. The company builds, owns and manages award-winning communities in eight states along the East Coast.

The Devon Senior Living

610-263-2300; TheDevonSeniorLiving.com

Located in a beautiful, peaceful, rustic country setting, only minutes from area hospitals, restaurants and shopping centers. They offer Personal Care services, as well as award-winning Alzheimer's/Memory Care and short-term stays and feature distinct services and amenities in a comfortable, home-like setting, at 445 N. Valley Forge Rd.

DOWNINGTOWN

St. Martha Villa for Independent & Retirement Living

610-873-5300; Villa.StMRehab.org

Since 2003, St. Martha Villa has proudly served the Chester County community by providing exceptional service to independent and personal care residents. Activities serve a wide range of interests, which include pet therapy, gardening, musical events and daily mass. St. Martha Villa shares its campus with St. Martha Center for Rehabilitation and Healthcare.

Exton

Exton Senior Living

610-594-0200; ExtonSeniorLiving.com

Convenient to great shopping and restaurants, Exton Senior Living is an active personal care and memory care community. Diverse activities and outings fill every day with opportunities to live well. A caring staff and 24-hour nursing assistance provide residents with personalized assistance and peace of mind. They offer a variety of floor plans perfect for seniors looking for a supportive environment.

Glen Mills

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610-358-4900; GlenMillsSeniorLiving.com

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County,” providing personal care for residents for over 18 years. Located only minutes from area hospitals, restaurants and shopping centers, they have a seasoned team of caregivers, providing the additional support needed to maintain independence while receiving the individualized care that suits residents’ needs. The community provides 24-hour nursing supervision, short-term stays and rehabilitation services.

Kennett Square
Friends Home in Kennett

610-444-2577; FriendsHomeInKennett.org
Options for seniors include Supportive Independent Living, Personal Care Services and Skilled Nursing for more intense care. All meals, housekeeping and laundry are included. Celebrating 120 years. Friends Home in Kennett—where friends become family.

Kendal-Crosslands Communities
844-907-1800; KCC.Kendal.org
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Lancaster

Willow Valley Communities
866-454-2922

WillowValleyCommunities.org
A premier 55+ community with a 30+ year tradition of amenity-rich excellence and 90+ floor plans, from cozy studios to 3,300-sq.-ft. townhomes. At this A-rated Lifecare community, you get the financial security of knowing your fees won’t increase because you later need personal care, skilled nursing care or memory support. Willow Valley Communities may be one of finest—and smartest—investments you can make for your retirement.

Malvern

Echo Lake
LivingAtEchoLake.com; SageLife.com
Model apartments are open for tours. Retirement living, redesigned. At the leading edge of the “aging well” movement, Echo Lake will include a huge fitness and wellness center, innovative dining built around the latest trends in nutrition and a catalog of programming that dares you to explore ... think cruise ship, think country club, think spa ... and then, let your imagination run wild.

Manheim

Pleasant View Retirement Community
717-665-2445; PleasantViewRC.org
Nestled in the rolling hills of northern Lancaster County, Pleasant View blends a relaxing and carefree lifestyle with opportunities to explore passions and interests. With a variety of living accommodations to choose from, plus a multitude of on-campus conveniences, maintaining your active lifestyle is easier than ever. Plan your visit to see why over 400 residents call Pleasant View home.

Media

Riddle Village
610-891-3700; RiddleVillage.org
Riddle Village is a Lifecare community

that offers amenities including a fitness center, putting green, indoor parking, personal trainer, four unique restaurants, a flexible dining program and much more. Riddle Village has 10 spacious apartment styles ranging from studios to three-bedroom apartments.

Newtown Square

Dunwoody Village
610-359-4400; Dunwoody.org
Since 1974, Dunwoody Village has set the standard in comfortable retirement living. At the convenient location in Newtown Square, residents enjoy a variety of amenities, including fine dining, fitness services and superb cultural offerings, as well as the peace of mind that Five-Star Healthcare offers.

White Horse Village
610-558-5000; WhiteHorseVillage.org
A warm and welcoming retirement community on 96 picturesque acres by a state park and surrounded by gardens, woodlands and meadows. Amenities include wellness center with indoor pool and spa, putting green, bocce and shuffleboard courts, library, dining venues, performing arts, enrichment programs, transportation and more. On-site Healthcare Center with skilled nursing, assisted living and memory support. Member, Leading Age. Accredited by CARF-CCAC.

North Wales

Kyffin Grove
267-460-8100; KyffinGrove.com; SageLife.com
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Paoli

Daylesford Crossing
610-640-4000
DaylesfordCrossing.com; SageLife.com
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610-933-7675

SpringMillSeniorLiving.com

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team members are available 24 hours a day to ensure that you live without worry. They'll take care of everything for you.

Wallingford

Plush Mills

610-690-1630; *SageLife.com*

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ments, Plush Mills is just the right size—big enough to count on, small enough to care. Call to find out more.

West Chester

The Hickman

484-207-0446; *TheHickman.org*

Wellington At Hershey's Mill

484-653-1200; *WellingtonRetirement.com*

WYOMISSING

The Highlands at Wyomissing

610-775-2300; *TheHighlands.org*

The Highlands at Wyomissing is a non-profit Life Care Continuing Care Retirement Community situated on 113 acres next to beautiful Wyomissing Park. They offer 240 residential apartments of various sizes, 40 spacious two- and three-bedroom villas, 66 studio and one-bedroom apartments in Personal Care and 80 beds in the Skilled Nursing Center.

DELAWARE

Greenville

Stonegates Retirement Community

302-658-6200

Stonegates.com

Wilmington

Methodist Country House

800-991-9257

ACTSRetirement.org

Foulk Manor South

302-655-6249

FoulkManorSouth.com

Foulk Manor South is a luxurious senior living community that offers spacious and comfortable assisted living apartments, Five Star's award-winning Bridge to Rediscovery program for people with Alzheimer's and other types of dementia, and respite/short stays. They are one of the few communities in Delaware that offers intermediate care as a long-term skilled nursing option.

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For those who choose to stay in their homes as long as they can and need clinical or assistive care, there are many options to choose from. These providers offer everything from companionship to nursing care, transportation to and from appointments, cleaning, moving and more.



Foulk Manor South



Pleasant View Retirement Community



The Devon Senior Living



Brightview at Devon



Dunwoody Village



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55+ ♿



Surrey Services for Seniors

Devon, Berwyn, Broomall,
Havertown, Media

610-647-6404; SurreyServices.org

Surrey, a nonprofit organization, has been serving the community for over 35 years. Surrey operates four community centers with meal programs, fitness classes, life-long learning and volunteer opportunities. Surrey Home Care offers short- and long-term RN care, personal finance management, personal care, house cleaning and a variety of transportation services from shared ride services to RN-assisted medical transportation to and from medical procedures requiring anesthesia.

TLC Moving Services

610-268-3243; TLCMovingServicesllc.com

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Kendal-Crosslands Communities



Glen Mills Senior Living



Riddle Village



Friends Home in Kennett

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Malvern Hilltop Estate

A SHINGLE-STYLE STUNNER SET ON 16.4 ACRES

Laurel Anderson

YOU KNOW WHEN YOU'VE FOUND YOUR HOME

After looking at over 30 properties on the market, Ramona knew as she stood on the wrap-around porch that she'd found it. Despite winter's chill, she was warmed by memories of her grandmother's home. "I just knew," she said.

All she needed to seal the deal was warm floors under her feet. As luck would have it, all the floors in the home had radiant heat.

"As soon as I walked inside, felt my feet warm up, I excused myself to make a call," she said. From the cherry-paneled billiards room, she called her husband, Frank. "I found it," she told him. Frank said "Wow!"

And the deal was done.

SHINGLE-STYLE HOME

The gracious façade of this Shingle-style "grand dame" is a welcoming sight at the end of a long curving drive. Designed by Paoli architect R.A. Hoffman, the house boasts the defining features of the style popular around the 1890s at luxury vaca-

tion destinations—cedar shakes, of course, plus towers, dormers, numerous windows (including charming eyebrow windows) and that deal-making wrap-around porch.

This freeform design captures a relaxed informality, while the stone foundation roots the structure to the site. "The house is positioned to catch sunrise in the four-season sunroom and sunset on the wrap-around porch," said Ramona.

During the three-year construction of the 12,000-square-foot, three-level home, no expense was spared—from the tiniest detail (crumb-catcher vacuum in the kitchen), to luxury features (three-floor elevator), to major elements (solid construction).

THE TOUR

The stunning entrance sets the tone for the interior of this five-bedroom, six-full-two-half-bathroom home. Light-filled, with high ceilings, striking inlaid cherry floors, and a view through to the backyard and pool, the foyer is adjacent to a striking three-story floating spiral staircase set in the windowed tower

space. This hall divides the formal living area from the family space, while it unites a home with an open floor plan and well-designed flow, perfect for entertaining.

Elegant formal living and dining rooms, private study and cherry-paneled billiards room—sporting a bar, fireplace and coffered ceiling—showcase attention to detail in leaded windows, carved panels, intricate moldings, unique fireplace mantels and custom built-ins.

The family space, though informal, has its share of fine details, often featuring oak rather than the more formal cherry wood. The large, bright gourmet kitchen—with black granite counters, custom cabinets, four sinks and professional series appliances—opens to a breakfast room and spacious great room with coffered ceiling—a must

for the couple. A favorite four-season sunroom with radiant heat, "keeps you toasty on the snowiest days," said Ramona.





A family entrance with mudroom and built-in cubbies, well-outfitted butler's pantry, along with formal and informal powder rooms help make this a comfortable family home.

UPPER LEVEL

The more magnificent master suite—yes, there are two—has a sunny, elegant bedroom with bay window, fireplace, curved walls and tray ceiling. A luxurious master bath, with a basket-weave tile floor, includes an infinity tub with a view plus an outdoor hottub on the adjacent deck.

Another show-stopping feature is the custom walk-in closet—three windows and big enough to be a bedroom. “My daughter and her friends loved playing dress-up here,” said Ramona. Who wouldn't?

Three other en suite bedrooms, including the second master, plus a second-floor laundry room with two washers and two dryers, round out the second floor.

LOWER LEVEL

Also accessible by the elevator, the light, bright lower level has so many features it's a wonder Ramona and Frank ever left the property. Hardwood floors at the foot of the spiral staircase anchor the open entertainment area and tigerwood bar.

Radiating off the space are a workout room, luxurious home theater with stadium seating and astonishing sound system, kids' game room, and a dance room with mirrored wall, more hardwood floors and a barre.

At the other end of this level are the wine cellar and tasting room, along with the control room, which looks more sophisticated than the bridge on the Starship Enterprise. It's here that the home sound and security systems (accessible from your phone) and state-of-the-art, six-zone HVAC and energy systems are located.

This house was so well constructed that it required no work aside from regular maintenance while Ramona and Frank lived there.

THE GROUNDS

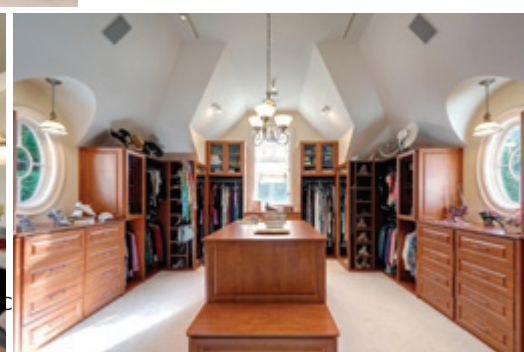
Three double garages—one attached to the house and another with space for guest quarters—surround a courtyard off the circular drive.



For outdoor entertaining on the meticulously landscaped grounds, a large pool with two waterfalls, spa and cabana beckon. The adjacent outdoor kitchen ensures food is nearby.

With so many amenities, plus the charm of a place that feels so much like home, it's no wonder Ramona said, “It's not going to be easy to leave here.” ♦

For more information about this gem on the Main Line—three levels, five bedrooms, six full and two half baths, six-car garage space—on 16.5 acres in Malvern, contact John & Karen Hockenberry, RE/MAX Main Line, TheHouseCouple@gmail.com, 610-420-9113. Price upon request.



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

Microbrew, Macro Impact. Brush up on your ABCs—**Appalachian Brewing Company** is now serving West Chester. Founded in Harrisburg with eight locations including Collegeville, ABC Brewery offers hand-crafted beer and PA wine and spirits with bar bites and pub grub to match. Pair your IPA with bourbon beef tips or enjoy flagship brews like maple brown ale or seasonal treats like hefeweizen. Check out the second floor wine bar featuring wine on tap from Spring Gate Vineyard. Cheers! 142 E. Market St., West Chester. ABCBrew.com.




Super Powders. Need a diet reset after indulging every Thanksgiving? **Superfood powders** will save the day. Powdered extracts require minor effort but provide major health benefits. Add antioxidant-rich açai for a berry boost to your juice. Moringa and spirulina elevate average smoothies. Brew matcha tea for energy boosts and lower blood pressure. Mix dragon fruit powder into yogurt for pretty purple parfaits. Find super powders at The Prana House and TranquiliTEA Temple, both in West Chester. ThePranaHouse.com, TranquilitheaTemple.com.

Yummy in Pink. Who knew veggies could be so Instagram-worthy. **Pink radicchio**, a rose-colored version of the salad mainstay, is taking over restaurant menus and your local produce aisle. Though this blush beauty hails from Italy, it's grown on Camporosso Farm, Berks County and found in local farmers markets. Pink radicchio is sweeter and mellow than its purple cousin and pairs well with ricotta, walnuts and pomegranate seeds. Eat your leafy pinks and don't forget to snap an Instagram pic!



Espresso Yourself. Perk up coffee lovers! **National Espresso Day**, November 23, falls on Black Friday this year. So, sip an espresso shot for early morning energy and #ShopSmall at local boutiques all weekend long, including Small Business Saturday. Rather sleep in? Enjoy espresso at local favorites like The Farmhouse Coffee & Espresso Bar in Downingtown and Pour Richard's Coffee Co. in Devon. Satisfy your sweet tooth with an affogato (ice cream drowned in espresso) at the Coffee and Ice Cream Bar in West Chester. Facebook.com/ShopSmallWC.



Rum Runners & Revolution. The rabble-rousing past of 12 PA taverns where American revolutions were born comes to life in **Well-Behaved Taverns Seldom Make History**, new from author M. Diane McCormick. Take a pub crawl through one local spot, Malvern's **General Warren Inn**, and discover their rebellious history from nighttime reconnaissance missions to debonair British spies. While you're there, sip from their extensive beer, wine and cocktail selection in the glow of a real wood fire. 9 Old Lancaster Rd., Malvern. GeneralWarren.com.



Easy Appetizers

SMALL BITES CARRY BIG TASTE

Laura Muzzi Brennan



Kathy Donovan and Susan Teiser

AS WE SALLY INTO THE WINTER holiday season, opportunities abound for raucous family feasts, intimate dinners and casual neighborhood cocktail parties. No matter the size of your gathering, you'll be well-served by having a few easy appetizer ideas in your apron pocket.

Chef/owner Susan Teiser, and manager Kathy Donovan of **Montrachet Fine Foods Catering** and **Centerville Café** in Centerville, Delaware have catered scores of parties in their café and garden as well as in the homes and offices of clients.

Appetizers are central to the fun. Their freezer is full of house-made small bites available for purchase.

Popular ones include mini beef Wellingtons, spanakopita and freshly made mini crab cakes. Their elegant seafood and pork pates, also made in-house, are definitely "not your father's liverwurst," Teiser jokes.

Taking out appetizers from Montrachet or having Teiser and Donovan cater your entire party are by far the easier options. But Teiser, who teaches a course on entertaining at Wilmington University, has some great party tips and easy recipes for home cooks who want to throw the party themselves.

To start, when choosing appetizers, consider the time of day and whether the apps are a prelude to a larger meal or the meal itself. If you're serving appetizers in place of dinner, allow for six bites per person per hour, not including cheese, charcuterie and dips.

Another good rule of thumb: aim for half hot and half cold choices. In Teiser's experience, hot appetizers always get gobbled

up, so be sure to make cold appetizers that you'll be happy to have left over.

Other considerations include your guests' dietary preferences: definitely offer gluten-free, vegetarian and low-carb options. Remember that unless your guests are super adventurous eaters, stick with dishes that have at least one familiar component. It's also fun, says Teiser, to take a familiar dish and miniaturize it. Why not draw inspiration from the popular Chicken Marabella of 1980s' *Silver Palate Cookbook* fame to create skewers threaded with chicken, green olives and prunes?

If your guests like to imbibe, have enough substantial apps to counter-

balance the cocktails. (Hint: Anything with puff pastry will do the trick!) "Come to think of it," laughs Teiser, "people love anything with puff pastry, period."

For serving, make sure appetizers are the right size. More than two bites and you'll need to offer small plates—and that defeats the idea of easy apps! Teiser prefers pretty picks and small Chinese soup spoons or high-quality flavored edible spoons.

Instead of placing all apps on the dining room table, arrange them in two or three areas to keep the party traffic moving. Also, put the food out in stages—especially if you'll be having a longish cocktail hour or if apps are the main event. Not only will guests who are fashionably late get their fair share, but dishes will avoid that long-in-the-tooth look.

Hope all of your holiday gatherings come with delicious things in small packages!

Moroccan Chicken Skewers

Za'atar is a traditional Middle Eastern spice blend that includes sumac, thyme, white sesame seeds and salt. Kaffir lime leaves are used in many Thai and Southeast Asian dishes. You can find both ingredients at specialty spice stores and gourmet groceries. Recipe courtesy of Susan Teiser, Chef/Owner, Montrachet Fine Foods and Centerville Café.

For the skewers:

15 skewers with boneless, skinless chicken breast threaded on them (approximately 1 lb.)

3 Tb. za'atar

For the dipping sauce:

$\frac{3}{4}$ C. plain Greek yogurt, NOT nonfat

$\frac{1}{4}$ C. sour cream

1 tsp. dried kaffir lime leaves

1 tsp. fresh lime zest

Salt and white pepper to taste

Optional:

Honey or agave

$\frac{1}{2}$ C. finely grated seedless cucumber

1 tsp. fresh mint

Coat chicken skewers with za'atar. Cover with plastic wrap and let rest overnight in refrigerator.

Mix yogurt, sour cream, lime leaves and zest together. Check for taste. It should be cool and refreshing. Add salt and white pepper to taste. Refrigerate at least overnight to let flavors blend.

Adjust seasoning before serving, adding a teaspoon of honey or agave if desired. Stir in mint and cucumber if using.

Preheat oven to 375°. Place chicken skewers on a non-stick baking sheet. Bake 12–15 minutes until just cooked through (not pink).

Tent with foil for 2–3 minutes before serving to allow juices to balance. Serve with sauce on the side.

Makes 15 skewers.

Ricotta Filled Figs with Prosciutto

These look like exotic flowers. You can use a high-quality thinly sliced salami in place of the prosciutto, but definitely use light cream cheese since regular is too dense in texture. Recipe courtesy of Susan Teiser.



Easy Party Tricks

If you're choosing easy appetizers, make everything else easy too! Susan Teiser has some hard-and-fast rules and helpful hints for stress-free entertaining.

- Build up an appetizer stash. Lots of appetizers can be made in advance, frozen and popped in the oven the day of the party. For a twist on holiday cookie baking days and exchanges, why not throw an appetizer-assembly party? You'll get to see your pals and walk away with a variety of savory bites.

- Never test drive a recipe the day of the party. Nothing causes party panic more than ditching a failed dish and running to the market five minutes before guests arrive.

- Place the bar outside of the kitchen, preferably away from the crowd. Party traffic will keep flowing, and you'll be free to dash in and out of the kitchen to replenish food.

- Stop working an hour before your guests ring the bell. Just say, as Susan does, "What's done is done!" and pour yourself a glass of wine and turn on your favorite music. You can always ask your friends for a little help when they arrive.

1 C. whole milk ricotta, at room temperature

1 C. light cream cheese

1 Tb. honey

$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. vanilla

12 fresh figs, preferably purple/black ones

6 slices prosciutto

Optional:

Balsamic vinegar

Mix ricotta, cream cheese, honey and vanilla. Refrigerate.

Cut figs into four segments so they look like flowers. Do not cut all the way through!

Cut prosciutto into half slices, gather edges to look like a flower and gently place in the center of each fig. Figs can be refrigerated overnight at this stage, with paper towels underneath to absorb moisture.

Use a pastry bag fitted with a small star tip to pipe some of the ricotta mixture into the center of each prosciutto "flower." If you don't have a pastry bag, simply spoon a tablespoon of mixture into each flower.

For "extra credit," place figs under broiler for 2 minutes after you've filled them with cheese. Drizzle with a little balsamic vinegar.

Makes 12 appetizers.

Brie and Raspberry in Puff Pastry

These little bites disappear fast! Recipe courtesy of Susan Teiser.

1 sheet frozen puff pastry, defrosted overnight in refrigerator

2 tsp. seedless raspberry jam or other seedless jam, such as apricot or fig

$\frac{1}{4}$ lb. brie cheese, cut into 12 pieces

1 egg, beaten in a small cup

Gently unroll the pastry onto a lightly floured board or counter. Dust top with flour. Roll out to increase its size by about 20-30%.

Cut into small squares (about 2") or cut into rounds with a cookie cutter.

Spray a mini-muffin tin well with non-stick baking spray. Place one piece puff pastry in each well. Paint with beaten egg. Place tiny amount of jam in the bottom of each piece, then cover with a piece of brie. Fold edges of pastry over the brie. Paint with a little more egg.

Puffs can be frozen like this for up to one month. Remove from freezer and bake in muffin tins, going directly from freezer to preheated hot oven (375–400°). Bake 10–12 minutes and serve.

Makes 12 appetizers.



Bill's Queso Dip

Whenever my husband Bill brings this hot dip to a gathering, it's always a hit. It's very casual—perfect for watching Thanksgiving Day Bowl games. You can make it a few days ahead of time and reheat over low. Keep warm in a small Crockpot or fondue pot. Serve with tortilla chips.



Retro Appetizers

Pigs in a blanket have been disappearing from party platters ever since Betty Crocker introduced them in her 1957 *Cookbook for Kids*. Deviled eggs are a perennial crowd favorite. Check out this list of apps that captured the American palate from the 1950s–1980s. Some were instant hits and have stood the test of time. Others? Not so much. Which ones do you remember? Which ones would you rather forget?

1950s ...

- ~ California Dip (aka Lipton Onion Soup Dip Mix)
- ~ Steak tartare balls
- ~ Rumaki (bacon wrapped bites of chicken liver and water chestnuts)

1960s ...

- ~ Sweet and sour meatballs (grape jelly anyone?)
- ~ Marinated shrimp
- ~ Celery and tomatoes stuffed with everything imaginable
- ~ Sausage-cheese cocktail balls (Oh the wonders of Bisquick)

1970s ...

- ~ Loaded potato skins
- ~ Buffalo wings
- ~ Cheese balls and logs rolled in nuts
- ~ Mini quiches (loved by real men everywhere)
- ~ Cheese Whiz or melted Velveeta topped with olives on Ritz crackers (minus the olives, a beloved after-school snack)

1980s ...

- ~ Artichoke dip
- ~ Tex-Mex and Seven-layer dip
- ~ New potatoes topped with caviar (a la *The Silver Palate*)
- ~ Snow peas stuffed with St. Andre cheese (vintage Martha Stewart)

16 oz. Mexican-style shredded cheese blend
15 oz. Southwestern style diced tomatoes and green chiles
½–1 C. sliced jalapeno peppers
1, 1-oz. package taco seasoning mix
10-oz. package cooked sausage crumbles
Sriracha to taste

In a large saucepan, mix all ingredients except sriracha and heat over medium-low heat until cheese melts. Stir often.

Add sriracha to taste.

Makes about 3–4 C.

Shrimp Ceviche

The basic idea behind ceviche is that the citrus juice “cooks” the seafood. Use the highest quality shrimp you can find. You can also substitute tuna, salmon or halibut.

1 lb. medium shrimp, peeled, deveined, tails removed
½ C. lime juice
Zest of 1 lime
1½ tsp. salt



2 tsp. soy sauce
Few grinds of black pepper
2 Tb. minced scallions
Splash of olive oil
Optional:
Cilantro
Endive leaves (or plaitain strips)
½ avocado diced

Cut the shrimp into small dice.

Mix together lime juice, zest, salt, soy sauce and pepper in a glass or other non-reactive bowl. Mix in shrimp and scallions. Cover and allow to sit for 10–20 minutes in refrigerator or until shrimp is opaque. If too much liquid, pour off a little. Stir in a splash of olive oil and cilantro if using.

Spoon into endive leaves or small Chinese spoons and garnish with avocado. You can also place ceviche in a bowl over ice and allow guests to spoon it onto large plaitain chips.

Makes approximately 2 cups. ♦

Laura traces her love of all things culinary to the first time she leafed through her mother's Betty Crocker's *Cookbook*—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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 APPETIZER	 1ST COURSE	 2ND COURSE	 DESSERT
Cheese, crackers, cured meats	Soups, salads, fruits	Turkey, duck, vegetables	Pumpkin pie, pecan pie, chocolate
SPARKLING Dry is good for lighter fare.	PINOT GRIGIO Light to medium bodied and a good match for early courses.	ZINFANDEL A full-bodied wine, makes it a good 2nd course pick.	RIESLING Complex and nuanced—a dessert pairing.
MOSCATO A musky classic that pairs easily.	SAUVIGNON BLANC A very popular varietal that is fruity and versatile.	PINOT NOIR Elegant and subtly complex, this is a good mid-meal choice.	TAWNY PORT Nuttiness and woodiness that pairs with dessert.
VINHO VERDE Refreshing, crisp and light—perfect for smaller fare.	GEWÜRZ Exotic aromatics and flavors—a good 1st course choice.	SANGIOVESE A more complex flavor profile pairs well later in the meal.	CREAM SHERRY A sweet wine that lends itself well to dessert.

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