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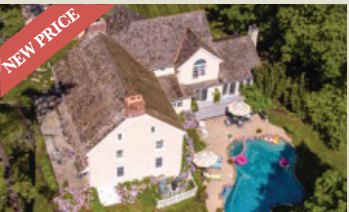
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from the EDITOR

Though a Brandywine Valley spring is a tough act to follow, June is up to the challenge! It's a month to celebrate the outdoors, so let us be your guide.

Start with day trips to discover or rediscover the glories of area towns and cities. Malcolm Johnstone takes a tour of "Art, Artists and Galleries in West Chester," and Carol Metzker reviews top Wilmington events in her article, "In the Good Ole Summertime." Catch the spirit of Soho in the borough of West Chester, plus learn that Bob Marley called Wilmington his home.

We have more Jamaican flavor from Laura Muzzi Brennan in Brandywine Table's recipes from Miss Winnie's—fried plantains, curry chicken and Jamaican Johnnycakes. To accompany the spice of jerk seasoning, Fred Naddeo suggests under-appreciated white wines in "Something Different For The Summer"—try riesling, gewürztraminer and chenin blanc.

And diners will enjoy working their way through our Summer Dining Guide, complete with a recap of some of our Best of the Best winners from the 2019 Dining Guide, along with a handy list of area breweries to check out.

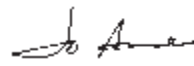
Gardeners can explore azaleas as Stephanie R. Kuniholm of Jenkins Arboretum recounts the wonders of native plants in "Go Native with Azaleas." More gardens, including a five-acre wildflower meadow, can be found at Beagle Hill Farm, the featured property in Home of the Month. It's where history meets luxury in Charlestown Township.

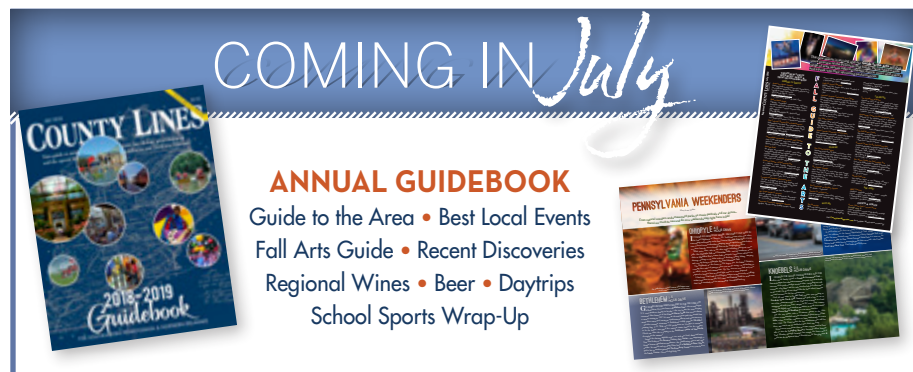
Thinking beyond gardens, Mercedes Thomas explores how to create your own oasis in "Backyard Staycations"—with patios, pools, outdoor kitchens and theaters, plus treehouses, bar-sheds and she-sheds.

We also have the scoop on the indoor climbing craze, books for book groups and area independent school students bringing home prizes in "Painting, Writing, Science and Robotics" by Ed Malet.

For more June fun, check out Family Fun and Best Local Events.

Thank you for reading.


Jo Anne Durako
Editor



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June 2019

Volume XLII, Number 10

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[Be Fit]

Ain't No (Indoor) Mountain High Enough

Raymond Porreca

INDOOR ROCK GYMS ARE TRANSFORMING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

THE ACT OF CLIMBING IS SYNONYMOUS WITH CHALLENGE. We climb our way to the top of careers, fight uphill battles in the face of adversity, and make mountains out of molehills when we overreact.

It makes sense that popular culture adopts lingo from the climbing world—mountains are seemingly indomitable obstacles, ancient and imposing. Overcoming a stone giant is no small feat. And while it's unrealistic to go outside and attempt to climb a mountain, the rise of indoor climbing gyms allows people a chance to push their physical limits in a safe, entertaining controlled environment.

Indoor rock climbing ranks among the most popular exercise trends. Although the sport itself has a long history—people have climbed mountains for centuries—facilities capable of housing indoor rock walls began popping up in the early 2000s.

Climbing Business Journal, a publication dedicated to “cover[ing] the indoor climbing industry,” includes over 600 gyms in the U.S. alone. The sport's recent ascent as the go-to form of non-traditional fitness even helped indoor climbing earn a place in the 2020 Olympics, a decision championed by International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach due to climbing's popularity with a younger generation of athletes.

LEARNING THE ROPES

Climbing requires a bit of preparation. Most indoor rock gyms include obstacles for three different types of climbing. Although the end goal is the same—reach the top of an artificial rock face—knowing the difference between each style is important prep.

First, there's **top-rope climbing**. This form of climbing is what most people think of when imagining the sport. Climbers strap into a harness that's connected to a rope running up the rock wall. At the highest point, the rope passes through an anchor and back down to a belayer—another person responsible for managing the rope's slack and preventing long falls.

Bouldering is a bit more free-form than top-rope climbing. When bouldering, climbers don't need a harness or rope. Instead, they'll work their way up smaller obstacles by sheer strength and precise movement. Because bouldering obstacles are usually smaller than traditional rock walls, many newcomers are encouraged to start with this format. While the prospect of scaling a rock wall without a harness might sound risky, bouldering routes have soft crash mats placed below the obstacle, dampening any falls with a soft cushion.

The third and most difficult version of climbing is **lead climbing**. This style requires participants to tie one end of their rope into a series

of metal “quickdraws” affixed to the wall. While the quickdraws are built into the wall, manually moving from one to the next requires considerable practice, which means lead climbs are usually reserved for experienced climbers.

Dana Caracciolo, general manager of Downingtown Rock Gym, equates the difference between bouldering and roped climbing to types of running. “[Bouldering] is about short, powerful movement,” she said, “and roped climbing is more endurance-based. It's like a sprint versus a marathon. You train for them differently.”

CLIMBING IN CHESTER COUNTY

Equipped with that understanding of what indoor climbing actually is, it's time to find a gym. According to *Climbing Business Journal*, the Philadelphia area is one of the sport's emerging hot spots on the East Coast.

The Chester County area has three major indoor climbing facilities. The Downingtown Rock Gym is a 10,000-square-foot location with options for lead climbing, bouldering and top-rope routes. The Philadelphia Rock Gym's Coatesville location is over 12,000 square feet, with more than 100 bouldering obstacles, and 100-plus routes for top rope and lead climbs. Radnor's Gravity Vault is a 16,000-square-foot location with hundreds of roped climbs and bouldering stations.

Both the Downingtown Rock Gym and Philadelphia Rock Gym offer climbs for participants of all skill levels, and most gyms offer classes and instruction aimed at kids.

Climbing, perhaps because of its challenging nature, fosters an active community. Grant Sobosinski, a 26-year-old climber from Downingtown, says he fell in love with the sport because of its unique blend of physicality and social atmosphere. “You get a great full-body workout without the monotony of a regular gym,” said Sobosinski. “On top of that, it's just a great way to meet new people. What more could you want?”

Similarly, Caracciolo recommends newcomers try climbing with a friend or two. “It's not like a fitness facility where you go and jump on a treadmill, pop in your earbuds and don't talk to anyone,” she said. “There's a great community of people to climb with, but if you come with a friend or two the first time, I think it's easy to cheer one another on and really get into it.”

Despite the community aspect championed by Chester County's indoor rock gyms, Sobosinski notes that it takes courage to commit to trying a new sport. However, he notes that both Downingtown Rock Gym and Coatesville's Philadelphia Rock Gym—he's spent “hundreds of hours” climbing at both after a friend brought him to a gym—are exceptionally welcoming when it comes to new climbers.

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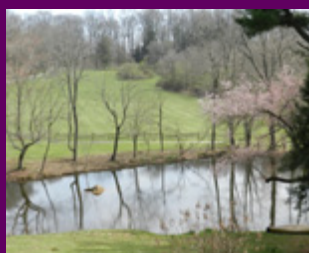


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"Don't be shy. Try it out," he said. "The gyms are affordable, and the staff will train you before you ever have to climb a wall. Rock climbing is an adventure that boosts your physical and mental health. Everyone should try it!"

CLIMBING UP TO DROP CALORIES

As a workout, indoor climbing is a great alternative to regular gym equipment. It's an excellent way to build and tone both upper and lower-body muscle groups. A recent article in *TIME* suggests that high-intensity climbing can burn "eight to ten calories per minute." Like boxing and other emerging fitness trends, climbing straddles the line between strength and cardiovascular exercise, offering a stellar full body workout that rarely feels like genuine exercise.

Although the act of climbing is an athletic endeavor unto itself, Caracciolo notes that participants with backgrounds in full-bodied sports—like yoga and swimming—tend to take to climbing naturally.

With such notable health benefits, it's easy to see why climbing is so popular. And for fledgling climbers, there's never been a better time to start climbing.

Both Downingtown Rock Gym and Philadelphia Rock Gym offer introductory packages aimed towards newcomers, which range from \$28–\$50. Just show up at the gym in comfortable, athletic clothes (shorts are discouraged due to top-rope climbing's often constricting harnesses) and close-toed shoes.

According to Caracciolo, climbing shoes are available for rent at every facility in the area, but are never required. Climbing shoes are low-profile footwear without any treads on the soles. Wearing them is helpful for experienced and serious climbers, but not needed when you're just getting started.

With an introductory class, and a willingness to try something new, indoor rock gyms are a unique way of reaching new fitness heights. All you have to do is strap into a harness and start climbing.

And someday, with more experience, new gear and a guide, you may be ready to head for the great outdoors! ♦

Good to Know

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



Shiver Me Timbers!

Pirates are landing in Wilmington! On June 29, pirate crews from near and far sail into the Kalmar Nyckel Shipyard and Fort Christina Park for the **5th Wilmington Pirate Festival** to celebrate and entertain fans of all ages. Join pirate-

themed fun, watch cannon drills, hoist sails, play pirates games, make pirate crafts, have your face painted and talk like a pirate—argh! Free admission, with fees for some activities. KalmarNyckel.org.

Let Freedom Ring.

Did you know slavery wasn't officially abolished in the U.S. until two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation? **Juneteenth** recognizes the day slaves were freed in Texas: June 19, 1865. Today, June 19 marks a celebration of African-American pride and achievement, although despite efforts of activists, Juneteenth is not recognized as a national holiday. Join the **Delaware Juneteenth Association (DEJA)** at the Resurrection Center Church to remember this landmark event. *3301 N. Market St., Wilmington. June 19, 7 p.m. DelawareJuneteenth.org.*

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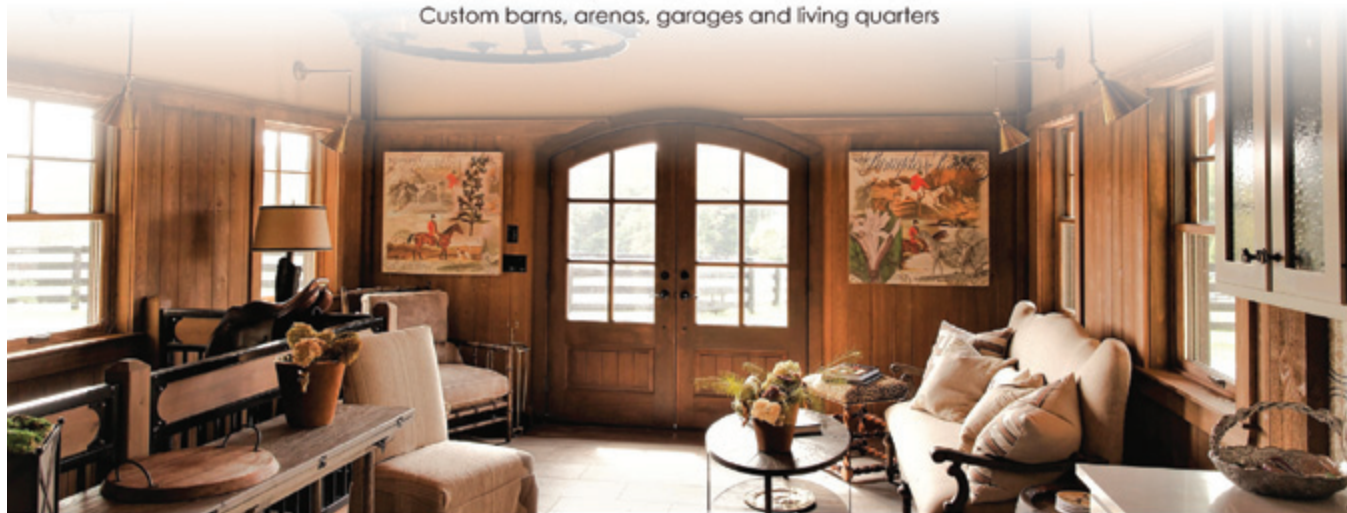
Loud and Proud.

June 28 marks the 50th anniversary of the explosive beginning of the gay rights movement, when police raided the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village. What better way to mark that day than by educating yourself on queer history. **The Reel Queer Film Series** is hosting "The Death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson" (one of the Stonewall activists) on June 13 in Allentown. And the public is welcomed at **Chester County's Pride Fest**, headlined by Rupaul's Drag Race winner and West Chester local Aquaria on June 1 at Reeves Park, Phoenixville. LgbtTeachesCo.org.



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[June Picks]

Our Picks for top events this month



Chester County Hospital Polo Cup

June 9

Watch agile ponies and expert riders play the Sport of Kings as you enjoy live entertainment, a silent auction, beer

garden, delicious food and kids activities. Benefits Ob/Gyn Clinic and The Women's Auxiliary's NICU Pledge. *Brandywine Polo Club, 260 Polo Rd., Toughkenamon. Festivities begin at 1:30 and the match at 3. Tickets, \$30–\$35; VIP (includes open bar and food), \$105. 610-268-8692; ChesterCountyHospital.org.*



Chester County Garden Tour

June 29

Spend the day visiting five creative residential gardens in Chester County, traveling in an air-conditioned bus. Snacks, lunch and cocktails are included on the tour, and each bus will have a guide to answer all your questions. Benefits Chester County Food Bank. *10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets \$48. To register, TurpinLandscapeDesign.com/Garden-Tour.*

Celebrating Cultural Traditions in Wilmington

June 3–8

Annual Green Festival at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church.

Close your eyes and imagine being in a Greek village, where locals are celebrating with authentic food, dance and music. And you're invited! *808 N. Broom St., Wilmington. Daily 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. 302-654-4446; GreekFestDE.com.*



June 9–16

St. Anthony's Italian Festival. Experience a virtual tour of Italy with authentic dining at indoor and outdoor locations, rides, entertainment, vendors, concerts and more. *St. Anthony of Padua Church, 9th & DuPont Sts., Wilmington. \$5. 302-421-2790; StAnthonysFestival.com.*



Ryerss Farm 5th Annual Family Fun Day

June 15

Bring the whole family for a day of old-fashioned fun, including hay rides, pony rides, moon bounce, crafts, games, face painting and portraits on the spot. Lunch will be available, along with a bake sale table. Ryerss Farm cares for aged, abused or injured horses, providing a home for them. Event proceeds benefit the farm. Rain date June 16. *1710 Ridge Rd., Pottstown. Noon to 4 p.m. 610-469-0533; RyerssFarm.org.*



Brandywine Treasure Trail

Memorial Day through Labor Day

Grab your passport to 12 of the Brandywine Valley's top attractions at incredible savings. Visit the Brandywine River Museum of Art, Delaware Art Museum, Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, The Delaware Contemporary, Delaware History Museum, Delaware Museum of Natural History, Hagley Museum & Library, Longwood Gardens, Mt. Cuba Center, Nemours Estate, Read House & Gardens and Rockwood Museum & Park. *VisitWilmingtonDE.com/Passport.*



best Local Events

FAMILY FUN

THROUGH JUNE,
Tuesdays

Story Time at Wellington Square Bookshop. Ages 1-5 enjoy songs and cookies and listen to stories come alive in the bookshop.

549 Wellington Square, Exton. 10 to 11 am. 610-458-1144; WellingtonSquareBooks.com.

THROUGH JUNE 2

Brandywine Health Foundation Strawberry Festival. Rides, entertainment, kids activities, a fireworks spectacular and more. Benefits local charities. Brandywine Hospital, at Rt. 30 Bypass, Coatesville. Check website for hours. 610-380-9080; BrandywineStrawberryFestival.com.



JUNE 1

Historic Newtown Square Day. A community celebration with historic craft demonstrators, Revolutionary War and Native American re-enactors, art, tours of historic sites in Newtown Square. Square Tavern, Rt. 252 & Goshen Rd., Newtown Square. 10 to 4. Free. 610-975-0290; HistoricNewtownSquare.org.

JUNE 2

151st Malvern Memorial Day Parade. One of the oldest commemorations in the country, the Parade begins on King St. at the fire station and ends at Memorial Park on Monument Ave. Visit MalvernMemorialParade.com for details.

JUNE 2

Italian American Heritage Festival. Family fun with Italian fare, live music, games, Italian car exhibit, bocce tournament and more. Rose Tree Park, 1671 N. Providence Rd., Media. 11 to 6. Free. 610-405-0315; CiaoDelco.org.

JUNE 2

First Sundays for Families at Brandy-

wine River Museum of Art. "Balance" is the theme. Develop your sense of balance by creating colorful compositions, playing balancing games and enjoying the return of the Funicular Circus, with a performance then a tight wire crossing of the Brandywine River. 1 Hoffman's Hill Rd., Chadds Ford. 11 to 2. Free. 610-388-2700; Brandywine.org.



JUNE 2

Steamin' Days at Auburn Heights. Climb into an antique automobile or board one of the trains and experience what it was like to travel at the turn of the 20th century. Marshall Steam Museum at Auburn Heights Preserve, 3000 Creek Rd., Yorklyn, DE. 12:30 to 4:30. \$8-\$19. 302-239-2385; AuburnHeights.org.

JUNE 8

Brandywine Battlefield Park Events. June 8, on Georgius Rex (GR) Day, celebrate the birthday of King George III; June 9, Kid's Day, kids get free admission; June 16, 18th Century Day; June 23, History in the Neighborhood. 1491 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford. Noon to 4. \$8-\$12. 610-459-3342; BrandywineBattlefield.org.

JUNE 9

Chester County Mac & Cheese Cook-Off. Local restaurants, businesses and hometown cooks compete for "Best Mac-n-Cheese in Chester County." Organized by Rotary Club of Thorndale-Downingtown. Across from Kerr Park, 1 Park Ln., Downingtown. Noon to 4. \$5-\$10. MacN CheeseCookOff.com.

JUNE 18-22

St. Joseph Community Festival. In addition to the rides and activities, you can enjoy fare from food booths, music, a beer garden, Tiki bar, bingo and fireworks on Fri. 332 Manor Ave., Downingtown. Check website for times. 610-269-8294; StJoesFestival.com.

JUNE 21-23

Chester County Balloon Festival. Spectacular hot air balloons, helicopter and monster truck rides, music, evening balloon glows and beer garden. Fireworks on Sat. Benefits Chester County Hero Fund. New Garden Flying Field, 1235 Newark Rd., Toughkenamon. Fri, opens at 4, Sat, opens at noon, fireworks at 9:30 pm, Sun, opens at noon. \$10-\$15. 610-827-2138; CCBalloonFest.com.



JUNE 22

Colonial Pennsylvania Plantation: French and Indian War Reenactment. Become an eyewitness to history. 3900 N. Sandy Flash Dr., Newtown Square. 11 to 4. \$6-\$10. 610-566-1725; ColonialPlantation.org.

JUNE 29

Nottingham Park 2019 Freedom Fest. Concert, children's entertainment, festival-style food vendors and a fireworks display at dusk. Nottingham County Park, 150 Park Rd., Nottingham. 6 to 11 pm. Rain date, June 30. Free. 610-344-6415; ChesCo.org/CCParks.

JULY 4

41st Annual Good Neighbor Day in Downingtown. Start the day with the Run for Life (5K, 10K & 15K) and 5K Freedom Walk at 8 am. Then enjoy fabulous food, crafts, music, bike decorating and lots of other fun activities, all benefitting area emergency providers. Fireworks at dusk. 610-285-1119; GoodNeighborDay.com.



ART, CRAFT & ANTIQUES.....

THROUGH JUNE 29

Wayne Art Center Plein Air Art Festival. National juried exhibition enhancing the public's awareness of outdoor painting. 413 Maplewood Ave., Wayne. Mon-Fri, 9 to 5; Sat, 9 to 4. 610-688-3553; WayneArt.org.

JUNE 9

53rd Media Art Exhibition & Craft Fair. Nearly 100 artists and fine craftspeople exhibit and sell original works along State St. and Veterans Square, Media. Rain date, June 16. Starts at 10 am. 610-915-2253; VisitMediaPA.com.

JUNE 9

Crafted—A Curated Arts & Crafts Festival. Beautiful crafts, a kids' crafting studio, music at the songwriter's stage, a great selection of food, local wine and craft beer tastings. Eagleview Town Center in Wellington Square, Eagleview, Exton. 10 to 3. Free. Crafted-Eagleview.com.



JUNE 9

Clover Market in Kennett Square. Seasonal open-air market features over 100 vendors with antiques, collectibles, vintage wares, crafts, architectural salvage, original art, food trucks, kids' crafts and music. 600 S. Broad St., Kennett Square. 10 to 4. TheCloverMarket.com.

BOOKS.....

JUNE 6, 26-27

Wellington Square Book. Book Clubs: Nonfiction: June 6, Red by Jack Colliss Harvey, 7 to 9. **Fiction: June 26-27, Little** by Edward Carey, 2 to 4. 549 Wellington Square, Exton. 610-458-1144; WellingtonSquareBooks.com.

JUNE 26

Chester County Library Speaker Series. Local attorney William L. Myers discusses his new book, *A Killer's Alibi* and will sign copies available for purchase. Exton Square Branch, Struble Room, 450 Exton Square Pkwy., Exton. 6:30 pm. Reg. requested. 610-280-2635; CCLS.org.

CAR SHOWS.....

JUNE 1

Ales & Petals—Cars & Motorcycles of England Car Show. You'll find 200 classic and modern British autos and motorcycles displayed on the grounds of Historic Hope Lodge, 553 Beth-

lehem Pk., Ft. Washington. Live music, food and craft beers, too. 10 to 4. \$5-\$10. Historic-HopeLodge.org/Ales-Petals-Car-Show.

JUNE 14-15

2019 Philadelphia Concours d'Elegance. Cool Cars for Kids, Inc. presents a showcase of classic and historic automobiles and race cars at this fundraiser. The Simeone Automotive Foundation Museum, 6825 Norwitch Dr., Philadelphia. Benefits the Children's Hospital of Phila. Preview Gala Fri, cocktails, dinner, concours preview and auction, 6 pm, \$150. Sat, 10 to 4, \$25, under 18, free. 215-365-7233; CoolCarsForKids.org.

EQUESTRIAN.....

JUNE 2-SEPTEMBER 29

Fridays & Sundays Brandywine Polo. Spectators picnic and tailgate at the grounds. 232 Polo Rd., Toughkenamon. Friday Twilight Polo—gates open at 5; match at 5:30. Sun, gates open at 1:30; match at 3, \$10-\$15. Cancelled for rain or extreme heat. 610-268-8692; BrandywinePolo.com.

JUNE 26-30, JULY 2-7

Brandywine Valley Summer Series. June 26-30, premier hunter/jumper/equitation horse show. **July 2-7,** The East Coast US Junior

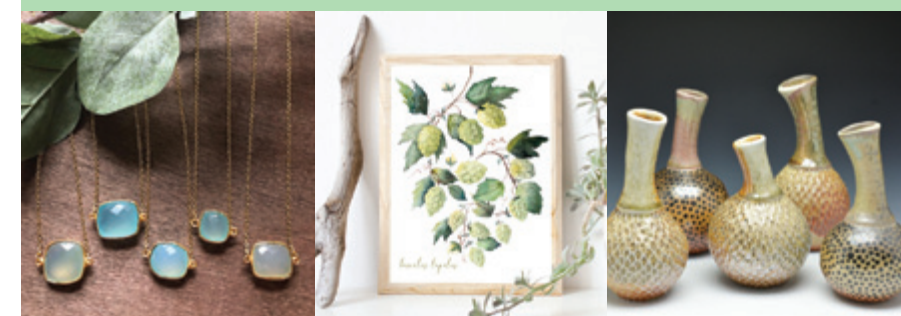


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Horse Show Grounds, 23 Dorset Rd., Devon. Free. BrandywineValleySummerSeries.com.

FESTIVALS & FAIRS..... THROUGH JUNE 30

Philadelphia Chinese Lantern Festival. Franklin Square is aglow with lantern sculptures, performances, art by Chinese folk artists, the Dragon Beer Garden and more. 6th & Race Sts., Philadelphia. Daily 6 to 11 pm. \$12–\$20. 215-629-4026; HistoricPhiladelphia.org.

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 28

Fireworks & Fountains at Longwood Gar-

dens. Fireworks fly, fountains dance and music sets the tone during these captivating evenings. **July 3,** "Star Spangled Spectacular." 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. 9:15 pm. \$45. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

JUNE 1–2

Chester Co. PrideFest Weekend. **June 1,** a community day to celebrate inclusion of Chester County's LGBT+ community, Reeves Park, 2nd Ave. & Main St., Phoenixville, noon to 5. **June 2,** Pride Gala—buffet dinner, raffle, auction, entertainment, dancing at The Desmond Hotel, 1 Liberty Blvd., Malvern, 4 to 9, \$50–\$85. 484-888-9705; LGBTeachesCo.org.

JUNE 15

It's A Green Thing Sustainability Fair at West Laurel Hill. Bike, walk or scooter your way over to the Cynwyd Trail to support local sustainable vendors, food trucks, live music and more. West Laurel Hill Cemetery, 225 Belmont Ave., Bala Cynwyd. 1 pm. Free. 610-668-9900; West-LaurelHill.com.

JUNE 21–23

Celtic Fling and Highland Games. Musicians, dancers, craftsmen and athletes gather at Mount Hope Estate & Winery, 2775 Lebanon Rd., Manheim. Fri. night concert, 4 pm. Sat–Sun, 11 to 10. \$10.95–\$29.95. 717-665-7021; PArenFaire.com.



JUNE 22

Havertown Irish Festival. Bring the family to celebrate Irish culture with music, food, dance, beer and fun. Manoa Shopping Center, 130 N. Eagle Rd., rear lot, Havertown. Noon to 9. HavertownIrishFestival.com.

JUNE 29–JULY 7

70th Annual Kutztown Folk Festival. Celebrating the PA Dutch culture. Kutztown Fairgrounds, 225 N. White Oak St., Kutztown. **June 29–30, July 5–6,** 10 to 8; **July 1–4, 7,** 10 to 6. \$5–\$14; under 12, free. 888-674-6136; KutztownFestival.com.

FOOD & BREWS..... THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27, Wednesdays

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. Bryn Mawr train station parking lot. **Sat, 9 to 1.** FarmToCity.org.

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

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

Jennersville Farmers Mkt., 352 N. Jennersville Rd. **Wed, 3 to 7.** 610-345-1763.

Kennett Square Farmers Mkt., 113 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.

Media Farmers Mkt., N. Edgemont St. **Sun, 10 to 2.** 215-733-9599; MediaFarmersMarket.com.

Newtown Square Farmers Mkt., Mostardi Nursery, 4033 West Chester Pk. **Wed, 2 to 6.** 610-353-1555; PRC.org.

Oxford Village Mkt., 3rd & Locust Sts. **Tues, noon to 5; Sat, 9 to 1.** 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.** 610-326-0900; PottstownFarmersMarket.com.

SIW Farmers Mkt., 4317 S. Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. **Daily, 9 to 6.** 610-388-7491; SIW-Vegetables.blogspot.com.

Swarthmore Farmers Mkt., 121 Park Ave. **Sat, 9:30 to 1:30.** 215-733-9599; SwarthmoreFarmersMarket.org.

Thornbury Farmers Mkt. & CSA, 1256 Thornbury Rd. **Thurs–Fri, noon to 6; Sat, 9–5; Sun, 11–5.** 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; WestChesterGrowers-Market.com.

Westtown Amish Mkt., 1165 Wilmington Pk., West Chester. **Thurs, 9 to 6; Fri, 9 to 8; Sat, 8 to 4.** 610-492-5700; WestChesterAmishMarket.com.

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12th Annual Dining Under the Stars in Media. Stroll. Shop. Dine. Restaurants set up tables on State Street, which is closed from Jackson to Orange, for this summer-long outdoor dining event. Check VisitMediaPA.com for participating restaurants.

THROUGH JUNE 9

Philly Beer Week. More than 500 events at over 100 venues throughout the city and suburbs, highlighting the region's diverse beer scene, its world-class breweries, neighborhood taverns, restaurants and rich beer culture. For venue information, PhillyLovesBeer.org.

JUNE 1

11th Annual Great Beer Expo in Philadelphia. You'll find an impressive collection of over 150 unique beers and special collaborations at this expo along with food trucks, vendors and a photobooth. The Navy Yard, 4747 S. Broad St., Phila. VIP session opens at 12:30; expo hours 1:30 to 5. \$50-\$75. 631-940-7290; PhillyBeerEvents.com.

JUNE 2

Food Truck Festival in Kennett Square. Food trucks, Victory Beer Garden, children's activities, live music and more. 650 W. Cypress

St. Noon to 5. 484-730-1870; Historic-KennettSquare.com.

JUNE 11, JULY 9

Food Truck Tuesdays in King of Prussia. Eat to beat the heat at food trucks in King of Prussia this summer. This roving food truck series, features live music, yard games and multiple food trucks offering great lunch items. Locations TBA. See website for details. VisitKOP.com.

FUNDRAISERS.....

JUNE 1

Home of the Sparrow's 25th Anniversary Gala. Spend an evening with music, dance, dinner, open bar and auctions. Benefits women and children in the County to prevent and end homelessness. The Phelps School, 583 Sugartown Rd., Malvern. 6 to 10:30. \$150. 610-647-4940; HomeOfTheSparrow.org.

JUNE 2

Greater Philadelphia Congenital Heart Walk. All ages are invited to walk through the Philadelphia Zoo. Benefits the Adult Congenital Heart Association and The Children's Heart Foundation. 3400 W. Girard Ave., Philadelphia. Registration, 8:30 am; opening ceremonies, 9:45; walk at 10 am. 855-CHD-WALK; Events.CongenitalHeartWalk.org.

JUNE 4

Chester County Futures Golf Classic. Enjoy golf, cocktails and dinner at Applebrook Golf Club. Chester County Futures provides academic support, mentoring and scholarships for disadvantaged youth. 100 Line Rd., Malvern. 11:30 to 8. \$100 and up. 610-458-2003; CCFutures.org.

JUNE 7

Stardust! Natural Lands Trust's Annual Summer Celebration. Enjoy cocktails and dinner at Binky Lee Preserve, 1445 Pikeland Rd., Chester Springs. 6:30 to 9:30. Tickets \$200 and up. 610-353-5587; NatLands.org.

JUNE 8

Great Chef's Event for Alex's Lemonade Stand. Many culinary superstars and representatives from the best bars, wineries and craft breweries participate. Urban Outfitters Headquarters, Bldg. 543, 5000 S. Broad St., Phila. 1 to 4 pm. \$195. 866-333-1213; AlexsLemonade.org.

JUNE 9

French Creek Iron Tour-Cycling for Open Space. Cycle through historic Iron Furnace



country and have a blast. Benefits French & Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust. Start and finish at Kimberton Fire Company Fairgrounds, 762 Pike Springs Rd., Phoenixville. Start times vary; check website. \$65. 610-933-7734; IronTour.org.

JUNE 10

Barclay Friends Golf Classic. Benefits the Caring Fund at Barclay Friends, a continuing care community. Whitford Country Club, 600 Whitford Hills Rd., Exton. Registration and lunch, 11 am; tee off, 12:30. \$185. 610-696-5211; BFKendal.org.

JUNE 21

Renaissance Academy Charter School's 7th Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser. The day begins with breakfast at 8 am, shotgun start at 10. Landis Creek Golf Club, 765 N. Lewis Rd., Royersford. Registration \$100 and up. 610-983-4080; www.RAK12.org.

JUNE 23

Stroud Water Research Center's Rally for Fresh Water. Enjoy a beautiful day driving through watersheds in Chester County while collecting clues about your route, then end at a beautiful preserve for the Finish Line Party. Reg., 1 pm; rally at 2; after party, 5. \$150. 610-268-2153; StroudCenter.org.

GARDENS.....

JUNE 1

Spring Blooms at Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens. Celebrate the return of spring with food and drink surrounded by vibrant blooms. Benefits the ongoing mission at the arboretum. 631 Berwyn Baptist Rd., Devon. 6 to 9. \$125-\$150. 610-647-8870; JenkinsArboretum.org.

JUNE 1

Bayard Taylor Home & Garden Tour. "Strolling the Square" features 15 remarkable properties all in the Kennett borough. Benefit's Kennett Library's Children's Programs and Adult Literacy. 10 to 4. \$40, 610-444-2702; KennettLibrary.org.



JUNE 7-9

35th Annual Demuth Garden Tour & Party. View residences, gardens and architecture. Fri, Demuth Garden Party, 6 pm at Conestoga House & Gardens, 1608 Marietta Ave., Lan-

caster. Res. req. Tour, Sat, 10 to 5; Sun, 11 to 5. \$18-\$20. 717-299-9940; Demuth.org.

JUNE 8

Home and Garden Day at Stoneleigh: A Natural Garden. Architecture, trees and native plant landscapes are highlighted. Tour includes grounds and the Main House, usually closed to visitors. 1829 E. County Line Rd., Villanova. 10 to 11:30 am. \$15. 610-353-5587; Stoneleigh-Garden.org/Garden/Events.

JUNE 8

Garden Day at White Horse Village Retire-

ment Community & 30th Anniversary Events.

The Village's 96 acres of gardens, meadows and woodlands are open for a self-guided tour. The Club House, 535 Gradyville Rd., Newtown Square. 11 to 3. Free. 610-558-5000; WhiteHorseVillage.org.

MUSEUMS.....

THROUGH DECEMBER 30

Wharton Esherick Museum. The home/studio of Wharton Esherick, preserved much as it was when the artist lived and worked there. 1520 Horseshoe Trail, Malvern. Tues-Sat, 10 to 4;



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Sun, 1 to 4. \$8-\$15. 610-644-5822; Wharton-EsherickMuseum.org.

JUNE 22-SEPTEMBER 15
Brandywine River Museum of Art. "N. C. Wyeth: New Perspectives." 1 Hoffman's Mill Rd., Chadds Ford. Daily 9:30 to 5. \$6-\$18. 610-388-2700; Brandywine.org.

MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT.....
JUNE 1
Point Entertainment Presents ... 10,000 Maniacs—the live show features their entire catalog. The Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. 8 pm. \$29.50-\$55. 610-917-1228; TheColonialTheatre.com.

JUNE 1-JULY 2
Longwood Gardens Summer Concert Series. *June 1*, Wine & Jazz Festival; *June 7-8*, The Savoy Company, *see Theater*; *June 12*, BalletX; *June 16*, Seven Things I Learned: An Evening with Ira Glass; *June 18-22*, International Organ Competition; *June 23*, Leslie Odom, Jr.; *June 30*, Rosanne Cash and Band—She Remembers Everything; *July 2*, The Philadelphia Orchestra. Concerts through Sept. 22. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. For details, 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

JUNE 2
Community Arts Center Tri-State Jazz Society Concert. Performances by artists who specialize in the very earliest styles of jazz music, often referred to as "traditional" jazz. 414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford. 2 pm. \$10-\$20. 610-566-1713; CommunityArtsCenter.org.

JUNE 2
Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley. Renown theatre organist Don Kinnier accompanies the silent film "The Silent Man" at The Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. 2 pm. \$7-\$12. 610-917-1228; TheColonialTheatre.com.

JUNE 2
Jazz at the Springs. Grab your chairs and settle in for an afternoon of great jazz on the old tennis courts behind the Chester Springs Studio. 1668 Art School Rd., Chester Springs. 3 to 5:30. Free. 610-827-7414; YellowSprings.org.

JUNE 2-29
Bryn Mawr Twilight Concerts. *June 1*, Trevor Street Band/Josh David Hines; *June 8*, Blair Bodine/The Lift Offs; *June 9*, Lisa Wilson Vocal Academy, 4 pm; *June 15*, Livingston Taylor/Mark Schultz; *June 21*, Cabin Dogs/Maxie Mandel; *June 22*, Atzilut/Phyllis Chappell, Ken Ulansey, Harold Messenger; *June 29*, Christine Havrilla & Gypsy Fuzz/Greenhouse Weeds. Concerts through Aug. 3. Bryn Mawr Gazebo, 9 S. Bryn Mawr Ave., Bryn Mawr. 7

pm. \$15. 610-864-4303; BrynMawrTwilight-Concerts.com.

JUNE 2-30
Long's Park Summer Music Series. *June 2*, John McEuen; *June 8*, Corty Byron & Friends; *June 9*, 7 Bridges: The Ultimate Eagles Experience; *June 16*, Allegro; *June 23*, Liz Vice; *June 30*, Patriotic Concert & Fireworks. Long's Park Amphitheater, Route 30 & Harrisburg Pk., Lancaster. Concerts through Aug. 25. 7:30 pm. 717-735-8883; LongsPark.org.

JUNE 2-30
Upper Merion Concerts Under the Stars. *June*

2, TBA; *June 9*, Entrain; *June 16*, WXPB Welcomes the National Reserve with Sarah Borges; *June 23*, Gaelic Storm; *June 30*, Tom Rush and Matt Nakoa. Concerts through Aug. 11. Concerts, 6 pm, beer garden opens, 5. Township Bldg. Park, 175 W. Valley Forge Rd., King of Prussia. 484-636-3899; UMTownship.org.

JUNE 7-29
Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center. *June 7*, Countdown to Ecstasy: Tribute to Steely Dan; *June 8*, First Ladies of Rock & Soul; *June 9*, Mainliners & Victory Belles; *June 14*, The Music of Billy Joel featuring

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John Grecia and band; *June 16*, Opera tutti!; *June 22*, Doo Wop Explosion 4; *June 26*, Int'l Brotherhood of Magicians; *June 29*, Pennsylvania Philharmonic, Swinging Through the Ages. 226 N. High St., West Chester. Check-website for tickets and more listings. 610-356-2787; UptownWestChester.org.

JUNE 8

Wayne Music Festival. Many genres of music paired with delicious food, beer and cocktails from local restaurants. N. Wayne Ave. 2 to 10, fireworks at 10:30. Free. 610-687-7698; Wayne-MusicFestival.com.

JUNE 12-30

Delaware County Summer Festival. *June 12*, Delaware County Symphony; *June 13*, The Fabulous Greaseband; *June 14*, Melissa Martin & The Mighty Rhythm Kings. See website for more this month. Concerts through Aug. 11. Rose Tree Park, Rt. 252 & Providence Rd., Upper Providence. 7:30. Free. 610-891-4455; DelcoPa.gov/Departments/Parks/SummerFestival.html.

JUNE 15

State Street Blues Stroll in Downtown Media. Come out to experience a full round of blues performed by talented artists at 23 indoor

venues and two outdoor stages. State St. 6 pm to 1 am. \$20-\$30. StateStreetBlues.com.



JUNE 16, 30

Miller Park Summer Concert Series. *June 16*, Rob Snyder; *June 30*, Lights Out. Concerts through Aug. 25. Albert C. Miller Memorial Park, 220 Miller Way, Exton. 6:30. Free. 610-363-9525; WestWhiteland.org.

JUNE 20, 27, JULY 4

Summer in the Park Concert Series at Wilson Farm Park. *June 20*, Tim Williams Band; *June 27*, The Psychedelcats; *July 4*, Chester County Concert Band (fireworks follow). Concerts through July 25. Wilson Farm Park, 500 Lee Rd., Chesterbrook. 7. Free. 610-408-3626; Tredyffrin.org/Departments/Parks.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES.....

JUNE 1-7

21st Annual Schuylkill River Sojourn. A 112-mile guided paddle from Schuylkill Haven to Boathouse Row in Phila. \$100-\$655. 484-945-0200; SchuylkillRiver.org/Sojourn.aspx.

JUNE 21

40th Annual Media 5-Mile Race. Benefits community outreach and donates proceeds to 20 other non-profits that serve the area. 3 pm. \$40. Media5milerace.com/Registration.

JUNE 21-23

28th Annual Pottstown Rumble. Premiere grass doubles volleyball tournament, attracting nationally ranked pros, amateurs and kids. Vendors and music through the weekend. Manatwny Park, 61 W. King St., Pottstown. Visit website to register. PottstownRumble.com.



THEATER.....

THROUGH JUNE 9

Saturday Night Fever. A musical adaptation of the '70s classic film that's been made family

friendly, and includes all your favorite songs. Media Theatre, 104 E. State St., Media. Check website for show times and tickets. 610-891-0100; MediaTheatre.org.

THROUGH JUNE 9

A Number. From Caryl Churchill comes a suspenseful exploration of identity, parenthood and the ethics of human cloning. People's Light, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. Check website for show times and tickets. 610-644-3500; PeoplesLight.org.

THROUGH OCTOBER 23

Stolen: The Musical. A light-hearted whodunit at Bird-In-Hand Stage, 2760 Old Philadelphia Pk., Bird-in-Hand. \$17-\$38. Check website for times. 800-790-4069; Bird-in-Hand.com/Stage.

JUNE 7-8

The Savoy Company Presents Gilbert & Sullivan's The Yeoman of the Guard, or The Merryman and His Maid. Longwood Gardens Open Air Theatre, 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square, 8:30 pm. \$29. Savoy.org.

TOWNS, TALKS & TOURS.....

JUNE 7, 8, 20

First Fridays, Second Saturdays, Third Thursdays. *June 7*, 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; ArtLoopWilmington.org. *June 8*, Second Saturday Arts Stroll: **Media**, 484-445-4161; MediaArtsCouncil.org. *June 20*, Third Thursday Malvern Sip & Stroll, MalvernBusiness.com.

JUNE 13-27

Town Tours & Village Walks. Explore our villages "Then and Now." *June 13*, Church of the Holy Trinity, tour kick-off in West Chester; *June 20*, Ludwig's Corner c. early 1770s: A Stop on the Conestoga Road; *June 27*, Warwick Village c. 1717: An Early Iron Village. Tours continue through Aug. 29. Tours 5:30 pm. Free. Some require registration. 610-344-6923; ChesCo.org/Planning/TownTours. ♦

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

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

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What is Your Book Club Reading?

Mike Wall, Wellington Square Bookshop

HERE ARE SOME SUGGESTIONS TO ADD TO YOUR LIST.

BOOK CLUBS GATHER BOTH THE SHY AND THE garrulous to a circle eased by coffee and tea—and often wine—to share stories of books and their own lives. That sharing is key. The books offer the opportunity to connect. It's as important to look into others' eyes, speak and be heard, as it is to read a common story.

Ideally, the book should have a narrative drive that never flags and characters, real or imagined, with whom readers can blend their own experiences. But in the end, the chosen book is the invitation to be companionable. It's the meeting that matters, and reading is the love that propels all of this.

But you still must have books to fuel the gathering. Try these.

The Rosie Project,
by Graeme Simsion

If we aren't longing for love, we often wish (quietly,

secretly) it could be better. Why does it require such searching, such mess? Don Tillman, a scientist, wants to be married but also to avoid the turmoil of getting there, so he creates a survey for a potential spouse. Then Rosie, the unknown variable, intervenes. Science confronts romance. You can figure which wins. Every book club needs a light touch. This is one.

Lilac Girls, by Martha Hall Kelly

Perhaps because we believe our lives are mostly predictable, we like stories of conflicts, comfortably removed, where characters haphazardly cross into experiences they never would have met, and are dramatically turned away

from conventional paths for a life. When Hitler invades Poland, three women meet, and one is a monster in waiting. This novel expands time to include entire lifetimes—another quality we love in stories since we can't see our own lifetime as a whole. We often want a sense of completeness and the unexpected—as one character says, “a night [that knocks] something loose, something long overdue to be knocked.”

Pachinko, by Min Jin Lee

Some books open up all their promise with a sublime first sentence: “History has failed us, but no matter.” We want to know

who is “us” and how history has failed them. The last three words imply a strength that we immediately hope would be our own if history were to fail us. The reader is hooked, and book clubs need stories that sink those hooks in deep and

early so its members will want to turn each page. A novel about a Korean family's life in Japan during the war years and after will be for many readers a journey into a little-known era and setting. After *Pachinko*, the readers' inner life will be richer, their understanding of humanity's common conditions broader, and the discussion around the table even better.

The Song of Achilles,
by Madeline Miller

We live in a time suspicious of mystery, when we want even our heroes and heroines open to our gaze. Miller plays upon that desire with her portrait of Achilles, the *Iliad's* great killer and seeker of glory. Today we want to know the inner and intimate life of a man who could say of himself, “There are no bargains between lion and men. I will kill you and eat you raw.” Miller also gives us a love story and a killer who loves deeply—always a great reading.

News of the World, by Paulette Jiles

Some selections sell themselves. Recite the kind of premise that suggests adventure and a primal kinship, one where a child comes under the protection of an adult, and every book club member will clamor to read that suggestion. Promise them a journey across hundreds of dangerous miles of the 1870s American West in the company of a 72-year-old veteran of many wars named Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd, who agrees to take a resourceful 10-year-old girl, ransomed from Kiowa captivity, back to her family. Kidd can handle a Colt revolver and is unperturbed by both bad men and bad weather. Tell me you, too, don't want to read this book.

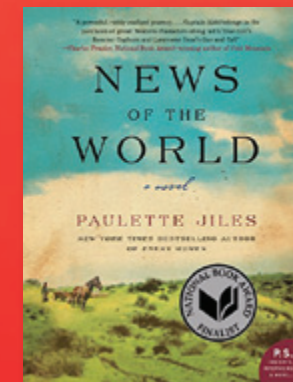
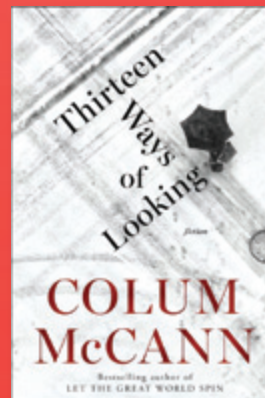
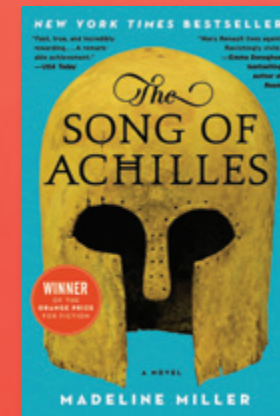
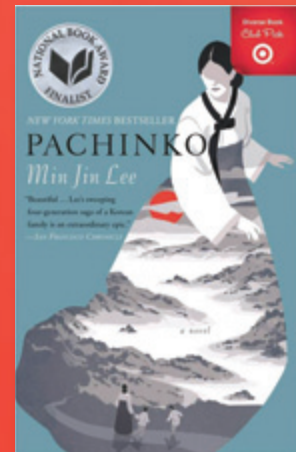
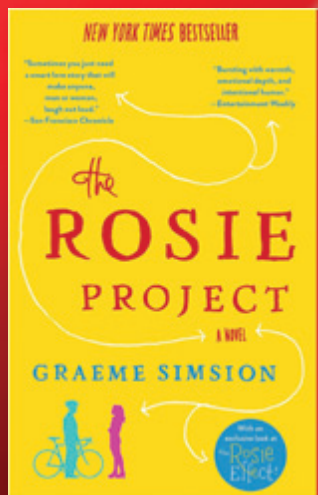
Thirteen Ways of Looking,
by Colum McCann

McCann uses Wallace Stevens' poem “Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird”—about the mysteries of perception and grace found in unexpected forms—as the inspiration and pattern for these novellas. He gives us four ways of looking: a story about a witty old man who will be murdered, a meta-story about a young female Marine sniper waiting in the dark in Afghanistan, another story about a mother terrified for her autistic son's safety after he disappears, and a final story about

a nun who travels to confront the man who almost destroyed her. This is fiction that combines lyricism with breathtaking, emotional power.

Maybe after everything else is said, book club members, like all of us, want stories that appeal to the heart and to our desire for beauty. ♦

Find the Wellington Square Bookshop on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. The Bookshop hosts a café, weekly story times on Tuesdays for children (ages 1–5), monthly fiction and nonfiction book clubs, author events with book signings and an Avid Reader podcast available on Podomatic. 549 Wellington Square, Eagleview Town Center, Exton. WellingtonSquareBooks.com.





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The fiery burst of blooms on a Florida Flame Azalea

Go Native with Azaleas in Your Garden

Story by Stephanie R. Kuniholm
Images by Chris Swisher, courtesy of
Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens

FROM FIERY FLORALS TO BLUSHING BLOOMS

WHEN WE THINK OF AZALEAS, WE OFTEN picture the ubiquitous, meatball-shaped shrubs with their bright pink blooms boldly proclaiming the arrival of spring.

But did you know we have our own native azaleas that are the cousins to the Asian evergreen azalea hybrids we see in every yard? Unlike their overseas counterparts, azaleas from the eastern United States are tall, airily deciduous, flaunt the most exquisite yellow, red-orange, pink or white flowers, and many are fragrant and bloom into summer.

There are 16 species of deciduous azaleas native to the East Coast and all but one (*Rhodora*—*Rhododendron canadense*) thrive here in our region.

Keep reading to learn more about a few of these regional beauties that can transform your garden.

FIERY FLORALS

Several of our native azaleas boast clusters of fiery yellow-orange or even red blooms, providing an eye-catching contrast against the green and brown backdrop of most home landscapes. **Florida Flame Azalea** (*Rhododendron austrinum*) is wonderfully fragrant,

with bright yellow to red-orange flowers appearing just as the leaves are emerging in spring. In the wild, this species is native to the deep South but is an easy-to-grow addition in home gardens much farther north.

The latest blooming of all the native azaleas, **Plumleaf Azalea** (*Rhododendron prunifolium*) has orangey-red flowers displayed in mid to late summer, well after other azaleas have thrown in the towel. This species is quite rare in the wild and may soon be considered an endangered species. Plumleaf azaleas generally grow in wooded ravines, along streams and in mixed forests in the wild, so a site with afternoon shade will help prolong the bloom period.

Flame Azalea (*Rhododendron calendulaceum*) and **Oconee Azalea** (*Rhododendron flammmeum*) also flaunt yellow-to-red flowers, making up for their lack of fragrance with eye-popping color.

All four of these fiery azaleas grow eight to ten feet tall and are deciduous, losing their leaves in colder months—something to keep in mind in your home garden design.



The deep orange-red blooms of the Plumleaf Azalea open in the summer.



The vibrant blooms of the Flame Azalea are eye-catching against a backdrop of green.



The Oconee Azalea growing tall at Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens



The Pinxterbloom Azalea is lightly fragrant.



Swamp Azalea, with its sticky, hairy, tube-like flowers

BLUSHING BLOOMS

Not all native azaleas are orange or yellow, though. Some set forth pink, blush or white blooms and often display a wide range of natural variation in their flower color. **Piedmont Azalea** (*Rhododendron canescens*) is a large, showy, multi-stemmed shrub with pink, lightly fragrant flowers appearing before the leaves have expanded in spring.

This species is the most common of the native azaleas and tends to form large colonies in moist woods in the wild. Part of its name—*canescens*—is Latin for “covered in white,” referring to the fuzzy hairs that cover the leaves, twigs and buds. This shrub would be a lovely accent in any landscape and is cold hardy to USDA Hardiness Zone 5.

The first of the native azaleas to bloom in the spring, **Pinkshell Azalea** (*Rhododendron vaseyi*) is known for its delicately spotted pink flowers. It’s incredibly rare in the wild, growing in bogs, thickets and forests in only four counties in North Carolina. Despite its rarity in the wild, this azalea is quite easy to grow in garden settings and provides a welcome dapple of color in early spring for local home gardeners.

Pinxterbloom Azalea (*Rhododendron perichymenoides*) was once prolific in this region and can still be easily found while hiking here in Pennsylvania. The lightly fragrant flowers are typically soft pink, but can be nearly white or even lavender, blooming slightly before the emergence of new leaves in spring.

The common name of this species is not a reference to its color. Instead, the name pinxter translates to Pentecost (the seventh Sunday after Easter) in Dutch and refers to this species’ bloom time in the northernmost reaches of its range. Pinxterbloom opens much earlier than Pentecost here in Pennsylvania and is an easy-to-grow showstopper.

If you’re looking for a smaller azalea, **Swamp Azalea** (*Rhododendron viscosum*) grows to about five feet. It has relatively small, clove-scented, white flowers tinged

with pink, blooming in late spring after the leaves have expanded.

The name “viscosum” is derived from viscous meaning sticky—a reference to its sticky, hairy, tube-like flowers. It’s a fairly common species and can be seen growing in the wild from Maine to Florida and westward to Texas. As its common name suggests, this species grows best in swamps and bogs but can tolerate less wet sites with a generous layer of mulch or shredded leaves.

MORE VARIATIONS

This is just a sampling of the incredible—and breathtaking—diversity seen in our native deciduous azaleas. For each of the species mentioned here, as well as for eight additional species, there are many cultivars offering variation in bloom color, height, fragrance, foliage color and more.

To see these magnificent native azaleas in person, visit Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens, where more than a thousand native azaleas are happily thriving. You’ll also find them at other area gardens, arboreturns and specialty nurseries.

If you decide to add one of these amazing plants to your landscape, remember that they’re all happiest when planted in moist, well-drained, acidic soil with part-sun to dappled shade. Full morning sun is tolerated, but most of these azaleas would suffer in the intensity of midday sun.

Drainage is important too, so loose, highly organic soil is recommended, along with a covering of woodchip or shredded leaf mulch. As with most shrubs, water, water, water until they’re established!

Many of these azaleas can be purchased at local nurseries specializing in native plants, including the Plant Shop at Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens. ♦

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens is a 48-acre public garden showcasing native flora of the eastern U.S. and a world-class collection of rhododendrons and azaleas. The gardens are open every day of the year from 8 a.m. to sunset. Admission is always free. 631 Berwyn Baptist Rd., Devon. 610-647-8870; JenkinsArboretum.org.



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INDEPENDENT SCHOOL STUDENTS SCORE AWARDS AT NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CONTESTS

STUDENTS AT OUR INDEPENDENT and private schools excelled again this past year in academic and creative contests. Several truly outstanding students were recognized with awards, prizes and medals far beyond *County Lines* country: in regional competitions and national competitions. Some even competed against the world.

ARTS AND WRITING

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards is an annual national competition with more than 330,000 works entered this year by students around the country. Evaluated on “originality, technical skill and the emergence of personal voice or vision,” the works are judged at the regional level, earning the creators a gold or silver “key.” Gold key recipients are eligible for national medals—gold or silver—with very few winning a Gold Medal.

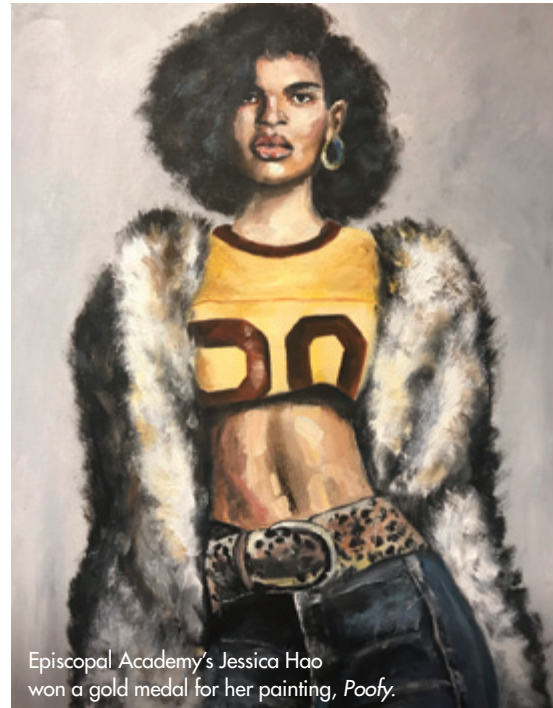
This year, senior Jessica Hao at **Episcopal Academy** won not one but two medals at the national level for her

paintings: Gold for “Poofy” and Silver for “Denim.” She’ll attend University of Pennsylvania to study dentistry, but plans to continue painting.

Sarah Truong, a **Linden Hall** sophomore, also won a Gold Medal for her Digital Art “Destruction.” Working on a computer, she was moved by global warming, climate change and the destruction of the environment. The canvas is split in two—one side shows beauty, the other environmental destruction.

For expression using the written word, Olivia Cipperman, another **Episcopal Academy** senior, who plans to study English at Cornell, won a Gold Medal for her “flash fiction” essay called “Selenity.” Her story is very short—less than 500 words—written in a style she calls “economical” and telling a story of “childhood wonder.” One of her two characters is described as a “dreamer.”

Yan Graf, a **Haverford School** sophomore, scored a Gold Medal for his non-fiction essay, “European Migra-



Episcopal Academy's Jessica Hao won a gold medal for her painting, *Poofy*.



Jessica Hao also won a silver medal for *Denim*.

Sarah Truong, Linden Hall, gold medal winner for her digital art, *Destruction*



tion: The View from North Africa.” Based on travels with his father in Spain and Morocco, the piece explores the migrants’ predicament where “some swim through dangerous and frigid waters . . . , others hide themselves in the bottom of cars, and many more attempt to simply storm the wall.” Although young to commit to a career, journalism seems to attract him.

An 8th grader at **Jack Barrack Hebrew Academy**, Niva Cohen won a Gold Medal for her Critical Essay “CRISPR to the Rescue.” She took a controversial view—though not necessarily her personal view—supporting He Jiankui, the Chinese scientist who used gene editing to prevent the transmission of H.I.V. Arguing that potential benefits “appear to be endless,” she defended the new technology, asserting, “We must rely on ourselves to make ethical decisions Right now, we just need to be brave.”

GLOBAL EDUCATION

The Global Education Benchmark Group prepares students to thrive in increasingly

The Haverford School robotics team, here and below



interconnected world systems. The GET Prize—Global Expression and Thought—recognizes students for their learning and growth in the field of global education.

Notre Dame de Namur junior Grace Rivers won the GET Prize this year for her writing. Visiting remote areas of Peru, she wrote of being without cell phone service in an essay titled “No Service.” Rivers’ entry was chosen from among those of high school students around the world.

SCIENCE FAIR

Founded in 1949 and one of the oldest science fairs in the county, the Delaware Valley Science Fair is sponsored by area companies, foundations, universities and individual donors, with the philosophy that students “learn science by doing science.” This year, several area students were honored.

Gillian Porter, a **Bishop Shanahan** senior headed to the University of South Carolina

this fall, won an award for her work in biochemistry. She was looking for transcription factors suitable for direct reprogramming of cells. Might it cause a secondary disease? She found one factor that would be most suitable and summarized her research in a paper, “Becoming Your Own Organ Donor: Selecting the Most Effective Transcription Factor for Direct Reprogramming.”

Also at **Bishop Shanahan**, but a junior, Ana Quiñones wondered if she could use a robotic arm to operate a cell phone employing a brainwave monitoring headset made by Emotiv called the EPOC+. Seeing applications to prosthetic limbs, she wanted to send a text message, make a phone call, and take a picture. Her results showed mixed success: phone calls and photos could

be done, but not text messaging. Planning to continue with her research, she won the award for biophysics.

Stephen Fraticco, a **Malvern Preparatory School** senior, won in the behavioral sciences category with a project called “Comparing Rote Memorization to Memorization by Linking Memories to Places.” Linking memory to places—the memory palace technique—requires a person to create images to represent memories and place them in a familiar location. He found this linking technique superior. He’ll attend University of Pennsylvania next year.

Recognizing mathletes, Mu Alpha Theta is a 52-year-old national organization dedicated to scholarship in math. Baiting Zhu of the **Westtown School** and Rishab Nandan of the **Episcopal Academy** shared with three others, Mu Alpha Theta’s “Most Challenging, Thorough, and Creative Investigation of a Problem Involving Modern Mathematics” award at the DVSE.

WORLDS ROBOTICS

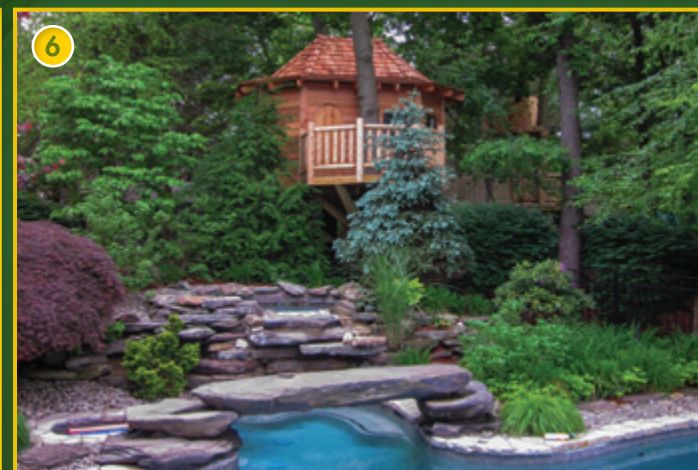
And finally, here’s a big finish in the annual VEX robotics competition, involving about 1,200 teams—winnowed down by local and regional competitions from 24,000 teams in over 60 countries.

The **Haverford School** entered three teams. One team consisting of three seniors—Wes Clark, the coach, Will Vauclain, the driver, and Scott Shaw, the programmer—finished third in the world. THIRD! Of 1,200 that made it through the local and regional rounds in a competition involving throwing balls at targets. You can see Haverford’s winning robot in action on YouTube.

Starting in the summer of 2018, the team was working 40 or 50 hours per week by December. Just before the World competition in late April 2019, they were pushing more than full-time: anticipating competitors, going over the controls, watching film. It’s “not that different from a regular sport,” says Clark. Clark is headed to Davidson College next year, Vauclain to University of Pennsylvania, and Shaw to Northeastern. ♦

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So, why not skip the stress and update your backyard, transforming it into the vacation spot of your dreams? From making a plan, to updating gardens, patios and lighting, to building outdoor structures—think treehouses, bar-sheds and pools—let your imagination be your guide to creating a backyard oasis.

For ideas and inspiration on your backyard staycation location, keep reading ...

GETTING STARTED

Choosing to vacay at home doesn't mean you forgo your favorite luxuries at resort hotels. Decide what you like most—a cozy nook for quiet reading, a grand pool and lounge chairs, a spacious patio for mingling—and write down your ideas.

"Make a wish-list of what you want to include, and what you want the space to be for," says Brad Smith of Cullen Construction. Once you've got your list, choose a theme or style that will bring the whole concept together. Knowing what you prefer — a

modern style with neutral colors, geometric shapes and contained plants and gardens, or a tropical feel with stepping stone paths, lush gardens with texture and movement, and curved defining edges — makes hiring professionals easier.

When you do start assembling your team of pros, look over their portfolios to see if their vision is in line with yours. And look for ideas you may not have thought of. "You may find something you can't live without," says Donald Pell of Donald Pell Gardens.

Planning means you need to know what you want your staycation to include even if you don't have the time or money to do it all at once. "Plan for any features you may want in the future even if budget doesn't allow you to do everything right away," says Bobby Kenyon of C. E. Pontz Sons. "This can save you tons down the road when adding onto your outdoor living space."

LANDSCAPING

Lush gardens of grasses and blooms, shaded and spacious patios, fire pits or fire bowls, stone pathways—there's plenty to consider when upgrading a backyard. Once you hire a landscaper, it's best to begin with a broad, conceptual plan.

Map out where to place any new structures in your yard and the pathways that lead to them. Plans for your yard—new gardens,



String lights, pergolas and plush outdoor furniture add that staycation feel.

of the property provide shade and privacy.

How about adding fire features? "People always like to gather around a fire," says Mark Burkholder from Burkholder Brothers, Inc. "It keeps people outside more, rather than being inside." Fireplaces, fire pits and fire bowls can keep the party staying outside well into the chillier fall months.

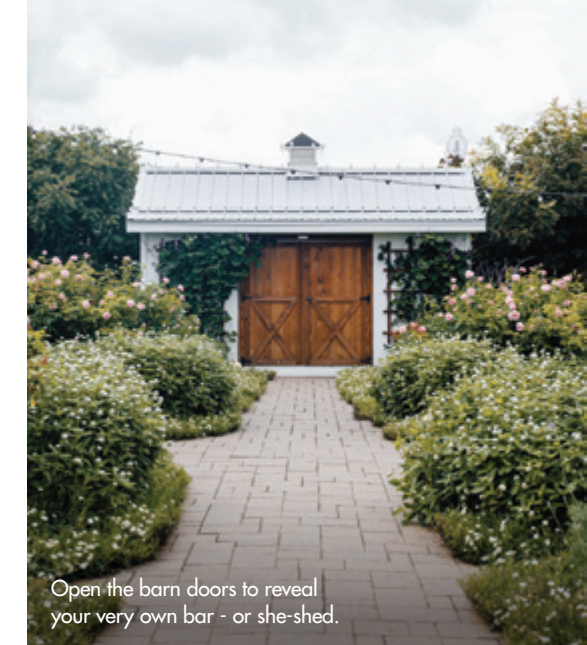
Lighting and furnishings can also enhance your yard's ambiance. Large, wraparound couches with plush outdoor cushions provide much-appreciated comfortable seating, while tiki torches and lanterns add that essential lighting for long summer evenings outside. Or string up some tiny lights on your pergola, along your fence, or in your garden to create a soft glow.

To save money on lighting, invest in good LEDs. They're cost-efficient and give you lots of variety. "A lighting product that's pretty advanced is LED, because you can change the color and intensity of the light," says Burkholder. Make lights red, white and blue for your July 4th cookout, or keep them warm and dim for a romantic dinner on the patio.

pathways and patios, structures and renovations—must, of course, adhere to applicable rules, codes and guidelines. "Check with your local township to find applicable codes, property setback lines, and proximity to neighbors beforehand," says Dan Wright of Tree Top Builders. Checking with your Home Owner's Association and your homeowner's insurance should also be on your list.

Next, think about plantings and how they'll fit into your overall design and flow. "We rely heavily on grand scale plantings. Not just as decorative elements, but using plants to define place and realize place," says Donald Pell of Donald Pell Gardens. "Gardening is a kind of place-making."

Bushes along the patio's perimeter help create an intimate space, trees and flowerbeds of grasses around the pool deck provide depth and texture, and trees along the edges



Open the barn doors to reveal your very own bar - or she-shed.

OUTDOOR STRUCTURES

For the WOW-factor, think things that transform your yard from okay to oasis. Pools, treehouses, sheds and minibars, kitchens and outdoor theaters are a few worthwhile investments that give your home that real resort feel.

And a home resort isn't complete without a pool. Let's face it, on a hot summer day when the sun is blazing, nothing beats a dip in a pool. "There's no comparison to a nice water feature," says Darrin Risser of Carlton Pools. "A beautiful waterfall or sheer descent will enhance your pool experience indescribably both visually and audibly."

For building a new pool, consider how you'll use it and what features are must-haves. A straight-edged, rectangular or square pool is great for swimming laps, while free-formed, curved pools with waterfalls or grottos give a retreat feeling.



Vacation in the skies with a treehouse fit for the whole family.



Enjoy your staycation as you cook in your outdoor kitchen.

Pool trends include sun shelves, Jacuzzis, swim-up bars and upgraded interior finishes to make your pool the envy of the neighborhood. And ask your pool consultant about a heater. “Very affordable. The addition of a heater will increase your pool’s comfort as well as extend your swimming season,” says Risser. Think about enjoying your resort season from early spring to well into the fall!

Another WOW: treehouses let you take your vacation up into the skies. Climbing

walls, rope bridges, tree swings, zip lines and cargo nets add fun for the kiddos. But you don’t need to be a kid to enjoy a treehouse—art studios, yoga retreats, even sleeping lofts for afternoon naps can engage the whole family.

“Research shows we need quality nature time to provide physical, social, mental, emotional, relational and developmental benefits,” says Dan Wright of Tree Top Builders. “Having a treehouse not only adds to these benefits but also encourages creativity and imagination in people of all ages.”

Or hop on trend by repurposing your humble garden shed into something creative to bring new life to your backyard. “Sheds were never intended to be something other than agricultural,” says Brad Smith. “So they become like artwork.”

She-sheds can be a restorative getaway for

the busy woman. Install windows for lots of light, add a fresh coat of paint and furnish with your favorite things—shelves of books, cabinets for crafts or room for meditation.

For cookouts and parties, a bar-shed makes your BBQ the best on the block. Add a mini-fridge, liquor cabinet, bar-top and bar stools, and install large windows or barn doors to open it up to your yard. You can chat with guests as you bartend.

Also consider other outdoor living spaces, like kitchens or theaters. Countertops, a mini-fridge, oven and other amenities give you freedom to enjoy your staycation as you cook.

And why not have a place for outdoor movie nights? All you need is a small, portable projector and screen to set up outdoors. Maybe pop your popcorn in the fire pit?

Here’s hoping you’re inspired with new ideas to transform your backyard. The next step is to start working on your staycation plan. You’ll wish summer would never end! ♦

PHOTOS COURTESY: TIMLYN VAUGHAN PHOTOGRAPHY



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DowntownWestChester.com



ART, ARTISTS & GALLERIES *in West Chester*

Story by Malcolm Johnstone
Photos by Timlyn Vaughan Photography

THIS TOWN'S ART SCENE IS VARIED AND GROWING.

FROM HIS OFFICE IN WEST CHESTER, MATT LAGOY can see where he went to kindergarten. “West Chester was a great place to grow up,” he says. “But like so many young people looking to see more of the world, I moved to New York City after college to begin my career. Then I soon discovered that anything a big city offered could be found in West Chester.”

When he and his wife, Jaime, decided to start a family, they knew they'd move back to his hometown. Now he's a certified financial planner with Janney Montgomery Scott at the downtown West Chester office, and she's a buyer at QVC, headquartered outside of town.

The couple agree it's the sense of community that they value. “This is a town that

makes it fulfilling to give back,” says Matt, whose personal project is to help teenagers get involved with their personal finances as they prepare for college. “Young people and their families need to be educated about all the costs of higher education.”

These efforts are important to Matt, but they wouldn't happen without the energy provided by the community. “The culture of West Chester is invigorating,” he says during our talk, as his family share treats at D'Ascenzo's Gelato on East Gay Street.

“The walkability, architecture, friendly shop and restaurant owners—what's not to love? And the arts and culture here—so many opportunities to enjoy great art and meet the artists creating it. I can't imagine a better place to live than West Chester.”



The Lagoy Family

ART GALLERIES WORTH A VISIT

So, is that just boosterism from a new resident? Where are the galleries, and who are the artists that give West Chester its artistic vibe?

If you're a fan of the semi-annual Gallery Walks—sponsored by Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce on May and October First Fridays—you've likely visited many places that showcase art at galleries and one-night-only venues.

Yet every visit to Downtown can include inspiring art. Let's take a quick tour.

A good place to start is Visual Expansion Gallery, 126 N. High St. Since 1975, they've specialized in local art, archival

framing and art restoration. This multi-purpose shop offers a wide range of artists—including the photographer for this article, Timlyn Vaughan—along with collectibles like vintage maps and other surprises.

Here's one surprise: If you're a fan of “Game of Thrones” (and who isn't?), you'll become a fan of Michael McNelly, a Chester County artist who's hand-painted his own clutch of Dragon Eggs made from cannonball gourds. These symbols of power, strength and good luck are found among the hundreds of artworks there. But hurry, the limited edition could be gone in a blink of a dragon's eye.



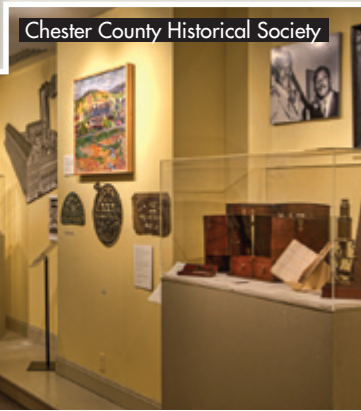
Visual Expansion Gallery



Michael McNelly's Dragon Eggs



Horace Pippin works at CCHS



Chester County Historical Society



The Art Trust



Church Street Gallery

A place with even longer history is [Chester County Historical Society \(CCHS\)](#), 225 N. High St. Founded in 1893 and dedicated to collecting, preserving and exhibiting the history of the Chester County area, CCHS is a treasure trove just a block north of bustling Gay Street.

Among its extensive collection of documents, artifacts and antiques is a notable art collection, including local artists. Few West Chester artists are as respected as Horace Pippin, who lived and painted in the Borough from 1920 until his death in 1946. His works express candid comments on race, religion, war and history. Two works, “We Were on His Trail as the Sun Went Down” (The Bear Hunt I) and “We See Him Go Up” (Bear Hunt II), circa 1930, are rare oil-on-burnt-wood panels that depict Pippin’s very personal and, some think, primitive style. CCHS’s galleries offer a curated glimpse into the past and should be part of any art tour.

For more contemporary art, head for [The Art Trust](#), 16 W. Market St. When Liz Ruff created the Art Trust Gallery at Meridian Bank in 2006, she envisioned a volunteer-based organization that would cultivate a contemporary aesthetic to benefit artists and the community alike. The unique partnership with Meridian Bank allows net proceeds from artwork sales to be donated to local art-related scholarships and charities.

You’ll find modern artworks by regional artists on display at the Art Trust during their half dozen

exhibits each year, plus artist receptions, talks and special exhibits. Of special interest is the Pop-up Gallery in the back, showing the new Downtown West Chester banner project, along with “View,” selections from the Chester County Studio Tour, running through June 14, followed by “Trashy Women,” from June 19 to August 2.

For a traditional gallery setting that seeks to respect the works of regional artists, visit [Church Street Gallery](#), 12 S. Church St., created by Carol Giblin and John Suplee. “We select artists whose work is abstract and figurative, but not necessarily modern,” says Carol. “Our environment allows art enthusiasts to relax and spend time reflecting on what’s displayed.”

Coming this summer is an exhibit by Kassem Amoudi, whose art is described as providing “continuous adventure and discovery.” It’s a little bit of Soho here in the Borough.

SEE ARTISTS’ STUDIOS

Want the special thrill of seeing where art is created—an easel in the corner, brushes, paint tubes and tools of the trade, a glimpse behind the curtain? It’s a reason studio tours—like the Chester County tour in May and Delaware County tour in September—are so popular. You can take a smaller studio tour in West Chester.

One of the first things you notice when visiting [John Hannafin’s Studio](#), 19 S.

Church St. (upstairs, by appt. only), is a landscape painting, hanging prominently among his many other works, seeming out-of-place with the rest of his collection. “That’s my first painting,” he says as he turns to another close-by. “And this is my most popular—it’s called ‘West Chester Dream.’” The tour immediately becomes as much a study in the evolution of an artist as a collection of works, many reflecting recognizable scenes in West Chester.

When I visited [Erica Brown’s Studio](#), 28 N. New St. (by appt. only), the first thing she did was give me a live demonstration of how she made her art, using her tools—frying pan, blow torch and razor blade. With just those tools, she creates modern works in



John Hannafin's studio, and above



Erica Brown's studio, and above



the ancient encaustic medium (involving pigment mixed with hot wax). While Erica's art is displayed throughout the region—through both commissions and inspirations—her studio also opens for art tours during the year.

MORE ART AROUND TOWN

Demonstrating that West Chester's view of art is broad and inclusive, the town supports art in places beyond galleries and studios.

More than 25 local artists and craftspeople are represented among the creative gift items at Karen Cavin's shop, *The 5 Senses*, 133 W. Market St. Check out the series of Spiritiles by Houston Llew. New designs appear with the seasons, inspiring fans to start collections. The tiles are designed to be displayed on a wall, a mantel-piece or table and are sure to spark conversation.

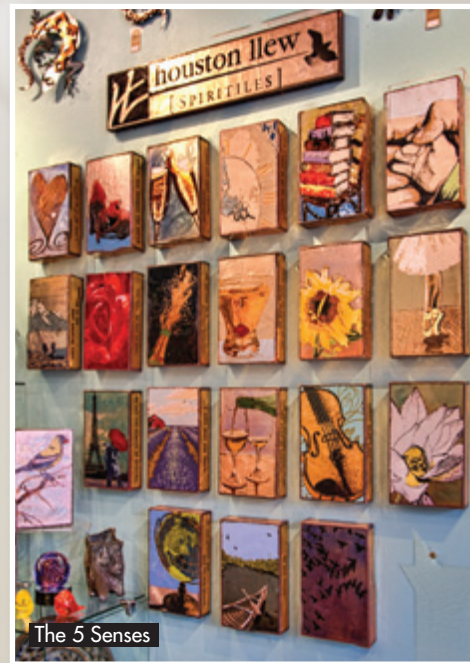
Another surprising place to encounter art is at *Green Eyed Lady*, 132 W. Gay St., where owner Mary Owen's boutique is nothing if not eclectic. Serious browsers will find everything from collectibles by early-20th-century fashionista Hattie Carnegie to art created by the owner herself. Never-worn vintage clothing becomes wearable art and painted stones provide one-of-a-kind personal ornaments, expanding the meaning of art beyond the frame.

Find a mix of art and commerce at *Sunset Hill Jewelers & Fine Arts Gallery*, 23 N. High St. On the second floor above the jewelry counters, owner Sandra Riper created a fine arts gallery to be home to nationally known artist Harry Dunn, creator of the NBC peacock, along with other notable Chester County artists such as William O. Ewing and Dennis Haggerty. For the holidays, there's an Annual Miniature Show featuring Chester County's best artists, plus another four shows throughout the year showcasing more original art.

Sunset Hill also is the proud sponsor of the semi-annual Gallery Walks, events Riper spearheaded many years ago, and which continue to celebrate the art scene in West Chester.

So, this summer check out the art in downtown West Chester. ♦

For more information, visit DowntownWestChester.com. Elle Steinman contributed to this article.



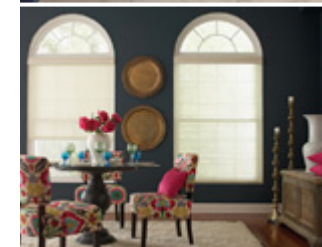
The 5 Senses



Green Eyed Lady



Sunset Hill Jewelers & Fine Arts Gallery, and below



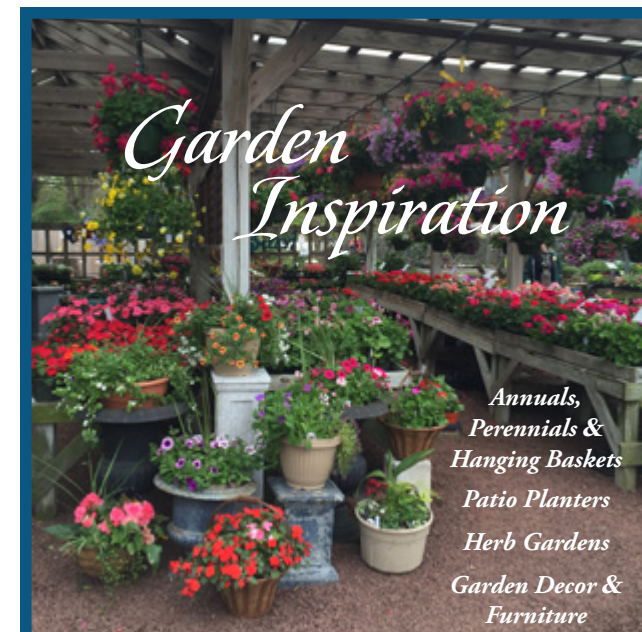
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West Chester EVENTS

Chester County Historical Society THROUGH JANUARY 4

Through Aug. 3, "The Art of Industry."
Through Jan. 4, "Nothing to See Here: Prohibition in Chester County." 225 N. High St. Tues-Sat, 9:30 to 4:30. \$4-\$8. ChesterCo-Historical.org.

17th Annual Up On The Roof JUNE 1

Take in the sunset views at this fundraiser, hosted by the West Chester Downtown Foundation and the West Chester BID, with buffet dinner, music, dancing and open bar on the rooftop of the Chestnut Street Garage. 14 E. Chestnut St. 7 pm. Tickets \$105 in advance. DowntownWestChester.com.



Bark in the Park in West Chester JUNE 2

Check out this first Bark pet-friendly event. Vendors, entertainment, demos, treats for both dogs and humans and more. Hoopes Park, 700 Hoopes Park La Noon to 4.

Swingin' Summer Thursdays JUNE 6, JULY 11, AUGUST 1, SEPT. 5

Great food, live music, clowns, artists, magicians, jugglers and more. Gay St. between High & Darlington Sts. or High & Matlack Sts.. 6:30 to 9. DowntownWestChester.com.

First Fridays

JUNE 7, JULY 5, AUG 2, Extended hours at galleries and boutiques, restaurant specials, entertainment and more. DowntownWestChester.com.

Uptown! at Knauer Performing Arts Center JUNE 7-JULY 13

June 7, Countdown to Ecstasy: A Tribute to Steely Dan; *June 8,* First Ladies of Rock & Soul; *June 9,* Let Freedom Sing featuring the Mainliners; *June 14,* The Music of Billy Joel; *June 16,* Opera tutti presents The Old Maid and the Thief; *June 22,* Doo Wop Explosion 4; *June 26,* International Brotherhood of Magicians; *June 27,* Dueling Pianos; *June 29,* PA Philharmonic: Swinging Through the Ages;

July 13, Magic Bus-Tribute to The Who. 226 N. High St. Check website for tickets and times. UptownWestChester.org.

Chester County Hospital Polo Cup JUNE 9 See June Picks.

Town Tours & Village Walks JUNE 13-AUG 29

Explore Chester County's heritage and rich landscape on these tours: *June 13,* West Chester c. 1788: From Turks Head Tavern to County Seat; *June 20,* Ludwig's Corner c. early 1770s: A Stop on the Conestoga Road; *June 27,* Warwick Village c. 1717: An Early Iron Village. Tours through Aug. 29, 5:30 pm. Free. Some require registration. 610-344-6923; ChesCo.org/Planning/TownTours.

FatherFest

American Helicopter Museum JUNE 16
Treat Dad to a special day of antique cars, motorcycles, food trucks, beer garden and maybe a helicopter ride! 1220 American Blvd. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$10; helicopter rides, \$60. 610-436-9600; AmericanHelicopter.Museum.

Music at Marshall

JUNE 20, JULY 18, AUG 15
Come to the gazebo in Marshall Square Park for these picnic concerts. Check website for performers. 200 E. Marshall St. 6:30 pm. Free. MarshallSquarePark.org.

3rd Annual West Chester Craft Beer Festival JUNE 22

An amazing line up of breweries and beers, food trucks and artisan vendors. Benefits and held at Charles A Melton Arts & Ed Center, 501 E Miner St. Noon to 5. \$40-45. WCBeerFest.com.

21st Annual BVHAC Challenge For Cancer Ride JUNE 23

Premiere bike ride in Chester County. 30-, 50-, 65-mile rides, 10- and 5-mile family rides benefit Cancer Center of Chester Cty. and Neighborhood Hospice. Begin at Fern Hill Med. Campus, 915 Old Fern Hill Rd. Reg. 7:30 am. \$40-\$90. 610-431-5329; CCCRide.com.

Resident Theatre Company Presents Broadway in the Borough JULY 18

Broadway in your Backyard! Hear amazing singers from New York and Philly bring the house down with your favorite Broadway music. You'll have a chance to share a drink

and chat with performers after the show. Sprout Music Collective, 130 East Prescott Alley. Doors open at 5:45 pm, show at 7, after party at 8. \$15-\$22. RTCWC.org.



37th Annual Turk's Head Music Festival JULY 21

A day-long celebration of local music featuring artists and vendors. Two stages with 11 local bands performing different genres of music. Food from local vendors is available all day. Rain date July 28. 100 S. Brandywine St. Noon to 8 pm.

6th Annual National Night Out Against Crime AUG 7

The Borough Police Dept. invites families to enjoy live entertainment, refreshments, kids' activities, police, fire and EMS vehicles, plus a meet-and-greet with local responders. Henderson High School, 400 Montgomery Ave. 6 to 9. 610-696-2700.

Benchmark Twilight Cycling Classic AUG 10

Top-notch pro bike racing fills the streets as the Iron Hill Pro Men's Criterium and Brumbaugh Wealth Management Pro Women's Criterium compete at breathtaking speeds. Enjoy top amateur racing in the Rothman Institute Amateur Criterium. Have a blast watching the Tolsdorf Trike Challenge. Sign up your children in the West Chester Dental Arts Kids' Race. GreaterWestChester.com/Events.

Touch A Truck Day AUG 11

Kids love to see and touch different models of cars and trucks. Chester County Gov. Services Complex, 601 Westtown Rd. Noon to 4 pm. Pkg. \$2. 610-436-9010; West-Chester.com.

39th Annual Chester County Restaurant Festival SEPTEMBER 15

More than 65 restaurants, caterers and food vendors participate, with 110 arts & crafts vendors. Gay and Market Sts. Noon to 5:30. Rain date, Sept. 22. 610-436-9010; West-Chester.com. ♦



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106 W. Gay St. 484-887-0919; Andiario.com

★ **Bar Avalon**

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

★ **Dolce Zola**

134 E. Gay St. 484-887-0760; iPasta.net

★ **Fiorello's Café Old World Italian Cuisine**

730 E. Gay St. 610-430-8941; On Facebook

★ **Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant**

3 W. Gay St. 610-738-9600; IronHillBrewery.com

New American cuisine prepared in a scratch kitchen, paired with an on-site brewery producing fresh, award-winning beers, all in a friendly, comfortable atmosphere. Happy Hour specials available Monday-Friday from 4 to 6. Reservations and "call aheads" are accepted for lunch and dinner, seven days a week. Outdoor seating available, weather permitting.



★ **Kooma**

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

★ **Limoncello**

9 N. Walnut St. 610-436-6230; LimoncelloVWC.com

★ **The Lincoln Room**

28 W. Market St. 610-696-2102
LincolnRoomWestChester.com

Enjoy a quiet lunch or cozy high tea for two in one of West Chester's most famous historic buildings. Select from their extensive menu of specialty hot teas, summer herbal teas or seasonal scones. Severing seasonal quiche and daily tea sandwich specials. And don't forget dessert! BYOB. Private parties, Sunday-Tuesday; Lunch and High Tea, Wednesday-Saturday, 11 to 3. Reservations suggested.



★ **Love Again Local**

18 S. Church St. 484-266-7381; LoveAgainLocal.com

★ **Más Mexicali Cantina**

102 E. Market St. 610-918-6280; MasMexicali.com
If you haven't tried this town favorite (family-owned and operated) and award-winning Mexicali cuisine, put it on your "must do" list this summer. West Chester's only rooftop bar/restaurant serves your favorite Mexicali dishes with the freshest margaritas (no sour mix here!) this side of the border. Curb-side dining. Sunday Funday Live Music on the Roof. DJ Friday & Saturday.



★ **Mercato Italian Ristorante & Bar**

33 W. Market St. 610-701-6326; Mercato33.com

★ **Miss Winnie's**

211 E. Market St. 484-266-0508; MissWinnies.com

★ **Opa Taverna**

40-44 E. Gay St.
610-696-4100; OpaTavernaWestChester.com

★ **Pietro's Prime Steakhouse**

125 W. Market St.
484-760-6100; PietrosPrime.com
Pietro's Prime is an upscale, casual steak house and martini bar in the heart of downtown West Chester, serving prime cuts of beef and a variety of seafood selections. Dine in their rustic dining room setting or enjoy their outside patio seating. Stop by for live entertainment, Wednesday-Saturday, in the bar area along with their signature martinis and cocktails.



★ 2019 Best of the Best Winner

Ram's Head Bar & Grill

40 E. Market St. 484-631-0241; RamHeadBarAndGrill.com

★ Rai Rai Ramen & Hawaiian Barbecue

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

★ Roots Cafe

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

Saloon 151 Whiskey Bar & Grill

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

★ Side Bar & Restaurant

10 E. Gay St.
610-429-8297
SideBarAndRestaurant.com

Side Bar and Restaurant is a casual restaurant and bar focusing on excellent and affordable food, craft beer and local spirits. They cater to young professionals, established business professionals and families. The restaurant and bar have a neighborhood feel and strive to be a place where a complete stranger will feel like a "regular."

The Social

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

★ Spence Cafe

131 N. High St. 610-918-1272; Spence.Cafe



Spence Cafe

You're food focused, so grab your favorite bottle of wine and head into The Original Spence Cafe. From their all-scratch kitchen to your plate, find a new favorite with them Tuesday-Saturday for a BYOB lunch or dinner. And they have amazing garden patio

seating. They invite you to spend your summer with them.

Sterling Pig Public House

113 W. Market St. 484-999-8026; SterlingPig.com

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Teca

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

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DOWNTOWN WEST CHESTER



Restaurant Guide

1. Roots Cafe & Sprout Music Collective
2. The Social
3. Spence Cafe
4. Iron Hill Brewery & Rest.
5. Calios
6. Buddy's Burgers
7. The Couch Tomato Café
8. Kooma Japanese Rest.
9. Benny's Pizza
10. Bango Bowls
11. Pita Pit
12. Saloon 151
13. Star of India Restaurant
14. Dolce Zola
15. Taco Mar
16. Bar Avalon
17. DeStarr's Rest. & Bar
18. Split Rail Tavern
19. Limoncello Ristorante
20. Opa Taverna
21. Teca
22. The Classic Diner
23. Side Bar & Restaurant
24. Lorenzo & Sons Pizza
25. Liquid Eatery
26. Jaco Juice & Taco
27. Kildare's Irish Pub
28. Andario
29. Penn's Table
30. Ryan's Pub & Restaurant
31. Jitter's Sports Bar
32. The Mediterranean
33. Bon Bon Sushi
34. La Baguette Magique
35. Spicy Pig Café
36. Nudy's Café
37. New Haven Pizza
38. Sterling Pig Public House
39. Pietro's Prime
40. Carlino's Specialty Foods
41. Love Again Local
42. The Lincoln Room
43. Tsunami Bistro
44. Market Street Grill
45. Mercato Ristorante & Bar
46. Playa Bowls
47. Pure Fire Pizza
48. Barnaby's of West Chester
49. Saucey
50. Shawarma
51. Rams Head Bar & Grill
52. Más Mexicali Cantina
53. Rai Rai Ramen
54. Rize Pizza
55. Bonchon Chicken
56. Poke Bros.
57. Appalachian Brewing Co.



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IN THE GOOD OLE SUMMERTIME

Carol Metzker

WILMINGTON IS A TOP DESTINATION FOR SUMMER FUN!

THERE'S NO BETTER TIME FOR A TUNE THAN SUMMER and no better place for timeless fun, festivals and fairs than Wilmington.

Where else will you find romance, false love letters, threats of a duel, scoundrels, con artists and fairies this summer? **Delaware Shakespeare** brings "The Merry Wives of Windsor" to Rockwood Park July 12–28, which promises to leave "Desperate Housewives" and "Don Juan" in the dust. The plot's unfolding twists and unraveling conspiracies will have you sitting at the edge of your picnic blanket.

If you prefer battles over duels, the **Delaware Burger Battle**, August 24 at Rockford Tower, is for you. Leave your white shirt at home—so much ketchup!—and pack a whopping appetite

because one price covers all burgers and beverages at all booths.

"It's the ultimate foodie event," says Laura Stimson, Wilmington native. "You'll find every combination of condiments: ketchup, pickles, mustard and then pork belly and fried green tomatoes. I'm impressed every year." She knows. The Burger Battle is her annual birthday bash. To celebrate her 30th this year, she and friends will divide burgers to sample all offerings, taste beers, dance to DJs' tunes and repeat.

WARM DAYS, COOL NOTES

Ten seconds into Clifford Brown's "Joy Spring" you understand why it was his signature piece, and his legacy lives on at the **Clifford Brown Jazz Festival**. At 13, Brown received a trumpet

Delaware Shakespeare

Delaware Burger Battle

PHOTO COURTESY: MOONLOOP PHOTOGRAPHY LLC

Clifford Brown Jazz Festival

Ladybug Festival at the DECO Food Hall

PHOTO COURTESY: MOONLOOP PHOTOGRAPHY LLC

from his father, and then Wilmington was forever changed. Brown's career was cut short by a fatal car accident, but his music and recordings continue. This year the festival at Rodney Square, June 19–22, spotlights trumpet players.

For those who can't wait, take a ten-minute walk from Rodney Square to the Clifford Brown Listening Garden the Sunday before the festival for a concert of fine local talent. Any day, enjoy sculpture and a mosaic trumpet. Motion sensors detect visitors who are then treated to recordings of Brown's music.

Gayle Dillman might not be a trumpeter, but she has every reason to toot her own horn as cofounder, with Jeremy Hebbel, of the **Ladybug Festival**. She and Hebbel bring Market Street to life with amazing acts, vendors and people having a good time. The free festival has showcased original music—soloists to bands—and

all-female lineups of musicians ages 12 to 70+ since it began in 2012. Each year its popularity grows.

The Ladybug Festival, July 18–19 this year, spotlights a new Bug Crawl on the second afternoon. Starting at the new and novel **DECO food hall**, festival-goers can flit from restaurant to restaurant, catching musical acts at each one, as they wind their way down Market Street. Be the first to try the new Ladybug Beer, crafted for the crawl.

Score classical music, blues and Marley songs at other events. July 4th the **Delaware Symphony Orchestra** celebrates the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11's first moonwalk with a free community concert at Tubman-Garrett Riverfront Park. August 3rd and 4th, at the same park, the **Riverfront Blues Festival** hosts two stages with blues, food trucks and beverages.

Celebrating peace, love and unity, as well as Bob Marley's choice of Wilm-

Riverfront Blues Festival



People's Festival 4 Peace



Delaware Art Museums Backyard Bash



PHOTO COURTESY: MOONLOOP PHOTOGRAPHY LLC

Hagley Museum

Delaware Contemporary

ington as home outside of Jamaica, the People's Festival 4 Peace offers a July 20th free family-friendly tribute to the reggae pioneer, singer and songwriter.

STROLLING THROUGH A SHADY LANE

If you're hankering for a stroll, hand-in-hand with your baby, there are options for that, too.

The Delaware Art Museum offers a variety of choices. Take Magnolia Walk through the Copeland Sculpture Garden to discover a labyrinth created from Delaware River rocks in the old reservoir. Open each day for meditative wandering until sundown, it's perfect for experiencing the summer solstice, June 21st.

Rise to a giant Jenga game and spectacular performances of West African drums, dancing and stilt walkers at the Delaware Art Museum's Backyard

Bash, May 31. The food and family atmosphere at one of Wilmington's most beautiful spots make it a must. Missed it? Add it to your 2020 calendar now.

On pretty Wednesday evenings, June 5–August 28, travel trails along the Brandywine River at the Hagley Museum during Bike & Hike & Brews, presented by Dogfish Head Craft Brewery. Visit an old powder mill. Stay or supper—Asian-style dumplings and homemade sauces by the new caterer Wandering Chef—at Belin House Café or carry fresh poke, Hawaiian-style raw fish, to the new picnic pavilion. On the last Wednesday each month, bring your well-behaved, leashed pup.



Bike & Hike & Brews

Stroll back in time at the Old-fashioned Rockwood Ice Cream Festival, June 29. Back to its original name and purpose as fundraiser for Rockwood Park, the festival offers historical society demonstrations, music, antiques and fun on the south lawn of the mansion. Thanks to local cream-

AND ART

Buy unique jewelry, furniture, pottery and fine art from presenting artists and artisans at the Summer Fine Craft Fair, Chase Center on the Riverfront, July 27–28. Setting the PA Guild of Craftsmen's show apart from others' is that artists are present to show and sell only their work. Choose stunning fused glass calderas—bowls named after volcano-formed hollows—by Wilmington artist Marcie Tauber. Select a hand-sewn journal from Zurn Perry. Journaling for as long as she remembers, Perry helps others engage by creating kids' journals with attached pen and mini journal—a cute backpack charm or keeper of happy little messages from Mom.

At the fair meet Martin Moon, who realized his passion for metal-smithing when he left his first college metalworking class five-and-a-half hours after it ended. A couple more courses, an art his-



Summer Fine Craft Fair

tory trip to Turkey and two years later he became an apprentice learning 3,000-year-old coppersmith motives and techniques in Gaziantep, Turkey. Moon started a Chester County studio in 2014 and, five years later, will offer a range of iconic and contemporary designs in intricately crafted pitchers and plates at the show.

Want more? Each First Friday, hop aboard the free shuttle at the Riverfront's Delaware Contemporary—with its own gem of a gallery—or create a self-guided tour of Wilmington's ArtLoop. With dozens of choices of visual and performing arts, there's something for everyone.

Time to go! Wilmington and your Tootsey-Wootsey await. ♦

For more Summer Fun in Wilmington, go to VisitWilmingtonDE.com/Events.



Old-fashioned Rockwood Ice Cream Festival

eries, the combinations—cones, dishes, toppings, longtime favorite flavors and unique creamery concoctions—for ice cream are practically limitless.

SOME PHOTOS USED COURTESY OF GWCVB

WILMINGTON EVENTS

THROUGH AUGUST 4

Delaware Art Museum. “The Loper Tradition: Paintings by Edward Loper, Sr. and Edward Loper, Jr.” 2301 Kentmere Pkwy. Wed, 10 to 4; Thurs, 10 to 8, free after 4; Fri–Sun, 10 to 4. \$6–\$12, Sun, free. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 5, 2020

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library. “Costuming *The Crown*,” 40 iconic costumes from the award-winning TV drama. 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur, DE. Tues–Sun, 10 to 5. \$15–\$30. 302-888-4600; Winterthur.org.

ONGOING

Delaware Children’s Museum. Something exciting for every age—from toddlers to preteens, and parents to grandparents. 550 Justison St. Tues–Thurs, 10 to 3; Fri, 10 to 8; Sat–Sun, 10 to 5. \$8.75. 302-654-2340; DelawareChildrens-Museum.org.



JUNE 6

Delaware Art Museum Performance Series Concert. Miyamoto is Black Enough, 8 pm. Delaware Art Museum, 2301 Kentmere Pkwy. \$25–\$35. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

JUNE 6

12th Annual Jasper Crane Rose Garden Party. Live it up with hors d’oeuvres, desserts, wine, beer, music, auction and horse and carriage rides. Benefits Delaware State Parks. Brandywine Park, 1001 N. Park Dr. 5 to 8. \$65–\$90. 302-656-3665; FriendsOfWilmingtonPark.org.

JUNE 8, 23

DE Museum of Natural History. *June 8*, World Ocean Day Celebration; *June 9*, Fairy Tale Sunday: Under the Sea; *June 22*, Family Fun Day; *July 13*, Star Wars Night: Wookies, Jedis, and Stormtrooper’s—Oh My! *July 20*, Apollo 11’s 50th Anniversary: One Small Step; *July 21*, Breakfast with the Birds; *Aug. 12*, World Elephant Day. Mon–Sat, 9:30 to 4:30. 4840 Kennett Pk. \$7–\$9; \$3 on Thurs Aug. 1–29. 302-658-9111; DelMNH.org.

JUNE 29, JULY 4, SEPTEMBER 28

Kalmar Nyckel. *June 29*, Wilmington Pirate Festival, pirate and maritime-themed activities, 10 to 4; *July 4*, Dockside Tours, Tubman-Garrett Park; *Sept. 28*, King Neptune Gala, Tatiana and

Gerret Copeland Maritime Center, 1124 E. 7th St. 302-429-7447; KalmarNyckel.org.

AUGUST 24–25

August Quarterly Festival Celebration. The nation’s oldest African-American festival celebrating freedom of religion and speech and the right of assembly. Tubman-Garrett Riverfront Park, Rosa Parks Dr. 302-655-5231; AugustQuarterly.org.

SEPTEMBER 7

Historic Odessa Brewfest. 50 local, regional and national craft breweries, live music, gourmet food and artisan vendors. Benefits Historic Odessa Fdn. 202 Main St., Odessa, DE. 302-378-4119; OdessaBrewfest.com.



SEPTEMBER 7–8

Brandywine Festival of the Arts. Arts and crafts from all over the country. 1001 North Park Dr. \$5. 302-419-6648; BrandywineArts.com.



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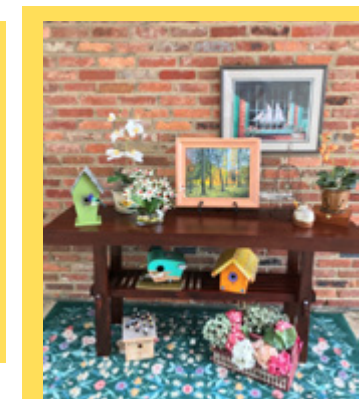
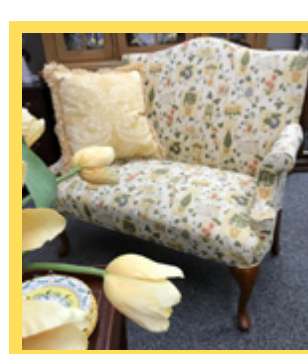
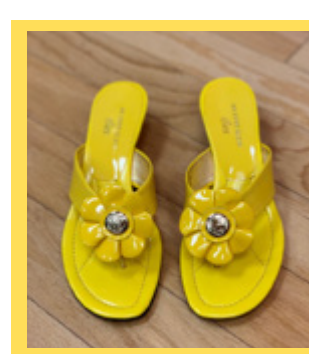
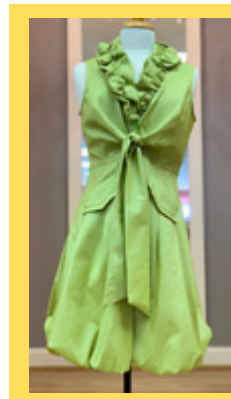
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Beagle Hill Farm

HISTORY MEETS LUXURY IN CHARLESTOWN TOWNSHIP

Laurel Anderson

AFTER 20-SOME YEARS OF CHOOSING WHERE TO live based on work and family, the Berrys had a different goal in mind in 2005. “We realized we could do whatever we wanted. And we could even up-size,” said Rick.

So, after looking at many properties, they found one at the end of a long, single-lane, paved road in picturesque Charlestown Township. “We liked this property the best—the layout, the space, the room for our dogs,” continued Rick.

“I grew up on a farm in Virginia, so a farm property was a good fit,” added Carol. As an avid gardener, Carol also found plenty of space to cultivate that passion on the almost-15-acre property.

Beagle Hill Farm, as they named it, was ready to be transformed into their dream home.

TRANSFORMATION

The charming 1820s Chester County farmhouse had been updated and expanded in the 1930s and 1950s, but the Berrys had grander plans in mind. They worked with Philadelphia architect Christopher Tantillo, whose vision was to “create an authentic quality to the architecture joining the 19th and 20th-century buildings together in a manner that kept the historic nature intact.”

Maintaining the character of the place was essential to the Berrys’ goals, too. “We wanted to integrate the old and new, to

introduce modern features within a quaint farmhouse,” said Rick. Carol continued, “To enjoy all the amenities in a home that was comfortable and luxurious, but not ostentatious.”

Throughout the thoughtfully renovated home, with its reconfigured interior, you’ll see evidence of that balance everywhere. Walls of newly added windows have panes with the wavy patterns of historic glass. Old flooring was repurposed in new spaces where many floors boast radiant heat. New walls used native stone found on the property. And Okie-inspired features—archways and hardware accents on modern custom cabinets—show up in the details.

The process evolved over two and a half years—there’s a 2008 datestone—and succeeded in creating the home the Berrys wanted. The various outbuildings on the grounds now appear unified, using design features such as red metal roofs. Updated landscaping and hardscaping created outdoor living spaces, one with a magnificent fountain and stone fireplace.

In addition to the main house, there’s a three-stall barn with four-car garage, attached caretaker’s cottage (where an artisan and his artist-wife live), plus a working forge that’s provided some of the metalwork for the property. Improvements also extended to the large salt-water pool, pool house and potting shed.

Other improvements include an artificial turf tennis and sports court (for soccer, basketball) as well as a five-acre wildflower meadow (featuring monarda, cone-flowers, black-eyed Susans) with mowed paths perfect for wandering and appreciating the countryside.





Another wing of the house is where you'll find a cozy den, with an original cooking fireplace, a billiards room with stone wall and leather floors, and original stairs to the second floor.

On that second floor are five bedrooms and a large laundry room. Cathedral ceilings, fireplace and many windows grace the updated master suite, complete with luxurious bath with Jacuzzi tub and steam room. In addition to two bedrooms (one en suite) there's a separate family suite, with two bedrooms and bath, perfect for visiting grandchildren, in-laws or an au pair's apartment.

In the newer of the two basements are a 1300-bottle wine cellar, with cork-floor tasting room, plus a home gym with mirrored walls and rubber floor. The final room is used as a potting room, complete with grow lights for sensitive plants and seedlings.

GARDENS

The five-acre wildflower meadow, basement potting room, and potting shed by the pool house are just some of what makes this property a gardener's delight. More reasons include specimen trees, flowering trees, an apple orchard, camellias and five themed gardens: a more formal walled garden, less formal fenced garden, black and white garden, cutting garden and a well-protected vegetable garden.

This dream property only gets more beautiful as the seasons unfold. ♦

This 14.8-acre farm in Charlestown Township includes an 1820s renovated main house (5 bedrooms, 4.1 baths); 3-stall barn with 4-car garage, attached caretaker's cottage; pool and poolhouse; gardens and more. For more about this conveniently located property in the Great Valley School District, contact Paul Czubryt (listing agent), Berkshire Hathaway Fox & Roach, 610-505-2195 (cell), 610-651-2700 (office), 610-888-3349 (Missy Schwartz); www.35CharwynnLane.com.

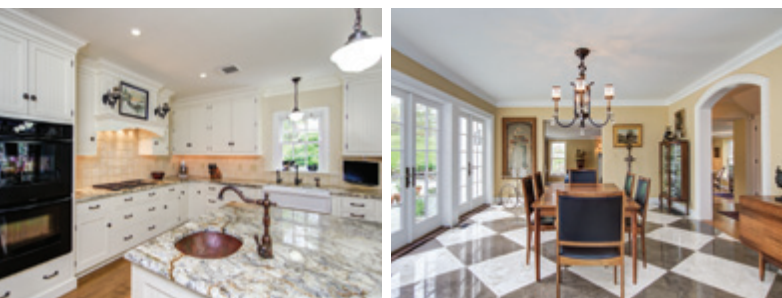


MAIN HOUSE

The graceful elliptical-shaped stairway in the stunning foyer is the perfect introduction to the 21st-century renovations. The entry space provides a glimpse of what's to come in terms of quality details and finishes throughout the home.

To the right is the spacious living room, with fireplace, chair rails, ceiling moldings and wide-board wood floors. Windows on three sides create a welcoming, sun-filled space with views to the bluestone patio garden and fountain. The adjacent dining room, with French doors to the expansive patio, has a dramatic black-and-white marble floor with radiant heat.

To the left of the foyer are the chef's kitchen—with top-of-the-line appliances, custom cabinets and huge granite island—that opens to the great room, with fireplace and built-ins, and a separate, sunny breakfast porch overlooking more gardens.



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Maria Doyle

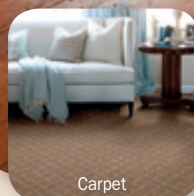
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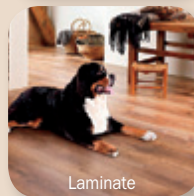
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Summer Dining Guide

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Pennsylvania

AVONDALE

The Farmhouse Restaurant at Loch Nairn
 514 McCue Rd.
 610.268.2235; LochNairn.com

BERWYN

Nectar
 1091 Lancaster Ave.
 610.725.9000; TasteNectar.com

BRYN MAWR

★ **Enoteca Tredici**
 915 Lancaster Ave.
 484.381.0268; TrediciBM.com

Yangming
 1051 Conestoga Rd.
 610.527.3200; YangmingRestaurant.com

CHADDS FORD

★ **Chadds Ford Tavern**
 1400 Baltimore Pk.
 484.800.4084; CFTavern.com

★ **The Gables at Chadds Ford**
 423 Baltimore Pk. 610.388.7700
 TheGablesAtChaddsFord.com

The Gables at Chadds Ford has a large outdoor patio covered with a greenhouse tent that protects diners from the elements, but still allows the summer sunshine to come in. Enjoy a bowl of delicious Mushroom Soup Gratinée and Crab Cake Sliders, while surrounded by beautiful landscaping with the calming ambience of a water feature.

CHESTER SPRINGS

★ **Eagle Tavern & Taproom**
 123 Pottstown Pk.
 610.458.5331; EagleTavern.com

★ **Epicurean Garage**
 570 Simpson Dr.
 610.615.5189; EpicureanGarage.com

★ **Limoncello**
 499 E. Uwchlan Ave.
 610.524.3112; LimoncelloCS.com

COVENTRYVILLE

La Maison
 1470 Old Ridge Rd.
 484.680.1193; MartinsKitchen.com

DEVON

★ **Amis Trattoria**
 138 Lancaster Ave.
 610.590.4782; AmisTrattoria.com

★ **Terrain Café at Devon**
 138 Lancaster Ave., 610.590.4675
 ShopTerrain.com/Devon-Restaurant

DOWNINGTOWN

Amani's BYOB
 105 E. Lancaster Ave.
 484.237.8179; AmanisBYOB.com

★ **Bangles Indian Cuisine**
 889 E. Lancaster Ave.
 610.269.9600; BanglesIndianCuisine.com

Estrella Tacos y Mas
 202 E. Lancaster Ave.
 484.237.2423; EstrellaTacoBar.com

Pomod'oro
 200 Chestnut St.
 610.873.0405; PomodoroDowningtown.com

Station Taproom
 207 W. Lancaster Ave.
 484.593.0560; StationTaproom.com

EXTON

Al Pastor
 Eagleview Town Center, 560 Wellington Sq.
 484.341.8886; EatAlPastor.com

★ **Appetites on Main**
 286 Main St.
 610.594.2030; AppetitesOnMain.com

Enjoy Exton's premier open-air, pet-friendly, award-winning outdoor patio, seating over 100 in a relaxing atmosphere. Daily happy hours. Bring your furry friends and enjoy their Doggie Menu. Live music/DJs on weekends, karaoke on Wednesday and free roll Texas Holdem tournament, Mondays. Daily lunch and food specials; 14 taps, 6 craft beers rotating and over 75 bottles/cans. Kitchen's open until 1:30 am daily.

★ **Bluefin**
 Eagleview Town Center, 555 Wellington Sq.
 484.458.3234; BluefinEagleview.com

★ **Ron's Original Bar & Grille**
 74 E. Uwchlan Ave.
 610.594.9900; RonsOriginal.com

Serving "Real Food, For The Health Of It!" Ron's has something for everyone from their hormone/antibiotic-free chicken, steaks and burgers to their extensive gluten-free options and newly introduced gluten-free and non-GMO fryer. They take pride in serving their customers good food, that's good for you, made with only the freshest ingredients.

★ **Suburban Restaurant & Beer Garden**
 Eagleview Town Center, 570 Wellington Sq.
 610.458.BEER; SuburbanBG.com

★ **Vickers Restaurant**
 192 E. Welsh Pool Rd.
 610.363.7998; VickersRestaurant.com

KENNETT SQUARE

Catherine's Restaurant
 1701 W. Doe Run Rd.
 610.347.2227; CatherinesRestaurant.com

Grain Kennett Square
 108 W. State St.
 610.444.7232; MeetAtGrain.com

★ **Hearth Kitchen**
 859 E. Baltimore Pk.
 484.732.8320; HearthKennettSquare.com

★ **La Verona**
 114 E. State St.
 610.444.2244; LaVeronaPA.com

Enjoy a relaxing evening of fine Italian cuisine on the side patio decorated with fresh herbs and flowers, or watch the activity on State Street seated in front of the restaurant while you indulge in their exquisite fare. Happy Hour at the bar or outside, 4 to 6. Stop by on 3rd Thursday evenings, 6 to 10 pm, for outdoor dining on State Street through September.

★ **Lily Asian Restaurant**
 104 W. State St.
 610.925.3700; LilySushiAndGrill.com

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108 E. State St. 610.925.4984
PortabellosOfKennettSquare.com

Sovana Bistro

696 Unionville Rd.
610.444.5600; SovanaBistro.com

★ Verbena BYOB

102 State St.
484.732.7932; VerbenaBYOB.com

KING OF PRUSSIA

King of Prussia Town Center

100 Village Dr.
KingOfPrussia-TownCenter.com

There are about a dozen restaurants here—Founding Fathers, Davio's Northern Italian Steakhouse, City Works, Fogo de Chao, and Choolaah to name a few.

MALVERN

★ Avola Kitchen + Bar

625 N. Morehall Rd.
484.328.8584; AvolaKitchenAndBar.com

★ General Warren

9 Old Lancaster Rd.
610.296.3637; GeneralWarren.com
The Spring House Terrace at The General Warren is “the outdoor place to be in Malvern,” perfect for casual lunches, dinners, cocktails or shareable plates. With a full bar and restroom, it's also a great space for casual cocktail parties and after-work happy hours. Groups of 15 or more can reserve this space as a private area all year round.

★ Malvern Buttery

233 E. King St.
610.296.2534; MalvernButtery.com

★ Restaurant Alba

7 W. King St.
610.644.4009; RestaurantAlba.com

★ Toninos Pizza & Pasta Co.

235 Lancaster Ave. 610.240.9566
ToninosPizzaAndPasta.com

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MEDIA

★ Ariano Restaurant & Bar

114 S. Olive St.
610.892.6944; Ariano.net

Brick & Brew

26 W. State St.
484.443.8441
BrickNBrewPub.com

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484.444.2526
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★ Tom's Dim Sum

13 E. State St.
610.566.6688; TomsDimSum.com

MOHNTON

Emily's

3790 Morgantown Rd.
610.856.7887; EmilysBerks.com

NEWTOWN SQUARE

Firepoint Grill

3739 West Chester Pk.
484.428.3093; FirepointGrill.com

P.J. Whelihan's

4803 West Chester Pk.
610.848.4100; PJsPub.com

Teca

191 S. Newtown Street Rd.
484.420.4010; TecaRestaurants.com

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Trattoria San Nicola

4 Manor Rd.
610.695.8990; SanNicola.net

PHOENIXVILLE

★ Bistro on Bridge

212 Bridge St.
610.935.7141; BistroOnBridge.com

★ Great American Pub

148 Bridge St.
610.917.3333; TheGreatAmericanPub.com

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IronHillBrewery.com

★ Liberty Union Bar and Grill

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484.927.4244; LibertyUnionBar.com

★ Louette's BYO

106 Bridge St.
484.924.9906; LouettesBYO.com

★ Sips Bistro & Bar

400 Bridge St.
484.924.9721; SipsPhoenixville.com

Majolica

258 Bridge St.
610.917.0962
MajolicaRestaurant.com

SPRINGFIELD

★ Tavola Restaurant + Bar

400 W. Sproul Rd.
610.543.2100; Tavalas.com

SWARTHMORE

Broad Table Tavern

12 S. Chester Rd.
610.543.7500; TheInnAtSwat.com

VILLANOVA

★ Main & Vine California Bistro

789 E. Lancaster Ave.
484.380.3688; MainAndVineBistro.com

WAYNE

★ At The Table BYOB

11 Louella Ct.
610.964.9700; AtTheTableBYOB.com

Autograph Brasserie

503 W. Lancaster Ave.
610.964.2588
AutographBrasserie.com

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1164 Valley Forge Rd.
610.293.9333; BlackPowderTavern.com
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McKenzieBrewhouse.com

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BraelochBrewing.Beer

Kennett Brewing Co.

KennettBrewingCompany.com

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MEDIA

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CrowdedCastle.com

Rebel Hill Brewing Company

RebelHillBrewing.com

Rec Room/Conshohocken Brewing

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RootDownBrewing.com

☼ Sly Fox Brewery (and Pottstown)

SlyFoxBeer.com

Stable 12 Brewing Co.

Stable12.com

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SteelCityCoffeeHouse.com

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PottstownUnitedBrewing.com

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Appalachian Brewing Company
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139 E. Lancaster Ave.
610.977.0600; ParamourWayne.com

White Dog Café

503 W. Lancaster Ave.
610.688.7646; WhiteDog.com

★ Teresa's Café and Next Door Bar

120-126 N. Wayne Ave.
610.293.9909; Teresas-Cafe.com

WEST CHESTER

See West Chester article, dining guide and map in this issue.

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TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT OUR Best of the Best

Back in January, we named 100+ outstanding restaurants Best of the Best winners. In the following months we got to meet some of the faces behind the food—presenting them with their well-deserved awards and thanking them for offering fantastic food.

WINNERS



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- 7/25 - Steve Liberace Trio
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- 8/8 - Steve Liberace & Amanda Hernandez
- 8/15 - Josh Komorowski & Rob Mastroppolito
- 8/22 - The Joe Kenney Band
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Something Different for the Summer

Fred Naddeo

ADD THREE NEW WHITES TO YOUR SUMMER WINE LIST.

Summer is approaching and many wine-lovers are yearning for lighter choices to sip with fresh, seasonal summer foods. Beyond the well-known options of chardonnay, pinot grigio and sauvignon blanc, what other white wines are there to discover and enjoy?

An answer is found in the same place as the origin of many fine wines: France. There we find a lesser-known light white variety that's native to the Loire Valley—chenin blanc—and two varieties originating nearby from Germany—riesling and gewürztraminer—that deserve a wider audience.

Double your standard summer white wine list with these three strong additions. You'll delight your friends and your palate.

RIESLING

Let's start with riesling, the lightest of these three whites. When sipping this summer wine, look for notes of lime, green apple and jasmine with spicy hints of white pepper. This flavor profile makes the wine a perfect match for Indian and Asian cuisines, especially the off-dry version.

Many wine fans have bad memories of riesling. That may be because Germany exports a large amount of bulk sweet wines that are not 100 percent riesling, causing the reputation of riesling to suffer. But,

given the acid levels and ability to ripen to a high level of sugar, rieslings can be very elegant and long lasting.

A nice one to try is **Maximin Grünhaus Riesling Spätlese Abtsberg 2017** (\$37.99). With lots of peach and lemon flavors, this sweeter wine can be enjoyed now but will age beautifully for 10 years or so.

Despite all the history that riesling has in Germany, many believe its spiritual home is Alsace, France, just across the Rhine river from southern Germany. Here the wines have their own unique, richer style than their German counterparts due to the sunny and dry conditions in the Vosges Mountains.

For an excellent example from this region, try **Melody by G. Metz Riesling Alsace 2017** (\$21.99). This wine combines aromas of lemon and tangerine with notes of honeysuckle. Flavors of peach and lemon also shine through in this crisp white wine.

Riesling has found a home all around the world. Here in the U.S., many different styles are produced, but the wines labeled as dry are usually not completely dry. These sweeter dry wines present a rich feel on the palate that's balanced by crispness and spicy notes from the grapes.

For an American riesling to compare with the European versions, sip **Eroica Riesling Columbia Valley** (\$22.99). This wine is a collaboration between the Dr. Loosen estate of Germany and Chateau Ste. Michelle of Washington state. This highly rated wine has aromas of lime and peaches followed by peach and apple flavors. A bit of summer in your mouth.

These three different takes on riesling practically demand a tasting party under the summer stars.

GEWÜRZTRAMINER

Another fun white wine to try this summer is gewürztraminer. This style of wine is typically very aromatic and has low acidity. The wines show aromas of lychee and rose petals with flavors of tropical fruits and spices like ginger—wonderful flavors for warm weather.

Many people describe gewürztraminer as having stone fruit characteristics—mango and peach—and this profile makes it a perfect match for spicy foods, like Indian dishes.

Although originally from Germany, the most highly regarded versions of this wine come from Alsace, France, across the border from southwest Germany. **Domaine Gérard Metz Gewürztraminer Alsace 2015** (\$26.99) is an excellent example to try. Enjoy aromas of rose petals, peach and lemon with those same fresh and fruity flavors carrying over onto your palate.

You may like to contrast that with a version from northern

Italy, **Bottega**

Vinaia Gewürztraminer Trentino 2015 (\$16.99). This wine leads off with aromas of tea, rose and lychee with creamy flavors of apricot and pineapple.

CHENIN BLANC

Our last wine to try from our exploration is the slightly more popular chenin blanc. Native to France and commonly associated with the Loire Valley, this wine has a documented history dating back to the year 845.

The flavors of the dry whites range from green apple from the Savennières region to tropical notes from Vouvray. The grapes are late ripening and tend to have high acidity, making them a perfect match for seafood dishes.

An excellent example to try is **Château de Montfort Vouvray** (\$14.99). This demi-sec (or semi-dry) white has aromas and flavors of Granny Smith apples. The sweetness is

balanced by a bright acidity making it an ideal match to seafood and chicken dishes.

This French native, like so many other grape varieties, has found a welcome home in other parts of the world. For example, so much chenin blanc is grown in South Africa—where it's called steen—that plantings now exceed that of France.

The grape arrived in South Africa about 250 years ago and its vigorous growth and high acidity also made it a natural fit as the base for locally made brandies.

Bulk chenin blanc wine production continued for many years; however, attitudes have now changed, and many producers are making higher quality wines instead of high quantity.

These better wines exhibit more tropical characteristics, like pineapple and guava. To contrast with the French version, try a South African

standout, **Kloof Street Chenin Blanc Swartland 2017** (\$18.99). This wine has scents of ripe pear and flint. Its crisp acidity makes it a perfect companion for a clam bake at the beach.

I hope this gives you some ideas about how to branch out from your usual go-to wines this summer and add some depth and breadth to your sipping. For more ideas and suggestions, ask the wine specialist

at your local Fine Wine & Good Spirits store or favorite wine or bottle shop.

Cheers! ♦

What started as a hobby is now a career. Fred Naddeo began his wine journey more than 20 years ago when his wife bought a bottle of Black Tower Riesling to try something different. It marked the beginning of an exploration of the amazing world of wine that continues to this day. Fred is a wine specialist at the Springfield Fine Wine & Good Spirits store on Baltimore Pike in Springfield. Learn more at FineWineAndGoodSpirits.com.



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FINE WINE & GOOD SPIRITS

[Food News]

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



Tea Time. Escape the heat and settle down with a tall, cold glass for **National Iced Tea Day** on June 10th. Grab a seat at **TranquiliTEA Temple** in West Chester and enjoy an iced mango bubble tea, or iced tea made from any of their loose-leaf teas. Or buy your favorite tea leaves from **Mrs. Robinson's Tea Shop** in Kennett Square and make your own at home. Try adding a splash of lemonade for some extra sweetness. *TranquilitheaTemple.com; Mrs-Robinsons-Tea-Shop.Myshopify.com.*



Eat Like a Local. Discover these Wilmington secrets, featured in the Daily Meal's 75 Best hole-in-the-wall restaurants. A prime spot for breakfast is **Angelo's Luncheonette**, serving bacon, eggs and breakfast sandwiches with '50s charm for over 50 years. Next, head to **El Pique** for tasty tacos with authentic Mexican heat and fresh ingredients. These hidden gems serve up delicious food without the fuss! *1722 N. Scott St., Wilmington. 805 N. Dupont Rd., Wilmington. DailyMeal.com.*

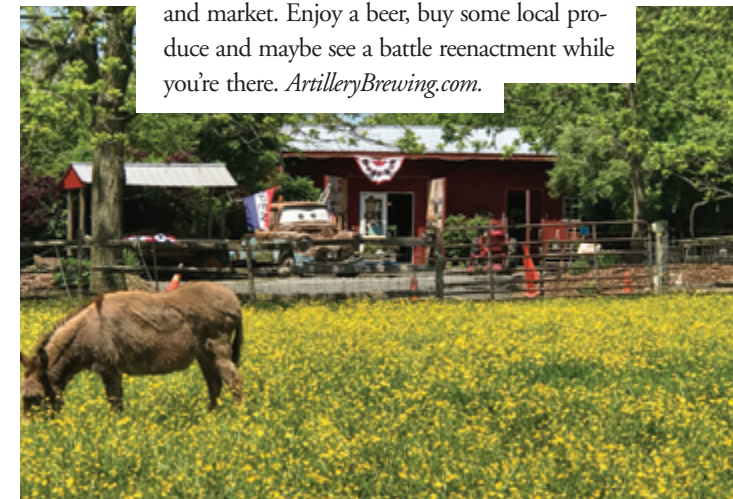


It Takes A Village. Cold drinks and warm evenings—the perfect combination. Head to Historic Sugartown on June 27 and August 22 for their **pop-up Biergarten**, where you can sip wine from ChaddsFord Winery, sample beers from Locust Lane Craft Brewery, and nosh from local food trucks. Entrance into the village is free, with donations encouraged to help offset costs of the Biergartens. Make sure to explore Historic Sugartown's buildings, and watch demonstrations in the Book Bindery. *260 Spring Rd., Malvern. HistoricSugartown.org.*

Summer Lovin'. Summertime is good for cold beer, live music and lawn games. And lucky for us, **The Gables at Chadds Ford** has all three! On summer Wednesdays at 6 p.m. (except July 3), hang out on the terrace at The Gables' beer garden for craft beers, wine and sangria, corn hole, giant Jenga and live music from local bands. It'll have you wishing summer would never end. *TheGablesAtChaddsFord.com.*



Join the Revolution! The Musket, The Cannonball, The Battle of Brandywine—we're not talking about the Revolutionary War. These are some names of the brews found at **Artillery Brewing**, located on the grounds where the Battle of Brandywine took place. Artillery Brewing joined the location's other occupant, **Thornbury Farm**, to add a beer garden, nanobrewery and taproom to the farm and market. Enjoy a beer, buy some local produce and maybe see a battle reenactment while you're there. *ArtilleryBrewing.com.*



Jamaican Cooking

A STURDY POT + THE RIGHT SPICES

Laura Muzzi Brennan

“TO COOK JAMAICAN FOOD, YOU HAVE TO HAVE TIME and a lot of love,” says Nick Johnston, who along with his father, Bert, co-owns **Miss Winnie’s** in West Chester. Time and love infuse more than the jerk chicken and rum cake at this take-out or sit-in casual. They’re behind the Johnstons’ easy rapport with customers and generous support of local community organizations.

No wonder then that Miss Winnie’s has become popular with everyone from students to business people to food lovers in search of authentic Jamaican dishes. (Editor’s note: Miss Winnie’s won a 2019 *County Lines* Best of the Best Award.)

Cooking for others—and the dream of owning a restaurant—were central to the Johnstons’ family life years before Nick and Bert opened in October 2017. As a child living in Jamaica, Bert learned to cook from his mother, Miss Winnie, known as much for her generous spirit as for her food. When the family immigrated to the United States while Bert was a teenager, their generations-old recipes and spirit of hospitality came with them.

As Bert built his 20-year career in IT, he cooked for pleasure—especially at the family’s annual Christmas gathering where his food drew raves. (A friend from Paris deemed Bert the



Bert, left, and Nick Johnston

best “cooker,” a term he still uses to describe himself.) Nick, whose background is in sales, grew up watching his dad and mom in the kitchen and spending every holiday with his grandmother.

When Bert had to choose whether to leave his IT position or relocate, he and Nick figured it was the right time to pursue their dream.

At Miss Winnie’s, jerk chicken rules the roost. People also flock to the restaurant for the chicken and beef patties, turnovers with a flaky golden crust stuffed with spicy meat filling. The jerk burger—Bert’s popular “spiced up” creation served with pickles and jicama slaw on a potato roll—comes three ways. Hungry diners opt for Miss Winnie’s classic or the Naked burger (hold the slaw), while super-hungry diners tuck into the double-patty wonder called Big Nick.

When diners want to expand their palates, Bert and Nick suggest they stop in for the weekend specials: oxtail stew and curry goat platters. A lot of people believe that goat tastes gamey, Nick says.

But at Miss Winnie’s, it’s cooked low and slow until the “barnyard-iness” is gone, and it falls off the bone with a texture resembling pulled pork. Both the oxtail and goat dishes come with authentic Caribbean sides of steamed cabbage, fried plantains as well as rice and peas. For dessert, rum cake tops the list followed by guava swirl cake and plantain tarts.

When I ask about cooking Jamaican food at home, Bert and Nick make it sound so easy: “All you need is a pot plus water plus heat plus your hands plus the right mix of spices. Just put everything in the pot!”

And even though Bert demurs when I ask him for the specific ratios of his jerk mix, I leave our conversation feeling convinced that with an easygoing attitude—and a sturdy pot—all will be well in the kitchen and beyond.



Miss Winnie



Miss Winnie’s Rum Cake

Fried Plantains

Though plantains look like long, green bananas with thicker skin, they don’t have a banana’s sweetness. Because plantains are starchy like a potato, they’re typically fried or baked rather than eaten raw. How do you know if a plantain is ripe? It’s mostly black with a little yellow and still firm to the touch. Recipe courtesy of Bert Johnston, Miss Winnie’s.



- 2 ripe plantains
- 3 C. canola oil
- Large skillet or sauce pan

Peel skin off plantains. Slice plantain about a ¼”–½” thick.

Pour oil in skillet to a depth of 1–2”. Heat to about 350°.

Place sliced plantain in skillet and fry until golden brown on both sides. Depending on the size of your skillet, you may need to fry in batches.

Remove and place on plate on paper towel. Serve immediately.

Makes 4–6 servings.

Rice and Peas (Rice and Red Kidney Beans)

Traditionally, this dish is made with pigeon peas—also called Congo peas, Angola peas or red gram—but red beans are easier to find and work equally well. Recipe courtesy of Bert Johnston.



- 8 C. water
- ½ tsp. salt

Jerk 101

Even if you know almost nothing about Jamaican cooking, chances are you’ve heard of jerk. It’s the dry spice mix or wet marinade used to create hot, smoky, sweet jerk chicken and pork that Caribbean dreams are made of.

What’s in jerk seasoning?

At Miss Winnie’s, Bert Johnston mixes up 3–4 liters of his top-secret jerk mix every week. Although he can’t reveal his recipe, he says allspice and Scotch bonnet peppers are essential.

Scotch bonnets, so named because they look like the traditional tam o’shanter hat worn in Scotland, are like habaneros but fruitier.

Fun fact: On the Scoville Scale used to measure heat in peppers, Scotch bonnets and habaneros register about 350,000 SHU (Scoville heat units) while the wimpy jalapeño comes in at a mere 10,000 SHU.

Note: It’s recommended to use both safety glasses and gloves when working with Scotch bonnets, and to wash everything they’ve touched with cold water.

Besides Scotch bonnets and allspice, jerk seasoning usually includes some combination of sugar, salt, onion and garlic powders, dried thyme, nutmeg and ground cinnamon.

Where can I find jerk ingredients?

Most ingredients are easily found in your grocery store. Scotch bonnets might require some searching, so look for them in the store’s Caribbean or Latin sections or do as Bert Johnston does and get them online at Spice Jungle.

Why is it called jerk?

There are two main theories. Theory 1: “Jerk” comes from the Spanish word “charqui” (pronounced chahr-kee) which means dried meat a.k.a. jerky. Theory 2: “Jerking” refers to poking holes in the meat so it absorbs more of the marinade.

- 1 C. coconut milk
- 2 scallions (white, light and dark green parts), chopped or sliced
- ¼ tsp. ground black pepper
- ¼ tsp. dried thyme leaves
- ⅛ tsp. ground Jamaican allspice
- ¼ tsp. garlic powder
- 1 C. red kidney beans, canned or cooked
- 4 C. rice

In a large saucepan, bring 8 C. water and salt to a boil.

Add coconut milk and bring to a slow boil.

Add scallions, pepper, thyme, allspice and garlic powder.

Add red beans while stirring. Add rice while stirring.

Bring to a slow boil, stirring occasionally. Reduce heat.

Cover and simmer until rice is cooked, approximately 20 minutes.

Makes 6 servings.

Curry Chicken

You can make this dish spicy or less so depending on the type of curry powder you use. Recipe courtesy of Bert Johnston.

- 2 lbs. chicken legs and thighs or breasts, boneless/skinless or bone in/skin on (cook's choice)
- 2 Tb. olive oil
- 1 small onion, sliced or chopped
- 3 scallions (white, light and dark green parts), chopped or sliced
- ½ tsp. dried thyme leaves
- ¼ tsp. allspice
- ½ tsp. garlic powder
- 3 Tb. curry powder (sweet or hot)
- 2 Tb. soy sauce
- 2 Tb. olive oil
- 1 C. water
- Salt to taste



Cut chicken in small pieces and place in a large mixing bowl. Add all other ingredients through soy sauce and combine well.

In a large saucepan or skillet, add 2 Tb. olive oil and heat over medium heat. Add contents of mixing bowl slowly to saucepan/skillet and stir. Add a cup of water to mixing bowl and swirl it around. Then add to saucepan.

Bring to a boil and reduce heat to a simmer, stirring occasionally while cooking. Let simmer for approximately 40 minutes and add salt to taste.

Continue simmering for 20 more minutes, until chicken is cooked through and onions and scallions are soft.

Makes 4–6 servings.

Jamaican Johnnycakes

Every culture seems to have its fried dough dumplings—what's not to love?!—and johnnycakes are the Jamaican version. Served with breakfast or lunch, these slightly sweet dumplings have a texture like a cross between a cakey donut and a biscuit.

When I made them, I took Bert and Nick Johnston's advice to heart: I

took out a big pot—in this case my cast iron wok—and believed, despite the fact that I had never cooked Jamaican food, that it was going to be easy. After a little trial and error, I came up with this recipe which I adapted from Saveur magazine. After biting into my third johnnycake, I decided to dust them with powdered sugar—making them less authentic but so very, very good.



- 2 C. flour
- 2 Tb. sugar
- 1 Tb. baking powder
- ¼ tsp. kosher salt
- 2 Tb. unsalted butter, cold and cut into ½" pieces
- ½ C. plus 2 Tb. whole milk
- Canola, grapeseed oil or other oil with a high smoke point
- Powdered sugar, optional

Combine flour, sugar, baking powder and kosher salt in a large bowl. With your hands, work in the butter until pea-sized pieces form. Add milk and mix with your hands to form a sticky dough.

Roll into 1–1½" balls. Place on a plate or sheet pan in the refrigerator. (I found the johnnycakes wouldn't crumble if they spent 5–10 minutes chilling.)

Heat 1" oil to 325° in a large high sided frying pan. (Note: You can also use a wok.)

Remove dough balls from refrigerator and flatten them just a bit with your palm. Working in batches, place dough balls gently in the oil. Make sure to leave enough room for them to expand.

Fry until dough balls take on a deep golden brown color, turning them so they cook evenly, about 6 minutes. A caveat here: it's difficult to keep the oil at 325° if you're cooking on top of the stove, so the cooking time can vary depending on the oil temperature. Just keep watching for that golden brown color. If necessary, sacrifice one dough ball to make sure the inside is cooked through.

Remove with a slotted spoon and place on brown paper bag or paper towels to absorb oil.

Sprinkle with powdered sugar if desired.

Makes 12–15 servings.

1-2-3-4 Jamaican Rum Punch

Whether you're mixing up a pitcher for a few friends or a punchbowl for a crowd, this simple rhyme will help you remember the right ratio: One of sour, two of sweet, three of strong and four of weak.

The sour is usually citrus (fresh squeezed lime or lemon juice). Sweet is simple syrup, grenadine or other fruit syrup. Strong is the alcohol (white rum) and weak is water, seltzer or fruit juice.

If you use a very sweet fruit juice, you may want to do 2 parts water + 2 parts fruit juice. The bottom line: there's lots of room for creativity! Here are a few combinations to get you started:



- 1 part lime juice + 2 parts grenadine + 3 parts rum + 4 parts pineapple juice
- 1 part lemon juice + 2 parts simple syrup + 3 parts rum + 4 parts apple cider
- 1 part grapefruit juice + 2 parts fruit punch syrup + 3 parts rum + 4 parts mango juice ♦

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



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