

Love your Kitchen!



Photography by Letitia Clark

Kitchen Renovation
Historical 1800's Chester County Home

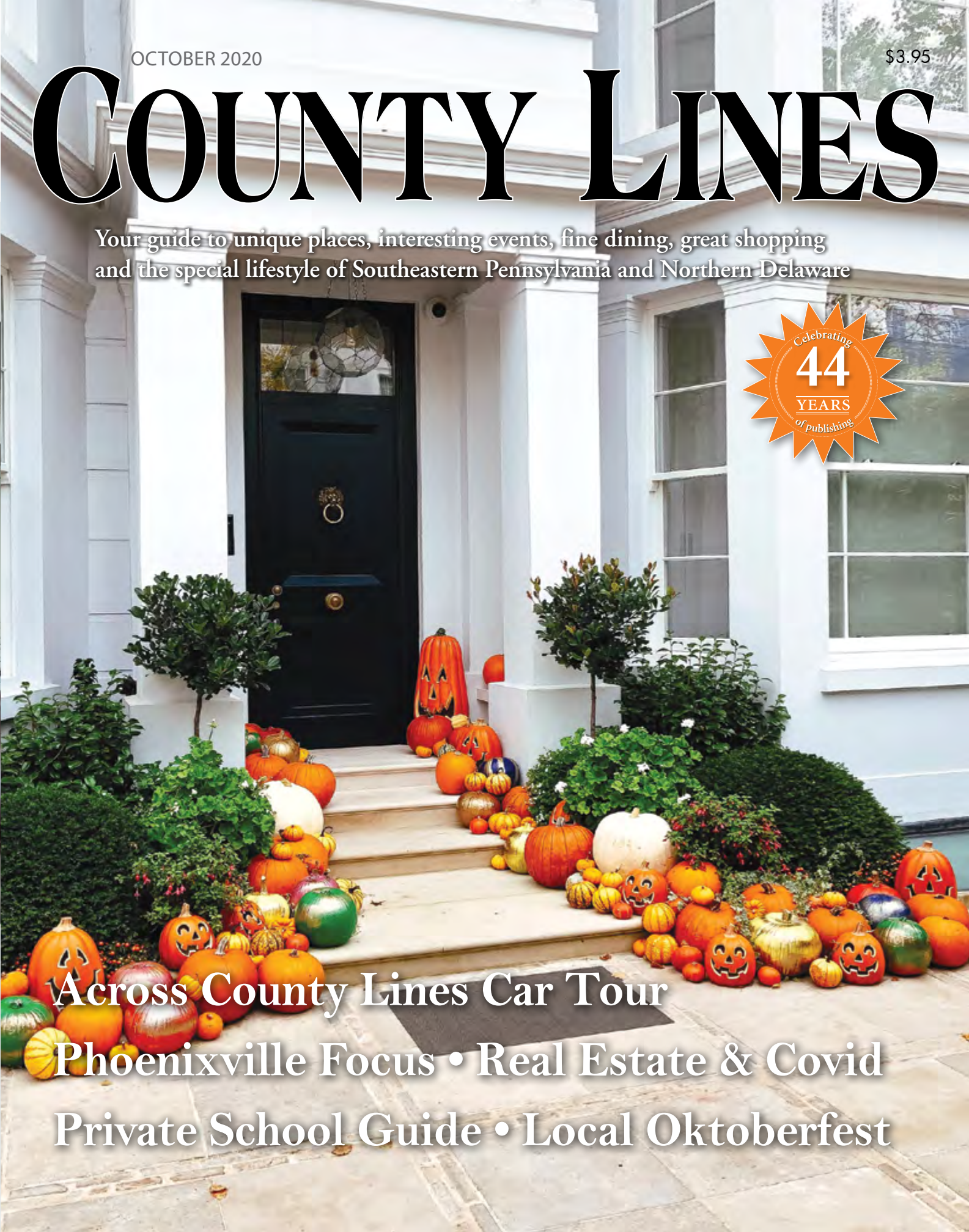
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glow on a paddle with Sultana Education Foundation; or sail with family or close friends for an offshore adventure while enjoying delectable treats to stimulate the palate of any food connoisseur. Intimate cruising adventures are a trademark in Kent County for those who are looking to remain socially-distant but break the monotony of quarantine life.

For more information on all that Kent County can offer you visit kentcounty.com

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Birchrunville

63 Acres | Converted Barn | Pool
Par 3 Golf Hole | Apple Orchard
Pond | Subdivision Possible
\$3,250,000



Chester Springs

Historic 4 BR, 1.1 BA | 57.4 Acres
Abuts Bryn Coed Preserve | Barn w/15 stalls
Great Easement Potential | Oversize Ring
\$2,630,000



West Marlborough

3BR, 2.1 BA | 59.2 Acs. | Great Stable
Allowed to Build Primary Residence
Heart of Equestrian Area | Great Schools
\$2,490,000



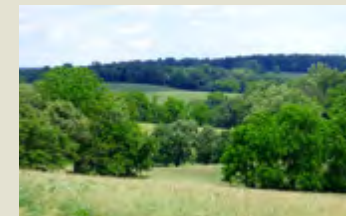
Near Marshallton

4 BR, 4.1 BA | 15 Acres | Great Views!
Fabulous Floor Plan | Volumes of Space
Large Barn | Grand Pool Area | A Showcase!
\$2,450,000



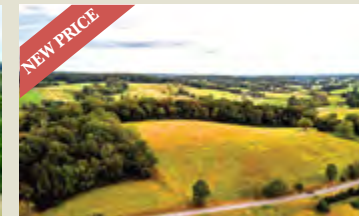
Willistown

5BR, 5.2 BA | 4.4 Acres | Builder's Home
High End Features | Fabulous Lower Level
Chef's Kitchen | Luxurious Master Bathroom
\$1,690,000



West Marlborough

46.2 Acre Parcel | On quiet country road
Midst of equestrian area | Protected views
Unionville-Chadds Ford School District
\$1,685,000



Unionville

77 Acres | Mix of Open & Woodlands
Fabulous Views of Protected Countryside
Equestrian Area | Unionville Schools
\$1,595,000



Thornbury Township

Historic 4BR, 5.1 BA. | 7+ Acres
High-end Kitchen | Privately Set
Once Home to F. Scott Fitzgerald!
\$1,125,000



West Bradford Township

5 BR, 4.2 BA | Downingtown Schools
Original model home | Great Details
Chef's Kitchen | 2,949 Acres | Conservatory
\$1,117,000



Warwick Township

6 BR, 5.1 BA | 22.5 Acres | Very Private!
Historic Home, Stone Barn & Pond
Abuts Horseshoe Trail & Warwick Park
\$1,075,000



Chester Springs

5BA, 3.1 BA | 5 Acres | Pastoral Views
Great Pool Complex | Chef's Kitchen
4 Fireplaces | Spacious Master Suite
\$950,000



East Bradford

5BR, 3BA | 1.1 Acres
Voluminous Open Floor Plan!
Great Location! Move-in Condition
\$789,000



West Bradford Township

4 BR, 2.1 BA | 3 Private Acres
Major Updates | Downingtown Schools
Close to New Township Park & Open Space!
\$500,000



Chester Springs

3 BR, 2.1 BA | .17 Acres
Located in Sought-after Weatherstone
Improvement Costs Exceed Price!
\$454,000



London Grove Township

4 BR, 2.1 BA | .79 Acres | 4,100 SF
Set in Hills of Sullivan | Protected Views
Large Family Room | Great Kitchen!
\$435,000



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1 Car Garage | Open Layout
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from the
EDITOR

October will be a bit different this year.

But the Brandywine Valley will still put on its spectacular color show of changing leaves complemented by the pleasures of autumn in the Mid-Atlantic. And so we recommend you hop in your car and safely explore our area using Madison Meinel's "Across County Lines" as your guide to West Chester, the Main Line, Wilmington and more.

Then head to Phoenixville to learn why "The Phoenix Always Rises." Carol Metzker also highlights the Rosie the Riveter recognition campaign there. In West Chester, the Art Trust Gallery is operating outside the box. Liz Ruff explains in "Art with Heart" that art will find a way.

For parents grappling with this unusual school year, Ed Malet's "The Great Restart" describes how private schools are adapting with masks, distance, plexiglass and more. And if you want to consider a new school, let our "Guide to Private Schools" help.

On the home front, the real estate market, especially in Chester County, is hot! Cindy Walker gets the scoop in "Local Real Estate in the Time of COVID-19." See a sample of a charming property on the market in Laurel Anderson's tour of Draycott Cottage in "Home of the Month."

If you caught the gardening bug during the pandemic, you'll enjoy "Vegging Out" by Katherine Startup of Chanticleer on making your garden a "resplendent source of fresh food."

For foodies, Alyssa Thayer's Brandywine Table column has recipes and tips from Brian Howell, of Uncle B's Bar BQ, in "Cue Up the BBQ Flavor."

And this is the month to celebrate Oktoberfest. Sarah Jagiela of Sly Fox Brewing explains how to enjoy "Oktoberfest in Your Backyard." And bids you, Gemutlichkeit!

Finally, Marci Tomassone has picked five top things to do this month, along with plenty of Family Fun and more Things To Do in October.

Enjoy all October has to offer and thank you for reading.

Jo Anne Durako
Editor

Neutra Text PS

COMING IN November

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Southern Chester County
Senior Guide • Holiday Shopping
Spread Cheer Locally • Local Hero
Fall Gardens • Brandywine Table

COUNTY LINES MAGAZINE

October 2020

Volumes XLIV Number 2

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

Back on the Map. Calling all history buffs! Local map collector and owner of Malvern Maps, David Mackey, puts the previously closed **Philadelphia Print Shop** back on the map. The nationally renowned map store from Chestnut Hill brings its inventory to Wayne with a COVID-cautious reopening this month. Map out a new hobby with their antique map collections, fine art, historical prints, vintage travel posters, rare books from the 16th and early 20th century plus much more. More news, Mackey is opening a map store at the shore in Avalon, too. 209 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne.



Spooky Season. BOO! It's frightening that Terrifying-tober could be cancelled due to COVID-19. But many haunted attractions prepare to welcome this year's fright fest in new ways. Bates Motel in Glen Mills welcomes back guests for fearful fun with new regulations and a horrifying haunted walk instead of their hayride. The scary Shocktoberfest in Sinking Springs offers a new Zombie Safari Tour as guests stroll the wood's terrifying trails. The only question is, can you handle the haunt? *TheBatesMotel. Shocktoberfest.*



Tiny Home, Big Impact. You guessed it! We're talking about the HGTV hot topic, Tiny Homes. But did you know the big ways these little lodgings can be used? **Liberation Tiny Homes** of Lancaster County proposed their houses to help Philadelphia's homeless. The company desires partnership with the city's Student-Run Emergency Housing Unit, building a tiny home village for those in need. Also perfect for a home office, guesthouse and she shed, there's nothing these homes can't do. 101 Ashmore Dr., Leola. *LiberationTinyHomes.com.*

Music on the Main Line.

That's right! Liz Scibo, music teacher and professional performer at the **Metropolitan Opera**, brings her magic to local little ones. Miss Liz offers socially distant, outdoor park music classes to get your kiddos (6 months-4 years) bopping, buzzing and belting out tunes. Classes are \$20/child, \$5 for each additional child. Grab a mask and blanket as Miss Liz will soon come to parks near you. Class locations on Liz's Facebook. *FacebookLiz.Sciblo.*



Think Ink. Want a month-long art and creativity challenge? Try InkTober, a 31-day pen-and-ink drawing challenge with a social media connection. Started in 2009 by a cartoonist, InkTober encourages veteran inkists and novices alike to show off their work. Just pick up a pen, draw one drawing a day, post on social media (#inktober or #inktober2020) to share with thousands of inkfans worldwide! Interested? Join in the action and learn more with ink-tabulous tutorials on the website. *InkTober.com.*





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[October Picks] Our Picks for top events this month

29th Crush Cancer Tour

Through October

You're invited to participate in the 29th Annual Wine Festival—reimagined! Help the Women's Auxiliary to Chester County Hospital crush cancer with a tour of local wineries, breweries and dining establishments throughout the month of October. Benefits The Abramson Cancer Center at Chester County Hospital and Penn Medicine Hospice at Chester County. Tickets \$50. Your ticket is your passport to sip your way through Chester County while supporting patients living with cancer. Visit CrushCancer.com for details and tickets.



2020 Kennett Brewfest

October 3

Enjoy a variety of exceptional beers from 48 renowned breweries in the safety and comfort of your own backyard. Choose either the Kennett Case or the Brewfest case, each includes 24 distinctive beers in 16-oz. cans (see website for varieties included in each case). *Pickup is Oct. 3 at 600 S. Broad St., Kennett Square between 10 and 5. Tickets \$105. Purchase at KennettBrewfest.com.*



Delco Arts Week 2020 @ Home

October 3–10

Virtually Travel Delaware County from Aston to Wayne, Lansdowne to Rose Valley and find the perfect event for you, your family and friends. Over 50 virtual arts and cultural attractions are participating so you can enjoy them from the comfort of your home—including studio tours, theater, ballet, music and classes for all ages. *Details at DelcoArts.org.*

Haunted Helicopters at American Helicopter Museum

October 24

Children under 13 who come to the museum in costume will receive a free treat (not candy or food, so no need to worry about dietary restrictions). Complete a scavenger hunt and return it to the museum store to claim your reward. 1220 American Blvd., West Chester. Noon to 5. Free with museum admission, \$7–\$10. AmericanHelicopter.Museum.



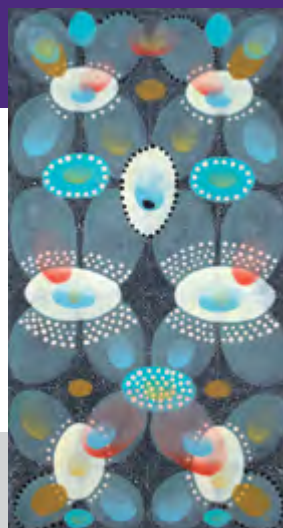
Ghost Tales & Spirits at Winterthur

October 16

Take a moonlit walk and visit the old Butler's house, where 200 years of unsettled souls still wander. In the Winterthur greenhouses, a medium will reveal the whispers she hears, and you'll listen to tales of Winterthur's haunted history and supernatural experiences of the staff. Light fare and cocktails offered. Adv. res. This is a walking event, largely outdoors. 5105 Kennett Pk., Wilmington. 6 to 9 p.m. \$30, includes snack box and one drink. Winterthur.org.



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Layered Abstraction: Margo Allman & Helen Mason was organized by the Delaware Art Museum. This exhibition is made possible by the Emily du Pont Memorial Exhibition Fund. This project is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. This exhibition is supported, in part, by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts. The Division promotes Delaware arts events on www.DelawareScene.com. Above: Oval and Divisions, 2018. Margo Allman. Acrylic on panel, 38 3/4 x 20 1/8 inches. Courtesy of the artist. © Margo Allman.

2301 Kentmere Parkway
Wilmington, DE 19806
302.571.9590 | delart.org

best Things To Do

Many events are on hold for now, but there are still many fun things to do in our area. Please be sure to check websites often for the latest updates. *TBD-to be determined.

FAMILY FUN

THROUGH OCTOBER

Chester County Library System. The 18 libraries in Chester County have reopened with different requirements at each location. Curbside pickup, in-library pickup, browsing and computer access regulations are listed on their website. Visit CCLS.org for guidelines of the library near you.

THROUGH OCTOBER

Strasburg Railroad. Since 1832, Strasburg Railroad has provided an authentic experience of a real steam railroad. Locomotives and passenger cars are not replicas. Take a 45-minute, round-trip ride through the Amish countryside to Paradise and back. 301 Gap Rd., Ronks. Tickets must be purchased in advance on website. 866-725-9666; StrasburgRailroad.com.

THROUGH NOVEMBER 8

Pumpkinland at Linvilla Orchards. Lots of autumn activities including hayrides, pick-your-own apples and mazes. All guests, including children over the age of two, are required to wear masks and follow all social distancing protocols. Pre-purchase tickets on website prior to visit. Linvilla.com.



OCTOBER 1, 15

Story Time in Enchanted Woods at Winterthur. Share the joy of reading while cultivating an interest and appreciation for nature. Children ages 3 to 6 enjoy nature-based stories in Winterthur's Garden. 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur. 11 to 11:30. \$6-\$20. 800-448-3883; Winterthur.org.

OCTOBER 1, 15, 29

Delaware Art Museum and DelArt Cinema Present Drive-in Movies. Oct. 1, *The Birdcage*; Oct. 15, *North by Northwest*; Oct. 29, *Frankenstein*. Popcorn and a soda or water

included. *Delaware Art Museum Copeland Sculpture Garden, Gates open 7:45, movie at 8:30. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. \$19, adv. purchase only. DelArt.org.*

OCTOBER 3, NOVEMBER 7

Full Moon Fundraiser At Wolf Sanctuary of PA. The event features a roaring bonfire (weather permitting), live entertainment and guided tours. Learn about wolves at the sanctuary and information about wolf conservation and biology. Bring a blanket, a flashlight and a chair. 465 Speedwell Forge Rd., Lititz. Age 16 and older only. Res. req., \$35. 717-626-4617; WolfSanctuaryPA.org.

OCTOBER 4, 11, 18, NOVEMBER 1, 8

West Chester Railroad Fall Foliage Express. Enjoy a fall afternoon along the Chester Creek Valley from a heated train as you take a 90-minute journey back in time to the village of Glen Mills and return. 230 E. Market St., West Chester. Noon and 2 pm. \$15-17. Tickets must be purchased in advance on website. 610-430-2233; WCRailroad.com.

OCTOBER 10

Annual Truck & Tractor Day at Winterthur. Discover 'wheel big' trucks, tractors and farm equipment needed now and in the days of H.F. du Pont. Truck parade at 11 and 1 and picnicking in the garden. Bring your own picnic or purchase food and drinks onsite. 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur. 10 to 2. \$6-\$20. 800-448-3883; Winterthur.org.



OCTOBER 10-11, 17-18, 24-25

Hayrides at Hagley. Families can take a hayride along the Brandywine to experience the beautiful fall foliage in the Powder Yard. *Hagley Museum, 200 Hagley Creek Road, Wilmington. 11:30 to 4. \$4-\$9. 302-658-2400; Hagley.org.*

OCTOBER 4

Radnor Fall Harvest & Great Pumpkin

Patch-TBD. Tractor and pony rides, pumpkin patches and painting, hayrides, music and moon bounces. *The Willows, 490 Darby-Paoli Rd., Radnor. 1 to 4. Free. Rain date, Oct. 13. 610-688-5600; Radnor.com.*

OCTOBER 17

Treehouse World Presents Fall Festival 2020-TBD. Enjoy a day of family fun and treehouses, pumpkin painting, face painting, adventure activities, carnival games, tree climbing and food. 1442 Phoenixville Pk., West Chester. 10 to 4. 484-329-7853; TreeHouseWorld.com.

OCTOBER 22-24

The Great Pumpkin Carve. Open-air festival featuring giant pumpkins carved into spooktacular creations. This year, it will be a drive-through event. Tickets will be timed and have to be purchased on the website. *Across from the John Chad's House, Rt. 100 N., Chadds Ford. \$5-\$15. 610-388-7376; ChaddsFordHistory.org.*



OCTOBER 23-25

Drive-In Movies at Winterthur. Movies can be viewed from cars or on the grass with BYO blankets and lawn chairs. BYO food and drink, or enjoy the food tent with food, beer/wine and popcorn for purchase. Reservations recommended. Fri, *Secretariat*; Sat, *Hocus Pocus*; Sun, *Little Women*. 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur. 5 to 9. \$30 per car. 800-448-3883; Winterthur.org.

OCTOBER 31

Tram and Treat at Winterthur. Ride a tram with stops along the way for enjoying candy, crafts, live music and games. 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur. 10 to 2. \$6-\$20. 800-448-3883; Winterthur.org.

ART, CRAFT & ANTIQUES.....

THROUGH OCTOBER 9

50th Anniversary Retrospective of the Art-work of Delco Artist George H. Rothacker. The Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford, and Main Line Art Center, 746 Panmure Rd., Haverford, will be hosting two separate exhibitions from the archives of Delaware County artist George H. Rothacker. Benefits the Media Fellowship House Chester Student Scholarship Fund and the art centers. Visit RothackerAdv.com.

THROUGH NOVEMBER 6

"CELEBRATE! Art Ability" Exhibit at The Art Trust Gallery. In partnership with Main Line Health System, highlighting contemporary art from their "Art Ability" collection. There's an Art Raffle benefit with each artist contributing a piece, Eat, Drink & Be Artsy Instagram Live interviews every Thursday at 5, and WYWH (Wish You Were Here) short video vignettes bringing the gallery visit to your home. See article in this issue. TheArtTrust.org.

OCTOBER 2-11

Clay Creations Ceramic Art Show and Sale at Historic Yellow Springs. A juried show featuring the region's best functional and sculptural works in clay. 1685 Art School Rd., Chester Springs. Free. 610-827-7414; YellowSprings.org.

OCTOBER 10

Tailgate Art Show at Radnor Hunt Club. Approximately 20 artists use their tailgates as display space for original paintings and decoratively painted Breyer Horses. Benefits Willistown Conservation Trust and Radnor Hunt Club. Social distancing guidelines must be followed. 826 Providence Rd., Malvern. Noon until 4:30 pm. Free. Rain date, Oct. 11. LandArtEvents.com.

OCTOBER 17

Hagley Craft Fair. More than 50 artisans from the Mid-Atlantic area will display and sell their fine arts, crafts and gourmet items in an outdoor marketplace. Hagley Museum and Library, 298 Buck Rd., Wilmington. 9:30 to 5. \$5 (advance tickets required). Rain date, Oct. 18. 302-658-2400; Hagley.org/Craft.



OCTOBER 23, 25

Brandywine River Museum of Art-Evening at Kuerner Farm Plein Air Event. Artists working in all media are invited to explore the property where they can sketch, paint or photograph the iconic setting. Interpreters will be available throughout the event to answer questions and provide insight into Wyeth's creative process. 1 Hoffman's Mill Rd., Chadds Ford. 4:15 pm. \$20. 610-388-2700; Brandywine.org.

NOVEMBER 6-8

57th Annual Delaware Antiques Show.

Offering fine American antiques and decorative arts, including furniture, paintings, rugs, ceramics, silver, jewelry and more. Due to COVID-19, this year's event will be virtual. Keep checking for details on the event. Winterthur.org.

BOOKS.....

THROUGH OCTOBER

Reads & Company Virtual Book Event. From bestselling authors to emerging voices, Reads & Company connects writers and readers. A variety of virtual events will continue to be hosted by the

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book store until it's safe to be in the store again. ReadsAndCompany.com.

OCTOBER 29

Main Point Books. Virtual non-Fiction Book Group: "Why We Are Polarized" by Ezra Klein. 116 N. Wayne Ave., Wayne. 7 pm. 484-580-6978; MainPointBooks.com.

EQUESTRIAN.....

THROUGH OCTOBER 28

Fraturdays & Sundays

Brandywine Polo. Now open to spectators. 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.



OCTOBER 8–17

Pennsylvania National Horse Show. One of the largest indoor horse shows in the country. This year closed to spectators, but there will be some classes exhibiting. Check website before heading to the Farm Show Complex, 2300 N. Cameron St., Harrisburg. 717-770-0222; PaNational.org.

NOVEMBER 1

86th Running of the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup.

A timber steeplechase race with a distance of 4 miles and 22 fences and three other races. This year, there will be a live stream as well as a virtual program. Post time for the first race is 1pm - no spectators are allowed on the grounds. Benefits Chester Co. Food Bank and others; 610-220-3742; PaHuntCup.org.



FOOD & BREWS.....

OCTOBER 3

Colonial PA Plantation: Spirits at Sunset. Visitors ages 13+ can use ghost hunting equipment to explore four of the Plantation's oldest and most storied buildings, while the entire experience is tracked using live night vision monitors. Masks required. 3900 N. Sandy Flash Dr., Newtown Square. 7 pm. \$25. 610-566-1725; ColonialPlantation.org.

OCTOBER 21

Field to Fork Dinner at SIW. Chef Matt Buehler, renowned area chef and Master Butcher Heather Thompson, founder of Primal Supply Meats in Philadelphia, are teaming up for a delightful dining experience at the farm. Diners limited to a smaller seating capacity and diners will be provided with specific information related to masks, social distancing, etc. 4317 S. Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. \$93. SIW-Vegetables.

FUNDRAISERS.....

THROUGH OCTOBER

6th Annual Miles For Mutts Fundraiser for To Love a Canine Rescue. You can run your 5K anywhere, anytime and over the course of several days or in tandem with another run. No matter how you choose to run it, you'll get a T-Shirt just for signing up. Plus, some awesome

Local Farm Markets

Artisan Exchange, 208 Carter Dr. Unit 13 B, West Chester. Sat, 10 to 1. Order online for delivery or pickup. ArtisanExchange.net.

Booths Corner, 1362 Naamans Creek Rd., Garnet Valley. Fri–Sat, 9 to 8. BoothsCorner.com.

Bryn Mawr Farmers Market, Lancaster Ave. Bryn Mawr train station parking lot. Sat, 9 to 1. Pre-orders are encouraged. Face masks req. Noon to 1 reserved for high risk customers to pick up preorders. Schedule on website. FarmToCityMarkets.com/Markets/Bryn-Mawr.

Devon Yard Farmers Market 138 Lancaster Ave. Wed, 10 to noon. Pre-order by Tues, noon. Email confirmation with pick-up time. 610-836-1391; GrowingRootsPartners.com.

Downingtown Farmers Market, Log Cabin Field, Kerr Park, Pennsylvania Ave. Sat, 9 to 11. Pre-order by Fri, 10 am. Email confirmation. 610-836-1391; GrowingRoots-Partners.com.

Eagleview Farmers Market, Eagleview Town Crt., Wellington Sq., Exton. Thurs, 11 to 1. Pre-order by Wed, noon. Email confirmation. 610-836-1391; GrowingRoots-Partners.com.

Kennett Square Farmers Market, The Creamery, 401 Birch St. Fri, 3 to 6. Some vendors are pre-order only. Seniors & high-risk, 3 to 3:30; gen'l public, 3:30 to 6 pm. 610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com.

Lancaster County Farmers Market, 389 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne. Wed, Fri & Sat, 6 to 4. Check Facebook to phone for pickup. 610-688 -9856; LancasterCountyFarmersMarket.com.

Malvern Farmers Market, Warren Ave. & Roberts Rd. Sat, 1 to 3. Pre-order by Fri, 10 am. Email confirmation. 610-836-1391; GrowingRootsPartners.com.

Pete's Produce Farm, 1225 E. Street Rd., West Chester. Mon–Sat, 9 to 6, Sun, 9 to 5; higher risk customers 8 to 9 am. Face masks req. Order online for curbside pick-up on Fri. 610-399-3711; PetesProduceFarm.com.

Phoenixville Farmers Market, 200 Mill St. Sat, 9:30 to noon; seniors, 9–9:30. Order deadlines vary by vendor. Check the newsletter. Curbside pick-up, if requested by Fri, noon. PhoenixvilleFarmersMarket.org.

Pottstown Farmers Market, 100 E. High St. Every other Sat. beginning June 13. 9 to 1. Masks required. 484-948-6061; PottstownFarm.org.

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

Swarthmore Farmers Market, 121 Park Ave. Sat, 10 to noon. Pre-order, prepay, pickup only. Some vendors offer home delivery. 215-733-9599; SwarthmoreFarmersMarket.org.

Sugartown Strawberries, 650 Sugartown Rd., Malvern. Daily 10 to 6. 610-647-0711; SugartownStrawberries.com.

Thornbury Farmers Market & CSA, 1256 Thornbury Rd. Thurs, noon to 6; Fri–Sat, 9 to 6; Sun, 11 to 5. CSA Pickup Thurs, noon to 6. ThornburyFarmCSA.com.

West Chester Growers Market, Chestnut & Church Sts. Sat, 9 to 1. Pre-order for some vendors. Contactless payment encouraged. Vendors pre-package. 610-436-9010; WestChesterGrowersMarket.com.

Westtown Amish Market, 1165 Wilmington Pl., West Chester. Thurs, 9 to 6; Fri, 9 to 7:30; Sat, 8 to 4. 610-492-5700; WestChesterAmishMarket.com.

Wolff's Apple House, 81 S. Pennell Rd., Media. Daily 9 to 5; 8 am to 9 am for seniors. Curbside pickup available for grocery items. 610-566-1680; WolffsAppleHouse.com.

NOVEMBER 5

Notable Kitchen Tour and Chefs' Tastings. This year the committee has compiled instructional and informational videos for you to explore new ideas in kitchen design, flower arranging, table settings and food preparation and presentation. And, you can listen to musical interludes performed by Philadelphia Orchestra musicians at your leisure throughout the coming year on their website. Benefits The Philadelphia Orchestra. NotableKitchens.com.



GARDENS.....

THROUGH OCTOBER

Mt. Cuba Center. Experience summer in the Brandywine Valley and connect with nature. There are shaded walking paths, a vibrant meadow, ponds, stately formal gardens and the summer garden. 3120 Barley Mill Rd.,

prizes (team & individual) for top fundraisers. Benefits TLC. 500 Lee Rd., Wayne. \$25. 610-908-2855; TLCRescuePA.com.

OCTOBER 5

People's Light 18th Annual Golf Classic. Come out for a day of friendly competition with those who share a passion for the arts ... and for golf. Benefits theater education programs. Waynesborough Country Club, Darby Paoli Rd., Paoli. 11 to 6. For tickets and to register, visit PeoplesLight.org.

OCTOBER 8, 9

Wings And Wheels. Join virtually or in-person. **Oct. 8,** the virtual event is online at 7 pm, with client testimony, videos and surprises. **Oct. 9,** in-person event outdoors at Vanguard ID Systems, Brandywine Airport, 1220 American Blvd., West Chester. Enjoy luxury cars, live music, food, spirits and a raffle. 4 to 6 or 6:30 to 8:30. \$75. Visit WingsForSuccess.org.

OCTOBER 11

2020 CCDSIG Virtual Buddy Walk. The Chester County Down Syndrome Interest Group holds a virtual event this year. Register to walk 1 mile (virtually) from a venue of your choice, between 9 am and 2 pm. \$15. CCDSIG.org/Buddy-Walk.

OCTOBER 11


Thorncroft Equestrian Center's 11th Annual

Lobstah Bake & BBQ. Thorncroft is putting an exciting and safe spin on this event including a tailgate option, seated or carry-out dining, live music, silent auction and plenty of fantastic food. Premium tailgate locations are limited. Rain or shine in the Jimmy Moran North Arena, 190 Line Rd., Malvern. 4 to 9. \$95 and up. Reservations a must. 610-644-1963; Thorncroft.org/Lobster-Bake-Fundraiser.




OCTOBER 13

The Saturday Club Hosts Annual Red Cross Blood Drive. This is critical to ensuring that the American Red Cross can meet all blood needs, especially during the coronavirus crisis. The American Red Cross is including Antibody Testing with every donation. Any donors who have fully recovered from COVID-19 can also consider donating Convalescent Plasma to help possibly treat other currently ill COVID-19 patients. To register visit SaturdayClub.org.



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Hockessin. Check website for guidelines. 302-239-4244; MtCubaCenter.org.

THROUGH OCTOBER

Longwood Gardens. The beauty of Longwood is waiting for you as the gardens are now open to members and ticket holders. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Mon, Wed, Thurs, Sun 10 to 6; and Fri-Sat, 10 to 10. Closed Tuesday. Check website for guidelines. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

THROUGH OCTOBER

Chanticleer Garden. Chanticleer is open by

reservation with limited capacity to manage safe distancing. Purchase individual tickets and 2020 Season Passes online. 786 Church Rd., Wayne. Wed-Sun, 10 to 5. Check website for guidelines. 610-687-4163; ChanticleerGarden.org.

THROUGH DECEMBER

Passport to America's Garden Capital. The America's Garden Capital Passport is an exclusive guide to exploring the region's public gardens. Use it to log garden visits organized by geographic region. The Passport provides need-to-know information and must-visit experiences at

each garden and is available at each site while supplies last. Check websites for hours of operation. If the garden you visit doesn't have copies of the Passport available, download the online PDF. AmericasGardenCapital.org.



MUSEUMS.....

THROUGH NOVEMBER

Wharton Esherick Museum. The museum is again open for tours, celebrating and preserving the legacy of American artist Wharton Esherick, who worked primarily in wood to create furniture, furnishings, utensils, interiors, buildings and more. 1520 Horseshoe Trail, Malvern. All visitors must have advance reservations. \$8-\$15. 610-644-5822; WhartonEsherickMuseum.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 5, 2021

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library. Outdoor areas and the first-floor galleries are now open, as is the Winterthur Store. Some in-person programs are available, including guided garden walks and garden tram tours. 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur. Tues-Sun, 10 to 5. \$15-\$30. 302-888-4600; Winterthur.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 5, 2021

Brandywine River Museum of Art. *Through Nov. 1*, Witness to History: Selma Photography of Stephen Somerstein. *Through Jan. 10*, Betsy James Wyeth: A Tribute. 1 Hoffman's Mill Rd., Chadds Ford. Wed-Mon, 10 to 4. \$6-\$18. 610-388-2700; Brandywine.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 17, 2021

Delaware Art Museum. *Through Nov. 1*, "Black Survival Guide, or How to Live Through a Police Riot." *Through Jan. 17*, "Layered Abstraction: Helen Mason and Margo Allman." 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Wed, 10 to 4; Thurs, 10 to 8; Fri-Sun, 10 to 4. \$6-\$12, Sun, free. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT.....

THROUGH OCTOBER

Kennett Flash Concerts. *Oct. 2*, Kate Schutt live streaming event; *Oct. 9*, Eilen Jewell; *Oct. 11*, Corky Laing Plays Mountain; *Oct. 16*, Love? said the Commander live streaming event. 102 Sycamore Alley, Kennett Square. Visit website for tickets. 484-732-8295; KennettFlash.org.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

OCTOBER 5

Susan G. Komen's We Can Row Philadelphia. Promoting the sport of rowing for women recovering from breast cancer to develop healthy and strong bodies, become participants in their own recovery and be part of a group of women with a common bond supporting each other. To register, KomenPhiladelphia.org/Events.

OCTOBER 16

PA Breast Cancer Coalition 2020 Conference. The 2020 PBCC Conference will offer brand new live, interactive content that you can access at your convenience, safe at home. You'll hear from researchers and care providers as well as breast cancer survivors across the state. \$25-\$50. Visit website to register. 800-377-8828; PABreastCancer.org.

OCT. 7, NOV. 4, DEC. 2

Unite for HER Virtual Hang Out-Happy Hour. A virtual hangout with Unite for HER-BYO Beverage. Live at 5 pm via Zoom. Register at UniteForHer.org/Events.

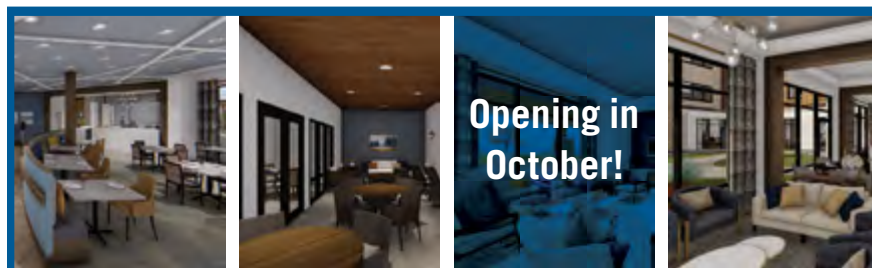
OCTOBER 29

Unite for HER Harvest Virtual Chef & Wine Tasting Event. Enjoy an inspiring evening at home featuring cuisine from renowned local restaurants, paired with hand-picked wines from vineyards around the globe. All proceeds support local breast and ovarian cancer patients. uniteforher.org/harvest.



OCTOBER 24-25

Wellness & Wisdom: The Living Beyond Breast Cancer Conference. A weekend of information and inspiration for those recently diagnosed with breast cancer, are in treatment or years beyond diagnosis. 484-708-1804; LBBC.org.



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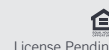
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OCTOBER 4, 11, 18

Drive-In Concert Series at People's Light.

Gather the family (limit 5/car) and enjoy some socially distanced tunes. You can pre-order food and drinks from The Farmhouse to be delivered to your car during the concert. *Oct. 4*, Susan Werner; *Oct. 11*, band TBA; *Oct. 18*, 49 Burning Condors. 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. 4 pm. \$75/car. 610-644-3500; PeoplesLight.org.

OCTOBER 11–DECEMBER 13

The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia's Musical JewelBox. Find performances and conversations with extraordinary guests, composers,

conductors and musicians live-streamed to the orchestra's YouTube channel. *Oct. 11*, violinist Elena Urioste; *Oct. 25*, Composer's Forum; *Nov. 8*, Francisco Fullana; *Dec. 6*, Writing for Film with Dirk; *Dec. 13*, Holiday Party. YouTube.com/User/ChamberOrchOfPhila.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES.....

OCTOBER 10–18

Natural Lands' Annual ChesLen Chase for Open Space. The race has gone virtual this year and you can walk, run or hike your chosen distance. Registered runners choose their own

race length, pace and location. Benefits Natural Lands' work to save open space, care for nature and connect people to the outdoors across the region. To register, visit NatLands.org/Chase2020.



OCTOBER 25

43rd Annual Radnor Run. While the decision has not been made to be in-person or virtual this year, there will still be a 5-mile timed running race, 2-mile Trail Walk along Radnor Trail and ½ Mile Kids Fun Run. Benefits the American Lung Association. Radnor Township Building, Encke Park, 301 Iven Ave., Radnor. Reg, 7 am, race, 8:30. \$30–\$40. 800-LUNG-USA; Lung.org/RadnorRun.

THEATER.....

THROUGH OCTOBER 17

Ryan & Friends: Comedy Calamity Show at Bird-in-Hand Stage. This lighthearted program combines a comedy routine and song parodies in styles ranging from country to Broadway featuring popular comedian, ventriloquist, musician and funny guy, Ryan and his friends. 2760 Old Philadelphia Pk., Bird-in-Hand. Call or visit wesite for tickets 717-768-1568; BirdInHand.com.

THROUGH OCTOBER 23

The GÜT Life at Bird-in-Hand Stage. An interactive 90-minute experience that's a conversation about the Plain Life, not always so simple. Learn about growing up Amish, working the family farm, learning to drive a buggy and listen to tales of rumspringa, living among the "English" and making choices. 2760 Old Philadelphia Pk., Bird-in-Hand. Call or visit wesite for tickets 717-768-1568; BirdInHand.com.

THROUGH DECEMBER

Coming to People's Light. Throughout fall and winter 2020, People's Light will offer two or three filmed plays along with a digitally streamed holiday concert featuring traditional music and original songs from their in-progress adaptation of *A Christmas Carol*. People's Light, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. Check website for details. 610-644-3500; PeoplesLight.org.

OCTOBER 3, 17

Peddler's Village Murder Myster Dinner Theater. Cheers to Murder comedy dinner theater show returns to the Cock 'n' Bull Restaurant, Rt. 263 and Street Rd., Lahaska. 8 pm. \$69.95. 215-794-4051; PeddlersVillage.com.

TOWNS, TALKS & TOURS.....

THROUGH OCTOBER

Open Air Market in West Chester. The Gay Street Open Air Market will be a place where visitors to the borough can shop and eat while maintaining proper social distance. Closed between Matlack to Darlington Sts. Visit DowntownWestChester.com for details.

THROUGH OCTOBER

Wednesday–Thursday

Outdoor Dining & Shopping in Media. Happening from Monroe St. to end of trolley line at Orange St. All restaurants are required to accept reservations and retailers are open in front of their store fronts. Face mask and social distance observed. 5 to 11 pm. Parking is free. 610-566-5039; VisitMediaPA.com.

THROUGH OCTOBER

Thursday–Sunday

Dining On State Street in Kennett Square. The east side of the 100 block of State Street is open for outdoor dining. 610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com.

OCTOBER 3–4

Poe Fest International. Edgar Allan Poe-themed performances, vendors, readings, music, and art workshops. The free festival will be live-streamed on the website, on Facebook @PoeBaltimore and YouTube. Special ticketed events include Virtual Death Weekend Tours, Virtual Tours of the Edgar Allan Poe House and the new Virtual Poe in Film & Fashion Exhibit. PoeFestInternational.org.

OCTOBER 3, 22

Tours at Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library. *Oct. 3*, Walking Wine Tasting Tour, stopping along the way for wine tasting and live music, rain date Oct. 9, 4 to 7. \$50; \$20 for designated driver. *Oct. 22*, Tailgate Tours focus on Winterthur's "Great Trees" with hors d'oeuvres and a selection of hard and soft beverages, registration required, 4:30 to 6, \$35. 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur. 302-888-4600; Winterthur.org.

OCTOBER 15, NOVEMBER 19

Chester County Historic Preservation Network Virtual Heritage Series "Live at Five." Enjoy the rich heritage of Chester County from the comfort of your own home. *Oct. 15*, John Evans Estate, White Clay Creek Webinar; *Nov. 19*, People's Hall of Ercildown Webinar. For tickets and information, Eventbrite.com/o/Chester-County-Historic-Preservation-Network-30518278952.

OCTOBER 17, 23

Lantern Ghost Tours at Colonial Pennsylvania

Plantation. Enjoy an evening of strange sounds, squeaky doors and ghostly stories. Follow a torch-lit path and discover the strange ways colonists treated their dead then tour the wagon barn and farmhouse. Wear sturdy shoes and bring a flashlight. 3900 N. Sandy Flash Dr., Newtown Square. Must pre-register. 9:30 pm. \$14. 610-566-1725; ColonialPlantation.org.

OCTOBER 24

Chester County History Center: "Sifting through the Evidence: Genealogy Online."

Discover sound genealogical research techniques from the comfort of home with this

yearly genealogy event. Kim F.B. Bucklaw will discuss tips and tricks for maximum results. \$25–\$30. ChesterCoHistorical.org. ♦

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PENNSYLVANIA HUNT CUP

November 1, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup Races will run without spectators, but we are bringing the races to you! Watch our live stream on-line and partner with us in the Race Against Hunger in Chester County!

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The Art Trust Gallery at Meridian Bank Art with Heart

Liz Ruff

ART WILL FIND A WAY.

SHORTLY AFTER THE ART TRUST GALLERY AT MERIDIAN Bank hosted the Opening Reception for the “Figurative” exhibit, COVID-19 shutdowns began. The days of 100+ people, sipping wine and rubbing elbows with artists and fellow patrons quickly became a thing of the past. Plans for the remaining exhibits in 2020 fell by the wayside as well.

So, how *does* a gallery stay true to its mission and continue to be viable during a pandemic?

OUTSIDE THE BOX

From its inception in 2006, The Art Trust has had a reputation for thinking outside the box. This nonprofit, volunteer-based organization supports and cultivates the exploration of a contemporary aesthetic to benefit artists and the community. In a unique partnership, the corporate sponsor, Meridian Bank, funds 100% of the gallery’s operating budget, freeing The Art Trust to donate net proceeds of sales to art scholarships, grants and sponsorships.

The gallery’s exhibits are one-of-a kind as well—a T-shirt exhibit, where T-shirts were silk-screened on site; an exhibit pairing poets and artists collaborating on visual, written and spoken art; an exhibit with an interpretive dancer moving in response to the display of ceramic bowls.

With the advent of COVID-19, these same creative minds went to work—to re-think norms and transform a physical space and experience to a virtual one. The new plan started by bringing the gallery on-line and adding e-commerce, so art could be viewed and paid for remotely.

The Art Trust then launched the concept of the Art Raffle—for a \$10 raffle ticket, patrons had a chance to win a piece of original art. This gave the gallery the opportunity to sell the work and pay their artists. Plus it was fun! There was a hunger for all kinds of fun with the dawning realization of being stuck at home.

DOING GOOD

As the impact of COVID became more apparent, everyone suffered. But marginalized communities were hardest hit.

In “Art, for Goodness’ Sake,” the gallery partnered with Stickeraffiti street artist @cassiusking with proceeds benefitting the Chester County Food Bank. The physical gallery space was closed but @cassiusking’s art could be “discovered” walking around town.

The gallery continued the Art Raffle through the summer and added a weekly Instagram Live show titled “Eat, Drink & Be Artsy.” Hosts toasted the artist, drew raffle winners and talked about art, the gallery and the Food Bank.

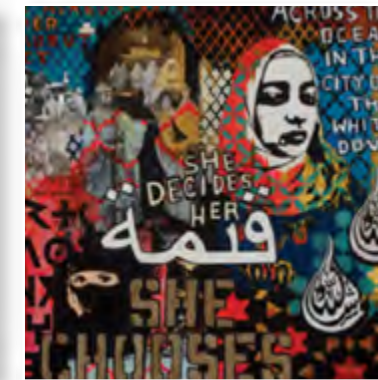
With an exhibit schedule to fill, the gallery tapped past and present board members who were artists. The “Unmasked” exhibit included a physical installation at the gallery, despite knowing that visits would be limited, if allowed at all. Instead, The Art Trust added a vignette video series titled “WYWH” (Wish You Were Here), which toured the gallery to replicate an in-person visit. In partnership with the artists, 90% of the Art Raffle sales benefitted The Melton Center.

And the good keeps going. Running through November 6, The Art Trust’s “CELEBRATE! Art Ability” exhibit features talented contemporary artists from Bryn Mawr Rehab’s “Art Ability” consignment collection, celebrating its 25th year. Opening on November 7, the exhibit is an integral part of Bryn Mawr Rehab’s mission and a year-round showcase of artists with cognitive, physical, hearing or visual disabilities. The Art Trust is excited to share this sneak peek at the quality of work exhibited there.

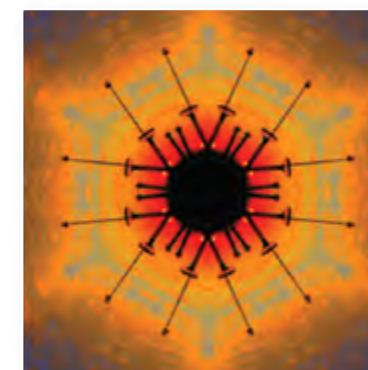
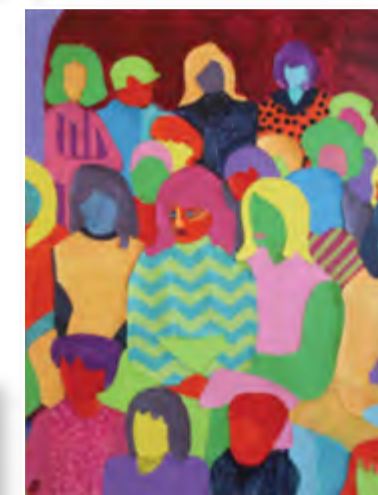
Watch for another new initiative, “MaskUPShowUP!” with on-site, timed, small-group tours, complete with personal bento boxes of wine and snacks. Registration is required, and safe, social-distancing measures will guide the planning.

Art brings joy and light to people—especially important in difficult times. The Art Trust continues to creatively adjust to new challenges with a unique approach to exhibiting and selling art. When people can’t come to the gallery, The Art Trust will find a way to bring art to them. ♦

The Art Trust Gallery at Meridian Bank, 16 W. Market St., West Chester. TheArtTrust.com. Follow them on Instagram & Facebook.



Pieces from the CELEBRATE! Art Ability exhibit. Clockwise from left: Joy Raskin, *Dancing Triangles, Earrings*; Charles Blackwell, *3 Undiscovered Planets, Just Discovered*; Juliana Coles, *She Chooses*; Shelby Brown, *Are You OK*; Priscilla Bohlen, *Ballet*; Jane Quartarone, *Eternal Becoming*; Maureen Collins, *Paris at Sunset - Charles de Gaulle Airport, France*



Vegging Out

GROWING FOOD AT HOME

Katharine Startup, Assistant Horticulturist at Chanticleer

A GARDEN PROVIDES TRANQUILITY TO THE HOME and community and can also be a resplendent source of fresh food. Many fruit, vegetable and herb plants are charming additions to your garden, yield great tasting produce and can be grown in containers or small spaces.

Combine good soil health with the right plants, and garden-fresh crops are ripe for the picking. Chanticleer has increased vegetable production this year and has many examples to inspire your plantings and planning for next spring. You may want to up your garden game for 2021.

Read on to learn how to prepare for vegetable growing success for your home garden next year.

FIRST, MAKE THE BED

The first step in creating an optimal growing space for vegetables is to take a soil test to determine your soil's pH, nutrient content and presence of any contaminants that would be health hazards.

To begin, collect soil samples to submit to a local university extension for analysis. Penn State Extension county offices provide soil testing kits and analysis. Check the Penn State website for locations and details about soil testing. It's recommended that you test every two to four years and follow the recommendations precisely. You may want to do this now to get a head start on next year's garden.

If you choose to use raised garden beds, you can enhance the nutrients by mixing in organic compost and tickling in granular organic fertilizer before planting your vegetables. Top dressing with a 2- to 3-inch layer of leaf mold or another organic mulch helps suppress weeds, retain moisture and counteract erosion. This also prevents soil splashes from dirtying plant stems when it rains.



Sweet potatoes thriving in a large hanging basket



Edible nasturtium flowers paired with calendula



Sturdy stakes support climbing cherry tomatoes

CONSIDER POTS

For those with less area for garden beds, container gardens are a delightful way to brighten up smaller spaces. These can also be used for growing vegetables.

For vegetable pots, source a soil mix free of wetting agents, perlites and synthetic chemicals to grow vegetables that are safe to eat as you also reduce your carbon footprint.

Mixing in an organic granular fertilizer at the recommended proportion before planting will add slow release nutrients to the mix. When your plants need a boost, use fish hydrolysate (better than fish emulsion), an organic, liquid fertilizer that adds a ready supply of nitrogen to the soil.

RAISE THE STAKES

If you plan to include tomatoes, peppers and eggplants in your garden, you'll need to install stakes as soon as your plants go into the ground to support them and encourage a tidy look. Knowing the

eventual height and spread of your plants will help you determine the

right stake or cage size to support the plant's branches and the weight of its fruits. Gardener's Note: Bamboo canes offer strength, a natural look and are easy to cut to size.

Take care to place your stake away from the root system of your plant but close enough to hold it upright. Keeping the stakes straight makes them less obvious in the garden. Tie the plant to the stakes using green or brown jute, which are gentle on the stems.

CHOOSE YOUR PLANTS

Home gardens can include a variety of plants to grace your table and your home—edible flowers, herbs, crops and year-round plants. Here are recommendations for your 2021 garden plans.

Edible Flowers. *Nasturtiums* are easy-to-grow annuals that spill off the edges of containers and garden borders. These annuals thrive in cool spring and fall tem-

peratures. Not only can you garnish salads with these edible flowers and leaves for a beautiful plate presentation, you can also pickle the fresh seeds with vinegar and salt for a topping similar to capers.

Calendula is another easy annual for spring and autumn that blooms consistently when deadheaded every week. The petals can be added to salads, quiches and frozen into ice cubes.

Another edible flower is the lovely summer annual *Roselle*, native to Central and West Africa. Its flowers flavor Agua de Jamaica, a cold, sweet hibiscus tea.

One more great option for teas is perennial *bronze fennel*. Its dark, towering plumes of soft, blue-green foliage can reach six feet in height over time and contrast dramatically with its golden umbels (flower clusters). These golden flowers add a licorice taste to hot or iced teas.

Herbs. *Winter savory*, a low-growing semi-evergreen bush from the Mediterranean, flowers pale white to pink, like thyme, and sprawls elegantly along borders and in pots. This makes a delicious garnish for green beans with butter.



The container displays at Chanticleer Terrace featuring vining cherry tomatoes and herbs



Rows of lettuce, bok choy and arugula, top-dressed with leaf mold mulch



Fragrant lemongrass



Tom Thumb popcorn growing in a container

Lemongrass is a rapid growing annual and can be dotted through the garden like ornamental grasses. Its lower, inner stalks can be used for tea, marinades, curries, soups and salads.

And the fragrant leaves and abundant purple florets of *Thai basil* stand up well to summer heat and add authentic flavor to homemade pad Thai, pho or pesto.

Crops. Lettuces add a softening touch and come in great variety of forms, colors and textures to enhance the visual appeal of your garden. With edges varying from frizzled to buttery, most lettuces perform best in the cooler temperatures and lower light levels of spring and fall.

For a crop that will last into early summer, seek out heat-tolerant lettuces like Black-seeded Simpson, Cherokee, Magenta, Panisse, Coastal Star or Monte Carlo. Growing lettuce in a spot with afternoon shade will help keep them cool and thriving in the heat.

For containers, Tom Thumb popcorn is a dwarf variety of corn that adds agrarian flare to a small garden area or patio.

Up the visual interest with vines of sweet potato and squash as they cascade elegantly from large pots perched on balconies and from hanging baskets.

Indoor/Outdoor Plants. Thai lime is a great tropical houseplant for sunny win-

dows and can be brought outdoors for the summer months after the last frost. This tropical bush has unique, hourglass-shaped leaves often used in Southeast Asian cooking. It's the magic ingredient for chicken Tom Yum soup, and its unique aromatic leaves are used in perfumes, cleaning and cocktails.

Prostrate creeping rosemary softens the edges of pots as it sprawls toward the ground and adds a textured, earthy look to mixed container plantings. The cascading cultivar Prostratus of the traditional Mediterranean plant can thrive in the sunshine of summer yet survive winter by a sunny window.

With all the time you have to plan your next garden, consider planting extra rows or crops so you can donate your abundance through the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Harvest program or your local food bank. Learn more at PHSONline.org. ♦

Chanticleer is a dynamic garden that's ever changing. This year, Chanticleer's Cut Flower Garden and the Chanticleer Terrace were transformed with vegetables to provide fresh produce to local food pantries and in response to the public's increased interest in growing vegetables. The garden is open through November 1, Wednesday-Sunday, from 10 to 5. 786 Church Rd., Wayne. ChanticleerGarden.org.

Photos courtesy of Chanticleer, by Lisa Roper



Aromatic leaves of the Thai Lime plant

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Across County Lines

Madison Meinel

SEASONS ARE CHANGING. AND SO IS how we visit our favorite towns in the time of COVID-19.

Welcome autumn and its changing leaves, newly crisp weather and selected seasonal fun. We recommend a scenic drive to some of our favorite destinations

to safely scope out what to enjoy in *County Lines* County. Taking a drive with those in your bubble is a responsible way to enjoy the season, and we've got suggestions for safe places to visit. We hope you fill your fall weekends with car trips to the many attractions in our area!

West Chester

The charming borough of West Chester maintains its well-earned reputation as a shopping and dining hub even with the pandemic by creating an Open-Air Marketplace. Spanning four blocks of Gay Street, this new pedestrian mall got its 15-minutes of fame on local TV news stations with scenes of couples and families at outdoor restaurant tables and browsing goods outside locally owned shops. Plenty of space for necessary safety measures.

Support local restaurants with a stop at Iron Hill for hand-crafted beer, Roots Café for breakfast and brunch and Más Mexicali for Mexican food and a scenic rooftop bar. Try out a new restaurant, like Mae's West Chester's farm-to-table goodness, La Tartine's Mediterranean cuisine and Scoops 'n' Smiles' ice cream flavors.

Shop local boutiques safely outdoors, too. Stop by 5 Senses for unique gifts, then on to Phineas Gage and

Tish Boutique for fall fashions, along with mommy & me boutique H. Rose with the latest for the kiddos.

Enjoy the walkable downtown and admire the Greek Revival architecture that's given West Chester the nickname, Athens of Pennsylvania.

And although October's Gallery Walk is postponed until 2021, feel free to visit local galleries for an afternoon of fine art. See solo exhibitions from selected artists at the Church Street Gallery, the latest at The Art Trust, or view paintings featuring Chester County landscapes at the new David Katz Gallery on Gay Street.

While we await live performances to resume at Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center, watch their virtual performances on their Facebook page. You can support the theater by donating on their website to help raise the curtain on a West Chester favorite.

West Chester's open-air marketplace

Southern Chester County

Next up is a trip to southern Chester County, filled with charming towns, beautiful gardens and plenty of good food.

Kennett Square offers a bounty of dining options, made even better with Open-Air dining on the 100 block of East State Street for more space to socially distance. Plan a meal at favorites like La Verona for flavorful Italian dishes, Verbena for refined American cuisine, and Talula's Table for their Farm Table dinners, now available without a one-year wait—one of the few good developments for diners.

More options await outside downtown. The Creamery offers a beer garden, food trucks and live music. And on Friday afternoons, it hosts the lively Kennett Square Farmers Market with fresh fruit, veggies, flowers and other treats from local vendors.

On a gorgeous autumn day, why not download a map from the Brandywine Conservancy

and go Hiking with History? The map's release coincided with the famous Battle of Brandywine and details cultural and natural attractions across the region. While you're there, engage with art at the Brandywine River Museum of Art (limited capacity), hosting exhibits like "Witness to History: Selma Photography" and "Imagine Brandywine."

A final must-see is Longwood Gardens. Stroll the 1,000-acre property filled with woodlands, gardens and meadows. Some events, like Jazz-fest, are on hold, but there's so much still to enjoy, like the One Thousand Bloom Chrysanthemum or the Illuminated Fountain Shows extended through October! Virtual visits are another option on Longwood's YouTube page, bringing the beauty of the gardens to you.

The Main Line

Autumn is a perfect time for a drive along Lancaster Avenue (Route 30), through the heart of the Main Line to scope out what's new. Enjoy wandering on the winding neighborhood roads as you pass well-manicured grounds surrounding stone mansions and painted Victorians.

We recommend a visit to Malvern, home to People's Light. Although the theater's closed, People's Light keeps the community entertained with things like the Drive-in concert series with tunes from local musicians, enjoyed from your car. For the kid-

dos, check out "Folk Tales in the Garden," featuring storytelling for kids of all ages. Or plan a date-night meal at the on-site restaurant, The Farmhouse, with live music on Friday nights.

More dining options? General Warren in Malvern celebrates 275 years of hospitality and history. Or try newcomers Jin Ding in Bryn Mawr (replacing landmark Yangming) specializing in dim sum or the Wayne Hotel's long-awaited restaurant, Rosalie, for Italian soul food. Also in Wayne is 118 North, hosting a Tailgate

and Takeout Series with local musicians to accompany your crab pasta, falafel wrap, or chorizo and avocado pizza. The concerts are streamed on the 118 North Facebook page for everyone to enjoy.

Home cooks may like the new virtual cooking classes, Fearless in the Kitchen, featuring local chefs. Rosalie's chef hosts "Pasta Making Made Easy" on October 17th and White Dog Café shares recipes for the perfect Thanksgiving meal with "Talking Turkey" on November 17th. More information at MainLineSchoolNight.com.



General Warren



118 North

Downingtown & Exton

With just five miles between them on Route 30, Downingtown and Exton can be paired together for a visit. Yet, each town has its own attractions.

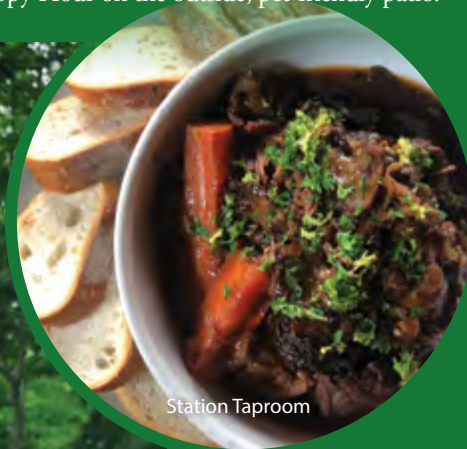
Many know Downingtown for its top-rated schools, including the School of Distinction award recipient, STEM academy. Another highlight is Downingtown Farmers Market, managed by Growing Roots Partners, offering locally grown fruits and veggies. Saturday mornings at the market are for picking out your favorite goodies (with social distancing rules). Can't make it to the Downingtown market? Eagleview in Exton, Devon and Malvern also have weekly farmers markets.

Yes, many beer fests have been postponed, but you can get your Oktoberfest fix and drink local with beers from Stolen Suns Craft Brewing & Roasting—the outdoor beer

garden also offers live music. Or get your drinks to go from the Bottle Room and Station Taproom, where you can pick up a wide variety of craft beers and canned cocktails for an at-home happy hour.

An Exton highlight is Wellington Square Bookshop, now opening its doors for patrons to pick up something new. Check the website for monthly Zoom virtual book club meetings, then get a copy of this month's selection—*The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See.

Another must-stop is the outdoor mall, Exton on Main Street, providing a distanced way to stop at local shops. Grab a bite there at Appetites on Main, serving entrees like a Mac & Cheese burger or the Italian Market Sandwich, washed down with a selection from the extensive beer list. A perfect Happy Hour on the outside, pet-friendly patio.



Station Taproom



Appetites on Main



Delaware County

Travel to Delaware County and stop in Newtown Square for seasonal fun. Looking for a scare? Look no further than the Lantern Ghost Tours at Colonial Pennsylvania Plantation, one of the most haunted properties around. Experience a true Halloween thrill during this walking tour.

Looking for more treats and not tricks? Then a visit is in order to Christopher Chocolates for autumn candies and Halloween goodies for the kids.

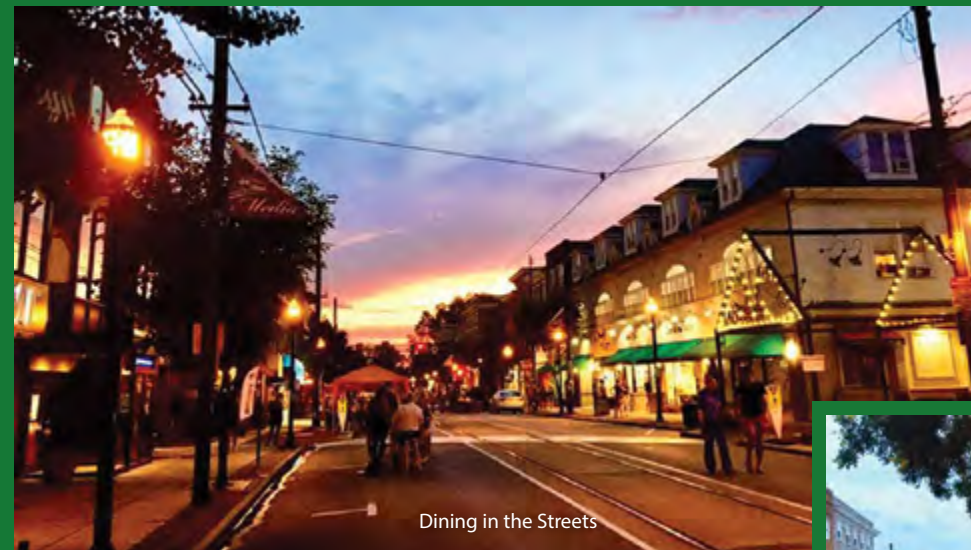
For more sweet family fun head to Media where you can still Pick-Your-Own fruit (with proper safety measures) at Linvilla Orchards. Stock up on apples like Honeycrisp, Mutsu or Granny Smiths—perfect for baking all-American apple pie or its easier cousin, apple crisp.

Like other towns, Media also offers Dining in the Streets as a way to accommodate current safety requirements. So many choices along State Street—like satisfying pasta dishes from Spasso Italian Grill and classic pub grub from Brick & Brew.

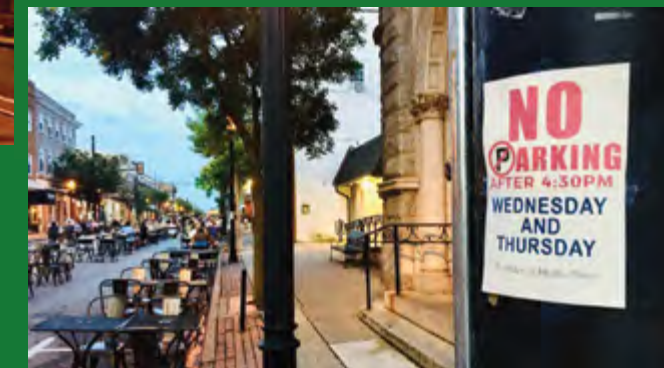
Watch for the reopening of Media Towne House, under new ownership. The newly renovated restaurant is set for a fall launch, complete with a bar space, areas for fine dining and casual eating and a formal ballroom for larger events (hopefully soon). Plus a beer garden!



Linvilla Orchards



Dining in the Streets



Wilmington



Hop on scenic Route 52 for a day trip across the state-line into Delaware.

Looking for seasonal family fun? Wilmington Western Railroad is up and running with events like their socially distanced hayrides (through October) and Halloween Express (October 31st). Or check out the Rockwood Park & Museum's Paranormal Investigation. This outdoor walking tour covers the trails and paths of Rockwood Park using professional paranormal equipment for some spooky fun.

For some outdoor shopping, head to Hagley Museum and Library for their annual Craft Fair on October 17th. Vendors will be outside so you can shop for fine arts, crafts and gourmet items in a safe environment. Browse unique goods from talented artisans from across the Mid-Atlantic. Maybe do some early holiday shopping?

A trip to Delaware is not complete without a visit to at least one of the great museums nearby. We recommend putting the Delaware Art Museum on the top of your list. Their recent exhibit, *Black Survival Guide*—mentioned in our September issue—has been extended through October. Or catch a movie (safely) during the Museum's Drive-In Movie series held in their sculpture garden. October's movies include *The Birdcage*, *North by Northwest* and, of course, the Halloween classic *Frankenstein*.



Delaware Art Museum



Hagley Museum and Library

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The Phoenix Always Rises

Carol Metzker

EVEN A PANDEMIC CAN'T KEEP PHOENIXVILLE DOWN

SINCE PHOENIXVILLE GOT ITS NAME IN 1827, IT HAS seen challenges. But for every down, there has been an up. For every obstacle, villagers have found a solution. The Phoenix always rises and 2020 is proving to be no exception.

In fact, some Phoenixville folks are dishing up creative solutions with smiles behind masks and inclusivity behind events.

One of those can-do residents is Deb Woolson. Running with the attitude of “We Can Do It,” she helped boost one of the original Rosie the Riveters—Mae Krier, who built airplanes from 1943 to 1945—to celebrity status in record time.

The duo met in 2018 as nonagenarian Mae campaigned for a Congressional Gold Medal in Honor of all women who helped win World War II.

While gathering backing from Congress and community members, Mae gifted supporters with red and white polka dot scarves she sewed, reminiscent of the bandana in the famous Rosie the Riveter poster.

Deb stepped in to build Mae a Facebook page. Her work expanded and their friendship grew.

Then COVID-19 hit our area. Mae and volunteers made and distributed polka-dotted masks to protect against the spread of infection. Deb kept up her efforts despite losing two family members and almost another to the coronavirus.

The Associated Press picked up a local article about their mask and medal projects. A few weeks and 5,000 Facebook followers later, Deb and Mae limited promises for the free masks, as the team could no longer fulfill an overwhelming number of requests from multiple countries.

“I lived through World War II,” said Mae. “The pandemic is a different war. If my little red and white polka dot masks

can help save one life, my work has not been in vain.”

No doubt Deb and Mae will help win it, as well as obtain the vote for a medal on behalf of Mae’s coworkers 75 years ago. They have a proven track record for victory.

THE SHOW MUST GO ON

Phoenixville businesses have risen above current challenges, too. A few blocks of Bridge Street transform into an open-air market part of each week. Students attended a summer Virtual College Fair. First Thursday “We Are” vigils via Zoom follow a peaceful Black Lives Matter rally in June organized by Phoenixville Area High School youth.

Need a little more popcorn in your life? The [Colonial Theatre’s](#) Berry Room can be rented for private showings for your

quarantine circle of 12 family members or peas in your school pod.

Choose from October’s menu of Halloween-centric movies—family-friendly, repertory or new—and sit back with popcorn to enjoy the show. “It gives viewers a chance to escape from the house and feel normal for two hours,” said Bob Trate, the theater’s marketing director.

When the delightful children’s book about a special school play, “Second Banana,” by Blair Thornburgh debuted in August, the acclaimed local author lamented that book-signing parties weren’t part of a pandemic world.

But thanks to the bookstore [Reads & Company](#), fans of Thornburgh’s stories can still get the personalized book copies they want. Customers browse choices of signed books on a section of the Phoenixville bookstore’s website and



Deb Woolson (right) with Mae Krier, one of the original Rosie the Riveters





liven up midweek: Wine Down Wednesday wine to-go at reduced prices.

The restaurant's huge interior and airy patio with umbrellas and rooftop brilliantly accommodate social distancing. Suspended during earlier phases of shutdown, back on the table is Dine Out for Charity on Mondays.

Steel City Coffeehouse and Brewery keeps Thursdays entertaining with online Open Mic Night. Seven days a week, their new venture—the Steel City Pantry—offers staples that are special and treats that are as good as they are good for you.

Realizing that picking up milk and bread wasn't an easy proposition during the pandemic, owners Laura and Ed built a mini-market across from the stage. They stocked shelves with tempting Pennsylvania jams, honey and pickles; breads—rosemary olive oil, sauerkraut rye and more; and milks including almond and coconut. Their snack bars, coffee and tea make survival under any circumstances brighter.



add information for personalization at check-out. The signed copy goes on its merry way to you or your small friend looking for giggles in a topsy-turvy world.

Orion Communities, a social services agency that helps neighbors with unmet needs, continues an annual, inclusive community fun and fundraising event on October 9th, **Music for Everyone**. Previously held live at the Colonial Theatre, this year concerts and receptions come to your home—to your screen or to your doorstep, depending on the event feature. Give it up for bands broadcast from the theater.

Pick up or take delivery of hors d'oeuvres from the **Kimberton Inn** or dinner from **Stone House Grill**.

WHEN EVERY DAY FEELS LIKE WEDNESDAY

If you're someone who feels like every day is hump day—trying to jump hurdles of home-schooling, work and new routines, plus work from home—**Sedona Taphouse** has something to



This winter look for vegan, gluten-free and regular ingredients for home baking—flours and **Big Spoon Roasters'** handcrafted nut butters to make homemade peanut (or not-peanut) butter cookies.

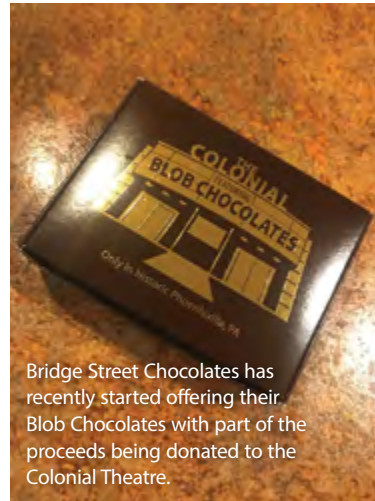
Whether you sneak chocolate under your mask or go at it with gusto and get smudges all over your gloves is your business. Offering chocolate that makes any day feel as special as a weekend is the business of Gail Warner. With creativity and collaboration, the owner of **Bridge Street Chocolates** is helping businesses and patrons raise morale, one sweet morsel at a time.

To raise spirits, one company ordered boxes of truffles for every employee. A school district sent chocolate-covered pretzels and sea salt drops to teachers.

Warner and Teresa Haag—the artist loved for her “Welcome to Phoenixville” mural—have also cooked up a tantalizing project that has fans of both chocolate and art pining for the holidays. In the works is an advent calendar with delicious treats hidden behind windows of a magical, seasonal piece of artwork by Haag.

The blue lampposts still shine. The flag still flies. Colorful umbrellas are still up along Bridge Street. And like the firebird that gave the town its name, friends in Phoenixville are still rising to every occasion. ♦

For more about what's happening in Phoenixville, visit PhoenixvilleFirst.org.



Bridge Street Chocolates has recently started offering their Blob Chocolates with part of the proceeds being donated to the Colonial Theatre.



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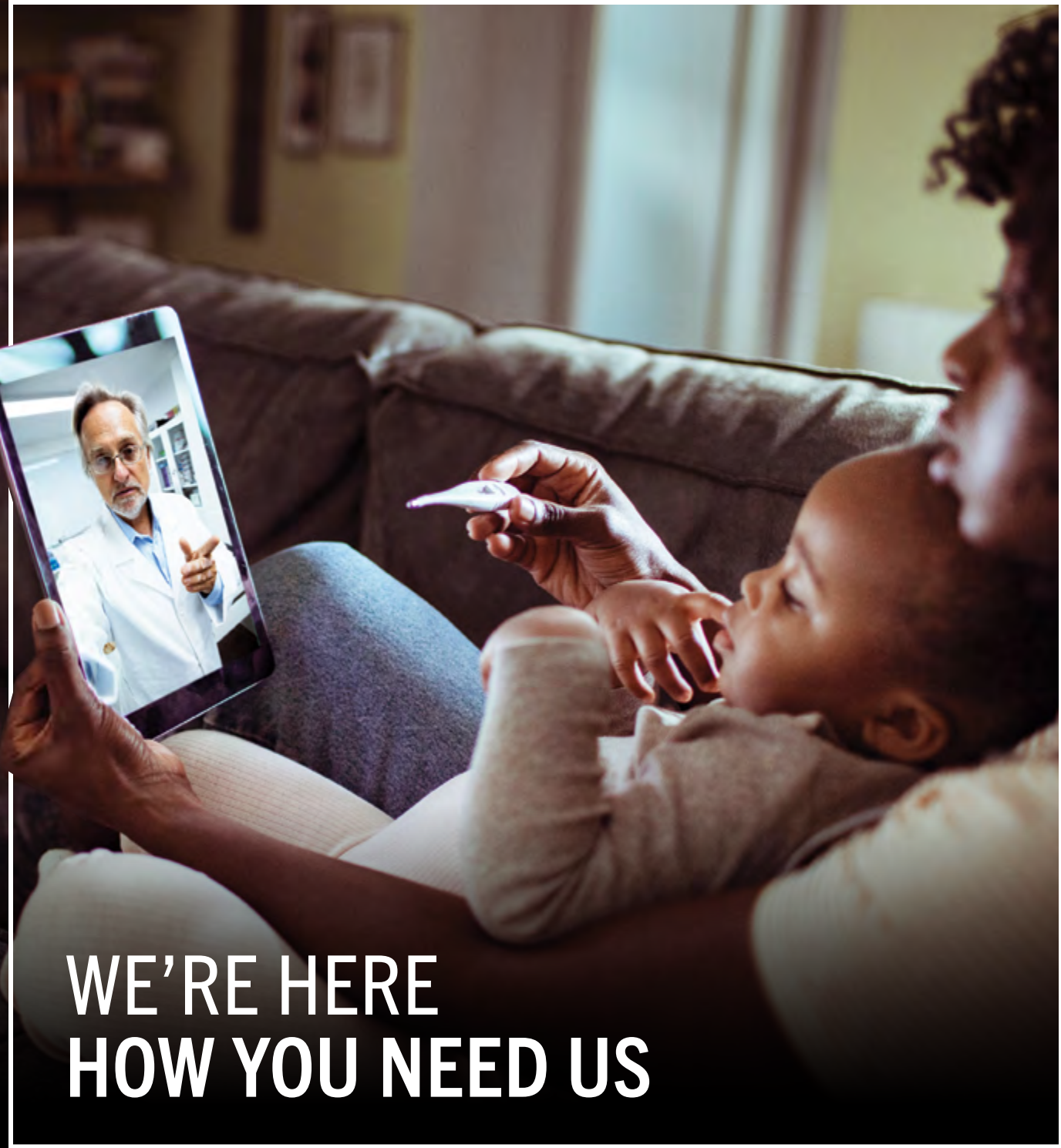
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THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS CONFRONT COVID



Pilot School Art

AFTER SEVERAL WEEKS OF HINTS, THE GREAT hiatus for most independent schools began in March. Then it continued through spring. Then summer. Schools shut down, initially for a few weeks, but ultimately, or at least partially, stayed shut into fall.

Classes were cancelled. Students stayed home. Parents and schools tried to conjure prom and graduation celebrations, but it wasn't the same.

Sadness, quiet and uncertainty settled in. Through the summer, the days wasted away. We looked toward fall, and wondered what it would hold.

PLANNING

Throughout the summer in the independent school community, staffs were hard at work. Committees were formed. Classes were "reimagined." Contractors were hired. Everyone held their breath. And hoped.

By September, we could see that things would be ... well, different. Students would wear masks. Everyday they'd share their vital information—temperature, contacts, symptoms or lack of them. Hand washing would be done even more regularly. Seating would be distanced. Classes themselves might be smaller. Large assemblies non-existent. There might be more time planned between classes to ease six-foot distancing.

PREPARING THE SCHOOLHOUSES

Preparing for the 2020-21 school year meant, in most cases, retooling the schools' spaces. Six feet would mean smaller classes, bigger rooms or both. Or maybe some "Macgyvering."

Pilot School, Benchmark School, Upland School and Westtown School have, at least temporarily, moved more



Benchmark School

of their classes outside. [Church Farm School](#), looking at an international student population, “intentionally under-enrolled” for 2020-21. [Haverford School](#) luckily had just completed its new middle school building and kept its temporary mobile classrooms a bit longer.

The schools scrutinized their physical plants. They made improvements and expansions to classrooms, cafeterias, hallways, bathrooms and ventilation systems. Some spaces were repurposed and some furniture was removed to allow distancing. Some, e.g., [Wilmington Friends School](#), Haverford, and [Villa Maria High School Academy](#), installed plexiglass barriers—some at teachers’ and staff desks, cafeteria tables and other areas where people might interact face-to-face.

Hand sanitizers, contactless faucets and

automatic paper towel dispensers were added in the bathrooms. Schools substituted water-filling stations for traditional water fountains.

All schools have amped up their cleaning procedures. [Tatnall School](#), for example, hired a second crew to clean and disinfect high-touch areas at least every two hours.

NEW SCHEDULES

In September, the schools restarted, though several postponed. [Episcopal Academy](#) and Church Farm, for instance, were “all-virtual” in the beginning. Until January, Church Farm will be online only. Episcopal will monitor the situation closely and open up as necessary.

Many schools—Malvern Prep, Wilmington Friends, Upland School, [Archmere](#)

[Academy](#), [Centerville-Layton School](#), [Tatnall](#) and [Westtown](#), for example—opted for “hybrid” approaches, mixing in-person and remote learning. Remote learning, generally by internet or television, is for students who prefer to “attend class” at home.

Malvern Prep, for example, has its middle schoolers attend in-person classes on Monday and Tuesday, its upper schoolers on Thursday and Friday; otherwise, learning is remote. Wednesdays are reserved as Brotherhood Day for extracurricular activities. As the school year unfolds, the school is looking toward “slowly transitioning” to full on-campus attendance.

Archmere isn’t adopting a 100% virtual schedule initially, but is “prepared” to. The school installed cameras and microphones “to plug into their classes remotely” and

“prevent absent students from missing valuable content or losing momentum in their coursework.” For now, students will attend a class twice, instead of four times, per week. They also get two weekly “asynchronous lessons”—lessons that students can complete on their own schedules.

Adopting a hybrid approach has advantages, says Wilmington Friends, finding “a nice balance” of in-person and remote learning. The school believes the in-person component allows “time for those programs and projects that are most meaningful face-to-face, such as science lab, group work and discussions,” while remote enables “students to see their teacher and one another without a face mask.”

A few schools—Villa Maria, Benchmark, Tatnall—opened on their regular schedule in late August or early September. Even so, for some, their class schedules are much different. Villa Maria has gone to a “pure block schedule.” Students will take three or four classes per semester, as they would in college. The new schedule, it says, “will make it easier for students and staff if they have to go to remote learning.”

SCREENING AND DISTANCING

All schools, for students, faculty and other staff, require masks—shields for some activities—and daily health screening. Required information from students and school employees may be temperature, symptoms and contacts.

Also required are social distancing and necessary protocols to implement that, including desk spacing, hallway directional signs and staggered times for changing classes.

CLASS SIZE AND COHORTS

Even before the onset of the pandemic, the independent schools generally had smaller class sizes: an advantage for learning reasons, and now for health reasons as well. For example,



Haverford School



Wilmington Friends



Tatnall School



Archmere Academy



Malvern Prep

Pilot School typically has 6-8 students in each class, Upland 10-17, Villa Maria averages 17. Archmere has halved the size of its classes: now they're no larger than 10 students.

Limiting the possibility of contact is essential. A key aspect of minimizing coronavirus transmission is to isolate movement to the extent possible. If not controlled, an infection can easily spread through a whole school's population.

The solution has been to limit the contact to within a small cohort. At Centerville-Layton, for example, the students are divided by school level. The lower school, for example, "will not cross" with middle or upper school students and faculty. Wilmington Friends and Benchmark are using a similar model. While Westtown is using class cohorts in its lower and middle school, the upper school's curriculum makes it too "complex" to implement.

COMPUTERS, SOFTWARE AND

REMOTE LEARNING

In general, the independent schools have done an excellent job of assuring that all their students are technologically equipped. MacBooks have become de rigueur in upper schools. iPads and ChromeBooks are available for lower school students. Their use has now become essential.

As the schools have implemented remote learning, software has come into focus. Zoom, which facilitates online meetings, is nearly universal. Google Meet and Google Classroom are also widely used. Among other software in use are Seesaw, Studyo and Meeting Owl.

INGENUITY

Adapting to the coronavirus in science labs and extracurriculars has presented special challenges.

Science, says a Church Farm instructor, is "tricky because of the 'hands-on' nature of lab experiments." The problem was

partially solved using online simulation. "It's not quite the same, but they are still learning the essential skills." Instruction also makes use of recorded videos, live demonstrations, virtual whiteboards and anything else that mimics an "in-person" experience.

Music has also required new solutions. At Wilmington Friends, for example, the band's instruments "will be covered with sleeves."

SPORTS

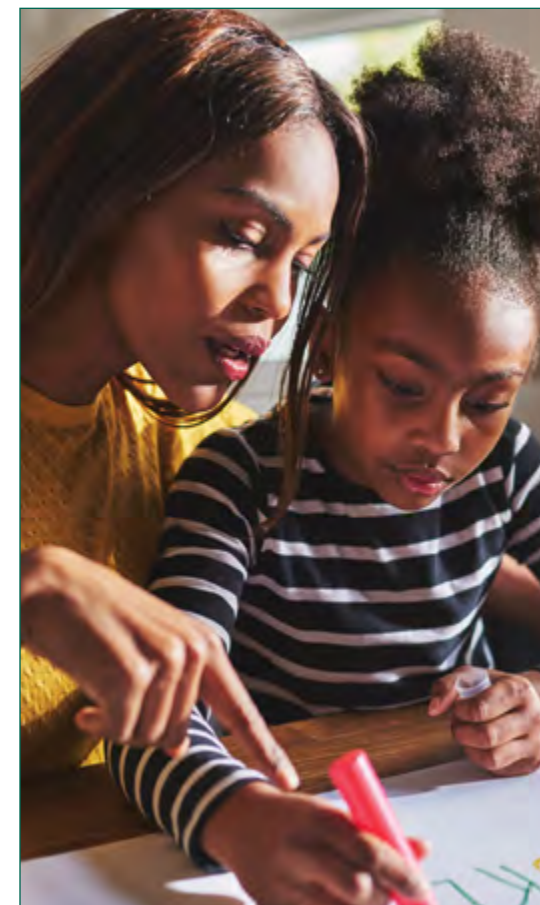
And sports also present difficult problems. The Inter-Ac league, which includes Malvern Prep, Episcopal and Haverford, has cancelled its fall season. The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association and Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association have also postponed their seasons, at least temporarily.

Nevertheless, independent schools remain committed to sports, for fitness and for its life lessons. Episcopal's varsity coaches, for instance, are offering several on-campus, socially distanced fitness, strength and conditioning sessions for students after school. Most, like Upland, are "planning to continue outdoors with proper distancing and adherence to pods (i.e., cohorts)."

PROTOCOLS AND HABITS ... AND STRESS

Perhaps the toughest part of the 2020-21 school year will be learning and remembering new habits. Hand-washing, mask-wearing, distancing, following hallway signs, more complicated schedules. It will be difficult, likely stressful, for hundreds of boys and girls to remain obedient to the many necessary new and changing rules.

But the cost of not following the rules is very large, and a heavy burden of compliance will fall on parents. Witness what has taken place at colleges around the country. You, we're afraid, will likely have to be the enforcers. ♦



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PENNSYLVANIA

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610-827-7222; MontgomerySchool.org



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888-722-9237; PACyber.org



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Online Info Sessions: Visit PACyber.org/Session



Haverford

Haverford School

450 Lancaster Ave. 484-417-2780; Haverford.org

The Haverford School, a nonsectarian college preparatory day school for Pre-K–12, provides a superior liberal arts education for qualified boys of differing backgrounds.

They are committed to developing the full intellectual, artistic, athletic and moral potential in each boy, and aim to graduate young men with strong character who possess a passion for learning and the necessary problem-solving skills to make a difference in the world.

Look and Learn: Lower School: Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 18, Dec. 2, 9

Middle School: Oct. 13, 27, Nov. 10, 24, Dec. 8

Upper School: Oct. 15, 19, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3



Malvern

Malvern Preparatory School

418 S. Warren Ave.
484-595-1100
MalvernPrep.org



Malvern Preparatory School is an independent Augustinian school for young men in grades 6 through 12. Malvern Prep offers its students a nurturing, Catholic community in which they can grow and become the best possible version of themselves. The curriculum balances rigorous academics, extracurricular commitment, spiritual development, and Christian service, providing an experience that places students at the center of learning.

Visit the website for additional information.



Villa Maria Academy High School

370 Central Ave. 610-644-2551; VMAHS.org



Villa Maria Academy is a girls' Catholic college preparatory high school educating young women to be critical thinkers, creative problem solvers, and collaborative citizens with strong communication skills. Rigorous academics, combined with innovative real-world experiences and extensive extracurricular opportunities, prepare young women with the skills and the confidence they need to meet the challenges of the future.

Open House: Oct. 4

Entrance/Scholarship Exam: Oct. 18 or 24



Media

Media-Providence Friends School

125 W. Third St.
610-565-1960; MPFS.org



A Quaker school in downtown Media for students age 3 through grade 8. Small classes allow for a whole child approach to learning and differentiated instruction in a rich academic environment, where students find their passion with purpose. MPFS offers full-day preschool and kindergarten as well as an After-school Enrichment program with a diverse selection of classes from cooking and crafting to robotics and rock band.

Open House: Oct. 16th, 10 am; RSVP to mpfs.org/rsvp



Newtown Square

Episcopal Academy

1785 Bishop White Dr.
484-424-1400; EpiscopalAcademy.org



Episcopal Academy, a Pre-K–12, coeducational, independent day school, offers a classical yet innovative academic program, renowned for excellence in the humanities and sciences and focused on social responsibility and ethical leadership. Episcopal's commitment to individual attention and to building an engaging, supportive school experience builds self-confidence and fosters a love of learning in all students.

Open House: Oct. 25, Nov. 7



Phoenixville

Renaissance Academy

413 Fairview St.

610-983-4080; www.RAK12.org

Established in 1999, Renaissance Academy is a fully accredited, K-12, award-winning, tuition-free, college prep charter school. Currently educating 1060 students from 21 surrounding school districts, the Academy's mission is to prepare children for success as students, workers and citizens by providing them with a high-quality liberal arts, college preparatory education. Renaissance Academy is listed on *US News & World Report's* 2020 Best High Schools in America. Open House: *Check the website for dates.*



Villanova

Academy of Notre Dame de Namur

560 Sproul Rd.

610-971-0498; NDAPA.org

With a bold strategic vision, proven online education program, and state-of-the-art Riley Center for STEM Education, Notre Dame

is inspiring young women from grades 6 to 12 to take their place as confident leaders in a global society. The Academy is a faith community, guided by the Catholic mission of service to others and the legacy of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur.

Virtual Open House: *Gr. 6-12: Sept. 27*

Virtual Experience ND Day for Parents: *Oct. 21*

Entrance Exams: *Gr. 9: Oct. 17 or 25; Gr. 6: Oct. 25*



DELAWARE

Wilmington

Tatnall School

1501 Barley Mill Rd.,

302-998-2292; Tatnall.org

Students in Pre-K3-12 experience a transformative education on a gorgeous hundred-acre campus. They prioritize the balance between rigor and the freedom to explore, sparking in students the confidence to approach old challenges in new ways and cultivating a lifelong love of learning. Tatnall's caring, dedicated teachers are at the heart of what makes Tatnall extraordinary. The deep, authentic relationships built here provide the ideal environment to foster students' growth and achievement. *Call or visit their website to schedule your personal tour.*



Wilmington Friends School

101 School Rd. (Rts. 202 & 95)

302-576-2900; WilmingtonFriends.org

Wilmington Friends is a great place to grow up. They offer an unsurpassed academic program with depth, asking students to question, collaborate, be creative and take risks, all within a caring community that balances focus on the individual with responsibility to the common good. Reggio Emilia inspired preschool, 1:1 laptop/iPad program for Pre-K-12th, STEM Labs and programming, and International Baccalaureate program.

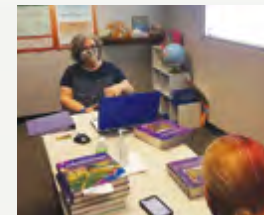
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Sunday, October 25

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DVFriends

GRADES 1-12

Delaware Valley Friends School

19 E. Central Avenue | Paoli, PA | 610.640.4150

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October 28

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8th graders
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PENNSYLVANIA

Downingtown

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600 Boot Rd. 610-431-8830; Devereux.org/Autism

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Paoli

Delaware Valley Friends School

19 E. Central Ave.

610-640-4150; DVFS.org

DVFriends serves bright students in Grades 1–12 with learning differences in reading (dyslexia), writing (dysgraphia), math (dyscalculia), memory (long-term and working), processing speed, ADHD and executive functioning challenges. Their Quaker community recognizes and honors the inherent worth of all people. Teachers guide students to embrace the courage to try, establish the confidence to reach farther, and build resilience to succeed in school and beyond.

Virtual Open House: Lower School: Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 9, 7 pm

Middle & Upper School: Nov 8, 1 pm; Dec. 2, 7 pm

Registration req.



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610-873-4955; Devereux.org

Sites: Downingtown, Glenmoore, Malvern & West Chester

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445 Upper Gulph Rd.

610-687-9660; Woodlynde.org

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Virtual Open House: Oct. 13, Nov. 10, Dec. 8, 9 am

*Zoom links are sent to registrants 1 week prior to the event.

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centrevillelayton.org

DELAWARE

Centreville

Centreville Layton School

6201 Kennett Pk.

302-571-0230; CentrevilleLayton.org

Centreville Layton School offers a robust educational and cultural experience for students who learn differently. The program identifies the academic and social needs of the individual and provides a curriculum that focuses on problem-solving and critical thinking. Through intervention and strengthening learning strategies, the school empowers each student to reach his or her potential. Pre-K-12, and postgraduate program.

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Wilmington

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6 Stone Hill Rd.

302-594-0685; AugustineHills.com

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484-200-5975; Mathnasium.com

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Local Real Estate in the Time of COVID-19

Cindy Walker

SLAMMED, FLAT-OUT, IN OVERDRIVE—LOCAL REALTORS ARE FINDING THE CHESTER COUNTY MARKET IS BOOMING. WHAT'S GOING ON?

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN YOUR HOME WAS YOUR haven, your castle, your refuge. And buying a new home was an exciting next life step, filled with hopes and dreams as you planned for a family or upsized your nest.

But now, your home may also have to be your office, gym, movie theater, bar, kids' classroom and more. And if you're spending most of your time in your home, surrounded for longer hours by your entire family, you want to love the place where you live.

So, what's the real estate market like during the time of COVID? We talked with some local realtors to learn more.

WHAT'S HAPPENED?

Moving from total shutdown in mid-March, when Governor Wolf declared real estate a non-essential business, to what Holly Gross of the Holly Gross Group described as "opening the floodgates around June 1," local realtors have experienced the whiplash of a dramatic narrow-U-shaped curve of activity.

And there were other complications. "Realtors were deemed essential in the early months in other states, but weren't permitted to cross state lines," says Margot Teetor of ReMax Preferred.

Existing home sales countrywide fell 26.6% in May 2020 from the prior May, but later rose over 20% in June over May. At the same time, median housing prices rose in every region of the country, according to the National Association of Realtors.

Zillow economist Jeff Tucker said, "The Philadelphia market is quite hot now." Yes, our area is even more attractive now than before the pandemic, confirming choices made by those of us who live here. The move away from cities, in search of larger homes and more accessible outdoor space, has made Chester County an even more desirable location for a new home.

Add to the buying frenzy, historic low mortgage interest rates. "Rates fell below 3% on 30-year mortgages for the first time ever, with jumbo rates approaching 3%," says Stephen Gross of the Holly Gross Group, confirming the strong local market. Mark July 16, 2020 as the date for breaking the 3% mark.



Stephen, Holly and Stewart Gross of The Holly Gross Group

These conditions are spurring many to enter the real estate market for the first time. Older millennials (a significant group) wanting to own, city dwellers looking to the 'burbs, others ready to trade up for more space, and still others motivated by FOMO (fear of missing out on low, low mortgage rates).

WHAT DO BUYERS WANT?

The image of a dream house and its location are both evolving. Searches for houses with pools have tripled and searches for single family homes are up 40% on the Compass Real Estate website, as condo and co-op searches have decreased.

New house hunters want plenty of outdoor space—fresh air, big yards, pools, patios, decks—places to be outside for the whole family, including pets. And to be able to entertain in a responsible socially distant manner.

Proximity to more outdoor space is also a goal, whether it's parks and bike paths or lakes and beaches. "People know we'll be spending more time outdoors for the foreseeable future, so the green space of Chester County is a big draw," says Rob Van Alen of Country Properties.



Ron Van Alen of Country Properties

Interestingly, homeowners are searching for different kinds of indoor space. The quest for open floor plans is being supplanted by a need for some separate rooms. A home office is in high demand—sometimes two home offices for dual-career families who may have dueling Zoom meetings. Additional private space may also be needed for home

schooling activities, with separate space for each child on a different schedule.

"Others are in search of space for a family compound, bringing the extended family together for short or long term," says Van Alen.

As for location, location, location, that parameter has changed, too. No longer is a short commute to work near the top of the wish list. With work-from-home plans continuing until who knows when, home buyers are less tethered to their workplace. "We're seeing interest in our area from people working in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and even some from the Midwest" says Van Alen.

And with home delivery becoming the new normal, even for those who hadn't jumped on the PeaPod wagon before, being near shopping is less pressing. Same for living near great bars and restaurants.

HOW GOOD IS IT TO BE A SELLER?

Even before the pandemic, inventory of existing residential housing was low. "There's far too little inventory in our area," says Stephen Gross.

It's clearly a seller's market in our area. In the "sweet spot"—homes under \$750,000—offers are quick and plentiful. "We had one property get 30 offers!" says Stewart Gross.

Beyond bidding wars, some buyers are waiving inspections—generally against their realtor's advice—and others are making cash offers to simplify the deal. (With low mortgage rates, the new buyers can get their mortgage after closing.)

HOW TO BE SAFE?

Although it's great to be a seller, there are safety concerns with opening your home to strangers—agents, prospective buyers, inspectors, appraisers. Plus there's paperwork to complete for those who enter homes, a special Covid form that asks about symptoms and contact with others (COVID-19 Property Access Notice (Form COVID-PAN)).

Fortunately, technology has come to the rescue. The pandemic accelerated use of virtual walkthroughs, 3-D mapping and drone surveys of residential properties, says Holly Gross.

Facebook live open houses, video conferences and Facetime tours are increasingly popular. "Homebuyers can take a virtual tour—using services like Matterport for 360-degree virtual home tours—then review the specifics and questions with their realtor," says Van Alen.

Most sellers want to limit visits to serious buyers only. Buyers should be pre-qualified for a mortgage, including a job verification. Careful buyers should also drive through the neighborhood and do a "drive-by" to make sure the area feels right, advises Stewart Gross.

"Beyond the Covid forms, virtually all sellers require masks, some require gloves and booties, plus sanitizing before and after visits inside," says Teetor. The number of people inside and the time may also be limited—30- to 45-minute visits—with time allotted between visitors, Teetor adds. But experienced realtors recommend an in-person visit for a decision as important as a new home.

Now most of the process of buying and selling a home, from negotiating a deal to writing an offer, can be done electronically, using DocuSign and other services. "Much of the due diligence process still requires inspectors to come in, but we ensure all the safety measures are in place for all concerned," says Teetor.

QUESTIONS REMAIN

As with other areas of life, we wonder what impact the pandemic will have on how our homes are bought and sold. How will this very personal business evolve? ♦



Margot Teetor of ReMax Preferred



Draycott Cottage

COUNTRY CHARM IN SOUTHERN CHESTER COUNTY

Laurel Anderson

MORE HOMEOWNERS ARE DISCOVERING THE special appeal of life in Chester County. Rich in history and natural beauty, our area offers an opportunity to live on open land with unparalleled views of rolling hills and native woods. Whether it's a place to put down roots for generations or merely an escape from city life to work from a dream home, this is that perfect spot.

One of the most charming properties on the market now is Draycott Cottage in East Fallowfield Township. Known as "The Cottage," this unique 29-acre parcel overlooks the former King Ranch and The Laurels Preserve and is protected in perpetuity by conservation easements for this and surrounding properties.

The Cottage provides a quintessential Chester County lifestyle.

THE COTTAGE DESIGN

This picturesque home could easily be mistaken for one of the many historic buildings visible in the distance from winding country roads. Yet The Cottage was designed by renowned local architect John Milner just 24 years ago. Chosen for his knowledge

of historic architecture, Milner designed a structure that respects local traditions in its historically accurate style while providing the comforts of modern living.

The Cottage blends historic and contemporary styles using perfect period details along with nine-foot ceilings, modern kitchen and large windows. Additional modern amenities include a pool, poolhouse, potting shed and magnificent new barn.

The same care shown in the home's design continued in the quality craftsmanship of the builder, Griffiths Construction. Over the years, new features were added and designed by an equally distinguished architect, Richard Buchanan of Archer and Buchanan.

DETAILS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Carefully chosen details give The Cottage texture, personality and a sense of permanence. There's a 16-inch-thick lintel over the walk-in fireplace in the great room, the last fireplace to have a historically correct window set inside (current building codes prohibit this detail).

This room's beamed ceiling is indistinguishable from those in historic Chester County homes, except it's a comfortable nine feet high. Reclaimed wood, in random-width oak flooring and paneling, adds warmth and authenticity. The home is a wonderful blend of old-world charm and contemporary convenience.

Outside details include Chester County fieldstone in the exterior walls, complemented by a special stone brought from a streambed in the Cotswolds, that charmingly English section of the UK, home to the original Draycott.

Thoughtful details continue throughout. Even four-legged family members get a pet-bathing station on the lower level of the home. And the two-bay, heated garage is equipped with a Tesla charging station.

RIGHT-SIZE LIVING

Though the property is generously proportioned—a half-mile drive winds over a small creek and up a hill—the home itself is well suited for simple, elegant living. Rooms are well proportioned and balanced. Large, modern windows expand the sense of space from the hilltop location and maximize the views.

A welcoming foyer allows access to the powder room, modern kitchen and great room with adjoining dining room. Warm wood tones draw you to the great room, with its distinctive beamed ceiling, oak floors and walk-in fieldstone fireplace. Large windows give northern and southern exposure, with a deck at the south.





Oktoberfest in Your Backyard

Sarah Jagiela

Don't let a global pandemic get in the way of a seasonal tradition dating back over 200 years.

Enjoy the fire-side dining area with easy access to the “view porch” overlooking The Laurels—the perfect spot for relaxing after a meal.

A stunning sunroom is surrounded on three sides by floor-to-ceiling French doors—providing spectacular views of the property—plus gas fireplace and radiant heat under travertine floors. Built-in bookcases and cabinetry for a flat-screen TV make the room as useful as it is beautiful.

The gourmet kitchen also blends the best of old and new. Shaker-style custom wood cabinets and wood floors meld with high-end appliances (Bosch, Thermador, Sub-Zero), granite counters, kitchen island and copious storage.

Stairs from the great room lead to the recently expanded second floor, where two bedrooms, each with full bath (one with claw-foot tub), are nestled. Dormer win-

dows provide the view and six-foot walk-in closets and added bonus room provide modern touches.

THE GROUNDS

Outdoor spaces at The Cottage are equally well designed. Enjoy entertaining family and friends on a brick porch, flagstone terrace, or by the heated pool with pool house. Or find solitude in the fieldstone potting shed, sitting on the stone retaining walls or walking through manicured gardens.

Equestrians will delight in the four-stall, center-aisle barn, with tack room, office and powder room plus many more bells and whistles, designed and built by King Construction. Upstairs is a finished space with full bath and galley kitchen.

The property is a short hack (or a walk) to The Laurels Preserve and is part of the Cheshire Hunt country, offering endless

riding and hiking options in this coveted area.

Enjoy country life at The Cottage, yet know that shopping, restaurants and town centers are minutes away. It's a truly special place for those looking for the best of both worlds. ♦

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AS THE DAYS BEGIN TO COOL, THE LUSH, TROPICAL beers that dominate summer tap lists and store shelves give way to crisp, hearty lagers that pair perfectly with roaring bonfires and the revelry of fall.

This year much of the customary merrymaking may be put on hold as we continue to navigate our way through the current COVID-19 concerns. But even a global pandemic doesn't mean we can't create our own *gemütlichkeit*, or feelings of warmth and good cheer.

It's true that celebrations this fall certainly won't look like they have in the past. Yet we plan to make the best of things with our own at-home fest, full of delicious local beer paired with traditional Oktoberfest bites and some rollicking tunes.

But first, a little background on Germany's Oktoberfest to set the stage before we help you create your own backyard fest as you drink local.

EARLY HISTORY

For as long as there have been humans, there have been party people looking for reasons to celebrate. One reason to party was the October 12, 1810 marriage of Crown Prince Ludwig I and Princess Therese of Saxony-Hildburghausen—later King and Queen of Bavaria. The citizens of Munich joined the joyous occasion, which included a horse race, general fanfare along with food, beer and music, held just outside the city gates.

The site of the event was named Theresienwiese (Theresa's Meadow) in honor of the Crown Princess. It's still called that to this day, though locals often shorten it to *Wiesn*.

The original festival was so popular a similar event was held in 1811, this time as a celebration of Bavaria's agriculture. And so the Oktoberfest tradition was born. The fest continued to grow in popularity, and in 1819 the city officially took over responsibility for the festival, ensuring the event would take place for many years to come.

MODERN OKTOBERFEST

Over the past two hundred-some years, Oktoberfest has grown into the largest *Volksfest* (people's festival) in the world, with over six million international visitors flocking to the fairgrounds each fall. The modern festival lasts between 16 to 18 days, beginning in late September and culminating on the first Sunday in October.

To kick things off, a grand parade winds through the city of Munich, ultimately arriving at the *Wiesn*. Over 8,000 participants typically join the parade, many dressed in traditional dirndls and lederhosen, along with a half dozen lavish horse-drawn brewery floats from Munich breweries. Think Budweiser Clydesdales but with even more extravagant costumes!

And speaking of beer ... Once the parade arrives at the fairgrounds, the mayor taps the first keg with a celebratory "*Ozapft is!*" ("It's tapped!"). And drinking and merriment ensue.

Festival goers pack food and beer tents, the largest of which belongs to Hofbräu and can hold close to 10,000 revelers. Tents are sponsored by the six Munich breweries:

Augustiner (Munich's oldest brewery dating back to 1328), Hacker-Pschorr, Hofbräu, Löwenbräu, Paulaner and Spaten.

Only beers that adhere to the *Reinheitsgebot*—a 1516 ordinance limiting beer ingredients in Germany to just water, malt and hops—are served at Oktoberfest. No pastry stouts or milkshake IPAs here.

Just how much beer is consumed during Oktoberfest? In 2018, visitors consumed 7.5 million liters of beer. That's 1.98 million gallons or over 66,000 barrels of beer in just 16 days—enough to fill nearly three Olympic-sized swimming pools. Anyone else thirsty?

MÄRZEN BEERS

When you envision a classic fall beer, it's likely crystal-clear, deep orange and served up in a large, dimpled stein. That's a märzen or festbier, styles of lagers that have gained worldwide acclaim.

These beers have their roots in Bavarian laws that dictated beer could be brewed only between September 29th and April 23rd. Märzen was a style brewed in March—not surprisingly märz is German for March—

with more hops and a slightly higher alcohol content to allow it to last beyond the April-brewed beers. Märzens were the traditional beers of Oktoberfest.

Today, breweries all over the world are making Oktoberfest-style beers, including many that can be enjoyed in your own backyard.

DIY OKTOBERFEST

With the cancellation of most festivals this year, it's no surprise that the world's largest fest would also be put on hold for 2020. Oktoberfest may not be happening on a grand scale, but you can throw your own mini-fest, no plane tickets required.

Here are a few pairing ideas to get you in the Oktoberfest mood.

Be on the lookout for the latest seasonal release by Tröegs to pair with an oversized pretzel and spicy mustard. **Lucky Holler Hazy IPA** features Citra, Galaxy and Simcoe hops with a soft, bright body resulting in



Lucky Holler Hazy IPA

juicy flavors of pineapple and passionfruit. Hints of hoppy bitterness help refresh the palate after a few indulgent bites of pretzel, while the tropical notes complement the zing of a good spicy mustard.

Another beer you'll want to pick up is **Sly Fox's Oktoberfest**, even if the name didn't persuade you. A seasonal gem that can hold its own against Germany's greats, this traditional lager is brewed with imported Vienna malts and German noble hops resulting in a smooth, malty brew that's crisp and satisfying.



Alex Meixner and his accordion can tackle traditional tunes, but he also has fun renditions of modern hits.

The hearty malt character of this classic brew pairs well with a savory bratwurst straight off the grill, topped with a heap of tangy kraut. There hasn't been a more satisfying combo since peanut butter and jelly!

Finally, be sure to grab some **Dogfish Head Punkin Ale**. Some beer drinkers may still be scarred by their experience in the early 2010s when rampant pumpkin ales overtook store shelves for months at a time. But don't hold that against this flavorful

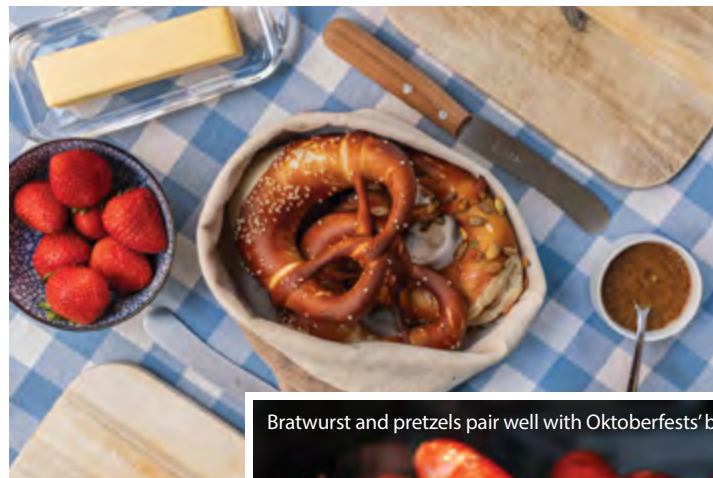


brew. This spiced brown ale is a dessert all on its own. Pair it with a slice of decadent German chocolate cake, and you'll forget any pumpkin qualms you may have had.

Finally, no festival is complete without a little music. If you've had the pleasure of attending the Sly Fox Bock Fest in the past couple of years, chances are good you saw the talented Alex Meixner take the stage. He and his accordion tackle traditional tunes, but he also has fun renditions of modern hits with a classic polka spin. Stream on Spotify, listen on YouTube or download your favorite beer-drinking music to set the mood.

So there you have it. Three local beers, three delightful dishes, and some lively tunes that'll get you in the Oktoberfesting spirit without leaving town. Stay safe this fall while enjoying all the area has to offer. *Prost!* ♦

Sarah Jagiela is the Events & Marketing Manager at Sly Fox Brewing Company handling everything from organizing the annual Bock Fest & Goat Races to new product development. Sly Fox is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year and is proud to produce consistently excellent beers that range from traditional lagers to trendy IPAs. 331 Circle of Progress Dr., Pottstown. SlyFoxBeer.com.



Bratwurst and pretzels pair well with Oktoberfest's beer offerings



Cutest Pet Contest!

Who's the cutest pet in County Lines Country? We asked and our readers sent us more than we could handle! During October we'll showcase each semifinalist's adorable photo on Facebook. To vote, just like us, then like your favorite! The pet with the most likes* wins a \$100 gift certificate for **Concord Pet Foods & Supplies**. We'll announce our winner on Facebook in late October

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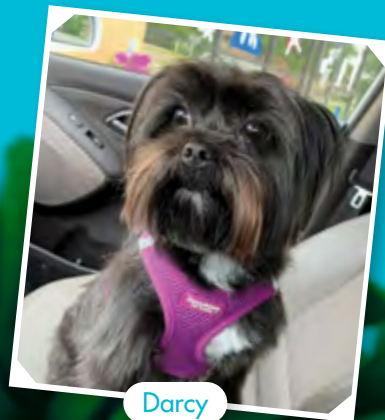
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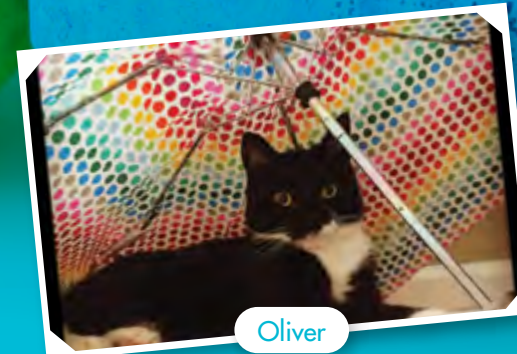
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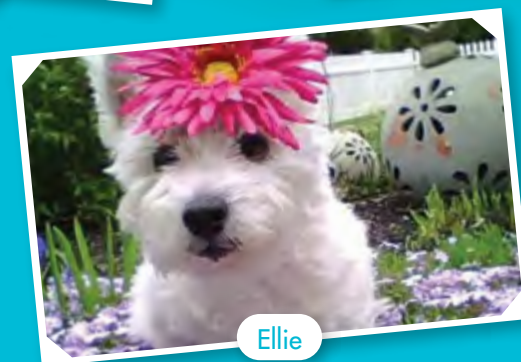
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Food News

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

Higher Steaks. A taste of Philly has come to Berwyn! **Philly Cheesesteaks** recently opened its doors at a new location and is serving up plenty of savory sides and subs. Stuff your cheesesteak with healthy ingredients like all-natural chicken breast or skip straight to the whiz with specialty choices—try the Eagle steak smothered in cheese, onions,



peppers and mushrooms. Stop in, order online or call to get your cheesesteak the fast and Philly way. 676 Lancaster Ave., Berwyn. PhillyCheeseSteaksBerwyn.com.

Home ECitement. Ready for a virtual home ec class with a modern twist, right in your own kitchen? **Home Ec 365**, a free four-part digital series from **Whole Foods Market**, offers sessions in Swap-Savvy Baking, Smart Shopping and more. Each course is run by influencers and includes fresh tips on ways to cook, clean and shop. Enroll for tasty tips and learn serious skills as you enjoy a culinary experience at home. WholeFoodsMarket.Teachable.com.



Beary Good Bakery. Looking for a new spot for your morning treat? **Oso Sweet Bakery Cafe** was recently opened in the Chadds Ford Barn Shops by Unionville High and Culinary Institute of America grad Tess Wofford. This bear-themed bistro (oso is Spanish for bear) serves sweet and savory treats from sugary scones to silky egg bites and soup. Head back on Friday nights, 6 to 9, for charcuterie boards and live music. 1609 Baltimore Pk., Suite 500, Chadds Ford. OsoSweet.Shop.

French Fusion. Dining at **Hotel Du Pont** is back with a friendly French face-lift! **Le Cavalier at the Green Room** invites you to enjoy more casual dining with a fuse of flavors from Provence and North Africa. Inventive riffs on French dishes like onion soup and Steak Frites perfectly pair with the brasserie's refined selection of natural wines. Taste how Wilmington's "front door" is redefining dining with French fare and a fresh, inviting ambiance. 42 W. 11th St., Wilmington. LeCavalierDe.com.



Mushrooms & ... Coffee? Move over Kennett Square! The coffee bar at **Carlino's Market** uses mushrooms to craft a new creamy creation, **The Chagaccino**. Chaga is a mushroom superfood packed with antioxidants that increase energy, immunity and relieve stress. Mix it with cacao, cinnamon, vanilla and monk fruit for a smooth coffee super-brew, perfect for boosting your day, cold or hot. Start sippin' with a mushroom cappuccino, cleaner than your average joe! 128 W. Market St, West Chester. CarlinosMarket.com.



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'Cue up the Flavor

HOW ONE ALABAMA NATIVE IS BRINGING REAL DEAL SOUTHERN BBQ TO CHESTER COUNTY.

Alyssa Thayer

NORTHERNERS TEND TO TALK ABOUT BBQ LIKE IT'S just a single dish. But take a journey through the BBQ capitals of the South and Midwest and you'll realize it's anything but. From the thick, sweet sauce slathered on in Kansas City, to the bold "mop sauce" basted on in Texas, each place has its own unique flavors and time-honored methods.

"To me, BBQ means family, because we'd always get together to grill and barbecue," says Brian Howell, owner and chef behind Phoenixville's **Uncle B's Bar BQ**. Brian grew up in Florence, Alabama—the proud originators of Alabama White sauce. By the time he was 8, Brian's father had already begun teaching him how to stoke the smoker.

Time, temperature and wood are the keys to true 'cue. "Cooking hot dogs and hamburgers is not BBQ, that's grilling" Brian points out. Bona fide BBQ methods are low and slow, with temperatures hovering between 225° and 250° F. Timing depends on size and type of meat and ranges from a few hours for ribs to 20 hours for brisket.

After growing up in Alabama, Brian moved around quite a bit, landing in several BBQ hot spots that fueled his love for the food. In



Brian (center) with his family at the Feb. 2020 ribbon cutting ceremony for their new location.

2011 he moved to Phoenixville to be close to family. College game days were when they always gathered to enjoy BBQ and football. For these gatherings, Brian searched for authentic BBQ but couldn't find it. So they fired up their own smoker and never looked back.

By 2013 Brian had a roadside stand, which he named Uncle B's, an affectionate nickname given to him by his niece and nephews. Over the next several years he perfected his craft and hustled to find new locations. "We didn't have a lot of money to start, so we did what we had to do to build it to what it is now," Brian remembers.

In 2019 Uncle B's partnered with Root Down Brewing to take over a beautiful spot in downtown Phoenixville. "They do the beer, we do the food," says Brian. I asked if having assorted sauces and styles on the menu makes him a traitor to his Alabama roots. He laughs and says "I come from the camp of whatever people like, let them eat it."

Whether you make your own BBQ or treat yourself to down-home southern food from Uncle B's, make it a new tradition that brings you and yours around the table to share a meal and good company.



Brian's smoker in the snow, 2013.



In 2019 Uncle B's Bar BQ opened at 425 Bridge St. To the left is the back of the building and Root Down Biergarten.

The Rub

Make it and use it on just about everything. This recipe will give you enough for your first few BBQ attempts. Word to the wise: To avoid burning the brown sugar, use this rub for lower temperature preparations.



- 4 T. granulated garlic
- 4 T. granulated onion
- 4 T. coarse black pepper
- 4 T. kosher salt
- 8 T. paprika
- 4 T. thyme
- 2 T. cumin powder
- 1 tsp. cayenne pepper
- ¾ C. brown sugar, packed

Put all ingredients into a mixing bowl and whisk until well incorporated.

Makes 2½ cups of dry rub.

Crockpot Boston Butt

If you don't have access to a smoker, or you just need to set it and forget it ... this one's for you. Boston butt is deceiving in name because it's actually pork shoulder. This cut is flavorful and perfect for a crock pot preparation.



Tips of the Trade

Some people use wood-burning smokers, others use a grill with a wood chip box, still others use the controlled heat of an oven or crockpot ... There's no wrong way to BBQ. According to Uncle B himself, "The key is to find out what you like and perfect it."

Here are a few of Brian's tips:

1. Lower the steaks: Start with something relatively inexpensive and forgiving, like pork butt, and work your way to brisket.
2. Spice well and early: Toss on the rub well before cooking to let the flavors sink in. This can even be done the night before.
3. Let it rest: 30 minutes is the minimum. This allows the juices to redistribute back into the meat rather than flowing out.
4. Batch it up: Don't be afraid to do a lot at once and then freeze it. Just use simple spicing so you can use the meat for a variety of different dishes—tacos, stir fry, casseroles. Yum!
5. Master the cut: Do your research to make sure you're slicing in the right direction for optimal tenderness. How you slice can make or break that brisket.
6. Fat Side Up: Uncle B likes smoking the meat with the fat on top. That way, it renders onto the meat for additional flavor and moisture.

As Brian says, "Jump right in, because the only bad BBQ is dry BBQ."

- 6–8 lb. pork butt, fat side scored
- 2 T. softened butter or olive oil
- ¾ C. "The Rub" (recipe above)

Coat pork butt completely with butter or oil to help the rub adhere to the meat. Generously coat the pork butt with the rub. Place it into the crock pot fat-side-up, on low for around 8 to 9 hours (until the bone pulls out freely).

Pull your crock pot from the heat source and let it sit covered for 30 minutes to allow some of the juices to redistribute.

Separate the meat from the liquid and reserve for later. By this point, the pork should be so tender that you can run a fork through it to pull it apart.

Note: Juices are flavor gold! You can use them to fortify a sauce, add flavor to another dish, or pour over leftover meat to rehydrate and reheat. Brian says it's a great addition to your collard greens, rice or cornbread, too!

Serves 6–8 depending on whether the meat is bone-in.

Oven/Grill and Baby Back Ribs

- 1 rack (2 to 3 lbs.) baby back ribs
- 3 T. softened butter or olive oil
- ⅓ C. "The Rub"

Preheat the oven to 275°. Remove the membrane (silver skin) from the back of the ribs by inserting a finger by the bottom bones of the ribs and pulling.

Coat ribs with butter or olive oil before covering generously with the rub.



Note: You can do this the night before, if you prefer, which will allow the flavors to start to seep in.

Place ribs in a baking pan and cover. Cook for an hour and half in a preheated oven before finishing.

If finishing on the grill, throw them directly on the grill (no pan needed) for 15 minutes at 375°. If keeping them in the oven, pull the foil off and turn up the oven to 425° for about 15 minutes.

If using sauce, you can add the sauce for the last 5 minutes of the cooking time to help form that delicious contrast of crisp outside and tender inside. Just make sure it doesn't burn!

Makes 2–3 entree servings.

Vegan Jackfruit 'Cue

This starchy tropical fruit is one of the hottest vegan trends on the scene. It's the perfect replacement for a pulled BBQ meat dish. Raw, jackfruit can be intimidating (30–50 lbs), with a sticky sap, but many retailers offer ready-to-cook pouches and cans. Brian uses Edward & Sons, which has no additives, but other brands can be found online and at local stores.

Note: Make sure you find unripened or green jackfruit. It's harvested before the starches turn to sugars, for a milder taste and better texture.



BBQ Styles 101:

Each major BBQ town has its own style, methods, sauces and, of course, traditions.

Kansas City is home to the most well-known sauce; a ketchup-based sauce sweetened with molasses and/or brown-sugar. KC is also creator of “burnt ends,” made by re-cooking the point of a brisket to crispy perfection.

The Carolinas are generally known for their fiery vinegar sauce on pork. But Eastern North Carolina hangs its hat on “whole hog” roasting, while parts of South Carolina serve up “Carolina Gold,” a mustard-based sauce.

Alabama focuses on chicken and pork. But depending on where you are, BBQ can be served with a thin vinegar-based sauce or a white sauce (up north). Alabama White Sauce is mayo and vinegar-based with mustard and horseradish (see recipe).

Memphis prepares pork ribs and shoulder “dry” (with a dry rub), or “wet” (covered during and after cooking with a thin, tangy, tomato-based sauce).

Texas is cattle country! Their specialties are brisket and sausage. It's also the place for “mop sauce,” a deeply flavorful basting liquid and dipping sauce.

Kentucky is split. The West is known for mutton (mature lamb) paired with Worcestershire sauce, while the East emulates the Carolinas with pork shoulder and a vinegary sauce.

1 lb. green (unripened) jackfruit meat

1 tsp. refined oil

½ C. “The Rub” (see recipe)

½ C. KC sauce (see recipe)

¾ C. vegetable stock

Toss and coat jackfruit meat with the rub.

Heat a sauté pan on medium to high heat and add oil. When warm, place seasoned jackfruit into pan and cover with vegetable stock. Sauté covered for about 10 minutes, checking liquid throughout to make sure it doesn't dry out.

At this point, it should start to shred. But you can also use a potato masher or wooden spoon to break it up even more.

Turn down to low heat and add KC sauce to taste.

Serve heaped atop 4 sandwiches on a soft roll or bun.

Sauce It Up

Brian says he grew up mostly doing dry rub and sometimes adding sauce at the end. “If you do it properly, the sauce is the condiment not the main course,” he says.

Kansas City, the “KC”

1 C. apple cider vinegar

½ C. “The Rub”

1 tsp. ground mustard

½ C. molasses

½ C. brown sugar

2 C. ketchup



Pour vinegar into a saucepan on medium-high heat. Bring to a boil and sprinkle in the rub. Reduce heat to medium and stir for 3 minutes. Add ground mustard, brown sugar and molasses. Stir for 1 minute. Add in ketchup and stir for another minute.

Take off heat and let cool.

Make it a Carolina Vinegar Sauce in a flash:

Wisk cup of the “KC” with 1¾ cup of apple cider vinegar, until thoroughly incorporated.

Makes about 4 cups.

Alabama White Sauce

The pride of Northern Alabama, this lesser known BBQ sauce has it all: tangy, creamy, sweet and heat. It finds its place atop smoked chicken, pork and even grilled vegetables.

2 T. granulated sugar

⅓ C. apple cider vinegar

2 C. mayonnaise

1 tsp. salt

2 tsp. black pepper

2 tsp. lemon juice (about ¼ lemon)

2 T. horseradish

Wisk granulated sugar into cider vinegar and set aside.

In a mixing bowl, thoroughly combine remaining ingredients. Pour in vinegar and sugar and whisk until thoroughly incorporated. ♦

Alyssa Thayer found her love of food at an early age, frolicking around her mother's organic farm and eating her weight in berries and snap peas each summer. She is a self-proclaimed urban farm girl, whose mission is to bring inspired ideas to life, passionate people together, and good food to every table.



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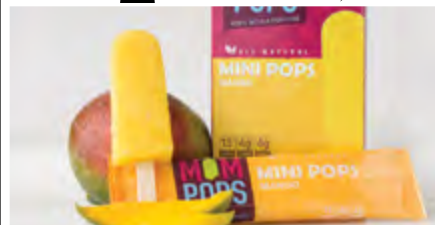
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