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Source: Forbescorps.com (Awarded Feb 2021). Data compiled by SHOOK Research LLC based on time period 06/30/21-06/30/24. 3. "Forbes Best-in-State Wealth Advisors (2021). Pennsylvania - East PA (High Net Worth). Source: Forbescorps.com (Awarded Apr 2021). Data compiled by SHOOK Research LLC based on time period 06/30/21-06/30/24. 4. Forbes Top Women Wealth Advisors Best-in-State (2021). Pennsylvania - East. Source: Forbescorps.com (Awarded Feb 2021). Data compiled by SHOOK Research LLC based on time period 06/30/21-06/30/24. Methodology: Forbes' Top Wealth and Best-in-State Advisor rankings, developed by SHOOK Research, are based on a qualitative and quantitative algorithm evaluating advisors' revenue trends, assets under management, service models, compliance records, and industry experience. All considered advisors have a minimum of seven years' experience; portfolio performance is not a factor, and neither Forbes nor SHOOK, receive a fee for inclusion. 5. The Most and Young Entrepreneur Of The Year (2021). Source: ENYA.com (Awarded Jan 2021). Data compiled by EY and Young based on time period 01/01/2021-12/31/2021. Methodology: Nominations must be from founders or executives leading a for-profit business for at least two years, co-founders and past regional winners may qualify. Judging is based on individual merit, story, and achievements using a standardized sponsored across industries. 6. Barron's Hall of Fame (2019). Source: Barron's.com (Awarded Oct 2019). Data compiled by Barron's based on advisors appearing in Barron's annual Top 100 Advisor rankings for 10+ years (2006-2019). Methodology: Barron's Hall of Fame honorees are selected from advisors who first pass a prequalification process, then submit a detailed survey; rankings are based on a proprietary formula that evaluates assets, revenue, and quality of practice—including client retention, growth, experience, credentials, team structure, and compliance records—ranked by firms and regulatory databases. 7. ThinkAdvisor Lendworthy Award - Thought Leadership & Education: Patti Brennan of Key Financial, Inc. was awarded the ThinkAdvisor Lendworthy Award 2021 in the Thought Leadership & Education category for \$3M+ Less Than \$10 Billion. \$1M-\$3M. This award honors firms that have gone above and beyond in leading a firm that has introduced a new approach or framework to their segment of financial services, which address clients (or the broader market for advice) in a novel way in a way that can, ideally, be shown to have both a qualitative and quantitative impact - and can serve as a model of industry excellence and achievement. Examples include - but are not limited to - podcasts, webinars, social media campaigns, and white papers. For more information regarding this award, please visit <https://www.thinkadvisor.com/awards>. 8. America's Top Women Wealth Advisors (2021). Source: Forbescorps.com (Awarded Apr 2021). Data compiled by SHOOK Research LLC based on time period 06/30/21-06/30/24. 9. Barron's Top 100 Women. The rankings are based on qualitative criteria - predominantly with a minimum of seven years financial service experience, verifiable compliance records, client retention reports and customer satisfaction reports. Advisors are quantitatively ranked based on varying types of revenues and assets under management, with weightings associated with each. Additional qualitative measures include: in-depth interviews and discussions with senior management, peers and customers. Because individual client portfolio performance varies and is typically uncollected, this ranking is based on customer satisfaction and quality of advice. Please see <http://online.barrons.com/top100-independent-financial-advisors> for more information. 10. Barron's "Top 1,200 Financial Advisors" list (2021). The ranking considered advisors with a minimum of seven years financial services experience and have been employed at their current firm for at least one year. This is a list of the top advisors in each state, with the number of ranking spots determined by each state's population and wealth. Other quantitative and qualitative measures include assets under management, revenues generated by advisors for their firms, and the quality of the advisors' practices, regulatory records, internal company documents, and 100-plus points of data provided by the advisors themselves. Barron's is a trademark of Dow Jones & Company, Inc. All rights reserved. Rankings and magazine from Barron's are no guarantee of future investment success and do not ensure that a current or prospective client will experience a higher level of performance results and such rankings should not be construed as an endorsement of the advisor. Best in State Wealth Advisors: Forbes Best in State Wealth Advisors (2021) Pennsylvania - East PA (High Net Worth) Source: Forbescorps.com (Awarded Apr 2021). Data compiled by SHOOK Research LLC based on time period 06/30/21-06/30/24.

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Historic Fairville Inn in Chadds Ford

This historic property features 10 tasteful guest rooms, eight of which have gas fireplaces. The Main House features the guest reception area, living room, after-hours sitting room, dining room, kitchen and the possibility for 5+ additional rooms. Contact us for full details about what else is possible with this gorgeous property.

\$3,150,000

NEW PRICE



Privately Set in Highly Protected Area

This may be one of the most architecturally distinct and amenity-rich homes on the market today! Privately set on 12 acres in an exclusive area in Unionville-Chadds Ford Schools is this spacious 5 BR, 3.2 BA home with a fabulous indoor pool! Chefs will love the gourmet Kitchen. Enjoy the views from the elevated Deck overlooking the Koi pond, Party Barn, Play House & Stable.

\$2,975,000



Wait Until You See the Primary Bath & Kitchen

This stunning Chadds Ford residence is set on 1.9 Acres with beautiful landscaping & significant privacy. This exceptional 4BR, 3.2BA home offers a spacious first floor primary suite and a fully updated gourmet custom kitchen that could grace the pages of a designer magazine. The primary bathroom also has a well deserved “Wow Factor”. The home is thoughtfully designed to combine comfort, elegance, and everyday functionality.

\$1,350,000

NEW PRICE



Newer Home With a Long List Of Upgrades

This exceptional 5BR, 3.1BA home offers nine foot ceilings on both floors; a true Chef designed Kitchen with great space & high-end appliances; a main level Guest Suite; a fabulous Primary Bathroom & large Walk-in Closet plus a dramatic Family Room with lots of glass & an 18’ ceiling. Set in a newer community, this home is a short walk to the 200 acre West Bradford Township park! Sought-after Downingtown Schools.

\$1,270,000

UNDER CONTRACT



c.1731 Treasure with Tasteful Updates & Additions

Set on 14.2 private acres set well off the road, sits this 5BR, 4.1BA home with loads of antique charm plus a fabulous Primary Suite, stellar Kitchen, and spacious Sun Room which overlooks the large pool. The antique touches includes original floors, deep window sills and numerous fireplaces. Both the Living Room and Dining Rooms are particularly charming. Amenities include a 4 stall stable, a 3 bedroom Cottage and a large storage building. All this plus low taxes!

\$2,489,000



Exceedingly Private Location Abutting ChesLen Preserve

Set on 23+ acres in a sought-after locations, this remarkable property combines a picturesque country setting with a custom home designed for comfort, elegance, and recreation. Privately sited & surrounded by open space that abuts the 1,263-acre ChesLen Preserve, the residence offers 5 BR, 4.2 BA, & exceptional equestrian facilities. The home’s highlight is the indoor pool with sauna, entertainment area, bar & kitchen. Unionville-Chadds Ford Schools!

\$2,290,000

UNDER CONTRACT



Great Horse Farm in Unionville Schools

This delightful property features a charming 3BR, 3.1 BA home with a lower level apartment and a well designed six stall barn. The home has beautiful post & beam construction and a nice floor plan. Equestrians will love the 10 acre setting with ample pastures and the Unionville equestrian area location. The farm is set in Unionville-Chadds Ford Schools and enjoys low taxes!

\$1,130,000

NEW LISTING



River Front Antique Home in Bristol

This gracious antique home is beautifully set with a clear view of the Delaware River that laps against your back yard. The spacious 5 BR, 3.1 BA home offers river views that can be enjoyed from numerous rooms as well as the large covered rear deck. The totally redone Kitchen features high-end KraftMaid cabinets, granite counters and stainless appliances. The Primary Suite features river views, a walk-in closet and a luxurious bathroom. This one won’t last long on the market!

\$1,189,000

UNDER CONTRACT



Overlooks French Creek Golf Club’s 14th Hole

Set in Olde Bulltown Village is this charming 3BR, 2.2 BR home which combines the old with the new like cathedral ceilings, stunning main level primary suite, antique hardware, finished lower level and beautiful quarter sawn oak floors! The Great Room has a handsome fireplace, access to a covered porch & a wet bar. The kitchen has high-end appliances & handsome cabinetry. This wonderful property must be seen to fully appreciate its value, quality and location!

\$1,585,000

NEW PRICE



Fabulous Home in Private Location

Set on 12 private acres in Warwick Township and surrounded by protected open space along the French Creek stream, this 4BR, 3.2BA English Manor residence with Tudor elements blends timeless style with superior craftsmanship. Boasting over 5,000 square feet of living space, the home features handcrafted woodwork, fine millwork and elegant architectural details throughout. You will love the floor-pan which has large spaces, great views & main level Primary Suite.

\$1,395,000

NEW PRICE



Fabulous Antique Home in Historic Area of Glen Mills

Antique home enthusiasts will love this original c.1729 Penn Land Grand farm featuring a 5 BR, 3.1 BA stone home. The farm sits on two parcels totaling 3.29 acres. The home features original flooring, several fireplaces and deep window sills. All of the bathrooms have been updated and the Kitchen allows for a spacious eat-in area off the Library/Family Room. You will love the in-ground pool and pool house, perfect for a guest or in-law suite. There is also a barn and several outbuildings.

\$950,000



Great Property in Kennett Square

This updated 3BR, 2BA home is a “Must See”! The open floor plan features a generous living area that flows into an eat-in kitchen, complete with granite counters, white cabinets, and stainless steel appliances. The main level includes 2 BRs with hardwood flooring, updated hall BA, and a laundry/mudroom. Upstairs, the primary BR has an ensuite BA and walk-in closet. The finished attic offers flexibility for an office or storage. Unionville Schools!

\$548,000



## from the EDITOR

It's July, the nation's 250th birthday! And perhaps less noteworthy, but important to us, it's one month until the 50th birthday — about 600 issues — of *County Lines Magazine*!

We celebrate by publishing “A Year-Round Guide to *County Lines* Country,” with a tour of top local attractions. First we visit Longwood Gardens, Brandywine Museum of Art and Winterthur. Then on to historic highlights of Chester and Delaware Counties, a tour of Main Line shopping towns and food stops in Lancaster County. We've included a guide with more places for outings in the Brandywine Valley — amusement parks, zoos, nature centers, historic sites and museums.

Our America250 coverage includes “Before the Storm,” Kim Andrews' recounting of why Chester County was so important to the American Revolution (hint: its resources, geography, divided loyalties). Check out the page brimming with A250 events, another filled with fireworks shows, a look at the new West Chester A250 mural, “Hannum, Hannah and Horace” (it's a beauty), and Brandywine Table's visit to the Mill at Anselma for special recipes. For more heritage, JP Phillips tells the story “Barnard's Orchard — A Three-Century Farm.”

Need other ideas for summer trips? Just over the state line, Wilmington is the subject of Laurel Anderson's “Nine Things We Love about Wilmington.” Going deeper into Delaware, Ed Malet recommends Delaware's beach towns — Rehoboth and Dewey Beaches, plus the Quiet Resorts to the south — in “Summer Getaways.”

Marci Tomassone previews the lineup of music, theater and dance in the “Fall Guide to the Performing Arts” and we look back at some “Best of the Best” dining winners.

And if you're new to the Brandywine Valley, you'll appreciate our “Newcomers Guide,” featuring select architects, builders, designers, landscapers, relators and other services to get you started, plus our Farmers Market guide.

As always we have the Best Local Events plus tons of Family Fun.

Thank you for reading. And Happy 250th, America!

Jo Anne Durako  
Editor

## COMING IN August

THE GOOD LIFE

Kids Health • Pet Portraits

55+ and Senior Communities

Why We Love Media • Summer BBQ

Mark Your Fall Calendar

## COUNTY LINES MAGAZINE

July 2026

Volume XLIX Number 11

**PUBLISHER**  
Edwin Malet

**EDITOR**  
Jo Anne Durako

**ART DIRECTOR**  
Harvey Walls

**ASSOCIATE EDITORS**  
Marci Tomassone  
Shannon Montgomery

**FOOD EDITOR**  
Liz Tarditi

**ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES**  
Susan Gillespie  
Ivana Samsonova  
Eddie Davis

**BUSINESS MANAGER**  
Mary Jones

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**  
Laurel Anderson / Cara Corridoni  
Emily Hart / Elizabeth Hughes  
Shelley Laurence / Carol Metzker

**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**  
Brenda Carpenter / Roman Coia  
Wil Moore / Timlyn Vaughan

**CONTACT US AT**  
ValleyDel Publications, Inc.  
515 S. Franklin St., Ste. 100  
West Chester, PA 19382.  
610-918-9300. Info@ValleyDel.com

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MALVERN | 6.3 ACRES

Contemporary estate in Radnor Hunt Country with stunning architecture offers panoramic views and resort-style living.



KENNETT SQUARE | 84 ACRES

Extraordinary estate in West Marlborough Township featuring a stone farmhouse, six stall barn, paddocks and office/in-law suite.



NEW LISTING

CHADDS FORD | 4.7 ACRES

Beautiful custom-built home with panoramic views located in the Unionville Chadds Ford School District.



WEST CHESTER | 26+ ACRES

Magnificent estate with guest house, pool with pool house, guest suite, art studio and vineyard.



UNDER CONTRACT

COATESVILLE | 10 ACRES

Stunning custom-built home in a scenic hilltop setting offers timeless elegance, luxury living and breathtaking views.



PENDING

WEST CHESTER | 44 ACRES

English manor estate with gourmet kitchen, heated salt water pool, guest suite and three acre vineyard.



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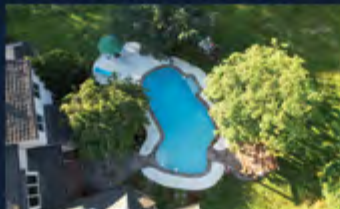
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## POOL RENOVATIONS



## LANDSCAPE DESIGN



## CUSTOM POOLS

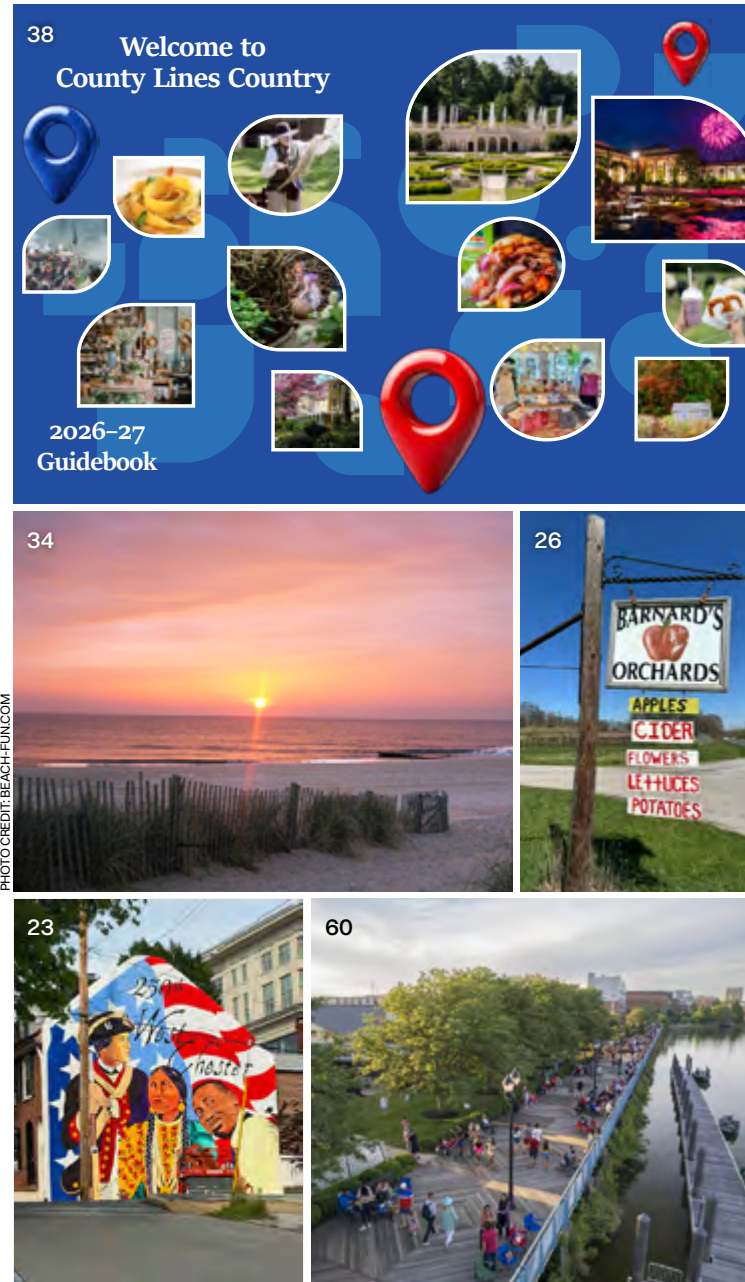


## LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION



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## [ best Local Events ]

This is the year for spectacular celebrations, and there's no better way to get into the patriotic spirit than with an awe-inspiring display of fireworks! We're fortunate to have so many to choose from, some with all-day activities, music, food and tons of fun. Bring a blanket and enjoy the show.

### July 2 & 18, August 8 & 22

**Fireworks and Fountains at Longwood Gardens**  
1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. [LongwoodGardens.org](https://www.LongwoodGardens.org)

### July 3

**Conshohocken Fireworks.** Sutcliffe Park, 900 Freedly St.  
[ConshohockenPA.gov](https://www.ConshohockenPA.gov)

### July 4

**Clifton Heights.** Clifton Heights Athletic Field, 212 N. Springfield Rd. Rain date July 9. On Facebook.

**Good Neighbor Day in Downingtown.** Kerr Park, Park Ln. (viewing location). [GoodNeighborDay.com](https://www.GoodNeighborDay.com)

**Hockessin Fourth of July Fireworks.** Swift Park, Milcreek Rd. & Old Lancaster Pk., Hockessin, DE. [Hockessin4th.org](https://www.Hockessin4th.org)

**Lititz Fourth of July Fireworks.** Lititz Springs Park, 24 Broad St. Rain date July 5. [Lititz4thOfJuly.com](https://www.Lititz4thOfJuly.com)

**Narberth Fireworks.** Community Park, between Windsor, N. Wynnewood & Haverford Aves. [NarberthFireworks.org](https://www.NarberthFireworks.org)

**Parkeburg 250 Carnival.** Minch Park, 111 West St. On Facebook.

## July Picks

by Marci Tomassone

**Phoenixville Food Trucks & Fireworks.** Friendship Field, 501 Franklin Ave. [Phoenixville.org](https://www.Phoenixville.org)

**Pottstown Go Fourth! Festival.** Memorial Park, 75 W. King St. [PottstownGoFourth.com](https://www.PottstownGoFourth.com)

**Tredyffrin/Easttown Concert & Fireworks.** Wilson Farm Park, 500 Lee Rd., Wayne. [Tredyffrin.org/Departments/Parks-Recreation](https://www.Tredyffrin.org/Departments/Parks-Recreation)

**Upper Merion Township Fireworks.** Heuser Park, 694 W. Beidler Rd., King of Prussia. [UMTownship.org](https://www.UMTownship.org)

**Wawa Welcome America Celebration.** Headliners include Christina Aguilera, Jill Scott and Will Smith. Phila. Museum of Art, 2600 Benjamin Franklin Pkwy. Fireworks, 11:45 p.m. [VisitPhilly.com](https://www.VisitPhilly.com)

**Wilmington's Celebration Fireworks.** Tubman-Garrett Riverfront Park on the Riverfront. Rain date July 5. [RiverfrontWilm.com](https://www.RiverfrontWilm.com)

### July 11

**Exton Park Community Day.** Exton Park, 132 Church Farm Ln. Rain date July 12. [WestWhiteland.org](https://www.WestWhiteland.org)

### July 17

**Malvern Fire Co. Fair.** Malvern Mem. Grounds, Monument Ave. [MalvernFireCo.com](https://www.MalvernFireCo.com)

### July 24

**Kimberton Fair.** 762 Pike Springs Rd., Phoenixville. [KimbertonFair.org](https://www.KimbertonFair.org)

*Fireworks displays are usually at dusk, 9-9:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Most displays are free, but check websites for details.*



# FAMILY FUN

**THROUGH NOVEMBER 1**  
**First Sundays**  
**Steamin' Days at Auburn Heights.** Climb into an antique automobile or board one of the trains and experience what it was like to travel at the turn of the 20th century. Tour the 1897 mansion that was home to three generations of the Marshall family. 3000 Creek Rd., Hockessin, DE. 12:30 to 4:30. \$10–\$15. [AuburnHeights.org](http://AuburnHeights.org)

**JULY 4**  
**Annual Good Neighbor Day in Downingtown.** Start the day with the Run for Life (5K, 10K & 15K) and 5K Freedom Walk at 8 am. Then enjoy fabulous food, crafts, music, bike decorating, a carnival, boat races and lots of other fun activities, all benefiting area emergency providers. Fireworks at dusk. [GoodNeighborDay.com](http://GoodNeighborDay.com)

**JULY 4**  
**Garrett Hill-Rosemont 4th of July Parade.** Decorate your bikes and floats to ride in this year's parade. Opening ceremonies begin at 10:45 am at Conestoga & Williams Rd., Bryn Mawr. The parade ends at Clem Macrone Park. [GarrettHillPA.com](http://GarrettHillPA.com)

**JULY 4**  
**Hockessin Fourth of July Festival.** Start the day with neighborhood relays at 9 am, the parade at 3 pm and culminating with an fireworks display at dusk. Old Lancaster Pk., Hockessin, DE. [Hockessin4th.org](http://Hockessin4th.org)

**JULY 4**  
**Lititz Fourth of July Celebration.** Create new memories at this celebration featuring entertainment, a baby parade, Kids Zone, a dance party, great food and more. Rain date July 5. Lititz Springs Park, 24 Broad St., Lititz. 9:30 am. \$8–\$20. [Lititz4thOfJuly.com](http://Lititz4thOfJuly.com)

**JULY 4**  
**Pottstown Go Fourth! Festival.** Bring the family for live music, hot air balloon rides, food trucks, beer garden, vendors and more. Memorial Park, 75 W. King St., Pottstown, 3 to 9:30 pm. [PottstownGoFourth.com](http://PottstownGoFourth.com)

**JULY 4**  
**Upper Merion Annual July 4 Celebration.** Enjoy a carnival featuring exciting rides and games and a live performance at 5:30. Heuser Park, 694 W. Beidler Rd., King Prussia. [UMTownship.org](http://UMTownship.org)

**JULY 4**  
**4th of July Celebration at Wilson Farm Park.** Bring your lawn chairs and a picnic dinner and enjoy great music from Just For Fun DJ Joe Griffith. Fireworks show begins at dusk. Food trucks will be available. 500 Lee Blvd., Wayne. 7 to 9:15 pm. [Tredyffrin.org/Departments/Parks-Recreation](http://Tredyffrin.org/Departments/Parks-Recreation)

**JULY 6–AUGUST 17**  
**Catch a Flick at Eagleview Town Center.** Bring your blankets, lawn chairs and loved ones for an evening of outdoor cinema. July 6, "WALL-E;" July 20, "Ratatouille;" Aug. 3, "Zootopia;" Aug. 17, "10 Things I Hate About You." 565 Wellington Sq., Exton. 7 pm. Free. [EagleviewTownCenter.com](http://EagleviewTownCenter.com)

**JULY 10, AUGUST 21**  
**Movies in the Park.** Pack a picnic, blanket, chairs and the family, and enjoy a movie, TBD. Food trucks on site. July 10, Barclay Park, 535 N. Church St., West Chester; Aug. 21, Hoopes Park, 700 Hoopes Park Ln., West Chester. Starts at dusk. [West-Chester.com](http://West-Chester.com)

**JULY 11**  
**Pints & Connect: Family Edition.** Families are invited to meet for a few hours of fun and exploration with crafts, lawn games, pints for the grown-ups and a scavenger hunt. ChesLen Preserve, 1199 Cannery Rd., Coatesville. 3 to 5. \$25. [NatLands.org](http://NatLands.org)

**JULY 14–18**  
**Malvern Fire Co. Fair.** A Malvern tradition with rides, games, food, bands, fireworks and every night is a Family Night. Monument Grounds, 550 Monument Ave., Malvern. Daily 6 to 10 pm. [MalvernFireCo.com](http://MalvernFireCo.com)

**JULY 18**  
**Charles Towne Market.** The Charlestown Township Historic Commission is hosting a landmark celebration for PA250 with crafters, artisans, farmers, kids activities, food trucks, music and a flag dedication ceremony. Brightside Park, 3108 Yellow Springs Rd., Malvern. 10 to 4. [CharlestownTwp.org](http://CharlestownTwp.org)

**JULY 18**  
**Uptown Studio Summer Fun Day.** Bring the family for an afternoon of games, Disney songs performed live on stage, arts and crafts, water balloons and more. 226 N. High St., West Chester. Noon to 3. Free. [UptownWest-Chester.org](http://UptownWest-Chester.org)

**JULY 20–25**  
**Kimberton Fair.** Everything from 4–H livestock competitions to the Fair Queen competition, great food, rides and fireworks. Kimberton Fairgrounds, 762 Pike Springs Rd., Phoenixville. The Fair Midway (rides, food and games) opens at 6 pm, Mon–Fri; 4 pm on Sat. [KimbertonFair.org](http://KimbertonFair.org)

**JULY 23–AUGUST 1**  
**Delaware State Fair.** Kick up some fun and enjoy concerts, exhibitions, livestock auctions, carnival rides, fair food and onsite camping. 18500 S. Dupont Hwy., Harrington, DE. 1 pm. \$5–\$10. [DelawareStateFair.com](http://DelawareStateFair.com)

**JULY 24–AUGUST 1**  
**Cecil County Fair.** There's something for everyone at the Cecil County Fair, with a carnival midway, demolition derby, tractor and truck pulls, a rodeo, cow chip toss, big wheel race and more. Fair Hill Fairgrounds, 4640 Telegraph Rd., Elkton, MD. Check website for hours. \$2–6. [CecilCountyFair.org](http://CecilCountyFair.org)

**JULY 27–AUGUST 1**  
**Goshen Country Fair.** An old-fashioned fair with agricultural exhibits, games of chance, amusement rides and delicious food. Check out the dog show on Mon., the goat show on Wed. and the BBQ chicken dinner on Sat. Benefits the Volunteer Goshen Fire Co. Fair Grounds, 1320 Park Ave., West Chester. Gates open 6 pm, Mon to Fri; Sat at 5. [GoshenCountryFair.org](http://GoshenCountryFair.org)



**JULY 4**  
**Pottstown Go Fourth! Festival.** Bring the

**JULY 4**  
**Pottstown Go Fourth! Festival.** Bring the

See Wilmington article for more events happening there.

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trucks. Dogfish Head craft beer and Woodside Farm Creamery ice cream are available for purchase. 200 Hagley Creek Rd., Wilmington. 5 to 8 pm. \$5. Hagley.org



**THROUGH SEPTEMBER 10**  
**Thursdays**  
**Sculpture Garden Happy Hour at Delaware Art Museum.** Summer series features live music, local brews, lawn games, wine, cocktails and food vendors. N. Terrace, Copeland



Sculpture Garden, 2301 Kentmere Pkwy. Wilmington. 5 to 7:30 pm. Free. DelArt.org

**THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17**  
**Third Thursdays at Nemours Estate.** Head to Nemours Estate to enjoy the gardens while sipping a beer, relaxing to live music and savoring bites from local food trucks or pack your own picnic. 1600 Rockland Rd., Wilmington. 5 to 8. \$12. NemoursEstate.org



**THROUGH NOVEMBER 14**  
**Second Saturdays**  
**Pints on the Preserve.** East Branch Brewing



Company will be pouring the suds at ChesLen Preserve's Lenfest Center pavilion. Purchase food truck fare, enjoy hiking and fun for the whole family. 1199 Cannery Rd., Coatesville. 3 to 7 pm. Free. NatLands.org

**GARDENS** .....  
**THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27**  
**Festival of Fountains at Longwood.** Stroll through the gardens with brilliantly blooming annuals and perennials. See "Some of Our Favorite Daytrips & Outings" in this issue for more. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Thurs-Sat, 9:15 pm. \$20-\$35. Longwood-Gardens.org

**JULY 11**  
**Home & Garden Tour at Stoneleigh: A Natural Garden.** Dazzling displays of native plants, ancient trees and landscape designs are



highlighted on this guided tour of Stoneleigh. The Tudor Revival Main House is included in the tour. 1829 E. County Line Rd., Villanova. 10:30 to noon. \$10-\$15. StoneleighGarden.org

**JULY 16, 30, AUGUST 18**  
**Artful Gardens & Design — Dahlia Extravaganza.** Learn how to make floral arrangements with dahlias and other mixed blooms. 293 W. Street Rd., Kennett Square. 5 to 7 pm. \$70. 610-955-1373

**MUSEUMS**.....  
**THROUGH JANUARY 10, 2027**  
**Brandywine Museum of Art.** *Through Nov. 8,* Treasures from the Family: The Gift of Betsy James Wyeth. *Through November,* N.C. Wyeth Mural Experience, N.C. Wyeth Studio and Point Lookout Farm. *Through Jan. 10, 2027,* "By Design: The Worlds of Betsy James Wyeth." 1 Hoffman's Mill Rd., Chadds Ford. Wed-Mon, 9:30 to 4:30. \$8-\$20. Brandywine.org

**THROUGH DECEMBER**  
**Delaware Art Museum.** *Through July 19,* "Citizen Artist," a moment of national reflection with a celebration of artist workers in America. *Through Aug. 23,* "Living Indigenous," showcasing the creative contributions of Indigenous artists. *Through Dec. 2027,* "Jamey Grimes:

Aster" installation transforms DelArt's Fusco Hall with swirling, synthetic forms inspired by nature. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Wed-Sun, 10 to 4. \$14-\$25. DelArt.org

**MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT**.....  
*See outdoor concerts in "Fall Guide to the Performing Arts."*

**THROUGH AUGUST 16**  
**Delaware County Summer Festival.** This popular Delco tradition offers everything from classical to Cajun, Motown to Broadway, doo-wop to rock & pop. Visit website for concerts. Rose Tree Park, Rt. 252 & Providence Rd., Upper Providence. Free. Schedule at DelcoPA.gov/Parks/Summer-Festival.



**THROUGH SEPTEMBER 4**  
**1st Friday Summer Concert Series.** Come out to West Chester and enjoy bands performing at locations across in the borough from 5:30

to 7:30 pm. Chester County Historic Courthouse, 21 W. Market St., and Jack Loew Plaza, 44 W. Gay St. DowntownWestChester.com

**JULY 2-24**  
**Uptown Knauer Performing Arts Center.** *July 2,* The Promise of America: Our Roots and Branches; *July 11,* We May Be Right: The Billy Joel Tribute; *July 18,* Know Return: tribute to Kansas and Styx; *July 24,* Sweet Baby James. 226 N. High St., West Chester. Times and tickets, UptownWestChester.org.



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**JULY 2-26**  
**Upper Merion Concerts Under the Stars.** *July 2*, Molly Tuttle and Daniel Donato's Cosmic Country at Heuser Park; *July 3*, Dead, White & Blue with Splintered Sunlight at Heuser Park; *July 9*, God Street Wine; *July 11*, Montco Jazz Festival preview; *July 15*, Magic City Hippies; *July 18*, The High Kings; *July 23*, Preservation Hall Jazz Band; *July 25 & 26*, The Disco Biscuits at Heuser Park. Concerts through Sept. 4. Township Bldg. Park, 175 W. Valley Forge Rd., King of Prussia. 7 pm. Tickets. UMTownship.org.



**JULY 5-AUGUST 2**  
**Long's Park Summer Music Series.** *July 5*, Yonder Mountain String Band; *July 12*, Las Guaracheras; *July 19*, Low Lily; *July 26*, New Breed Brass Band; *Aug. 2*, J & The Causeways. Concerts through Aug. 23. Long's Park Amphitheater, Rt. 30 & Harrisburg Pk., Lancaster. 7:30 pm. LongsPark.org



**JULY 7-AUGUST 4**  
**Concerts on the Square at Eagleview Town Center.** Music lovers of all ages are invited to these live performances. *July 7*, Handsome Jack/Canyon Lights; *July 14*, Sophie Gault/Lazy Villains; *July 21*, Polyrythmics with special guest Julia Miralles; *July 28*, Legwarmers; *Aug. 4*, Dylan Zangwill Band. Concerts through Aug. 25. 565 Wellington Sq., Exton. 7 to 9. Free. EagleviewTownCenter.com

**JULY 9-23**  
**Summer in the Park Concerts at Wilson Farm Park.** *July 9*, The O'Fenders; *July 16*, Rick's Office Band; *July 23*, Chico's Vibe. Concerts through Sept. 3. Wilson Farm Park, 500 Lee Rd., Chesterbrook. 7 pm. Free. Tredyffrin.org/Departments/Parks-Recreation

**JULY 10-AUGUST 1**  
**The Keswick Theatre.** *July 10*, I Love the 80s; *July 11 & 12*, Todd Rundgren; *July 21*, Mike Campbell & The Dirty Knobs; *July 26*, The Sensational Soul Cruisers; *July 30*, Cinderella's Tom Keifer Band; *Aug. 1*, Amy Grant. 291 N. Keswick Ave., Glenside. Times and tickets, KeswickTheatre.com.



**JULY 10, 31, AUGUST 21**  
**Music at Marshall Square Park.** Picnic concerts with food trucks opening at 5 pm. Music at 6:30. Check website for weather updates and bands. 200 E. Marshall St. Free. MarshallSquarePark.org

**JULY 11**  
**Odorisio Music Night.** Bring your own lawn chair and a picnic blanket to enjoy free musical performances. Food and refreshments will be available at additional costs. Park at Odorisio Park, W. Wayne Ave. entrance, Radnor. 6 to 8. Rain date July 18. Radnor.com

**JULY 12**  
**Chesco Pops Celebrates America's 250th.** Featuring Peter Boyer's "Ellis Island: The Dream of America," the work celebrates the historic American immigrant experience, bringing together elements of the theater and multimedia into the concert hall by projected historical images from the Ellis Island archives. Immaculata University, Alumnae Hall, Immaculata. 3 to 5:30. \$18-\$26. ChescoPops.org



**JULY 12-31**  
**Bryn Mawr Twilight Concerts.** *July 12*, Shovels & Rope; *July 17*, Philadelphia Folk Festival Preview; *July 19*, Trout Fishing in America; *July 24*, John Gorka; *July 31*, Larry Campbell & Teresa Williams. Concerts through Sept. 6. The Gazebo, 9 S. Bryn Mawr Ave., Bryn Mawr. 7 pm. \$19. Times and tickets, BrynMawrTwilightConcerts.com.



**JULY 12-AUGUST 9**  
**East Bradford Summer Concert Series.** *July 12*, Echoes of the British Invasion; *July 26*, The West Chester Band; *Aug. 9*, Achilles Heart. East Bradford Park, 835 Kenmara Dr., West Chester. 7 pm. EastBradford.org

**JULY 12 & AUGUST 9**  
**West Goshen Summer Concert Series.**

*July 12*, J-Tyme Bluegrass Concert; *Aug. 9*, Wilson Lambert's Blue Philly Magc. Bring dry goods for West Chester Food Cupboard. West Goshen Community Park, N. Five Points & Fern Hill Rds., West Chester. 6:30. Free. WestGoshen.org



**JULY 17 & 29**  
**The Grand in Wilmington.** *July 17*, Taj Mahal and the Phantom Blues Band; *July 29*, Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass. 818 N. Market St., Wilmington. Times and tickets, TheGrandWilmington.org.

**JULY 17-AUGUST 8**  
**The Colonial Theatre.** *July 17*, Live in Phoenixville: Emily McIntire, Author of "Forsaking Midnight;" *July 18*, Stewart Copeland: Have I



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**ADDITIONAL UPCOMING EVENTS**

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**For more information visit**  
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[HistoricSugartown.org](http://HistoricSugartown.org)



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**Pop-Up BIERGARTENS**

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Said Too Much; **July 24**, Unforgettable Fire U2 Tribute; **July 25**, Winslow: An Evening of the Eagles Tribute; **Aug. 5**, AJ Croce Presents Croce Plays Croce; **Aug. 8**, The Garcia Project: Live at The Colonial. 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. Times and tickets, TheColonialTheatre.com.

**JULY 21**  
**Children's Summer Concert at Clem Macrone Park.** Meet Brother and Sister Bear from the Berenstain Bears, listen to Radnor police officers read stories and enjoy music from The Plants. Rain date, July 22. 810 Conestoga Rd., Bryn Mawr. 6 to 7:30. Free. Radnor.com

**JULY 24, AUGUST 21**  
**Summer Pop-Up Beer Garden Series at Uptown.** Featuring live music, food trucks, art and lawn games. **July 24**, Sweet Baby James; **Aug. 21**, Tell Me Lies. 226 N. High St., West Chester. 5 pm. Free. UptownWestChester.org



**JULY 25**  
**Twilight Music Series in Media.** Bring a picnic dinner and relax on the lawn as Philly Nelson plays Outlaw Country music. Concerts through Oct. 17. Community Center, Monroe St. between 3rd and 4th Sts., Media. 6 to 8 pm. MediaArtsCouncil.org

**JULY 26 & AUGUST 9**  
**Miller Park Summer Concert Series.** **July 26**, First Impression; **Aug. 9**, Local Honey. Concerts through Aug. 23. Albert C. Miller Memorial Park, 220 Miller Way, Exton. 6 pm. Free. West-Whitelands.org

**JULY 31 & AUGUST 7**  
**Concerts in the Courtyard.** **July 31**, Parlour Noir; **Aug. 7**, Wicked Sycamore. Brandywine Museum of Art, 1 Hoffman's Mill Rd., Chadds Ford. 7 pm. \$25-\$35. Brandywine.org

**THEATER**.....  
**THROUGH JULY 12**  
**"West Side Story" at Fulton Theatre.** Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet is transported to 1950s New York City as two young, idealistic lovers find themselves caught between warring street gangs. 12 N. Prince St., Lancaster. Times and tickets, 717-397-7425; TheFulton.org.

**JULY 8-AUGUST 16**  
**"Ain't Misbehavin'" at People's Light.** Step into the vibrant and swinging world of the Harlem Renaissance in this raucous and joyful musical revue, celebrating the music and spirit of the legendary Fats Waller. 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. Times and tickets, PeoplesLight.org.



**JULY 22-25**  
**The Brandywiners' present "Brigadoon" at Longwood Gardens.** Love transcends time in this timeless Lerner and Loewe masterpiece. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Times and tickets, LongwoodGardens.org.

**TOWNS, TALKS & TOURS**.....  
**THROUGH AUGUST 26**  
**Wednesdays**  
**West Chester TAPS.** Unwind with friends every Wednesday, 4 to 7 pm. Participating locations offer select \$5 beers, \$6 wines and \$7 cocktails plus half-price appetizers. Downtown-WestChester.com

**THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27**  
**Open-Air Market in West Chester.** Gay Street is closed to vehicles Friday morning through Monday morning. Restaurants and shops line the street for strolling, eating, exploring. Downtown-WestChester.com



**THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30**  
**Wednesdays**  
**Dining Under the Stars in Media.** Discover the unique mix of local shops and restaurants that make "Everybody's Hometown" special. State Street is closed from Jackson to Orange for this summer-long outdoor dining event. 5:30 to 10:30 pm. VisitMediaPA.com

**THROUGH OCTOBER 4**  
**Phoenixville Inside Out.** Dine outside or enjoy a drink with friends, explore the boutiques and retail stores or take in a show. Road closed on 100 and 200 blocks of Bridge St. from 4 pm Fri through 7 am Mon. Fri, 4 to 10; Sat-Sun, 7 am to 10 pm. PhoenixvilleFirst.org

**THROUGH OCTOBER 15**  
**Third Thursdays on State Street in Kennett Square.** Enjoy outdoor dining, extended shopping hours, live music, children's activities, pop-up vendors and more. State Street is closed from Broad to Center Sts. from 5 to 10 pm every third Thursday. KennettCollaborative.org

**JULY 2-AUGUST 6**  
**Wednesday and Saturday**  
**Revolutionary West Chester Walking Tour.** Explore life in Chester County on the edge of battle, in an age of revolution and the lives of heroes and everyday people as they negotiated the treacherous path to independence. \$16. Times and tickets, MyCCHC.org. ♦

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

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

For more events visit:

CountyLinesMagazine.com

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Think your pet is the cutest of them all? Enter a photo of your pet's adorable mug and get in the running to win an **exciting prize!**

1. Like us on Facebook @CountyLinesMagazine.
2. Snap a picture of your pet, all species allowed!
3. Upload and tag us in your best photo (**only one, and no professional photographers!**) with #CutestPetOfCountyLines OR send it to Info@ValleyDel.com.
4. Be sure to include your pet's name, age, breed and a brief description!

**ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY**  
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## Meet Me at the Farmers Market!

### \* Hop on the Chester County Farmers Market Trail

The Farmers Market Trail promotes local agriculture, supports county and regional vendors and offers a way for the community to connect with local food systems. Visit one of the 10 markets across the county (marked with \*) and collect a stamp at each one. Ten stamps will get you a special Ag Swag Bag with gifts and info on locally produced goodies. Pick up a trail map at participating markets or download at [Go-AgConnect.org](http://Go-AgConnect.org).



### \* Artisan Exchange

208 Carter Dr., Unit 13 B, West Chester  
Sat., 10 to 1. [ArtisanExchange.net](http://ArtisanExchange.net)  
*Celebrating different food themes each week*

### \* Berwyn Farmers Market

511 Old Lancaster Rd.  
Sun, 9 to noon. [BerwynFarmersMarket.com](http://BerwynFarmersMarket.com)  
*Live music, food trucks, weekly kids activities and rotating charity partners*  
July 12 – America250-themed market with live music, giveaways and market guest Bright Day Studio Art Center  
July 19 – Bach to Rock musical petting zoo  
July 26 – Barnstone Art for Kids (charity)  
August 2 – Tomatopalooza event that coincides with National Farmers Market Week



### \* Downingtown Farmers Market

60 E. Pennsylvania Ave.  
Sat., 9 to 1. [GrowingRootsPartners.com](http://GrowingRootsPartners.com)  
*Market theme days with hot breakfast and coffee, live music, yoga, kids activities, pop-up vendors*  
August 8 – Tomato Fest  
September 12 – Pepper Palooza

### \* Eagleview Farmers Market

Eagleview Town Ctr., Exton  
Thurs., 3 to 6. [GrowingRootsPartners.com](http://GrowingRootsPartners.com)  
*Market theme days with sourdough grilled cheese, live music, yoga, kids activities, pop-up vendors*  
July 30 – Tomato Fest  
September 3 – Pepper Palooza

### \* Kennett Square Farmers Market

600 S. Broad St.  
Fri., 3 to 6. [KSQFarmersMarket.com](http://KSQFarmersMarket.com)  
*Summer Storytime – 4th Fridays at 4 pm*  
Aug. 7 – Nat'l Farmers Market Week Celebration  
Sept. 11 – Mushroom Market

### Lancaster County Farmers Market

Indoor farmers market  
389 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne  
Wed., Fri., Sat., 6 to 4.  
[LancasterCountyFarmersMarket.com](http://LancasterCountyFarmersMarket.com)  
*After School Story Time, Fall Fest, Trunk Shows*

### \* Malvern Farmers Market

Burke Park, Roberts Rd. & S. Warren Ave.  
Sat., 9 to 1. [GrowingRootsPartners.com](http://GrowingRootsPartners.com)  
*Market theme days with hot breakfast and coffee, live music, yoga, kids activities, pop-up vendors*  
August 1 – Tomato Fest  
September 5 – Pepper Palooza

### Media Farmers Market

Edgmont Street between Front & State Sts.  
Sun., 10 to 1. [EGreenEvents.com/](http://EGreenEvents.com/)  
[Media-Farmers-Market](http://Media-Farmers-Market)  
*Food donation drop-off site for local food banks*

### \* New Garden Growers Market

8934 Gap Newport Pk., Avondale  
Sat., 9 to noon. On Facebook.

### New Roots by Ramsey's Farm

4336 S. Creek Rd., Chadds Ford  
Daily 9 to 6. [NewRootsByRamseys.com](http://NewRootsByRamseys.com)  
*Penns Woods Winery Pop Up Tastings, 11 to 3:*  
June 27, July 25, August 29

### \* Oxford Village Market

193 Limestone Rd.  
Thurs., 8 to 6; Fri., 8 to 7; Sat., 8 to 5.  
[OxfordFarmMarketPA.com](http://OxfordFarmMarketPA.com)  
*Locally sourced produce, crafts and antiques*

### \* Phoenixville Farmers Market

200 Mill St., under Gay St. Bridge  
Sat., 9 to 1. [PhoenixvilleFarmersMarket.org](http://PhoenixvilleFarmersMarket.org)  
*Live music, children's area with activities*

### Pottstown Farmers Market

100 E. High St. Every other Sat. from May 11, 9 to 1. [PottstownFarm.org](http://PottstownFarm.org)  
July 25 – Christmas in July  
Aug. 22 – Bee Our Guest Honeybee Day  
Sept. 5 – Butterfly Tagging  
Aug. 9 – Zucchini Festival & Races

### Ramsey's Farm

440 Ramsey Rd., Wilmington  
Thurs.–Sun., 9 to 6. [RamseysFarm.com](http://RamseysFarm.com)  
*You-Pick Berries during market hours*  
July 7, 14, 21, 28, Aug. 4, 11, 25 – Goat Yoga  
July 9, Aug. 13 – Floral Classes

### Thornbury Farm Market

1256 Thornbury Rd., West Chester  
Thurs.–Fri., noon to 6.  
Sat., 9 to 6; Sun., 11 to 5.  
[ThornburyFarmCSA.com](http://ThornburyFarmCSA.com)  
*Hayrides, ghost classes and guided tours*

### Thornton Farmers Market

330 Glen Mills Rd. Sat., 10 to 1.  
[Facebook.com/ThorntonFarmersMarket](https://Facebook.com/ThorntonFarmersMarket)  
*Produce and creations from local farmers, crafters and food artisans*

### Upper Merion Farmers Market

Nor-View Farm, 670 N. Henderson Rd., King of Prussia. [UMTownship.org](http://UMTownship.org)  
Sept. 26 – Apple Fest  
Oct. 23 – October Friday Night Market  
Nov. 21 – Chili Cook Off

### \* West Chester Growers Market

Chestnut & Church Sts.  
Sat., 9 to 1. [WestChesterGrowersMarket.com](http://WestChesterGrowersMarket.com)  
*Live music, kids activities and giveaways*

### Westtown Amish Market

Indoor farmers market  
1177 Wilmington Pk., West Chester  
Thurs., 9 to 6; Fri., 9 to 7; Sat., 8 to 4.  
[WestChesterAmishMarket.com](http://WestChesterAmishMarket.com)  
*Pig Roast and Chicken BBQ Events:*  
July 16–18, August 6–8 ♦

More in *A Guide to Local Farm Products in Chester County*,  
[ChesCoPlanning.org/Agriculture/FarmGuide.cfm](http://ChesCoPlanning.org/Agriculture/FarmGuide.cfm)



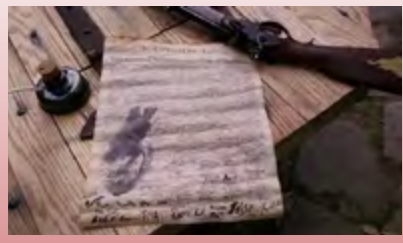
## Select America250 Events

Here are some of the celebrations planned for our nation's 250th anniversary this month. There are many more scheduled—check [CCCF250.org](http://CCCF250.org) for details.

### FAMILY FUN.....

Find more kids programming at your local library. [CCLS.org](http://CCLS.org)

**July 4, Revolutionary Farmers at Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead.** Step into the tension of 1776, where Patriots, Loyalists and Quakers debate the future of the colonies and the true loyalty of the farm. 3900 N. Sandy Flash Dr., Newtown Square. 11 to 4. \$5, under 4 free. [ColonialFarmstead.org](http://ColonialFarmstead.org)



**July 6 & 13, Unearth a Story: Colonial Science Series.** Children grades 2–5 explore colonial trades and skills through books, discussions and hands-on projects. **July 6,** Colonial Homemaking Science; **July 13,** Colonial Land Science. Chester County Library, 450 Exton Square Pkwy., Exton. 2 pm. [CCLS.org](http://CCLS.org)

**July 16, Revolutionary Youth at Historic Sugartown.** A collection of stories that capture the courage, conviction and ideals fueling America's fight for independence from Ken Burns' "The American Revolution." Carriage Museum, 273 Boot Rd., Malvern. 5 pm. Free, reg. req. [HistoricSugartown.org](http://HistoricSugartown.org)

**July 23, Indigenous Beadwork with Rain Black & Robin Glow.** Teens grades 5–11 explore basic beading techniques and learn how beadwork has been used for storytelling, identity and adornment by Indigenous peoples. Paoli Library, 18 Darby Rd., Paoli. 3 pm. Reg. req. [CCLS.org](http://CCLS.org)

**July 26, Penns Woods Winery America 250 Pop-Up: Carding & Wool Spinning.** Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead presents a hands-on demo, where you'll card wool, see natural dyes and woven cloth, and try hand-spinning. Plus, play colonial toys and games from the late 1700s. 124 Beaver Valley Rd., Chadds Ford. 1 to 4. Free. [PennsWoodsWinery.com](http://PennsWoodsWinery.com)

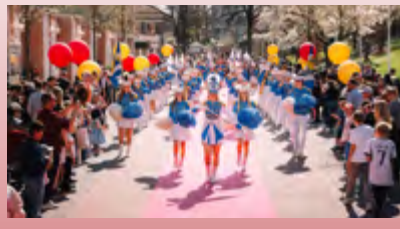


### SPECIAL EVENTS & EXHIBITS.....

**July 1–19, Dare to Declare.** Public readings of the Declaration, exploring the meaning behind "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." **July 1,** Chester Co. History Ctr.; **July 2,** Phoenixville Library; **July 4,** Brandywine Battlefield Park, Colonial PA Farmstead, Dupontail House, Kennett Heritage Ctr., Maurice Stephens House, Mill at Anselma, Minch Park; **July 19,** Bradford Friends Meetinghouse. [CCCF250.org](http://CCCF250.org)

**July 1–30, Forged in Freedom: The Land, the People and the Promise that Shaped a Nation.** The Chester County Archives' traveling exhibit showcasing key people and events that shaped the region's history. Nottingham County Park, 150 Park Rd., Nottingham. [ChesCo.org/5383/Events](http://ChesCo.org/5383/Events)

**July 1, World Association of Marching Show Bands 250th USA Championships.** Bands from Italy, Germany, Sweden, England, Puerto Rico and the U.S. compete in an obstacle course-style performance event and more. Farrell Stadium, 855 S. New St., West Chester. Gates open 9:30 am. \$15–\$50. [VivaceProductions.com/WAMSB2026](http://VivaceProductions.com/WAMSB2026)



**July 3–5, Happy Birthday Valley Forge National Historic Park!** Celebrate the 50th anniversary of Valley Forge National Historical Park and the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence with special programs and events. 1400 N. Outer Line Dr., King of Prussia. [NPS.gov/VAFO](http://NPS.gov/VAFO)



**July 4, Commemoration Ceremony at the Revolutionary Soldiers Cemetery.** Ceremony with guest speaker, music, reenactors and "Taps." Rt. 23 & Church Rd., Phoenixville. 9 to 10:30 am. [EastVincent.org](http://EastVincent.org)

**July 4, Independence Day at the Mill at Anselma.** Patriotic music by Lenape Brass, "Dare to Declare" presentations, bread baking, mill demos, face painting and kids activities. 1730 Conestoga Rd., Chester Springs. 10 to 4. \$5–10, under 5 free. [AnselmaMill.org](http://AnselmaMill.org)

**July 7, Tasting History with Cook & Connect.** Pick any recipe from a selection of 18th- and 19th-century cookbooks, prepare your dish at home, then bring it to the tasting event to share and discuss. Paoli Library, 18 Darby Rd., Paoli. 5:30 pm. Reg. req. [CCLS.org](http://CCLS.org)

**July 19, A Most Patriotic Celebration in Marshallton.** Readings of the Declaration of Independence, a heritage flag ceremony and performance by the Chester County Choral Society, and the Friends of Martin's Tavern annual ice cream social. 1 to 5. [MartinsTavern.org](http://MartinsTavern.org)

**July 28, Clay, Compassion & Community Dinner.** White Dog Cafe and Historic Yellow Springs present a dining experience rooted in history, craft and farm-fresh cuisine. Dine using handmade ceramic bowls crafted from Chester County's own iron-rich clay, which you'll take home with you. 181 Gordon Dr., Exton. 5 to 8. \$130. [Tickets, YellowSprings.org](http://Tickets.YellowSprings.org)



### TALKS & TOURS.....

**Through October 15, Town Tours & Village Walks.** See "Town Tours & Village Walks" in this issue.

**July 2, "Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Happiness."** Local historian Jim Segrave-Daly discusses the Declaration of Independence and the contentious debates in the Continental Congress that led to its creation. Phoenixville Public Library, 183 2nd Ave., Phoenixville. 6:30 pm. Reg. req. [CCLS.org](http://CCLS.org)

**July 4 & 18, Upper Uwchlan Twp. Driving Tour.** Discover 25 of Upper Uwchlan's oldest homes, farmsteads and a historic tavern on this self-guided tour. Tour packets available at the Upland Farmhouse Museum, 301 Pottstown Pk., Chester Springs. Free. [Ticketsandtimes, UpperUwchlan-PA.gov](http://Ticketsandtimes.UpperUwchlan-PA.gov)



**July 18 & 25, Battle of Brandywine Bus Tours.** Tour the Brandywine Battlefield landscape, guided by local author and master Battle of Brandywine historian Tom McGuire. Begins and ends at the Pennsbury Twp. campus, 702 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford. 9 to 11 am. \$30, reg. req. [EastBradford.org](http://EastBradford.org)

**July 18, Battle of the Clouds and Paoli Massacre Presentation & Bus Tour.** Historians Christopher Reardon and Jim Christ give an overview of the Battle of the Clouds and Paoli Massacre. Then see the actual sites with a stop at the Paoli Battlefield. Starts and ends at West Goshen Twp. Bldg., 1025 Paoli Pk., West Chester. 10 to 2. \$50, reg. req. [WestGoshen.org](http://WestGoshen.org)

**July 18, Anselma 250 Lecture: "Origins: The Lenape, William Penn and the Colonists."** Ellen Endslow, Chester Co. History Ctr., examines early alliances between the Lenape and European settlers under William Penn. 1730 Conestoga Rd., Chester Springs. 4 pm. Free, reg. req. [AnselmaMill.org](http://AnselmaMill.org)



**July 23, "Remember Paoli!" Lecture.** Jim Christ, Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund, discusses the often-overlooked Battle of Paoli. Easttown Library, 720 1st Ave., Berwyn. 6:30 pm. Reg. req. [CCLS.org](http://CCLS.org) ♦

# Hannum, Hannah and Horace

## NEW AMERICA250 MURAL AT THE GATEWAY TO WEST CHESTER



FOR FANS OF PUBLIC ART and murals in particular, you'll be happy to hear West Chester has a new addition. Check out the latest public mural, this one commemorating America's 250th anniversary, celebrating the nation's history and West Chester's unique role in America's story. You may have noticed activity in June on the western wall of 240 East Gay Street.

Commissioned in partnership with Mayor Lillian DeBaptiste and the Public Arts Commission, the mural was created by local artist Al Moretti, who also painted a large (87x17-foot) mural at the Kennett Library.

"From the beginning, the goal was to create something that honors America250, while also reflecting the people and stories that shaped West Chester," said Jimmer Breen, chair of the Public Arts Commis-

sion. "Al Moretti's design accomplishes that in a bold and inspiring way." Known for his vibrant use of layered color and movement, Moretti brings both visual artistry and musical influence to the project.

The mural design features a sweeping American flag and a prominent "250" centerpiece, along with several figures from West Chester's history. Among them are Col. John Hannum, recognized for his role in the American Revolution and the founding of West Chester; Hannah Freeman, representing the Lenni Lenape story; and acclaimed artist and veteran Horace Pippin, whose legacy reflects West Chester's contributions to military service and American arts and culture.

The location of the mural also carries historical significance, since it's both near the top of Hannum Avenue and near Horace Pippin's former home. It serves as a visual landmark and a catalyst for community conversation, further expanding West Chester's growing public art presence.

"This mural will beautify the neighborhood while adding another meaningful chapter to West Chester's evolving public art landscape," Breen said.

Work on the mural was completed in June. To see the finished work, walk or drive by for the full experience — it's within sight of the mural at the Master's Baker, 319 West Gay Street. Or check social media for photos and work-in-progress videos. ♦

*Partial funding was provided by the Chester County Community Foundation: America 250 Grant, West Chester Borough, the Mayor of West Chester, Downtown West Chester and other supporters of public art.*

*Interested in supporting public art initiatives? Send checks to: The Borough of West Chester, 401 E. Gay St., West Chester, PA 19380. Please include "Public Arts Commission" in the memo line. Learn more about public art at [WestChester.com/544/Public-Arts-Commission](http://WestChester.com/544/Public-Arts-Commission).*

# Before the Storm

## CHESTER COUNTY ON THE EVE OF REVOLUTION

Kim Andrews

**I**N 1776, CHESTER COUNTY WAS not waiting at the edge of the American Revolution — it was already being drawn into it.

Just west of Philadelphia, the county had what a rebellion needed: fertile farms, busy mills, iron production and roads linking the countryside to the colonial capital. But it was also a place of uncertainty. Chester County was home to people who wanted independence, people who remained loyal to the Crown and many, especially Quakers, who wanted no part of war at all.

### WHY CHESTER COUNTY MATTERED

That tension made Chester County important on the eve of Revolution. Long before the Battle of Brandywine turned its fields into a battlefield, the county was already a place where resources, geogra-

phy and divided loyalties pushed history toward crisis. Chester County did not become important when the British army arrived in 1777. It was important before that, which is why the war came here.

Its importance began with abundance. Chester County was one of the most productive agricultural landscapes in the region. Its farms produced grain, livestock, hay and flour. Its mills turned harvests into usable goods. Its roads and waterways moved supplies toward Philadelphia, where resistance was hardening into open revolt. Ironworks in the wider region added strength, linking labor, materials, transport and trade in ways that made southeastern Pennsylvania central to the patriot cause.

Chester County mattered because it worked. It fed people, moved goods and connected places. Once war began to gather force, those strengths also made

it exposed. Yet, although the county's economy helped sustain the Revolution, its people did not move in lockstep behind it.

### OVERLAPPING LOYALTIES

The old shorthand of patriots on one side and loyalists on the other does not come close to describing Chester County in 1776. The reality was more tangled. Some residents embraced independence. Some remained loyal to Britain. Some hoped for reconciliation. Others simply wanted peace and enough distance from politics to get through the season. In a county with a strong Quaker presence, many opposed violence on principle, even as events around them became harder to ignore.

Randell Spackman, owner of Thornbury Farm and steward of part of the Brandywine battlefield landscape, says the county was full of overlapping loyalties rather than clean divisions. "There were

### Why Quaker Chester County Was So Complicated

Chester County's strong Quaker presence made the coming of the Revolution especially complicated. Many Friends opposed violence on religious principle and sought to stay apart from war. But neutrality was not always possible, and not all Quakers made the same choice. Those who supported militia service or the Revolutionary cause could be disciplined or written out of Quaker meeting, cut off from a faith community central to daily life. In Chester County, the conflict did not simply split patriots from loyalists. It also created painful divisions within Quaker families and meetings, where political choices could carry spiritual and social consequences.



"Old Birmingham Meeting House, used as a hospital during The Battle of Brandywine" by Walter F. Price, 1893

many layers to people's beliefs," he said. "Chester County was volatile because neighbors could think very differently and you might not know where someone stood until events forced their position into the open."

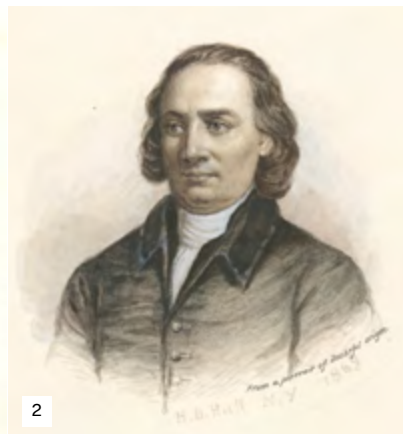
That mattered because this was not a place of strangers. People traded with one another, worshipped near one another, borrowed, sold, hired and depended on one another. Even those trying to remain outside the conflict were tied to the same local economy and the same local consequences.

Spackman noted that many Quakers wanted, above all, to be left alone. But that became harder as the imperial crisis deepened. "People were trying to carry on with ordinary life," he said, "but once separation became real, it became much harder to stay untouched by it."

That's part of what makes Chester County such a revealing place to look at in 1776. It not only supplied the Revolution, it absorbed the strain of it. The debates were local; loyalties were personal. Because the county sat so near Philadelphia, every escalation in the city sent pressure rippling into the countryside.

### A TURNING POINT

One local figure captured that turning point especially well. John Morton, then of Chester County, had long been known as a political moderate who hoped for reconciliation. Yet in 1776, he cast Pennsylvania's decisive vote for independence in the Continental Congress.



2

1. "The Battlefield of Brandywine" engraved by James Smillie after Thomas Doughty, c. 1850-1860
2. John Morton (1725-1777)
3. Thomas Mill, built circa 1744, in West Whiteland Township
4. Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site  
PHOTO CREDIT: NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



3



4

His decision tied Chester County directly to the Declaration and reflected the larger turn underway: from protest to separation.

On the ground, that change turned into action. Militias organized. Committees of correspondence, inspection and safety helped turn resistance into local governance. Public life began sorting itself more clearly around allegiance. Even those who hesitated or resisted taking sides could not avoid the effects.

And geography kept tightening the pressure. Chester County's roads, river crossings and rolling terrain made it valuable to anyone moving toward Philadelphia. Its farms could feed armies as easily as families. Its location, so useful in peace, would soon prove dangerous in war.

By the end of 1776, Chester County had become too important, too connected and too divided to remain untouched. Its fields, mills, ironworks, roads and people had already made it part of the Revolutionary story. In 1777, war would arrive with full force. But the storm was already gathering. ♦

*Kim Andrews is part of the Chester County Community Foundation's America 250 initiative and a nonprofit governance consultant. She wrote this article to raise awareness of Chester County's role in our nation's fight for freedom and build engagement for 2026, the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. For more information and to get involved, CCCF250.org.*



# Barnard's Orchard — A Three-Century Farm

## HOW ABOUT THEM APPLES!

JP Phillips



AS WE BOISTEROUSLY celebrate our country's 250th anniversary this year, life goes on as usual at Barnard's Orchard and Greenhouses, located near West Chester and Longwood Gardens and better known as "Barnard's" to the locals. This year marks a huge anniversary for them too — 300 years since the land in Pocopson was purchased and then continuously farmed by the Barnard family.

### LAND AND FAMILIES

Owner Lewis Barnard can usually be found in the background tending the land, working in the shop storeroom, or chatting with customers in his laidback manner. He's the eighth generation of his family to farm the land. In the late 1600s, Barnard's ancestors Richard and Frances came here from England. Then in 1726, their son Richard purchased acreage from the Baily family. A few generations later, during the Civil War, Milton inherited 40 of those acres, where the current orchard sits.

"Milton was my great-grandfather," said Lewis. He gestured to the big house across the driveway from the farm store. That's where his grandfather, father and then he were raised. "Milton and his wife, Edith, built this house in 1862." He added that construction cost was just \$2,600 (adjusted for inflation, that's still only \$85,000 today).

Over the years as the family grew, descendants of the original settlers also inherited or acquired land adjacent to the current orchard property. The Bails, Wickershams and Barnards — including Eusebius Barnard who, with his wife Sarah, were "stationmasters" for the Underground Railroad at the Barnard House near Pocopson Park — can all trace their roots to the original immigrants, Richard and Frances.

Lewis has a photograph of a family reunion held in 1880 attended by over 200 people. Marshall Swayne, an artist who made several sculptures of Abraham Lincoln, was one of the attendees. "He lived in Kennett Square and married my

great-grandfather's [Milton's] sister Mary," Lewis said. "My grandmother was a Wickersham. Actually, my great-grandmother was too."

### FLOWERS AND GREENHOUSES

Lewis's ancestors didn't specialize in growing apples in the early days. They had some trees, crops and animals, enabling them to live off the farm. The orchard we know today started to take shape in the early 1900s, thanks mostly to Lewis's grandfather Percy and great-grandfather Milton.

The greenhouses located right next to today's produce store were built in 1907 and 1915. The newer one originally grew sweet peas, a climbing and extremely fragrant flowering plant that was very popular during the first part of the 1900s. But that fad passed.

Carnations were another important wholesale crop for them, but no longer. "Much of the flower market was taken over by South America in the 1990s. They

This year's April 21 frost was inconvenient for many of us, but devastating to fruit growers throughout the region. Because it occurred at a vulnerable time when blossoms or fruits were developing, harvests are expecting to be half or less of what they should be. You can help by shopping your local orchard's farm stand and joining them for U-pick outings.

- **Barnard's Orchards and Greenhouses**, 1079 Wawaset Rd. (Rt. 842), Kennett Square. 610-347-2151; on Facebook. Note: Closed for June, reopening in July.
- **Highland Orchards**, 1000 Marshallton-Thorndale Rd., West Chester. 610-269-3494; [HighlandOrchards.net](http://HighlandOrchards.net)
- **Glen Willow Orchards**, 1657 Glen Willow Rd., Avondale. 610-268-8743; [GlenWillowOrchards.com](http://GlenWillowOrchards.com)
- **Indian Orchards Farm**, 29 Copes Ln. Media., 610-324-2484; [IndianOrchardsFarm.com](http://IndianOrchardsFarm.com)
- **Linville Orchards**, 137 West Knowlton Rd., Media. 610-876-7116; [Linville.com](http://Linville.com)
- **Merrymead Farms**, 2222 S. Valley Forge Rd., Lansdale. 610-584-4410; [Merrymead.com](http://Merrymead.com)

can grow them better. They have stronger sunlight, and they can grow flowers outside," Lewis said. "The stems are stronger on the South American carnations. We couldn't compete." These days the greenhouses are used to grow vegetables and flowers for bouquets sold in the store. "Anything we can do to keep the greenhouses alive," he said.

### ORCHARDS AND RETAIL

The farm is now comprised of around 74 acres — the original 40 acres plus land purchased in the 1950s. Lewis says there are around 18 acres in apples (about 30 varieties, including heritage apples), two or three acres in peaches and a half an acre in pears. In addition, he grows thornless blackberries and a few blueberries. "My dad managed the orchard part, and my Uncle Sam ran the greenhouses. They ran



1. Flowers grown in one of the greenhouses for bouquets sold at the store
2. Chef Meg McGill from Farmer & Co. in Unionville picking up some apples for a special recipe with Lewis Barnard  
PHOTO CREDIT: FARMER & CO.
3. The 1880 family reunion in front of the farmhouse

that together as a partnership." Lewis runs the whole thing now, with the help of a handful of skilled and valued employees. Today, almost all their sales come from the onsite store, which started in the mid-1950s. "Nowadays, you have to be in the retail business in this area to pay the bills," he said. Before that, small farms could make a living just selling wholesale. Like many orchard farm stores, Barnard's sells what they grow and also sources other produce from local auctions and select outside growers when items are out of season here. Barnard's stocks their own apple cider, apple butter and apple sauce, plus a variety of sauces, pickles, jellies, honeys, gourmet snacks and offerings from local artisans. And if you need avocados and bananas, they have those too.

### CONSERVATION FOR PRESERVATION

In 2017, Lewis took an important step to forever preserve his farmland by entering into an agreement with what's now the Brandywine Red Clay Alliance. At the

time, he had the 40 acres inherited from his father, while his Uncle Sam's land was owned by other relatives. "You have a piece of farm ground, but I didn't own it all. Others had to be paid for their share of it. And you can't get that kind of money. So, you can go through somebody like the county or the land conservancy that will appraise the ground at the developer's rate and at the farm rate and then try to find the funding to pay for the gap in between. You still own the farm in the end, but you give up the right to sell it as a development, or a golf course, or a lot of things commercial," Lewis said. "It can be later sold as a farm if you want to." Will there be a big celebration marking the unique accomplishment of being a tri-centennial farm at Barnard's Orchard and Greenhouses? Lewis thinks not. "We're lowkey," he said. Follow Barnard's Orchard on Facebook to see what's in season, U-pick availability and updates on Lewis's progress as he works the farm. ♦

# Fall Guide *to the* Performing Arts

We've put together a preview of the fall season at area theaters and performance venues as well as outdoor concert venues. Be sure to check websites for even more performances and updates.

## Top 10 Picks

### Brandywine Valley Symphony (formerly Kennett Symphony)

A new name and a bold new chapter ushering in a fresh era of music, vision and community. Music Director, Michael Hall. 206 W. State St., Kennett Square. BVSymphony.org  
★ *Masterworks I, Holiday Brass*

### Chesco Pops Orchestra

Local musicians perform pops, jazz and light-classic repertoire at various locations in the area. P.O. Box 2468, West Chester. ChescoPops.org  
★ *July 12, Peter Boyer's "Ellis Island: The Dream of America"*

### The Colonial Theatre

Independent and classic films, concerts and community events. 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. TheColonialTheatre.com  
★ *July 10–12, Cirque du Blobfest*

### Longwood Gardens Performing Arts

The arts at Longwood are as inspiring and beautiful as the gardens.

1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. LongwoodGardens.org

★ *Matthew Morrison, Melissa Etheridge, DJ Jazzy Jeff, The String Queens*

### The Grand Wilmington

Presenting more than 75 shows most seasons. 818 N. Market St., Wilmington. TheGrandWilmington.org  
★ *Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass, Graham Nash, Uncle Louie Variety Show*

### Hedgerow Theatre

Founded in 1923 by Jasper Deeter as the nation's first professional repertory theater. 64 Rose Valley Rd., Media. HedgerowTheatre.org  
★ *Check website for 2026–2027 shows*

### Media Theatre

Producing musicals annually, plus children's productions. 104 E. State St., Media. MediaTheatre.org  
★ *Murder for Two, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Peter & the Starcatcher, A Chorus Line*

### Natural Lands Beats & Brews

September 19  
Rock out under the stars. Binky Lee Preserve, 1445 Pikeland Rd., Chester Springs. NatLands.org  
★ *Music from Grateful Dead jam band Zendog*

### People's Light

Contemporary plays, music theater, classics and world premieres. 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. PeoplesLight.org  
★ *Topdog/Underdog, Cinderella: A Musical Panto, Louisa May Alcott's Little Women, Harvey, Urinetown*

### Uptown Knauer Performing Arts Center

Theater, music, dance, comedy, film in the heart of West Chester. 226 N. High St., West Chester. UptownWestChester.org  
★ *"Bye Bye Birdie," tribute bands for Billy Joel, Kansas & Styx, James Taylor*

*Check websites & CountyLinesMagazine.com for more performances and information.*



People's Light

## THEATER SUBURBAN PA

### Bird-in-Hand Stage

Offering live entertainment, including Broadway-style musical theater and comedy shows. 2760 Old Philadelphia Pk., Bird-in-Hand Bird-in-Hand.com  
★ *Ned & Nancy See America, Dear Soldier Boy, The Christmas Rush*

### Bucks County Playhouse

Located on the site of a former grist mill on the banks of the Delaware River. 70 S. Main St., New Hope. BCPTheater.org  
★ *Rodgers & Hammerstein's South Pacific, Rent*

### Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre

Top-quality productions, award-winning food and exceptional service. 510 Centerville Rd., Lancaster. DutchApple.com  
★ *Mary Poppins, Pretty Woman, Holly Jolly Holiday*

### Fulton Theatre Productions

A National Historic Landmark, considered the nation's oldest continuously operating theater. 12 N. Prince St., Lancaster. TheFulton.org  
★ *Ragtime, Annie, My Fair Lady*

### Sight & Sound Theatres

Faith-based live theater that's been described as "Christian Broadway." 300 Hartman Bridge Rd., Ronks. Sight-Sound.com  
★ *David Live on Stage, Miracle of Christmas*

## PHILADELPHIA

### Forrest Theatre

1114 Walnut St. Forrest-Theatre.com  
★ *Operation Mincemeat: A New Musical*

### Walnut Street Theatre

825 Walnut St. WalnutStreetTheatre.org  
★ *The Addams Family: The Musical*

### Wilma Theater

265 S. Broad St. WilmaTheater.org  
★ *The Little Prince*

## DELAWARE

### The Candlelight Theatre

Delaware's first dinner theater offers musicals, comedies, comedy club and more. 2208 Millers Rd., Wilmington CandlelightTheatreDelaware.org  
★ *Fiddler on the Roof, Scrooge: The Musical*

### Delaware Theatre Company

On the Wilmington Riverfront. 200 Water St., Wilmington DelawareTheatre.org  
★ *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Steel Magnolias*

### The Playhouse on Rodney Square

Located in the Hotel du Pont. 1007 N. Market St., Wilmington ThePlayhouseDE.org  
TheGrandWilmington.org  
★ *Six: The Musical, A Beautiful Noise*

## COMMUNITY THEATER

## SUBURBAN PA

### Barley Sheaf Players

Housed in the old Oddfellows Hall. 810 N. Whitford Rd., Lionville. BarleySheaf.org

### Footlighters Theater

Since 1930, this group has entertained Main Line audiences. 58 Main Ave., Berwyn. FootlightersTheater.com

### Forge Theatre

Year-round entertainment with six productions. 241 1st Ave., Phoenixville. ForgeTheatre.org

### The Players Club of Swarthmore

A community-based theater with main stage shows and smaller "Second Stage" productions. 614 Fairview Ave., Swarthmore PCSTheater.org

### SALT Performing Arts

Live community theater, workshops, dinner theater, summer camps and community outreach. 1645 Art School Rd., Chester Springs SALTPA.com

## Events & Series

### Musikfest, July 31–August 9

Eleven days of art, dance, comedy and music in many genres with a stellar lineup. Bethlehem. Musikfest.org  
★ *The TRiBE, John Mulaney: Mister Whatever*

### Chester Cty. 97th Old Fiddlers Picnic

August 8  
Hundreds gather for music and memories. Hibernia County Park, Wagontown ChesCo.org/CCParks

### South Wayne Porchfest, September 19

Community celebration with live music on the porches of private homes in South Wayne. SouthWaynePorchFest.com

### Media Borough Porchfest, September 19

Live music and good vibes, featuring performances from local bands and artists on porches, in yards and driveways. VisitMediaPA.com

### Malvern Porchfest, October 3

Musical acts perform on front porches and lawns, all within walking distance of each other. MalvernPorchfest.org

### West Chester Porchfest, May 2027

Over 70 bands perform on porches and front lawns, plus food trucks, kids activities and more. WestChesterPorchfest.org

### Turks Head Music Festival, June 2027

Local bands, 90 artists, craftspeople, vendors. Everhart Park, West Chester TurksHeadFestival.com

### Clifford Brown Jazz Festival, June 2027

This tribute to Brown is the largest multi-day, free, outdoor jazz festival on the East Coast. Rodney Square, 1000 N. Market St., Wilmington. CliffordBrownJazzFest.org

### West Chester University—WCU Live!

Live performances include music, dance, comedy and speaker events. Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall and Madeleine Wing Adler Theatre, West Chester. WCUPA.edu/OCA/WCULive

## DELAWARE

### The Brandywiners, Ltd.

Performing annually at Longwood Gardens. P.O. Box 248, Montchanin. Brandywiners.org

### Delaware Children's Theatre

Popular theater productions that entertain and educate. 1014 Delaware Ave., Wilmington DEChildrensTheatre.org

### Wilmington Drama League

Hosting volunteer-produced performances, plus children's theater performances. 10 W. Lea Blvd., Wilmington WilmingtonDramaLeague.org



Brandywine Ballet

Longwood Gardens Fireworks & Fountains Shows

## DANCE SUBURBAN PA

### Brandywine Ballet

Providing professional training and performance opportunities.

Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall  
700 S. High St., West Chester  
BrandywineBallet.org

### Chester County Ballet Company

A professional performance group at Chester County's oldest training school for dance.

321 S. High St., West Chester  
HarrisonDanceStudios.com

## DELAWARE

### First State Ballet Theater

Professional ballet company presents full-length ballets and mixed-repertory programs.

818 N. Market St., Floor 3R, Wilmington  
FirstStateBallet.com

## PHILADELPHIA

### Philadelphia Ballet Association

A premier ballet company, receiving widespread critical acclaim for extraordinary performances of a diverse classical and contemporary repertoire.

300 S. Broad St. PhiladelphiaBallet.org  
\* *Stars and Stripes Forever!*, *The Nutcracker*

## MUSIC SUBURBAN PA

### American Music Theatre

Since 1997, AMT has welcomed Opry legends, Grammy, CMA, Tony and Oscar winners, plus Broadway tours, original and Christmas shows.

2425 Lincoln Hwy. E., Lancaster  
AMTShows.com  
\* *Three Dog Night*, *Eaglesmania*, *Blue Öyster Cult*

### Brandywine Singers

Choral ensemble with a wide musical repertoire, partnering with other groups.

TheBrandywineSingers.org

### Chester County Choral Society

Led by a professional director and accompanist, performing diverse choral music.

P.O. Box 3466, West Chester. ChesCoChoral.org

### Delaware County Symphony

This community orchestra performs at Neumann University.

Meagher Theatre, 1 Neumann Dr., Aston  
DCSMusic.org

### Kennett Flash

An all-ages, stage-centered, café-style venue showcasing professional national, regional and local music, comedy, children's programs and more.

102 Sycamore Alley, Kennett Square  
KennettFlash.org

### Keswick Theatre of Performing Arts

A 1,300-seat venue hosting well-known acts with state-of-the-art sound and light.

291 N. Keswick Ave., Glenside  
KeswickTheatre.com  
\* *Todd Rundgren*, *The Sensational Soul Cruisers*, *Amy Grant*

### Lancaster Symphony Orchestra

Entertaining and educating the community through live musical performances.

48 N. Christian St., Lancaster  
LancasterSymphony.org

### Rose Tree Pops Orchestra

A community orchestra with performances ranging from classical to pops to Big Band.

P.O. Box 932, Media. RoseTreePops.org

### VoxAmaDeus

Musicians known for historical accuracy, frequently performing on authentic Baroque instruments.

P.O. Box 203, Gladwyne. VoxAmaDeus.org

## PHILADELPHIA

### The Academy of Music

Opened in 1857, it's the oldest grand opera

house in the country still used for music.

Broad & Locust Sts. EnsembleArtsPhilly.org

\* *Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater*,  
*Mamma Mia!*

### The Dell Music Center

This open-air amphitheater has 5,284 reserved seats and 600 lawn seats.

2400 Strawberry Mansion Dr.

TheDellMusicCenter.com

\* *Patti LaBelle*, *The Isley Brothers*, *Lady B's Annual Basement Party*

### Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Premier performing arts groups reside here and the Academy of Music — The Phila. Orchestra, Philly Pops, The PA Ballet, Philadanco and more.

300 S. Broad St. KimmelCulturalCampus.org

\* *Check The Academy of Music*

### The Mann Center for Performing Arts

Located in Philadelphia's Fairmount Park, the Mann continues its tradition as the region's premier outdoor cultural arts center.

5201 Parkside Ave. MannCenter.org

\* *Paul Simon: A Quiet Celebration Tour*, *Sarah McLachlan*, *Bob Dylan*, *Philadelphia Orchestra's Tchaikovsky Spectacular*

### The Met Philadelphia

The former Philadelphia Metropolitan Opera House, built in 1908 by opera impresario Oscar Hammerstein.

858 N. Broad St. TheMetPhilly.com

\* *Tori Amos*, *Sara Bareilles*, *Chelsea Handler*

### The Philadelphia Orchestra

Yannick Nézet-Séguin joined the illustrious group as the eighth music director in over 116 years.

1 S. Broad St. PhilOrch.org

## DELAWARE

### Brandywine Baroque

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6/26, 7/24, 8/21, 9/26, 10/17



6/27, 7/7, 8/4, 9/8



SATURDAY, JULY 11



JULY 30 - AUGUST 1



FRIDAY, JUNE 19



WEDNESDAY, JULY 1



SATURDAY, JULY 18



SUNDAY, AUGUST 16



SATURDAY, JUNE 20



JULY 8, 15, 22, AUG 5



MONDAY, JULY 20



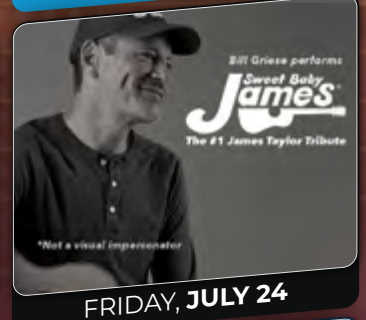
AUGUST 21 & 22



FRIDAY, JUNE 26



JULY 9 - 10



FRIDAY, JULY 24



SEPTEMBER 11 - 27

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Newtown, PA 18940  
215-357-0909



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

**Wayne Showroom**  
124 E Lancaster Ave  
Wayne, PA 19087  
610-947-6500

## Outdoor Concerts

Pack a meal, a blanket and a chair and head out to one of the many area parks, towns and boroughs for great music.  
Check websites or visit [CountyLinesMagazine.com](http://CountyLinesMagazine.com) for performance and ticket information.

**Anson B. Nixon Park Summer Concerts**  
Through August 12. 405 N. Walnut St., Kennett Square. [AnsonBNixonPark.org](http://AnsonBNixonPark.org)

**Bryn Mawr Twilight Concerts at the Gazebo**  
Through September 6. 9 S. Bryn Mawr Ave., Bryn Mawr. [BrynMawrTwilightConcerts.com](http://BrynMawrTwilightConcerts.com)

**Charlestown Park Summer Concerts**  
Through August 13. 100 Academic Way, Phoenixville. [Charlestown.PA.US/Newsletters.aspx](http://Charlestown.PA.US/Newsletters.aspx)

**Eagleview Town Center Concerts**  
Through August 25. 565 Wellington Sq., Exton. [EagleviewTownCenter.com](http://EagleviewTownCenter.com)

**East Bradford Summer Concert Series**  
July 12, 26, August 9. East Bradford Park, 835 Kenmara Dr., West Chester. [EastBradford.org](http://EastBradford.org)

**Everhart Park Concerts in the Park**  
August 21. 100 S. Brandywine St., West Chester. [West-Chester.com](http://West-Chester.com)

**Kimberton Park Summer Concert Series**  
July 16, August 20. 2214 Kimberton Rd., Phoenixville. [EastPikeland.org](http://EastPikeland.org)

**King of Prussia Town Center Live Music on the Green**  
Through Oct. 29. 155 Village Dr., King of Prussia. [KingOfPrussia-TownCenter.com](http://KingOfPrussia-TownCenter.com)

**Long's Park Summer Music Series**  
Through August 23. 1441 Harrisburg Pk., Lancaster. [LongPark.org](http://LongPark.org)

**Media Twilight Music Series**  
Through October 17. Monroe St. between 3rd & 4th, Media. [MediaArtsCouncil.org/Twilight-Music](http://MediaArtsCouncil.org/Twilight-Music)

**Miller Park Summer Concert Series**  
July 26, August 9, 23. 220 Miller Way, Exton. [WestWhiteland.org](http://WestWhiteland.org)

**Music at Marshall**  
July 9, 30, August 20. Marshall Square Park, 405 N. Franklin St., West Chester. [MarshallSquarePark.org](http://MarshallSquarePark.org)

**Pints on the Preserve**  
July 11–November 14. ChesLen Preserve, 1199 Cannery Rd., Coatesville. [NatLands.org](http://NatLands.org)

**Phoenixville Music Series**  
Through October 4. Multiple locations in downtown Phoenixville. [PhoenixvilleFirst.org](http://PhoenixvilleFirst.org)

**Rose Tree Summer Festival**  
Through August 16. Rose Tree Park, 671 N. Providence Rd., Media. [DelcoPA.gov/Departments/Parks/SummerFestival.html](http://DelcoPA.gov/Departments/Parks/SummerFestival.html)

**Upper Merion Concerts Under the Stars**  
Through September 4. Upper Merion Twp. Bldg., 175 W. Valley Forge Rd., King of Prussia. [UMTowship.org](http://UMTowship.org)

**West Chester Summer Concert Series**  
July 3, August 7, September 4. Concerts at the Chester County Historic Courthouse, 21 W. Market St. & Jack Loew Plaza, 44 W. Gay St., West Chester. [DowntownWestChester.com](http://DowntownWestChester.com)

**West Goshen Community Park Summer Concert Series**  
July 12 & 26, August 9 & 23. 1023 Fern Hill Rd., West Chester. [WestGoshen.org](http://WestGoshen.org)

**Wilson Farm Park Summer in the Park Concert Series**  
July 9, 16, 23, September 3. 500 Lee Rd., Wayne. [Tredyffrin.org/Departments/Parks-Recreation](http://Tredyffrin.org/Departments/Parks-Recreation)



**Barn at Flintwoods**, 205 Center Meeting Rd., Wilmington. [BrandywineBaroque.org](http://BrandywineBaroque.org)

**Delaware Symphony Orchestra**  
Performing classical and chamber concerts, Delaware's only professional symphony orchestra. 100 W. 10th St., Ste. 1003, Wilmington [DelawareSymphony.org](http://DelawareSymphony.org)

**OperaDelaware**  
The only professional opera company in the state and the 11th oldest in the country. 4 S. Poplar St., Wilmington. [OperaDE.org](http://OperaDE.org)

**Serafin Ensemble**  
Internationally acclaimed performing artists devoted to collaborative chamber music. 4101 Washington St., Wilmington [SerafinEnsemble.org](http://SerafinEnsemble.org)

### NEW JERSEY

**Freedom Mortgage Pavilion**  
Outdoor amphitheater/indoor theater complex located on the Camden Waterfront. 1 Harbour Blvd., Camden. [LiveNation.com](http://LiveNation.com)  
*\*Dave Matthews Band, Tim McGraw, Train, Chris Stapleton, TLC & Salt-N-Pepa with En Vogue*

### SCHOOLS

**Longwood Performing Arts**  
Classes from experienced faculty in a variety of dance styles. 633 W. Cypress St., Kennett Square [LongwoodPerformingArts.com](http://LongwoodPerformingArts.com)

**Uptown Studio**  
Teachers are talented professionals who provide a high-caliber performing arts education to stu-

dents of all ages and abilities, with a special focus on the individual as part of a group. 226 N. High St., West Chester [UptownWestChester.org/Uptown-Studio](http://UptownWestChester.org/Uptown-Studio)

**West Chester University Wells School of Music**  
300 student and faculty performances open to the public each year, including opera, jazz, symphony orchestra, wind ensemble, choral, vocal. Swope Music Building and Performing Arts Ctr. 817 S. High St., West Chester. [WCUPA.edu/Music](http://WCUPA.edu/Music)

### DELAWARE

**The Music School of Delaware**  
Performances include diverse musical styles and feature expert faculty, regional artists, internationally acclaimed guests and students. 4101 Washington St., Wilmington [MusicSchoolOfDelaware.org](http://MusicSchoolOfDelaware.org) ♦

# Delaware's *Northern* Beaches

REHOBOTH, HENLOPEN AND DEWEY

Edwin Malet



THERE ARE TWO BASIC WAYS to get to the Delaware beaches from the West Chester area. Head down US 1 for about two hours and drive along the southwestern shore of the Delaware River and Delaware Bay. But you won't see much.

Or take the ferry from Cape May, New Jersey to Lewes, Delaware. From West Chester to Cape May will also take about two hours to drive. The ferry will take about another hour and a half for the 17-mile crossing of the Delaware Bay. You'll breathe in the sea air, hear the squawks of the sea birds. If you're lucky, you may see a dolphin or two.

In other words, if you time it right (and reserve your ferry spot), the ferry route adds 90 minutes to your trip. But your vacation will start with a cruise.

## REHOBOTH BEACH

At Lewes, you're about nine miles north of downtown Rehoboth Beach. Sometimes called the "nation's summer capital," since many from Washington,

D.C. vacation there, the town is the best known of Delaware's beach destinations. Family-friendly, Rehoboth has grand hotels, a walkable downtown, superb restaurants, boutique shopping and a mile-long boardwalk. Nightlife here is slim, but its neighbor Dewey Beach, four miles farther south, generally rocks with beach parties, bonfires, live music and an assortment of bars.

## Places to Stay

Among the several very good hotels, the [Boardwalk Plaza](#) is a landmark, noted for its Victorian architecture and old-world charm. From your room, there's a clear view of surf and ocean. The [Atlantic Sands](#) is also directly on the boardwalk. Sunbathers line its pool, elevated to provide an unobstructed view of the beach.

A little farther from downtown, the [Henlopen Oceanfront](#), with private ocean-view balconies, also offers magnificent views of the beach, surf and sea. Off the beach are several properties to consider: The [Hotel Rehoboth](#), [Bellmoor](#)

[Inn](#) and the [Avenue Inn](#) all offer first-class accommodations. And, of course, there are plenty of summer rentals to explore.

## Places for Fun

For amusement, the kids will enjoy [Funland](#). You'll find 20 colorful rides, including boats for very young riders, a spinning teacup ride and beautiful historic carousel. Older kids will like the Haunted Mansion, with spooky props and animatronics, or the SuperFlip360, which spins passengers while rotating them upside down.

[Jungle Jim's Waterpark](#) offers another option. As Delaware's largest waterpark, it features high-speed rides, a river and wave pool, and several toddler pools. Plus six batting cages.

For a 19-hole mini-golf course with a beachcomber theme, [Shell We Golf](#) is attractive. Also, the [Midway Speedway](#) has mini golf, as wells as go-kart racing and a water park.

On summer weekends through September 5, revel in free concerts at the [Band-](#)

[stand](#). Tribute bands covering Simon & Garfunkel, Elvis Presley, Fleetwood Mac, the Eagles and others will perform. And of course, the [July 4th Fireworks](#), scheduled for Sunday, July 5, will ignite the sky, courtesy of the City of Rehoboth Beach.

## CAPE HENLOPEN

If you're less interested in thrills, and more inclined toward nature and history, visit [Cape Henlopen State Park](#). The park is a six-mile barrier island between the ocean and bay. Using a bike path from Rehoboth, it's about a 10-mile scenic ride.

Once there, explore an underground World War II bunker at [Fort Miles](#), climb the [Observation Tower](#) to get a 360-degree view, visit the [Seaside Nature Center](#), fish from the pier, bike the park's 3.3-mile loop, go surfing or just relax on the sand. It's your vacation, so you choose.

## DINING BY THE SEA

Hungry? There are plenty of choices, especially if you like seafood. Located inside the Boardwalk Plaza, [Victoria's Restaurant](#) is renowned for its sea views. Built so every indoor table is high enough to see surf, it offers a traditional Victorian afternoon tea and a refined coastal cuisine. For a meal featuring a fresh catch, head for [Henlopen City Oyster House](#) for its daily rotation of oysters and clams.

If you're looking for an intimate bistro, choose [La Fable](#). Savor exceptional French classics, including bouillabaisse, boeuf Bourguignon and fresh halibut, along with an outstanding wine list and superlative cocktails.

## DEWEY BEACH

South of Rehoboth, Dewey Beach is known for its nightlife, bars, live music and water sports. Summer weekends are busy, especially with its younger crowds.

During the day, Dewey is less chaotic than Rehoboth, and beach access is easier. The ocean or bay are both readily available. To enjoy the water, rent paddleboards or jet skis, or join a pontoon boat or sunset cruise.

At night, [The Starboard](#) is Dewey's go-to venue for good eats and great times. Live music and dancing are featured at [Northbeach](#). And the [Bottle & Cork](#) has a lineup of summer concerts, including The Bacon Brothers and The Wallflowers.

You'll also discover the beach at Dewey is alive with planned — and unplanned — events. [Monday Night Movies](#) and [Wednesday Night Bonfires](#), for instance, continue until mid-August. All are welcome.

There's plenty to do on Delaware's northern beaches. ♦



1. Funland
2. Monday Night Movie
3. Wednesday Night Bonfire
4. Rehoboth Beach

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE REHOBOTH BEACH-DEWEY BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# Delaware's Southern Beaches

## THE QUIET RESORTS

Edwin Malet



**S**OUTH OF REHOBOTH BEACH IS A SIX-MILE stretch of beach towns known as “The Quiet Resorts.” More laidback and less crowded than Rehoboth and Dewey Beach, these Quiet Resorts are adored by families, couples and singles who just want to get away and relax.

### THE THREE TOWNS

**Bethany Beach** is the northernmost of these quiet towns. Its beaches are wide, clean, uncrowded. On summer Mondays and Wednesdays, the town hosts free movies and bonfires on the beach. Family-oriented, with fewer and smaller hotels and motels than the northern towns — visitors generally rent a house or condo — the town has several delicious places to eat. While you’re here, plan to make your own fun — the beach, the bay, bicycles, mini-golf and ice cream shops undoubtedly will help.

Even quieter and more relaxed is **South Bethany**, with mostly vacation homes and canal-front properties. Go there for kayaking, canoeing, sailboarding and boating. Enjoy the beach, the ocean breezes and the beckoning waves.

**Fenwick Island** is the southernmost and least crowded of Delaware’s beach towns. It’s favored for boating, fishing, paddleboarding and other bay activities, and the town has exceptional seafood. Ocean City, Maryland, is just over the border if you have a change of heart and want more action.

45

### WHERE TO STAY

For hotels, try the boardwalk’s **Bethany Beach Ocean Suites** or the **Fenwick Inn**, with a rooftop pool. But accommodations are less upmarket than at Rehoboth Beach. And that’s likely because visitors commonly rent homes or condos for longer stays. If you book early, you can find very comfortable digs.

### SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF SUMMER

Fireworks! The otherwise quiet resorts will boom and crackle this year with the sounds of **America’s 250th**. On July 3, the festivities begin with a parade through downtown Bethany followed by a rock ‘n’ soul concert in the evening (details below). On the actual 4th, there will be another concert. Then the fireworks begin with a dazzling display over the ocean.

Independence Day will also be celebrated at Fenwick Island. At **Bayard Street Beach**, enjoy a massive bonfire, a DJ, games with lifeguards and educational stargazing sessions. Ocean City’s fireworks in Maryland will be visible from the southern beaches.

The boardwalk-based **Bethany Beach Bandstand** is alive with music throughout the summer. Funsters Rock & Soul performs on July 3, and Uncaged Tribute, a Zac Brown tribute band, performs on July 4. Other bands are scheduled through the summer, including tribute bands for Fleetwood Mac, Led Zeppelin and the Rolling Stones. Get there early! The concerts are free, but seating is limited.

### THE STATE PARKS

Neighboring the Quiet Resorts are two state parks. With six miles of ocean and 20 miles of bay shore, the **Delaware Seashore State Park** serves as habitat for beach plants, seabirds, shellfish, as well as for anglers, paddlers and beachgoers — think kites and volleyballs.

The **Fenwick Island Park** offers three miles of beaches together with access to Little Assawoman Bay. Ghost crabs, shore birds and ospreys can often be seen from the water’s edge. Surf fishing — striped bass, bluefish, fluke — is popular as are hiking and kayaking.

### OFFSHORE

North of Bethany is the **Indian River Life-Saving Station**. Built in 1876 to respond to offshore shipwrecks, it was a precursor to the U.S. Coast Guard. Today, as a maritime museum, it’s a must-see piece of history, periodically conducting lectures on shipwrecks, rescues and Morse code.

The **Shipwreck Museum** is a one-room museum on Fenwick, curated by a professional shipwreck diver and specialist on pirate lore. Get a close-up look at his booty — in this case meaning gold doubloons, pieces of eight, bullion, coins, jewelry, cutlasses, pistols and more.

The 1858 **Fenwick Island Lighthouse** was built to warn ships away from the treacherous Fenwick Shoals six miles offshore. Entrance to the grounds is free, but the stairway to the top is closed for safety reasons. A granite stone, featuring the coats of arms of William Penn to the north and Lord Baltimore to the south, was placed by surveyors in 1751 and marks the Delaware-Maryland border.

### FOR YOUR AMUSEMENT

It’s not surprising that mini golf is the classic evening activity in the Quiet Resorts. Regarded as the best is the **Millville Boardwalk**, featuring a nautical-themed course, built alongside an ice cream parlor, go-karts and an arcade.

**Nick’s Dinoland Golf** in north Bethany has animatronic dinosaurs and a smoking volcano. **St. Nick’s Mini Golf** is on Fenwick Island and features a “Christmas in July” theme, with giant toys, candy canes, festive lighting and hidden Santa “hazards” on the course.

A tad less quiet on Fenwick is **Viking Golf and Go-Karts**. The golf course winds past Viking ships, trolls and dragons. When you tire of golf, the **Thunder Lagoon** waterpark and go-kart track are nearby.

### PEEKING IN

Thinking about spending more than a weekend in the Quiet Resorts? The **34th Annual Beach & Bay Cottage Tour** will take place on July 22 and 23 for in-person visits, and July 12 through August 2 for digital viewing. Ten homes, from Bethany Beach down into Fenwick Island, each an architectural gem, are on the tour. ♦



- |                              |                            |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 5. Fenwick Island Lighthouse | 7. Bethany Beach Boardwalk | 8. Bethany Beach Bandstand |
| 6. Bethany Beach             |                            | 9. Fenwick Island          |

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE BETHANY-FENWICK AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# Welcome to County Lines Country



## 2026-27 Guidebook

# Day Trips & Outings

## Start with the Big 3

### LONGWOOD GARDENS

This summer will deliver another spectacular experience at Longwood Gardens' 1,100 acres, with 2026 shaping up to be one of its biggest seasons yet. As America celebrates its 250th anniversary, Longwood is joining in with an expanded Festival of Fountains, more special performances and some of the most ambitious events to let you make your own history. Hope you made reservations for America's 250th Weekend festivities, July 3–5!

From May through September 27, the Festival of Fountains transforms the gardens into a crowd-pleasing showcase of water, music and color. Daytime performances send 1,719 jets soaring above the Main Fountain Garden, while evening Illuminated Fountain Performances add dramatic lighting and music after dark.

Highlights include six Fireworks & Fountains shows, combining choreographed fountain displays with fireworks over the gardens. New for 2026 is The Four Seasons: A Drones & Strings Spectacular, August 26 and 27, pairing live music by Vivaldi, candlelight and drone technology for two unforgettable evenings (special tickets required).

Visitors can also enjoy concerts, theater, dance performances, live music in the Beer Garden, carillon concerts and themed Fountain Fest weekends throughout the summer. Concert themes range from "Great American Composers" on July 2, to "Blue Tango" on August 22 to "Electric 80s" on September 26. Check the website for dates and details.

Of course, the gardens themselves remain the star attraction, as families can take nature walks and enjoy seasonal programs. Meanwhile, the West Conservatory, Waterlily Court, Flower Garden Walk and Meadow Garden are all in peak form for summer visits. And for those who want to turn up the creativity, there are hundreds of classes and hands-on workshops to explore. Maybe this is the year to get your Floral Design Certification, classes July 13–24.

Add world-class dining at the 1906 Seasonal Table, extended evening hours and ever-changing displays, and you'll want to plan return visits to one of the Brandywine Valley's most celebrated destinations. *Routes 1 & 52, Kennett Square. LongwoodGardens.org*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF LONGWOOD GARDENS



PHOTO CREDIT: HOLDEN BARNES



PHOTO CREDIT: ADELYN DUCHALA



PHOTO CREDIT: BECCAMATHIAS

### BRANDYWINE MUSEUM OF ART

For a summer outing blending art, scenery and culture, the Brandywine Museum of Art is a best bet. Set along the Brandywine Creek, the museum pairs renowned collections by generations of the Wyeth family — N.C., Andrew, Jamie — with rotating special exhibitions.

This year's highlights include "Treasures from the Family: The Gift of Betsy James Wyeth," showcasing works of art and archival materials offering a fresh look at one of the Brandywine Valley's most influential artistic families. Also on view are exhibits examining the American landscape tradition and contemporary art, including "Abundance/Excess: A Contemporary Eye on Still Life." The N.C. Wyeth Mural Experience — viewing "Apotheosis of the Family," housed in a round barn on Point Lookout Farm — continues through the summer.

Or join July 15's Plein Air Evening at Kuerner Farm. Bring a sketchbook, easel or camera to capture scenes that captivated Andrew Wyeth. The Museum Explorers programs offer weekly fun for families, and Concerts in the Courtyard will lift all souls. ParLOUR Noir performs on July 31 and Wicked Sycamore on August 7.

After touring the galleries, be sure to visit the museum grounds, trails and former studios of the Wyeths. *Route 1, Chadds Ford. BrandywineMuseum.org*

Katie Butler, "Kitchen Table Issues," 2024 ▶



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND ABATTOIR GALLERY



PHOTO CREDIT: DANIEL JACKSON

### WINTERTHUR MUSEUM, GARDEN & LIBRARY

Of the many reasons to visit Winterthur, 2026 offers an extra one — the 75th anniversary of its opening to the public. Join the yearlong programs, exhibitions and special events highlighting Winterthur's legacy as one of America's premier museum and garden destinations. May's Field & Fête garden party was an elegant launch honoring the vision of founder Henry Francis du Pont.

Summer visitors are especially lucky since the estate is at its most colorful, from sweeping meadows and colorful hydrangeas to shaded woodland paths. Tram tours offer an easy way to explore the 1,000-acre property, while house tours showcase some of the country's finest American decorative arts.

Also in 2026, celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Enchanted Woods with special first Thursdays each month. The kiddos will also enjoy story time at the Story Stones — on July 23 hear "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle — plus more family fun on Terrific Tuesdays.

Another annual highlight, the Artisan Market, July 17–19, brings 150 artisans selling handmade crafts, antiques, home décor, artwork, garden goods, jewelry and gourmet foods.

Whether its gardens, history, design or simply a beautiful day outdoors, Winterthur offers a unique experience — both timeless and new in its anniversary year. *5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur, DE. Winterthur.org*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WINTERTHUR MUSEUM, GARDEN & LIBRARY



PHOTO CREDIT: BOB LEITCH



PHOTO CREDIT: BOB LEITCH



PHOTO CREDIT: KELLY LEVIN

# Step into History in Chester and Delaware Counties

As we celebrate America's 250th birthday, it's the perfect time to explore the places where our nation's story began. From Revolutionary War battlefields and military hospitals to colonial farms and historic villages, Chester and Delaware Counties are rich with connections to America's past. Walk in the footsteps of soldiers, farmers, merchants and patriots who helped shape the nation. Plus, we've included a special detour to nearby Valley Forge — a must-see landmark of the Revolution.



## BRANDYWINE BATTLEFIELD PARK

On September 11, 1777, George Washington's Continental Army faced off against the British Army in the Battle of Brandywine, the largest single-day battle of the American Revolution. Nearly 30,000 troops clashed in a 10-square-mile area. Though the Continental Army was defeated, their resilience proved they could take on the redcoats and live to fight another day.

At the epicenter of Washington's encampment lies Brandywine Battlefield Park. Admission to the grounds is free, but a ticket (available Fri. & Sat., 10 to 4, Sun., 12 to 4) gets you access to the orientation film, museum and guided tour of the Gideon Gilpin Home, which served as British General Howe's headquarters. Note: Washington's headquarters is closed for construction. Check the website and social media for updates.

On August 1, Brandywine Battlefield Park celebrates America's 250th with "Voices of Brandywine." A collaboration with the Delaware Theatre Company and Historic Philadelphia, this dramatic retelling of the battle highlights the stories of those who lived through it. Events continue through 2027, the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Brandywine. 1491 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford. [BrandywineBattlefield.org](http://BrandywineBattlefield.org)

## COLONIAL PENNSYLVANIA FARMSTEAD

While the Continental Army fought for our nation's independence, the steady drum of everyday life beat on. Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead invites you to step back in time and discover the lives of colonial farmers, who made up nearly 90% of Pennsylvania's early population.

Located in Ridley Creek State Park, this 112-acre working farm and living history site features five restored historic buildings, crop fields, a kitchen garden, orchard and apiary. Costumed interpreters run the farmstead just as it was in the 18th century — horses and oxen plow fields, woodworkers and blacksmiths make essential items, hearth cooks use heirloom veggies and heritage grains grown onsite. Come ready to help with the daily chores!

Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead holds events and workshops throughout the year. This month, play colonial toys and games (July 5), learn how food was preserved (July 18) and churn your own ice cream (July 19). Don't miss their Fourth of July event — details on our America 250 page. 4300 N. Sandy Flash Dr., Newtown Square. [ColonialFarmstead.org](http://ColonialFarmstead.org)



## HISTORIC SUGARTOWN

After the American Revolution was fought and won, the residents of Sugartown established a school, general store, businesses and meeting places, creating a vibrant crossroads town for the surrounding farming community. The village became known as Shugart's Town, after tavernkeeper Eli Shugart, and was a vital stop for weary travelers hauling their goods to the markets of Philadelphia and beyond.

Today, Historic Sugartown is a restored 19th-century village, offering a window into early American life. From May to November, take a 90-minute guided tour of the village (Sat., 11 to 4, Sun., 1 to 4) and visit the general store and school room exhibit, Carriage Museum, c. 1805 Garrett House, book bindery and bank barn.

The village also hosts workshops and special events. This month, take a bookbinding (July 11) or book restoration (July 18) workshop. Then return on August 20 for the Pop-Up Biergarten, featuring Locust Lane brews, food truck bites and a paper marbling workshop. 273 Boot Rd., Malvern. [HistoricSugartown.org](http://HistoricSugartown.org)



## HISTORIC YELLOW SPRINGS

Founded as a spa village in the 18th century, Yellow Springs was the site of Washington Hall, the Continental Army's first military hospital. George Washington ordered its construction during the brutal winter of 1777–1778, when more soldiers were killed by disease than battle. The hospital laid the early groundwork for modern American medical care, introducing practices we now take for granted — cleanliness, patient isolation, nutritious meals and the use of medicinal herbs.

After the war, the village once again became a spa town. Later, it was home to a school for Civil War orphans, a fine arts campus and sci-fi movie studio (think "The Blob"). Today, Yellow Springs is a place to study art, history and the environment. Pick up a map in the lobby and explore the village, including the hospital ruins and 18th-century medicinal herb garden. On third Tuesdays, take a guided tour for a "behind-the-scenes" experience.

Of course, Yellow Springs is perhaps best known today as an art studio — register online for classes and workshops. 1685 Art School Rd., Chester Springs. [YellowSprings.org](http://YellowSprings.org)



## PAOLI BATTLEFIELD HISTORICAL PARK

On the night of September 20, 1777, British forces led a surprise attack against General Anthony Wayne's troops in present-day Malvern. Since the battle took place near the Paoli Tavern, it became known as the Battle of Paoli — or, to the Americans, who decried the redcoats' use of bayonets and falsely claimed they gave no quarter, the Paoli Massacre. Wayne's troops swore revenge for this bloody battle, and "Remember Paoli!" became their battle cry.

The 44-acre grounds have remained as farm fields and woods since the battle — making it one of the most pristine Revolutionary War battlefields. A shaded, ¾-mile trail leads you on a self-guided tour, with interpretive panels telling the story of the battle and its legacy. Next to the park, the Paoli Memorial Grounds contain the gravesite of 53 American soldiers and a stone monument erected in their honor — the second-oldest war memorial in the country.

Mark your calendar for Heritage Day, September 26, for reenactors, food trucks and other vendors, and a memorial ceremony. Monument & Wayne Aves., Malvern. [PBPFInc.org](http://PBPFInc.org)



## VALLEY FORGE NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

After the British captured Philadelphia in September 1777, George Washington and his army fled to Valley Forge and made camp for the winter. In December 1777, 12,000 patriots, including soldiers, craftsmen, women and children, marched into Valley Forge. Faced with supply challenges and disease, around 2,000 died by June 1778. That said, the winter at Valley Forge transformed the Continental Army from a ragtag group of rebels into a professional fighting force.

Today, Valley Forge National Historic Park attracts nearly 2 million visitors each year. The park protects 3,500 acres of meadows, woodlands, historic landscapes and monuments. The 10-mile Encampment Tour Route takes you to nine major sites, including Washington's headquarters, reconstructed soldiers' huts and the National Memorial Arch. Explore by car, bike or trolley — call for reservations. Plus, listen to the audio tour (purchase online) or dial in to the cell phone guide at each stop.

From July 3 to 5, Valley Forge Park is celebrating its 50th birthday — and the nation's 250th — with special events and programming. Details online. 1400 N. Outer Line Dr., King of Prussia. [NPS.gov/VAFO](http://NPS.gov/VAFO)



# Go on a Main Line Shopping Spree

It's time to treat yourself! Spend a day exploring the Main Line's charming downtowns, where you'll find stylish boutiques, unique gifts, artisan goods and specialty shops you won't find anywhere else. From Malvern to Wayne to Ardmore, each town offers its own distinctive mix of retailers worth a visit.

## MALVERN

Stroll Malvern's King Street — coffee and pastry from **The Buttery** in hand — and discover an eclectic mix of shops. Browse equestrian apparel at **Malvern Saddlery**, hand-knotted rugs at **Knots and Weaves**, trading cards and collectibles at **King Street Cards** and sweet treats at **Rockin' Cotton Candy Co.**

For gifts and home décor, **Terra Culture Gifts** offers handcrafted jewelry, pottery and accessories, while **Moss & Meadow** stocks flowers, garden-inspired goods and whimsical finds. Sustainable shoppers will love **A Step Above Malvern**, a retail co-op featuring clothing, jewelry, art and home goods from local makers.

Looking to refresh your wardrobe? Find boho-chic styles at **12 West**, contemporary fashion at **Posh Collections**, designer consignment at **Vida Beale** and special-occasion attire at **Occasions**. In the Malvern Shopping Center, **Englund's Apparel** specializes in fine menswear and custom clothing, while **Silver Linings Boutique** offers fashionable women's apparel and accessories. [MalvernBusiness.com](http://MalvernBusiness.com)



Moss & Meadow



Gingy's

## WAYNE

For a day of boutique shopping, few Main Line towns can rival Wayne. Find unique women's fashion at **Gingy's**, men's styles at **The Tiger Shop** and high-end consignment pieces at **Main Line Revival**. Shopping for little ones? **The Blue Béret** offers clothing, toys and gifts.

Accessorize with contemporary jewelry from **Exceptional Finds** or visit **Farnan Jewelers**, celebrating 110 years in business. Browse for your next beach read at **Main Point Books**, then pick out something special for your home at **Nest**.

Before heading home, stop by **Eagle Village Shops**, where you'll find home décor and gifts at **The Little House Shop**, flowers and furnishings at **Valley Forge Flowers**, British imports at **A Taste of Britain**, several independent boutiques and even treats for your furry friend at **Woof Gang Bakery & Grooming**. [WayneBusiness.com](http://WayneBusiness.com)

## ARDMORE

Look beyond the national brands of Suburban Square and explore downtown Ardmore, where independent shops line Lancaster Avenue. Find curated women's fashions at **Styche Boutique** and American-made menswear at **American Trench**. Treasure hunters can browse Penny Wise Thrift Shop, which has raised over \$3 million for Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, and the Junior League Thrift Shop, supporting the Junior League of Philadelphia.

For the home, **HOST** offers furniture and décor, while **rikumo** specializes in Japanese lifestyle goods. Bibliophiles will enjoy Mavis Books, and **pucci-Manuli** is a favorite for thoughtfully chosen toys and gifts. Family-owned **Giannini Jewelers** has served the Main Line for 60 years, while **Main Line Coin & Stamp** has been a trusted resource for collectors for nearly five decades.

And don't miss one last visit to **Past\*Present\*Future**. After 50 years in business, owner Sherry Tillman is retiring, making this beloved gift and craft shop a must-stop before it closes its doors. [DowntownArdmore.com](http://DowntownArdmore.com)



Past\*Present\*Future

# Eat Your Way Through Lancaster County

## BIRD-IN-HAND FARMERS MARKET

Family owned and operated for over 30 years, Bird-in-Hand Farmers Market is packed with local flavor. Open Wednesday through Saturday in summer, the market offers fresh produce, meats, cheeses, baked goods and Pennsylvania Dutch specialties. Stop by for a ready-made lunch, stock up on local treats or gather ingredients for a picnic — it's a delicious introduction to the region's agricultural heritage. 2710 Old Philadelphia Pk., [BirdInHandFarmersMarket.com](http://BirdInHandFarmersMarket.com)

## SHADY MAPLE SMORGASBORD

Bring your appetite to Shady Maple, where Lancaster County's Pennsylvania Dutch traditions are served on a grand scale. The sprawling smorgasbord features everything from fried chicken, roast beef and mashed potatoes to fresh-baked breads and homemade desserts. Named the #1 buffet in America by *USA Today* readers in 2024, it's a beloved stop for visitors and locals alike. 1324 Main St., East Earl. [Shady-Maple.com/Smorgasbord](http://Shady-Maple.com/Smorgasbord)



LUCA

## THE LOG CABIN RESTAURANT

A Lancaster County dining landmark since 1933, The Log Cabin combines rustic charm with an elevated dining experience. Nestled among the rolling farmland east of Lancaster City, the restaurant serves local farm-to-table cuisine in a cozy setting with stone fireplaces, outdoor patios and wooded surroundings. Live music and craft cocktails add to the atmosphere, making it a favorite destination for celebrations and special nights out. 11 Leboy Forest Dr., Leola. [LogCabin1933.com](http://LogCabin1933.com)

## FOX MEADOWS CREAMERY

At Fox Meadows, ice cream starts with milk from the family's own dairy farm. Choose from the original location on a working farm in Ephrata, where outdoor seating overlooks grazing cows and rolling fields, or stop by the charming Leola location in the heart of Lancaster County. Both serve rich scoops, sundaes and milkshakes featuring seasonal flavors and farm-fresh ingredients. 2475 W. Main St., Ephrata & 193 E. Main St., Leola. [FoxMeadowsCreamery.com](http://FoxMeadowsCreamery.com)



From bustling farmers markets and legendary Pennsylvania Dutch buffets to award-winning restaurants and farm-fresh ice cream, Lancaster County is a destination for every kind of food lover. Follow this delicious trail through the county to sample local traditions, international flavors and some of the region's most memorable dining experiences.



Chellas Arepas Kitchen

## CHELLAS AREPA KITCHEN

Ranked 5th on Yelp's Top 100 Places to Eat in the U.S. in 2025, Chellas brings vibrant Venezuelan and Peruvian flavors to Lancaster County. Visit the original Hempstead Road food truck or the downtown Lancaster restaurant for stuffed arepas, rice bowls and house-made sauces bursting with flavor. Plus, the entire menu is gluten-free, with plenty of vegetarian and vegan options. 1830 Hempstead Rd. & 325 N. Queen St., Lancaster. [EatChellas.com](http://EatChellas.com)

## LUCA

Warm wood-fired ovens, handmade pasta and seasonal ingredients set the tone at LUCA. A multiple-time James Beard Award semifinalist, the restaurant draws inspiration from Italy while making the most of Lancaster County's abundant local produce, meats and cheeses. Whether you're sharing a pizza, lingering over a pasta dinner or enjoying a glass of wine, the atmosphere is lively, welcoming and distinctly Lancaster. 436 W. James St., Lancaster. [LucaLancaster.com](http://LucaLancaster.com)



Fox Meadows Creamery

# Town Tours and Village Walks “13 Tours for 13 Colonies”



Celebrating its 32nd year, this series of free, guided summer strolls through historic neighborhoods, hamlets and villages welcomes you to join in celebrating America 250 with an expanded season. Tours focus on places, people and events in Chester County that defined the tapestry of history that shaped our nation. Tours are from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.



## July 16 – Radley Run Mansion House: A Journey Through Time

The 250-year-old Mansion House was in the path of soldiers marching to the Battle of Brandywine during the Revolutionary War. The Mansion House has served many purposes over the years, from farmhouse, to Underground Railroad Station, to foxhunting base. Today it remains a

landmark for the Radley Run community for its beauty and educational value. *Park: 1100 Country Club Rd., West Chester. Parking available in front of the mansion or in the lot across the street.*



## August 6 – Primitive Hall, Ancestral Home of the Pennock Family

Primitive Hall, built by Irish immigrant Joseph Pennock in 1738, is a house museum that showcases 18th-century architecture and provides insights into the lives of early Chester County residents. Visitors will learn about the history of this prominent Quaker family and the

hall's 20th-century restoration. *Park: Primitive Hall, 830 N. Chatham Rd., West Grove.*



## August 20 – Historic Yellow Springs

Celebrate America 250 and discover the story of the American Revolution from a whole new perspective — literally! This tour invites visitors to experience the American Revolution from an often-overlooked vantage point: the critical medical infrastructure that sustained the Continental Army. *Park: 1709 Art School Rd., Chester Springs.*



## September 17 – Oxford Area Historical Association

The Oxford Area Historical Association invites you on a road journey of Dickey Family history in Oxford and the surrounding townships. For more than two centuries, the Dickey family made major contributions to the growth of southwestern Chester

County. They pioneered the use of improved farming methods, developed manufacturing centers, promoted modern transportation facilities, founded schools, a university and led a host of social reform movements. *This self-driving tour will guide you by Dickey homes and farms, mills, schools, Lincoln University and enterprises.*

## September 24 – The Mill at Anselma

Step inside the Mill at Anselma, a historic water-powered grist mill built around 1747 that once served local farmers in Chester County, known as the “breadbasket” of colonial America. Visitors will explore the history of the mill and its owners, see how early milling technology worked, and learn how mills supported local communities and the Revolutionary-era food supply. *1730 Conestoga Rd., Chester Springs.*



## October 1 – Kennett Square – A Hotbed of Social Reform

Kennett Square earned a lasting reputation as a center of social reform. Since the founding of the Anti-Slavery Movement in 1833, citizens of Kennett have been among its supporters. Many redirected their energies toward women's suffrage and the temperance movement, continuing the town's legacy as a hub of progressive change. *Park: Municipal parking garage, 120 E. Linden St., Kennett Square. The tour will start on the walkway outside the parking garage.*



## October 8 – Adaptive Reuse – Where the Past Meets the Future in the Heart of Chester County!

Come walk in the footsteps of the Thomas Vickers Family, who were renowned Quaker potters, abolitionists and farmers. Learn how the historic c. 1770 house and bank barn are being preserved, see examples of the Vickers' 18th-century pottery created on site and enjoy a display of vintage clay pipes like those once made there. Then, take a hayride to explore the neighboring farm where the original part of the c. 1750 house was built by early Quaker settlers — the Mendenhall family. *Park: 215 Reeseville Rd., Coatesville.*

*More at ChesCo.org/TownTours.*



# 592 W. Creek Road | West Chester



Perched on a gentle rise above the Brandywine River Valley, this picturesque farmette offers refined country living on 4 scenic acres in the award-winning Unionville-Chadds Ford School District, just 3 miles from downtown West Chester. Equestrians will love this property featuring three fenced pastures, two paddocks, a three-stall barn with electric, and additional run-in shed and hay storage. The impressive 5,500+ sq. ft. home is thoughtfully positioned to capture breathtaking Chester County views, creating a private and peaceful retreat. Call for a private showing.



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## More Great Places for Outings

## PENNSYLVANIA

See also: *Historic Sites*

### Chadds Ford

**Penns Woods Winery.** Enjoy award-winning PA-grown wine, local beers and cheeses at this family- (and dog) friendly vineyard. Live music every weekend, wine tastings and vineyard tours. Offering a wide variety of classes all year long including yoga, candle making, painting, vegetable canning and more. *Open daily. 124 Beaver Valley Rd. PennsWoodsWinery.com*

### Glen Mills

**Newlin Grist Mill Park.** Visit a restored 18th-century milling community with an active 1704 water-powered grist mill. Hiking, trout fishing weekends, picnicking and nature walks are all available. *Rt. 1 & Cheyney Rd. NewlinGristMill.org*

### Glenmoore

**Springton Manor Farm.** The 19th-century manor house was the country estate of a prominent Philadelphia family and is now a demonstration farm where children meet animals in a petting area and learn about farming. *Park open year-round. 860 Springton Rd. ChesCo.org/CCParks*

### Media

**Visit Media.** Everybody’s Hometown! Media is Delaware County’s hub of activity and cultural center. America’s First Fair Trade Town features a unique blend of independently owned shops along with dozens of restaurants featuring cuisine from around the world. There’s always something to do throughout the year in Media’s historic State Street District, including Dining Under the Stars every Wednesday from May through September. *VisitMediaPA.com*

### Newtown Square

**Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead.** See the recreation of a 112-acre working 18th-century farm with farmers and guides in period garb, Belgian horses, Red Devon milking cows, Dominique chickens and two large pigs. *Open weekends, Mar.–Dec. 3900 N. Sandy Flash Dr. ColonialFarmstead.org*

### Oxford

**The Village of Oxford.** Celebrate its 250-plus-year history in a charming historic district. Try the Bridge Tour to enjoy shopping and refreshments in town and take in the Oxford Outdoor Gallery. For tours, coupons, guides and more, visit *OxfordMainstreet.com*.

### Perkiomenville

**Goschenhoppen.** One of the oldest continuously existing Pennsylvania German communities in America, preserving the folk culture of this area’s earliest immigrant settlers, known as the Pennsylvania Dutch. Today, the Goschenhoppen

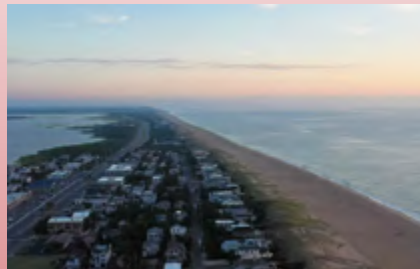
Historians maintain museums, a library and offer educational and seasonal events such as the 58th Annual Goschenhoppen Folk Festival, *Aug. 7 & 8, Fri, noon to 8 pm; Sat, 10 am to 6 pm. Henry Antes Plantation, 318 Colonial Rd. Goschenhoppen.org*



## DELAWARE

### Bethany–Fenwick

**South Coastal Delaware.** Welcome to the **Quiet Resorts** area of South Coastal Delaware, where pristine beaches, serene inland bays, rolling farmland and beautiful wooded parks provide endless opportunities for relaxation and exploration. Tucked away in the southeast corner of the First State, small-town charm and family-friendly entertainment are just a short drive away. Explore festivals, tax-free shopping, award-winning restaurants and more in the coastal towns of the Quiet Resorts. *TheQuietResorts.com*



### New Castle

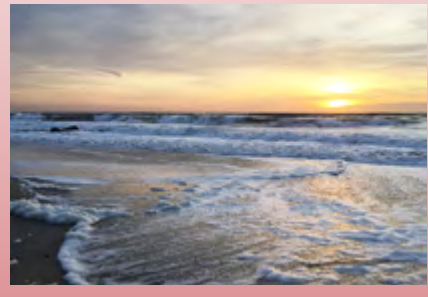
**Historic New Castle.** The town of New Castle, established in 1651 and where William Penn landed in 1682, is a beautifully preserved Colonial town center on the Delaware River. Visit **Immanuel Church** and its churchyard (dating back to 1703) and the **George Read II House**, a grand Federal mansion surrounded by a handsome garden. *NewCastleCity.Delaware.gov*

### Odessa

**Historic Houses of Odessa.** An outstanding collection of period household furnishings, fine and decorative arts. Five properties are unique examples of the architectural heritage of Colonial Delaware and tell of Odessa’s role in the Underground Railroad. Visit on September 12 for the 13th Annual Historic Odessa Brewfest with craft beer, live music, great food, vendors and more. *OdessaBrewfest.com, HistoricOdessa.org*

### Rehoboth Beach & Dewey Beach

**North Coastal Delaware.** Always fun and tax-free, the **Rehoboth Beach and Dewey Beach Resort Area** is known for its award-winning boardwalk and beaches, cozy accommodations, boutiques, tax-free shopping, amusements, cuisine and year-round events. Neighboring Dewey Beach is located between the Atlantic Ocean and Rehoboth Bay and offers water activities and live music. The Resort’s Gateway (Highway One), offers more restaurants, bars, shopping, rides and attractions. *Beach-Fun.com*



### Wilmington

**Delaware Park Casino.** Offering live thoroughbred racing, slot machines, table games, poker, sports betting, free live entertainment and many dining choices, including the 1937 Brewing Co. with housemade craft beers and gastropub food. *777 Delaware Park Blvd. DelawarePark.com*

## MARYLAND

### Cecil County

**Explore Cecil County.** From time to time everyone needs an escape. Imagine shimmering harbors, horses and history. Experience paddling, boat rides, hiking and fishing. Walkable small towns with shops, memorable Chesapeake Bay cuisine and scenic countryside provide a perfect backdrop for your next adventure. Just a Day-dream Away! *DiscoverCecil.com*

### Harford County

**Harford County.** Just off I-95 — your easy summer escape. Enjoy farm creameries, breweries, waterfront dining and charming main streets. Play mini golf or tee off on scenic courses. Hike, bike or kayak along miles of beautiful shoreline. With festivals, museums and local flavor, there’s something for everyone. *HelloHarford.com*

## Amusement Parks, Zoos, Entertainment & Family Fun

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Downingtown

**Boulder Falls Miniature Golf.** A 19-hole mini-golf course featuring a cascading water-

fall with winding streams flowing into fountain ponds. The beautifully landscaped design provides relaxation and lots of fun. *1426 Marshallton Thorndale Rd. BoulderFallsMiniGolf.com*

**Downingtown Rock Gym.** This rock gym is for people of all ages and abilities. Beginners learn the basics, and more experienced climbers test their skills in advanced climbing lessons. *462 Acorn Ln. DowningtownRockGym.com*

**Urban Air Trampoline & Adventure Park.** From the obstacle course, balance beams, tubes, the runway tumble track and slam dunk zone and on and on. Great place on a rainy day or for a birthday party. *981 E. Lancaster Ave. UrbanAir.com*

### Exton

**Round 1.** Fun for the entire family at this state-of-the-art entertainment arena. Mom and Dad can enjoy Happy Hour specials while kids try bowling and arcade games. *Exton Square Mall, 172 Exton Square Pkwy. Round1USA.com*

### Glen Mills

**Oasis Family Fun Center.** Safe, clean fun for the entire family at this indoor facility. *35 Lacrue Ave. OasisFamilyFun.com*

### Lancaster

**Decades Lancaster.** Experience a nostalgic adventure at Decades in downtown Lancaster. This retro haven offers over 40 arcade games, bowling, a full restaurant and a vibrant bar in the historic Stahr Armory. Open Wed–Sun, it’s family-friendly until 8:30 pm, then 21+. Just a 60-minute drive from West Chester and Kennett Square, with easy garage parking. *438 N. Queen St. DecadesLancaster.com*

### Mortonville

**Brandywine Outfitters.** Enjoy a scenic canoe or kayak trip with the whole family down the Brandywine River. If you’re looking for a whole weekend of fun, grab your sleeping bag and pitch a tent on the 26-acre private park in the heart of Chester County. *2096 Strasburg Rd. CanoePA.net*

### Norristown

**Elmwood Park Zoo.** The mission of the Elmwood Park Zoo is to foster an appreciation for wildlife and the environment that will inspire active participation in conservation. The zoo currently maintains a collection of over 100 species that hail from all over the globe. *1661 Harding Blvd. ElmwoodParkZoo.org*

### Oaks

**Arnold’s Family Fun Center.** Spend an action-packed day riding go-karts and other rides. Try both laser tag attractions, blacklight mini golf and bowling. Not only will the kids have fun, but parents can enjoy Arnold’s Bistro & Bar while they play. *2200 West Dr. ArnoldsFFC.com*

### Phoenixville

**The Colonial Theatre.** Situated in the heart of downtown Phoenixville, the iconic theater

operates three distinct venues and multiple event spaces in two adjoining historic buildings. Known internationally as the mother of Blobfest, which annually celebrates the theater’s role in the 1958 sci-fi classic, “The Blob.” *227 Bridge St. TheColonialTheatre.com*

### Pottstown

**Pottstown Children’s Discovery Center.** The center inspires curiosity, creativity and a love of learning, empowering children to dream big, explore boldly and thrive through play. *95 S. Hanover St. Open Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat, 9 to 4. PottstownDiscoveryKids.org*

### Ronks

**Paradise Station.** The sprawling nine-acre property includes The Red Caboose Motel, which encompasses 38 cabooses, one mail car, a baggage car, reefer car, historic farmhouse and luxurious Conductor’s Quarters; the 175-seat Casey Jones’ Restaurant and Gift Shop; and the fully restored and technologically enhanced Barn at Paradise Station, where weddings, events and inspiring musical entertainment take place.



### West Chester

**Northbrook Canoe Company.** Cool off along the beautiful Brandywine River with a self-guided canoe, kayak or tubing trip. Continue your fun with your favorite summer foods. Reservations required. *Open daily through Oct., first trip at 9 am, last one at 4 pm. NorthbrookCanoe.com*

**West Chester Railroad.** Take a relaxing 90-minute ride through the scenic countryside between West Chester and Glen Mills. Pack a lunch or purchase one from their on-board snack bar to enjoy during the stop at the Glen Mills train station picnic grove. Reservations required. *Market St. Station, 230 E. Market St. 610-430-2233; WCRailroad.com*

## DELAWARE

### Wilmington

**Brandywine Zoo.** Located along the Brandywine River in beautiful Brandywine Park, the zoo features animals from the tropical and temperate areas of North and South America, Asia and Africa. The animals range from more common species to the highly endangered, and all enjoy natural settings and welcome your visit to the zoo. *1001 N. Park Dr. BrandywineZoo.org*

**Tatnall Playground/One Love Park.** The park was named Tatnall Street Playground in 1907 and renamed in 2014 to honor singer-

songwriter Bob Marley’s time in Delaware after his hit 1977 song with The Wailers, “One Love/People Get Ready.” *2316 N. Tatnall St. VisitWilmingtonDE.com*

## Selected Nature Centers, Parks and Public Gardens

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Audubon

**John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove.** The fieldstone mansion, now a museum, displays Audubon’s major published works and memorabilia. The 175 acres are a wildlife sanctuary with 175 species of birds and 400 species of plants. *1201 Pawlings Rd. JohnJamesAudubon.org*

### Chestnut Hill/Philadelphia

**Morris Arboretum.** The official arboretum of PA. On its 92 public acres, thousands of rare plants (many of Philadelphia’s oldest, rarest, largest trees) are set in a Victorian garden. Award-winning rose garden, English landscape park, loggia and hidden grotto, Japanese gardens and swan pond. Special events. Advance tickets required. *100 E. Northwestern Ave. MorrisArboretum.org*

### Coatesville

**Hibernia County Park.** The park consists of over 900 acres of trails, woodlands, meadows, open fields, play areas, pavilions, camping, picnic areas and popular fishing sites. *1 Park Rd. ChesCo.org/1743/Hibernia-Park*

### Devon

**Jenkins Arboretum.** A 46-acre arboretum that emphasizes azaleas, rhododendrons and plants of local woodlands, including groundcovers and colorful wildflowers that bloom over a long season. From workshops to story time in the Children’s Garden to yoga, there’s always something new to learn, create or experience at Jenkins. *631 Berwyn Baptist Rd. JenkinsArboretum.org*

### Media

**Tyler Arboretum.** A 650-acre preserve originated with brothers Jacob and Minshall Painter. Mature plant collections are laid out in a natural setting, with 20 miles of marked trails. *515 Painter Rd. TylerArboretum.org*

### Newtown Square

**Willistown Conservation Trust and Rushton Conservation Center.** The Trust’s programs focus on over 28,000 acres in Chester County and portions of Delaware County. Its mission is to preserve and manage the open land, rural character, scenic, recreational, historic, agricultural and natural resources of the area.

**Rushton Farm** is the centerpiece of the community farm, hosting a CSA, school groups, volunteer days and a “Share the Bounty” program that donates fresh food to local food cupboards. *925 Providence Rd. WCTrust.org*

### Nottingham

**Nottingham County Park.** The 651-acre park offers nine pavilions, an 18-station fitness trail and three modern, handicapped-accessible playgrounds. Dedicated in September 1963, Nottingham Park was the first Chester County park. *150 Park Rd. ChesCo.org/1743/Nottingham-Park*

### Phoenixville

**Black Rock Sanctuary.** Consisting of 119 acres of wetlands, woodlands and meadows, Black Rock Sanctuary is dedicated to wildlife habitat and public use. The sky over Black Rock is a flyway, or air highway, for birds that migrate up and down the East Coast. *953 Black Rock Rd. ChesCo.org/1745/Black-Rock-Sanctuary*

### Pottstown

**Welkinweir.** This historic country estate is home to Green Valleys Watershed Association, a nonprofit dedicated to preserving the natural resources of northern Chester County. Nature walks and talks and summer camps are offered. *1368 Prizer Rd. Welkinweir.org*

### Swarthmore

**Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College.** “A garden of ideas” to sustain the body, enchant the eye and soothe the spirit, it’s the college campus, covering 300 diverse acres. The arboretum cultivates a variety of plants that create some

of the region’s most intimate, authentic and accessible horticultural experiences. *500 College Ave. ScottArboretum.org*

### Wayne

**Chanticleer.** Chanticleer is one of the great gardens of the region. Once the Rosengarten estate, today Chanticleer is a colorful, contemporary garden within a historic setting. *786 Church Rd. ChanticleerGarden.org*

### West Chester

**H. E. Myrick Conservation Center.** A 300-acre landscape with vegetation and wildlife habitats. Part of the Brandywine Valley Assn., which has worked for over 50 years to protect the Brandywine Creek. Two marked self-guided nature trails and a 1.5-mile Old Mile Loop. *1760 Unionville-Wawaset Rd. (Rt. 842). BrandywineRedClay.org*

## DELAWARE

### Hockessin

**Ashland Nature Center.** Headquarters of the DE Nature Society, 130 acres of meadows, forests, marshes, streams and ponds make an ideal setting for nature programs each year, geared to all ages and all levels of interest. *Brackenville & Barley Mill Rds. DelawareNatureSociety.org*

**Mt. Cuba Center.** A botanical garden that inspires an appreciation for native plants and a

commitment to protect the habitats that sustain them. *Gardens open Apr.–Nov. 3120 Barley Mill Rd. MtCubaCenter.org*

## Historic Sites

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Birdsboro

**Daniel Boone Homestead.** Daniel Boone was born here in 1734 in a log house built between 1730–1779. Other buildings include a PA bank barn, blacksmith shop, sawmill, log house and visitors center. *400 Daniel Boone Rd. DanielBooneHomestead.org*

### Broomall

**Thomas Massey House.** One of the oldest English Quaker homes in PA, built in 1696. *Lawrence & Springhouse Rds. ThomasMasseyHouse.org*

### Chadds Ford

**Barns–Brinton House.** Blacksmith William Barns foresaw the need for a tavern on “ye Great Road to Nottingham.” So, in 1714, he built the spacious brick building that was to become one. *630 Baltimore Pk. ChaddsFordHistory.org*

**John Chads House.** Built around 1725 and owned by John Chads from 1729 until his death in 1760. He operated a ferry across Brandywine

Creek. The location became known as Chad’s ford. *1736 Creek Rd. ChaddsFordHistory.org*

### Chester Springs

**The Mill at Anselma.** On the Pickering Creek, the mill is an extraordinary artifact of 275 years of Chester County’s industrial heritage, retaining its original Colonial-era power train and multiple layers of industrial equipment. Demonstrations and hands-on activities. *1730 Conestoga Rd. AnselmaMill.org*

**Larkin Covered Bridge (Thomson Bridge).** Originally built in 1854 and rebuilt in 1818, this bridge wasn’t always in its current spot. It was relocated in 2006 to be along a walking path. *Trail near Byers Station housing development.*

**Historic Yellow Springs.** Originally named by Native Americans for the iron-rich “yellow” spring water, this scenic village became the principal hospital for the Continental Army during the Valley Forge encampment and an 18th-century mineral water spa. Site of art, crafts and antique shows. *Art School & Pikeland Rds. YellowSprings.org*

### Ephrata

**Ephrata Cloister.** William Penn’s colony of Pennsylvania was the first to offer freedom from religious persecution, and historic Ephrata Cloister is an example of this religious toleration. Now a Blue Star Museum, providing free admission to currently serving U.S. military and their families this summer. *632 W. Main St. EphrataCloister.org*

### Lancaster

**Rock Ford Plantation.** 18th-century Georgian-style home of Revolutionary War hero General Edward Hand. The estate includes the mansion, barn and Kauffman Museum of decorative arts. *881 Rockford Rd. RockFordPlantation.org*

**Wheatland, LancasterHistory.org** Wheatland, the James Buchanan House, is a Federal-style house outside Lancaster City. It was formerly owned by the 15th President of the United States, James Buchanan. *1120 Marietta Ave. LancasterHistory.org*

### Malvern

**Historic Sugartown.** Provides a window on rural 19th-century life, with several preserved buildings, including a c. 1880 General Store, Carriage Museum featuring Chester County carriages and sleighs, Bank Barn and Book Bindery. *Parking at 273 Boot Rd. HistoricSugartown.org*

**Knox Covered Bridge.** Valley Forge National Historical Park is home to the first covered bridge (1851) to cross Valley Creek. Chester County’s most photographed. *300 Yellow Springs Rd.*

**Paoli Battlefield.** On the night of September 20, 1777, British troops attacked General Anthony Wayne’s Pennsylvanians at this spot. This was one of the bloodiest battles of the Revolutionary War and was called the Paoli Massacre. *Monument & Wayne Aves. PBPFInc.org*

### Phoenixville

**Kennedy Covered Bridge.** This 1856 bridge over French Creek was rebuilt after a fire, using bongossi wood, a non-flammable wood from Africa. *W. Seven Stars Rd.*

**Rapps Dam Covered Bridge.** Spanning French Creek, this scenic bridge was built by Benjamin F. Hartman in 1866. *Rapps Dam Rd.*

### Pottstown

**The Carousel at Pottstown.** Take a ride on one of the oldest operating Philadelphia Toboggan Company wooden carousels in the country. It features beautifully restored hand-carved animals and hosts weekend family rides and private events. *30 W. King St. CarouselAtPottstown.org*

**Pottsgrove Manor.** Built in 1752, this is the historic home of John Potts, Colonial ironmaster and founder of Pottstown. Distinguished for its fine early Georgian architecture. *Rt. 100 & W. King St. MontCoPA.org/HistoricSites*

### Schwenksville

**Pennypacker Mills.** A Colonial revival mansion, this home of PA Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker was preserved as a country gentleman’s estate. *5 Haldeman Rd. MontCoPA.org/HistoricSites*

### Wayne

**St. David’s Episcopal Church.** A stone wall encloses St. David’s graveyard, memorialized in Longfellow’s poem: “What an image of peace and rest is this little church among its graves ...” This park-like setting is welcoming and serene, with an intimate stone church. *763 S. Valley Forge Rd. StDavidsChurch.org*

## Museums

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Chadds Ford

**Brandywine Museum of Art.** See “Some of Our Favorite Day Trips & Outings.”

**Christian Sanderson Museum.** A private, nonprofit enterprise exhibiting the eclectic collection of historical relics, artifacts and memorabilia acquired by Christian Sanderson over more than 75 years. *1755 Creek Rd. SandersonMuseum.org*

### Coatesville

**Lukens National Historic District Museums.** Three mansions — Rebecca Lukens House (c. 1739), Terracina (1850-51) and Graystone Mansion (1889) — plus the National Iron and Steel Heritage Museum are the highlights when you visit. “A Science Museum in a Historical Setting.” *50 S. 1st Ave. SteelMuseum.org*

### West Chester

**Chester County History Center.** Their mission is to inspire, inform and build community

identity by preserving and sharing the remarkable story of Chester County and its people. *225 N. High St. MyCCHC.org*

## DELAWARE

### Wilmington

**Delaware Art Museum.** Galleries featuring Pre-Raphaelite art, Brandywine school illustrators and a nine-acre sculpture garden. *2301 Kentmere Pkwy. DelArt.org*

**The Delaware Contemporary.** A non-collecting contemporary art museum and gathering place for exploring new ideas in art, design and technology. *200 S. Madison St. DEContemporary.org*

**Delaware Children’s Museum.** The big yellow building along the Riverfront focuses on science, math and technology and engages children in playful learning. *550 Justison St. Delaware-ChildrensMuseum.org*

**Delaware History Museum.** Originally a Woolworth’s Department Store (1940), the building has been transformed into the Delaware History Museum and the Jane and Littleton Mitchell Center for African American Heritage. *504 N. Market St. DEHistory.org*

**Delaware Museum of Nature & Science.** Everywhere you look, our dynamic Earth is full of diverse life. At the Delaware Museum of Nature and Science, discover how nature connects us all in surprising ways. Through exhibits, hands-on activities and interactive experiences, explore how we all have a role to play in caring for our environment and the planet. Become a member and enjoy admission, discounts and reciprocal benefits all year. *DelMNS.org*



**Hagley Museum & Library.** The former industrial site of the original black powder works of the DuPont Company, founded in 1802 and powered by the natural resources that surrounded it. Check website for events. *200 Hagley Creek Rd. Hagley.org*

**Nemours Estate.** Experience the 47,000-square-foot mansion with 77 rooms of remarkable collections that include art, furniture and technology, the gardens featuring 200 acres of French-inspired formal gardens, grounds and woodlands and a vintage collection of automobiles owned by Alfred and Jessie du Pont on display in the Chauffeur’s



Garage. 1600 Rockland Rd. Tues–Sun, 10 to 5, last entry at 4. [NemoursEstate.org](http://NemoursEstate.org)

**Rockwood Museum.** Designed in 1851 by English architect George Williams, an outstanding example of Rural Gothic architecture and gardenesque landscape design. 4651 Washington Street Extension. [Rockwood.org](http://Rockwood.org)

**Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library.** See “Some of Our Favorite Day Trips & Outings.”

#### Yorklyn

**Marshall Steam Museum at Auburn Heights Preserve.** Home to the world’s largest collection of operating steam cars and a 1/8-size live steam railroad on the 250-acre grounds. Visit their website to find out about special events, such as Evenings at the Museum and Steamin’ Days. 3000 Creek Rd. [AuburnHeights.org](http://AuburnHeights.org)

### Special Interest Museums

## PENNSYLVANIA

#### Boyetown

**Boyetown Museum of Historic Vehicles.** Featuring vehicles of all types: gasoline, electric and horse-drawn, including carriages, wagons and sleighs. You’ll see “high wheelers” and “safety bicycles,” vehicle builder’s tools and local historic roadside architecture. 85 S. Walnut St. [BoyetownMuseum.org](http://BoyetownMuseum.org)

#### Columbia

**The National Watch & Clock Museum.** Featuring the treasures of time, from ancient timepieces to modern technologies, the museum captures the evolution of timekeeping over the centuries. 514 Poplar St. [NAWCC.com](http://NAWCC.com)

#### Lancaster

**Landis Valley Museum.** Whether you come for the animals, to learn about early Pennsylvania German life, or to stroll the grounds and get an up-close look at the largest collection of Pennsylvania German artifacts in the U.S., there is something for everyone to enjoy. 2451 Kissel Hill Rd. [LandisValleyMuseum.org](http://LandisValleyMuseum.org)

#### Malvern

**The Wharton Esherick Museum.** Home and studio of renowned artist and sculptor Wharton Esherick, who inspired the Studio Furniture movement. A National Historic Landmark for Architecture, housing 50 years of work. Tours by reservation only. 1520 Horseshoe Trail. [WhartonEsherickMuseum.org](http://WhartonEsherickMuseum.org)

#### Media

**Delaware County Institute of Science.** The museum exhibits mounted birds and animals, an herbarium of plants, fossils, shells and corals from around the world and miscellaneous other collections such as maps, Native American tools and more. 11 Veterans Sq. [DelcoScience.org](http://DelcoScience.org)

#### Oaks

**American Treasure Tour Museum.** Take

a light-hearted adventure through a showcase of pop culture and enjoy the sights and sounds before the digital age began and see how they connect with today’s modern world. 1 American Treasure Way, Oaks. [AmericanTreasureTour.com](http://AmericanTreasureTour.com)

#### Radnor

**Sports Legends of Delaware County Museum.** Dedicated to preserving the history and memory of Delaware County sports legends. [Radnor Township Municipal Building](http://RadnorTownshipMunicipalBuilding), 301 Iven Ave. [DelcoSportsMuseum.org](http://DelcoSportsMuseum.org)

#### Strasburg

**The National Toy Train Museum. Railroad Museum of PA.** [Strasburg Rail Road](http://StrasburgRailRoad.com). Visit [NTTMuseum.org](http://NTTMuseum.org); [RRMuseumPA.org](http://RRMuseumPA.org)

#### West Chester

**The American Helicopter Museum & Education Center.** The center’s mission is to preserve rotary-wing aviation history, educate society on helicopters and their missions, and inspire future generations through educational programs, events, air shows and workshops. 1220 American Blvd. [AmericanHelicopterMuseum.org](http://AmericanHelicopterMuseum.org)

**The Antique Ice Tool Museum.** This one-of-a-kind museum is dedicated to preserving the natural ice trade and houses the largest private collection of antique ice tools and memorabilia. 825 Scanneltown Rd. [AntiqueIceToolMuseum.org](http://AntiqueIceToolMuseum.org) ♦



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**(610) 546-2852**



[WhiteHorseVillage.org](http://WhiteHorseVillage.org) | Newtown Square, PA  
Independent Living | Personal Care | Skilled Nursing | Memory Support



# COUNTY LINES MAGAZINE

# 2026 NEWCOMERS Guide



New to our area?

Or want to discover what’s interesting  
and helpful for local residents?

Then check out the businesses, services  
and organizations in this handy guide.

-----ARCHITECTS, BUILDERS, HOME IMPROVEMENT-----

### D.E. DUFFEY & SONS IN MAVERN

[DEDuffey.com](http://DEDuffey.com)  See their ad on page 56

For over 125 years, they have been focused on one thing: keeping their friends and neighbors comfortable. From HVAC service and installation to oil delivery and indoor air quality solutions, they provide dependable comfort backed by a customer-first culture. Built on experience and trust, they believe in doing the right thing, the right way, every time.



### KEYSTONE GUN-KRETE IN EPHRATA

[KeystoneGun-Krete.com](http://KeystoneGun-Krete.com)  See their ad on page 56

Worried about trips and falls around your home or business? Uneven sidewalks, patios and pool decks aren't just unsightly — they're a safety hazard. Keystone Gun-Krete specializes in fast, effective concrete lifting solutions that eliminate trip hazards without the cost, downtime or mess of full replacement. They can raise and stabilize your concrete in just hours, not days. Customers consistently praise their team for professionalism and results that exceed expectations. Contact Keystone Gun-Krete today.



### KING CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN NEW HOLLAND

[KingBarns.com](http://KingBarns.com)  See their ad on page 14

Since 1978, founded on craftsmanship and built on trust, King Construction Company has been recognized for delivering high-quality custom barns, arenas, garages and accessory structures. By working closely with clients through every stage of the design process, their skilled team creates a building experience centered on quality, functionality and craftsmanship built to last for generations.



### THE KLINE ORGANIZATION

[TheKlineOrg.com](http://TheKlineOrg.com)  See their ad on page 10

With 37 years of experience, The Kline Organization has proven that great design is personal. By blending architectural expertise, craftsmanship and a deep respect for each site's natural character, the firm creates spaces that are functional and meaningful. Their client-focused process demonstrates that thoughtful design — not size — defines excellence. Specializing in new homes, renovations, equestrian facilities and timber frame.



### McCOMSEY BUILDERS IN PARKESBURG

[McComseyBuilders.com](http://McComseyBuilders.com)  See their ad on page 50

One of Chester County's premier custom builders. At McComsey Builders, they are more than just a family-owned company. They're a dedicated team committed to excellence in every aspect of their craft. With a legacy built on integrity and hard work, they pride themselves on going the extra mile for their clients. Exceptional isn't just a goal — it's a promise they keep with every project they undertake.



### RENEWAL DYNAMICS IN KENNETT SQUARE

[Facebook.com/RenewalDynamics](https://Facebook.com/RenewalDynamics)  See their ad on page 20

Renewal Dynamics is an established architectural and planning firm that works with clients to address their needs for new construction, renovation, expansion and adaptive reuse of historic, forgotten or unique structures. The firm's personnel have a combined total of over 45 years of planning experience and share a dedication to addressing the particular architectural needs of each client.



# Freedom.

It's more than just our name. It's a lifestyle.




FVBrandywine.com | 15 Freedom Blvd., | West Brandywine, PA

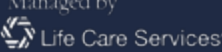


## Freedom Village at Brandywine

We offer carefree living at its best, with a wide variety of beautifully appointed residential options, a wealth of exceptional services and amenities, and a full calendar of fun, engaging activities—all just minutes from the many attractions, charming villages, and historic destinations of Chester County's lush Brandywine Valley.

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\* Financing subject to credit approval. Terms and conditions apply.

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E.C. TRETHEWEY BUILDING CONTRACTORS IN DOWNINGTOWN

[ECTBuilders.com](http://ECTBuilders.com)  See their ad on page 55

For over 30 years, E.C. Trethewey has crafted exceptional custom homes, renovations and additions. From historic restorations to new builds inspired by timeless design, they bring unmatched expertise and attention to detail. They exceed expectations through their superior craftsmanship, clear communication, unwavering integrity and with the goal of bringing your vision to life. Specializing in blending the past with the present, they believe in “recycling the past into the future” by preserving the character and history of a home while building for the way you live today.



WHITE HORSE CONSTRUCTION IN PARKESBURG

[WHCHorseBarns.com](http://WHCHorseBarns.com)  See their ad on page 18

Thinking of remodeling or building a horse barn, arena, equestrian complex, stand-alone garage or agricultural building? White Horse Construction understands what you want, having a solid reputation of building outstanding equestrian facilities and agricultural structures. White Horse Construction structures will enhance your estate for generations to come. Visit their website or call them.



POPPYCOCK TATTOO IN WILMINGTON

[PoppycockTattoo.com](http://PoppycockTattoo.com)  See their ad on page 65

A woman-owned shop proudly serving Wilmington for over 16 years. Recognized as *Delaware Today's* Best of Delaware Upstate Tattoo Shop (2018–2026) and *Newark Post's* Best Tattoo Shop (2024–2026), they were also listed among *Big 7 Travel's* “Best 50 Tattoo Parlors in America.” They specialize in custom, high-quality tattoos, cover-up work and permanent makeup. They’re also known as a premier body piercing destination. Ready to embark on your tattoo or piercing journey? Contact them today.



FINANCE

KEY FINANCIAL, INC. IN WEST CHESTER

[KeyFinancialInc.com](http://KeyFinancialInc.com)  See their ad on page 3

Key Financial has provided financial planning and wealth management locally and nationally for over 35 years, helping clients make informed financial decisions, pursue their long-term goals and plan for the future. *Securities offered through Osaic Wealth, Inc. member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advisory services offered through Key Financial Inc. Osaic Wealth Inc. is separately owned.*



HEALTHCARE

CHESTER COUNTY HOSPITAL IN WEST CHESTER

[PennMedicine.org](http://PennMedicine.org)  See their ad on page 75

Chester County Hospital is a 329-bed facility offering a comprehensive range of inpatient and outpatient services, including advanced surgical, oncology and maternal care. Established in 1892, the hospital is dedicated to serving Chester County and surrounding areas with high-quality medical care enhanced by the advanced research and medical breakthroughs of Penn Medicine and extensive community health programs.



HOME FURNISHINGS, DESIGN & DECOR

BALL & BALL IN EXTON

[BallAndBall.com](http://BallAndBall.com)  See their ad on page 74

Since 1932, Ball and Ball has been a family-owned business located in Chester County. They make reproductions of 17th- and 18th-century lighting, fireplace accessories, door and furniture hardware, as well as custom work. They ship all over the country. Visit their showroom in Exton or their website.



## HOLLAND FLOOR COVERING IN NEWTOWN & WAYNE

[HollandFloor.com](#) See their ad on page 32

With over 50 years of excellence, Holland Floor Covering is a renowned family-owned retailer of high-quality floors. Located in Newtown and Wayne, with a vast selection of carpets, rugs, runners, tiles, hardwoods, vinyls and more, they are well known for their great customer service, free estimates and free sample sign-outs. They aim to help homeowners create their dream floors using their skills and experience.



## MAIN STREET CABINET CO. IN NEWTOWN SQUARE

[MainStreetCabinet.com](#) See their ad on page 47

A design firm built around the same values as Rudderow Builders (the family construction firm founded in 1920), Main Street Cabinet Company prides themselves on honest, high-quality work, with an emphasis on service and value. Whether it's a kitchen, bathroom, mudroom, built-ins or a library, the Main Street Cabinet designers will guide you from concept to installation, every step of the way.

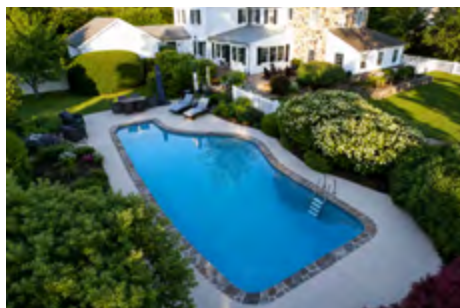


## LANDSCAPE DESIGN & SWIMMING POOLS

### AQUATERRA POOLS & SCAPES

[AquaTerraPoolsScapes.com](#) See their ad on page 8

Transform your property into a private retreat with custom pools, renovations, landscape design and outdoor living spaces crafted for lasting beauty and enjoyment. From concept to completion, AquaTerra Pools & Scapes creates outdoor environments that elevate the way you live.



## DISABATINO LANDSCAPING & PRONTO POOLS IN WILMINGTON

[DiSabatinoInc.com](#) See their ad on the inside front cover

DiSabatino, Inc. has been creating superior landscaping, outdoor living spaces, artisan masonry and pools for more than 30 years. Team members are expertly trained in all areas of design, installation, interior and exterior builds. Since their inception, they have been committed to providing an exceptional experience for clients. This has helped them grow into DiSabatino Landscaping, Esposito Masonry, DiSabatino Design-Build, Pronto Pools and Illuminations by DiSabatino.



## MOSTARDI NURSERY IN NEWTOWN SQUARE

[Mostardi.com](#) See their ad on page 19

Since 1976, Mostardi Nursery has been a family-owned business convenient to the Main Line and western Philadelphia suburbs. They are your local resource for all kinds of outdoor and indoor plants, along with the expertise to help you be successful with your home gardening and landscaping projects. Their friendly service goes above and beyond your expectations.



## THE NATIONAL IRON & STEEL HERITAGE MUSEUM IN COATESVILLE

[SteelMuseum.org](#) See their ad on page 16

The National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum is located on the campus of the Lukens National Historic District. Easily accessible in the heart of Coatesville and adjacent to the River Walk, NISHM is open six days a week for tours, lectures and educational programs. It draws international crowds to its facility, which educates the public on the people, places, products and processes of steel making, as well as the importance of educating children in the STEAM discipline. 50 S. 1st Ave. 610-384-9282.



## REALTORS

### THE HOLLY GROSS GROUP

[HollyGrossGroup.com](#) See their ad on pages 4-5

The Holly Gross Group, under the guidance of Stewart, Stephen and Holly Gross, is ranked in the top 10 realtors in Chester County. They represent sellers and buyers of all types and sizes of homes and properties, including condominiums, townhomes, single-family homes, large estates, luxury properties, farms, raw land and rentals. They look forward to putting their vast experience to work for you.



### MONUMENT SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

[KarenNaderProperties.com](#) See their ad on page 7

Karen Nader brings broad experience, strong communications skills and in-depth knowledge of luxury properties in both Pennsylvania and Delaware. With offices in Kennett Square and Wilmington, including a residential office at her Unionville farm, Karen is available whenever needed to assist prospective buyers and sellers, bringing to the table assurances of accomplishment and satisfaction.



### FREEDOM VILLAGE IN COATESVILLE

[FVBrandywine.com](#) See their ad on page 55

Live the life you have always imagined. Freedom Village at Brandywine is nestled in historic Chester County and offers active senior living with resort-inspired services, amenities, social activities, chef-prepared cuisine and onsite care that includes personal care, skilled nursing, memory care and rehabilitation services. Now recognized as a 2026 America's Best CCRCs by *Newsweek* and *Statista*.



### WHITE HORSE VILLAGE IN NEWTOWN SQUARE

[WhiteHorseVillage.org](#) See their ad on page 52

Discover White Horse Village, an active senior living community set on 109 scenic acres. Residents enjoy exceptional wellness programs, outstanding amenities, engaging activities, spacious homes and chef-prepared dining. From fitness classes and nature hikes to arts, lifelong learning and more, there's something for every interest. Known for its welcoming atmosphere and strong sense of community, White Horse Village offers a vibrant lifestyle where friendships flourish and new adventures begin.



## SENIOR LIVING

### BARCLAY FRIENDS IN WEST CHESTER

[BF.Kendal.org](#) See their ad on page 65

Located in a quiet neighborhood, Barclay Friends offers a welcoming environment to engage in meaningful connections and lifelong interests. Residents may do everything from creative arts and gardening to mindfulness and community gatherings. The campus features spaces designed to invite conversation, reflection and personal growth. A continuum of health and wellness services is available.



These are just a few of the great small businesses and organizations in our area that are here to help you. Please check our website, [CountyLinesMagazine.com](#), and other issues of *County Lines* for more about valuable local resources to help you get settled in your new community. Welcome to our area!

# Nine Things We About Wilmington

THERE ARE MANY MORE, BUT HERE’S A START

Laurel Anderson

THE FIRST STATE’S LARGEST city has much to recommend it. Known as the gateway to the Brandywine Valley and a city of gardens and estates, among other distinctions, Wilmington has countless attractions worth exploring this summer.

So, even if you’ve missed Separation Day on June 15, when Delaware marked ending its ties with both England and Pennsylvania (of which it was a part), there are plenty of things to see and do.

Here are nine of our favorite reasons to visit.

 **1. Wilmington Riverfront.** Closer than Baltimore’s Inner Harbor and with better parking than Philly’s Penn’s Landing, Wilmington’s Riverfront along the Christina River is a longtime favorite of ours and an underappreciated gem. This former industrial site was transformed into a recreation destination with dining,

entertainment and attractions. Dine at Constitution Yards’ seasonal beer garden, the reopened Iron Hill Brewery or Big Fish Grill on the Riverfront. If there’s not a festival or lunchtime concert, stroll the scenic Riverwalk, play a round of mini golf or kayak on the river. For the kiddos, there’s the Delaware Children’s Museum and the Russell W. Peterson Urban Wildlife Refuge. And it’s the place to be July 4th for a day-long celebration with music (Delaware Symphony, Clifford Brown Festival Orchestra), hot-air balloon rides, free Kalmar Nyckel tall ship tours and more. Oh, and fireworks. *RiverfrontWilm.com*

 **2. Du Pont Legacy.** From E.I. du Pont’s founding of a gunpowder works along the Brandywine River in 1802 — now Hagley Museum and Library — Delaware’s “first family” has had a lasting impact on the First State. There’s Henry Francis du Pont, who transformed his

country estate into a premier collection of decorative arts and preserved its thousand acres as Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library (see the Guide in this issue). And Alfred I. du Pont built a 77-room mansion, Nemours Estate, with the largest formal gardens in North America — modeled on the gardens at Versailles — now open to the public. In 1936, Alfred also established a charitable corporation to provide healthcare and services to children, which continues to operate today. These three estates (plus Longwood Gardens, but that’s in PA) are a cornerstone of the preservation of massive tracts of land in Delaware. Add the many mansions in nearby Chateau Country to the countless families with links (or claims) to the du Ponts, and that’s a legacy indeed. *Hagley.org, Winterthur.org, NemoursEstate.org*

 **3. Delaware Art Museum.** Some visit for the museum’s world-class

Pre-Raphaelite art — the largest collection of British Pre-Raphaelite works outside the U.K. — plus a solid body of work by Wilmington native Howard Pyle, who influenced the Brandywine style of illustration. But we fell in love at the sight of the spectacular Chihuly blown glass installation, “Persian Window,” commissioned specifically for the museum. Another favorite is the Copeland Sculpture Garden — combining art and nature with large-scale sculptures, winding paths and a labyrinth. Maybe it’s the lively Thursday evening Happy Hours, complete with live music, food trucks, cash bar, lawn games and themed entertainment — from Yacht Rock Night to ice cream socials — or the cultural celebrations, like Juneteenth and *Dia de los Muertos*, that make this as much a favorite community hub as art museum. *DelArt.org*

 **4. The Grand Opera House.** You’ve likely noticed this architectural landmark on North Market Street in the historic district. Opened in 1871

and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, this beautifully restored Second Empire concert hall is home to performing arts groups — First State Ballet Theatre, Delaware Symphony Orchestra, OperaDelaware — as well as a venue for national touring acts. Soak in the Victorian details as you enjoy diverse upcoming performances including *Taj Mahal* (July 17), *Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass* (July 29), *Graham Nash of Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young* (October 3), along with “*The Wiz*” (October 23–25). With more than 75 shows each season — from rock concerts and comedy shows to ballet, opera, Broadway tours, family performances — it’s the heart of Wilmington’s arts community. *TheGrandWilmington.org*

 **5. Frawley Stadium.** Want fireworks beyond July 4th? Fireworks nights and postgame fireworks regularly light up the sky above Frawley Stadium. This home to future Major League stars — the Wilmington Blue Rocks are a High-A affiliate of the Washington Nationals, with prospects

on their way to the majors — is the place to be in summer, from opening-night fireworks to late-season pennant races. A family-friendly, intimate atmosphere with about 6,500 seats puts fans close enough to hear the crack of the bat and players’ chatter. On Sunday Family Fun Days (some July and August games), there’s pregame catch on the field and Kids Run the Bases events. Don’t love baseball? The stadium has hosted concerts (Beach Boys, Journey, Counting Crows), but so far this year there’s *Sitting on Saturn* (August 13). Plus parking is easy and often free for an evening along the Riverfront! *FrawleyStadium.com*

 **6. Mt. Cuba Center.** For the full experience, enter through custom-forged metal gates adorned with native plants to the thousand-acre preserve with over 2,000 species of plants native to the Appalachian Piedmont region. Pamela and Lamott du Pont Copeland’s private estate evolved in the 1930s into this premier public garden dedicated to native gardening, conser-



1. Riverfront Wilmington  
PHOTO CREDIT: MOONLOOP PHOTOGRAPHY
2. Hagley Museum and Library  
PHOTO CREDIT: BECCA MATTHIAS
3. Delaware Art Museum  
PHOTO CREDIT: MOONLOOP PHOTOGRAPHY
4. Nemours Estate  
PHOTO CREDIT: MOONLOOP PHOTOGRAPHY





5



6



7

vation and ecological horticulture. Stroll terraces, allées and historic gardens near the house, then follow three miles of trails through naturalistic meadows, valleys and forests near ponds and streams searching for a spot for a picnic — they'll loan you a blanket to spread on the sprawling, chemical-free lawn. For picturesque views and a chance to learn how beautiful native plants can be in designed landscapes, a visit to this intimate garden is a must. Savor its native beauty, history and tranquility, then take home a souvenir — but one from the onsite store! [MtCubaCenter.org](http://MtCubaCenter.org)

**7. Brandywine Zoo.** At 42 acres, the Philadelphia Zoo may be exciting, but the 4.7-acre Brandywine Zoo is the right size for little ones. Opened in 1905, this charming zoo set along the Brandywine River within Brandywine Park is

Delaware's only zoo. Its small, compact scale lets you see animals up close, like the kid-favorite red pandas and new baby crowned lemur. Story times, keeper talks and programs focused on conservation and wildlife stewardship make this a great family outing that can be toured in about an hour. New this summer is a multi-species habitat, scheduled to open early July, featuring species such as golden lion tamarins, Patagonian maras, tortoises and more. To lure parents, the popular Sip & Stroll evenings return (July 23 & August 20), featuring live music, food vendors, craft beer, wine and after-hours animal viewing. [BrandywineZoo.org](http://BrandywineZoo.org)

**8. Delaware Museum of Nature & Science.** Dinosaurs, Delaware ecology, space science and hands-on learning with interactive and immersive experiences

for both kids and adults. What's not to love about this reinvented museum, reopened in 2022? Walk beneath towering dinosaur skeletons, explore fossils and enter the Star Lab for a 360-degree planetarium experience. Exhibits focus on the state's geology, wetlands, forests and wildlife, giving visitors a deeper appreciation for the area, plus a special Nature Nook for the littlest science fans. Touch screens, hands-on stations and participatory exhibits make it far more engaging than a "look but don't touch" museum. This museum hits the "sweet spot" — smart without being intimidating, interactive without being chaotic, and compact without feeling small. [DelMNS.org](http://DelMNS.org)

**9. Food Scene.** Come for the relaxed, unpretentious food culture, where even highly regarded restaurants

## Revolutionary Rewards Trail

Delaware is doing its own America 250 thing, and you can experience its Revolutionary past as you earn points and rewards. The Revolutionary Rewards Trail app is a free, gamified mobile app that guides you to Revolutionary War sites across Greater Wilmington and beyond.

Learn about the Battle of Cooch's Bridge, Hale-Byrnes House and more as each stop on the trail connects you with the people, places and pivotal moments in the fight for independence. Check in at participating locations and collect points to redeem for prizes, including commemorative keepsakes, a 2027 Brandywine Treasure Trail Passport or an overnight getaway with dinner and attraction tickets.

The Revolutionary Rewards Trail is an interactive way to experience the First State's role in America 250 and Delaware 250. Download the app, start your journey and let Delaware's Revolutionary story come alive — one check-in at a time.



are approachable, like Chef Antimo DiMeo's Bardea group, where Nick Jonas popped in recently, and which continues to draw visitors from Philadelphia and beyond. In Wilmington, you can enjoy a nationally recognized meal one night and a food truck at Hagley Museum, beer garden at Constitution Yards, Riverfront patio at Banks Seafood Kitchen, stadium snacks at Frawley Stadium, or the annual Burger Battle fundraiser (August 29) on another night. The food scene is also connected to the arts, with Happy Hour in the Delaware Art Museum's sculpture garden, pre-theater dinners downtown at La Fia, Le Cavalier or in Little Italy, and festival dining at the Afro-Foodie Festival (August 22). So many reasons this is one of the most interesting small-city dining destinations.

For more about Wilmington, [VisitWilmingtonDE.com](http://VisitWilmingtonDE.com). ♦

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5. The Grand Opera House
6. Frawley Stadium
7. Mt. Cuba Center  
PHOTO CREDIT: MOONLOOP PHOTOGRAPHY
8. Brandywine Zoo
9. Delaware Museum of Nature & Science  
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10. Bardea Food & Drink  
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9



10



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE GREATER WILMINGTON CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU



# More Fun In and Around WILMINGTON...

THROUGH AUGUST 10  
Mondays



**Summer Outdoor Concert Series at Rockford Park.** Pack a picnic along with a blanket or chair and relax while enjoying live music. Music ranges from oldies to big band to classic rock to country to indie, and anything in between, so there's something for everyone. Rockford Tower, 2000 Lookout Dr. 6:30. Free. DEStateParks.com

THROUGH AUGUST 26  
Wednesdays

**Summer Nights at Hagley Museum & Library.** Bring a picnic to enjoy at the picnic pavilion on Workers' Hill or at a table along the Brandywine. Dogfish Head craft beer and Woodside Farm Creamery ice cream are available for purchase. 200 Hagley Creek Rd. 5 to 8 pm. \$5. Hagley.org

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 6

**Delaware Art Museum.** *Through Aug. 16*, "The City on Paper;" *through Aug. 23*, "Living Indigenous;" *through Sept. 6*, "Photovoice;" *July 2–30, Thursdays*, Sculpture Garden Happy Hours; *July 12*, Family Second Saturday. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy. Wed–Sun, 10 to 4. \$6–\$18, Thurs, 4 to 8, free. DelArt.org

THROUGH SEPTEMBER

**Daniel S. Frawley Stadium.** Home to the Wilmington Blue Rocks, the High-A Affiliate of the Washington Nationals, who play 66 home games a year. The stadium also hosts concerts and corporate plus nonprofit events. 801 Shipyard Dr. FrawleyStadium.com



THROUGH OCTOBER

**Kalmar Nyckel, Tall Ship of Delaware.** Find adventure and outdoor fun, maritime history and cultural events with annual community festivals. *July 4*, DE250 Independence Day; *Oct. 17*, Halloween Ghost Ship. Copeland Maritime Center at the Kalmar Nyckel Shipyard, 1124 E. 7th St. KalmarNyckel.org

THROUGH OCTOBER 31

**Brandywine Treasure Trail Passport.** The Passport provides access to 12 of Wilmington and the Brandywine Valley's top attractions, including thousands of acres of gardens, the grand estates of the du Pont family, incredible works of art and rich American history. \$49–\$99. VisitWilmingtonDE.com

THROUGH NOVEMBER

First Sundays

**Auburn Heights Steamin' Days.** Climb into an antique automobile, board one of the miniature trains and experience what it was like to travel at the turn of the 20th century. Tour the magnificent 1897 mansion that was home to three generations of the Marshall family. 3000 Creek Rd., Yorklyn, DE. 12:30 to 4:30 pm. \$10–\$15. AuburnHeights.org

JULY 4

**Hockessin 4th of July Festival and Fireworks.** A community tradition for almost 50 years, the day begins with neighborhood relays in the morning, the parade in the afternoon and an festive fireworks display at dusk. For details, Hockessin4th.org

JULY 16–SEPT. 18

**Family Fun at Brandywine Zoo.** *July 16*, Family Fun Night—special evening hours with a reduced admission of \$2. Enjoy \$1 hot dogs and soft drinks. *July 23, Aug. 20, Sept. 18*, Sip & Stroll—go a little wild at the family-friendly event. You'll sip, stroll and learn while enjoying beer and touring the zoo after hours. Fun animal encounters and activities for all ages. Limited tickets. Beer sold separately. Brandywine Park, 1001 N. Park Dr. 5 to 7. BrandywineZoo.org



JULY 17–19

**Winterthur Artisan Market.** A showcase of local artisans featuring a variety of handmade crafts relating to art, textiles, ceramics, glass, wood-working, antiques and gardening. Enjoy wine and chocolate tastings plus workshops. 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur, DE. 10 to 4. \$10–\$29. Winterthur.org

JULY 26, AUGUST 23, SEPTEMBER 27

**Lobster & Bubbly at Penns Woods Winery.**

Enjoy gourmet lobster rolls paired with crisp bubbly and live music on the lawn. Cousins Maine Lobster Truck onsite. Wine by the glass and bottle, wine tastings, local beer, cider available. Bring blankets or chairs. 124 Beaver Valley Rd., Chadds Ford. Noon to 5. PennsWoodsWinery.com



AUGUST 2–8

**Clifford Brown Jazz Festival.** Wilmington's tribute to a great man and his legacy with great music and art. 1000 N. Market St. Free. CliffordBrownJazzFest.org

AUGUST 29

**Annual Delaware Burger Battle.** Delaware's top chefs offer their best burgers. Benefits Food Bank of Delaware and Delaware ProStart. Rockford Tower, Rockford Park, 2000 Lookout Dr. Noon to 3:30. Pay one price to sample burgers all day, \$12–\$50. DEBurgerBattle.com

AUGUST 23–30

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

SEPTEMBER 12

**Historic Odessa Brewfest.** Enjoy 50 local, regional and national craft breweries, live music, gourmet food and artisan vendors. Benefits Historic Odessa Fdn. 202 Main St., Odessa, DE. OdessaBrewfest.com



SEPTEMBER 12 & 13

**Brandywine Festival of the Arts.** Over 200 artisans from all over the country display and sell their work. 1001 N. Park Dr. Sat, 10 to 6; Sun, 10 to 4. \$5. BrandywineArts.com ♦

For more fun things to do, check VisitWilmingtonDE.com.

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



**Black Cat Cafe**  
*Best of the Western Main Line*



**Brick & Brew**  
*Best of Media*



**The Creamery of Kennett Square**  
*Best of Kennett Square & Chadds Ford*



**Departure**  
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**La Verona**  
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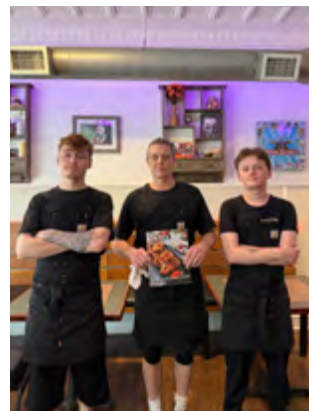
**Mino Sushi & Ramen**  
*New Places to Try*



**Myrtos**  
*Best of Downingtown*



**Nectar**  
*Best of the Western Main Line*



**Desert Rose**  
*Best of Media*



**Fellini Cafe**  
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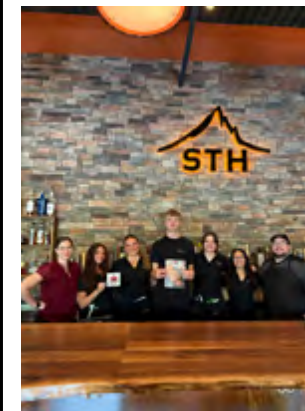
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*Best of Malvern*



**The General Warren**  
*Best of Malvern*



**Opa Taverna**  
*Best of West Chester*



**Sedona Taphouse**  
*Best of West Chester*



**Station Taproom**  
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*Best of Kennett Square & Chadds Ford*



**Green Street Grill**  
*Best of Downingtown*



**Hank's Place**  
*Best of Kennett Square & Chadds Ford*



**The Jockey Tavern**  
*Best of Malvern*



**LaScala's Fire**  
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## [Food News]

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



**No-Spice to Scorchin'!** In June, yet another Nashville-style hot chicken place opened, but this one is in Malvern, not West Chester. Growing to 16 regional locations in four years, **Asad's Hot Chicken** offers 100% halal chicken, six heat levels, popular bites like hot chicken sandwiches, sliders, tenders, fries, plus sides, shakes and fresh fruit smoothies — no doubt to quench the fire in your mouth. They are bringing the heat! 490 Lancaster Ave. [AsadsHotChicken.com](http://AsadsHotChicken.com)

**A250 Chips.** Yep, patriotic chip flavors are available from **Herr's Foods**, based in Nottingham. Over 100,000 votes in a special "Flavored by Philly: Taste the 250" contest celebrating the themes Freedom, Liberty and Unity produced the winning flavors — Freedom Loaded Cheese Fries, Liberty Hickory Barbecue and United Jalapeño Cream Cheese. At your favorite convenience stores during the summer of 2026. [Herrs.com](http://Herrs.com)



**That's the Ticket.** Got a parking ticket in West Chester? The fine folks at **LoCali Wine Lounge** are offering a silver lining — a complimentary glass of wine to visitors who bring in a West Chester parking ticket. They're turning a frustrating experience into a reason to relax and stay awhile. If you're going to get fined for enjoying West Chester, you deserve a glass of wine! 123 E. Market St. [EnjoyLoCali.com](http://EnjoyLoCali.com)

**Moving On Up.** The next chapter for **Life's Patina Mercantile & Café** in Chester Springs is taking shape upstairs. Founder Meg Veno transformed the second floor of the historic Jenny Lind House into a space for private events to gather, celebrate and connect — book club, tea party, family events — in rooms for eight or 12. With catering from the café, featuring their seasonal, scratch-made menu, it's another reason to visit. 1657 Art School Rd. [LifesPatina.com](http://LifesPatina.com)



**Double the Dining.** The Brandywine, the new Marriott affiliate in Radnor, adds two hotel dining options — ground floor and rooftop. **Merrick's Tavern** serves seasonal comfort food for breakfast, lunch, dinner plus craft cocktails and a strong bourbon and rye selection, indoors and on the patio. Above it all, **Pomelo Rooftop Terrace** (opening soon) promises a year-round English greenhouse-inspired experience featuring botanical cocktails, small plates and treetop views. 165 King of Prussia Rd. [TheBrandywineHotel.com](http://TheBrandywineHotel.com)



## Culinary Revolutionaries

### TASTE SOME HISTORY AT THE MILL AT ANSELMA

Liz Tarditi



The Mill at Anselma



in Chester Springs, visitors can still purchase dark-roasted cornmeal and stone-ground pastry flour produced using traditional methods. These ingredients offer a direct connection to the agricultural traditions that helped feed both the Brandywine Valley and the American cause.

Nearly three centuries later, a new generation of culinary revolutionaries keeps those traditions alive. Anselma's volunteers preserve the skills of water-powered milling while connecting visitors to local agriculture, history and exceptional food. As America approaches its 250th anniversary, these recipes offer more than a taste of history. They remind us that behind every great cause are ordinary people whose knowledge, labor and generosity help carry it forward.

**A**N ARMY MARCHES ON ITS stomach, the old adage goes, and during the Revolutionary War, the survival of the American cause depended on the skilled hands that fed it. In this month's Brandywine Table, we journey back to Valley Forge, where George Washington's troops endured one of the darkest winters in American history, and we meet Hannah Till, a pastry cook whose remarkable story became intertwined with the American Revolution.

But Till was not alone. Millers helped by transforming local grain into flour and meal. Bakers tended beehive ovens capable of producing 10,000 to 12,000 loaves of bread per day, while cooks stretched limited provisions into nourishing meals.

Oneida woman Polly Cooper helped save the starving Continental Army by introducing them to white corn and teaching soldiers the ancient Indigen-ous technique of nixtamalization — an ash-soaking process necessary to make the hard kernels digestible and unlock their nutritional value. Refusing any monetary payment for her aid, Cooper accepted only a black wool shawl from

Martha Washington, a legendary token of gratitude still treasured by the Oneida Nation as a symbol of alliance. Together, these ordinary people helped sustain a revolution.

The recipes that follow tell their story through food. Cornbread and hoecakes honor the corn that nourished soldiers and settlers alike. Officer's Table Chicken Pies reflect the more refined meals prepared for Washington, Lafayette and the army's leadership.

Hannah Till's Ginger Buttons celebrate the talented pastry cook who served at Valley Forge and later purchased her freedom. During the encampment, she and her husband Isaac welcomed a son, Isaac Worley Till. Her friendship with Lafayette endured long after the war, and when he returned to Philadelphia nearly 50 years later, he sought out "Aunt Hannah" and reportedly paid off her mortgage.

The grains themselves tell a story. Cornmeal sustained the rank and file, while fine pastry flour represented the height of colonial milling technology. The same grain that fed hungry soldiers could also appear on an officer's table as delicate cakes and pastries. At the [Mill at Anselma](#)

### George Washington's Hoecakes

*These are not our fluffy pancakes — they're historic hoecakes, born from Native American culinary heritage and baked over the open hearth. Hannah Till would have made these every morning at Valley Forge. They were a favorite breakfast enjoyed by George Washington. These rustic cornmeal discs pop visually when served warm with butter, honey and berries.*



Serves 6

½ tsp. active dry yeast  
2½ C. white cornmeal, divided  
3–4 C. lukewarm water  
½ tsp. salt  
1 large egg, lightly beaten  
Melted butter, honey, fresh berries for serving

Combine yeast and 1¼ C. cornmeal in a large bowl. Stir in 1 C. lukewarm water. Add another ½ C. water if needed to achieve a pancake-batter consistency. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

When ready to cook, preheat oven to 200°. Add ½ to 1 C. water to the batter. Stir in salt and egg until blended. Gradually add remaining 1¼ C. cornmeal, alternating with enough additional water to create a batter similar to waffle batter. Cover and let stand 15 to 20 minutes.

Heat a lightly greased griddle over medium-high heat. Drop ¼ C. batter onto the griddle for each hoecake. Cook about 5 minutes, or until lightly browned. Turn and cook 4 to 5 minutes more until browned on both sides. Keep warm in the oven while preparing the remaining hoecakes.

Serve warm, and as George Washington liked, "swimming in melted butter and honey." Garnish with fresh berries.

### Anselma Cornbread

*Corn helped sustain the Continental Army through one of its darkest winters. Oneida allies brought corn and shared Indigenous food traditions with the starving soldiers at Valley Forge, while nearby mills such as Anselma were important enough to be marked for destruction on British*

*military maps. Though officers might occasionally enjoy pastries and cakes made from prized wheat flour, cornmeal remained the grain that fed much of the army.*



Serves 6. *Note:* Recipe may be cut in half and baked in an 8x8-inch square pan.

2 C. all-purpose flour  
2 C. Anselma stone-ground cornmeal  
1 tsp. salt  
⅔ C. sugar  
8 tsp. baking powder  
4 large eggs  
2 C. milk  
⅔ C. melted butter

Preheat oven to 425°. Grease a 9x13-inch baking pan.

In a large bowl, combine flour, cornmeal, salt, sugar and baking powder. In a separate bowl, whisk together eggs, milk and melted butter until blended. Pour wet ingredients into dry ingredients and stir just until combined. Do not overmix.

Pour batter into the prepared pan and let stand 5 minutes. Bake 20 to 25 minutes, or until golden brown. Cool slightly before cutting and serving.

### Anselma Cornmeal Pound Cake

*By adjusting the gap beneath a spinning, 3,500-pound French buhr stone, the mill can either shear grain into fine pastry flour or crack corn into fine cornmeal. This precise weight and mechanical control allow the Mill at Anselma to produce both distinct grains for this historic pound cake. This technology was the Apple iPhone of its time — an expensive, hyper-engineered import coveted by local millers to produce the superfine so-called Brandywine flour exported straight to the royal courts of Europe.*

Serves 6

3½ sticks unsalted butter, softened  
1¼ C. sugar  
6 large eggs  
2 T. milk



2 tsp. vanilla extract  
2½ C. Anselma pastry flour  
½ C. Anselma dark-roasted cornmeal  
1½ tsp. baking powder  
¼ tsp. salt

Preheat oven to 350°. Butter and flour a 9x5-inch loaf pan.

Using a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream butter and sugar until smooth, about 2 minutes.

In a separate bowl, lightly beat eggs. Add milk and vanilla and mix well. Gradually add to the butter mixture, beating until well combined.

In another bowl, whisk together flour, cornmeal, baking powder and salt. Gradually add dry ingredients to the batter. Fold gently with a spatula until evenly combined.

Transfer batter to the prepared pan and smooth the top. Bake 15 minutes. Reduce oven temperature to 325° and continue baking about 1 hour, or until a tester inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool slightly on a wire rack before serving.

### Hannah Till's Ginger Buttons for Lafayette

*Baking at Valley Forge was a high-stakes balancing act of chemistry and raw skill, where master pastry chef Hannah Till managed finicky, premium ingredients under brutal winter conditions. Her culinary expertise so impressed the Marquis de Lafayette that he hired her from Washington to run his headquarters' kitchen and called her "Tante Hannah" for the rest of her life. Dense, sturdy and richly flavored with molasses, these ginger buttons would have traveled well between encampments and headquarters.*

Serves 6

2¼ C. pastry flour or all-purpose flour  
1 T. ground ginger  
1 tsp. ground cinnamon  
½ tsp. ground cloves  
½ C. unsalted butter, softened



½ C. packed dark brown sugar  
⅓ C. dark molasses  
1 large egg  
Granulated sugar, for rolling

In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, ginger, cinnamon and cloves. In a large bowl, cream butter and brown sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in molasses and egg until thoroughly combined.

Gradually add the flour mixture to the wet ingredients, stirring until a stiff dough forms. Wrap dough tightly and refrigerate at least 1 hour.

Preheat oven to 350°. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Shape dough into 1-inch balls. Roll each ball in granulated sugar and place on the prepared baking sheet, leaving space between each cookie.

Bake 10 to 12 minutes, or until bottoms are lightly browned and tops begin to crack. Cool on the baking sheet for several minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.

*Note:* Written recipes did not survive the encampment, but the history of Hannah Till and General Lafayette is documented, as well as his particular sweet tooth for American gingerbread and regional flavors.

### Officer's Table Chicken Pies

*The Continental Army was democratic in its ideals, but not in its dining. Washington, Lafayette and the other senior officers expected meals befitting their rank, and headquarters kitchens worked to provide them even during hardship. Hannah Till might have prepared similar pies with rabbit, pigeon, duck or other game, while salt pork was a staple of camp cooking. Chicken and bacon are used here as accessible modern substitutes.*

Serves 6

4 oz. thick-cut bacon, diced  
2 lbs. boneless, skinless chicken thighs, cut into ½-inch pieces  
1 large yellow onion, finely diced  
1 large parsnip, peeled and diced  
1 carrot, peeled and diced  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
3 T. flour



2 C. chicken stock  
1 tsp. fresh thyme leaves  
1 T. chopped fresh parsley  
¼ tsp. ground nutmeg  
1 tsp. salt  
½ tsp. freshly ground black pepper  
2 sheets frozen puff pastry, thawed  
1 egg, beaten with 1 T. water

Preheat oven to 400°. Cook bacon in a large skillet over medium heat until lightly crisp. Remove with a slotted spoon and reserve, leaving drippings in the pan.

Add chicken and cook until lightly browned. Transfer to a bowl and set aside.

Add onion, parsnip and carrot to the skillet and cook until softened, about 5 to 7 minutes. Stir in garlic and cook 1 minute more. Sprinkle flour over vegetables and cook, stirring constantly, for 1 minute. Gradually whisk in chicken stock until smooth and slightly thickened.

Return chicken and bacon to the skillet. Stir in thyme, parsley, nutmeg, salt and pepper. Simmer 5 minutes. Remove from heat and cool slightly. Divide filling among six individual oven-safe ramekins or pie dishes.

Cut pastry into circles slightly larger than the dishes. Place pastry over filling and crimp edges lightly with a fork. Cut a small vent in the center of each crust and brush with egg wash.

Bake 20 to 25 minutes, until pastry is golden brown and filling is bubbling. Allow to rest 10 minutes before serving. ♦

*Liz Tarditi is a chef and wine specialist with more than 30 years of experience in food, wine and event planning. She holds degrees from Villanova University and from a Seattle culinary arts program founded by a Certified French Master Chef, where she trained in a classic brigade-style kitchen. Liz later ran her own catering company and has worked as a wine specialist in Pennsylvania. She brings her training and lifelong passion for seasonal, approachable cooking to Brandywine Table.*



## Living History at the Mill at Anselma

When most people think of historic sites, they picture cold gravestones, deserted battlefields and monuments honoring the fallen. There's a shadow of death and separation between the living and the past. The Mill at Anselma in Chester Springs is different. It was a hub of local life in its heyday, and still today it's a living place.

Back in 1747, the mill was built with massive French buhr millstones that paid for their own voyage — used as ballast in the ship that brought them from France. These millstones transformed local red wheat, corn and other grains into flour and meal, not just for the local farms. This was the most modern technology of its time and turned out the finest pastry flour on the planet, prized by the royal kitchens of Europe. Mills like Anselma were so vital to daily life that British military maps marked them as strategic targets during the Revolutionary War.

Today, water still turns the original wheels, grinding grain much as it was ground centuries ago. Schoolchildren gather to watch grain tumble from the stones and run their hands through freshly milled meal. Couples exchange vows beneath centuries-old sycamores on the property. Musicians perform, an artisan baker arrives hours early to fire up the beehive oven, and visitors carry home flour ground completely without electricity. This flour is finer, and more nutritious food, than commercial factory milling, and has to be stored in the freezer.

Nearly 280 years after its construction, the mill, the pond, the trails and beautiful woodland acres of the property remain what they have always been — a place where community gathers around food, craft and shared experience, sustained by the volunteers and staff whose stewardship ensures that its story continues. Learn more at [AnselmaMill.org](http://AnselmaMill.org).



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