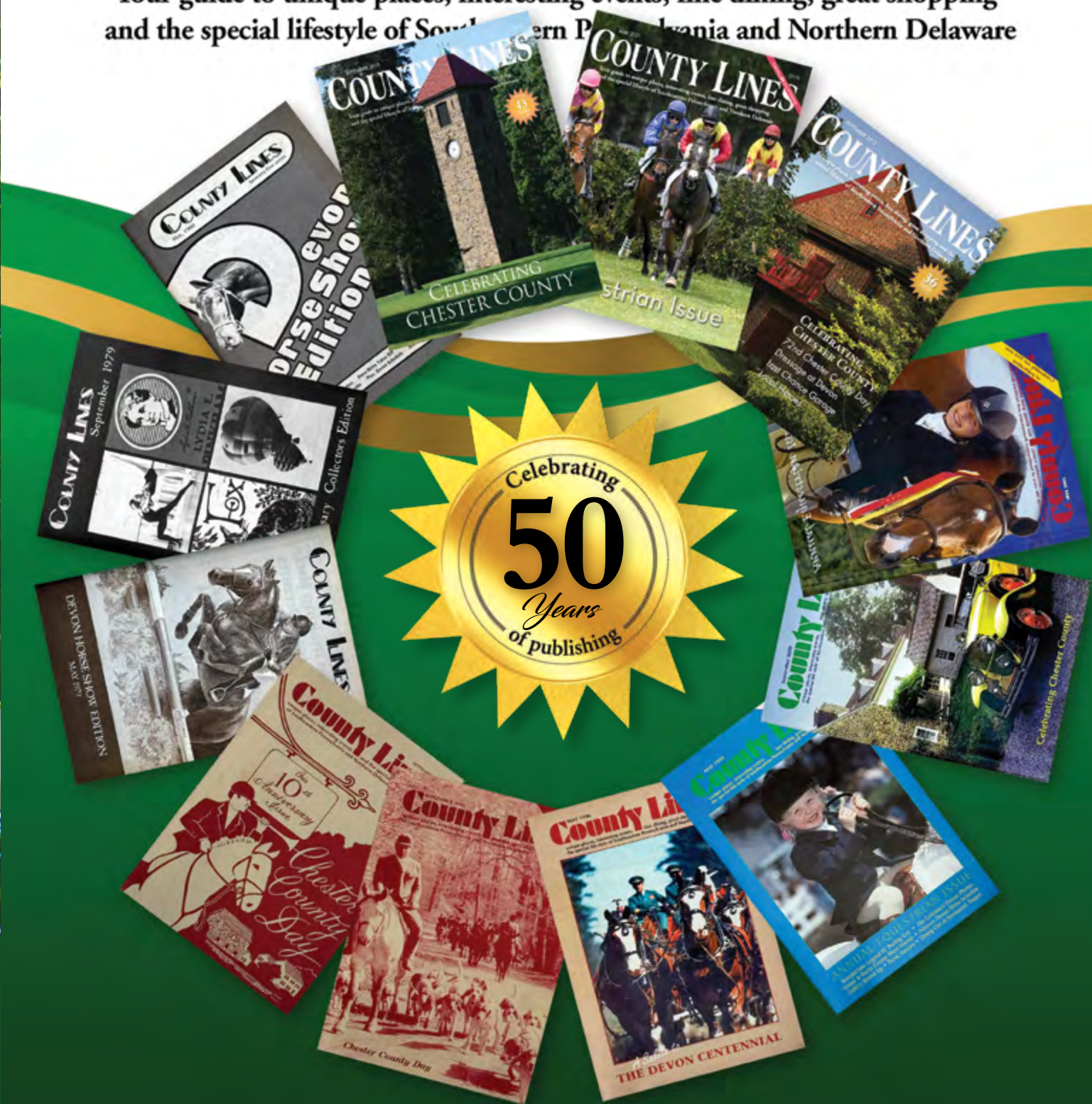


COUNTY LINES

Your guide to unique places, interesting events, fine dining, great shopping
and the special lifestyle of Southern Pennsylvania and Northern Delaware



PREPARE YOUR TREES FOR WINTER

Call today to meet with a Shreiner
arborist to review your tree care needs.



Schedule your
appointment
TODAY!



Caring for Main Line's Trees Since 1986

610.265.6004
shreinertreecare.com





Nationally Recognized, But Close to Home

Meet with Forbes-ranked "Best-in-State" Advisor*:
Patti Brennan, CFP®, CFS®, CTST™, CEPA®, CEST™ and her team



DiSabatino Inc.



1045 Andrew Dr., Suite A
West Chester, PA 19380
(610) 429 - 9050
www.keyfinancialinc.com

Securities offered through **Osae Wealth, Inc.**, member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advisory services offered through Key Financial, Inc., a federally registered investment advisor with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. **Osae Wealth, Inc.** is separately owned, and other entities and/or marketing names, products, or services referenced here are independent of **Osae Wealth, Inc.** Insurance services offered through Patricia Brennan are independent of **Osae Wealth, Inc.** Advisory services offered through Key Financial, Inc., a registered investment advisor not affiliated with **Osae Wealth, Inc.** Patricia Brennan and **Osae Wealth, Inc.** do not offer tax advice or tax services. Please consult your tax specialist for individual advice. We make no specific comments or recommendations on any tax-related details. Neither rankings and/or recognitions by unaffiliated rating services, publications, media, or other organizations, nor the achievement of any designation, certification, or license should be construed by a client or prospective client as a guarantee that he/she will experience a certain level of results if Key Financial, Inc. is engaged, or continues to be engaged, to provide investment advisory services. Rankings published by magazines and others generally base their selections exclusively on information prepared and/or submitted by the recognized adviser. Neither Barron's, Forbes, nor SHOOK receive a fee in exchange for rankings. Payments made to Barron's or Forbes/SHOOK are in consideration for permission to utilize certain benefits which may include, but are not limited to, use of logos and listing in advisor directories. 1. Top 250 Wealth Advisors Forbes Top Wealth Advisors (2025). Source: Forbes.com (Awarded Apr 2025). Data compiled by SHOOK Research LLC based on time period 06/30/23 - 06/30/24. 2. Forbes Top Women Wealth Advisors (2025). Source: Forbes.com (Awarded Feb 2025). Data compiled by SHOOK Research LLC based on time period 09/30/23 - 09/30/24. 3. *Forbes Best-in-State Wealth Advisors (2025), Pennsylvania - East PA (High Net Worth). Source: Forbes.com (Awarded Apr 2025). Data compiled by SHOOK Research LLC based on time period 06/30/23 - 06/30/24. 4. Forbes Top Women Wealth Advisors Best-in-State (2025), Pennsylvania - East. Source: Forbes.com (Awarded Feb 2025). Data compiled by SHOOK Research LLC based on time period 09/30/23 - 09/30/24. Methodology: Forbes' Top Wealth and Best-in-State Advisor rankings, developed by SHOOK Research, are based on a qualitative and quantitative algorithm evaluating interviews, 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 Ernst and Young Entrepreneur Of The Year (2023). Source: EY.com (Awarded Jun 2023). Data compiled by Ernst and Young based on time period 01/01/2023 - 12/31/2023. Methodology: Nominees must be founders or executives leading a for-profit business for at least two years; co-leaders and past regional winners may reapply. Judging is based on individual merit, story, and achievements using a standardized scorecard 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 (2006-2018). 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—verified by firms and regulatory databases. 7. ThinkAdvisor Luminary Award - Thought Leadership & Education: Patti Brennan of Key Financial, Inc. was awarded the ThinkAdvisor Luminary Award 2025 in the Thought Leadership & Education category for RIAs Less Than \$10 Billion AUM/AUA. 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 via insights 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, webcasts, social media campaigns, and white papers. For more information regarding this award, please visit <https://event.thinkadvisor.com/luminaries-awards/>. Criteria: When evaluating nominations, they considered the nominee's impact on the firm, advisors, and the broader professional community and industry, including both quantitative and qualitative results such as the number of advisors affected and a clear description of the innovative ways the nominee had contributed to their program, firm, community, and industry. They also assessed the nominee's demonstrated ability to achieve goals and display ingenuity in creative thinking and problem solving, as well as their dedication to furthering the development of advisors and the industry, particularly their ability to serve the best interests of clients. Additionally, they evaluated the nominee's personal commitment to the highest ethical standards, service, and excellence. 8. Barron's Top 100 Women Financial Advisors (2015-2025) Source: Barron's.com (Awarded Jun 2025) Data compiled by Barron's based on time period 03/31/2024 - 03/31/2025. Methodology: Barron's Top 100 Independent Financial Advisors (2020-2025) Source: Barron's.com (Awarded Oct 2025) Data compiled by Barron's based on time period 06/30/2024 - 06/30/2025. Methodology: <https://www.barrons.com/advisor/articles/barrons-methodology-for-ranking-financial-advisors> c481b04. 9. Barron's Top 100 Women: The rankings are based on qualitative criteria: professionals with a minimum of seven years financial service experience, acceptable compliance records, client retention reports and customer satisfaction reports. Advisors are quantitatively ranked based on varying types of revenues and asset advised by the financial professional, with weightings associated for 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 uncedited, this ranking focused on customer satisfaction and quality of advice. Please see <http://online.barrons.com/report/top-financial-advisors> for more information. 10. Barron's "Top 1,000 Financial Advisors" list, (2025). 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 recognition 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 (2025) Pennsylvania - East PA (High Net Worth) Source: Forbes.com (Awarded Apr 2025). Data compiled by SHOOK Research LLC based on time period 06/30/23 - 06/30/24.



HOLLY GROSS GROUP

Residential • Farms • Land • Commercial

Holly Gross | Stephen Gross | Stewart Gross

CALL 610-430-3030 • HollyGrossGroup.com
Licensed in PA, DE, MD



BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY
HomeServices
Fox & Roach, REALTORS®

610-431-1100
A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC

NEW LISTING



Serpentine Mansion with Unparalleled Architectural Detail

Surrounded by conservation easements & set in prestigious Birmingham Township, Fernbank Farm is a 6 acre verdant paradise offering privacy & a country club lifestyle. The 6 BR, 4.1 BA antique serpentine mansion features a wrap a around porch, original floors, antique marble fireplaces imported from Paris, chef's kitchen, large primary suite, a "to-die-for" wine cellar, secluded pool with jacuzzi and long protected views. Unionville Schools.

\$3,300,000



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



BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY
HomeServices
Fox & Roach, REALTORS®

610-431-1100
A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC

HOLLY GROSS GROUP

Residential • Farms • Land • Commercial

Holly Gross | Stephen Gross | Stewart Gross

CALL 610-430-3030 • HollyGrossGroup.com
Licensed in PA, DE, MD



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.

\$1,260,000



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.

\$2,975,00

SOLD



c.1731 Treasure with Tasteful Updates & Additions

Set on 14.2 private acres 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

UNDER CONTRACT



Charming Home on the Delaware River

This gracious home is beautifully set with a clear view of the Delaware River that laps against your shore River views can be enjoyed from numerous rooms as well as the large covered rear deck. The spacious 5 bedroom, 3.1 bath home offers large rooms, update Kitchen, luxurious primary bathroom, large bedrooms and a large third level.

River front homes rarely come on the market so if owning a river home has been your long held dream, do not hesitate as this property is expected to sell quickly.

\$1,189,000



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

SOLD



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



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 LISTING



Home to Lawyer Who Changed History!

Steeped in history and rich with potential, this remarkable property was once the family residence of renowned civil rights attorney, Louis L. Redding. Mr. Redding was a legal team member in the landmark Brown v. Board of Education case. Set on 9.13 picturesque acres, the historic residence enjoys serene views of a tranquil pond and charming spring house, offering a private and scenic setting. The home is in need of restoration.

\$788,000

NEW LISTING



Set in Sought-After Northgate at Valley Station

This 4 BR, 2.1 BA home is one of a few Houston models that rarely come on the market. The home features a cathedral ceiling Foyer with a must-have Office. Completing the main level is a Living & Dining Room, chef's Kitchen, large Deck (great views of community open space!), Family Room, Laundry & Garage access. Upstairs is a Primary suite with fabulous Bath, 3 Bedrooms & Hall Bath. Only 1 owner in 13 years!

\$610,000

WINDLE

DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

CRAFTING HOMES THAT
TELL YOUR STORY.

WWW.WINDLEDC.COM



Karen Nader Properties

Local Expertise. Global Exposure.

karennaderproperties.com | karen.nader@sothebysrealty.com | 484.888.5597



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.



PENDING

KENNETT SQUARE | .75 ACRES

Experience luxury living in this Newlin Greene estate featuring exceptional craftsmanship and fabulous views.



NEW PRICE

WEST CHESTER | 26+ ACRES

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



Monument

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



WILLOWDALE TOWN CENTER | 674 UNIONVILLE RD, SUITE 104 | KENNETT SQUARE, PA | 610.474.6520 | monumentsothebysrealty.com



from the EDITOR

Yes, we're marking *County Lines Magazine's* 50th year of publishing and connecting with the Brandywine Valley! And we plan to celebrate throughout the year — thanking and acknowledging our loyal readers, advertising partners and our staff, both past and present — starting now.

You'll see we've incorporated details, designs and discoveries from our archive. Note the circle of past magazine covers on the current cover, representing five decades of publishing and showing the evolution of the *County Lines* logo — from Deco to Stencil to our elegant Americana font. Monthly covers from the first year of publishing top this page (swapping in May 1978 for a gap in our archive), along with the first issue's cover (Volume 1, No. 1, to the right) and its celebratory fireworks.

From our archive, we've reprinted the first story about Chester County Day from 1978, shared how we published 50 years of recipes, and collected old ads from businesses that have been with us for 50 years and others that closed their doors.

Enjoy the retro ads from longtime advertisers — Mostard's Nursery, Walter J. Cook Jeweler and more. And share our nostalgia for businesses that closed their doors —Turks Head Tavern, Jane Chalfant — but gave rise to new destinations.

In an earlier anniversary issue, then-publisher and editor Karen Waldauer wrote: "It is really no small thing for a regional magazine to mark the start of its twenty-fifth year of continuous monthly publication." Imagine the accomplishment of 50 years!

To indulge in a bit more nostalgia, we're reprinting on the facing page the inaugural welcome to *County Lines* from the first editor-in-chief, Douglas K. McLaughlin, and linking longer articles from 25 and 20 years ago from Karen Waldauer on our website. CountyLinesMagazine.com

Thank you for reading and supporting *County Lines*! Get a copy delivered to your mailbox every month by using the special 50% discounted subscription rate.

Jo Anne Durako
Editor

Ed Malet
Publisher

COUNTY LINES MAGAZINE

September 2026

Volume L Number 1

PUBLISHER
Edwin Malet

EDITOR
Jo Anne Durako

ART DIRECTOR
Harvey Walls

ASSOCIATE EDITORS
Marc Tomassone
Shannon Montgomery

FOOD EDITOR
Liz Tarditi

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Susan Gillespie
Ivana Samsonova
Jason Frenchman
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

Issue: \$5.00
Subscriptions: \$36/print; \$12/digital
Advertising: 610-918-9300

TO GET OUR NEWSLETTER
Send an email to Info@ValleyDel.com

To find County Lines, check our website's "Get A Copy" page, pick one up at Main Point Books, Wellington Square Bookshop, Reads & Company and specialty food markets, or visit advertisers listed in the Index.



County Lines Vols. L No. 1. Copyright, 2026 by ValleyDel Publications. All rights reserved. *County Lines* and *County Lines Magazine* (ISSN 0195-4121) are registered names of ValleyDel Publications, Inc. Use of these names without the consent of ValleyDel Publications, Inc. may subject the infringer to penalty and suit as provided by law.

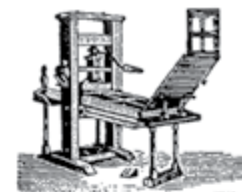


FROM THE ARCHIVE

We've opened dusty old cardboard boxes and ancient computer files to find fun tidbits to share from our archives.

This month you'll find the first letter from the first editor-in-chief, Douglas K. McLaughlin, on page 5 of the 1977 issue, Volume 1, No. 1.

For more nostalgia, we've reprinted a few old ads from those early issues, when the little magazine (8.5" x 5.5") was half its current size and we sold eighth-of-a-page ads.



Notes

Too late for fireworks?

NOT if you're celebrating! And *County Lines* is lighting the skies with its first issue.

We're sure you'll share our enthusiasm—so let's get acquainted.

Since you enjoy good restaurants, *County Lines* will serve exciting reviews every month—PLUS recipes from the better ones. If you want the secrets of that mousse or coq au vin which was so delicious, check "The Back Burner."

You say you like going to theatre or concerts? Each issue of our magazine will detail the best our communities offer—from their colleges and universities, dinner theatres, churches and libraries.

What about shopping? Monthly, *County Lines* will feature a boutique in "Storefront." We'll introduce you to its owner, who more than likely is someone you know—or would like to meet. And we'll capture the flavor of

the store and a little more that makes a visit memorable.

If vintage wines, teas, and gourmet foods are part of your lifestyle, we're for you. Highlighting the good life is part of what we're about.

And we know you'll applaud our "Project Profile." From housewives to ministers, doctors to artists—we'll share their story with you. They're all part of the panorama of fascinating people you'll meet on our pages.

If antiques, art, architecture, galleries, fine furniture, and photography are on your mind, keep *County Lines* under your eyes. We'll take a peek at what's new and exciting around Chester County and beyond.

Seeking the best the Delaware Valley offers—that's *County Lines*. By building on the vibrant and rich past of our communities, we'll be sharing a great and energetic future.

Welcome to *County Lines*!

Douglas K. McLaughlin

5



Jane Chalfant

123 North High Street
West Chester

The complete shop for women.
Beautiful clothes and sportswear,
lingerie and accessories. All presented
in a pleasant atmosphere by interested
and informed sales people.

Park as our Guest
in garage behind shop

... there's a fungus among us at

**PHILLIPS
MUSHROOM PLACE**
RT. 1, KENNETT SQUARE, PA.

**MUSHROOM
MUSEUM**
EDUCATIONAL
EXHIBITS
Group Rates Available

GIFT SHOP
Treasures for Everyone

MUSHROOMS
Fresh and Gourmet

OPEN DAILY
Including Sundays 10 to 6 p.m.
Tel.: 215-388-6082

Also Visit Our

MARKET PLACE
Sandwiches • Gourmet Items
Home Made Salads

9-6 Daily 215-388-7810

**CHADDS
FORD
INN**

ESTABLISHED 1736
BRUTY 1 AND 100
CHADDS FORD PENNA.

Fine food & Cocktails
Private dining rooms available

OPEN SUNDAYS
Luncheon 11:30-2 Mon. thru Sat.
Dinner 5-10:30 Mon. thru Sat.
Credit Cards Accepted
Reservations: 388-7361

**TURK'S
HEAD
TAVERN**

146 WEST GAY

Serving
thai food

4 TO 9PM

— Plus —
Live Music

Folk

8PM TO 12PM
Thurs-Fri-Sat

- Indoor foliage and flowering plants.
- Outdoor shrubs, trees, annuals and perennials.
- Gardening supplies.
- Decorative plant accessories.
- Expert gardening advice.

Ask us!
We're the ones who grow...

Mostard's
Nursery & Greenhouses, Inc.
4111 West Chester Pike, Ste. 100
West Chester, PA 19380
(215) 388-8035

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

**Walter J. Cook
JEWELER**

STORE HOURS
9 A.M. till 5:30 P.M.
Closed Monday

PAOLI SHOPPING CENTER
PAOLI, PA. 19301
644-5347

Registered Jeweler
American Gem Society

COMING IN October



CONTINUING TO CELEBRATE
OUR 50TH YEAR!

Across County Lines

Phoenixville Focus • Private Schools
Dream Home • Halloween Happenings
Unique Wedding Venues • Pickles





CONTENTS

Volume 50, Number 1 • September 2026



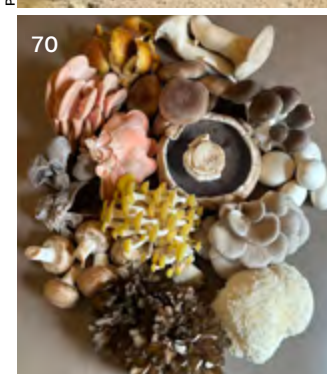
COUNTY LINES
MAGAZINE



PHOTO CREDIT: JOANNA FRANKLIN



PHOTO CREDIT: BRENDA CARPENTER



- 9 **FROM THE ARCHIVE**
First editor's letter, plus long-ago ads
- 27 **THE MEDIA THEATRE'S COMING SEASON**
Get your tickets for the 2026-27 season!
- 29 **WARWICK FURNACE AND THE REVOLUTION**
A festival of living history at a preserved historic landscape
Claire Rosen
- 30 **BRANDYWINE STORIES**
Chester County stone houses in the Revolutionary era
Kim Andrews
- 32 **BOOKS ABOUT BOOKS**
They remind us why we fell in love with reading
Shelley Laurence, Main Point Books
- 34 **THE NIGHT SHIFT**
Bats' critical role in our local ecosystem
Adam Wolf, Willistown Conservation Trust
- 37 **HOME DECOR**
From designer finds and handcrafted pieces
- 38 **CHESTER COUNTY DAY'S 85th TOUR OF TOURS**
Our preview of this year's home tour
- 50 **DISCOVER A NEW LEVEL ON "THE DAY"**
Look beyond the furniture and decor
Jane E. Dorchester
- 54 **GALLOP INTO FALL**
Fall equestrian season brings world-class competition and timeless traditions to the Brandywine Valley
Shannon Montgomery
- 64 **REBELLION IN EVERY GLASS**
How America's whiskey legacy was launched
Liz Tarditi
- 70 **BRANDYWINE TABLE**
Magnificent, marvelous, mouth-watering mushrooms
Liz Tarditi

departments

13 **GOOD TO KNOW**
15 **SEPTEMBER PICKS**

16 **BEST LOCAL EVENTS**
67 **FOOD NEWS**

74 **INDEX**

To celebrate our 50th year, we've gathered covers from each decade, choosing September and May issues for their iconic images. The most recent decade shows a clocktower at a Chester County Day home and the Willowdale Steeplechase. Next up, architect John Milner's home and Jessica Springsteen (yes, that one) at the Devon Horse Show. The third decade's covers are a 1928 Cadillac at Upland Springs Farm plus an adorable Lead Line rider at Devon. Then, the Clydesdales at the Devon Horse Show centennial and a fox hunt that precedes Chester County Day. For the first decade of publication, our 10th anniversary cover, a classic Devon jumper, our 2nd anniversary cover and Devon edition. Look for more covers inside this issue.

68th Washington International Horse Show

*Featured in
Prince George's,
Maryland*

October 19-25, 2026
The Show Place Arena
Upper Marlboro, MD

Secure your accommodations and tickets for this premier 5-star equestrian show.

www.experienceprincegeorges.com



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

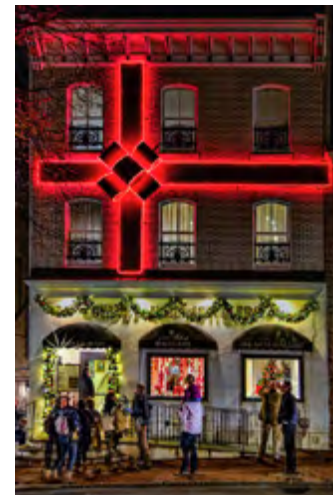


PHOTO CREDIT: TIMILYN VAUGHAN PHOTOGRAPHY

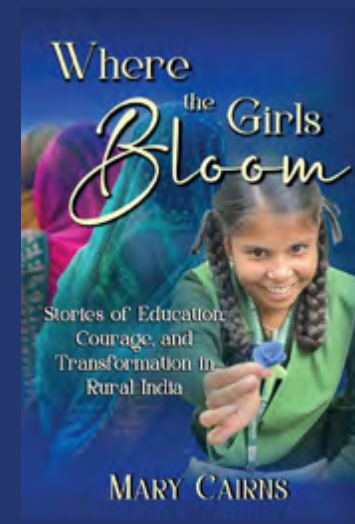
A Fond Farewell. After 43 years in business, Sandy Riper, owner of **Sunset Hill Jewelers & Fine Arts Gallery**, is preparing to retire. For over four decades, Riper has helped shape downtown West Chester, serving on local business boards, pioneering the semi-annual Gallery Walk and establishing the Harry Dunn Memorial Art Scholarship. She's also one of *County Lines'* inaugural Women Leaders. Stay tuned for the future of this iconic storefront — and its giant holiday red bow. 23 N. High St. SunsetHillJewelers.com

Game On! Between the many fall equestrian events featured in this issue, saddle up for the final **Brandywine Polo** matches. On Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons through September, pack your lawn chairs — or your best tailgate spread — and head to the scenic 122-acre polo grounds for fast-paced action on horseback. Plus, join them on September 5 and 19 for Saturday night Starlight Polo. Tickets, \$15 online, \$20 at the gate. 232 Polo Rd., Toughkenamon. BrandywinePolo.com



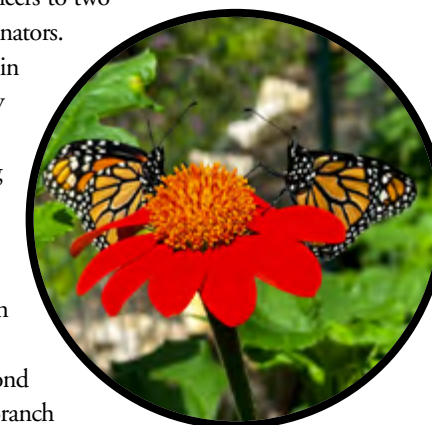
PHOTO CREDIT: TISA DELLA VOLPE

Worth the Read. Get inspired by local author Mary Cairns' new book, "**Where the Girls Bloom**." Sixteen years ago, Cairns visited one of India's poorest villages, where she met girls limited by poverty, child marriage and few educational opportunities. That trip led to a lasting commitment to Pardada Pardidi Educational Society, a school that's opened doors for thousands. Cairns' book shares the girls' stories — and how profoundly they changed her life, too. Find it at your local independent bookstore.



Inked in History. Congrats to West Chester tattoo artist Brannan Clift, who recently broke the Guinness World Record for the longest tattoo session. To celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, the owner of aptly named **Liberty Bell Tattoo and Piercing** embarked on a marathon 76-hour session, inking a single client in Clift's signature black-and-white style, complete with America 250-inspired imagery. 124 E. Gay St. @LibertyBellTattoo

Pollinator Paradise. Cheers to two local efforts protecting native pollinators. At **Bondsville Mill Historic Park** in Downingtown, volunteers recently tagged and released its 1,000th monarch butterfly since becoming a certified monarch waystation in 2022. Meanwhile, the **Chester County Library** in Exton is now home to a biodiverse native garden supporting pollinators, birds and local wildlife, with plans for a second garden at the Henrietta Hankin Branch this fall. BondsvilleMillPark.org; CCLS.org





Where Exceptional Craft Meets Extraordinary Living

A King Barn is more than a structure. It is a signature piece of architecture shaped by master builders who understand the art of luxury and the value of heritage. From grand equestrian barns with soaring light to impeccably finished indoor arenas, from elegant event barns to custom barn homes designed for modern comfort, every project is created with impeccable detail. King Construction crafts spaces that elevate the everyday and transform the way you live, gather, and experience your land. This is luxury with purpose, built to endure for generations.



1-888-354-4740 | www.kingbarns.com

Experience the
JOYFUL EXCELLENCE
of a Tatnall Education
Visit our 110-acre campus this fall!

Middle and Upper School Open House October 3 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Lower School Open House October 28 from 4:00 - 5:15 p.m.
Early Childhood Open House October 17 from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

best Local Events

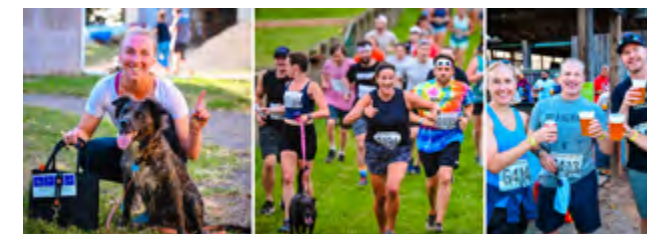


For 50 years, County Lines has highlighted local events. Starting in 1977, our first issue included sections titled “Concert Hall” (music), “Covered Bridges” (historical events), “Art Etcetera” (art galleries), “On Stage” (live performances), “From the Podium” (lectures and presentations) and much more. It’s been our privilege to bring you the Best Local Events.

9th Annual 5K Trail Run and One-Mile Move-As-You-Please for Thorncroft

September 3

Experience a community health and wellness celebration perfect for the beginner to experienced mover. After-party includes live music, food trucks, beer garden and pony meet-and-greets in the barn. So lace up, stay active and get ready for a fun neighborhood party. Benefits the farm and the care of horses. Raine or shine. Leashed dogs welcome. 190 Line Rd., Malvern. 6 p.m. \$25–\$45. RunSignUp.com/Race/PA/Malvern/5kTrailRunforThorncroft



DJ Jazzy Jeff: Fountain Party

September 9

Bring your own chair and soak up the atmosphere as Jeff spins an expertly mixed 90-minute set, all synced live with the illuminated fountains as they leap, swirl and dance to the beat. Then head over to the dedicated standing and dancing area and join in. Longwood Gardens Main Fountain, 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Limited tickets include all-day gardens admission, \$70. 8 p.m. LongwoodGardens.org



September Picks

by Marci Tomassone

West Chester Friends Secret Gardens of West Chester Tour

September 12

Take a self-guided walking tour of privately owned gardens in the northwest area of the borough. Stop by the plant sale at the school. A garden map will be emailed a week before the event. Rain or shine. Benefits West Chester Friends School, 415 N. High St., West Chester. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$25. Birdease.com/SecretGardensOfWestChester



4th Annual Phoenixville Film Festival

September 17–20

Sit back and enjoy this celebration of independent film, including screenings, filmmakers’ panels, workshops, after-parties and awards. Join the Line Up Party on Aug. 19 at Bistro on Bridge, 212 Bridge St., 6 to 8 p.m. The Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. Times and tickets, PhoenixvilleFilmFestival.com



Battle at Chadds Ford — Historic Chadds Ford Days

September 19

Take a historical journey back to September 11, 1777, when the British army engaged Washington’s troops at Chad’s Ford. This year, a new event, “Tavern Night in the Grove,” features beer brewing demonstrations, wine and food in a colonial tavern-style atmosphere. 1736 Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$5–\$10. ChaddsFordHistory.org



FAMILY FUN

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27 Sundays

West Chester Railroad Summer Picnic Special. Enjoy a train ride from West Chester to Glen Mills and return on a summer afternoon. Pack a lunch to have during your stop at the Glen Mills train station picnic grove. 230 E. Market St., West Chester. Noon. \$25. WCRailroad.com

THROUGH NOVEMBER 1 First Sundays

Steamin' Days at Auburn Heights. Climb into an antique automobile or board one of the miniature 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



SEPTEMBER 12

Historic Sugartown Bee Day. Celebrate National Honey Month with Historic Sugartown and the Chester County Beekeepers Association. A fun, educational and family-friendly event all about our vital pollinators. Carriage Museum at Historic Sugartown, 273 Boot Rd., Malvern. 10 to 1. \$5. HistoricSugartown.org



SEPTEMBER 12

Pottstown Pet Fair. Come out to Memorial Park for this pet extravaganza with a petting zoo, adoptions, raffles, blessings of the animals, food trucks, DJs and more. Dog and cat

food donations accepted. 75 W. King St., Pottstown. 10 am to 2 pm. On Facebook.



SEPTEMBER 19

Fall Festival at Newlin Grist Mill. Explore a wide variety of historic skills and trades demonstrations, archaeological excavations, hayrides and hands-on activities for kids of all ages. The Community Corner features local businesses and organizations and food vendors. 219 S. Cheyney Rd., Glen Mills. 10 to 3. Free, parking \$10/car. NewlinGristMill.org



SEPTEMBER 26

Paoli Battlefield Heritage Day. Enjoy the American Military Timeline and see how the soldiers dressed and what they carried into battle. Stop by the food trucks and beer tent and enjoy face painting for the kids and many other crafters and vendors. 1st & Wayne Aves., Malvern. 11 to 4. \$10. PBPFInc.org



OCTOBER 3

Truck & Tractor Day at Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library. Get up close to trucks and tractors, suit up in firefighter gear, take a hayride and milk a mechanical cow. 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur, DE. 10 to 4. \$12–\$27. Winterthur.org

OCTOBER 4

Westtown Day 2026. Take a ride to this annual community day featuring live music, food trucks, petting zoo, historical reenactors, bounce castle, inflatable obstacle course, emergency vehicle touch-a-truck and more. Oakbourne Park, 1014 S. Concord Rd., West Chester. 11 to 3. Free. WesttownPA.org



OCTOBER 4

Downingtown Fall Fest. Join the fun at this street festival featuring food and craft vendors, Victory Brewing Beer Garden and live entertainment. Green St. & E. Pennsylvania Ave. 11 to 4. Rain or shine. DowningtownFallFest.com



OCTOBER 4

Radnor Fall Harvest & Great Pumpkin Patch. Spend the day enjoying fall-themed activities including tractor rides, pumpkin picking, mechanical bull, balloon twisters, food, entertainment and more. Rain date, Oct. 11. The Willows Park, 490 Darby Paoli Rd., Villanova. 11 to 4. Free. Radnor.com



BOOKS.....

SEPTEMBER 2-22

Reads & Company Book Groups. Big Reads: *Sept. 2*, “Heather” by Caitlin Mulen. **International Voices:** *Sept. 9*, “All Your Children, Scattered” by Beata Umubyeyi Mairresse (Rwanda). **Then & Now:** *Sept. 22*, “The Correspondent” by Virginia Evans. Check website for more. 234 Bridge St., Phoenixville. ReadsAndCompany.com

SEPTEMBER 2-OCTOBER 1

Wellington Square Bookshop Book Clubs. **NonFiction:** *Classics: Sept. 2*, “Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde” by Robert Louis Stevenson. **NonFiction:** *Sept. 3*, “Sea People: The Puzzle of Polynesia” by Christina Thompson; *Oct. 1*, “Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling” by Ross King. **Fiction:** *Sept. 16 & 17*, “Trespases: A Novel” by Louise Kennedy. 549 Wellington Sq., Exton. WellingtonSquareBooks.com

SEPTEMBER 15-24

Main Point Books. **Fiction:** *Sept. 15*, “Behind the Scenes at the Museum” by Kate Atkinson. *Sept. 17*, An Evening with Jodi Picoult and her new book “Hollow Bones” at Radnor Middle School, 150 Louella Ave., Wayne, 7 pm. **NonFiction:** *Sept. 24*, “Family of Spies” by Christine Kuehn. 116 N. Wayne Ave., Wayne. MainPointBooks.com

CAR SHOWS.....

SEPTEMBER 4

12th Annual Car Show in Oxford. One of downtown Oxford’s biggest events, with the capacity for over 200 cars, trucks and bikes on the streets. 13 S. 3rd St., Oxford. 4 to 8 pm. OxfordMainstreet.com

SEPTEMBER 11-13

Radnor Hunt Concours d'Elegance. See this nationally recognized motor car exhibition and join the exciting events. Benefits Thorncroft Equestrian Center. *Sept. 11*, Welcome Barbecue, 6:30 pm; *Sept. 12*, The Bill O’Connell Memorial Road Rally, 8 to noon, gala and auction, 6 pm then dinner and dancing, 7:30; *Sept. 13*, The Concours d’Elegance, 9 to 4. Radnor Hunt, 826 Providence Rd., Malvern. Gen. adm., \$40–\$80. RadnorConcours.org



SEPTEMBER 20

Hagley Car Show. Browse through more than 500 antique and restored cars and enjoy the vehicle parade, motoring music and food trucks. Stop by the exhibition “Du Ponts Down the Road” in the 1844 Hagley Barn, featuring historic vehicles created from 1890 to 1941, all owned and used by members of the du Pont family. 200 Hagley Creek Rd., Wilmington. 10 to 3. Advance tickets only; no day-of tickets. \$25/carload. Hagley.org



DESIGN / HOME SHOWS.....

SEPTEMBER 12 & 13

Greater Philadelphia Fall Home Show. Find experts, inspiration and more at this show. Valley Forge Casino Resort, 1160 1st Ave., King of Prussia. Sat, 10 to 8; Sun, 10 to 5. Free with online registration or \$10 at the door. GreaterPhillyHomeShows.com

September is... **LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH**

ALA150 American Library Association Library Champions

CHESTER COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
Read • Connect • Discover

WWW.CCLS.ORG

SIGN UP FOR A FREE LIBRARY CARD ONLINE OR AT ANY OF OUR 18 CONVENIENT LIBRARY LOCATIONS IN CHESTER COUNTY:

- Atglen • Avon Grove • Chester County (Exton)
- Chester Springs • Coatesville • Downingtown
- Easttown • Henrietta Hankin (Chester Springs)
- Honey Brook • Kennett • Malvern
- Oxford • Paoli • Parkesburg • Phoenixville
- Spring City • Tredyffrin • West Chester

A library card HITS ALL THE RIGHT NOTES!

EQUESTRIAN EVENTS.....

See Fall Equestrian Events article in this issue.

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27

Fridays & Sundays

Brandywine Polo. Pack a picnic and bring your friends. Everyone is welcome to watch polo Fridays at 5:30 pm, Sundays, 3 pm. Tickets, \$15 online or \$20 at the gate. For weather updates, call polo hotline, 833-BPC-POLO. BrandywinePolo.com

FESTIVALS & FAIRS.....

THROUGH OCTOBER 25

Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire. A cast of hundreds fill the shire. Visit the website for themed weekends such as Fairies and Fantasy and Pyrate Invasion Weekends. Mt. Hope Estate, 2775 Lebanon Rd., Manheim. Sat–Sun, 11 to 8. \$22–\$39. PARenFaire.com

SEPTEMBER 12 & 13

Annual Mushroom Festival in Kennett Square. Enjoy tasty mushroom dishes, exhibits, cooking demos, contests, 9/11 Tribute Fire Truck Show, a car show, live music and kids activities. 600 S. Broad St. lot. Sat, 10 to 6; Sun, 9 to 4. \$5, cash only. MushroomFestival.org

Local Farm Markets



Artisan Exchange, 208 Carter Dr. West Chester. Sat, 10 to 1. ArtisanExchange.net

Berwyn Farmers Market, 511 Old Lancaster Rd. Sun, 9 to noon. BerwynFarmersMarket.com

Bryn Mawr Farmers Market, Lancaster Ave. Bryn Mawr train station lot. Sat, 9 to 1. LMFarmersMarkets.org/BrynMawr

Market at Coverdale Farm Preserve, 543 Way Rd., Greenville, DE. Fri, noon to 6; Sat, 10 to 5; Sun, 11 to 3. DelNature.org

Downingtown Farmers Market, Kerr Park, Log House Field, 28 E. Pennsylvania Ave. Sat, 9 to 1. GrowingRootsPartners.com

Eagleview Farmers Mkt., Eagleview Town Ctr., 570 Wellington Sq., Exton. Thurs, 3 to 6. GrowingRootsPartners.com

Kennett Square Farmers Mkt., 600 S. Broad St. Fri, 3 to 6. KSQFarmersMarket.com

Lancaster County Farmers Mkt., 389 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne. Wed, Fri & Sat, 6 to 4. LancasterCountyFarmersMarket.com

Malvern Farmers Market, Burke Park, 26 S. Warren Ave. Sat, 9 to 1. GrowingRootsPartners.com

Media Farmers Market, Edgemont St. between Front & State Sts. Sun, 10 to 1. MediaFarmersMarket.com

New Roots by Ramsey's Farm, 4336 S. Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. Daily 9 to 6. NewRootsByRamseys.com

Newtown Square Farmers Mkt., at Garrett Williamson, 395 Bishop Hollow Rd. Every other Fri, start June 12, 4 to 7. On Facebook

Oxford Village Market, 193 Limestone Rd. Thurs, 8 to 6; Fri, 8 to 7; Sat, 8 to 5. OxfordFarmMarketPA.com

Phoenixville Farmers Market, 200 Mill St. Sat, 9 to noon. PhoenixvilleFarmersMarket.org

Pottstown Farmers Mkt., 138 E. High St. Every other Sat from May 16, 9 to 1. PottstownFarm.org

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

West Chester Growers Mkt., Chestnut & Church Sts. Sat, 9 to 1. WestChesterGrowersMarket.com

Westtown Amish Market, 1165 Wilmington Pk., West Chester. Thur, 9 to 6; Fri, 9 to 7; Sat, 8 to 4. WestChesterAmishMarket.com

Visit the Chester County Farm Guide online, ChesCoPlanning.org/Agriculture/FarmGuide.cfm

OCTOBER 2–4

102nd Unionville Community Fair. Celebrate “America at 250: Rooted in Freedom, Raised by Farming” with livestock shows, arts and crafts, antique cars, a tractor parade, entertainment, food and more. 147 E. Street Rd., Kennett Square. Fri, 3 to 9; Sat, 10 to 9; Sun, 10 to 4:30. Free. Parking, \$5 per person or \$10 per carload. UCFair.org



OCTOBER 3

5th Annual Oktoberfest in Downtown West Chester. Participating locations will feature a select list of \$6 fall beers or ciders and fall-themed appetizers. Enjoy live music around town as you walk between restaurants and test your strength in stein-holding contests. 2 N. High St., West Chester. Noon to midnight. DowntownWestChester.com



OCTOBER 3

175th Annual St. David's Country Fair. A fun-filled day for the whole family with flea market and auction tent sale, food booths, midway games and prizes, mini-train ride and pumpkin painting. Benefits the church's outreach partners. 763 S. Valley Forge Rd., Wayne. 10 to 4. \$2–\$10. 610-688-7947; StDavidsChurch.org/Fair



OCTOBER 4

State Street Fall Festival in Media. Join the fun with over 170 vendors, a food truck court at Veterans Square, a kids play zone and live music on two stages, home decor, nonprofits and lots of family fun. State St. & Veterans Sq., Media. 11 to 5. VisitMediaPA.com

FILM.....

SEPTEMBER 17–20

4th Annual Phoenixville Film Festival. Sit back and enjoy this celebration of independent film that includes screenings, filmmakers panels, workshops, after-parties and awards ceremony. The Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. See September Picks in this issue.

FOOD & BREWS.....

THROUGH AUGUST 26

Wednesdays

Summer Nights at Hagley. Bring the whole family and a picnic for summer fun in a beautiful outdoor setting. Or sample local food 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. Relax and enjoy this summer series featuring music, 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

SEPTEMBER 3

Happy Hour at Newlin Grist Mill. Stop by to sip some drinks for sale, enjoy the music, play games and relax by a creek with friends. A great way to unwind after work or enjoy a walk in the park. 219 S. Cheyney Rd., Glen Mills. 5 to 8 pm. NewlinGristMill.org

Celebrate the Arts, Craft & Antiques



Whether you're looking for inspiration to spruce up your home, begin your own project or marvel at the artistic talents surrounding us, you'll want to visit these events.

SEPTEMBER 4–6

48th Annual Long's Park Art Festival.

Browse the outdoor gallery filled with 200+ juried artisans offering clothing, jewelry, pottery, furniture, art and more. Enjoy local culinary treats as well as wine and craft beer. 1441 Harrisburg Pk., Lancaster. Fri–Sat, 10 to 6; Sun, 10 to 5. \$15. LongsPark.org

SEPTEMBER 12 & 13

Brandywine Festival of the Arts.

Over 200 artisans from all over the country display and sell their work in Brandywine Park's Josephine Gardens. 1001 N. Park Dr., Wilmington. Sat, 10 to 6; Sun, 10 to 4. \$5. BrandywineArts.com

SEPTEMBER 19

Chester County Art Walk.

Take a ride to East Goshen Park, where over 100 artists' work lines the trails. Enjoy food trucks, live musical acts and a teen artist competition. New this year is a beer and wine garden. 1661 Paoli Pk., West Chester. 10 to 4. EastGoshen.org

OCTOBER 2

Fall Gallery Walk in West Chester.

Explore the vibrant art scene in downtown West Chester during this self-guided tour. Multiple galleries combine with additional “one-night-only” show hosts. Hosted by Downtown West Chester. 4 to 8 pm. Free parking. DowntownWestChester.com

OCTOBER 3–11

Delco Arts Week.

The Delaware County Arts Consortium hosts more than 60 events, many free to the public. Enjoy concerts, festivals, films, gallery exhibitions, kids activities and workshops. DelcoArts.org

OCTOBER 4 & 18

Clover Market.

Shop from a curated lineup offering handmade, antique and vintage wares, enjoy food trucks and music. Oct. 4, 7 N. Bryn Mawr Ave., Bryn Mawr. Oct. 18, 600 S. Broad St. parking lot, Kennett Square. 10 to 4. Free. TheCloverMarket.com

MICHAEL COOK
JEWELER
FINE JEWELRY



Congratulations to County Lines
on Their Golden Anniversary!

1500 East Lancaster Avenue | Suite 200 | Paoli, PA 19301

610.644.5347 | michaelcookjeweler.com

SEPTEMBER 9
SIW Field to Fork Dinner. Prepare to be amazed by local chefs as the SIW Field to Fork dinner teams with Gravy Boat to create an unforgettable dining experience celebrating locally grown food and community. Hill Girt Farm, 4311 S. Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. 6 pm. \$138. SIWVegetables.com/Field-To-Fork



SEPTEMBER 12
Up On The Roof. Enjoy appetizers, desserts, complimentary beer and wine, and the



always-popular Rooftop Martini as the rooftop of the Chestnut Street Garage transforms into a unique venue with music and dining. Benefits the beautification of West Chester. 14 E. Chestnut St., West Chester. 5 to 8:30. For tickets visit DowntownWestChester.com.

SEPTEMBER 12
Historic Odessa Brewfest. Come for a lively celebration of craft beer from more than 50 breweries, live music, local gourmet food and more. Held on the scenic grounds and gardens of the 256-year-old Wilson-Warner House, 202 Main St., Odessa, DE. 1 to 5:30 pm with VIP entry at noon, general admission entry at 1. \$60–\$75. OdessaBrewfest.com



SEPTEMBER 18
Sip & Stroll at Brandywine Zoo. 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. Beer sold separately. Brandywine Park, 1001 N. Park Dr., Wilmington. 5 to 7. BrandywineZoo.org

SEPTEMBER 20
45th Annual Chester County Restaurant & Food Truck Festival. Taste from over 50 restaurants and food vendors, visit the beer and wine garden and shop from 60+ crafters and artisans. Festival on Gay St. from Matlack to Darlington Sts. Benefits West Chester Parks & Recreation. Noon to 5:30. West-Chester.com

OCTOBER 10
Kennett Brewfest. The Connoisseur Session ticket includes food pairings, live music, unlimited tastings, signature tasting glass, noon to 1:30, \$104. The regular Brewfest session features unlimited tastings from over 80 local and regional craft breweries and cideries, 1:30 to 5, \$68; non-alcoholic, \$26. Benefits Kennett Collaborative. 600 S. Broad St., Kennett Square. KennettBrewfest.com

FUNDRAISERS.....
SEPTEMBER 17–20
The Saturday Club's Women's & Children's Consignment Sale. Shop gently used

women's and children's fall/winter clothing, shoes, accessories, purses, belts and jewelry. Benefits local charities. The Saturday Club, 117 W. Wayne Ave., Wayne. Thurs Preview, 5 to 8, \$10. Fri, 9 to 7; Sat, 9 to 2; Sun, 9 to noon. SaturdayClub.org

SEPTEMBER 26
Canine Partners for Life Fall Festival Featuring Cow Bingo. Spend the afternoon visiting with puppies at the puppy kissing booth, watching service dog demonstrations, touring the kennel, shopping local vendors and enjoying a variety of food trucks, then try your luck at Cow Bingo. 334 Faggs Manor Rd., Cochranville. Noon to 4. Free. K94Life.org



OCTOBER 2
Paoli Hospital Auxiliary Presents A Passion for Fashion. Featuring a fashion show highlighting the latest trends and styles from local boutiques, premier raffle and luncheon. Benefits programs, patient services and priority needs of Paoli Hospital. The Desmond Hotel, 1 Liberty Blvd., Malvern. 11 to 3. \$85. For tickets, Events.org/ES/PHAFashionShow26

OCTOBER 3
Ryerss Farm Blessing of the Animals. Bring your dogs, cats or other small animals on a leash or in a carrier for a nondenominational service and blessing. Benefits Ryerss Farm for Aged Equines. 1710 Ridge Rd., Pottstown. Donation options on website, RyerssFarm.org.

GARDENS
THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27
Festival of Fountains at Longwood. Stroll through the gardens with brilliantly blooming annuals and perennials. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Thurs–Sat, 9:15 pm. \$20–\$35. LongwoodGardens.org

SEPTEMBER 12 & 13
The Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society Show. Be dazzled by the display of colors and varieties of dahlias. Held in the ballroom at Longwood Gardens, 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Sat, 1 to 9 pm; Sun, 1 to 6 pm. Included in gardens admission, \$22–\$38. LongwoodGardens.org

SEPTEMBER 26
Penn State Extension Master Gardener Annual Fall Fest. Celebrate fall with a day of gardening tips, hands-on fun and family activities, plant sale and marketplace. Smedley Park Environmental Center, 20 Paper Mill Rd., Springfield. 9 to 3. \$5. Extension.PSU.edu/Master-Gardener-Fall-Fest



OCTOBER 4
Delaware Nature Society Fall Native Plant Sale. Plant Native. Buy Local. Shop a variety of native plants for a yard that supports clean water, birds, butterflies and more. Proceeds support conservation and protection of waterways. Coverdale Farm Preserve, 543 Way Rd., Greenville, DE. 9 to 3. Free. DelawareNatureSociety.org

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 JANUARY 24, 2027
Delaware Art Museum. Through Dec. 2027, “Jamey Grimes: Aster” installation transforms DelArt's Fusco Hall with swirling, synthetic forms inspired by nature. *Sept. 5–Jan. 24, 2027*, “Pyle and the Pre-Raphaelites.” 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Wed–Sun, 10 to 4. \$14–\$25. DelArt.org

MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT.....
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

THROUGH OCTOBER
Friday–Sunday
Penns Woods Winery Live Music on the Lawn. Kick back and enjoy the music at 124

Friday, September 18: 5–8 PM
BREW AT THE ZOO
Rain or Shine!
With great food and more!
Alively afterhours fundraiser at the zoo.
Visit the zoo after hours for this outdoor **FUNdraiser** event which includes a variety of beer, wine and spirit tastings from numerous vendors and light fare from local restaurants. Live music by **Spokey Speaky** plus animal encounters. Food and beverages are included in the admission ticket.
Check the Early-Bird prices before September 8.
BRANDYWINE ZOO
Go a little wild!
Must be 21+ to attend
Member \$50 • Non-member \$60
Alcohol-free ticket: \$40
Sign Up Now!
brandwinezoo.org/brew
Brandywine Park, Wilmington, DE • FREE PARKING
The BrandywineZoo is managed by DNREC Division of Parks and Recreation with the support of the Delaware Zoological Society

SCHWENKFELDER
LIBRARY & HERITAGE CENTER
Modern Furniture, Traditional Values:
Knoll in the Upper Perkiomen Valley
New Exhibit coming November 8
105 Seminary Street Pennsburg, PA 18073
schwenkfelder.org

America250 Events
250 PA
CHESTER COUNTY
Through Oct. 1, “Forged in Freedom” Chester County America250 Exhibit at Warwick County Park. The exhibit highlights the county's rich Revolutionary-era history through historical artifacts, stories and educational displays, offering visitors an engaging look at the people and events that shaped our nation's founding. Warwick County Park, 191 County Park Rd., Pottstown. 9 to 5. CCCF250.org
Through October 15, Town Tours and Village Walks. The 2026 Town Tours and Village Walks program welcomes you to celebrate with an expanded season. The program, 13 Tours for the 13 Colonies, focuses on places, people and events in Chester County that molded and defined the complex tapestry of history that shaped our nation. *ChesCoPlanning.org/Historic/TownTours*
Through December, Trek-A-Thon 250. Walk, stroll, hike or run 250 miles at any of Natural Lands' properties to commemorate our country's 250 years. Register: *RunSignUp.com/Race/PA/AnyTrail/NaturalLand250*
Sept. 12, Franklin Township's America's 250th Anniversary Celebration. Join Franklin Township residents, friends and neighbors during this community celebration. Enjoy a day of patriotic festivities, local history, family-friendly activities, entertainment and opportunities to commemorate the nation's semiquincentennial together. 20 Municipal Ln., Landenberg. 11 to 3. CCCF250.org
Sept. 19, Warwick 250: Forging Independence. Discover the history in your own backyard by following in the footsteps of George Washington, Alexander Hamilton and other influential figures through living history demonstrations, exhibits, reenactments, family activities and educational programs. 10 to 6. *Warwick-Chester.org/America250*
Sept. 20, West Bradford Township Third Thursday Concert Series: Special America250 Edition: Lenape Brass Ensemble. Enjoy an evening of live music, community spirit and patriotic celebration at Broad Run Park, 1495 Broad Run Rd., Downingtown. CCCF250.org
Sept. 26, Paoli Battlefield Tour. Explore the site, learn about the Battle of Paoli and gain an understanding of Chester County's role in the American Revolution. Paoli Battlefield, Monument & Wayne Aves., Malvern. 10 to noon. CCCF250.org
Regional Meetings
Monthly Zooms provide an open forum for the community to share ideas. *Visit CCCF250.org/Planning for details.*

Beaver Valley Rd., Chadds Ford. Visit website for a complete lineup. PennsWoodsWinery.com

SEPTEMBER 3
Summer in the Park Concert at Wilson Farm Park. Chronicles of Rock & Roll perform. 500 Lee Rd., Chesterbrook. 7 pm. Free. Tredyffrin.org/Departments/Parks-Recreation

SEPTEMBER 4
Upper Merion Concerts Under the Stars. Enjoy the music of Collie Buddz's Spark Up Summer Tour. Township Bldg. Park, 175 W. Valley Forge Rd., King of Prussia. 7 pm. Tickets, UMTownship.org.

SEPTEMBER 5-30
Uptown Knauer Performing Arts Center. *Sept. 5*, AM Radio Tribute Band; *Sept. 8*, Social Sessions Open Jam, hosted by DJ HA; *Sept. 17*, Jazz Cocktail Hour: Hailey Brinnel Quintet Swing'n the '70s; *Sept. 23*, Dueling Pianos with The Philly Keys; *Sept. 30*, Stephanie Phillips. 226 N. High St., West Chester. Times and tickets, UptownWestChester.org.

SEPTEMBER 6 & 11
Bryn Mawr Twilight Concerts. *Sept. 6*, David Wilcox and Lucy Kaplansky; *Sept. 11*, Mdou Moctar (Solo). The Gazebo, 9 S. Bryn Mawr Ave., Bryn Mawr. 7 pm. Times and tickets, BrynMawrTwilightConcerts.com.

SEPTEMBER 8-27
The Keswick Theatre. *Sept. 8*, Gary Clark Jr.; *Sept. 10*, Beatles vs Stones; *Sept. 11*, The FIXX, Colin Blunstone the Voice of the Zombies, Peter Asher; *Sept. 15*, Justin Hayward; *Sept. 21*, Cheap Trick; *Sept. 26*, A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac: Tusk; *Sept. 27*, UB40. 291 N. Keswick Ave., Glenside. Times and tickets, KeswickTheatre.com.

SEPTEMBER 11-25
The Colonial Theatre. *Sept. 11*, Mamma Mania! The American Tribute to ABBA; *Sept. 12*, Back to the Basics Comedy Show; *Sept. 18*, Pet Sounds Live! *Sept. 22*, Phoenix Chamber Inaugural Concert; *Sept. 25*, Friends of the Brothers: a celebration of the music of the Allman Brothers Band. 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. TheColonialTheatre.com



SEPTEMBER 12, OCTOBER 17
Twilight Music Series in Media. Bring a picnic dinner and relax on the lawn. *Sept. 12*, The Sermon, organ driven classic soul, funk, jazz, 4 to 7; *Oct. 17*, MAC Jazz Festival, 2 to 6. Community Center, Monroe St. between 3rd and 4th Sts., Media. 6 to 8 pm. MediaArtsCouncil.org

SEPTEMBER 16-OCTOBER 3
The Grand in Wilmington. *Sept. 16*, Beth Orton; *Sept. 18*, Molly Tuttle; *Sept. 19*, Welcome Back my Friends: An Evening with Emerson, Lake & Palmer; *Sept. 25*, Mike Campbell & The Dirty Knobs; *Sept. 26*, The Uncle Louie Variety Show; *Sept. 26*, A Tribute to Taylor,



Simon, King: 3 American Troubadours; *Sept. 27*, Samara Joy; *Oct. 3*, Graham Nash. 818 N. Market St., Wilmington. Times and tickets, TheGrandWilmington.org.

SEPTEMBER 19
South Wayne Porch Fest. A community celebration with live music from 60 diverse musical acts on the porches of private homes in South Wayne. Streets are closed on Midland Ave., St. Davids Rd. and Windermere Ave., creating nearly a mile of car-free melodies. 11:30 to 6. Free. SouthWaynePorchFest.com



SEPTEMBER 19
Beats & Brews. Bring your favorite blankets or lawn chairs and get comfortable—layer up, relax and enjoy the music. Enjoy craft beer, local cider, and wine and food trucks. Binky Lee Preserve, 1445 Pikeland Rd., Chester Springs. 6 to 9. \$47. NatLands.org

SEPTEMBER 19
Media Borough Porch Fest. A day filled with live music and good vibes, featuring performances from local bands and artists on porches, in yards and driveways throughout the borough. Noon to 4. Free. VisitMediaPA.com

SEPTEMBER 26
14th Annual Haverford Music Festival. Come out to celebrate and mark America's 250th with uniquely American musical styles on two stages. Enjoy food vendors, beer garden, crafters and kids activities. 50 E. Eagle Rd., Havertown. Noon to 9 pm. Free. Haverford-MusicFestival.org

OCTOBER 3
7th Annual Malvern Porch Fest. Presenting 25 musical acts from varying genres on front porches and lawns across town, all within walking distance of each other. A complete schedule will be available at the end of September on the website and on Facebook. MalvernPorchFest.org

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES
SEPTEMBER 13
Run the Vineyards—Penns Woods Yoga & 5K. Enjoy scenic views, delicious wine, live music, food trucks, live music and more. Benefits HEADstrong Foundation, a charity partner

for the race. Penns Woods Winery, 124 Beaver Valley Rd., Chadds Ford. Yoga, 9 am; race, 9:20. \$48. PennsWoodsWinery.com

SEPTEMBER 19
Bike the Brandywine. Explore the scenery and glimpse the history as you choose from three scenic routes (25, 45 and 62 miles) that take in the beautiful Brandywine Creek Greenway and surrounding countryside. Benefits the Brandywine Conservancy. Chadds Ford Historical Society, 1736 N. Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. 6:30 am to 4:30 pm. \$35–\$65. Brandywine.org/Conservancy



OCTOBER 3
Willistown Conservation Trust Run-A-Muck Countryside Bash. Come run the 5K or muck (walk) the cross-country trail over



September 10-13, 2026

★ Thrilling Equestrian Competition ★ Boutique Shopping
★ Live Entertainment ★ Rides & Games

Join us for the Devon Legacy Initiative Kickoff Reception
A \$5 million, 5-year preservation effort



Thursday October 8, 2026 - 6-9 pm
Triple Crown Restaurant, Radnor, PA
Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, live music

Please call
610-964-0550
to purchase tickets
for this event.

Visit www.devonhorseshow.net for more information!

THOUGHTFUL
DESIGN

PROVEN
CONSTRUCTION

LASTING VALUE



Call Us! Let's start the conversation about your Barn's design and function.

Horse Barns • Riding Arenas • Bank Barns
Garages • Agricultural Buildings



**White Horse
Construction Inc**

Gap, PA ph: 610-593-5559
www.WHChorsebarns.com

Comprehensive Design Solutions
And Superior Craftsmanship

diverse terrain. Enjoy food, beer, wine, a bonfire, live music, lawn games, mechanical bull rides and more. 912 Providence Rd., Newtown



Square. 2:30 pm. \$25–\$55. WCTrust.org/Run-A-Muck

THEATER.....
THROUGH OCTOBER 19
“Rachmaninoff and the Tsar” at People’s Light. Discover the East Coast premiere of Hershey Felder’s new musical play, starring as the virtuoso pianist and composer Sergei Rachmaninoff. 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. Times and tickets limited so order soon. PeoplesLight.org

SEPTEMBER 4–20
SALT Performing Arts Presents “Carousel.” Rodgers & Hammerstein’s musical

classic filled with unforgettable songs, romance and redemption. SALT will be collecting food for the Chester County Food Bank at every performance. 1645 Art School Rd., Chester Springs. Times and tickets, SALTPA.com

SEPTEMBER 11–17
Uptown Knauer Performing Arts Center Presents “Bye Bye Birdie.” Capture the excitement, chaos and charm of 1950s America at this timeless classic musical. Times and tickets, UptownWestChester.org.



SEPTEMBER 16–OCTOBER 4
“The 25th Annual Putman County Spelling Bee” at Delaware Theatre. Experience this charming and deeply human musical that shines a light on the inner lives of six adolescents vying for the spelling championship of a lifetime. 200 Water St., Wilmington. Times and tickets, DelawareTheatre.org.

SEPTEMBER 18–OCTOBER 25
“Fiddler on the Roof” at The Candlelight Theatre. Sing along to the music of this award-winning tale of Tevye the Dairyman and his family’s struggles in a changing Russia. 2208 Millers Rd., Wilmington. Times and tickets, 302-475-2313; CandlelightTheatreDelaware.org.

SEPTEMBER 25–OCTOBER 18
“Ragtime: The Musical” at Fulton Theatre. A sweeping musical adaptation of E.L. Doctorow’s novel that follows three fictional families in pursuit of the American Dream at the dawn of the 20th century. 12 N. Prince St., Lancaster. Times and tickets, 717-397-7425; TheFulton.org.

TOWNS, TALKS & TOURS.....
THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27
Open-Air Market in West Chester. Gay Street is closed to vehicles Friday morning through Monday morning (closed Monday for Labor Day). Restaurants and shops line the street for strolling, eating, exploring. DowntownWestChester.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 8
Town Tours and Village Walks. *Sept. 17*, Oxford Area Historical Association; *Sept. 24*, The Mill at Anselma; *Oct. 1*, Kennett Square: A Hotbed of Social Reform; *Oct. 8*, Adaptive Reuse: Where the Past Meets the Future in the Heart of Chester County. Tours begin at 5:30 pm; last tour at 7 pm. ChesCoPlanning.org/Historic/TownTours

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

SEPTEMBER 2–30
Chester County History Center: Plagues and Pestilence Walking Tour. Put on your walking shoes for this 1.5-mile walk exploring how diseases impacted families, changed burial practices and how the Borough’s medical and scientific minds worked to overcome death. Times and tickets, TicketTailor.com/Events/ChesterCountyHistoryCenter/2332403.

SEPTEMBER 12
Home and Garden Tour at Stoneleigh. Enjoy displays of native plants, stately trees and historical landscapes reimagined into a beautiful and biodiverse haven for people and wildlife. The Tudor Revival Main House is also included in the tour. 1829 County Line Rd., Villanova. 10:30 to noon. \$15. NatLands.org

OCTOBER 3
Chester County Day House Tour. See article in this issue. ♦

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



PRECISE
BUILDINGS

717.768.3200 | precisebuildings.com

Instagram Facebook Pinterest YouTube

Building Your Dreams, Preserving Your Legacy



Horse Barns | Bank Barns | Indoor Arenas | Garages | Venues | Restoration



More for Your Home.
One Trusted Team.



MARTINS
FLOORING

We Install Confidence

Denver | Lancaster | Wyomissing | Oxford | martinsflooring.com

- ✓ Flooring
- ✓ Tile Showers
- ✓ Backsplashes
- ✓ Window Treatments

How to Achieve
a Gold Medal
Garden...

Start with High Performance
Plants from Mostardi!

We stock flowers, shrubs and trees that are recommended by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society’s “Gold Medal Award” program.

- Gorgeous Colors
- Exceptional Values
- High Quality
- Superior Performance

Expect the best from Mostardi plants.
They are good as gold!



Distinctive Plants • Home & Garden Accents

MOSTARDI
NURSERY

4033 West Chester Pike (Rte.3)
Newtown Square, PA 19073
610-356-8035 • www.mostardi.com



Sheller Energy

There are very few family- and women-run heating and cooling companies left. While many of them are being purchased and folded into larger regional and national companies, there is one company located in Chester County that is holding true to their family-first business. For over 125 years, D.E. Duffey & Sons has been known for years for “The Duffey Difference,” a mantra focused solely in keeping their friends and neighbors comfortable year-round.

Kate Duffey, daughter of Dan Duffey, and great-grand daughter of the Duffey founder in 1898, currently stands confidently at the helm of the company. She is actively involved in the day-to-day operations of the business, answering phones, scheduling fuel oil deliveries, HVAC services and installations.

What is her inspiration? “I am inspired by my family and customers. I am so proud of what my great grandfather started and where we have been and where we are going as company. And, our customers are the best! Every day we get to talk to so many and get to know them. They inspire me to run a better local business, provide better customer service and, really, just be a better person overall.”

Kate started working at D.E. Duffey & Sons 17 years ago, under the tutelage of her father, Dan Duffey. He told her that if she was going to work there, she had to start from the ground up, which included getting her hands dirty and learning. She delivered oil, serviced heating and cooling systems, helped schedule installs, resolved customer issues and more. Kate claims “It was the best thing he ever did. I got to know every part of this business.”

Part of successfully running a full-service heating and cooling company requires fierce attention to equipment efficiency guidelines, state and federal requirements and customer perceptions around home heating oil as a source of heat. To stay ahead of the curve, Kate currently serves as a Board Member on the Pennsylvania Petroleum Association as a Chairman of the New Generation Committee. She also sits on the board of NEFI (New England Fuels Institute) and is a past Chairman of NORA (National Oil Heat Research Alliance).

When asked what best advice she could give to young women, she states, “Surround yourself with good people and listen. I am so lucky to have great people in my life from my family, fellow coworkers, and other friends in the industry who are always there to help me when I need.”

Kate hopes to continue the legacy of the Duffey family who came before her by forging a new and innovative future for the heating and cooling industry and holding true to the “Duffey Difference”:



8 N Bacton Hill Rd. Malvern, PA
610.692.3388 | www.shelleroil.com

For over 125 years, we have been focused on one thing: keeping our friends and neighbors comfortable. That is our mission each and every day and has been since 1898. We are extremely proud of our past, but we aren't stuck in it. Rather, we view our 100 plus years of experience as a foundation on which to build a bright future. As a direct result of this experience, we have crafted an industry-leading customer service-first culture. This culture is firmly built on doing the right thing, the right way, every time. Our sincere hope is that you will join our family, experience this first-hand and that we can establish a relationship with you as our valued customer that will last for years to come.

D.E. Duffey & Sons is located in Malvern PA and proudly embraces Sheller Oil, Ennis Fuels, Wister Fuels, Angello Fuel Oil and Merone Heating Oil into their family of companies that serves Montgomery and Chester counties as well as parts of Delaware and Philadelphia counties. For more information, call 610.940.1400.



THEATER SPOTLIGHT

The Media Theatre's Coming Season

GET YOUR TICKETS FOR THE 2026-27 SEASON!

With outstanding dramatic and musical performances, the Media Theatre has been a keystone of the local performing arts scene for 32 years. Situated in the heart of Delaware County and known for its strong community focus, the theater has been a hub for devoted audiences coming together to celebrate the art of live theater.

The upcoming 2026–27 season is packed with excitement, including four Broadway-caliber productions: a murder-mystery comedy, the iconic Roald Dahl chocolatier story, the adventurous prequel to the story of Peter Pan and a Broadway classic.

“Murder for Two” (October 1–18) launches the season. One actor investigates. The other plays all the suspects. Both play piano. The result is a hilarious, side-splitting musical murder mystery with a twist.

For only the lucky few, Willy Wonka opens the gates of his mysterious factory, and young Charlie and four other golden ticket winners travel through a world of Roald Dahl's imagination, including chocolate waterfalls, nutty squirrels and the great glass elevator. For the holidays, and the kids, there are plenty of delicious roles in “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” (November 27, 2026–January 3, 2027).

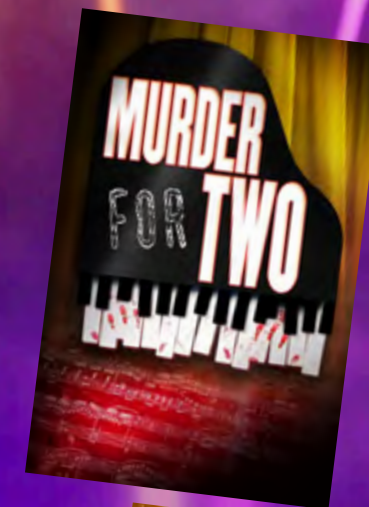
Before he became the legendary Peter Pan, he was a nameless, miserable orphan, longing for home. But, inspired by Molly, he chooses a high seas adventure, trying to save the world from evil, and the boy is transformed. Enjoy “Peter and the Starcatcher” (March 4–21, 2027).

The season concludes with the Pulitzer Prize-winning “A Chorus Line” (May 6–30, 2027). The play examines one day in the lives of 17 dancers, all trying out for a part in a Broadway musical.

“Our ’26–’27 season is packed full of dynamic choices!” said Christian Ryan, Executive Artistic Director. “There really is something for everyone, and everyone will get something fulfilling from each production. We look forward to continuing to champion the arts, with our biggest supporters — you!”

Add some live theater to you future. ♦

IF YOU GO: Media Theatre, 104 E. State St., Media. Tickets & more info at MediaTheatre.org



Founded in 1884

Lydia Willits Bartholomew
Chairman of the Board

A Leading Lender in Chester County
for the Preservation of
Open Spaces and Farmland

Jamie Bartholomew Aller, Esquire
General Counsel

FDIC

www.natbankmal.com

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

People's Light Warmly Invites You to Malvern, PA

EXPERIENCE THE 2026/27 THEATRE SEASON

Iconic classics. Pulitzer Prize winners. Stories of family.

Across the 2026/27 Season we will share the joy, the challenge, and the magic of family —
how it feeds us, how it limits us, how it both breaks and fills our hearts.

Topdog/Underdog
By Suzan-Lori Parks
Directed by Amina Robinson
SEPT 16 - OCT 18 2026

Cinderella: A Musical Panto
By Kathryn Petersen
Music and Lyrics by Michael Ogborn
Directed by Liz Filios
NOV 18 - JAN 03 2027

Louisa May Alcott's Little Women
By Lauren Gunderson
Directed by Donya K. Washington
FEB 10 - MAR 21 2027

Harvey
By Mary Chase
Directed by Molly Rosa Houlahan
APR 14 - MAY 09 2027

Urinetown
Book and Lyrics by Greg Kotis
Music by Mark Hollmann
Directed by Andrew Watring
JULY 08 - AUG 08 2027

Get Tickets

PEOPLESLIGHT.ORG
610.644.3500

Warwick Furnace and the Revolution

A FESTIVAL OF LIVING HISTORY AT A
PRESERVED HISTORIC LANDSCAPE, SEPTEMBER 19

WARWICK TOWNSHIP will commemorate America's 250th anniversary with a day-long celebration at Warwick Furnace, one of Pennsylvania's significant Revolutionary-era industrial sites. On September 19, you're invited to step into the world of colonial America and explore the role this historic furnace played in the nation's founding.

Learn about Warwick Furnace, one of the earliest ironworks in colonial Pennsylvania, established in 1737. During the American Revolution, the furnace supplied cannon, ammunition and other iron goods essential to the patriot cause and supported the growing movement for independence.

Warwick Furnace was connected to some of the most influential figures of the Revolutionary era. Benjamin Franklin's first "Franklin Stove" was cast at the furnace. George Taylor, an early clerk of the furnace, would later become a signer of the Declaration of Independence. On September 17 and 18, 1777, following the Battle of the Clouds, General George Washington's soldiers encamped at the furnace to reup their munitions. Alexander Hamilton sent a letter from the encampment to John Hancock urging him to move Congress out of Philadelphia as the British were near.

This 250th celebration brings history to life through reenactments, demonstrations, lectures and family-friendly activities. Experience a Revolutionary War encampment presented by the Pennsylvania First Regiment, witness replica cannon firings (at 10 a.m., noon, 2 and 4 p.m.), meet historical interpreters portraying figures such as Benjamin Franklin and Alexander Hamilton, and enjoy period music performed on colonial instruments.

Lectures in Warwick Furnace Farm's historic stone barn will cover Pennsylvania's

colonial iron industry with historian Dan Graham (at 11 and 2), the 1777 British invasion and local stories that shaped the time. See archaeological demonstrations, view artifacts and historical documents related to Warwick Furnace in the gallery, and learn about colonial cooking, paper marbling and long rifles.

Local historic organizations, including Hopewell Furnace, Pottsgrove Manor, Historic Sugartown and the Chester County History Center, will offer demonstrations throughout the grounds. Artisan vendors, food trucks and tours of nearby Hockley Mill, a historic grist mill, will round out the experience.

As our communities reflect on 250 years of American history, this free event offers a special opportunity to encounter that history where it happened. ♦

— Claire Rosen

IF YOU GO

Where: Warwick Furnace & The Thomas P. Bentley Preserve, Warwick Furnace Rd. and Valley Way Rd. (approx. 775 Warwick Furnace Rd., Glenmoore)

When: September 19, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

More Info: Details, parking info and schedule at Warwick-Chester.org/America250



1. Warwick Furnace ruins
2. Hockley Mill

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLISON TONGIANI



PHOTO COURTESY OF "COFFEE WITH A COLONIAL BY SAM LEAMER"



Built to Last

CHESTER COUNTY STONE HOUSES IN THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA

Kim Andrews

IT'S EASY TO LOVE AN OLD Chester County stone house. The deep-set windows. The datestone. The wide hearth. The uneven fieldstone, softened by weather. The barn beyond the drive. The feeling that the house has been sitting there calmly through everything we keep calling "unprecedented."

These houses were not built to be charming. They were built to be practical. People needed shelter that would hold up through cold winters, hot kitchens, stored food, animals, harvests, children, hired hands, muddy boots and uncertain times. The houses that lasted are the ones that best served the needs of the inhabitants.

NATIVE MATERIALS REFLECT THE COUNTY

Chester County's old houses begin with the county itself. Builders used what was nearby: limestone in the Great Valley, fieldstone from cleared land, serpentine from local quarries, brick where clay was good, timber where wood made more sense.

A limestone house in the valley, a serpentine building near West Chester and a brick house in southern Chester County each tell different stories about materials, labor and ambition.

Matthew Roberson, principal of R&B Restoration Carpentry in Exton, believes traditional buildings are examples of practical answers. "Everything about traditional construction is a solution to some kind of problem," he said, including keeping rain out, holding heat in and managing water.

STATUS AND SURVIVAL

By the Revolutionary era, a Chester County stone house marked land, prosperity and permanence. A centered doorway, balanced front, larger windows and datestone showed the neighbors this family had moved beyond a temporary foothold.

And, though beautiful, these were working buildings first and foremost. The massive hearth was the stove, furnace, water heater and bakery. A cellar provided winter food security. Thick walls helped

manage heat and cold. The beauty we see today grew from function.

In those early days, the Revolution was lived in kitchens, fields, barns and cellars. The war did not pass politely around Chester County. Instead, roads, farms, mills, fords, furnaces and fields became part of the wartime landscape. Armies needed food, horses, wagons, iron, fuel and shelter, but families still had to plant, cook, store, repair and feed animals while the country's future was in doubt.

Not every old house has an illustrious history attached to it, but each household had to protect what they could and keep going.

WHAT THE BUILDING KNOWS

Preservation means understanding what a place is trying to tell us before we accidentally "improve" away the evidence. Visualizing its original uses is a big part of that process.

To Roberson, the first clue to how an old house was used may be the building's posi-

tion on the land: near a road or set back, on good farmland or a poorer hillside. Looking through time, we can see that doors were moved, additions appeared and uses changed. Roberson put it simply: "For any old house that survives today, it's clear that the sum of its solutions worked."

We tend to save the house first, as the most visible and emotionally powerful building on the property, but an old house was usually surrounded by smaller structures that mattered, too. Outbuildings, cellars, bake ovens and barns show how people managed food, water, heat, labor and seasons.

Each farm was an entire self-enclosed economy, a collective workplace and a family survival plan. The outbuildings, so important in their early years, often disappear once nobody remembers what they were for, breaking that functional link between the past and present.

NOTICE THE DETAILS

The next time you walk through a Chester County house, notice the wall thickness, the hearth size, the cellar door placement, the springhouse location down the slope, the old repairs in the stone. Those are quaint details but also offer a view to the past. Early Chester County families built with what they had and adapted when they could.

At 250 years, one useful way to remember the Revolutionary era is through the places that show how people actually lived through it. These houses are beautiful, certainly, but they lasted because they were useful first. ♦

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, America250ChesCo.org or CCCF250.org.



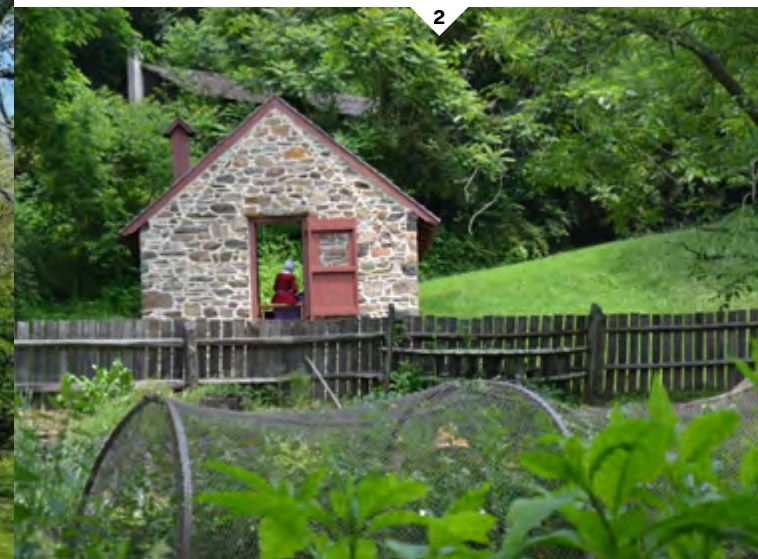
Outbuildings That Made a Farm Work

The smaller buildings around an early Chester County farmhouse were working parts of the household, essential to survival, not decorative extras. Together, these buildings turned a house into a working farmstead. For example:

- **Springhouses** kept milk, butter and other perishables cool with running water.
- **Smokehouses** preserved pork and other meats before refrigeration.
- **Root cellars** stored apples, potatoes, turnips, cider and other winter foods.
- **Bake ovens** made bread and large-batch baking possible.
- **Barns** protected animals, hay, grain, tools and wagons.
- **Summer kitchens** contained the heat, smoke and heavy food work outside the main house.



Hause smokehouse, 1959, East Nantmeal



1. Farmhouse, reconstructed wooden privy and springhouse at Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead
PHOTO CREDIT: COLONIAL PENNSYLVANIA FARMSTEAD
2. Stone cabin used as weaving shed at Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead
PHOTO CREDIT: COLONIAL PENNSYLVANIA FARMSTEAD
3. Datestone in Daniel Hoopes House, 1958, Westtown

Books

About Books

Shelley Laurence, Main Point Books



IF YOUR BIBLIOMANIA HAS bibliomania, you're in the right place. There's something magical about books in which libraries, bookstores or books are more than just window dressing — they're woven into a story. These “books about books” are something special, reminding us why we fell in love with reading in the first place. Need some ideas? Read on.

SOME NONFICTION

I'll start with one of my favorites. “*The Library Book*,” by Susan Orlean, is a love letter to a beloved institution and an investigation into one of its greatest mysteries. In April 1986, a fire ripped through the Los Angeles Public Library. When the flames were extinguished, 400,000 books were destroyed and 700,000 more were damaged. Was it arson? Or an accident? Orlean is such a delight to read, and this book tells the broader story of librarians,

libraries and the people who populate them. It's a real treat for book lovers.

Another perennial favorite is “*84, Charing Cross Road*,” by Helen Hanff, who incidentally was born in Philly. It's a funny, heartwarming love story told in a series of letters between Hanff, a freelance writer living in New York, and a used book dealer in London. The pair never met, but shared a charming, sentimental correspondence based on their common love of books. The *New York Times* said about this oldie but goodie, “it will provide an emollient for the spirit and a sheath for the exposed nerve.” I wholeheartedly agree.

You might also check out “*Why We Read*” by Shannon Reed. Reed is a longtime teacher, lifelong reader and *New Yorker* contributor. She believes that above all else, we should read for pleasure. Reed shares surprising stories from her life as a reader and the lovely ways books, like

“The Wizard of Oz,” “Their Eyes Were Watching God” and “Gone Girl,” among others, have impacted her students.

FICTION CHOICES

If you'd rather read fiction, there are plenty of wonderful choices. “*James*” by Percival Everett is a fascinating, darkly humorous take on an American classic, “The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.” But this time, it's told from the point of view of Jim, the runaway enslaved man. According to *The Atlantic*, “To call ‘James’ a retelling would be an injustice. Everett sends Mark Twain's classic through the looking glass. What emerges is no longer a children's book, but a blood-soaked historical novel stripped of all ornament ...”

Then there's “*The Shadow of the Wind*,” by Carlos Ruiz Zafón, set in 1945 Barcelona. Daniel, a book dealer's son mourning his mother, finds comfort in

a mysterious book called “The Shadow of the Wind.” But when he tries to find the author's other work, he learns someone's been destroying every copy of every book he's written! Daniel's pursuit uncovers one of Barcelona's darkest secrets. This is an epic story of murder, madness and doomed love.

Want a feel-good story that will lift your spirits? Then grab a copy of “*The Midnight Library*” by Matt Haig. This library is very different from the one in your neighborhood. It houses an infinite number of books, each one the story of another reality. One tells the tale of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you'd made a different decision at any point in your life. It's a powerful, uplifting tale about regrets and the choices we make in life.

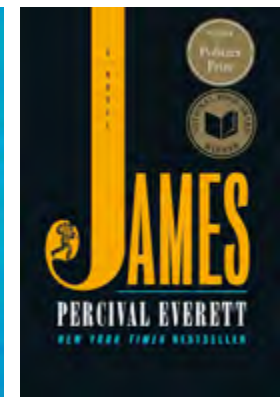
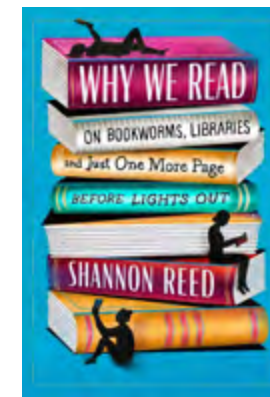
FOR THE KIDS

Let's not forget the kids. “*Dear Bookstore*,” by Emily Arrow, is a great way to start kids on the road to reading. This charming picture book features a little girl whose local bookstore is her haven. It's a place that allows her imagination to soar and gives her answers to questions, and there's always someone there to welcome her and help her find her next book. What could be better than that?

Well, how about “*The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore*” by William Joyce? Morris Lessmore loves books, but a powerful storm destroys his collection. His world brightens when he finds a magical library filled with living books that fly, dance and read themselves to him each night. As Morris grows old, his book friends protect him, help him write again and heal his broken heart.

This is just a small sampling of what's available at your local independent bookstore. Drop by your favorite one, and lose yourself in a book about books. ♦

Shelley Laurence is a bookseller at Main Point Books, an independent bookstore with a handpicked selection for every member of the family. Check out their events, book groups and children's activities at MainPointBooks.com or on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok. Order online for delivery or pickup. 484-580-6978; 116 N. Wayne Ave., Wayne.



The Night Shift

BATS' CRITICAL ROLE IN OUR LOCAL ECOSYSTEM

Adam Wolf, Willistown Conservation Trust

AS SEPTEMBER ARRIVES, THE SUMMER nights begin to cool. Now we enjoy the kind of evening when if you're out on your porch, you might reach for a sweatshirt as you watch the stars come out.

Meanwhile, out at Willistown Conservation Trust's Rushton Farm, a busy late-summer day has come to a close. Earlier, a school group came by to see bird banding in action, and farm shareholders came to pick up fresh produce. But now, staff and visitors have left the gravel parking lot empty, and the summer sunset has given way to a faint glow of dusk.

Bird calls have subsided, replaced by a steady thrum of nocturnal insects. But for one creature, the day has just begun. A little brown bat just stretched its weary neck and took to the skies to begin its nightly feast. This time of year marks an exciting period in a bat's life cycle, one when female bats fly while carrying their pups to teach them how to hunt.

THE WITCHING HOUR

Recently, American bat species have been in decline. From white-nose syndrome — a fatal fungal disease that has wiped out more than 90% of some bat populations — to habitat loss, our beloved spooky species have been put at risk.

If you've ever had bats roost in your home, it can be easy to disparage these furry flyers as pests. Popular culture has also not been as kind to bats as other animals.

In reality, though, bats are uniquely adapted to their environment. And just like our beloved backyard bird species, bats play a critical role in the local ecosystem. As the world's only flying mammals, bats play an important role in consuming large numbers of nighttime insects.

AGRICULTURE'S HIDDEN HEROES

Throughout history, bats have been the unsung heroes of agriculture. By eating insects that feed on crops, bats in the U.S. are estimated to save farmers between \$3.7 and \$53 billion a year. While that's a huge range, even that estimate doesn't take into consideration bats' importance as pollinators.

In the eastern U.S., where white-nose syndrome has decreased bat populations, farmers have had to increase pesticide use by over 30%. A single bat can eat thousands of insects in a single night — an amount about equal to half their body weight in food ... every night!

FINDING SPACE

Just like habitat for backyard birds, there's a simple way to help local populations of bats: by providing them with wooden homes. In the greater Philadelphia area, there are

nine species of bats that use our forests, streams and fields. Many local bat species are migratory, meaning they'll move south during colder months, while others move to caves and abandoned mines or quarries to hibernate during the winter. But during warmer months, wooden bat boxes can provide a safe space for bats to raise their young.

At Rushton Woods Preserve, a bat box hangs quietly from the barn overlooking the produce fields. For Willistown Conservation Trust, a bat box solves two problems at once: it protects produce from insects and helps support local bat populations.

At the farm and local preserves, several factors contribute to a successful bat box. Bats prefer boxes that are 15 to 20 feet off the ground and in a south- or southeast-facing location. Placing a box on a pole or the side of a barn is a great way to keep it warm in the sun and reduce the risk of predation from animals such as owls. Also, boxes located near streams and away from artificial lights tend to be most effective.

Working with bats, birds and wildlife means the Trust's small farm doesn't have to use pesticides or chemicals. Shrubby edge habitat and manmade wildlife boxes provide homes for wildlife to raise their young. In turn, the animals feast on insects and pests, making produce healthier for all.

EVENING'S WATCH

While bat watching is far from the national pastime that bird watching has become, late summer is a great time to see these insect-guzzling flyers in action. Agricultural fields and bodies of water provide ample food for these flying mammals and excellent viewing opportunities.

While not quite as action-packed as the latest top steam-ing series, spending time watching bats' flying spectacle is rewarding. Just like crickets or American robins, the sounds of bats are part of the natural landscape in America and should be cherished.

Even as the sun goes down, nature continues its cycles as nocturnal animals come to life. And if you have a property bats would find welcoming, the answer to getting them to visit is fairly easy: provide habitat and let nature take its course.

As dusk dims the sky and night overtakes day, Rushton Farm's busiest night-shift employees zig and zag across the night sky, with young ones watching on, anxiously awaiting their first hunt on their own. Away from crowds and pass-ersby, bats' nightly rhythm continues as it has for thousands of years. ♦

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WILLISTOWN CONSERVATION TRUST, JODY CONFER, DANIELA OBERTAS AND ADAM WOLF

The Willistown Conservation Trust, a nonprofit land trust, has protected over 2,980 acres of wildlife habitat, scenic views and agricultural lands in the Willistown area. Its mission is to protect land and inspire a life-long love of the land through education. More at WCTrust.org.



1



2



3

1. Little brown bat 2. Rushton Farm 3. Roosting bats

COUNTY LINES MAGAZINE 50TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL RATE



COUNTY LINES MAGAZINE

JUST
\$18*
FOR
1 YEAR!

Join our celebration!

Celebrate 50 years of *County Lines* with a **50% DISCOUNT** on a 1-year subscription.

That's 12 issues for just \$18!

Offer expires September 30, 2026



*3% surcharge for credit card

Call **610-918-9300** or go to **COUNTYLINESMAGAZINE.COM**

LIFT & LEVEL

YOUR EXISTING CONCRETE



BEFORE



AFTER

DON'T REPLACE. LIFT & SAVE!

We Lift Commercial & Residential:

- Sidewalks
- Pool Decks
- Patios
- Porches
- Garage Floors

Since 1980
KEYSTONE
GUN-KRETE LLC
CONCRETE PUMPING

717-768-3641
KeystoneGun-Krete.com

HOME Decor

From designer finds and handcrafted pieces to statement furniture, delicate accents and kitchen design, there's a little something for everyone — if you know where to look. Here's a start.



HOME DECOR

Adorn Goods

Wilmington. 302-575-9657

AdornGoods.com

See the ad on page 68



LIGHT FIXTURES

Ball and Ball Hardware Reproductions

Exton. 610-363-7330

BallAndBall.com

See the ad on page 74



PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES

Closets by Design

Malvern. 610-644-4143

ClosetsByDesign.com

See the ad on page 75



PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES

DiSabatino Design / Build

Wilmington. 302-764-0408; 610-361-0595

DiSabatinoInc.com

See the ad on page 2



HOME DECOR, DESIGN SERVICES & GIFTS

The Iron Bird

Downingtown & Chester Springs

TheIronBird.com

See the ad on page 66



HOUSE PLANTS & GIFTS

Mostardi Nursery

Newtown Square. 610-356-8035

Mostardi.com

See the ad on page 25

Chester County Day's 85th Tour *of* Tours



The United States is celebrating 250 years, *County Lines* Magazine marks 50 years, and the beloved local tradition of the Chester County Day house tour hits its 85th year milestone. Once again on the first Saturday of October, historic homes and iconic houses are open to the public, this year highlighting the northwest quadrant of the county.

Mark your calendar for October 3 to support this fundraiser for Chester County Hospital, made possible by generous homeowners and many volunteers. For more information about hours, tickets, lunch and the fox hunt, visit ChesterCountyDay.com.

Long Drive Manor

Long Drive Manor, 681 Fairview Road, *Glenmoore*

Few properties capture the rich heritage of Chester County quite like Long Drive Manor (see the prior two pages). Its story begins in 1752 when James Moore Sr., Esq., established a 164-acre Penn Grant along the Brandywine Creek, building a sawmill and gristmill that supplied flour to Washington’s Continental Army during the Revolutionary War.

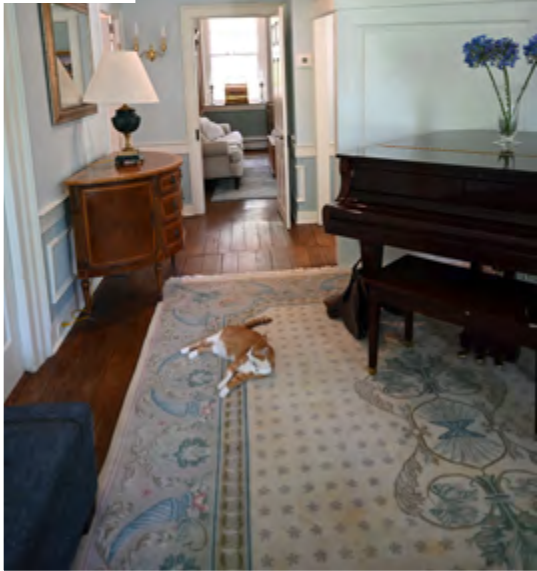
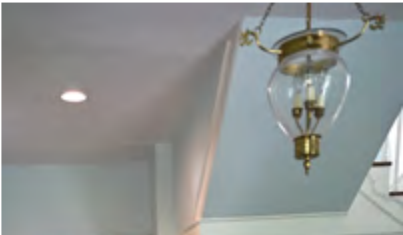
After Moore’s original home was lost to fire in 1795, he built the stately stone mansion that overlooks the site of the former mills and the village that became Glenmoore. The stone dam and remnants of the mill foundations are visible at the end of the lower drive.

The estate remained in the Moore family until the latter half of the century, when it became Brae Head Farm under the Howson family. Originally an eight-room residence, the home was expanded in the late 1880s with a six-room addition, followed by a farmhouse in 1908. During the 1980s, the historic mansion and its remaining 19 acres — including outbuildings and barn ruins — were preserved. The greenhouse and sheep barn were transformed into a charming guest cottage.

Inside, Long Drive Manor showcases the craftsmanship found in fine historic homes. Soaring ceilings, deep-silled windows with original glass and six fireplaces create an atmosphere of timeless elegance. The massive hearth of the original kitchen now anchors the dining room, while double doors and an antique mantel reflect the home’s Victorian-era history. Look for an example of an unusual style door found in our area — a reinforced interior shutter with sliding wood panel to protect the glass from storms.

Since 2017, Ann and Robert Davis have thoughtfully restored the property, adding a new barn, pool house, modern addition and gardens. Rich history, architectural charm and a beautiful restoration make Long Drive Manor a quintessential Chester County Day stop.

PHOTO CREDIT: PHOTOS HERE AND OPENING SPREAD, JOANNA FRANKLIN





VIP HOUSE: Bleeker Hall

221 West Virginia Avenue, *West Chester*

Welcome to one of the serpentine-stone “Four Sisters” houses lining the north side of West Virginia Avenue. Designed in 1872 by Quaker architect Addison Hutton, this Second Empire home was built for local attorney William B. Waddell, who served as a judge, mayor and in the state assembly. The home was later purchased by John Bleeker, a street railway engineer, and became known as Bleeker Hall.

Later divided into two residences, it was purchased in 2013 by the Murrays, who began the extensive work needed to bring it back to its former glory. Among the many restoration projects, the most recent was an interior overhaul by Miggy Mason of Holley Alley Interiors, who reimagined the layout to reincorporate it into a single-family home.

Enter through the arched front door with stained-glass half-moon window to see tall windows, deep sills, original woodwork and 12-foot ceilings. The foyer features brass star lanterns, Lewis and Wood wallpaper, and a 25-foot antique Persian runner.

The family room has modern furnishings and artwork that contrast with the arched Victorian bay windows and coal-burning fireplace. An adjacent room contains a large bar with stained-glass-windowed cabinets. Cross the hall to the long, formal parlor, centered by a carved marble fireplace and chandelier.

Down the hall, pass the impressive stairway with carved baluster and spool-turned spindles. Then enter the dining room through original pocket doors. A rolling ladder provides access to high cabinets and bookcases. A custom dining table fills the room’s center along with statement lighting fixtures. Original features include a fireplace and stained-glass window.

Pass the mudroom with storage cubbies to the new kitchen, featuring soapstone counters, fireclay farmhouse sink, subway tile and brass fixtures. The statement induction range and hood take center stage.

As you leave, take in the bluestone outdoor space with seating areas, hot tub, outdoor kitchen and firepit.

PHOTO CREDIT: KIRSTEN FRANCIS



VIP HOUSE: The Dower House
100 Goshen Road, *West Chester*

As we celebrate America 250, the Dower House had already been standing for 60 years when the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776. The original dwelling on 150 acres on old Goshen Road dates from 1715, according to historic records. And to attest to its heritage, it is tax parcel 01-01-01 in Chester County, making it the first tax parcel on record.

The Wall family were the first residents in the log-to-stone cottage, which was added on to over the years. In the 1920s, the property was bought by Joseph and Dorothy Hergesheimer, who commissioned a complete renovation by well-known restoration architect R. Brognard Okie. Mr. Hergesheimer was a prolific writer of that time, and one of his books, “From an Old House,” detailed the restoration process season by season.

In 2013, the house was purchased by Lisa and Tait Norden. After living with the history of the property for 10 years, the couple added a period-appropriate addition in the style of the Okie restoration, this time undertaken by Archer & Buchanan Architecture and Rittenhouse Builders. The legacy of the home was honored along with updating it for use by a modern family.

Furnished with family treasures from the period of the house, the new addition shows how today colonial charm can be mixed with modern amenities to create a comfortable and welcoming home to enjoy. The Nordens are enjoying their new addition and treat it as a special present to their “Old House.”

For more on the oldest, continuously occupied home in Chester County, see *County Lines Magazine’s* February 2024 issue.

PHOTO CREDIT: JEFFREY TOTARO





Warwick Furnace Farm

810 Warwick Furnace Road, *Glenmoore*

Warwick Furnace Farm is located in the heart of the French Creek Valley, adjacent to the historic Warwick Furnace, one of the oldest iron furnaces in America, built by Anna Nutt & Co. in 1737. The furnace produced the first Franklin stove, furnished armaments for Washington's Continental Army, and manufactured components for the first metal-clad ship during the Civil War. Warwick Furnace's manufacturing role declined after the Civil War, leading to the property's transition to farming.

The farm is comprised of more than a dozen stone buildings, some dating to pre-revolutionary America, including the stone Ironmaster's House (c. 1738). In the late 1920s, the house was renovated by R. Brognard Okie in the Colonial Revival style for which he is known, and remains an excellent example of his work.

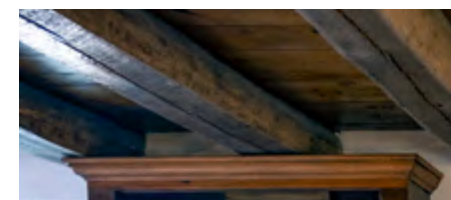
The property includes a formal tiered garden designed by noted landscape architect Thomas Sears. The farm's 63 acres are surrounded by preserved natural land with the pristine French Creek flowing through it, providing a transportive pastoral setting.

The Rosen family purchased the farm in 2017. The property continues to undergo careful restoration to revive its many historic structures under the direction of noted historic architect John Milner and overseen by restoration project manager Bill Schumacher.

The family operates the property as a lavender farm, with lavender distilled onsite to produce an all-natural line of small-batch, handcrafted home and body products.

A section of the Ironmaster's House, gardens and select accessory structures, including the art gallery and farm store, will be open to tour. Guests can also visit the ruins of the historic Warwick Furnace in the Thomas P. Bentley Nature Preserve. ♦

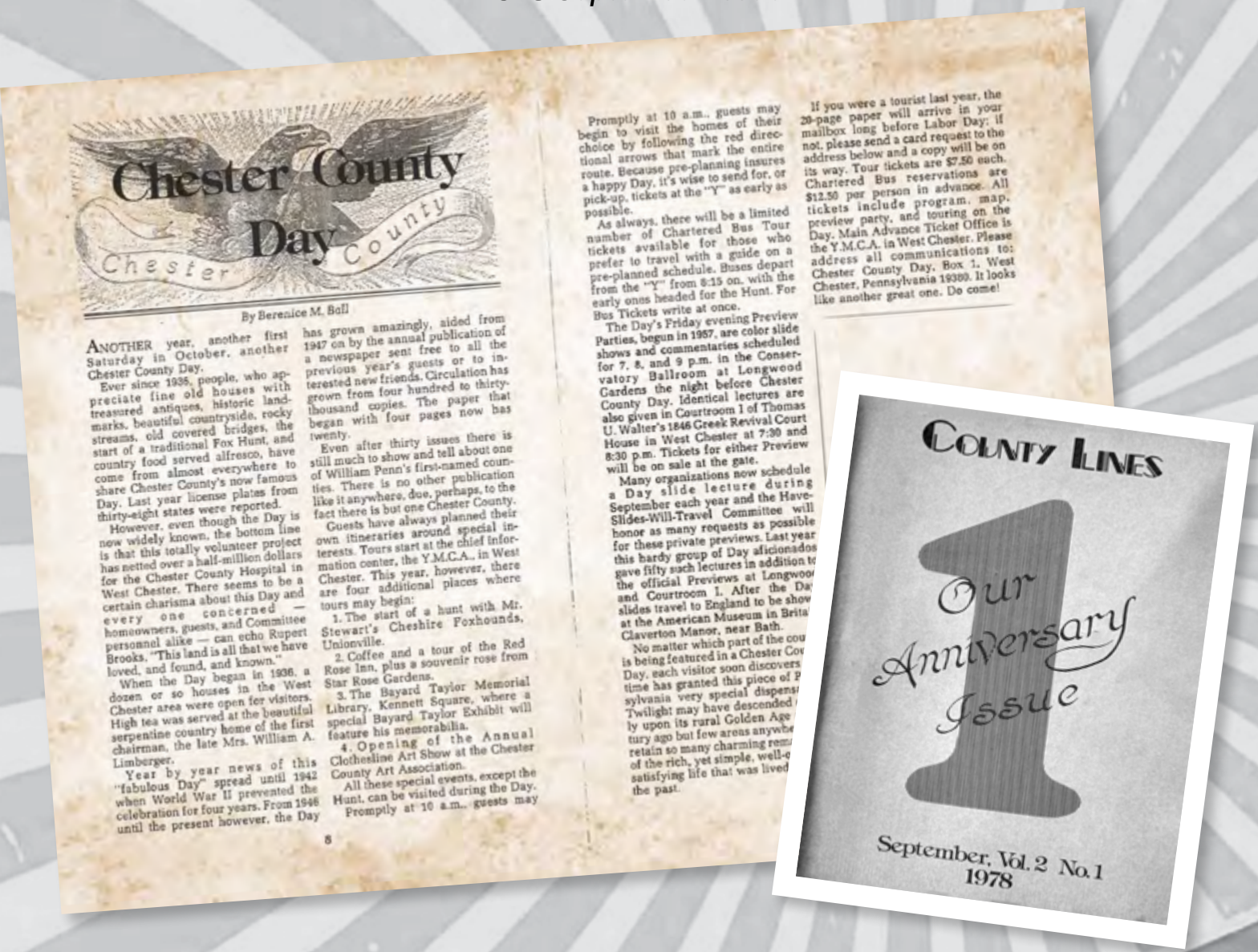
PHOTO CREDIT: CLAIRE ROSEN PHOTOGRAPHY



CHESTER COUNTY DAY

in County Lines

1978 September issue



Our Best Services

Live life your way—with support when you need it. Maintain your routines and independence while receiving personalized assistance with medications, bathing, dressing, grooming, and daily tasks.

Independence, with support when you need it. Enjoy comfortable living, engaging activities, delicious dining, and a welcoming community—all with a helping hand nearby.

Contact us to schedule your tour today!

Phone 610-384-6310

Website www.harrisonhousechestercounty.com

— 85th —
CHESTER COUNTY
DAY
House Tour

ALWAYS THE FIRST SATURDAY IN OCTOBER
OCTOBER 3, 2026

BENEFITTING Penn Medicine
Chester County Hospital

Photograph by Claire Rosen Photography LLC.

Discover a New Level on “The Day”

Jane E. Dorchester

CHESTER COUNTY DAY offers a rare chance to visit historic homes and buildings in our area. Each structure has its own story to tell, and, if you pay a little extra attention, a more interesting story. This year, try looking beyond the antique furniture and tasteful decor to appreciate each home’s distinctive architecture, materials and craftsmanship.

As you tour the homes on view, here’s a short guide to a few of the architectural details you might see on The Day to enhance your enjoyment of this very special event.

EXTERIOR DETAILS

Whatever houses you chose to visit, before you enter, pause. Take a moment to look at the home’s placement on the property — near a road, on a hill, surrounded by outbuildings? Next look at the exterior of the building. There’s much to see, from features such as its symmetry, construction materials, decorative moldings, evidence of additions to an original structure.

But to start, let’s focus on getting a deeper understanding of a few exterior details. You just may have time as you wait in line to enter.

Roofs and Chimneys

Roofs. What type of roof is it — gable, hip, gambrel or cross-gable? Need to Google those? How steep is the pitch of the roof? Steeply pitched side-gable roofs are characteristic of early- to mid-18th-century houses and certain mid- to late-19th-century architectural styles such as Gothic Revival and Queen Anne. In the early to mid-19th century, roof pitches became shallower to the point of being flat in such styles as Greek Revival and Italianate.

Chimneys. Count the chimneys and note their location — at the center or ends of the home? Look for the two types of chimneys typically found in historic homes.



- **Interior chimneys** have chimney-heads (top of the chimney) that stick up above the roof line, but the chimney mass is not visible on the outside of the house. These chimneys are characteristic of houses built before central heating was common because chimneys were part of a house’s heating system, much as fireplaces were, for which chimneys provided ventilation. Interior chimneys helped keep heat from fireplaces inside the house.
- **Exterior chimneys** have their chimney mass visible on the outside of the house, and chimney-heads are also visible above the roof line. Usually constructed after central heating became popular, this type is characteristic of Victorian architectural styles. This type of chimney is one way to distinguish 18th-century vernacular architecture from Colonial Revival style.
- **Insiders note: Exterior Clue to a Walk-in Fireplace:** If a house has a symmetrical front elevation (windows

and doors are more or less centered over each other) but has more blank wall space on one side than the other, it’s likely that house has or had a walk-in fireplace.

Entrances, Windows and Doors

Entrances. Before entering the house, look at the design of the entrance. There are a variety of ways to mark the entry to the home. Does it look original or added later? Here are a few features you may see on Chester County Day.

- **Stoops** are the most basic way to gain access to an exterior door. Stoops are square, can be constructed of brick, stone or frame, and are reached by one or more steps. Although it’s not unusual for the entry door to have no covering, stoops may have pent eaves or door hoods.
- **Pent eaves (aka pent roofs)** are small, sloping roofs that abut the house wall between the first and second floors and generally run the entire



width of the front elevation. They may run only three-quarters or half the house’s width or may even wrap around the entire house.

- **Door hoods** are small roofs above an exterior door supported by brackets and are designed in a variety of shapes — bell, front gable, shed. Usually no wider than the door surround, the hoods give shelter to the stoop or the last few steps into the house.
- **Porticoes** are larger, grander features, generally about 16 feet wide and supported by one or more pairs of posts, pillars or columns. Their floors can be level with the ground or accessed by one or more steps.
- **Porches**, as you can imagine, come in a wide variety of sizes, styles, building materials and lengths: half-length, full-length and wraparound porches extending around the corner and then continuing to all or most of the house. *Insiders note:* Wraparound porches are common in late 19th-century architectural styles.

Windows. Pause and observe the windows. Count the panes. Note any patterns.

Are there shutters? Handmade glass (look for waviness)? With that background, look for the two types of windows you’re likely to encounter.

- **Casement windows** consist of two sashes, which usually open out, and are divided from top to bottom with at least one pane of glass in each sash. Pre-1750 casement windows usually have diamond panes, while Victorian-era casements may have either diamond or square panes. Modern (post 1940) casements feature a single pane in each panel.
- **Sash windows** consist of two horizontal sashes that slide up and down. They come in a variety of configurations. Windows consisting of nine or 12 panes over six or nine panes are generally found in houses built before 1790. Windows with six-over-six panes are characteristic of early- to mid-19th-century houses. Most Victorian styles favored two-over-two panes or one-over-one panes in their sash windows.

Exterior Doors. Yet another distinctive exterior detail to note before you tour the home is the entry door. Is it formal

or simple? Are there decorative details such as fanlights, sidelights, pediments or columns? Most exterior doors you’ll see on the tour will be paneled, yet some may be board-and-batten doors. Paneled doors come in a wide variety of styles with as many variations as there are architectural styles and individual tastes.

Here are three types of exterior doors you’ll likely encounter on The Day.

- **Single-leaf doors** have, not surprisingly, one leaf or part.
- **Double-leaf doors** have two leaves or parts that are divided from top to bottom, but narrower than double doors.
- **Dutch doors** are wide, single-leaf doors divided horizontally in half. The upper

1. The Dower House, the first and oldest home in Chester County
PHOTO CREDIT: RITTENHOUSE BUILDERS
2. A serpentine exterior chimney
3. Two interior chimneys, right, at Radley Run Country Club
4. Door hoods at homes in West Chester
5. Pent eaves on a home in Thornbury Township



half can be opened independently, but to open the lower half, both halves must open at once.

INTERIOR DETAILS

After you’ve observed some clues from studying the house’s exterior, you may start to better understand its story. Now you’re ready to enter the historic home — perhaps after donning booties to protect original floors. There’s so much to see in the interiors, and spaces can get crowded, so this list is short.

Window cheek walls are the walls that enclose interior window sills. If the walls are straight, then the house was probably built before 1820, but if rounded, then built after 1820.

Fireplace depth is an interesting detail to note because the deeper the fireplace, the older the house. As the 18th century wound down, fireplaces became shallower as builders learned how to construct fireplaces that were shallower yet threw more heat from the fire into the room. (Deeper fireplaces result in more heat going up the chimney.) And by 1820, wood stoves, which had become popular for heating and cooking, didn’t require deep fireplaces.

In fact, by the late Victorian era, wood stoves were stand-alone appliances that fed directly into a flue replacing fireplaces.

Floor boards are generally wider the older the house. For 18th-century and early-19th-century floors, which had random-width floorboards, even the narrower boards were relatively wide. By the mid-Victorian era, floor boards were uniform medium width, while by the early 20th century, they’d become uniformly narrow.

Floors and ceilings can tell you where walls were originally located. Look for the “ghosts” of past walls found where floor board direction or width changes. You may see a line on the floor where the wall used to meet it. On ceilings, look for long, narrow bumps that run from one wall to another in the ceiling plaster. Or, note a solitary exposed beam in the middle of the ceiling of an existing room that may be evidence that a wall was removed.

After observing these features of the homes, are you ready to play *County Lines’* This Old House Bingo? ♦

PHOTOS COURTESY: JANE E. DORCHESTER, CHRIS LANG AND NANCY SARCINELLO

Jane E. Dorchester has been an architectural and local historian, historic preservationist, lecturer, researcher and writer since 1983. She’s researched the histories of many properties, conducted historic resource inventories and surveys, written historic impact studies, National Register nominations and more. She provides historic preservation consulting services based in East Goshen Township. Contact her at JEditorHSPV@gmail.com.



County Lines’ This Old House

BINGO

CAN YOU GET FIVE IN A ROW?

B	I	N	G	O
GABLE ROOF	INTERIOR CHIMNEY	6-OVER-6 WINDOWS	STONE STOOP	PANELED FRONT DOOR
EXTERIOR CHIMNEY	DOOR HOOD	WAVY OLD GLASS	FANLIGHT OR SIDELIGHTS	WRAP-AROUND PORCH
PENT EAVE	GAMBREL ROOF	FREE SPACE <i>I asked a homeowner a question.</i>	BOARD-AND-BATTEN DOOR	DORMER WINDOW
WINDOW SHUTTERS	DEEP FIREPLACE	WIDE FLOORBOARDS	EXPOSED BEAM	ROUNDED WINDOW CHEEK WALLS
GHOST OF A FORMER WALL	DUTCH DOOR	PORTICO WITH COLUMNS	DOUBLE FRONT DOOR	EVIDENCE OF AN ADDITION

BONUS CHALLENGES

See if you can also spot:

- ☐ A symmetrical façade
- ☐ Random-width floorboards
- ☐ Handmade stone masonry
- ☐ A walk-in fireplace clue
- ☐ Original hardware or hinges
- ☐ A room added to the original house
- ☐ An outbuilding – (springhouse, carriage house)
- ☐ Decorative moldings or dentils
- ☐ A fireplace mantel from a different period than the house
- ☐ Different stone or mortar showing an addition

Blackout Challenge: How many of the 24 architectural features can you find before The Day ends?

When you complete your BINGO card, post it on social media and tag us @CountyLinesMagazine.



Win Like a Preservationist

If you complete five in a row, you've officially earned your “This Old House Detective” badge.



Ludwig's Corner Horse Show & Country Fair
PHOTO CREDIT: ALYSSA MURPHREE MEDIA

Pennsylvania Hunt Cup

AS SUMMER FADES INTO AUTUMN, THE Brandywine Valley's equestrian season hits its stride. In September, cheer on riders at the Ludwig's Corner Horse Show, Devon Fall Classic and Plantation Field International Horse Trials. Later, admire the elegance of Dressage at Devon, then support the next generation at the Radnor Hunt Starter Horse Trials. Cap off the season with the thrill of the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup in early November.

Whether you come for the world-class competition, family-friendly traditions or simply the beauty of horse country in fall, these six events promise unforgettable weekends for every equestrian fan.

LUDWIG'S CORNER HORSE SHOW & COUNTRY FAIR

Kick off the fall equestrian season with one of Chester County's most treasured Labor Day weekend traditions. Celebrating its 83rd year, the Ludwig's Corner Horse Show returns September 5 to 7 for three days of lively competition, family fun and country-fair charm.

Starting at 8 a.m. each day, riders from across the Brandywine Valley and beyond compete in three busy rings featuring hunter, jumper and equitation classes. Saturday and Sunday spotlight hunter and equitation classes, where horses and riders are judged on their movement, performance and jumping style over natural fences modeled after those in the hunt field.

Fan favorite events include off-the-track thoroughbred classes, foxhunters, sidesaddle riders and the always-adorable lead line for the youngest equestrians. Sunday's hunter derbies add even more excitement, with competitive fields vying for purses up to \$5,000 in each division.

The action continues Monday with more hunter classes for young horses, plus the popular jumper classes, where horses and riders race against the clock over a complex and colorful course of fences. In the afternoon, don't miss the highly anticipated \$10,000 Mini-Prix, where horses soar over fences up to 4 feet high in pursuit of the top prize.

The fun extends beyond the show rings at the Country Fair. Kids can enjoy pony rides, inflatables, a rock wall, mechanical bull and more, while grownups browse local artisans and boutique

shops or relax with a cold drink in the beer garden. Fuel up at the food trucks and booths, offering everything from fair-food faves to elevated bites from local eateries.

Special events add to the festive atmosphere throughout the weekend, including the Friday Night Kickoff Cocktail Party, Saturday's Costumed Pet Parade and the Labor Day Antique Car Show, co-hosted by the Historical Car Club of Pennsylvania.

IF YOU GO: Sept. 5–7, \$10/carload.
1299 Pottstown Pk., Glenmoore.
LudwigsHorseShow.com

DEVON FALL CLASSIC

The excitement continues at the historic Devon Show Grounds with the Devon Fall Classic, September 10 to 13. Now in its 13th year, this premier all-jumper competition draws top professional, ama-

teur, junior and young riders from across the Mid-Atlantic. For many competitors, it's their first opportunity to ride in the legendary Dixon Oval as they begin their journey toward qualifying for the prestigious Devon Horse Show each May.

Set on the iconic grounds that have welcomed generations of equestrians since 1896, the Fall Classic showcases competition from 0.85-meter jumpers to Grand Prix-level classes. Highlights include Thursday's \$5,000 Welcome Stake, Friday's \$10,000 Open Speed Stake, Saturday's Junior and Amateur Jumper Classics and the weekend's marquee event — the \$25,000 Devon Fall Classic Grand Prix. Sunday's schedule wraps up with Junior and Adult Jumper divisions.

Beyond the competition, the Country Fair offers plenty to explore. Browse vendors featuring apparel, jewelry, home

decor, gourmet foods and equestrian favorites, or let the kids enjoy classic carnival rides and midway games. Adults can unwind with a glass of wine at the wine gazebo or a pint at the lively Clydesdale Corner pub, where live music keeps the festivities going each evening. Weekend entertainment also includes DJ sets in the pavilion, kids crafts and the Devon Brass Band on Saturday afternoon, and pony rides on Sunday.

Like the spring horse show, the Devon Fall Classic ends with a beloved tradition: the Sunday afternoon plant sale, where visitors can take home a lasting reminder of a memorable weekend at one of the country's most historic horse show grounds.
IF YOU GO: Sept. 10–13, \$10–\$20, reserved seats \$20–\$25, kids 5 and under free. 23 Dorset Rd., Devon.
DevonHorseShow.net



Take a Swing at the LIFESTYLE You Have Waited For!

Riddle Village offers a comprehensive Lifecare contract, so our residents can embrace retirement living with confidence. With predictable costs for future long-term care, our community provides a plan for your future, allowing you to focus on living life to the fullest every day.

Enjoy luxury amenities and services, such as, weekly housekeeping, indoor garage parking, flexible dining plan with access to four unique restaurants and full-service bar, nine-hole putting green, 24/7 fitness center, indoor swimming pool and so much more.

Life at Riddle Village is a hole in one!

Riddle Village

RiddleVillage.org | (610) 891-3700 | 1048 West Baltimore Pike, Media, PA 19063



Devon Fall Classic
PHOTO CREDIT: BRENDA CARPENTER



PLANTATION FIELD INTERNATIONAL HORSE TRIALS

Elite equestrian sport meets classic country-fair charm at Plantation Field International, September 17 to 20. This premier event brings world-class eventing to the rolling hills of Unionville, drawing international riders, seasoned professionals and Olympians for four days of exhilarating competition.

Watch horse-and-rider teams tackle the demanding four-star level of eventing — the Olympic equestrian triathlon that combines the precision of dressage, the endurance and courage of cross-country and the athleticism of show jumping. Men and women compete head-to-head in this exciting discipline.

Between events, wander the bustling Vendor Village for equestrian gear,

clothing, jewelry and home goods, or relax with local food and craft cocktails at the Country Fair. Young horse lovers can head to the Kids Korner for face painting, a petting zoo, moon bounce, pony rides, arts and crafts, and more.

Weekend favorites return, including the crowd-favorite Jack Russell terrier races, along with engaging demonstrations throughout the grounds. New this year, RDS Automotive Group will offer off-road test drives in the rugged INEOS Grenadier, a body-on-frame 4x4 built for serious adventure.

Plus, get a sneak peak of the weekend's events at the Cocktails on Course event, Wednesday, September 16. Walk the course with Team USA Young Rider competitors Meg Pellegrini and Olivia Dutton, fresh from representing the U.S. in Ireland

at the FEI Eventing Young Riders World Championships, where Dutton won the bronze. They'll share insights into the challenges of the course, designed by Derek di Grazia, the renowned designer behind the eventing course at the Tokyo Olympic Games. Tickets for this evening event are \$40, with proceeds supporting the construction of new cross-country fences. **IF YOU GO:** Sept. 17–20, \$25/carload (\$30 at the gate). 347 Green Valley Rd., Coatesville. PlantationField.com

DRESSAGE AT DEVON

Experience the elegance, athleticism and pageantry of the sport often called “ballet on horseback” at Dressage at Devon, September 22 to 27. Celebrating its 51st year, Dressage at Devon remains one of North America's most revered dressage events,

attracting top competitors, breeders and spectators for six days of elite competition, education, shopping and family fun.

The week begins with Devon's renowned three-day breed show, where exceptional young horses and breeding stock from across the continent offer a fascinating glimpse at the future stars of the sport.

Beginning Thursday, world-class dressage takes center stage as national and international riders showcase the precision, harmony and artistry that define the sport. Don't miss Saturday evening's crowd-pleasing Grand Prix Musical Freestyle, featuring beautifully choreographed performances set to music, or Friday night's colorful Dressage at Devon Dance-Off, complete with live music, creative

costumes and plenty of entertainment. New this year, talented riders ages 14 to 18 compete for a record-setting \$5,000 prize in the inaugural Youth Challenge, thought to be the highest purse in youth dressage.

Outside the ring, stroll the popular Vendor Village filled with apparel, artwork, jewelry, gifts home decor, tack and specialty gifts — be sure to snag a flyer for a chance to win prizes! Special events include a Thursday fashion show, evening masterclass with Olympic medalist and European Champion Carl Hester, and Saturday lunchtime lectures covering everything from rider balance to equine art.

On Sunday, Family Day welcomes the next generation of equestrians with the Dressage Explorers program, featuring hands-on activities, horse-themed games

and a stick-pony race down the centerline of the Dixon Oval.

IF YOU GO: Sept. 22–27, 23 Dorset Rd., Devon. Tickets, schedule and updates at DressageAtDevon.org.

RADNOR HUNT STARTER HORSE TRIALS

Cheer on tomorrow's eventing stars at the second annual Radnor Hunt Starter Horse Trials on Saturday, October 10. Designed for riders taking their first steps into the sport, this welcoming horse trial hosts more than 100 horse-and-rider teams of all ages for a day of friendly competition. The event also serves as the Eastern Pennsylvania Regional Rally for the U.S. Pony Club, bringing together teams from across the region to compete

Plantation Field International Horse Trials

PHOTO CREDIT: AK DRAGOO (TOP) AND TISA DELLA-VOLPE (BOTTOM)



McCOMSEY
BUILDERS, INC

McComseyBuilders.com
610-679-6161



A proud sponsor of the 85th annual Chester County Day

PERIOD ARCHITECTURE
— DESIGNING BEAUTIFUL PLACES —
www.periodarchitecturellc.com

LATTA • KENNEDY
MILLWORKS
CUSTOM CABINETRY AND
MILLWORK SPECIALISTS

www.lattakennedymillworks.com | info@lattakennedymillworks.com | 610-724-2097

HISTORIC PRESERVATION | CUSTOM HOME BUILDING | RENOVATIONS

Passion. Process. Perfection.

E.C. Trethewey III
BUILDING CONTRACTORS INC.

484.593.0334 • WWW.ECTBUILDERS.COM

Jim McKay Maryland Million Day

Looking for one more fall racing adventure? Head just across the state line to Jim McKay Maryland Million Day on Saturday, October 24 at Laurel Park. Known as "Maryland's Day at the Races," the 41st annual event features more than \$1 million in purses and awards for Maryland-sired horses.

Founded in 1986 by Hall of Fame ABC sportscaster and longtime Maryland resident Jim McKay after a visit to the inaugural Breeders' Cup, Maryland Million was created to celebrate the state's breeding industry and showcase its homegrown horses, owners, breeders and trainers.

The festivities extend well beyond the track. Browse local Maryland vendors, enjoy family-friendly entertainment — including a juggler, magician and clown — plus face painting, crafts, games and mini ponies. Best of all, general admission is free. *Route 198 & Racetrack Rd., Laurel, MD. MarylandMillion.com*

while demonstrating the horsemanship, horse care and teamwork that are hallmarks of Pony Club.

Competitors tackle the three phases of eventing — dressage, cross-country and show jumping — in elementary, starter and beginner novice divisions. Along with prize money awarded through sixth place in every division, special honors recognize Best Turned Out, Best Fox Hunter, Most Suitable Pair, Outstanding Sportsmanship and Best Thoroughbred. Adding to the excitement, riders will navigate 18 brand-new cross-country fences debuting on the course this year.

Bring the family, stroll the beautiful Radnor Hunt grounds and enjoy a relaxed day of horses, friendly competition and fall scenery in one of the region's most iconic settings at the Radnor Hunt grounds.

IF YOU GO: Oct. 10, free admission, donations appreciated. 826 Providence Rd., Malvern. RadnorHuntHorseTrials.org

PENNSYLVANIA HUNT CUP

Round out the fall equestrian season with one of the country's most beloved timber races: the 91st annual Pennsylvania Hunt Cup on Sunday, November 1. Blending word-class timber racing, family-friendly activities, tailgating and a deep commitment to the community, this local favorite has become one of the region's signature autumn sporting events.

Feel the electricity as horses and riders thunder across the rolling countryside, clearing 18 solid fences in one of only three four-mile sanctioned steeplechase races in the nation. Note that this year's featured race, the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup, gets underway at 2:15 p.m., followed by two amateur flat races to close out an action-packed afternoon.



Dressage at Devon
PHOTO CREDIT: SUSAN J. STICKLE



Radnor Hunt Starter Horse Trials

Off the course, fan-favorite attractions return, including the VIP Farm-to-Table Buffet at The Ruins, where guests enjoy locally inspired cuisine, premium hospitality and sweeping views of the course. Young racegoers won't want to miss the family-favorite stick-pony races at 2 p.m., back after a wildly popular debut last year.

The Pennsylvania Hunt Cup is about more than just racing. Following last year's milestone 90th anniversary celebration, the event donated \$75,000 to the Chester County Food Bank, helping feed nearly 50,000 households each year. Organizers hope this year's crowd will help make an even bigger impact, continuing a tradition of supporting the community while celebrating one of the Brandywine Valley's most treasured fall traditions. ♦

IF YOU GO: Nov. 1. Ticket sales start Sept. 1. 1759 Newark Rd., Kennett Square. PAHuntCup.org



Pennsylvania Hunt Cup

PHOTO CREDIT: TISA DELLA-VOLPE (TOP) AND BOB KELLER (MIDDLE AND BOTTOM)

Design
Fine Gardening
Planting
Construction
Landscape Lighting

A
ARROWWOOD
LANDSCAPE DESIGN
739 Downingtown Pike, Unit 7
West Chester, PA • 484.880.5059
ArrowwoodLSCPE.com

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

**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.

**Every Level of Care,
Delivered One Way.
With Excellence.**

Call 610-813-6047 and find out.

Managed by
Life Care Services®

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

Rebellion in Every Glass

HOW THE FIERCE DEFIANCE OF KEYSTONE STATE FRONTIER FARMERS LAUNCHED AMERICA'S WHISKEY LEGACY

Liz Tarditi

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL Bourbon Heritage Month, the perfect time to celebrate the Pennsylvania Whiskey Rebellion Trail, which follows the farmers, distillers and rebels who transformed surplus grain into rye whiskey. And celebrate the movement that helped spark one of our young nation's first armed uprisings.

SPIRIT OF A YOUNG COUNTRY

Long before “Hamilton” became a Broadway smash, Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton hit Pennsylvania's frontier farmers with a 1791 federal excise tax that landed like a bottle thrown in a tavern brawl. During the Revolution, British blockades of Caribbean sugarcane caused homegrown whiskey to overtake rum as the patriotic drink of choice.

As barrels traveled the Allegheny and Ohio trade routes, the whiskey inside mellowed with time, laying the groundwork

for the barrel-aged traditions — termed “old” whiskey at the time — that we still celebrate today.

For a taste of these early distillations, try **Barrell 21 White Rye Whiskey** (\$24.99), made of rye and corn (sourced within an hour's drive of the Bedford distillery), malted rye and malted barley fermented with a proprietary yeast blend. Another option, sip **Bluebird Distilling White Rye Whiskey** (\$36.39) with notes of dried fruit, raisins, rye bread and cocoa with a smooth finish.

TAX COLLECTORS WERE TARRERED AND FEATHERED

Hamilton's federal excise tax heavily favored large commercial distilleries with flat-rate tax options that lowered their costs, while small frontier farms faced aggressive per-gallon fees that could only be paid in scarce hard currency. This wasn't a luxury tax; it systematically threatened the financial survival of independent pioneers.

The Monongahela River Valley became the epicenter of early American spirits *and* defiant resistance. There, frontier farmers cultivated a spicy rye whiskey tradition that became central to the 1794 Whiskey Rebellion, in which locals famously tarred and feathered federal tax collectors to defend their livelihoods.

Distilled in Washington, Pennsylvania — the heart of the rebellion — **Liberty Pole Spirits Old Monongahela Full Proof Straight Rye Whiskey** (\$63.99) is a corn-free whiskey that offers traditional notes of clove, black pepper and molasses. In Pittsburgh, **Wigle Pennsylvania Straight Rye** (\$49.99), honoring Philip Wigle, the fierce rebel leader sentenced to the gallows and later pardoned by George Washington, features a profile of vanilla, caramel and black pepper.

Though produced in far-off Bristol, in Bucks County, **Dad's Hat Straight Rye Whiskey 4 Year Old** (\$49.99) honors this classic pre-Prohibition Pennsylvania style,

distilled farm-to-bottle with local grain and aged a minimum of four years. Finally, **A. Overholt Monongahela Mash Straight Rye Whiskey** (\$39.99) revives Abraham Overholt's historic 1810 West Overton recipe with an 80% rye and 20% malted barley mash bill to deliver an intensely spicy brown-butter taste with honeysuckle, clove and seasoned oak.

THE GREAT MIGRATION TO KENTUCKY LIMESTONE

In 1794, when Washington marched an army of 13,000 soldiers to crush the rebellion, many distillers packed up their copper stills and fled to Kentucky, where cheap land, expanding corn agriculture and enslaved labor were creating a booming economy. Land grants required acreage to be planted in corn, while limestone-filtered spring water proved ideal for whiskey production, just as it had in Pennsylvania.

Michter's US 1 Single Barrel Straight Rye Whiskey (\$51.99) traces its lineage back to Pennsylvania's historic 1753 Shenk's distillery, offering a modern profile of citrus, butterscotch and bright spice. Similarly, **Rittenhouse Straight Rye Whiskey Bottled-in-Bond 4 Year Old** (\$29.99) reflects Monongahela-style rye traditions with a robust, 100-proof cocktail staple packed with dark fruit notes.

Representing bourbon's Kentucky evolution, **Woodford Reserve Master's Collection Batch Proof Straight Bourbon** (\$149.99), crafted with Kentucky's famous limestone water, offers rich notes of overripe banana, citrus zest, peppery baking spice, cardamom and pine layered over a lingering finish of leather, cedar and dry vanilla. Alongside it, **Elijah Craig 1789 Straight Bourbon Small Batch** (\$34.99) honors the pioneer credited with inventing bourbon by aging corn whiskey in charred oak barrels, delivering distinct notes of vanilla, smoke and nutmeg.

THE MODERN PENNSYLVANIA CRAFT REVIVAL

The story ends where it started. While Kentucky dominates modern bourbon



production, Pennsylvania's contemporary Whiskey Rebellion Trail — stretching from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia — preserves the deep roots of America's whiskey culture. Today's craft distillers are reviving historic grains, colonial techniques and the bold rye traditions that once fueled frontier rebellion and westward expansion.

Phoenixville's **Bluebird Distilling Four Grain Bourbon** (\$51.99) continues that legacy with a rich, layered expression of maple, dark chocolate and leather. **Manatawny Still Works Four Grain Whiskey** (\$44.99), distilled in Pottstown, rounds out the historical tour. This craft whiskey uses a unique blend to yield a contemporary profile of roasted nuts, maple syrup and soft oak.

Whether enjoyed neat, mixed into an old fashioned or shared around a backyard fire-pit on a cool autumn evening, these spirits continue a uniquely American story. So, raise a glass to the farmers, rebels and distillers who helped shape America's whiskey story — and please, drink responsibly. ♦

Liz Tarditi, WSET II, is an entrepreneur and classically trained chef with 35 years' of culinary experience. She graduated from Villanova University and the Culinary Arts program at the Art Institute of Seattle. Liz has worked for Fine Wine & Good Spirits for several years, becoming a Wine Specialist in 2020. She enjoys pairing wine and food for special events and celebrations. See her at the Villanova Fine Wine & Good Spirits location.



The Whiskey Rebellion, 1794, painted by Carl Rakeman



THE IRON BIRD
STYLE · HOME · GIFTS

Custom flooring & furniture | art | home decor
tabletop | entertaining | candles & more



www.theironbird.com

The Iron Bird @ Sauder's
320 West Uwchlan Avenue
Downingtown, PA

The Iron Bird Chester Springs
213 Pottstown Pike
Chester Springs, PA

Coming Soon in RADNOR HUNT, PA
Amazing Custom "Barn Build"

Peaceful Privacy & Flexible Open Floorplan
Walls of Windows brings the Outside Inside!
Home blends into the Countryside on 3.7 Acs.
3+ stalls in Lowest Level next to 2+ Car Garage
"One of a Kind" Retreat in T/E Schools



Missy Schwartz
(610) 888-3349

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY | **Fox & Roach, REALTORS®**
HomeServices | Devon (610) 651-2700

Nurses Are Made Here.

Now enrolling for the spring semester—
create a legacy of healing and hope!



ACEN
Accreditation Commission
for Education in Nursing

Roxborough School of Nursing 5800 Ridge Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19128
(215) 487-4296 | roxboroughmemorial.com/school-of-nursing

Jane E. Dorchester
ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN
Historic Preservation Consultant

Jane E. Dorchester, Architectural Historian is
a historic preservation consulting firm located
in East Goshen Township, Pennsylvania.

BACKED BY 42 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE,
WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING PRESERVATION SERVICES:

- ✱ Historic Research Services
- ✱ Historic Resource Inventories and Surveys
- ✱ National Register Nominations
- ✱ Historic Preservation Ordinances
- ✱ Historical Evaluations for: Historic Structure Reports, Historic Resource Impact Studies, HABS Reports, and Preservation Plans

Jane E. Dorchester, Architectural Historian
1412 Valley Drive
West Chester, Pa. 19382
610-431-3737 | jeditorhspv@gmail.com

Food News

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

Final Stretch. A dream that's been 10 years in the making, the **West Chester Food Cooperative** is getting ready to open its doors at 204 W. Market Street. The lease was



signed, the interior build completed, first grocery truck arrived, local vendors featured on Instagram, shelves stocked. General manager Issa Ostrander is joined by other new hires and 800 owner/members for this long-awaited local grocery store, scheduled to open August 21. *West-Chester.Coop*

More Pasta. Love Downingtown's Pomod'oro Pizza & Italian Restaurant? Now there's more to love since the Cataldo family is expanding to the historic Thorndale Inn. At **La Piazza Trattoria**, look for an elevated

Italian farmhouse dining experience with some Pomod'oro faves. Full bar (unlike BYOB Pomod'oro), event space, historic setting with a little face lift. What's not to love? Except waiting for its fall opening, 430 Bondsville Rd., Downingtown. *LaPiazzaTrattoriaDowningtown.com*



Unplugged Vibes. Top Dog Cocktails

plans a fall opening for an intimate tasting room and vinyl listening space in Kennett Square. The concept combines an analog listening room experience — similar to the Stylus Room coming to Swarthmore — with Top Dog's craft 12.5% ABV canned cocktails, including martinis, whiskey lemonade and a vodka and grapefruit Greyhound. Future collaborations with neighboring Kennett Flash are in the works. 110 E. State St. *TopDogCocktails.com; @StylusRoom*



Sweet News. Bryn Mawr's beloved Bakery House

is coming to Paoli Village Shoppes. Opening a second location farther west will help satisfy the ever-growing demand for their scratch-made goodies — from quiche, croissants and Jewish apple cake to brownies, cupcakes and custom cakes (love the red velvet!). More good news — plenty of free parking. Less good news — not opening until fall, but still in time for holiday pies! 35 W. Lancaster Ave. *TheBakeryHouse.net*

Resy Ready. Square Roots

Collective's new two-story restaurant and cocktail bar, **Opus**, announced its opening weekend, September 11–13, in the former temporary home of Hank's Place, next to the charming Artelo art hotel. Expect approachable, upscale New American food served in an intimate dining room, with outdoor patio and terrace dining, plus a daytime breakfast program. Curated artwork and a ceiling mural hand painted by community members. Check socials for the menu. 201 Birch St. *OpusKSQ.com*



WWW.APPETITESONMAIN.COM
286 MAIN ST | EXTON, PA 19341
FULL MENU DAILY TILL MIDNIGHT
NFL SUNDAY TICKET
TUES-TRIVIA | WED-KARAOKE
THURS-MUSIC BINGO



Appetites on Main
FOOD • SPIRITS

OPEN 7 DAYS FOR LUNCH, DINNER & LATENIGHT

Raise your glass!



Choose your favorites from more than 10,000 exceptional wines and spirits. Simply visit your local Fine Wine & Good Spirits Premium Collection store or shop online at FineWineAndGoodSpirits.com.

FINE WINE & GOOD SPIRITS

CRAVING MORE?
Satisfy Your Hunger Year Round With Our Regular Food & Drink Features!



Food Events • Food News • Brandywine Table
Beer • Wine • And Much More

COUNTY LINES
MAGAZINE

ARTFUL HOME & EPICURE
ADORN
GOODS

For all your tasteful home, gifts and fine foods.
5712 KENNETT PIKE CENTREVILLE, DE 302.575.9657
WWW.ADORNGOODS.COM

Join us for breakfast and lunch, now served every Wednesday through Friday and on alternating Saturdays. Visit our website for the full schedule, including special event dinners and catering services!

FOLLOW FOR MORE INFO
CIRCEFINEFOODS.COM

5712 KENNETT PIKE
302-543-6356

50 YEARS OF RECIPES



County Lines Magazine has proudly included recipes during its 50 years of publishing. Enjoy the first recipe column below in “The Back Burner” — heavy on cream cheese, butter, eggs, cognac. Sample Frozen Rum Cream with its full cup of rum. Recipes in the early years came from local restaurants.

In the 1980s, the column evolved into “County Flavor,” with M.G. McCreight at the helm. Margie shared regional reci-

pes, initially in essay form — a story about preparing the dish, no separate ingredient list or itemized steps.

For our 25th anniversary issue, September 2001, Margie reflected in “Fare with Flair” on the changes in cooking over the years, noting an increased interest in health and broad embrace of ethnic dishes.

Our most recent recipe feature became “Brandywine Table” in 2011, with Laura Muzzi Brennan and her 600+ cookbooks

taking over, with a few helpers in between. Last year, Liz Tarditi joined us, bringing her consuming love for food, cooking and sharing a table. Read Liz’s column in this issue.



The Back Burner



Recipes from Barbara Chrisman's Parkesburg Arms Hotel

Hors D'Oeuvres

One of Barbara's favorites is the COGNAC DIP

½ pound cream cheese
¼ pound butter
1 jigger cognac
dash Tabasco
4 cloves of garlic, mashed
1 tablespoon of Black peppercorns, ground

Mix all the above and blend until smooth.

Or the CERVICHE (a Peruvian dip)

Chop five pounds of cooked shell or head fish finely. Add 3 minced onions, and 2 cups of lime juice. Add 1 tablespoon olive oil, blend well and serve.

Entree

From India comes this delicacy: BOOMBOO ROEDJAK (spiced chicken)

Saute 2 split chickens in clarified butter until lightly brown. Blend 7 minced onions, 1 garlic clove, 3 hot peppers, 5 Brazil nuts, 1 teaspoon anchovy paste, 2 lemon sections, a tablespoon of brown sugar, and a pinch of salt. Saute this mixture in 2 tablespoons of butter until brown. Add to it ½ coconut, ¼ cup coconut milk, 1 bay leaf, and the juice of 1 lime. Add the chicken to the mixture and simmer until the sauce is thick and the chicken is tender.

Desserts

FROZEN RUM CREAM (from France)

Beat 8 egg yolks and ½ cup sugar until thick. Fold in 6 egg whites and 3 cups whipped cream. Stir in 1 cup of rum. Freeze mixture and serve.

FARE with FLAIR



READERS' CHOICE RECIPES
M. G. McCreight

Celebrating an anniversary is akin to peering into a hand-held mirror. Up close is the present, in the background, the past. In the mirror of memory is the first article sent to County Lines. Within it was a recipe. With trepidation, its return was awaited, in a self-addressed enclosed envelope. What joy, when, instead, came a check!

Flushed with success, the next monthly submission was sent, along with the self-addressed envelope. The phone rang. A lovely, mellow voice. “This is Karen, forget the envelope, just send the recipes.” And so, “Country Flavor” began.

“Country Flavor” reflected the joys and travails of country life. Of gardens, dogs, coping with an old stone house, and, above all, appreciating the rich heritage and abundance of County Lines territory. On a more mundane note, the farmhouse kitchen became a test lab as each recipe was prepared, judged, refined. It was a learning experience for a pinch and teacup cook. There were mishaps. The blender lid popped, painting the ceiling pesto green. Also memorable was the afternoon the sour cream pound cake batter overflowed, oozed through the oven door and flowed like lava across the kitchen floor, much to the delight of the two boxers.

Yes, the beginning years of “Country Flavor” were fun, but trying. Self-proclaimed chief tester, Himself, gained ten pounds. We will not discuss my waistline. As for friends, bless them. Although they dreaded phone calls around deadline time, they were gracious, offering advice, handing over treasured family recipes.

“The only thing constant is change,” a sage reflected. How true. The pace became swifter in the nineties. Cooks didn’t have time to prepare elaborate recipes. Too, there was a spirit of adventure brewing in the kitchen, ethnic cuisine so popular that fast food restaurants were offering fajitas along with hamburgers. “Country Flavor” retired, became “Fare with Flair.” Saturated fats were a no no, fruits, vegetables and fiber were in. Chicken and fish recipes were included in most issues. The only criteria were that food should not only be good for you, but taste and look good as well.

Magnificent, Marvelous, Mouth-watering Mushrooms

CELEBRATE THEM
SEPTEMBER 12 & 13
AND BEYOND

Liz Tarditi



The Woodlands at Phillips



THE BRANDYWINE VALLEY'S rich agricultural heritage is rooted in an organism that bridges ancient lore and cutting-edge science: the humble mushroom. Long before Kennett Square became the Mushroom Capital of the World, mushrooms held a revered place in human history. Mushroom cultivation dates back to at least the 3rd century BCE, and for more than 2,000 years they have been treasured in traditional Chinese medicine for their restorative and balancing properties.

Today, modern science is beginning to explain why. Emerging research suggests mushrooms contain bioactive compounds that support immune function, provide antioxidant protection and may offer neuroprotective benefits that support brain health.

This remarkable biochemical profile is what sets mushrooms apart from the rest of the agricultural world. As local mycologist Tina Ellor explained, "We get things from mushrooms we don't get from other sources of food."

As members of their own biological kingdom, mushrooms produce unique compounds — including complex polysaccharides, ergothioneine and, when

exposed to ultraviolet light, vitamin D — that distinguish them from both plants and animals. Add exceptional flavor, impressive versatility and remarkable nutritional density, and it's easy to understand why mushrooms are increasingly recognized as one of nature's true superfoods.

The Woodlands at Phillips brings that story to life. Housed in the beautifully restored childhood home of Gertrude Phillips, the family matriarch whose recipes continue to be enjoyed generations later, the historic farmhouse has become a destination where visitors can discover gourmet mushroom products, thoughtfully curated gifts, hands-on cooking classes and, perhaps most importantly, a deeper appreciation for fungi.

The Phillips family, whose legacy helped establish Kennett Square as the Mushroom Capital of the World, continues to share that knowledge through education, hospitality and community outreach, including support for Lily's Lighthouse, an organization dedicated to helping children living with epilepsy and their families.

For this month's Brandywine Table, The Woodlands at Phillips generously

shared treasured family recipes alongside contemporary favorites from its cooking classes, showcasing the extraordinary versatility of mushrooms. From a comforting Phillips family casserole and an elegant Northern Italian pioppini pasta to grilled chestnut mushrooms, a hearty royal trumpet entree salad and crisp shiitake "bacon," these recipes prove that one of the world's oldest cultivated foods remains one of its most exciting — and delicious — ingredients.

Want to know more about mushrooms? Mark your calendar for September 12 and 13 and head to Kennett Square's 41st annual Mushroom Festival to celebrate the local fungi with a mile-long street fair, culinary events and farm-to-table educational exhibits. Still want more? Return to Kennett for a unique New Year's Eve celebration that includes dropping a massive illuminated stainless-steel mushroom!

The Woodlands at Phillips Shiitake "Bacon"

With their naturally savory, smoky flavor, shiitake mushrooms crisp beautifully in the oven. Sprinkle them over soups, salads, grain bowls or baked potatoes, or simply enjoy them straight from the pan as a satisfying snack.



Serves 6

16 oz. shiitake mushrooms, stems removed
1 T. avocado oil
½ tsp. sea salt

Preheat the oven to 350°. Thinly slice the shiitake caps. Toss with avocado oil and sea salt until evenly coated.

Spread in a single layer on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Bake until crispy, about 20 to 30 minutes.

Serve immediately or use as a garnish for soups, salads, grain bowls or baked potatoes.

Tina Ellor's Grilled Chestnut Mushrooms

The naturally nutty flavor of chestnut mushrooms deepens over the grill, while a balsamic-honey glaze creates sweet, savory complexity. A hint of cinnamon and nutmeg adds warmth to this simple yet elegant side dish.

Serves 6

1 lb. chestnut mushrooms
3 T. olive oil
2 T. butter, melted



3 cloves garlic, minced
4 T. thick, sweet balsamic vinegar
1 T. honey
Ground cinnamon, to taste (optional)
Ground nutmeg, to taste (optional)
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Cut the mushrooms lengthwise into similar-sized pieces so they cook evenly. Note: the stems are edible.

In a small bowl, combine the olive oil, melted butter, garlic, balsamic vinegar, honey, cinnamon and nutmeg, if using. Warm the marinade slightly, if desired, then toss with the mushrooms to coat evenly.

Place the mushrooms in a foil grill pan and grill until tender and lightly crisp, turning occasionally. Season with salt and freshly ground black pepper before serving.

Spinach Salad with Roasted Royal Trumpet Mushrooms and Warm Cranberry Vinaigrette



One of the seasonal recipes featured in the cooking classes at The Woodlands at Phillips, this hearty entree salad tastes like autumn at the farmers market. Roasted royal trumpet mushrooms, butternut squash, creamy goat cheese and a warm cranberry vinaigrette come together in a colorful, nutrient-dense meal.

Serves 6 as a side salad or 2 as an entree

For the salad:

1 lb. royal trumpet mushrooms, cleaned and sliced
3 T. avocado or canola oil, divided
1 tsp. minced garlic
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
2 C. butternut squash, in 1-inch cubes
1 container baby spinach, washed and dried
2 oz. fresh goat cheese, crumbled

For the vinaigrette:

1 T. canola oil
1 shallot, minced
1 clove garlic, minced
½ C. fresh cranberries
2 T. brown sugar
¼ C. red wine vinegar
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Preheat the oven to 450°. Place a large cast-iron skillet or enameled cast-iron skillet in the oven while it preheats.

Toss mushrooms in a bowl with half the oil, garlic, salt and pepper. Add to hot pan and roast for 10 to 15 minutes. Remove from oven and allow to cool.

Toss the butternut squash with remaining oil, garlic, salt and pepper. Place in a roasting pan and roast until tender.

While the squash is just finished roasting, prepare the warm salad dressing. Heat canola oil and sauté shallot and garlic in pan over medium heat until soft (do not allow to brown). Add cranberries and cook until they pop. Add brown sugar and vinegar and cook 1 minute more, stirring to make sure sugar crystals dissolve. Season with salt and pepper and gently whisk in olive oil.

To assemble salads: Arrange spinach on plates or platter, then arrange mushrooms, squash and goat cheese on top. Drizzle with warm dressing, divide cranberries evenly between servings, and serve immediately.

**The Woodlands at Phillips
Mushroom Casserole**

Gertrude Phillips' original recipe, dating back to the 1930s, was updated by the family in the 1970s. Their natural fiber, hearty texture and deep umami flavor give mushrooms a distinctly meaty character. As they bake, their savory juices are absorbed by the herb stuffing, creating a rich, satisfying side dish that's also very filling. Elegant enough for entertaining, easy enough for every day, and reheats beautifully.

Serves 8-10 as a side dish



3 lb. fresh mushrooms, cleaned and sliced
¾ lb. sharp cheddar cheese, grated
16 oz. Pepperidge Farm Herb Stuffing, dry (note: measure by weight, not standard package size)
½ stick butter, cubed
1¼ C. milk

Preheat oven to 350°. Cook the mushrooms in boiling water briefly and drain, reserving mushroom broth for other uses.

In a greased casserole dish, layer half the mushrooms, then half the cheese, and then half the dry stuffing mix. Repeat to get two layers of each ingredient.

Dot the butter over the top layer of stuffing, then pour the milk evenly over the casserole (be sure it's not too moist). Bake uncovered for 30 minutes.

Pasta con Funghi e Panna

Documented by Pliny the Elder, the historic pioppini mushroom (aka poplar fieldcap) has been cultivated since ancient Roman times. This traditional Northern Italian butter emulsion lets the pioppini's delicate woodland flavor shine, while campanelle pasta (bell-like flower shaped) captures every drop of the silky sauce.

Serves 6

6 T. unsalted butter, divided
3 cloves garlic, smashed
1½ lb. pioppini mushrooms, trimmed (or button, crimini or porcini)
3 oz. dry white wine
1½ lb. campanelle pasta (or fresh wide egg pasta like tagliatelle)
½ C. heavy cream

1 C. Grana Padano, finely grated (a hard, grainy Italian cheese with a nutty, savory, slightly sweet flavor)
Pinch of nutmeg
Flat-leaf parsley, chopped
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Meanwhile, melt 3 T. butter over medium-low heat. Add the garlic and warm for 2 minutes without browning to infuse the garlic flavor into the butter.

Add the mushrooms and cook for 3 minutes, until tender. Discard the garlic. Pour in the wine, scraping up any browned bits, and simmer for 2 minutes, until reduced by half. Lower the heat.

Cook the pasta until 1 minute shy of al dente, reserving 1½ C. pasta water before draining.

Add the pasta to the mushrooms with the heavy cream and half the reserved pasta water. Stir vigorously over low heat for 1 minute until a glossy emulsion forms. Remove from the heat and stir in the remaining 3 T. butter, the Grana Padano, nutmeg and parsley.

Season with salt and pepper, adding additional reserved pasta water if needed to achieve a silky sauce. Serve immediately. ♦

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.



Mastering Mushroom Care

Tina Ellor, the resident mycologist at Phillips Mushroom Farms, is both a scientist *and* a foodie. During our interview, she generously shared not only several of her favorite recipes, but also the absolute best pro tips and cooks' tricks on maximizing 'shroomy goodness. Read on!

The moment you bring your fresh selection home, immediately transfer them out of any plastic packaging and store them in a paper bag inside your refrigerator. Don't worry if they dry out slightly during storage. A little dehydration is actually preferable to the alternative of trapped moisture that causes fungi to quickly become slimy and unusable. Remember, dehydrated mushrooms are a pantry staple!

When you're ready to prep them for your meal, focus strictly on moisture control. If the mushrooms have lost too much water and look withered, a quick rinse under cold water can freshen them up right before cooking. But stop short of soaking mushrooms in a bowl of water, as their porous texture will rapidly absorb the excess liquid and ruin their texture.

The final step is moving them to the stove, as you should always aim to cook mushrooms rather than serving them raw. One technique Ellor shared was to first sauté the mushrooms in a little water that should completely evaporate. Then add the cooking oil to finish out your recipe.

Ellor said, "Cooking breaks down their cell walls, allowing your body to absorb more of their rich nutrients." Heat breaks down their tough chitin cell walls, making mushrooms significantly easier to digest and preventing the gassy stomach some people might get from raw pieces.

Having tested the technique for this column, I can attest the mushrooms are more flavorful, plumper and absorb less oil. More delicious and more nutritious? I'll take that!



Index to Advertisers

Look for *County Lines* at Main Point Books, at Events and Affiliates.
Check our website's Get A Copy page.

County Lines is available at the following
advertisers. See our Advertiser Directory on
CountyLinesMagazine.com.

Adorn Goods.....68	Fine Wine & Good Spirits.....68	People's Light28
Appetites on Main.....68	Freedom Village at Brandywine63	Period Architecture59
Archer & Buchanan56	Harrison House	Precise Buildings.....24
Arrowwood Landscape Design.....63	Chester County.....49	Prime Healthcare PA.....66
Ball & Ball.....74	The Iron Bird.....66	Riddle Village56
Berkshire Hathaway Fox Roach /	Jane E. Dorchester,	Rittenhouse Builders.....10
Holly Gross Group.....4-5	Architectural Historian.....66	Roxborough School of Nursing66
Berkshire Hathaway Fox Roach /	Key Financial.....3	Schwenkfelder Library &
M. Schwartz66	Keystone Gun-Krete	Heritage Center20
Brandywine Zoo20	Concrete Lifting36	Sheller Energy /
Chester County Day	King Construction.....14	D.E. Duffey & Sons26
House Tour49	Latta Kennedy Builders.....60	Shreiner Tree Careback cover
Chester County Library System.....17	Martin's Flooring.....25	Tatnall School14
Closets by Design75	McComsey Builders.....59	Washington Int'l Horse Show12
Devon Fall Classic.....23	Michael Cook Jeweler18	White Horse Construction.....22
DiSabatino Landscaping2	Monument / Sotheby's Int'l Realty	Windle Design & Construction6
E.C. Trethewey	K. Nader7	
Building Contractors.....60	Mostardi Nursery25	
Experience Prince George's12	National Bank of Malvern28	

*This Index is provided as an additional
service to our advertisers. County Lines
takes no responsibility for errors.*

Imagine your home, totally organized!

**Custom Closets, Garage Cabinets, Home Office, Pantries, Laundries,
Wall Beds, Wall Units, Hobby Rooms, Garage Flooring and More...**

**ASK ABOUT
OUR EXCITING
INTEREST FREE
PAYMENT OPTIONS**



40% OFF
PLUS
FREE INSTALLATION

PLUS TAKE
AN EXTRA **15% Off**

40% off any order of \$1000 or more. Not
valid with any other offer. Free installation
with any complete unit order of \$900 or
more. With incoming order, at time of
purchase only.

Call for a free in home design consultation and estimate

610-644-4143 CLM

www.closetsbydesign.com Follow us:  

**Closets
byDesign**

Locally Owned and Operated. Licensed and Insured #PA002447 & DE 16 6009 170.
2026© All Rights Reserved. Closets by Design, Inc.



Since 1932, **Ball and Ball** has set the standard for the finest
reproduction and restoration of 18th Century through
Victorian Era antique hardware and lighting. Meticulously
crafted period house and furniture hardware, fireplace
accessories, sconces, chandeliers, lanterns and candlesticks
are all made on the premises in brass, tin, copper, pewter,
hand-forged iron, and bronze.

BallAndBall.com Exton, PA 1.800.257.3711

