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Contents

VOLUME 26 ISSUE NO. 2 FEBRUARY 2021

DEPARTMENTS

6 FOREWORD

8 COMING UP + WEB EXTRAS

FRONTLINE

10 BOB HAS THE SCOOP ON JOE

Sen. Casey dissects the 2020 presidential election—and our region's role in it.
By Melissa Jacobs

14 SPY STORY

Haverford native Sarah Megan Thomas makes Ardrossan a hub for on-screen espionage.
By J.F. Pirro

23 JOURNEYS TO THE CORE

Haverford's Dr. Bill Meyers might've been a soccer star. Thousands of pro athletes are glad he chose med school.
By Michael Bradley

28 TELE-TALE HEART

Cardiologists eye the small-screen future of their field.
By Melissa Jacobs



FEATURES

36 DINING GUIDE

The region's restaurants have risen to COVID-19's many challenges, and the future looks bright for 2021. *PLUS:* BYOBs, breweries, wineries, distilleries and more. *By Melissa Jacobs*

48 TRANSITIONAL TO A 'T'

A tailored, trim and timeless interior in Villanova.
By Eileen Smith Dallabrida

54 MODIFIED FUN

Refusing to let the pandemic ruin their summer, local camps overhauled programming to ensure some semblance of normalcy. Can parents expect more of the same this year? *By Lisa Dukart*

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

34 BACK TO BASICS

After the pandemic forced them online, local bookstores are hoping to turn the page in 2021.
By Davis Giangulio

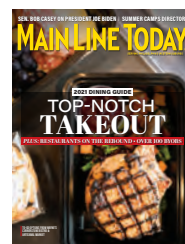
60 SALONS & SPAS DIRECTORY

62 EPICURE

With its carefully crafted cuisine, Rye BYOB stands out in a crowded field.
By Ed Williams
PLUS: Valentine's Day sweets. *By Melissa Jacobs*

72 LAST LOOK

Winter vibes.
By Ed Williams



THIS MONTH'S COVER

*Photo by
Tessa Marie
Images.*



TOP: TESSA MARIE IMAGES ABOVE: REBECCA MCALPIN



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The Hot Seat, Great Escape p.12 | Local Fashionista p.26 | Get the Look p.27

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Foreword



Eat, Survive, Thrive

Given the rough ride we've all had over the last year, Main Line Today's first dining guide of 2021 carries some added significance. Our local restaurants (and other small businesses) deserve more than just a pat on the back—they deserve our patronage, in any way, shape or form.

In recent months, I've enjoyed socially distanced meals at Tin Lizard Brewing Company in Bryn Mawr, Christopher's in Wayne, the Gables at Chadds Ford and Brick & Brew in Malvern. Earlier in the year, I took advantage of the warm weather with quite a few memorable alfresco experiences in downtown West Chester, and my family enjoyed a delicious (and affordable) Christmas Eve dinner at home courtesy of Limoncello. When I've been out and about, I haven't witnessed any nonchalance with COVID protocols. In my experience, everyone is following the rules, and the service has been stellar.

Understandably, many restaurateurs around the region and the state remain bitter and frustrated, railing against Gov. Tom Wolf's restrictions on social media and elsewhere. In other parts of the state, some even defied holiday season closure orders and remained open. Here, Fearless Restaurants (Autograph, White Dog Cafe, Rosalie), did the opposite, closing all operations until spring.

Through it all, the resiliency and creativity that has sustained so many of my favorite eateries has been remarkable. They've scrambled to figure out ways to stay viable through carryout and delivery, catering, heated outdoor spaces, even spinoff products and retail sales. These are the sort of overwhelming positives we're recognizing and celebrating in this issue.

Our local restaurants haven't let us down—and we should return the favor. Months from now, when you're finishing up another great meal at your favorite BYOB and the check comes, think about how you can show the staff your appreciation for hanging in there. When you're three-deep at the bar waiting on a table you thought would be available sooner, look at it as a sign that restaurants are officially back.

In the meantime, keep ordering takeout and buying those gift cards. There's a light at the end of the tunnel.

Hobart Rowland
Editor-in-Chief



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- ◆ Get the scoop on how restaurants and other local businesses are adjusting to the new normal.
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Bob Has the Scoop on Joe

Sen. Casey dissects the 2020 presidential election—and our region's role in it.

Like everyone else, Sen. Bob Casey knew his state would be pivotal in the 2020 presidential election. But there was also plenty about the race that surprised him. In the days before Joe Biden was sworn in as the 46th president of the United States, Casey reflected on Trump's hold on the state's red counties, Biden's victory and the productive working relationship he shares with his longtime colleague.

MLT: You endorsed Biden's presidential run, but you also know many of the other candidates who ran in the primaries.

BC: One of the considerations you weigh when there are multiple candidates running against an incumbent president is: Can the person win? If you don't win Pennsylvania, it's lights out. President Trump had a pathway to win without Pennsylvania. George Bush did it twice in 2000 and 2004, and George H.W. Bush did it in 1988. In 2020, Republicans had a pathway to win without Pennsylvania; the Democrats did not.

MLT: What convinced you that Biden could win Pennsylvania?

BC: I knew he had a strong base [here]. I also know that when people make a decision about who they're going to support for president, it's not just about going down a list of issues. It's also a gut decision. I thought people would be more disposed to support him than not. They know who Joe Biden is, what he stands for and the kind of president he'd be. I was proven right on that, but I didn't know it would be so close. It's frightening to think what would've happened if Joe Biden wasn't the nominee. Could the Democrats have won the election?



MLT: Why do you think the election was so close?

BC: That's not unusual in presidential races. Look at Gore, Kerry, Hillary Clinton, and Obama's second race. The Democrats won three out of four, but barely. When you average those four races, Pennsylvania is a three-point state. What surprised a lot of people—including me—is that Donald Trump didn't lose as much support in

red counties as they thought he would. I thought his numbers would be less robust because of his handling of the pandemic, because he didn't deliver on a lot of his promises about jobs, and everything else. But he had a high voter turnout and did as well—or beat—a lot of the percentages he had in the race against Hillary. In a lot of counties, he did a little better; and in a lot of counties, he did much better. That's why

COURTESY OF SEN. BOB CASEY

“

“What surprised a lot of people—including me—is that Donald Trump didn’t lose as much support in red counties as they thought he would. He had a high voter turnout and did as well—or beat—a lot of the percentages he had in the race against Hillary.”

those four counties in the Philadelphia suburbs—Chester, Delaware and Montgomery—plus Allegheny—made all the difference.

MLT: In national races, Philadelphia’s suburbs have been swing counties for decades. Why do you think that is?

BC: People vote differently in a presidential race than in other races. A lot of suburban Philadelphia voters can be more conservative on some issues—particularly on something like a tax bill. So many of those voters were waiting for Donald Trump to give them a sense that he’d grow into the job, or not be as extreme as he turned out to be. It seemed like he ran as a populist but governed from the right. Then there were a lot of disappointments in how he handled issues. There were a lot of reasons why those voters had less confidence in him.

MLT: The pandemic transformed voting in Pennsylvania. Are there any 2020 practices that you believe should be permanent?

BC: I’d like to see a continuation of the mail-in voting effort. That requires more time, attention and legislative change on the state level. As of now, the numbers show that 38 percent of [Pennsylvania] votes were mail-in. I think that will grow. We have to make sure we have infrastructure and funding to support that at the county level. The idea that you have only one day to vote from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. while juggling jobs and kids? We don’t want to go back to that.

MLT: What would you like to see in the first 30 days of Biden’s term?

BC: We’ll still be dealing with two big issues. One is the pandemic—it won’t be gone in February or March. I hope we’ll be racking up big numbers of people who’ve been given the vaccine, but I don’t know that yet. The second is the economic jobs crisis. I also hope Joe Biden will introduce and be working on climate change, and that he’ll push the Senate to work on the Justice in Policing Act. Also, I have an ambitious proposal called the Five Freedoms for America’s Children: freedom to be healthy, freedom to be economically secure, freedom to learn, freedom from hunger and freedom to be safe from harm. I borrowed and gave recognition to President Roosevelt’s four freedoms and added one.

MLT: You’ve known Biden for decades. Will you share a few stories that speak to his character?

BC: I have a recollection of him calling me the day after I lost the race for governor. I had two calls that day—a reporter and Joe Biden. When you lose, your phone lines don’t get flooded with calls. But he called and made all kinds of predictions about how I’d have a chance to come back and be successful in politics. I wasn’t sure if he had a real prediction or was just being nice.

In 2004, Harry Reid and Chuck Schumer asked me to run for the Senate. I said I had to think about it. I never met them; we just spoke over the phone. I went to Washington, D.C., and talked to Joe Biden about

continued on page 13

< Messages Sweet ❤️ Heart Details

Today 1:26 PM

Hey, Babe?

Hi Sweetheart
What’s up?

I love you ❤️

Awwww 🥰

But ...

I do not love
your allergies. 🚫

You snort, sniffle, 🤧
and clear your throat
all day 🙄 You cough and
snore all night 🚶 You
look ten years older and
are always tired. Your
misery is my misery! 😞

Wow! What do you
suggest I do?

Pleeeeeeease see an
allergist. Go! 🙏 They can
find out what’s causing
it and how to treat it.

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The Hot Seat | by Melissa Jacobs

JESSICA KARTALIJA NEWS ANCHOR, CBS-3



Since becoming CBS-3 anchor in October 2018, Jessica Kartalija has been spotlighting Main Line area businesses and nonprofits in her broadcasts. A veteran journalist with a master's degree in communications from Johns Hopkins University and 12 years of prior experience at Baltimore's CBS affiliate, Kartalija concedes that 2020 was a year unlike any other in her career.

MLT: What's it been like reporting on the pandemic while living through it?

JK: For months, we didn't have the in-person camaraderie with our colleagues that helps us cope with tough news days—and lately, all days are tough news days. We can't just turn off the news and take a break. The silver lining is that people realize local news has a place. Now, it's more important than ever.

MLT: Your "A Chat With" series started in 2019. How did you alter it for pandemic life?

JK: In the original series, I interviewed notable Philadelphians at locations of their choosing. During the pandemic, I started interviewing local business

owners and others who needed a spotlight on Facebook Live and Instagram Live—usually broadcast from home and often with my husband and son in the background making noise. Now, we're doing them through CBS-3 and via Zoom, so we prerecord them.

MLT: What are the three most memorable interviews of your career?

JK: Oprah is number one. Early in her career, she worked at the CBS Baltimore station, so she was generous with me. She gave me a huge hug and did the interview with her arm around me. President Biden was interesting for many reasons. I interviewed him during the campaign and the pandemic, so there were a lot

of COVID protections. One unforgettable story was of a 7-year-old heart transplant recipient. I was in the operating room when the donated heart arrived and it was lifted out of its container. It was the most phenomenal thing I've witnessed—and tragic, because it meant the donor, another child, had died.

MLT: What are a few of your favorite spots on the Main Line?

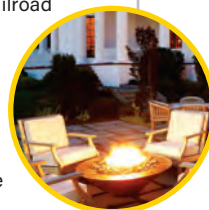
JK: We have great food in this area. My favorites include Cornerstone, Paola's Pizzeria, Tredici Italian Market, Nectar, Casey's Pour House, Azie on Main, Aux Petit Delices and Gryphon Café. I love exploring Velvet Shoestring. And my family loves Radnor Trail and the Willows.

Great Escape



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—Marilyn Odesser-Torpey

Casey *continued from page 11*

“

“The idea that you have only one day to vote from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. while juggling jobs and kids? We don't want to go back to that.”



Casey with Biden.

it. He knew I was being recruited to run, but he was also giving guidance because he knew me. He also knew the state of Pennsylvania and how to put together a campaign. He gave me good advice. He helped me when I was running. He made appearances for me.

A lot of people don't realize that Joe Biden's connection to Scranton didn't end when he left there. As a child, he came back to Pennsylvania in the summers to see his relatives. As a public official, he came back a lot. For many years, we didn't have a Democratic senator, so Democratic groups all over the state would invite him to speak. He was a smart politician who knew he had to raise money. Delaware is a small state—sometimes he had to leave to raise money.

MLT: You're calling him Joe Biden.

BC: Yes, you're right. It should be President-elect Biden. Then President Biden. I'll have to get used to that. I can do that.

Editorial note: Sen. Pat Toomey's office did not respond to requests for an interview.

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Spy Story

Haverford native Sarah Megan Thomas makes the Ardrossan estate a hub for on-screen espionage.

When *A Call to Spy* was released in the United Kingdom, a positive review in *The Guardian* praised the film's "meticulous depiction of female wartime agents ... and the considerable effort that has clearly gone into re-creating period interiors and ephemera."

Locals know better. "Funny how they believe the interiors were re-created," says Joanie Mackie, a family liaison for Villanova's Ardrossan estate.

For the first time ever, the iconic home of the family that inspired 1940's *The Philadelphia Story* became an actual

movie set. "We used every single room on the first floor," says Main Line native Sarah Megan Thomas of the 10-day shoot in Spring 2018. "Every room was France, London and Scotland."

Thomas produced *A Call to Spy* and wrote its screenplay. She also plays a lead role in the low-budget fact-based historical drama, which took four years to complete. Directed by Lydia Dean Pilcher, the film has received generally favorable reviews and is now available on various streaming services. It's based on one of the more remarkable true stories to come out of in the early stages of World War II. With Britain and the

Allies becoming increasingly desperate, Winston Churchill spearheaded the Secret Operations Executive to recruit and train women as spies. Their mission: to conduct sabotage and build a resistance.

Spymistress Vera Atkins (played by Stana Katic) recruits Muslim pacifist Noor Inayat Khan (Radhika Apte) and Virginia Hall (Thomas' character). An ambitious American with a wooden leg, Hall became the first woman to work for the CIA after the war. Along with 36 other women, all three helped undermine the Nazi regime in France.

Thomas was drawn to the women for their strength of conviction in the face

of discrimination, whether it was Hall's disability, Khan's Indian heritage or Atkins' feared deportation as a Romanian Jew. "These women united to defend human dignity," says Thomas. "I wanted to explore how individuals from different nationalities and backgrounds came together to resist evil—a theme that's become even more relevant."

A Call to Spy was shot internationally, but Thomas also scoured Philadelphia in search of appropriate settings (and to keep costs down). While she was searching, her mother, Regina Thomas, saw a copy of David Nelson Wren's *Ardrossan: The Last Great Estate on the Philadelphia Main Line* at a Chanticleer Garden board meeting. It also helped that Mom knew Mackie. "With all the cameras, the cables and everything, only one thing was broken [at Ardrossan]—the top of a globe light. The next day, it was replaced," Mackie says. "Everyone took such amazing care and was so respectful."

This year, if possible, there's talk of Ardrossan hosting a party and movie showing. "It'd be fun," Mackie says.

But there are no plans for Ardrossan to become a regular movie set. "I don't think

it's something we'd do often, but we felt safe doing it with Sarah," says Mackie, who appears in the film as an extra in a London party scene. "And it was good for the house."

The screenplay for *A Call to Spy* draws on government files and interviews with living relatives. Speaking with Hall's survivors helped Thomas grasp the character's stoic tenacity. Her favorite Hall quote: "My neck is my own. If I am willing to get a crick in it, I think that's my prerogative."

A Call to Spy made its world premiere at the Edinburgh International Film Festival on the 75th commemoration of D-Day. For its Canadian debut at the Whistler Film Festival, it won the Audience Choice Award and earned the EDA Award from the Alliance of Women Film Journalists. Here in the United States, it snagged the Anti-Defamation League's Stand Up Award at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival.

Thomas' SMT Pictures is focused on bringing to light untold stories about complex women. Her female-driven Wall Street thriller, *Equity*, premiered in 2016 at the Sundance Film Festival. It was purchased by Sony Pictures Classics, and the *New York Times* made it a critic's

“

I wanted to explore how individuals from different nationalities and backgrounds came together to resist evil, a theme that's become even more relevant.”

pick upon its theatrical release. Four years earlier, Thomas had starred opposite James Van Der Beek (*Dawson's Creek* fame) in the rowing-inspired romance *Backwards*.

A drama major and graduate of Williams College in Massachusetts, Thomas is a product of Gladwyne Elementary and the Shipley School. Her *continued on page 31*



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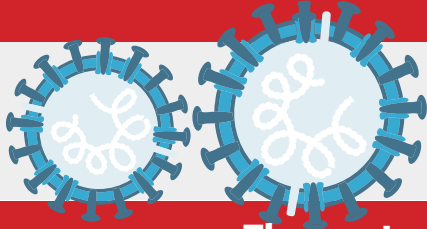
MAIN LINE TODAY

Making an impact against COVID-19

Why we're committed to fighting coronavirus



American
Heart
Association.



75% of people hospitalized with COVID-19 had a high-risk condition

Those at greatest risk of serious complications or death are:



People with **coronary heart disease** or **high blood pressure**



Stroke survivors may have a higher risk of complications



People with **diabetes**

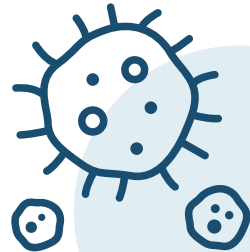
People with **severe obesity** (BMI of 40 or higher).



and People **age 65+**



People with serious **chronic lung, liver or kidney conditions**



People with **compromised immune systems**

The long-term effects of COVID-19



More people with heart disease, diabetes or high blood pressure are at risk

- Fear of going out to get treatment/calling 911
- Limited access to healthy food options, prescriptions and supplies



Increases in unhealthy stay-at-home habits

- High stress
- Eating more unhealthy meals
- Not being physically active
- Could lead to future cases of obesity, high blood pressure and diabetes



Increases the burden for those with the greatest need

- Limited income due to layoffs or furloughs
- Lack of savings
- Restricted access to public transportation
- Lack of free school meals

Self care is more important than ever! Staying home does not mean staying inactive, and keeping yourself physically and mentally fit will help keep your heart healthy.

WILLPOWER UP!

It turns out that willpower may be a finite resource, so it's no wonder you're more likely to bend to temptation later in the day.

Try a few of these tips to build up your willpower so you can keep positive habits going strong.

Arrange your environment.

- **Clean:** Get rid of your temptations, so you don't have to resist them.
- **Commit:** Make plans with a friend who can hold you accountable.
- **Optimize:** Time tasks so they align with your willpower – like grocery shopping when you're already full.

Boost your willpower in the moment.

- **Postpone:** Say "not now, maybe later" to get the devil off your shoulder when you're tempted.
- **Distract:** Give your impulse a chill pill by focusing on something else for a few minutes.
- **Hide:** Remove the temptation from plain sight or remove yourself from the situation.

Strengthen your ongoing willpower.

- **Meditate:** A 10-minute mindful meditation sesh every morning can help improve impulse control over time.
- **Sleep:** Think of rest as a shield from temptations – the more you sleep, the stronger it gets.
- **Stop Swearing:** Changing a speech pattern, like avoiding expletives, can help you learn to extend your willpower.

Excuse your setbacks.

- **Forgive Yourself:** You're human, after all! Give yourself a break when you deviate from the path, and you'll be more likely to get back on it.

Get more wellness tips at
heart.org/HealthyForGood

DS15662 2/20

GET INTO WORKING OUT

Make it easy on yourself to Move More with these tips and tricks.

1. Make It Yours

Lean into your own personality to get into the groove. Your favorite music, your ideal time of day and activities you actually enjoy are more likely to keep you motivated.

2. Stay Supported

Make sure you have the right gear for each activity for added comfort and support. That may mean a moisture-wicking shirt, sports bra, or shoe inserts.

3. Break It Up

It's OK to break up your total physical activity goal into shorter sessions. Aim for at least 150 minutes per week. 10-minute bursts a few times a day can get you there without feeling overwhelmed.

4. Build It In

Create space in the natural flow of your life to add activity so it doesn't feel like a chore. Sneak it into quality time with family and activities you're already doing.

5. Give It Time

It can take a while for a behavior to become a habit. Try to be active around the same time each day – even if you don't go all out every time – to help the routine stick.

6. Keep It Going

If you miss a day or a workout, don't worry about it. Skip the guilt and focus on what you will do tomorrow!

For more ideas on staying active, visit heart.org/HealthyForGood



Cardiac Arrest Survivor

Amy Cavaliere

In January of 2017, I was 35 years old and healthy. I worked out regularly at boxing and spin classes, and was running after three kids under the age of nine. There was no history of heart disease or heart issues in my family, and no warning signs of the heart event I was about to experience.

On January 31, 2017, I was feeling a little nauseous. At the time, my husband traveled about once a week for work, but had flown home that night for an Open House at our kids' school the next morning, so I was able to head to bed early while he took care of them.

I woke up early the next morning, and as I was starting to help the kids get ready for the day, I realized that both my arms hurt. I figured I might have strained it by lifting something heavy. But while I was brushing my daughter's hair, I started to feel a huge, crushing weight in my chest. My arms suddenly hurt too much to move, and I started experiencing shortness of breath.

I called my husband over to help – I was convinced I was having a panic attack, although I had never experienced one before, and he sat me down in the hallway with a paper bag to help slow my breathing. He wanted to call 9-1-1, but I had caught

my breath enough to tell him not to worry – calling an ambulance would have been overkill.

Lucky for me, he didn't listen.

Shortly after I was loaded into the ambulance, I went into cardiac arrest and lost consciousness.

Stuck in mid-morning traffic, the paramedics gave me a shot of epinephrine to revive me which worked temporarily, but within a minute I was back in cardiac arrest. The paramedic started to perform CPR until we arrived at the hospital. The ER staff continued CPR on me for over 40 minutes in total. Their persistence in performing CPR is what kept me alive.

Once my heart was stabilized, doctors discovered I had a 100% occluded coronary artery, and attempting to clear the blockage could puncture my artery and kill me. It took them hours to get me stable enough for the LifeFlight to another hospital for specialized cardiac and neurologic care, because on top of the heart attack, I had begun seizing.

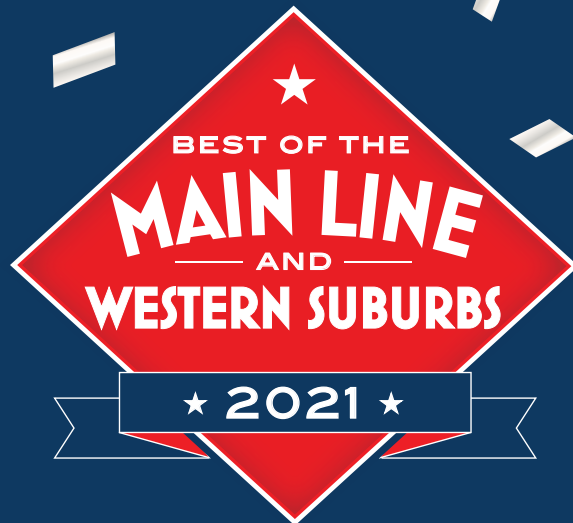
I was placed in a medically-induced coma and lived on life support for 8 days. Over that time, one of my lungs collapsed, I contracted double pneumonia, and there was concern

that my brain was swelling. Because of the pneumonia, my lungs had filled with fluid, and due to the traumatic intubation to help my breathing, I had developed severe tracheal stenosis. An emergency bronchoscopy had to be performed to help clear my airway.

When I was finally extubated and brought off all the sedation and paralytics, I was told I had survived a SCAD event, or a Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection, a condition where a tear forms in a blood vessel in the heart and blocks blood flow. SCADs often result in sudden death, and cannot be prevented no matter how healthy you are. If my husband hadn't been home that morning, or had left me at home to take the kids to school as I'd asked, I would not be here today.

Thanks to him and my amazing medical attendants, I'm alive to share my story.

The face of cardiac arrest isn't just someone old or physically out of shape. It's me, and plenty of other young people and mothers who do everything right to maintain their health. It shouldn't have happened to me, but it did. And I'm committed to helping others get through it, just as I have done.



VOTE

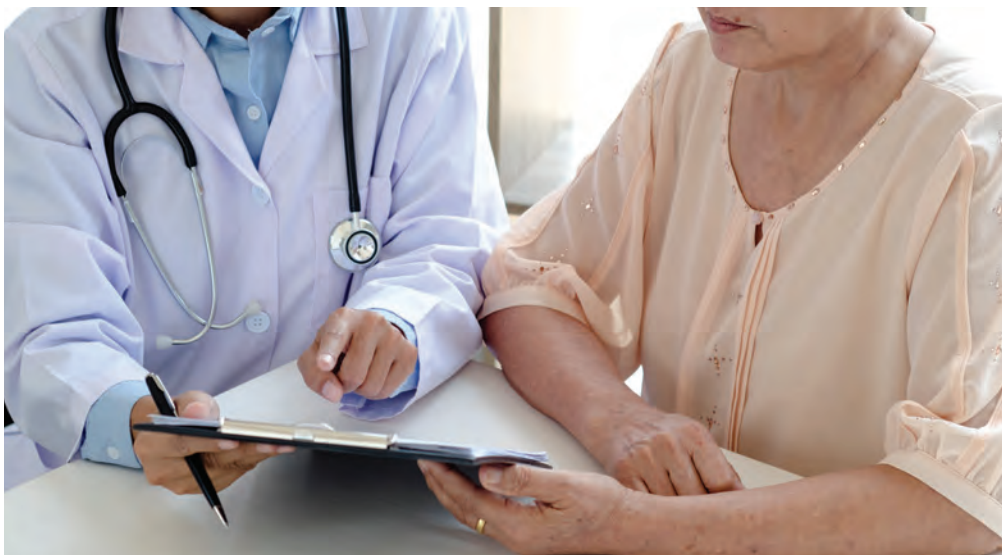
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Journeys to the Core

Haverford's Dr. Bill Meyers might've been a soccer star. Thousands of pro athletes are glad he chose med school.

When Dr. Bill Meyers discusses how he became the world's foremost authority on core muscle repair, he speaks of "eureka" moments and seeing things with "new eyes." But everything he discovered might well have stayed a mystery had an administrator not made him choose between soccer and medicine.

After playing goalie at Harvard University during his time at the school, Meyers wanted to see if he could make it in the sport professionally. So he headed to South America. After signing a \$100,000 contract with the Rio-based Flamengo club, he received an ultimatum from Columbia University's medical school, where he'd deferred his acceptance: Enroll now or lose your spot forever. "I would've been the starter," says the Haverford resident about his budding soccer career.

At school, Meyers was also the Harvard correspondent for the *Boston Globe* and (a small) part of a legendary sports staff that included journalistic titans Will McDonough, Peter Gammons, Bud

Collins and Bob Ryan. "I wanted to go into journalism," he says.

But Meyers was also a practical man. He headed to Morningside Heights, kicking off a trajectory that would make him an essential part of the sporting landscape. Meyers has developed treatments that have demystified injuries to muscles deep within the human core—those previously diagnosed as groin pulls or described incorrectly as sports hernias. In the process, he's helped thousands of top-flight athletes around the world. "Bill is a pioneer," says Dr. Struan Coleman, a close colleague and renowned hip surgeon who also works at New York's Hospital for Special Surgery. "He's that rare combination of a great surgeon and an entrepreneur."

Meyers has literally written the book on core muscle care. (Full disclosure: I was a guest writer on the project.) He's worked with team physicians and trainers to diagnose and treat athletes at the highest levels, along with regular folks seeking relief from pain due to damage in the body's core area running from chest to mid-thigh. Based in the Philadelphia

Navy Yard just around the corner from Philly's pro sports complexes, his Vincera Institute is a full-service facility that allows him, his staff and a network of experts in other parts of the country to examine, test and operate on patients. There are rehab facilities and even a yoga studio. It's all designed to promote core health and maximum performance, whether it means playing for an NFL team or simply picking up a bag of groceries without wincing in pain.

Meyers had originally decided to go into pediatric medicine. "[But] I was just looking at throats and ears all day," he says.

On the last day he had to make a decision about his specialty, he chose surgery over internal medicine. After his 1977 graduation from Columbia, he headed to Duke University Hospital for an internship and residency, spending the next 21 years in Durham, N.C., building a top liver surgery practice.

Meyers also developed relationships with the medical staff in Duke's athletic department. By the early 1990s, he was seeing college athletes

continued on page 25



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Journeys *continued from page 23*

whose core muscle issues had defied traditional orthopedic treatments. While working on a cadaver at Duke, Meyers experienced a revelatory moment that helped cement the relationship between core tears and pain in other parts of the body. He began moving away from surgery on the liver and other internal organs and shifting his focus to athletes. New treatment protocols followed. "It began as a hobby and just grew," he says.

In 2001, Meyers landed at Drexel University College of Medicine, where his nationwide reputation for repairing core muscle injuries took off as he fought (often unsuccessfully) to remove the "sports hernia" misnomer from the vernacular. One of his most celebrated cases was Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb. "He put core muscle surgery on the public map," says Meyers, who operated on McNabb in 2005.

In 2010, Meyers left Drexel and launched Vincera (Latin for "will conquer") in the old Commander's House at the Navy Yard. Three years later, the practice moved into its current state-of-the-art home. With Coleman, Meyers has developed a one-anesthesia surgical procedure that repairs both the core and hip of an injured person, assuring complete healing. "Ninety percent of the professional and collegiate athletes we operate on are back in the game within five-and-a-half months," Coleman says.

Meyers and the Vincera team have treated top athletes from every major sport, though Meyers is bound by HIPAA regulations and can't get specific. Joe DeCamara is one patient who's happy to talk about his experience under Meyers' care. The 94WIP sports radio midday host suffered a core muscle injury playing baseball and was treated and underwent rehab at Vincera. "He's such an expert and was so willing to spend time with me to gauge my injuries," DeCamara says.

The skeptics are still out there. They don't understand that muscle tears are debilitating and need repair rather than rest. And it's not just coaches who are calling athletes with these injuries "soft" when they can't perform well while suffering from them. There are also doctors who are unwilling to change their previous perspectives on such injuries. "The athletic trainers and most team docs understand a lot of it now—they're getting much more educated," Meyers says. "Still, most docs don't know what we're talking about."

Count on Meyers to keep at it until they do. **MLT**

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Local Fashionista ... MARCIA WILLIAMS

Owner, Embellish Beauty Concepts, Conshohocken

Following a pandemic-induced layoff as a QVC hair and makeup artist, Marcia Williams has devoted herself full time to her Embellish Beauty Concepts line. Its gluten- and cruelty-free lip glosses and faux lashes are made for people of all colors. Currently, Williams is in talks with national retailers to bring Embellish to stores around the country.

WHY GLUTEN-FREE? When I started, I formulated everything myself, making them without harsh dyes or chemicals. Then I was diagnosed with gluten sensitivity.

INITIAL INSPIRATION: My grandmother. Even if she didn't have a full face of makeup, she always had on lipstick.

FIRST CAREER: I worked at Astra Zeneca as a project coordinator

for a cardiovascular drug with a multimillion-dollar budget. But I really wanted to be in the beauty world. I gave two weeks notice and never looked back.

THE STORY BEHIND THE COMPANY NAME: In the wee hours of the morning, I was thinking about a name, and Embellish popped into my head. I thought, "That's cute. Let's go with that."

ON BEING A BLACK BUSINESSWOMAN: Diversity isn't just a business slogan—it's part of me. Two of my grandparents were full-blooded Native American. Another grandparent was Black, and the other was Italian.

LOCAL SHOPS SHE LOVES: Anthropologie, Revivals, La Chic Boutique, Skirt.

THE OUTFIT

1. Adrienne Landau rabbit fur vest (\$1,200) with matching hat (\$350).

2. John Hardy Classic Chain Collection silver bracelet (\$1,200).

3. Marc Jacobs crocodile leather purse (\$500).

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Get the Look



Cozy, cute and perfect for Valentine's Day or self-care Sunday, loungewear is a must for winter.

1. Michael Lauren Splash Sweats. Speckled and stylish, this sweat set is retro '80s and perfect for '21. Sweatshirt \$148. Sweatpants \$112. *Bedazzled Boutique, 218 S. Newtown Street Road, Newtown Square, (610) 359-1707, bedazzledboutique.com.* **2. Eva Varro International Joggers.** Lounge in leopard with these super-soft pants. \$118. *Polka Dots, 29 Leopard Road, Paoli, (610) 640-2714, shopatpolkadots.com.* **3. Olivia Von Halle robe.** It's a jungle out there, so why not stay inside wrapped in this zebra-print robe. \$550. *Lady M Boutique, Glen Eagle Square, 523 Wilmington West Chester Pike, Glen Mills, (610) 361-1200, theladymillionairesboutique.com.* **4. IBKareFUL by IBKUL top.** Hot pink and a hot trend; the cowl neck the converts to a face mask thanks to ear loops. \$88. *Polka Dots, 29 Leopard Road, Paoli, (610) 640-2714, shopatpolkadots.com.* **5. PJ Salvage T-shirt and shorts.** Love and lipstick kisses are perfect for Valentine's Day. Shirt and shorts \$48 each. *Hope Chest, 379 Lancaster Ave., Haverford, (610) 642-4222, hopchestshop.com.*

Bryn Mawr-based cardiologist
Dr. Tarun Mathur is sold
on telemedicine.



Tele-Tale Heart

Local cardiologists eye the small-screen future of their field.

A year ago, Dr. Tarun Mathur knew next to nothing about telemedicine. To one of the region's top-rated cardiologists, the subject was peripheral at best. "I didn't need it," Mathur admits. "Telehealth was completely foreign to the

docs in my practice."

Mathur's practice, Bryn Mawr Medical Specialists Association, is a multidisciplinary health network and one of the largest on the Main Line. And its reluctant embrace of telemedicine wasn't unique to the region. Dr. Sharayne Mark

didn't consider telemedicine a necessary tool. "For all of the modern technology we use in our practice, we relied on the traditional in-person patient visit," says Mark, a cardiologist with Penn Medicine's Chester County Cardiology Associates in West Chester and Downingtown.

TESSA MARIE IMAGES

“

According to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, over 12.1 million Medicare beneficiaries took advantage of telemedicine services between mid March and mid August of last year.

When the pandemic began, doctors had little choice but to move to telemedicine for patient visits. “The day we were told we could start telemedicine, BMMSA looked into the technology and found a platform that was compatible with ours,” says Mathur. “The first few days, we were using IT support all the time. But we figured it out as we used the system.”

Mathur and other doctors now consider telemedicine indispensable. Though COVID mitigation restrictions have eased, Mark will continue to use telemedicine to monitor patients. “With video

appointments and sometimes even just a phone call, we can get a lot done and be of service to our patients,” she says.

Still, cardiologists emphasize that telemedicine is for routine care only. Those experiencing symptoms of heart attack or stroke should go to the nearest emergency room. “Patients are still hesitant to come to the ER,” Mathur says. “They’re having heart attacks at home.”

Many are afraid of COVID-19, but the truth is that hospital-related transmission rates are quite low. All medical personnel wear full PPE, and ERs are routinely

sanitized. “It’s a risk evaluation situation, and the risk of COVID is very low compared to the risk of permanent damage or death because of an acute cardiac situation,” Mathur says.

Preventing acute situations is one of the goals of telemedicine appointments. Physicians have patients take and report their blood pressure, pulse and other measures of cardiac health. For older patients in particular, it’s a great option. Typically, some would need an ambulance or other specialized medical transportation to get to a doctor’s office. “Now they use



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telemedicine and we can monitor them more often,” says Mathur.

The question is why so many physicians were late to the telemedicine game. “We were trained a certain way,” says Mark. “It didn’t exist when we were in medical school.”

Health insurance was another big obstacle. Until the pandemic, most insurance companies didn’t offer universal coverage for telemedicine appointments. The same was mostly true of Medicare, which only covered telemedicine visits in limited ways—like when care was difficult to access. That disqualified many patients in Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties, where care options are plentiful.

Other rules involving what platforms and portals patients used tangled telemedicine in red tape. Faced with the potential of footing the whole bill for a doctor’s appointment, many opted for in-person visits or decided to forgo care altogether.

Independence Blue Cross enhanced telemedicine coverage back in 2016. In March 2020, it added to the specialties covered. Medicare also expanded its telehealth coverage in May, then again

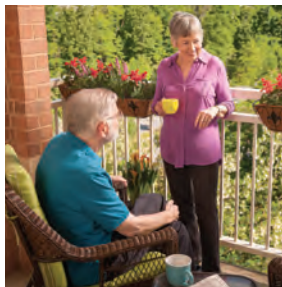
in October. Now, Medicare covers 144 telemedicine services, including cardiology, mental health and primary care.

When COVID hit, a surge of patients across the country took full advantage of expanded telemedicine options. Health Affairs noted an immediate surge in nationwide use of telemedicine this past spring. The national medical journal reported that, before the pandemic, about 13,000 Medicare beneficiaries were receiving telemedicine services in a typical week. That number skyrocketed to nearly 1.7 million beneficiaries in

the last week of April. According to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, over 12.1 million Medicare beneficiaries took advantage of telemedicine services between mid March and mid August of last year.

Right now, the Medicare and private insurance extensions are still considered temporary. Mathur, for one, believes it should be permanent. “I’m hoping that extended coverage doesn’t go away,” he says. “I think a good chunk of patients have benefited from being seen and heard through telemedicine.” **MLT**

“
Preventing acute situations is
one of the goals of telemedicine
appointments. For older patients in
particular, it’s a great option.”



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Spy Story continued from page 15



Sarah Megan Thomas as World War II spy Virginia Hall in two scenes shot at Ardrossan.

parents remain in Haverford, a place she calls “my Hamptons” when she commutes from New York City. Thomas and husband Jason Donehue have been searching for a home in Philadelphia—Society Hill, in particular. They want more space for Madison, who was born two months premature this past summer, and her 7-year-old brother, Christopher. Both use Dad’s last name. “My heart’s here, but my job isn’t,” says Thomas. “We’ll see where life takes us. Maybe I can become the female M. Night Shyamalan and live here.”

Growing up, Thomas had the benefit of supportive parents, both lawyers who taught her how to write. It’s also likely they thought she’d get over her arts kick. “They continued to indulge, but no one wishes this line of work on any child,” she says.

Thomas’s character in *A Call to Spy* was raised in a wealthy Baltimore family, losing her leg in hunting accident at age 27. Various “contraptions” were anchored to the actress’s left leg for the role. Prior to going on set, Thomas would strap on the latest version and listen to Churchill’s wartime speeches. “It’s how I hooked in,” she says. “I practiced her limp all the time. For months, I didn’t use my left leg and didn’t know how it had atrophied.”



While flying to England for filming, Thomas developed a pulmonary blood clot in the “prosthesis” leg and spent four months recovering in a London hospital. She was in a wheelchair for the film’s premiere. “Everyone was looking down at me,” she says. “Virginia Hall dealt with that kind of everyday discrimination in the 1940s, overcame it, and became what the Nazis called one of the most powerful

women of all time. Things happen for a reason, and it’s all given me even more respect for her.”

As for Ardrossan, Thomas knew nothing about it until her mother shared Wren’s book. “I said, ‘Mom, make it happen,’” she recalls. “If not for Ardrossan, we couldn’t have made the film. There was such generosity on such a large scale.”

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Back to Basics

After the pandemic forced them online, local bookstores are hoping to turn the page in 2021.

At the best independent bookstores, people convene for clubs, story times, author visits and other unique events. COVID-19 didn't just rob these community cornerstones of customers—it forced them to do the thing they've lobbied against for years: selling online. "Our store was always full of people and kids, and there were always events going on," says Heather Hebert, manager of the family-owned Children's Book World in Haverford. "We rarely sold a single book on our website."

This past February, there was no sense of urgency when Hebert became an affiliate of

Bookshop.org, which helps independents create websites. Then came the lockdowns in March, and the store was forced to "beef up" its online presence. Jason Hafer's Reads & Company in Phoenixville has been open barely a year, and he describes his Bookshop.org affiliation as a "godsend," enabling him to accept pre-orders and sell items like signed books. Over in Wayne, Main Point Books was used to handling just a few online orders a week. "Then we were getting 20 to 30 a day," says owner Cathy Fiebach.

In most cases, events have also moved online. "Our book group lost some people who weren't comfortable with technology,"

says Fiebach. "But we actually expanded because people were able to invite friends from other states."

Reads & Company has been holding virtual events every three or four weeks. "They've been great, honestly," Hafer says. "The author lineup that we've had is really terrific, and it's only going to get better in the spring. We really wanted to stay in front of people and provide that access to authors and great programming."

Though in-person sales are slowly getting back on track, many stores are still seeing elevated online sales as people continue to play it safe. Pickup and curbside service remain common, and some shops have

“

“People are at home,
and they're bored.
A good book doesn't
have commercials.”

—Carol Rauch,
Baldwin's Book Barn

added direct delivery. Reads & Company offers private shopping hours so customers can browse alone. Touchless checkout was also added.

Indeed, browsing is a key benefit at any bookstore. Hebert came up with something she calls “personalized window shopping.” People call ahead to schedule a time to come to a store window stuffed with books tailored to their interests. Children, for one, love it when they see their name on the window. “Their eyes get so big—it’s adorable,” Hebert says. “People reserved nights during Hanukkah for their kids. There have been birthday party windows, baby shower windows.”

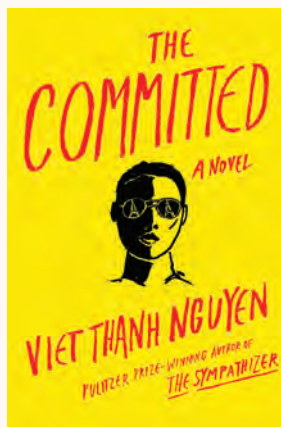
Not every store has made major adjustments. “We’re just too old-fashioned,” says Carol Rauch of Baldwin’s Book Barn in West Chester. “We’re two 80-year-old people who run this place. We’re not into the new technology.”

During the months of lockdown, Baldwin’s customers called and ordered books. Rauch would leave purchases outside the store for pickup. Right now, sales at Baldwin’s are right about where they were last year, despite business being “nothing for three or four months,” says Rauch. “People are at home, and they’re bored. A good book doesn’t have commercials.”

At Main Point Books, Fiebach has actually expanded her customer base. “People have been realizing that if they want to come out of the pandemic shopping and talking about books, they sort of need to support their store,” she says. “Most of them are saying, ‘I just have to make a conscious effort.’”

While Hafer’s early business plans for Reads & Company may have been derailed by the pandemic, he remains optimistic. “We’ve been able to move forward as a young business,” he says. “I think we’ll get to the other side of this.”

This Winter's Must-Have Reads



Chain of Iron, Book Two: The Last Hours

By Cassandra Clare

The latest in the YA Shadowhunter Chronicle follows Cordelia Carstairs through Edwardian London as she searches for a killer. (*Margaret K. McElderry Books, 688 pages*)

The Committed

By Viet Thanh Nguyen

A followup to *The Sympathizer*, winner of the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for fiction, this literary thriller follows the unnamed protagonist to Paris, where he plunges into addiction, drug dealing, left-wing politics and other dangerous forays. (*Grove Press, 400 pages*)

The Four Winds

By Kristin Hannah

Open land, vast dreams, hard work, strong women and the American spirit combine for a compelling tale set in Texas during the Great Depression. (*St. Martin's Press, 464 pages*)

How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need

By Bill Gates

Can technology reverse climate change? The billionaire philanthropist and founder of Microsoft poses that and other questions to international experts. (*Knopf, 272 pages*)

Rule of Wolves

By Leigh Bardugo

Dive into the Grishaverse with the latest



book in this YA fantasy series about war, royalty and spies. Soon to be a Netflix series. (*Imprint, 608 pages*)

Klara and the Sun

By Kazuo Ishiguro

Described as a “dazzling genre-bending work” by *Publishers Weekly*, the new novel from this Nobel laureate and Booker Prize winner is sure to be a bestseller. (*Knopf, 320 pages*)

The Survivors

By Jane Harper

A sunken wreck, a missing girl and lingering secrets make for a thrilling mystery from *New York Times* bestselling author Jane Harper. (*Flatiron Books, 384 pages*)

The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing and the Future of the Human Race

By Walter Isaacson

This timely biography delves into the life of the female scientist who created CRISPR, a revolutionary DNA editing tool that may be essential in the fight against novel viruses and other diseases. (*Simon & Schuster, 560 pages*)

Wife/Daughter/Self: A Memoir in Essays

By Beth Kephart

From celebrated Radnor-based author Beth Kephart comes this revealing collection of personal essays exploring life's roles. (*Forest Avenue Press, 254 pages*) —*Melissa Jacobs*

RESILIENCE ON THE MENU

The region's restaurants have risen to COVID-19's numerous challenges, changing menus, transforming the dining experience, redirecting resources and, if need be, reinventing themselves. **Here's why the future looks bright for the local dining scene.**

By Melissa Jacobs
Photos by Tessa Marie Images

**DIRECTORY
ON PAGE 39**

Family-style takeout options from Slow Hand include lemon-thyme chicken.



Slow Hand chef/owner Craig Russell (right) with general manager Will Provost.

On a normal Thursday afternoon, Josh McCullough would be deep into the hustle and bustle, preparing Slow Hand for happy hour and dinner service. Instead, he's shoveling snow and surveying the cold, near-empty streets of downtown West Chester. "We're surviving with takeout and limited dining capacity, but this is not a sustainable business model," says McCullough. "It doesn't make mathematical sense."

It's more of the same in Downingtown, where Jeanine Amann owns Amani's BYOB with her husband, Jonathan, the restaurant's executive chef. "We're playing by the rules," she says. "But it's unfair to our industry. The state isn't closing Home Depot or Walmart."

Still, suburban restaurateurs are grateful they aren't grappling with the increased restrictions placed on their Philadelphia counterparts. They're also deeply grateful for the support of loyal patrons. "Our diners and the local community have absolutely saved us—not just financially but emotionally," says Christine Kondra, who owns Wayne's Cornerstone Bistro & Artisanal Market with her husband, Nick. "Amid all of the challenges, their support is a blessing."

continued on page 39





The Blue Elephant's green
curry lobster linguine and duck
breast pappardelle.



Blue Elephant general managers Jordan Treichler (left) and Dan Smith flanked by executive chefs Juan and Felipe Calixto.

Resilience *continued from page 37*

Support or no, many restaurants have had to change their business models. Case in point: Soul of Cooking Kitchen, Keith Taylor's new Norristown dining experience. Opening this month, it features Taylor's cooking demos, which he'll broadcast over social media. His upscale soul food will be served in a socially distanced setting with a maximum of 16 guests in a state-of-the-art demonstration kitchen. That's a big change from the thousands of guests Taylor initially planned for as a private caterer and culinary consultant to sports arenas, hotels and other large venues. The pandemic erased all of that, so Taylor reinvented his company. "I wanted a COVID-safe way to connect with my customers," he says. "Even after there's a vaccine, it's going to take awhile for people to fill up restaurants."

The unpredictable nature of the pandemic and the fluidity of state restrictions continue to make indoor dining problematic at best. "We're continuing to serve, but changes—especially sudden changes—make things challenging," says Pearl Somboonsong, director of development for the Win Signature Restaurants group, which includes Azie in Villanova and Media, Teikoku in Newtown Square, Mikado

Thai Pepper in Ardmore, and the Blue Elephant in Pottstown.

Those restaurants were among the many that depended on outdoor dining through summer and fall. Winter has required more expensive and elaborate solutions. Almost from the start of the pandemic, Cornerstone's Kondra eliminated indoor dining altogether, adding a tented, heated area in the back of the property, along with firepits. "As I was purchasing the heaters on Amazon, they were selling out while they were in my cart," Kondra says.

The heaters were \$250 a pop, and Cornerstone's tented outdoor space set them back over \$50,000. "We don't normally have to make judgments that could be life-or-death decisions for our customers," Kondra says. "We had to do what we thought was best."

On the plus side, the new space nearly doubles Cornerstone's capacity to 76 seats—when the weather cooperates. Indeed, many local restaurateurs now double as amateur meteorologists, downloading weather apps and keeping their eyes glued to local forecasts. Even slight temperature variances can throw reservations into chaos. "People change their minds about sitting outside or inside after they made a reservation based on the weather when they arrive," says Francisco Ramirez, executive chef of Enoteca Tredici in Bryn Mawr. "We're happy to have them

RESTAURANTS

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| \$\$ | Most entrées \$15-\$25 |
| \$\$\$ | Most entrées more than \$25 |
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Chester County

AMERICAN

■ A&M FACTORY

This eco-conscious breakfast-and-lunch spot serves an imaginative organic, gluten-free and grain-free menu. Signature items include a hearty breakfast burrito, and a delicious smoothie bowl, plus creative wraps and salads for lunch. 360 Lancaster Ave., Malvern, (484) 318-7537, theamfactory.com. \$

BLACK POWDER TAVERN

Located near Valley Forge National Historical Park, this historic tavern, through various incarnations, has served as a meeting place for those looking to enjoy delicious comfort food and drink. 1164 Valley Forge Road, Wayne, (610) 293-9333, blackpowdertavern.com. \$

CEDAR HOLLOW INN

Chef Stephen Guiseppe of the Culinary Institute of America adds personal flair and imagination to a delectable menu of American Continental dishes. Daily chef's specials are creative, unpredictable and inspired. 2455 Yellow Springs Road, Malvern, (610) 296-9006, cedarhollowinn.com. \$\$

continued on page 41



Albert's chicken
Parmesan from
Enoteca Tredici.



Enoteca Tredici executive chef Francisco Ramirez (left) with general manager Steve Khuu.

as customers and do as they ask, but it's a real challenge with seating."

At the Berwyn Tavern, Casey's Pour House and Nectar in Berwyn, back decks have come in handy. Patrick Feury has also transformed part of Nectar's parking lot into a tented dining space bordered by painted palates. Indoors, Feury was able to maintain Nectar's gorgeous look despite the Plexiglas. "At first, I thought, 'Are we really doing this?' But we did," says the executive chef and owner. "It's amazing what we've gotten used to."

McCullough likens his seating chart to a puzzle with mismatched pieces. "It's a game of maximizing space," he says. "Any way the game ends, we're still at only 50 percent capacity."

And while takeout-only service may be an alternative, it's more complicated than it sounds. Ramirez now knows more about to-go containers than he ever thought possible. "The food can't get soggy, and

I still want it to look good when the customer opens the package," he says.

Ramirez worked with general manager Steve Khuu to make that happen. "The sauces alone were a whole project," he says.

While Tredici's to-go menu is identical to the one in the restaurant, other restaurants have scaled back. "I never imagined we'd do takeout," says Amman of Amani BYOB, a farm-to-table restaurant known for its upscale cuisine. "But people want comfort food, and they aren't spending as much money on restaurant meals. So we changed the menu."

New bestsellers include a charred octopus bowl with hoisin-chili glaze and a smoked brisket version with barbecue aioli, pickled peppers and roasted mushrooms. Brisket also appears on a flatbread, accompanied by roasted peppers, pickled onions, cheddar, mozzarella and smoked Gruyère. Another inventive flatbread combines shaved

Directory *continued from page 39*

DULING-KURTZ HOUSE

An 1830 farmhouse sets the mood for a candlelit dining experience. The menu features rack of lamb, Chateaubriand for two, and seafood. 146 S. Whitford Road, Exton, (610) 524-1830, dulingkurtz.com. \$\$\$

EPICUREAN GARAGE

Chef Lee Krasley reclaims his culinary territory in the western suburbs with local farm-grown comfort food like poutine, burgers, cayenne-honey-dipped fried chicken and waffles, and his famous meatloaf. 570 Simpson Drive, Chester Springs, (610) 615-5189, epicureangarage.com. \$

FOUR DOGS TAVERN

This old favorite keeps the crowds coming with its well-executed comfort food and lively outdoor patio. 1300 W. Strasburg Road, West Chester, (610) 692-4367, thefourdogstavern.com. \$\$

GENERAL WARREN

An exceptional fine dining experience, this historic B&B also offers quaint lodging in elegant guest suites restored to their 18th-century charm. The General Warren also hosts weddings, private parties and corporate events. 9 Old Lancaster Road, Malvern, (610) 296-3637, generalwarren.com. \$\$\$

IRON HILL BREWERY & RESTAURANT

Consistent, family-friendly American cuisine and award-winning beer are the calling cards of this growing regional chain. Various locations, ironhillbrewery.com. \$\$

JIMMY'S BBQ

Mouthwatering authentic barbecue. 309 Lancaster Ave., Malvern, (610) 879-8805, jimmysbbq.com. BYOB \$

LUDWIG'S GRILL & OYSTER BAR

Oysters of many varieties are among the offerings at this elegant mainstay. Also look for land-based fare like duck, prime sirloin steak and beef short rib. 2904 Conestoga Road, Glenmoore, (610) 458-5336, ludwigsoysterbar.com. \$\$\$

MALVERN BUTTERY

A unique eatery and coffeehouse combination, the Buttery offers rustic sandwiches, fresh salads, great coffee and more. 233 E. King St., Malvern, (610) 296-2534, malvernbuttery.com. \$

MEATBALL U

Dan Shea honors his stepfather's recipe with colossal beef, chicken, sausage and vegetarian meatballs, plus other Italian favorites. 30 S. High St., West Chester, (484) 394-8400, meatballu.com. \$

MCKENZIE BREW HOUSE

This local brewery chain specializes in award-winning handcrafted beer, sassy American cuisine and a family-friendly atmosphere. Various locations, mckenziebrewhouse.com. \$\$

NICK FILET

Great Valley High School grad Nick Kline's eatery ups the ante on quick-service cuisine, heaping fresh filet mignon onto a Kaiser roll. 111 E. Lancaster Ave., Paoli, (484) 318-8545, nickfilet.com. \$

NOOK & KRANNY KAFE

The kitchen at this cozy cottage serves enticing all-day breakfast fare. Lunch specials range from pork barbecue to a buttery Monte Cristo. 847 Valley Forge Road, Phoenixville, (610) 933-5393, nookandkrannykafe.com. \$

PORTABELLOS

Classic dishes and a homey setting complement a refreshingly old-school approach to cookery. 108 W. State St., Kennett Square, (610) 925-4984, portabellosokennettsquare.com. BYOB \$\$

RIGHTEOUS TAP HOUSE

This unexpected gem offers a selection of well-executed bar fare with a decadent twist. Highlights include fish and chips, tasty tacos and hearty burgers. 1548 Shadyside Road, West Chester, (484) 593-0850, righteoustaphouse.com. \$\$

continued on page 43

Resilience continued from page 41

Cornerstone's Nick and Christine Kondra by the firepit at their all-season outdoor space.



Brussels sprouts, roasted beets, Brie, mozzarella and black truffle aioli.

Aimee Olexy also revamped her eatery's dining concept, turning the tables at Talula's Table in Kennett Square. For 14 years, the chef's table at the award-winning market and catering business was in high demand as a dining experience. But the pandemic forced Olexy to shift to packaged products, meal replacements, and everyday foods scalable for multiple servings. "We got deep into breakfast sandwiches," says Olexy with a laugh.

Olexy and her staff also conceived their own dinners-to-go concept, with chef-driven three-course menus that change weekly. Moderately priced, they feature seasonal products in miniature tasting experiences. "We serve 300 of those per week," says Olexy. "We have a lot of families use them to teach their kids about different foods."

Prior to the pandemic, Talula's operated by cash register. Olexy has since modernized her system. "We instantly became capable of doing online sales," she says. "It was a must for takeout, and that's been a blessing."

Win Restaurants also made a serious investment in takeout, quickly ramping up from near zero. "Luckily, the type of cuisine we have translates to takeout dining," says Somboonsong. "We kept

the original menu because it's filled with exactly what people want to eat right now."

Each Win restaurant offers family packages with special prices, and sushi is a bestseller. "It's something people crave and don't always know how to make at home," Somboonsong says. "It also feels like something special to eat."

Sushi has been good to Feury, too. Nectar's Asian fusion—especially its wok-made dishes—package quite well. "We limited the menu so we could maximize and minimize ingredients," he says.

Nectar's cocktail program is also a success. Feury invested in a machine that prints custom logos his staff affixes to mason jars. Customers drink the cocktail and keep the jars.

Known for its vibrant wine list, Cornerstone expanded its vintages and its wine service. Kondra got her state transporter license, which allows her to deliver wine and beer throughout Pennsylvania. She snagged more than 100 bottles of French wine before tariffs and delivery delays were instituted. Backed by a stock of bottles priced from \$22 to \$8,000, Kondra works on seller development and customer acquisitions. Now, Cornerstone has a national reach. Kondra also hosts virtual wine tastings. "It's been fun to engage with people in a different way," she says. "There were a lot



of lines of business that I wanted to get into. Now, it's like, 'Let's just do it.' I say that often."

McCullough has said the same thing more times than he can remember. At one point, Slow Hand was operating a grocery store to provide the community with hard-to-get items. These days, the restaurant is doing a steady business in family-style takeout meals. Clearly though, McCullough is being creative out of necessity. "Doing that dance is a little tough," he says. "Spring is around the corner, as is the vaccine. That—and our loyal customers—are what's getting me through."

Directory continued from page 41

RON'S ORIGINAL BAR & GRILLE

Specialties include filet mignon, crab cakes, and slow-roasted beef and pork sandwiches. The bar offers an award-winning beer list. 74 E. Uwchlan Ave., Exton, (610) 594-9900, ronsoriginal.com. \$

ROOTS CAFE

At this farm-sourced eatery, the food is as honest as the menu's freshly sourced philosophy. 133 E. Gay St., West Chester, (610) 455-0100, rootscafewc.com. BYOB \$\$

SEDONA TAPHOUSE

A large patio, well-executed Southwest Arizona cuisine and over 250 brews give this classy franchise an indie feel. You can't lose with the succulent burgers and superb tacos. 131 Bridge St., Phoenixville, (484) 302-5714, sedonataphouse.com. \$\$

SLOW HAND

Retro vibes abound at this two-story gem, which serves an ever-revolving locally sourced selection of elevated bar food. Highlights include Nashville hot wings and slider-like Belly Bombers. 30 N. Church St., West Chester, (484) 999-8638, slowhand-wc.com. \$\$

SPLIT RAIL TAVERN

A hip, welcoming gastro-pub staffed by an eager young team serving carefully crafted cuisine and libations. 15 N. Walnut St., West Chester, (484) 999-8805, splitrailtavern.com. \$\$

STEEL CITY COFFEEHOUSE

This casual live music hub excels at a creative selection of flatbreads. 203 Bridge St., Phoenixville, (484) 924-8425, steelcitycoffeehouse.com. BYOB \$

STOTTSVILLE INN

A restored circa-1858 stayover destination with nine rooms and an enclosed private dining room. The kitchen offers a creative spin on chicken wings (charred), steaks, seafood, pan pizza and other comforting standbys. 3512 Strasburg Road, Coatesville, (484) 718-5121, stottsvilleinn.com. \$\$

SUBURBAN RESTAURANT & BEER GARDEN Two concepts find success at this busy spot. On one side, there's a beer garden; on the other, creative upscale farm-to-table cuisine. 570 Wellington Square, Exton, (610) 458-2337, suburbanbg.com. \$\$

TJ'S RESTAURANT & DRINKERY

Now under new ownership, TJ's remains a cheery beer-centric saloon offering a hearty menu of favorites like the crispy fried-chicken-and-waffle sandwich and succulent slow-braised short-rib tacos. 35 Paoli Plaza, Paoli, (610) 725-0100, tjsbeer.com. \$\$

VERBENA BYOB

Seasoned chef Scott Morozin's cozy 36-seat eatery showcases his considerable talents in the kitchen. Starters like a creamless mushroom soup and vodka-cured Ora King salmon are punchy and flavorful, as are second-course options like the Bristol Bay scallops. 102 State St., (484) 732-7932, Kennett Square, verbenabyob.com. BYOB \$\$

ASIAN

BUA LOY

Chef Bualoy Phengmisouk serves authentic Laotian and Thai dishes that are as flavorful as they are affordable. Standouts include the tapioca noodles, satays, curries and stir-fries. 300 W. Lancaster Ave., Devon, (610) 341-8162, bualoycuisine.com. BYOB \$\$

MOMMA WONG

Chef Hongbin Luo offers superior dim sum and tried-and-true favorites like General Tso's chicken. For the adventurous, authentic dishes include pork intestines and pig kidney. 268 Eagleview Blvd., Exton, (484) 713-8888, bestmamawong.com. BYOB \$\$

NUI NUI KITCHEN

Nui Kullana's revamped Asian fusion eatery offers poke bowls, Pad Thai, curry dishes and standouts like General Tso's Chilean sea bass. 301 Bridge St., Phoenixville, (484) 302-5141, nuiinukitchen.com. BYOB \$

Mae's in West Chester.



OORI

Ramen (with braised pork belly, chicken or kelp) and other trendy Korean-inspired dishes shine at this South Coventry newcomer. Be sure to try the double-fried chicken wings, served in sauce or dry rubbed. 2228 Pottstown Pike, Pottstown, (484) 985-8071, oorieats.com. \$

VEEKOO ASIAN CUISINE

Grab a seat at the sushi bar, or try any of the Chinese, Thai and Japanese specialties. 564 Lancaster Ave., Berwyn, (484) 318-7655, veekoosiancuisine.com. BYOB \$\$

EUROPEAN

ANDIARIO

Reservations are a must at this acclaimed spot, which has just 34 seats. An open kitchen gives diners a behind-the-scenes look at the sumptuous offerings—everything from guinea hen to decadent pastas to a delicate Pocono trout. 106 W. Gay St., West Chester, (484) 887-0919, andiario.com. BYOB \$\$\$

ANTHONY'S CUCINA FRESCA

Chef Danilo Angelucci and his wife, Katherine, preside over a welcoming trattoria that serves delicious antipasto, tempting meat-and-cheese boards, handmade pizza, build-your-own pastas, and hearty entrées like veal, filet mignon and baked salmon. 78 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, (610) 873-5544, anthonyuscucinafresca.com. \$

AVOLA KITCHEN + BAR

Highlights from Avola's well-crafted menu include the undeniably Greek Shrimp Saganaki and gnocchetti with tender braised lamb in a rich red-wine-and-caper sauce. 625 N. Morehall Road, Malvern, (484) 328-8584, avolakitchenandbar.com. \$

DOLCE ZOLA

Pastas are the real standout here. Especially good are the angel hair and tonnarelli, with hearty sauces like ragu, Bolognese, bacon-flecked carbonara and jalapeño-infused puttanesca. 134 E. Gay St., West Chester, (484) 887-0760, dolcezola.com. BYOB \$\$

HEARTH KITCHEN

Bryan Sikora's latest stellar contribution to the suburban culinary scene boasts playfully upscale standouts like ricotta gnocchi and chopped-clam-and-bacon toast. 847 E. Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square, (484) 732-8320, hearthkennettsquare.com. \$\$

LA FAVA RESTAURANT AND BAR

One of Glen Mills' more recent culinary entrants offers a menu of authentic Mediterranean-accented dishes like chargrilled Spanish octopus tendrils, grilled langostino and some of the best pastas around. 1102 Baltimore Pike, Glen Mills, (484) 840-8603, lafavaglenmills.com. \$\$

LA VERONA

Among the menu standouts at this Kennett favorite are antipasti classics like bruschetta and mussels marinara, along with escargot and other French staples. The house-made pastas are exemplary. 114 State St., Kennett Square, (610) 444-2244, laveronapa.com. \$\$

LIMONCELLO

Both popular locations specialize in rustic and rich Southern Italian cuisine, with a vast and diverse menu and a lively bar scene. 499 E. Uwchlan Ave., Chester Springs, (610) 524-3112, 9 N. Walnut St., West Chester, (610) 436-6230; limoncellorestaurant.com. \$\$

MALVERN PIZZA

A casual pizza parlor serving traditional and specialty pies, plus stromboli, burgers, sandwiches and salads. 19 E. King St., Malvern, (610) 644-8888, malvernpizza.com. \$

OPA TAVERNA

At this prime corner spot, the Mediterranean coastline is evoked in everything from the citrusy hummus to the gyro platters. The lamb chops shine, as does the fish—much of it flown in from Greece. 40 E. Gay St., West Chester, (610) 696-4100, opatavernaphilly.com. BYOB \$

TIRAMISU

This low-key 65-seat eatery delivers Roman-Jewish cuisine with a twist. 720 Lancaster Ave., Berwyn, (610) 906-3299, tiramisuberwyn.com. \$\$

VICKERS RESTAURANT

Serving traditional Continental cuisine with a French influence, Vickers offers tableside cooking and flambé in a historic landmark. 192 E. Welsh Pool Road, Exton, (610) 363-7998, vickersrestaurant.com. \$\$

INTERNATIONAL

■ BYRSA BISTRO

Ahmed and Christine Chraga wow diners with traditional paella, chicken tagine, seafood linguini, cavatelli and lamb. The restaurant has a full liquor license, but offers BYOB with no corkage fee. 128 Glen Mills Road, Glen Mills, (610) 444-3277, byrsabistro.com. \$\$

■ LOUETTE'S BYO

Louette's international array of creative small plates are the centerpiece of a menu that changes almost daily—save for delicious constants like charred broccolini with marcona almonds and goat cheese. 106 Bridge St., Phoenixville, (484) 924-9906, louettesbyo.com. BYOB \$\$

LATIN AMERICAN

MÁS MEXICALI CANTINA

Mexican favorites dominate the menu at this vast corner eatery, with an expansive rooftop dining-and-drinking area in warm months. 102 E. Market St., West Chester, (610) 918-6280, masmexicali.com. \$

Delaware County

AMERICAN

■ 118 NORTH

This popular live music venue has upgraded its menu with poutine-inspired fries, savory burgers, grilled swordfish and more. 118 N. Wayne Ave., Wayne, (610) 971-2628, 118northwayne.com. \$\$

333 BELROSE BAR & GRILL

Carlo deMarco's seasonal, sophisticated New American cuisine is made with the best local products and ingredients. 333 Belrose Lane, Radnor, (610) 293-1000, 333belrose.com. \$\$

■ AVENUE KITCHEN

The menu at this hip eatery trends toward simpler fare and uncomplicated ingredients, yet it still delivers a polished, chic ambiance. 509 Wilmington West Chester Pike, Glen Mills, (484) 800-8070, avekitchen.com. \$

■ AUTOGRAPH BRASSERIE

Offering quality ingredients and an upscale bar scene, this Marty Grims creation succeeds equally in celebrating pop culture and first-rate cuisine. 503 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne, (610) 964-2588, autographbrasserie.com. \$\$\$

■ BRICK & BREW GASTROPUB

The handiwork of Havertownie Tom Kane and beer-and-spirits aficionado Mike Grubb, Brick & Brew doesn't skimp on its impressively executed pub fare. Various locations, bricknbrewpub.com. \$

■ EDGEWOOD CAFÉ & BYOB

With its well-executed Italian-American cuisine and friendly service, this mom-and-pop sleeper has earned a devoted following. 1304 Edgewood Road, Havertown, (484) 453-8851, edgewoodrestaurant.com. BYOB \$\$

■ FIREPOINT GRILL

Showcasing an open kitchen with a wood-fired grill, Firepoint offers an eclectic menu filled with rich, natural flavors, fresh cocktails, seasonal craft beers and a diverse wine selection—all in a warm, inviting atmosphere. 3739 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, (484) 428-3093, firepointgrill.com. \$\$

THE GABLES AT CHADDS FORD

The Gables' redesigned menu spotlights fresh, local, seasonal ingredients. Stop by for happy hour and try the award-winning sangria. 423 Baltimore Pike, Chadds Ford, (610) 388-7700, thegablesatchaddsford.com. \$\$



At the Table
in Wayne.

GLENMORGAN BAR & GRILL

Located in the Radnor Hotel, Glenmorgan has a contemporary atmosphere perfect for enjoying classic cocktails, spirited American cuisine and monthly chef's specials. 593 E. Lancaster Ave., St. Davids, (610) 341-3188, glenmorgan.com. \$\$

HARVEST SEASONAL GRILL & WINE BAR

Prolific restaurateur Dave Magrogan's farm-to-table concept features an organic seasonal menu, with most items under 500 calories. Various locations, harvestseasonalgrill.com. \$\$

LOCAL WINE & KITCHEN

With its citified feel and inventive menu tailored for shareable dining, the Local is a foodie favorite. 39 W. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore, (610) 896-4740, localwineandkitchen.com. \$\$

MEGHAN'S RESTAURANT BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

All salads—including the egg, tuna, and popular chicken salad—are made on the premises. Pies, cakes and muffins are baked fresh daily. 1117 Smithbridge Road, (610) 459-3022, facebook.com/meghanspa. \$

THE ORIGINAL THUNDERBIRD

Celebrating its 63rd year in business, the family-owned Thunderbird offers an extensive menu, including cheesesteak egg rolls, stromboli bites, chicken piccata, hoagies, wraps, breakfast pizzas and sandwiches, and more. 2323 West Chester Pike, Broomall, (610) 356-8869, theoriginalthunderbird.com. \$

■ OSO SWEET

This homey surprise in the Chadds Ford Barn Shops is the promising debut venture for talented young pastry chef Tess Wofford, whose versatility is evident in her mastery of everything from cookies and scones to pizzas and breakfast pastries. 1609 Baltimore Pike, Suite 500, Chadds Ford, (610) 880-8118, ososweet.shop. \$

PINNOCHIO'S RESTAURANT

Recognized as the first pizzeria in Delaware County, this family-owned restaurant sets the standard for fresh homemade pies. 131 E. Baltimore Ave., Media, (610) 566-7767, pinpizza.com. \$

■ THE REFECTORY

An appealing and sleek concept on the Villanova University campus. The menu features American comfort food, steak and seafood, plus Italian, Pacific Rim and Asian options. 862 E. Lancaster Ave., Villanova, (610) 519-5786, therefectorygrill.com. \$\$\$

■ RIPPLEWOOD WHISKEY & CRAFT

This speakeasy-inspired tavern offers impeccably crafted comfort fare, including pretzeled Parker House rolls with truffle butter, fries awash in a decadently cheesy sea of fontina-cheddar and brisket chunks, and a heavenly charred octopus. 29 E. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore, (610) 486-7477, ripplewoodbar.com. \$\$

■ ROSALIE

The latest from the White Dog Cafe folks is an authentic yet sophisticated Italian gem in the Wayne Hotel. The menu makes the most of quality ingredients, excellent preparations and a shared dining experience—and the fresh pasta is to die for. 139 E. Lancaster Ave., Wayne, (610) 977-0600, rosaliewayne.com. \$\$

■ STERLING PIG BREWERY

This open, airy spot with two locations offers wood-fired pizzas, hearty signature barbecue and eight rotating taps. 609 W. State St., Media, (484) 444-2526; 113 W. Market St., West Chester, (484) 999-8026; sterlingpig.com. \$\$

TAP 24

Gastro-pub cuisine, 24 rotating craft beers, craft cocktails and more make this a great place to get together with friends and family. 36 W. State St., Media, (484) 442-8839, tap24media.com. \$\$

TAVOLA RESTAURANT & BAR

Springfield Country Club's stylish American eatery is open to the public seven days a week. It offers a spacious dining room and an outdoor patio with a fire pit. 400 W. Sproul Road, Springfield, (610) 543-2100, tavolas.com. \$\$

■ TIRED HANDS BREWING COMPANY AND FERMENTARIA

The focus may be on award-winning beer, but the sandwiches, cheeses and charcuterie are also noteworthy at Tired Hands. Fermentaria expands the brand and elevates the menu. 16 Ardmore Ave., Ardmore, (610) 896-7621; 35 Cricket Terrace, Ardmore, (484) 413-2983; tiredhands.com. \$\$

■ WHITE DOG CAFE

Consistent execution, a sustainable mindset, local ingredients and a lively atmosphere have all come to define this highly regarded—and busy—eatery. Various locations, whitedog.com. \$\$

ASIAN

ASIANA GARDEN

Exceptional Thai cuisine prepared by experienced chefs. 232 W. Wayne Ave., Wayne, (610) 293-7500, asianagarden.us. BYOB \$

AZIE

Pan-Asian favorites get an upscale twist in Azie's modern setting. 217 W. State St., Media, (610) 566-4750, www.azie-restaurant.com; 789 E. Lancaster Ave., Villanova, (610) 527-5700; azieonmain.com. \$\$

■ DANDAN

Kevin and Catherina Huang bring their Center City concept to the suburbs, offering authentic Szechuan-Taiwanese cuisine. 214 Sugartown Road, (484) 580-8558, dandanrestaurant.com. \$

■ MARGARET KUO'S

This Main Line mainstay has long been known for its exceptional Chinese and Japanese cuisine and first-rate service. *Various locations, margaretkuo.com.* **BYOB \$\$**

■ PHO STREET

Delicious street food that takes its inspiration from the Nam Dinh markets of Vietnam, served in a no-frills atmosphere. *1001 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 527-1413; 204 Baltimore Pike, Springfield, (610) 544-3934; phostreet.com.* **BYOB \$**

■ SONGSAN KOREAN BBQ

This intimate Rittenhouse Place nook has just 12 tables, where diners can prepare their own combo platters of marinated center-cut short ribs or spicy chicken, thinly sliced pork belly or tender beef brisket on an electric grill. *66 Rittenhouse Place, Ardmore, (610) 642-3184.* **BYOB \$\$**

EUROPEAN

A TASTE OF BRITAIN CAFÉ

Enjoy afternoon tea, served all day. Or choose from a selection of homemade sandwiches, desserts and more. *503 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne, (610) 971-0390, atobritain.com.* **BYOB \$**

■ ANTICA

Affordable and authentic, Antica brings regional Italian flair to the Brandywine Valley. *1623 Baltimore Pike, Chadds Ford, (484) 770-8631, anticapa.com.* **BYOB \$\$**

ALESSANDRO'S WOOD-FIRED ITALIAN & BAR

Formerly Ardé, Alessandro's is an ideal spot for Neapolitan pies and pasta. *133 N. Wayne Ave., Wayne, (484) 580-6786.* **\$**

■ CORNERSTONE BISTRO & ARTISANAL MARKET

The market offers local cheeses, gift baskets and hard-to-find beers and wines. The restaurant, with its 14-seat chef's counter, offers finesse from start to finish. *1 West Ave., (610) 688-1888, cornerstonewayne.com.* **\$\$\$**

ESTIA GREEK TAVERNA

Estia impresses with two dining rooms, a relaxing bar and exceptional updates of traditional Greek fare. *222 N. Radnor-Chester Road, Radnor, (484) 581-7124, estiataverna.com.* **\$**

FELLINI CAFÉ

Gourmet Italian food in a relaxed, casual environment. *3541 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, (610) 353-6131, fellinicafeofnewtownsquare.com; 2 Waterview Road, West Chester, (484) 999-8407, fellinicafeofwc.com.* **BYOB \$\$**

LA BELLE EPOQUE BISTRO

Enjoy specialties like French onion soup, crêpes and seasonal entrées. The bar offers craft cocktails and a selection of wines. *38 W. State St., Media, (610) 566-6808, labellebistro.com.* **\$**

■ LA PADELLA

Nick and Kayla Amoroso's welcoming neighborhood restaurant and bar specializes in modernized Italian-American classics like thick-cut veal Parmesan and bone-in Marsala. *100 State Road, Media, (484) 445-4445, lapadellamedia.com.* **\$**

■ PEPPERONCINI

A charming spot offering Italian favorites like fried ravioli and chicken Parmesan, plus sumptuous seafood dishes. *25 S. Eagle Road, Havertown, (484) 454-5995, pepperoncinihavertown.com.* **BYOB \$\$**

TECA NEWTOWN SQUARE

This Delaware County version of the West Chester favorite specializes in Neapolitan pizzas and hand-spun pastas. *191 S. Newtown Street Road, Newtown Square, (484) 420-4010, tecanewtownsquare.com.* **\$**

INTERNATIONAL

■ SHERE-E-PUNJAB

The diverse menu at this sophisticated local chain offers an authentic and flavorful take on the cuisine of India. *Various locations, shere-e-punjab.com.* **\$**



General Warren
in Malvern.

LATIN AMERICAN

■ AGAVE

The well-executed traditional dishes at this low-key gem include creamy guacamole, octopus ceviche, tacos, enchiladas and burritos. *1620 Baltimore Pike, Chadds Ford, (484) 770-8345, agavebyo.com.* **BYOB \$\$**

■ DIEGO'S CANTINA & TEQUILA BAR

A Tex-Mex-style eatery featuring lunch specials and a late-night menu Friday and Saturday, plus drink specials, a great beer menu and over 60 tequilas. *214 W. State St., Media, (484) 442-8741, diegos-cantina.com.* **\$**

■ DOS GRINGOS MEXICAN KITCHEN

Tasty basics like enchiladas and tacos are standouts, along with grilled ahi tuna, tilapia, Mexican-inspired pork chops and more. *113 S. Olive St., Media, (610) 565-7794, dosgringosmedia.com.* **BYOB \$**

Montgomery County

AMERICAN

J. ALEXANDER'S RESTAURANT

A contemporary American restaurant known for its wood-fired cuisine, J. Alexander's offers a wide selection of classics, including prime rib, steaks, fresh seafood, sandwiches, and entrée salads. *256 Mall Blvd., King of Prussia, (484) 322-2000, jalexanders.com.* **\$\$\$**

■ BODEGA BY LA CABRA BREWING

La Cabra's latest venture excels at wood-fired eats like brisket, baby-back ribs and wings, all of which pair perfectly with a rotating selection of unique brews. *810 Glenbrook Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 526-2337, bodegabylacabra.com.* **\$**

THE GROG GRILL

This popular bar and restaurant features high-quality food and an extensive wine, liquor and beer selection. *863 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 527-5870, thegroggrill.com.* **\$**

■ JASPER'S WESTSIDE

The second iteration of Jasper's Backyard offers the same cool vibe and elevated bar food. *101 Ford St. West Conshohocken, (484) 368-3529, jasperswestside.com.* **\$**

■ LUNCH BOX

This tiny eatery dishes up simple breakfast and lunch items like pancakes and chicken salad. *951 Youngs Ford Road, Gladwyne, (610) 642-9608.* **BYOB \$**

RYAN CHRISTOPHER'S

This neighborhood favorite offers American bistro fare. *245 Woodbine Ave., Narberth, (610) 664-9282, ryanchristophersbyob.com.* **BYOB \$\$**

■ TIN LIZARD BREWING COMPANY

A two-story barbecue joint and microbrewery offering small-batch brews and smokehouse specialties. *1000 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 525-1100, tinlizardbrewingco.com.* **\$**

ASIAN

COCO THAI BISTRO

At Coco, orchids, philodendron, lavender and daisies abound. The menu is equally colorful, thanks to standout dishes like spicy quinoa, shrimp and crab served with Massaman curry. *231 Haverford Ave., Narberth, (610) 667-7634, cocobistro.com.* **BYOB \$**

EUROPEAN

■ THE BERCY

Joe Monnich and Justin Weathers' French-style brasserie offers an approachable bistro menu. *7 Lancaster Ave., Ardmore, (610) 589-0500, thebercy.com.* **\$\$\$**

CITRON & ROSE TAVERN & MARKET

Glatt kosher meets gourmet at this sleek spot, which puts a modern spin on Eastern European Jewish classics. *261 Montgomery Ave., Bala Cynwyd, (610) 257-7577, citronrosetavern.com.* **\$**

■ LOURDAS GREEK TAVERNA

The consistently excellent fare at this family-owned institution includes classic Greek dishes like gyros, moussaka, souvlaki, fresh seafood and more. *50 N. Bryn Mawr Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 520-0288, lourdasgreekrestaurant.com.* **BYOB \$\$**

■ SAVONA RESTAURANT

This well-heeled establishment continues to excel at classic Riviera-inspired dining. Signature dishes include the Scottish salmon. *100 Old Gulph Road, Gulph Mills, (610) 520-1200, savonarestaurant.com.* **\$\$\$**

■ ZAGAFEN

Kosher cuisine and cocktails, with sublime fish dishes, pastas, grilled pizzas and more. *370 Montgomery Ave., Merion Station, (610) 667-7777, zagafen.com.* **\$**

INTERNATIONAL

SAFFRON INDIAN KITCHEN

Blended spices are the true stars at Saffron, which offers an exceptional array of nouveau and traditional Indian cuisine. *Various locations, saffronofphilly.com.* **\$**

LATIN AMERICAN

COYOTE CROSSING

This Conshy institution features authentic Mexican food and the best mezcal bar in Philadelphia. *800 Spring Mill Ave., (610) 825-3000, coyotecrossing.com.* **\$**

NOTE: At press time, all establishments were following COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines. Call or go online for updates.

BYOBs

AMERICAN & CONTINENTAL

A TASTE OF BRITAIN

503 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne, (610) 971-0390, atobritain.com

AMANI'S BYOB

105 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, (484) 237-8179, amanisbyob.com

AT THE TABLE

11 Louella Court, Wayne, (610) 964-9700, atthetablebyob.com

BIRCHRUNVILLE STORE CAFE

1403 Hollow Road, Birchrunville, (610) 827-9002, birchrunvillstorecafe.com

BLACK CAT CAFÉ

42 Berkeley Road, Devon, (610) 688-1930, theblackcatcafe.business.site

BLACK LAB BISTRO

248 Bridge St., Phoenixville, (610) 935-5988, blacklabbistro.net

BLACKFISH BYOB

119 Fayette St., Conshohocken, (610) 397-0888, blackfishrestaurant.com

BRUNCH

521 Fayette St., Conshohocken, (610) 832-5708, brunchconshy.com

CATHERINE'S RESTAURANT

1701 W. Doe Run Road, Kennett Square, (610) 347-2227, catherinesrestaurant.com

THE CLASSIC DINER

352 Lancaster Ave., Malvern, (610) 725-0515; 16 E. Gay St., West Chester, (484) 947-0809; theclassiccinerpa.com

CORNERSTONE BISTRO AND ARTISANAL MARKET

1 West Ave., Wayne, (610) 688-1888, cornerstonewayne.com

CORNER CAFÉ

29 1850 S. Collegeville Road, Collegeville, (610) 489-4640, cornercafediner.com

COUNTRY BUTCHER

145 S. Walnut St., Kennett Square, (610) 444-5980, countrybutchermarket.com

EM J'S CAFÉ

814 Lancaster Ave., Berwyn, (610) 644-8275, emjscafe.com

FAYETTE STREET GRILLE

308 Fayette St., Conshohocken, (610) 567-0366, fayettestreetgrille.com

HENRY'S CAFÉ & FINE GROCERIES

20 S. Charlotte St., Pottstown, (610) 326-0069, eatathenrys.com

HOUSE

110 S. Jackson St., Media, (610) 566-2505, eatathouse.com

JIMMY'S BBQ

309 Lancaster Ave., Malvern, (610) 879-8805, jimmysbbq.com

MAE'S

39 W. Gay St., West Chester, (484) 887-0062, maeswc.com

MICA

8609 Germantown Ave., Chestnut Hill, (267) 335-3912, micarestaurant.com

NICK FILET

111 E. Lancaster Ave., Paoli, (484) 318-8545, nickfilet.com

NORTHBROOK MARKETPLACE

1805 Unionville Wawaset Road, West Chester, (610) 793-1210, northbrookmarketplace.com

OSO SWEET BAKERY CAFE

1609 Baltimore Pike, Suite 500, Chadds Ford, (610) 880-8118, ososweet.shop

THE ORANGERY AT GLEN ISLE

130 S. Lloyd Ave., Downingtown, (484) 401-5554, orangeryatglenisle.com

RAW CAN ROLL CAFÉ

767 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne, (484) 580-8454, eatrawcanrollcafe.com

RYAN CHRISTOPHER'S

245 Woodbine Ave., Narberth, (610) 664-9282, ryanchristophersbyob.com

SABRINA'S CAFE

50 E. Wynnewood Road, Wynnewood, (484) 412-8790, sabinascafe.com

THE SILVER SPOON

503 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne, (610) 688-7646, silverspoonwayne.com

SPENCE CAFE

131 N. High St., West Chester, (610) 918-1272, spence.cafe

TALULA'S TABLE

102 W. State St., Kennett Square, (610) 444-8255, talulastable.com

TERRAIN CAFÉ

914 Baltimore Pike, Glen Mills, (610) 459-6030, shopterrain.com

TWELVES GRILL & CAFÉ

10 Exchange Place, West Grove, (610) 869-4020, twelvesgrill.com

WIBS

1850 S. Collegeville Road, Collegeville, (610) 489-1350, wibswingsribsmore.com

WYNDHAM ALUMNAE HOUSE

235 N. Merion Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 526-5236, brynmawr.edu/wyndham

ASIAN

ASIAN CAFÉ

550 Kimberton Road, Phoenixville, (610) 933-2227, asiancafeonline.com

ASIANA GARDEN

232 W. Wayne Ave., Wayne, (610) 293-7500, asianagarden.us

ASUKA

1502 West Chester Pike, West Chester, (610) 738-8888, asukacuisine.net

BAAN THAI

704 W. Nields St., West Chester, (610) 696-0800, baanthaiwestchester.com

BAMBOO

245 Lancaster Ave., Malvern, (610) 296-7711, bamboohouseofnoodlesoups.com

BLUEFIN

2820 Dekalb Pike, East Norriton, (610) 277-3917, restaurantbluefin.com

BLUEFIN EAGLEVIEW

555 Wellington Square, Exton, (610) 458-3234, bluefineagleview.com

BONJUNG JAPANESE RESTAURANT

50 W. 3rd Ave., Collegeville, (610) 489-7022, bonjungsushi.com

BUNHA FAUN

152 Lancaster Ave., Malvern, (610) 651-2836, bunhafaun.net

CHABAA THAI BISTRO

4343 Main St., Manayunk, (215) 483-1979, chabaathai.com

CHIANGMAI

108 Fayette St., Conshohocken, (610) 397-1757, mychiangmaithai.com

COCO THAI BISTRO

231 Haverford Ave., Narberth, (610) 667-7634, cocobistro.com

FOREVER

314 S. Henderson Road, King of Prussia, (610) 768-5888, foreverpa.com

FUSION RESTAURANT

1107 West Chester Pike, West Chester, (610) 429-9999, fusionasianpa.com

GINZA

801 Montgomery Ave., Penn Valley, (610) 668-9959, ginzamainline.com

GOLDEN BOWL

33 Rittenhouse Place, Ardmore, (610) 649-3382, goldenbowlardmore.com

GOLDEN DRAGON

200 W. Ridge Pike, Conshohocken, (610) 828-2190, goldendragonchineserestaurant.com

GUMMLAI THAI

1170 Easton Road, Abington, (215) 576-8424, gummlaithai.com

GUO'S GARDEN

569 W. Uwchlan Ave., Exton, (610) 524-7178, guosgarden.com

HAN DYNASTY

4356 Main St., Manayunk, (215) 508-2066; 260 N. Pottstown Pike, Exton, (610) 524-4002; 70 Buckwalter Road, Royersford, (610) 792-9600; handynasty.net

HAPPY MAKI

200 W. Ridge Pike, Conshohocken, (484) 351-8629, happymaki.com

HARUSAME

2371 Haverford Road, Ardmore, (610) 649-7192, harusamerestaurant.com

HENG'S THAI CUISINE

1156 Baltimore Pike, Springfield, (484) 625-7777, hengsthai.com

HUNAN RESTAURANT

47 E. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore, (610) 642-3050, hunanardmore.com

JASMINE ASIAN HOUSE

130 W. Main St., Collegeville, (610) 489-2959, jasmineseasianhouse.com

KABUKI

180 E. Dekalb Pike, King of Prussia, (610) 878-9203, kabukikingofprussia.com

KAFFIR THAI CUISINE

20 E. Eagle Road, Havertown, (610) 449-4414, kaffirthaicuisine.com

LA NA THAI-FRENCH CUISINE

33 W. State St., Media, (610) 892-7787, lanabyob.com

LIKI SUSHI AND HIBACHI

243 Schuylkill Road, Phoenixville, (610) 983-9960

LILY ASIAN CUISINE SUSHI & GRILL

104 W. State St., Kennett Square, (610) 925-3700, lilysushiandgrill.com

MANGO TREE BISTRO

2717 West Main Street, Norristown, (610) 631-0969, mymangotreebistro.com

MARGARET KUO'S MANDARIN

190 Lancaster Ave., Malvern, (610) 647-5488, mandarinmalvern.com

MASAMI

1260 Township Line Road, Drexel Hill, (610) 789-3222, masamidrexelhill.com

MASAMOTO

1810 Wilmington Pike, Glen Mills, (610) 358-5538, masamotosushi.com

MURASAKI

475 E. Uwchlan Ave., Chester Springs, (484) 341-8362, murasakipa.com

NOODDI THAI CHEF

364 Wilmington-West Chester Pike, Glen Mills, (610) 361-8086; 42 E. State St., Media, (610) 892-8710; thaicheftoday.com

ORIENTAL PEARL

1550 Paoli Pike, West Chester, (610) 692-5888, orientalpearlwc.com

PHO NOW

3911 W. Lincoln Hwy., Downingtown, (484) 237-8010

PHO STREET

1001 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 527-1413; 204 Baltimore Pike, Springfield, (610) 544-3934, phostreet.com

QUEEN CUISINE

100 Ridge Road, Chadds Ford, (610) 358-2665, queencuisinechinese.com

R&G'S PING PONG

273 E. Swedesford Road, Wayne, (610) 254-0281, pingpongpa.com

SHOGUN 3

Japanese Steak House 1375 West Chester Pike, Havertown, (610) 853-3939

SIAMESE PRINCESS

36 E. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore, (610) 896-2755

SILK CUISINE

654 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 520-2470, silk-cuisine.com

SPICE INDIAN THAI BISTRO

4843 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, (610) 356-5262, spicebyob.com

SUTAO CAFÉ

81 Lancaster Ave., Malvern, (610) 651-8886, ordersutaocafe.com

SUSHI LAND

861 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 527-5527, sushiland.us

SZECHUAN HILL

1238 Township Line Road, Drexel Hill, (610) 789-9209, szechuanhillrestaurant.com

TEMAKI SUSHI BAR

19 S. Olive St., Media, (610) 566-5363, mediatemakisushi.com

THAI BASIL BISTRO

305 2nd Ave., Collegeville, (610) 489-3633, thaibasilpa.wixsite.com/collegeville

THAI ORCHID

556 Lancaster Ave., Berwyn, (610) 651-7840, thaiorchidberwyn.com

THAI PLACE RESTAURANT

700 Nutt Road, Phoenixville, (610) 917-9943

TOM'S DIM SUM

13 E. State St., Media, (610) 566-6688, tomsdimsum.com

TSUNAMI

10 W. Market St., West Chester, (610) 430-3300, tsunamisushipa.com

UMAI

220 Pennbrook Parkway, Lansdale, (215) 855-5544, umaisushibar.net

UMAMI ASIAN BISTRO AND SUSHI BAR

150 Eagleview Blvd., Exton, (610) 594-1510, umamipa.com

VEEKOO ASIAN CUISINE

564 W. Lancaster Ave., Berwyn, (484) 318-7655; 333 N. 10th Ave., Royersford, (610) 948-5433; veekooasiancuisine.com

WASABI

686 Downingtown Pike, West Chester, (610) 738-8878, wasabiwcpc.com

Win Wah 106 Fayette St., Conshohocken, (610) 825-9485, winwahconshohocken.com

WOJUNG

1017 Germantown Pike, Plymouth Meeting, (610) 272-2869, woojungsushi.com

YANAKO

4345 Main St., Manayunk, (267) 297-8151, theyanako.com

YOKOHAMA

10 Marchwood Road, Exton, (610) 524-8110

YUKI SUSHI

212 S. Newtown Street Road, Newtown Square, (610) 359-8418, yukicuisine.com

ZWEI

163 W. Lincoln Highway, Exton, (610) 363-1850, zweirestaurantpa.com

FRENCH

LA MAISON

1470 Old Ridge Road, Pottstown, (484) 680-1193, martinskitchen.com

SPRING MILL CAFÉ

164 Barren Hill Road, Conshohocken, (610) 828-2550, springmill.com

INDIAN

AMAN'S INDIAN BISTRO

277 Schuylkill Road, Phoenixville, (484) 924-8387, amansbistropa.com

EKTA

1003 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 581-7070, ektaindianrestaurant.com

HIMALAYAN EXOTIC INDIAN CUISINE

81 Lancaster Ave., Malvern, (610) 644-4550, himalayanpa.com

INDIAN HUT CURRY & CAKES

260 N. Pottstown Pike, Exton, (610) 363-9500, indianhut.com

SAFFRON INDIAN KITCHEN

60 E. Butler Ave., Ambler, (215) 540-0237; 145 Montgomery Ave., Bala Cynwyd, (484) 278-4112; 522 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne, (610) 254-9100; saffronofphilly.com

SPICE INDIAN THAI BISTRO

4843 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, (610) 356-5262, spicebyob.com

STAR OF INDIA

155 W. Gay St., West Chester, (610) 429-0125

TIFFIN

847 Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 525-0800; 50 E. Wynnewood Road, Wynnewood, (610) 642-3344; tiffin.com

ITALIAN

ALLEGRIA RISTORANTE ITALIANO

8 E. Welsh Pool Road, Exton, (610) 524-6060, allegria-pa.com

ANTHONY'S WOOD OVEN PIZZERIA AND RISTORANTE ITALIANO

410 W. Lincoln Highway, Exton, (610) 524-6666, anthonysofexton.com

ANTHONY'S PIZZA & ITALIAN RESTAURANT

127 W. King St., Malvern, (610) 647-7400, anthonymalvern.com

CARMINE'S PARKSIDE PIZZA

180 Little Conestoga Road, Chester Springs, (610) 458-8200, carminesparkside.com

CASCATA CAFFÉ

801 W. Sproul Road, Springfield, (610) 690-5430, cascata-caffe.com

CORE DE ROMA TRATTORIA

327 E. Gay St., West Chester, (610) 701-8485, corederoma.us

THE COUCH TOMATO CAFE

31 W. Gay St., West Chester, (484) 887-0241, thecouchtomato.com

CRUST BRICK OVEN PIZZA

872 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 525-7300, crustpizzapie.com

ENZO'S ITALIAN EATERY

1400 Wilmington Pike, West Chester, (610) 399-3500, www.enzositalianeatery.com

FELLINI CAFE

3541 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, (610) 353-6131, fellinicafe-newtownsquare.com; 2 Waterview Road, West Chester, (484) 999-8407, fellinicafeofwc.com

FELLINI CAFE TRATTORIA

106 W. State St., Media, (610) 892-7616, felliniscafe.com

FLOGA BISTRO

826 E. Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square, (610) 444-6500, flogabistro.com

FRANKIE'S FELLINI CAFE

678 Lancaster Ave., Berwyn, (610) 647-1737, frankiesfellinicafe.com

FRASCHETTA

816 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 525-1007, fraschettaphilly.co/

FRESCO PIZZA & GRILL

228 S. Newtown Street Road, Newtown Square, (610) 356-4171, frescopizzagrill.com

FROM THE BOOT

110 E. Butler Ave., Ambler, (215) 646-0123; 1502 Dekalb Pike, Blue Bell, (610) 277-3500; 517 Germantown Pike, Lafayette Hill, (610) 834-8680; fromtheboot.com

GENNARO'S ITALIAN KITCHEN

4600 Pennell Road, Aston, (610) 497-3393, gennarosaston.com

GIAMPINO'S CUCINA ITALIANA

1254 West Chester Pike, Havertown, (610) 853-9330, giampinos.com

GINO'S RISTORANTE & PIZZERIA

2401 W. Main St., Norristown, (610) 539-0155, myginos.com

IL GRANAIO

711 Concord Road, Glen Mills, (610) 459-8469, ilgranaio.com

JULES THIN CRUST PIZZA

149 W. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore, (610) 896-6100; 114 E. Lancaster Ave., Wayne, (484) 580-8003; julesthincrust.com

PESCATORE

134 Bala Ave., Bala Cynwyd, (610) 660-9400, pescatorebyob.com

PEPPERONCINI BYOB

25 S. Eagle Road, Havertown, (484) 454-5995, pepperoncinihavertown.com

RAVANESI PIZZERIA NAPOLETANA

790 Baltimore Pike, Glen Mills, (484) 840-8912, ravanecipizza.com

POMODORO PIZZA & ITALIAN RESTAURANT

200 Chestnut St., Downingtown, (610) 873-0405, pomodorodowningtown.com

PORTABELLO'S OF KENNETT SQUARE

108-112 W. State St., Kennett Square, (610) 925-4984, portabellosofkennettsquare.com

RISTORANTE TOSCANO

213 N. Broad St., Lansdale, (215) 362-8002, toscanolansdale.com

SAL'S ITALIAN RISTORANTE AND PIZZERIA

152 Eagleview Blvd., Exton, (610) 363-4900, salssofexton.com

SOPRANO'S DELI & CATERING

3072 West Chester Pike, Broomall, (610) 359-9355, sopranoscatering.net

SORRENTO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT

449 Ridge Pike, Lafayette Hill, (610) 828-8093

TREVI

21 E. Glenside Ave., Glenside, (215) 884-9100, trevibyob.com

VECCHIA PIZZERIA

249 Bridge St., Phoenixville, (610) 933-1355

MEDITERRANEAN

BYRSA BISTRO

128 Glen Mills Road, Glen Mills, (610) 558-4700, byrsabistro.com

DESERT ROSE

305 W. State St., Media, (484) 442-8012, desertrosemediapa.com

FATTOUSH

182 E. Lancaster Ave., Malvern, (484) 568-4465, fattoushhealthydining.com

LOURDAS GREEK TAVERNA

50 N. Bryn Mawr Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 520-0288, lourdasgreekrestaurant.com

THE MEDITERRANEAN

150 W. Gay St., West Chester, (610) 431-7074, themedwcpc.com

OASIS

821 W. Main St., Lansdale, (215) 368-9230, feedmeoasis.com

THE OLIVE TREE GREEK MEDITERRANEAN GRILL

379 W. Uwchlan Ave., Downingtown, (610) 873-7911, olivetreegrill.com

SAGE MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE

150 Bridge St., Phoenixville, (484) 927-4168, sagemediterranean.com

continued on page 67



The reimagined
family room.



TRANSITIONAL TO A 'T'

A TAILORED, TRIM AND TIMELESS INTERIOR IN VILLANOVA.

BY EILEEN SMITH DALLABRIDA
PHOTOS BY REBECCA MCALPIN

A newly built home in Villanova meant no major renovations for a busy professional couple with young children. But that didn't mean the property was move-in ready. While the house offered great flow, open sightlines and lots of potential, it didn't reflect the style and energy of an active family. Picture a plain box in need of giftwrap and a bow.

The couple turned to Philadelphia's Glenna Stone to transform the attractive, high-quality structure into a vibrant home that reflects the lifestyle of its owners. She served as an interpreter of sorts, translating a detailed wish list and random thoughts into inviting, user-friendly interiors.

For the dining room, the homeowners chose furniture that's as functional as it is beautiful.





The couple's transitional style is a seamless combination of contemporary and traditional, with clean lines and gently rounded surfaces. "We wanted a great place to come home to—but kid friendly," says the owner. "Glenna helped us strike a balance with flair."

One-of-Kind Space

The project encompassed several areas, including a powder room and foyer. The biggest component was an open-concept living area that spans a kitchen, a dining area and a gathering space that serves as a family room.

With demanding careers in healthcare and investment management, the couple had little time to research resources. So Stone scoured her expansive network to find unique custom pieces that elevated the style of the home. Because the house was

new construction, the kitchen needed only a few tweaks. There were lighting upgrades, new bar stools for casual seating, and sophisticated accessories like a small trough that serves as a planter for succulents.

The designer defined the dining and gathering zones with furnishings and lighting. To give the family room a greater sense of substance, she added a wall of wainscoting behind the sofa. "The millwork helps to connect the rest of the room to the fireplace," Stone says.

A television is stationed above the mantel for easy viewing from multiple vantage points, and tailored sofas offer ideal seating for family movie nights. "Everyone has space to snuggle in and spread out," says Stone.

Sofas were upholstered in a creamy tan using high-tech performance fabrics that resist stains and stand up to the rigors

“When you entertain, people are coming in the front door and it needs to say ‘welcome.’ The foyer sets the tone for what you’re going to see in the rest in the house.”



“We wanted a great place to come home to—but kid friendly.”

of daily life. “Performance fabrics are getting better and better. It feels good to sit on a sofa that has some texture to it,” Stone says.

Striking a Balance

Though earthy neutrals and pale hues are a hallmark of transitional design, the owners also wanted some vibrancy. “They love

warm colors—reds and oranges—which we brought in with pillows that add pops of color to the room,” the designer says. “We also brought in blue stripes in the fabric on a long bench under the window.”

The dark hardwood floors are balanced by the natural light streaming from windows. Crisp white plantation shutters filter the rays, with motorized shades

blocking the sun on the most intense days. Walls are painted in a whisper of beige, a shade dubbed sea salt by Benjamin Moore.

Throughout the room, pieces make a subtle statement. A large round mirror over the sofa is framed with hand-forged metal, its curled edges set in staggered strips. The wooden arms on a cozy reading chair are carved to look like natural twigs, and a

“

“Performance fabrics are getting better and better. It feels good to sit on a sofa that has some texture to it.”



circular cocktail table combines a metal top with curved wooden sides. “With two small children, they wanted rounded edges, not sharp edges—and no glass tops,” the designer says. “It has a casual, rustic feeling to it.”

Style and Substance

In selecting furniture, the owners’ focus was on high-end pieces that are stylish yet comfortable. With a wooden top set on a chunky black pedestal, the round dining table is surrounded by five upholstered chairs. The table’s shape is mirrored in a fluted, circular chandelier suspended from chains. “The table provides a warmth and an inviting tone to our daily lives—and also when we entertain,” the owner says.

The family typically entered the home

through a mudroom, so they wanted to enhance a small foyer for a more formal entry. Stone furnished the space with a wooden chest, a round mirror inset with brass, and a custom rug woven in an organic tree pattern. “When you entertain, people are coming in the front door, and it needs to say ‘welcome,’” says Stone. “The foyer sets the tone for what you’re going to see in the rest in the house.”

Their projects now complete, the family is truly at home in an interior that’s stylish, functional and flexible. “The design has allowed us to create an environment that’s livable but also allows for entertaining small and large groups in a relaxed or formal manner,” the owner says. “It’s a dynamic living space.” **MLT**

Modified *Fun*

CAMPS
DIRECTORY

PAGE 57

Refusing to let the pandemic ruin their summer, local camps overhauled programming to ensure some semblance of normalcy. Can parents expect more of the same this year?

BY LISA DUKART

Summer camp has long been a rite of passage for kids looking to explore a world away from home. But with so many uncertainties surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, that world has become more perilous. Last summer, some local camps opted to cancel programming. Others drastically altered their plans.

Berwyn's Upper Main Line YMCA was among those who moved forward with in-person camps. And by June, parents like Radnor Township's Melissa Bruno were comfortable entrusting their kids to

UMLY's staff. Her eldest child, 10-year-old Xavier, has been a camper there for several years. "I'm a big proponent of taking the mental health of our children seriously," says Bruno, whose 5-year-old daughter, Athena, attended camp for the first time last year. "What are you willing to risk, and what are the benefits that you're going to gain from that risk? Seeing the way our children's affect had changed over the past three to four months of not being in a social environment, it was no question as to whether or not we were going to send them to camp."

continued on page 56



Summer Camps

continued from page 54



Getting out on the water at Upper Main Line YMCA summer camp.

At the start of the pandemic, YMCA of the USA partnered with the American Camp Association to create a game plan that involved CDC guidelines, understanding that individual sites would further incorporate the potentially more stringent state and local health regulations. “The main focus really centered around [placing] the campers in stable groups,” says Brian Raichich, UMLY’s executive director.

Each group maxed out at 12 and included two counselors. “There was no commingling,” Raichich says.

Groups didn’t so much as pass each other, and schedules were coordinated to ensure distancing. So if a COVID case emerged, it would stay contained. “We knew it was a

54-acre piece of land—distance wasn’t going to be an issue,” says Bruno.

UMLY normally sees upwards of 900 campers a week, but new restrictions limited capacity to just over 300. This allowed for indoor contingency plans on rainy days. Mask wearing became mandatory, except when eating and drinking. “Of everything else we’d put in place, we were most concerned about how we were going to manage [masks],” says Raichich. “But kids are resilient. From ages 3 to 16, they did it.”

Health-screening questions were the norm at daily drop-off. Children’s temperatures were taken, with 100.4 degrees as the cutoff. Kids were then escorted to their groups, stopping to wash their hands

at a set of new outdoor sinks. There was ample hand washing throughout the day, and any items or spaces shared between groups were sanitized. Some programs were canceled, and there was no singing in theater camp. “Families that, in years past, may have chosen more of our indoor camps were more drawn to the outdoorsy camps [where they’re] mucking around, doing stream studies in the woods,” says Raichich.

After an isolated spring, Bruno saw significant changes in her kids at camp. “You could slowly start to see life coming back into them,” she says. “They were just so happy to be able to be children again.”

Raichich’s own children attend UMLY camps. “We had staff getting emotional,”

COURTESY OF UPPER MAIN LINE YMCA



Kids perform at a Wolf PAC camp.

“

Last year's lockdowns meant a huge shift in programming for Wolf PAC. Zoom became the new norm.

he says. “Seeing those kids be kids, it made it all worth it in the end. With what we put in place, a little bit of luck, a lot of work on the part of our risk management team, and compliant families, we didn't have a single case of transmission during our summer camp season.”

Last summer, Conestoga High School sophomore Cate Oken grabbed her mom's laptop and set it up in her bedroom five days a week so she could sing, dance and act. Performing for a camera smaller than a thumbnail was no easy feat, but it was rewarding. Cate was one of dozens of area kids performing online through Bryn Mawr's Wolf Performing Arts Center, which has offered such camps for over a decade.

The lockdowns last March meant a huge shift in programming for Wolf PAC, which holds main-stage performances throughout the year, along with classes and individual instruction. A spring performance of

2021 CAMPS DIRECTORY

ACADEMY OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR

Villanova, (610) 687-0650, ndapa.org/summercamp
Day • grades 2-12 • dance, enrichment, science, sports

AGNES IRWIN SCHOOL

Rosemont, (610) 672-1272, summeratais.org
Day • grades pre-K to 12 • academics, arts, athletics, STEAM

AIM ACADEMY

Conshocken, (215) 483-2461, aimpa.org/academics/summer-enrichment-program
Day • grades 1-12 • academics, ACT prep, arts, STEAM

THE BALDWIN SCHOOL'S CAMP MAGAR

Bryn Mawr, (610) 525-2700, baldwinschool.org
Day • ages 3-12 • art, music, nature exploration, sports, swimming, theater

BENCHMARK SCHOOL

Media, (610) 565-3741, benchmarkschool.org/summercamp
Day • grades 1-6 • academics, arts, sports

BRANDYWINE SCHOOL OF WIZARDRY

Arcadia, Chester Springs, Horsham, Plymouth, Radnor, Upper Dublin, Westtown, (610) 827-5678, brandywineschoolofwizardry.com/summer-camps
Day • ages 6-15 • academics, arts

CAMP KEF

Wynnewood, (610) 896-7770, phillyjcc.com/camp
Day • infant to age 15 • arts, sports, technology, theater

CAMP KWEEBEC

Schwenksville, (610) 287-8117, kweebec.com
Overnight • ages 6-16 • arts, athletics, aquatics

CAMP PEGASUS

Ardmore, (610) 649-1080, camppegasus.com
Day • ages 6-16 • art therapy, computer gaming, digital photography, games, music therapy, sports

CAMP SAGINAW

Oxford, (888) 477-2267, campsaginaw.com
Day • ages 6-16 • arts and crafts, ceramics, culinary arts, media, sports, theater, watersports

CCEDC STEM INNOVATION PROGRAMS

Various locations, (610) 321-8212, steminnovationpa.org
Day • ages 10-18 • academics, STEM

CEO ACADEMY FOR YOUTH KIDS CAREER CAMPS

Various locations, (610) 977-2405, kidcareercamps.com/summercamps
Day • grades 4-12 • journalism, law, medicine

CHESTER COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION

West Chester, (610) 696-5600, chestercountyarts.org
Day • ages 4-18 • art, ceramics, fine art, STEAM

COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER'S SUMMER SPREE VISUAL ARTS CAMP

Wallingford, (610) 566-1713, communityartscenter.org
Day • ages 5-17 • art, music, nature, photography

CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB

Essington, (610) 521-4705
Day • ages 8-17 • sailing

DARLINGTON ARTS CENTER

Garnet Valley, (610) 358-3632, darlingtonarts.org
Day • ages 3-14 • music, art, dance, drama

DELAWARE VALLEY TENNIS ACADEMY

Villanova, (610) 527-2387, dvta.com
Day • ages 4-18 • tennis

ELMWOOD PARK ZOO

Norristown, (800) 652-4143, elmwoodparkzoo.org
Day • Ages 6-13 • adventure, animals, conservation

EMAGINATION COMPUTER CAMPS

Rosemont, (877) 248-0206, emaginationtechcamps.com
Day and overnight • ages 8-17 • computers, technology

ENGAGE ART STUDIO

Schwenksville, (484) 968-3101, engagearts.com
Day • ages 5-18 • art, drawing, pottery, sculpture, mixed media

ESF CAMPS & EXPERIENCES

Chester Springs, Chestnut Hill, Haverford, Newtown Square, (800) 529-2267, esfcamps.com
Day • ages 3-18 • academics, arts, science, sports, technology

EPISCOPAL ACADEMY'S CENTER FOR GROWTH & INNOVATION

Newtown Square, (610) 688-3298, easummer.com
Day • grades pre-K-7 • arts, academics, leadership, music, photography, science, theater

FRIENDS' CENTRAL SCHOOL

Wynnewood, (610) 645-5132, www.fcsprograms.org
Day • ages 3-18 • arts, academics, nature exploration, sports, technology, theater

FRIENDS' SCHOOL HAVERFORD

Haverford, (610) 642-2334, friendshaverford.org
Day • ages 3-8 • academics, arts, cooking, sports, water activities

FUTURE AVIATORS

Toughkenamon, (610) 268-2619, newgardenflyingfield.com/future-aviators
Day • ages 7-15 • aviation

“Camps will continue to offer as safe an experience as possible while maintaining some sense of normalcy.”

Fiddler on the Roof that stalled mid-production found a home online. When sharing a physical space was no longer feasible, Zoom became the new norm. “We’ve learned during these crazy times that community keeps us going,” says Wolf PAC artistic director Betsy Wolf Regn. “There was no planet where we were going to say, ‘We’re just doing nothing.’ That’s never an option. We will find a way.”

Typically split into three age groups with some camps extending over two weeks, programming was modified last year. Half-day sessions were introduced, and age considerations were more fluid. Each week, Regn and program director Laura Barron selected the groups, recognizing that family needs varied.

To keep full-day campers engaged, mornings focused on music and afternoons on acting, with themes changing weekly. Teaching and directing also had to change. “How do you [perform] on a device instead of live in-person? Do you stand? Do you just sit and perform? How does that all translate to the screen?” poses Barron. “At first, it was definitely very weird, because a lot of performing is the audience—how the audience reacts, you feel their energy,” says Cate.

Wolf PAC also incorporated design elements, having kids mock up playbills and create costumes out of what they had at home. “Kids are incredibly adaptable,” says Regn. “They want to connect, and they want to learn.”

Still, technical issues arose. Tricky internet connections, background noise and other distractions required troubleshooting. Breakout rooms became essential for one-on-one direction. “If there was a child who was having a rough morning, Laura could hop on the Zoom call and into this breakout room,” adds Regn.

Through a combination of one-on-one sessions and the larger camp experience, Cate refined her skills across a broader range of theatrics. “As a high schooler,

with most plays and musicals, you get to focus on one character for two to four months,” she says. “With this camp, you get a new scene, monologue or part every week, so it really helped expand my repertoire.”

For some, self-esteem was a factor. “We had a handful of kids who, when they started an online program, didn’t want to show their faces, didn’t want to do a solo,” says Barron. “By the next week, they decided they wanted to have a role and had that growth you’d see in-person.”

With 15 or fewer campers per group, kids got plenty of support. “It’s really hard to perform, especially on a Zoom environment,” says Cate. “But you go up there and you just know that people are going to be supportive and loving and kind, no matter what.”

Performing a show online each week had its advantages for families who lived farther away and those with busy schedules. Cate’s dad works in Lancaster, and he was able to tune in. Her mom, Dorothy, caught shows from the Radnor Library, where she works part time. “I’d just put it on my phone, and my coworkers would watch it, too,” she says.

All in all, Wolf PAC saw about half as many campers as they would have for in-person sessions. Despite the smaller enrollment, they still see virtual camp as a success. Looking ahead to this summer, they’re planning for virtual and (hopefully) in-person options. “If spring continues in the right direction and we’re able to be on site as safely as possible, we’ll have an on-site summer camp,” says Regn.

As with last summer, enrollment and programming will be determined based on local and state restrictions, with some decisions occurring months in advance and others more last minute. What’s certain is that camps will continue to offer as safe an experience as possible while maintaining some semblance of normalcy, whether it’s person, online or a hybrid of the two. Whatever the case, the show must go on.

GERMANTOWN ACADEMY DAY CAMP

Fort Washington, (267) 405-7321, germantownacademy.net/summer
Day • grades pre-K to 10 • academics, art, science, sports

THE GRAVITY VAULT

Radnor, (610) 756-2529, gravityvault.com
Day • ages 7-14 • rock climbing

THE HANDWORK STUDIO

Various locations, (610) 660-9600, thehandworkstudio.com
Day • ages 5-15 • cooking, fashion, machine sewing, needle arts, woodworking

HEDGEROW THEATRE

Rose Valley, (610) 565-4211, hedgerowtheatre.org
Day • ages 3-14 • theater

HOLY CHILD ACADEMY SUMMER CAMP

Drexel Hill, (610) 259-2712, holychildacademy.com
Day • ages 2-14 • arts, cooking, robotics, science, sports, swimming

ICORE FITNESS

West Chester, (484) 887-8607, icore.ninja
Day • ages 6-14 • ninja training, parkour, sports

KITCHEN WIZARDS

Various locations, (610) 348-5284, kitchenwizards.info
Day • ages 5-14 • baking and cooking

LAVNER CAMPS

Various locations, (888) 854-2267, lavnercampsandprograms.com
Day • ages 6-14 • arts, education, sports, technology

MAIN LINE ART CENTER

Haverford, (610) 525-0272, mainlineart.org
Day • ages 5-16 • arts

MEDIA-PROVIDENCE FRIENDS SCHOOL

Media, (610) 565-1960, mpfs.org
Day • ages 3-10 • art, education

MEDIA THEATRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Media, (610) 891-0100, mediatheatre.org
Day • ages 5-18 • theater

MERION MERCY ACADEMY

Merion Station, (610) 664-6655, merion-mercy.com
Day • grades 4-12 • academics, sports

MISSION 5&2

Various locations, (484) 486-4089, mission5and2.org
Day • grades 3-8 • sports

MUSIC TRAINING CENTER

Various locations, musictrainingcenter.com
Day • ages 7-17 • bands, music, musical theater

PENN MUSEUM'S ANTHROPOLOGISTS IN THE MAKING SUMMER CAMP

Philadelphia, (215) 898-4000, penn.museum
Day • ages 7-13 • anthropology

PHILADELPHIA ROCK GYM

Various locations, (877) 822-7673, philarockgym.com/camp-programs
Day • ages 4-14 • climbing

PHILADELPHIA SCHOOL OF CIRCUS ARTS

Philadelphia, (215) 849-1991, phillycircus.com/camp
Day • ages 5-18 • circus arts

**PLAY BY PLAY SPORTS
BROADCASTING**

Villanova, (800) 319-0884,
playbyplaycamps.com
Day and overnight • ages 10-18 • journalism

**RIVERBEND ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION CENTER**

Gladwyne, (610) 527-5234,
riverbendeec.org
Day • ages 4-11 • adventure, exploration

SHIPLEY ENRICHMENT CAMP

Bryn Mawr, (610) 525-4300,
shipleyschool.org/student-life/camps
Day • ages 5-12 • art, science, sports

SIXERS BASKETBALL CAMPS

Various locations, (610) 668-7676,
sixerscamps.com
Day and overnight • ages 5-17 • basketball

TRAVEL FOR TEENS

Wayne, (888) 457-4534,
travelforteens.com
Overnight • grades 6-12 • language,
photography, service, travel

TYLER ARBORETUM

Media, (610) 566-9134,
tylerarboretum.org/camp
Day • grades 1-8 • adventure and exploration

UPPER DARBY SUMMER STAGE

Drexel Hill, (610) 622-1189,
udpac.org
Day • ages 10-17 • theater

VALLEY FORGE SUMMER CAMP

Wayne, (610) 989-1253
Day and overnight • ages 6-17 • academics,
fitness, leadership skills, nature exploration,
sports, STEAM

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY

Villanova, (610) 519-7580,
camp.villanova.edu
Day and overnight • grades 2-12 •
college prep, football, lacrosse, leadership,
soccer, swimming, tennis, volleyball

WAYNE ART CENTER

Wayne, (610) 688-3553,
wayneart.org
Day • ages 3-17 • ceramics, cooking,
drama, drawing, jewelry, music,
painting, photography

WC STUDIO FOR THE

PERFORMING ARTS
West Chester, (484) 995-2915,
westchesterstudio.com
Day • ages 4-17 • theater

WESTTOWN SCHOOL

West Chester, (610) 399-7569,
summer-westtown.com
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241 Conestoga Road, Second Floor, Wayne, (610) 688-3969, dayspabyzsuzsanna.com
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DECOLA SALON

6 Dowlin Forge Road, Exton, (610) 363-9554, decolasaloon.com
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31 W. State St., Media, (610) 566-2515, dejavusaloon.com
Services: hair care, nail and skin care, makeup, waxing, massage.



ELISE SPA & NAILS

2 Town Place, Bryn Mawr, (610) 527-1789, elisenspa.com
Services: nail and skin care, waxing.

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1038 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 519-0244, equilibriumspanatural.com
Services: nail and skin care, waxing, makeup, body treatments.

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Various locations, elisenspa.com
Services: nail and skin care, waxing.

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Services: hair care.

SALON 555

555 Lancaster Ave., Berwyn, (610) 647-5655, salon-555.com
Services: hair care.

SALON A

912 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 527-3315, thesalonabrynmawr.com
Services: hair care, nail care, waxing, body treatments.

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2 Town Place, Suite 105, Bryn Mawr, (484) 380-3853, salonabrynmawr.com
Services: hair extensions, wigs, makeup.

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serenitywellnessllc.com
Services: massage, skin care, waxing.

SOPHIA SPA & NAILS

827 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (484) 380-3513
Services: nail care, massage.

STUDIO ML

12 Cricket Ave., Ardmore, (610) 291-3274, studiomainline.com
Services: hair care.

STYLE MASTERS SALON AND SPA

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4 Park Ave., Swarthmore, (610) 544-6620, swarthmorehairstudio.com
Services: hair care, waxing, makeup.

TANTRA HAIR SALON & DAY SPA

180 Town Center Road, King of Prussia, (610) 768-9087, tantrason.com
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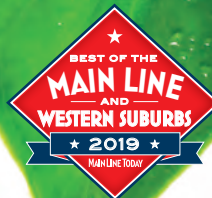
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Media Friendly

With its carefully crafted cuisine, Rye BYOB stands out in a crowded field.

Ryan Sulikowski's eyes almost seem to smile from behind his mask as he discusses his latest life-changing challenges. The chef recently opened Rye BYOB amid the COVID-19 pandemic, and he and wife Brianne have also become new parents. Ethan was born in July, making 2020 even more memorable.

Situated in Media among culinary mainstays Stephen's on State, Fellini Cafe

and La Belle Epoque Wine Bistro, Rye BYOB is more than holding its own. "We're elevating more familiar foods while keeping things approachable and affordable," says Sulikowski. "Our menu avoids using the typical first-, second- and third-course designations in favor of starters, pastas and proteins. We prefer that our diners create their own personal pick-and-choose tasting experience."

Rye's scratch kitchen delivers beautiful

plates with subtle layers of texture, color and playfulness. Tempting starters include shishito peppers with feta and cured olives, roasted Brussels sprouts with cilantro and rye berries, and smoked trout with charred squash, arugula, crispy shallot, mustard vinaigrette and capers. Pasta lovers will appreciate the work involved in the house-made garganelli, toasted spaghetti and butternut squash tortelloni. Unpretentious protein options include salmon, a half

Details

Rye BYOB, 112 W. State St., Media, ryebyob.com. COST: \$5-\$24. **ATMOSPHERE:** Comfortably simple. **HOURS:** noon-9 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. **ATTIRE:** Casual. **EXTRAS:** No corkage fees. Pasta and gelato made on site. Fun mocktails.



(Clockwise from opposite page) Butternut squash tortelloni with ricotta, brown butter, sage and black garlic; the Chai Blossom mocktail with lime and a star anise garnish; a choice corner table; scallops with potato-and-pepper chowder, topped with Thai basil and bonito flakes.



chicken, scallops, mussels, and a surf-and-turf combo with a crab cake and New York strip. The massive double-beef cheeseburger is already a hit with the locals.

Crafted on-site, desserts include gooey cinnamon buns, chocolate rye cake with brandied cherries. A recent special destined to make a comeback: crepe cake made with rye flour and cocoa. Indulge in a seasonal cider-based hot toddy, a ginger-tinged Dark 'n' Stormy, and other mocktail mixers. Coffee and espresso are sourced from local roaster Burlap and Bean.

Brunch boasts petite stacks of lemon ricotta pancakes, apple-cereal French toast, and crispy potatoes. Lunchtime standouts include a wedge salad and a vegan eggplant bánh mi.

Rye's owners have refreshed and refined the interior of the former Lotus Farm to Table location with a softer color palette and local artwork for a comfortable ambience. (And never underestimate the appeal of padded seats.) A few heated tables out front welcome those looking to brave the elements. Sunday-night family dinners can be pre-ordered online, making for easy pickup in oven-ready containers. **MLT**

Chocolate rye cake with cocoa sorbet, marshmallow and brandied cherries.



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Treats

Sweet Somethings

Falling on a Sunday this year, Valentine's Day 2021 is shaping up to be a weekend-long celebration. That in mind, local shops that specialize in handmade artisan chocolates and small-batch baked goods are preparing for what may be the biggest Feb. 14 in years. "Sugar, love and a holiday weekend? It's the perfect combination," says Sandy Stauffer, owner of the Bakery House in Bryn Mawr. "It's all about red, hearts and joy around the world."

The COVID-19 pandemic has a lot to do with it. "People are gifting to everyone important in their lives—especially teachers, postal workers and Amazon drivers, who you probably know much better than you did last year," says Kim Wright, owner of the Nothing Bundt Cakes, with locations in

Lovingly crafted gifts from
Nothing Bundt Cakes.



Wynnewood, Springfield and Wayne.

"Carpe diem," says Christopher Curtin with a laugh. The master chocolatier and owner of West Chester's Éclat Chocolate has seen retail business skyrocket by

400 percent since the start of the pandemic. Still, that doesn't make up for the loss of international sales or its wholesale business with hotels and restaurants, all of which evaporated in March. "But we're living on

COURTESY OF NOTHING BUNDT CAKES

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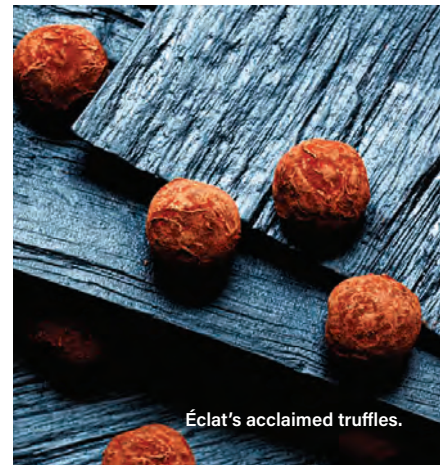
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our customers here in West Chester and in the U.S.," Curtin says. "And I'm incredibly grateful for the support."

Heart-shaped boxes of artisan chocolates are Éclat's most popular Valentine's Day gift, followed closely by truffles, pralines, bon bons and Mondiants. Wafer-like and filled with peanut butter, caramel or cacao nibs, Mondiants are Curtin's spin on mendiants, a traditional French treat. The *New York Times* wrote about them in June. "They are delicate and delicious," says Curtin. "We're incredibly proud to offer them to our customers."

The Bakery House's newly enhanced online ordering system has resulted in a bonanza of business. Stauffer realized that an online system is easier for most of her customers, though it hasn't compromised her relationship with any of them. Some have been Bakery House patrons for 30 years. "I still see them when they come in to pick up their orders," Stauffer says. "We're blessed to have loving, caring, giving customers. It's the best part about a neighborhood bakery."

The Bakery House's most popular Valentine's Day treats: heart-shaped cakes dipped in chocolate and decorated with buttercream icing. A close second are the strawberry rolls (vanilla fudge cake with strawberries and fresh whipped cream) and sand cookies with red and white sugar. "Cookies and beautiful but smaller items are being ordered for teachers, postal workers and other people who've proven to be essential," Stauffer says.

At Nothing Bundt Cakes, chocolate-chocolate chip and red velvet Bundtlets and bize-size Bundtins are bestselling Valentine's Day flavors. For grab-and-go gifts, Bundtlets can be ordered in towers or wrapped with wine glasses, coffee mugs and teddy bears. "We need all the love we can get this winter," Wright says, "and all the sweetness, too." —*Melissa Jacobs*

COURTESY OF ÉCLAT CHOCOLATE

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BEER, WINE & SPIRITS

BREWERIES

2SP BREWING COMPANY

Opened in 2015, this Delaware County brewery has produced over 140 varieties of beer, including a limited-edition coffee stout created in partnership with Wawa. Look for food trucks and events at the taproom. 120 Concord Road, Aston, (484) 483-7860, 2spbrewing.com.

BALD BIRDS BREWING COMPANY

Husband-and-wife duo Joe and Abby Feerrar debuted Bald Birds in 2018. The taproom features picnic-style and high-top seating, TVs, board games, and video games. 970 Rittenhouse Road, Audubon, (484) 392-7068, baldbirdsbrewing.com.

BRAELOCH BREWING

With beers like the Kennett Brown Ale and Blue Hen Gold IPA, Braeloch has embraced its local roots. The 4,000-square-foot taproom features lots of seating, live music and a dog-friendly outdoor beer garden. 225 Birch St., Kennett Square, (610) 612-9242, braelochbrewing.beer.

CHESTNUT HILL BREWING COMPANY

Located inside Market at the Fareway, this nano brewery is known for its flagship Motra, a West Coast style-IPA that pairs perfectly with the eatery's wood-fired Neapolitan pizzas. 8231 Germantown Ave., Chestnut Hill, (215) 247-0300, chestnuthillbrewingcompany.com.

CONSHOHOCKEN BREWING COMPANY

Small-batch brews include the Conshohocken IPA and award-winning Puddlers Row ESB. In addition to their flagship taproom and production facility in Conshohocken, there are several other locations throughout the suburbs. Various locations, conshohockenbrewing.com.

CROOKED EYE BREWERY

This family-run brewery crafts eight core beers, plus a rotation of seasonal brews. Open-mic nights, live music and Quizzo are staples in the taproom. 13 E. Montgomery Ave., Hatboro, (267) 803-6925, crookedeyebrewery.com.

CROWDED CASTLE BREWING COMPANY

You'll find quirky selections like the Castlecade IPA and Lord Whipperfurth's Stout at this taproom, which also offers locally produced ciders, wine and craft liqueurs. 242 Bridge St., Phoenixville, (484) 252-0077, crowdedcastle.com.

EAST BRANCH BREWING COMPANY

Housed in a historic firehouse in Downingtown, East Branch produces 11 different brews. The taproom features a full-service restaurant and bar. 202 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, (484) 593-0815, eastbranchbrewing.com.

IRON HILL BREWERY

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2021 DINING GUIDE

LA CABRA BREWING

This industrial-chic brewery and restaurant features rotating taps and a Latin-inspired menu. It's Bodega location in Bryn Mawr offers great barbecue and La Cibra beer. 642 Lancaster Ave., Berwyn, (610) 240-7908; 810 Glenbrook Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 526-2337; lacabrabrewing.com.

LEVANTE BREWING COMPANY

Known for its Cloudy and Cumbrous IPA, Levante offers a bevy of unique brews. The now-permanent Levante Stables is the perfect summer hangout. 208 Carter Drive, West Chester, (484) 999-8761, 160 Park Road, Chester Springs, (484) 202-0622; levantebrewing.com.

LOCUST LANE CRAFT BREWERY

Named after the street where the owners met, Locust Lane offers four staples, plus a selection of seasonal and experimental brews. 50 Three Tun Road, Malvern, (484) 324-4141, locustlanecraftbrewery.com.

MANAYUNK BREWING COMPANY

Located on the banks of the Schuylkill River, this brewery and restaurant boasts a massive al fresco dining area, multiple bars and a state-of-the-art brewing facility. 4120 Main St., Manayunk, (215) 482-8220, manayunkbrewing.com.

MCKENZIE BREW HOUSE

With locations in Chadds Ford, Devon and Malvern, McKenzie offers award-winning brews and a New American menu. Various locations, mckenziebrewhouse.com.

REBEL HILL BREWING COMPANY

A seven-barrel brewpub specializing in small-batch ales. The IPAs, saison and stout pair well with the sharable plates, sandwiches and salads. 420 Schuylkill Road, Phoenixville, (484) 924-8044, rebelhillbrewing.com.

ROOT DOWN BREWING COMPANY

Graffiti-adorned walls, classic arcade games and ample beer hall-style seating make this award-winning 13,000-square-foot brewpub exceptionally cool. 1 N. Main St., Phoenixville, (484) 302-5407, rootdownbrewing.com.

SLY FOX BREWING COMPANY

Since debuting in 1995, Sly Fox has produced more than 100 craft brews, earning numerous awards. Headquartered in Pottstown, this local institution also operates a brewhouse and restaurant in Phoenixville. 520 Kimberton Road, Phoenixville, (610) 935-4540; 331 Circle of Progress Drive, Pottstown, (484) 524-8210; slyfoxbeer.com.

STABLE 12 BREWING COMPANY

Started by three high schools friends, this small-batch brewery offers 10 beers and tasty pub fare. 368 Bridge St., Phoenixville, (610) 715-2665, stable12.com.

STERLING PIG BREWERY

Loic Barnieu and Brian McConnell's small-batch brewery runs the craft-beer gamut, from IPAs and porters to stouts and pilsners. 609 W. State St., Media, (484) 444-2526; 113 W. Market St., West Chester, (484) 999-8026; sterlingpig.com.

STICKMAN BREWS

You'll find a wide variety of small-batch brews, including the award-winning Cousin Stoopid Grand Cru. 861 Kimberton Road, Chester Springs, (484) 202-8576; 326 N. Lewis Road, Royersford, (484) 938-5900; stickmanbrews.com

STOLEN SUN BREWING AND ROASTING COMPANY

This family-owned operation brews great beer and small-batch Colombian coffee, both of which pair perfectly with its pub fare. 342 Pottstown Pike, Exton, (484) 879-4161, stolensun.com.

SUBURBAN BREWING COMPANY

This small-batch collaboration between Suburban Restaurant & Beer Garden and Fancy Camper Home Brew Supply offers up to a dozen rotating beers, plus local spirits, wine and snacks. 2536 Conestoga Ave., Honey Brook, (610) 273-3106, suburbanbrewingco.com.

TIN LIZARD BREWING COMPANY

A two-story barbecue joint and microbrewery offering nine rotating beers brewed on site. 1000 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr, (610) 525-1100, tinlizardbrewingco.com.

TIRED HANDS BREWING COMPANY

This internationally-ranked, six-barrel brewery specializes in American hop-forward, Belgian and French ales. Find three locations in Ardmore—the 150-seat Fermentaria, a general store and the original Brew Café. *Various locations, tiredhands.com.*

TUNED UP BREWING COMPANY

This nano-brewery's taproom features a rotating lineup of IPAs, stouts and ales, plus open mic nights and live music. 135 N. Main St., Spring City, (484) 374-2671, tunedupbrew.com.

VICTORY BREWING COMPANY

With taprooms in Downingtown, Kennett Square and Parkesburg, this Chester County standout has earned national acclaim since opening over 20 years ago. Victory crafts 17 brews, including year-round staples like the Golden Monkey Belgian-style tripel and seasonal favorites like Summer Love golden ale. *Various locations, victorybeer.com.*

WORKHORSE BREWING COMPANY

Workhorse spans 70,000 square feet. Visitors can book brewery tours, nosh on grub from a rotating lineup of food trucks, and take part in weekly Quizzo and fitness classes. 250 King Manor Drive, King of Prussia, (484) 681-9928, workhorsebrewing.com.

WINERIES

1723 VINEYARDS

Established by fifth-generation farmers, this 11-acre vineyard is open to the public on weekends, with food trucks every Saturday afternoon April-October. 5 McMaster Blvd., Landenberg, (888) 330-0526, 1723vineyards.com.

A'DELLO VINEYARD AND WINERY

Each of the red, white, semi-sweet and fruity wines at A'Dello are produced from a family recipe passed down from the owners' Italian ancestors. The tasting room is open on weekends. 21 Simmons Road, Perkiomenville, (610) 754-0006, adellowines.com.

BLACK WALNUT WINERY

The tasting room here is in a charming 200-year-old bank barn. There's a second location in downtown Phoenixville, with a tasting room, a wine bar and live music. 3000 Lincoln Hwy., Coatesville, (610) 857-5566; 260 Bridge St., Phoenixville, (484) 924-8740; blackwalnutwinery.com.

CARDINAL HOLLOW WINERY

Visitors will likely find something they've never tasted before, thanks to uniquely flavored wines like spicy strawberry, blueberry, jalapeno, and agave nectar. More traditional red and white varieties are also available. 1830 West Point Pike, West Point, Lansdale, (215) 801-2227, cardinalhollowwinery.com.

CHADDSFORD WINERY

With a focus on dry reds and whites, and sweet wines that pair well with meals, Chaddsford offers daily tastings and flights, plus a host of fun events. 632 Baltimore Pike, Chadds Ford, (610) 388-6221, chaddsford.com.

FLICKERWOOD WINE CELLARS & TWISTED TREATS

This winery's creations are inspired by the owners' passion for rock 'n' roll. You'll find over 30 whites, reds, blushes and specialty sweet wines. 920 Market St., Oxford, (610) 932-9498, flickerwood.com.

GALER ESTATE VINEYARD & WINERY

Over 70 percent of the grapes used at Galer Estate come from its own vineyards. The arty tasting room is open on weekends. 700 Folly Hill Road, Kennett Square, (484) 899-8013, galerestate.com.

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GRACE WINERY

Located in a transformed 1750s barn, the tasting room is open daily. 50 Sweetwater Road, Glen Mills, (610) 459-4711, gracewinery.com.

J. MAKI WINERY

The only winery in the U.S. to win a gold medal for champagne from the prestigious Vinalies Internationales, J. Maki makes red, white and ice wines, plus champagne. 200 Grove Road, Elverson, (610) 286-7754, jmakiwinery.com.

KARAMOOR ESTATE VINEYARDS

The vintage wines made here include Cabernet Franc, chardonnay, meritage, merlot and sauvignon blanc. The tasting room is open by appointment only. 40 E. Skippack Pike, Fort Washington, (215) 641-0233, karamoorwines.com.

KREUTZ CREEK VINEYARDS

This vineyard specializes in dry and semi-dry red and white wines. Look for evening concerts and other events. 553 S. Guernsey Road, West Grove, (610) 357-0294, kreutzcreekvineyards.com.

PATONE CELLARS

This Italian-style winery's output is heavily influenced by European blends. 1051 Wickerton Road, Landenberg, (302) 545-7388.

PARADOCX VINEYARD

Each weekend, this winery offers custom or selected flights at its tasting room, which offers sweeping views of 100 acres. Run by four physicians, find red, white, rosé and sweet wines. 1833 Flint Hill Road, Landenberg, (610) 255-5684; paradocx.com.

PENNS WOODS WINERY

This family run, Italian-inspired establishment features a selection of over 20 white, red and rosé wines. All can be sipped in the tasting room or an outdoor patio with views of the winery's 30 acres. 124 Beaver Valley Road, Chadds Ford, (610) 459-0808, pennswoodwinery.com.

STARGAZERS VINEYARD

Overlooking the Brandywine Creek, Stargazers encourages guests to walk the vineyards where its owners have been planting grapes for their traditional-style wines since 1979. 1024 Wheatland Drive, Coatesville, (610) 486-0422, stargazersvineyard.com.

STONE BARN CELLARS WINERY

The environmentally friendly Stone Barn Cellars resides in a 100-year-old bank barn that features an indoor tasting room and an outdoor deck. You can sample over 20 dry and sweet wines, or cool down with a peach or strawberry wine slushie in the summer. 3050 Pottstown Pike, Spring City, (484) 985-8077, stonebarncellars.com.

STONE & KEY CELLARS

Create a your own custom wine by choosing and crushing the grapes and designing and filling the bottles. Stone & Key also has a tasting room that features wines made from grapes in California, Washington and Chile. 435 Doylestown Road, Montgomeryville, (215) 855-4567, stoneandkeycellars.com.

VA LA VINEYARDS

Specializing in four signature wines made from a blend of Northern Italian and French-inspired grapes, this Chester County winery resides in a charming 19th century barn. 8820 Gap Newport Pike, Avondale, (610) 268-2702, valavineyards.com.

WAYVINE VINEYARD AND WINERY

With over 12,000 grapevines in 11 different varieties, Wayvine has been developing its own the red, white and rosé vintages for nearly a decade. You can sip varietals at the tasting room, open Friday evenings and Saturday and Sunday afternoons. 4374 Forge Road, Nottingham, (610) 220-0128, wayvine.wine.



Manatawny Still Works
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DISTILLERIES

BLUEBIRD DISTILLING

Bluebird produces a wide array of spirits, including bourbon, gin, vodka, dark and sugarcane rums, and single-malt, wheat, rye and white rye whiskeys. Sip them straight, or try them in a number of creative cocktails. 100 Bridge St., Phoenixville, (610) 933-7827, bluebirddistilling.com.

BOARDROOM SPIRITS

Boardroom has quickly gained a loyal following thanks to extraordinary creations like its funky "periodic table" spirits made with fruits and vegetables, which are classified as brandies. Flavors include apple, beet and carrot. You'll find more traditional options like vodka, rum, gin and triple sec, too. Try them at the Lansdale tasting room, open Thursday-Sunday. 575 W. Third St., Lansdale, (267) 642-9961, boardroomsprits.com.

BRANDYWINE BRANCH DISTILLERY & BISTRO

Located in a converted barn near French Creek State Park, this craft distiller is known for its botanical gins and bourbons. Grains are fermented on-site in fermenters made from the wood of old-growth Douglas firs. Grab a bottle, or sit down for a cocktail at the bistro. 350 Warwick Road, Elverson, (610) 901-3668, revivalistspirits.com.

FIVE SAINTS DISTILLING

This Norristown distiller runs the gamut, from vodka to white whiskey. But Five Saints' true standouts are its award-winning Tuscan-style gin and blood-orange liqueur. Unique offerings include a raspberry-lavender absinthe and maple-bourbon butter-pecan rum. 129 E. Main St., Norristown, (610) 279-5364, fivesaintsdistilling.com.

MANATAWNY STILL WORKS

Named after a native Lenape tribe, Manatawny derives from a word that means "the place we meet to drink." At its industrial-chic location, visitors can find award-winning aged, un-aged and seasonal spirits, including whiskey, rum, gin and vodka, along with specialty collaborations with local food purveyors. 320 Circle of Progress Drive, Pottstown, (484) 624-8271, manatawnystillworks.com.

MERMAID SPIRITS

Founded by a trained research scientist with a degree in food biochemistry, Mermaid Spirits produces vodka, white and aged rums, and bourbons. 2052 County Line Road, Huntingdon Valley, (215) 355-5304, mermaidsprits.com.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTILLING COMPANY

Harkening back to the spirits that were made when Pennsylvania was still a colony, this distiller produces rye whiskeys, vodka, white and gold rum, and gin. To match the historically inspired names, bottles feature iconic Pennsylvania symbols like the keystone, the Liberty Bell and the Betsy Ross flag. 50 Three Run Road, Malvern, (484) 568-4920, pennndistilling.com.

NOTE: At press time, all establishments were following COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines. Call or go online for updates.

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Winter Vibes

The gazebo at West Chester's Marshall Square Park lights up the night for the holiday season and beyond. Inspired by Washington Square in Philadelphia, it became a public park in 1848.

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