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(From left) Power Women  
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Deb Ryan, Rose Fennell and  
Stephanie Ayanian.



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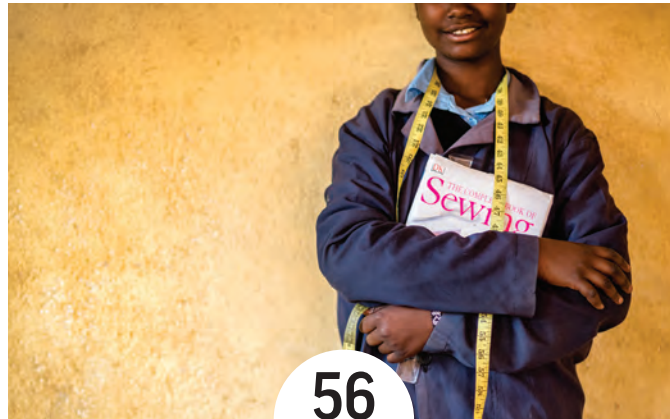
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ED WILLIAMS

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## LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

# Closets By Design



**Charles Waterman**  
*Owner, Closets By Design*

Over the past 15 years, Charles and the Closets by Design team has helped many clients simplify and organize their lives with closet solutions that provide order and sometimes even escape. Last year, Closets By Design moved to its new location in Malvern and serves southeastern Pennsylvania and Delaware.

### What are clients looking for when they want their bedroom closet redesigned?

A lot of times, closets are the least thought-out rooms in the house, but they're rooms or areas people use every day—and quite often they're the start of their daily frustration. We want to start their days off on a better note so they're well organized.



### How does Closets by Design make a dream a reality?

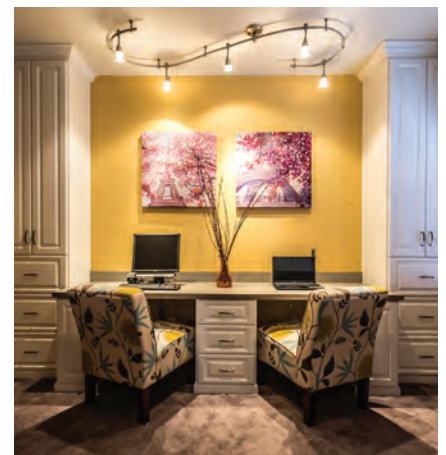
Our full-time professional designers will go to a customer's home and work with them to create a vision.

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### Did things change for Closets By Design during the pandemic?

We found that people were cocooning at home and staying safe. They wanted to be comfortable, looking at their homes with a more critical eye and raising their expectations. Because we make our own products, we have a lot of flexibility. And because we also offer financing, it allowed people some piece of mind when there was an air of uncertainty about the economy.





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## FOREWORD



# A POWERFUL DAY

It was a memorable Thursday in July at Chesterbrook's Duportail House as we assembled for Main Line Today's latest Power Women photo shoot. Our cameras and crew were set up and ready to go before 8 a.m., but the real action began when our 20 honorees filled the historic structure with their excitement, enthusiasm and energy. Each was nominated by her peers for demonstrating exceptional vision, leadership, courage and creativity in their careers and elsewhere.

What was it like getting to know these ladies? I can honestly say that it was motivating, inspiring and engaging. All have incredible stories to share, and we touch on those in this month's cover story. There are career highlights, of course. But there are also plenty of stories about how unexpected circumstances impacted key decisions in their lives as they forged a path to success. Some surprising choices—professional and personal—led them to where they are today.

I found that these Power Women are as human as the rest of us. And I learned so much while chatting with them. Some of the key takeaways they shared: Be comfortable with ambiguity; collaboration is an asset; be open to fresh ideas and feedback; learn to be resilient; prioritize your relationships; make time in your schedule for self-care; and embrace healthy thoughts. These concepts may not be new, but incorporating them into your daily life can be difficult—even for a Power Woman.

Our honorees also had some great advice for younger women in the workplace: Seek out great mentors; seize opportunities; remember that no small task is too small; and never turn down an opportunity. They emphasized that not every experience will be positive, but finding a way to learn from each one of them will help you grow. Leverage where you come from, and turn that into learning and career opportunities. Respond to phone calls, emails, texts. Communicate. When you don't, you lose respect.

Main Line Today is invested in recognizing and supporting all women in the workplace and our communities. This year's Power Women Summit will kick off Oct. 20 at Drexelbrook Catering and Special Event Center with a much-anticipated conversation between NBC10's Tracy Davidson and special guest Victoria Wyeth, only grandchild of the late Andrew Wyeth. Join us as we hear how two incredibly talented women have created milestones of their own—and how they find time to inspire so many others. To learn more, visit [mainlinetoday.com](http://mainlinetoday.com).

Have a wonderful fall.

**MARIE EDWARDS**  
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# COMING UP + WEB EXTRAS



## NEXT MONTH

With COVID still a factor, it's hard to know what to expect this holiday season. But whether your guest list is long or short, our tips for entertaining at home are worth toasting.

## PLUS...

Get a jump on your holiday to-do list with our annual shopping guide.

**CORRECTIONS:** In our August Top Lawyers feature, Christin Kubacke's phone number was incorrect. It should be (610) 692-3001. Also, Nancy Glidden's name was misspelled. We regret the errors.



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## Instagram Alert!



*Philadelphia Family* editor Laura Swartz—aka **@pompomfliplop**—strikes a happy pose outside the Willows at our Aug. 17 purveyors event kicking off MLT Restaurant Week.

## ONLINE



**DIVE INTO AUTUMN!** Are you ready for fun fall activities? Look for a guide to our favorite places to go pumpkin picking in the Main Line area. And don't miss our local Halloween events roundup.

## PLUS ...

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# SCENE



## DÎNER EN BLANC

AUG. 12, PHILADELPHIA

**1.** Brad Glaser, Kate Hogentogler, Amy Baxter and Mike Hogentogler, all of Malvern  
**2.** Xavier Feliciano and Annemarie Bedner of Bala Cynwyd. **3.** Natalie and Dan Finn of Wayne. **4.** Rick Brode of Wayne with Victor Hurdle and Katie Law of Merion Station. **5.** Ann-Michelle Albertson of Wynnewood and Marti Berk of Bala Cynwyd with Monica Fusco and Cory Scheibe of Valley Forge.



## PARTY IN THE PARK

AUG. 18, MANN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

**6.** Sandra and William Patterer of Devon.  
**7.** Richard and Anne Umbrecht of Villanova with Dr. Karl and Laurel Doghramji of Berwyn. **8.** Aliki Karnavas, Athena Anthopoulos and John Grady, all of Bryn Mawr. **9.** Drew Camerota of Wayne with Lin and Jim Buck of Bryn Mawr. **10.** Ed and Cyma Satell of Malvern.

ALL PHOTOS BY HUGHE DILLON



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# FRONTLINE

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## SPORTS

# HEAR THEM ROAR

**CHARLES THOMPSON HAS HIS CHESTER PANTHERS BEATING SOME CRAZY ODDS.**

BY J.F. PIRRO

Quasir Peña may only be 7 years old, but the lineman has a roar. He unveils a sampling of what he calls his *Star Wars* “Chewbacca sound,” which he unleashes before he gets his football opponents where he wants them. “Then they don’t do nothing,” Peña says. “I do my noise, and they walk away. On defense, I want all the tackles.” *continued on page 14*

Charles Thompson at Chester's Veterans Memorial Park.



TESSA MARIE IMAGES



*Congratulations!*

# Kathleen D. Wilkinson

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**Power Women Honoree**



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Then his coach, Ty Bush, asks him, "If you had to rate the Chester Panthers experience between one and 10, where would you rate it?"

"An 11½, but I like everything—the running, tackling and the dogfights," Peña says. "I like to get them at the legs and get them weak, then they drop and fall."

This is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary season for the Chester Panthers Youth Empowerment and Athletic Association. "One of the craziest things is that the cost of registration is only \$25," says president Charles Thompson. "It's gone up about a dollar a year."

Founded in 1996, the program initially folded in 2000 due to financial constraints and a lack of local governmental support. "In the beginning, brothers would share helmets with brothers on game day," Thompson says. "We had to store everything in our houses. There were no containers or sheds at the fields like now. All we had was this open space."

Nine-year-old Ulysses "Mally" Allen, another lineman, is a first-year player. Thompson found him and his 5-year-old nephew during spring workouts between April and June, a sort of re-initiation for the program after the pandemic's lost year. He asked why they weren't playing.

"My dad didn't sign me up," Allen told him.

"Well, bring your dad over here," Thompson said.

"I enjoy the workouts, the energy of the coaches, and the fact that they teach us discipline," says Allen, who sacked the opposing team's quarterback four times in his first scrimmage. "If I wasn't playing, I'd be home playing games and eating—but I think I have a few more sacks in me."

The Panthers player most on local minds right now is Ny'Ques Farlow-Davis, a 13-year-old who was gunned down May 3, 2020. He died a day later. Three men and a woman were charged and are awaiting trial. Though former Panthers have perished, this marked the first time the program has lost a current player. "It was rough," says Thompson. "He was targeted. He was a popular, outstanding athlete. He was known, and others around here don't like that. It was jealousy from adults."

"Nobody did not like that kid," says Marlise Carr, director of the program's cheerleading squad, whose daughter had a birthday the day of the murder. "He was sweet, kind. He came from good stock, a good family. This is such a sad world, but here we tried to provide a safe place

to communicate—a place where brothers could come together and cry about it. Though it wasn't easy to talk."

The Panthers plan to name their field at Chester's Veterans Memorial Park the Ny'Ques Farlow Davis Field of Dreams—and maybe add a bronze bench there in his memory. "There are a lot of things we want to do," Thompson says. "He has a foundation. We're naming our 14U squad Team Ny'Ques."

Thompson is responsible for restarting this program in 2004. He wasn't even on the board when he did—he was an assistant coach. Initially, Thompson was forced to take his own kin to the Claymont (Del.) Falcons, who welcomed the newcomers. "They knew what they were doing," he says. "They knew we had athletes."

Then, one day, back at the park in Chester, a young boy on a bicycle with a football in his hands stopped him. "He asked, 'Coach C., why don't we have football here anymore?'" Thompson recalls. "To this day, I don't know who that boy was. He wasn't a kid I coached, but all the kids knew who we were. I knew I had to get back, and it was then that I decided to start a forever learning test in how to run a program. We've been at it ever since."

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"It's a labor of love," says Carr. "Is that what we call it now?" replies Thompson, using a towel to mop up his summertime practice sweat. "In the early days, I called it stupid. It's been a heck of a lot of sacrifice, but we've branded our name so well. Sometimes kids call me the 'YouTube coach.' Our reputation has superseded itself."

In the beginning, it took every dime Thompson had—and he'd just bought a house. But he had a good job, working for a bank in Merion. But rather than furniture in his living room, he had 100 sets of football helmets and shoulder pads.

Then he started securing coaches. One of them was Bush, now the Panthers' vice president and head coach for the 7-and-under team. He declined initially, then changed his mind. "It took my first time here," says Bush somewhat sheepishly. "I started edging down the hill, and soon I was on the 50-yard line."

All the coaches traversed the city looking for kids and parents, telling them, "We're getting it back."

The first year, there were 76 kids ages 5-15 and five teams. Now, there are 300 participants, four flag football teams alone for the youngest, and enough cheer

squads to assign two per team. Success has come with bumps and bruises—"and some of these," says Bush, pulling out a few more gray hairs.

Between Thompson and Bush, they've won 20 championships in the past 10 years. Two affiliates—the national American Youth Football and the Independent Youth Football League—comprise 12 kindred programs in Chester and Delaware counties. When an age-level team wins an IYFL title, it advances to regionals. A regional title advances a squad to age-division national championships in Florida—something the Panthers have done six times since 2015.

Then there are the former Panthers who've advanced to the National Football League. Current players include Bilal Nichols (Chicago Bears) and Gary Brightwell (New York Giants). There's also an NFL coach: Ronell Williams, a defensive specialist with the Bears. Three others have spent time in the NFL: Jerome Smith (Atlanta Falcons), Will Hunter (Minnesota Vikings) and Shaheer McBride (Philadelphia Eagles). "We've done this with muscle, hard work and some sponsorship," says Thompson, who played just a year of organized

continued on page 27



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**Congratulations to Marian Baldini and all of the Power Women honorees!**





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Perry (left) and Taglang.

# DAVID PERRY AND MATTHEW TAGLANG

GUITARIST AND VOCALIST  
ATHENSVILLE

BY CATE McCUSKER

After 18 months in COVID-induced exile, Athensville co-founders David Perry and Matthew Taglang are finally taking to regional stages with drummer James Farrell, bassist Mark Walsh and keyboardist Ed Moman to celebrate the release of their debut release, *Undressing Minds for Show*. The album was produced by Derek Chafin at his BarnSound studio in Newtown Square. Check them out at WaR3House 3 in Swarthmore on Oct. 23.

**MLT: How did Athensville come to be?**

**David Perry:** Matt and I were introduced by a mutual friend at a nonprofit event. We soon found out we had a lot in common, and that led to us getting together and playing some cover songs. We played about 12 or so shows—just the two of us as a duo. Then we went from there.

**MLT: Why the name?**

**Matthew Taglang:** Dave happened to see one of the historic markers on the way to my house, which says that Ardmore was called Athensville from 1853 to 1857. The only other name we ever considered was the Polar Vortex, but we realized that wasn't for us. Also, Athens, Ga., is where the B-52's, R.E.M., Pylon and a bunch of bands we like are from. It's harkening back to some of the origins of the jangle pop and college rock we love.

**MLT: How did the pandemic affect the recording of your debut?**

**DP:** My sessions for the guitar began before the pandemic really took hold. Then the pandemic came, and we had a bit of a quiet time there.

Eventually, with a combination of wearing masks and occasionally getting tested, we were able to go back in and carry on.

**MT:** Recording the vocals was really fun, actually. It was in May 2020, so it was the one time I was able to leave my house. I'd head to the studio, wave to our producer through the control room window, go upstairs and put the headphones on. We'd never be in the same room, and yet we were working intensely together.

**MLT: What's the story behind the album title?**

**MT:** *Undressing Minds for Show* is a lyric from "The Mentalist." It's a song I wrote as a character sketch. Dave was over at my house one New Year's Eve telling stories about this performance he saw by a mentalist. On New Year's Day, at 8 in the morning, he got up, wrote a guitar riff and sent it to me, titling it "The Mentalist." I did some research on mentalists, and I was fascinated. A lot of the lyrics from this album come from that perspective—getting into the minds of other people for entertainment.

Visit [athensville.com](http://athensville.com).



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—Marilyn Odesser-Torpey





## Robin F. Bond, Esq.

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The success Robin has had in helping over 3,000 employees maximize the value they achieve in all types of employment-related matters has earned her recognition as among the nation's top 1% of all employment attorneys by the National Association of Distinguished Counsel. Additionally Robin has earned national employment law recognition in Best Attorneys of America and as one of Pennsylvania's Super Lawyers, the top 5% of attorneys in employment law.

As the founder of Transition Strategies, LLC, an employment law firm in Chesterbrook, Robin works with you to develop winning strategies and tactics to successfully close employment deals. The settlements her firm achieves often exceed those attained by others through litigation.

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# MYSTIC MELTING POT

**NORRISTOWN'S SELMA MANSION CAPTIVATES PATRONS OF PRESERVATION AND THE PARANORMAL.**

BY J.F. PIRRO

When someone backed out of Selma Mansion's 2019 Psychic Fair, it left an opening in the late Mrs. Ruth Ryder Fornance's bedroom on the third floor. So Sabrina Pasquariello filled in with her singing bowls, stirring a *whoosh*

felt throughout the massive 1794 estate. Other experienced psychics on hand were dumfounded by the swell of energy. Teresa Sayres was one of them, and she started shaking. "You need to get grounded out," Bill Freeman told Sayres before taking her outside to do just that.

The veteran clairvoyant is vice president of the Norristown Preservation Society, which owns the mansion. "When you deal with the spiritual world, you can't protect yourself from all that could happen," says Freeman, a retired Philadelphia corrections officer.

*continued on page 22*

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PRESERVATION SOCIETY'S  
BILL FREEMAN**

For the past four years, Pasquariello and Dee Kilpatrick have hosted the Psychic Fair as a one-day event. This year, it will run for two days—Oct. 9 and 10—as a fundraiser for Selma Mansion, former home to the Porter, Knox and Fornance families, including relations to the parents of Abraham Lincoln's wife, Mary Todd.

When Ruth Ryder Fornance died in 1982, she willed Selma to the state, county or borough, but none were willing recipients. So its contents—rumored to have included crates of unopened Civil

War uniforms stored in the wagon shed—were auctioned off. Formed in 1983 to prevent the destruction of the mansion, the Norristown Preservation Society bought the house for \$40,000, payable in annual installments of \$5,000. It cost considerably more with legal and other expenses. “Our purpose was preserving not just Selma but the entire town,” says NPS board member Gale Bresnehan.

As Selma Farms, the estate once occupied 248 acres. When a 44-acre entrance was sold in 1902, that was whittled down to just two acres at the corner of Selma and West Airy streets. The gate pillars remain and are maintained by a neighbor. “The original purpose was to consider it as a house museum,” says NPS president Russell Rubert. “But the general consensus was that house museums aren't sustainable. So we decided to make it our house.”

Rubert doesn't give much credence to paranormal activity, but he acknowledges that the fair and other events have paid for utilities and improvements at the mansion. Selma now has a heating system and one working bathroom. Last year, a grant paid for a \$40,000 cedar shake roof, and another will fund the historical replacement of the mansion's windows.

Vendor fees for the fair are \$25. Pasquariello and Kilpatrick accommodate 30 vendors inside and 15 outside. There are gallery readings, walking meditations, workshops, lectures, and jewelry and crafts for sale. Anthony Sokol lectures on Hindu spiritual hand movements. “I'm a prep for the spiritual work,” he says. “It's all religions, all spiritualities.”

The Psychic Fair generates about \$1,500 in a single day for Selma. “We're the cheapest place around for haunts and investigations,” Freeman says.

Selma continues to run on private funding (much of it from NPS board members) and profits from events, T-shirt sales and public grants. Freeman and others have experience in construction, which helped with replacing staircase balusters burned in the fireplaces by squatters in the 1980s, among other things. “We want to restore it level by level,” says Freeman. “That's a ways down the line.”

Pasquariello was part of an early group that rented Selma to learn how to conduct paranormal investigations. “It's how and why I feel in love with it,” says Pasquariello, who has experience as a healer.

She met Kilpatrick, who once ran a spiritual shop inside

continued on page 24

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Selma Mansion's spookiness  
is its calling card.

the Power House Antique & Flea Market in Collegeville. The two hit it off. "We thought, 'Why not do a psychic fair?'" says Pasquariello.

The pair didn't expect immediate success the first year. There was a kindred event in Phoenixville, and Freeman hosts Serving History Through the Ages at Selma. The latter tends to draw the industry's TV personalities as guests. Pasquariello and Kilpatrick, meanwhile, aim for a more local flavor. "Regardless, it's exhausting when we're done with all that energy in the house," says Kilpatrick. "People want to believe. We actually love when skeptics come in."

Is Selma haunted? "Of course," Freeman says. "Anyone who's come here has never been disappointed."

Kilpatrick grew up two blocks from Selma. "We've all had experiences," she says.

"Hauntings?" poses her husband, Bill Dude. "Yeah—but it depends on how you define haunting."

No doubt, Kilpatrick loves Selma. When she returned for the first time after the pandemic closure, she hugged the front door frame. Freeman has the same affection for the place. "Everyone who comes in here feels Selma and says it's their place," he says. "It belongs to everyone."

Visit [norristownpreservationsociety.org](http://norristownpreservationsociety.org).

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Charles Thompson (left) with state Rep. Brian Kirkland.

football in high school and currently isn't coaching for physical and family reasons.

A successful grant shepherded by state Rep. Brian Kirkland took two years to gain traction, but it recently covered expenses for building and stocking a concession stand. Kirkland also helped lobby for permanent lights at the field as an extension of the Keystone Communities Grant that's lighting up much of the rest of Chester's streets. In all, he's helped secure \$190,000 of state development funding for the program. "Like any program that helps kids in my district, I'm always going to be behind it," Kirkland says. "The idea was to ask what we could do to establish sustainability and reoccurring profit so the Panthers could make their own money. "Any time you give a child opportunity—or something to do—it's a plus. When they're bored, they find something to get into. Charles Thompson and his staff help kids and stick with them. Do they save lives? Absolutely."

"It's fulfilling," says Carr, who was the age of some of her cheerleaders, 8, when Thompson restarted the program. "These are our kids, our tomorrow. They need something to keep them from going in so many wrong directions."

As for Bush, he knows one thing. "Two hours each weeknight and eight hours on a Saturday, this is the safest place to be in the city," he says. "Not just for the kids, but for the parents, too."

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# WORTH FIGHTING FOR

## THE MAKING OF BRINTON RUN PRESERVE.

BY MELISSA JACOBS

In Chadds Ford Township, not far from Dilworthtown Village and just across from the Brinton 1704 House off Oakland Road, 72 acres of rolling fields remain much as they were hundreds of years ago. And they'll stay that way, thanks to a network of local nonprofits. The land is now protected under a conservation easement, and work begins this fall to ensure that Briton Run Preserve opens next spring.

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Right now, 92 native plant species and a large number of pollinators populate the parcel. That, plus a large pond and tributary of Brandywine Creek that leads to protected areas, convinced North American Land Trust to spearhead a movement to acquire the space, negotiate the easement and raise \$3.85 million to foot the bill.

Since it was formed in 1992, NALT has protected more than 135,000 acres across the United States. The Chadds Ford-based nonprofit has acquired more than 500 easements to protect grasslands, wetlands, coastlines and other areas. Brinton Run is a milestone for NALT. "This is the first property we wanted to acquire and open for public use," says Steven Carter, NALT's president. "The Brandywine Valley is our

home, and this space is three miles from our current headquarters. Then, in 2019, the historical context became clear."

Carter is referring to Sept. 11, 1777, when the Continental Army fought the British in the Battle of Brandywine. Surprised by the attack and outnumbered by an estimated 7,000 soldiers, Gen. George Washington ordered a retreat. He marched his army all the way to Germantown, leaving the path clear for the British to occupy Philadelphia.

It's not a happy history, but it's an important part of the Revolution, which is why the American Battlefield Trust joined NALT's efforts to protect the land. Meanwhile, the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program

offered a \$1.8 million grant, one of the largest ever awarded to a Revolutionary War site.

Brinton Run's future also piqued the interest of Mt. Cuba Center, the 1,000-plus-acre botanical garden and conservation program based in Hockessin, Del., that has preserved more than 13,000 acres in the Mid-Atlantic region. In 11 years, the center has bestowed over \$100 million in grants, and Brinton Run is among the recipients.

The land's array of native plants was a key motivator for Jeff Downing, Mt. Cuba Center's executive director. "It's been shown that a diversity of native plants supports other native wildlife," he says. "If you don't have [that], you're

## PROTECTING YOUR HEARING HEALTH

### *The drawbacks of OTC hearing aids.*

As October is Audiology Awareness Month, we'd like to let you know about recent news regarding hearing aids that could have an impact on your hearing health.

On July 9, 2021, President Joe Biden signed an executive order asking the Department of Health and Human Services to consider issuing proposed rules within 120 days for the sale of over-the-counter (OTC) hearing aids.

OTC hearing aids will not require a prescription from an audiologist, making them more accessible for many. However,



these aids may come with a hidden cost to your hearing health, as only a licensed audiologist can provide the complete continuum of care needed for optimal hearing.

Without a comprehensive audiological evaluation, there's no way to know the degree of hearing loss. OTC hearing aids are designed only for people with mild-to-moderate hearing loss. If you have severe hearing loss and choose OTC hearing aids, you won't receive the proper amplification levels.

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missing a rung on the food chain. This place has a healthy mix that makes other wildlife happily call it home.”

Birds and bees will benefit, and Brinton Run is within migratory and pollination paths to Mt. Cuba Center. “If you have native plants—even in remnant spaces—wildlife will find them and use them,” says Downing.

The open space will be gently renovated to make it hospitable for humans. The property’s 8,300-square-foot house is being demolished to make way for a trail system, restrooms and other amenities. “The house is in the middle of the property and has commanding views,” Carter says. “But it’s in the way, and it’s not historically relevant.”

The Baldino family purchased the property in 2008. At the time, they lived on adjacent land, and they never occupied the home. “We were undecided as to what to do with it,” says Sandra Baldino. “Unfortunately, [my husband] Frank passed away before we were able to decide the best course of action.”

In 2013, Baldino approached NALT to get an analysis of the land’s vegetation and wildlife. She did consider selling to a residential developer, but those plans fell through. Six years later, Baldino reconnected with NALT. “Rather than

pursue development, NALT had a unique proposition that intrigued me, which was to not only conserve the land but to purchase it for a public preserve,” she says. “I loved the idea.”

Indeed, Baldino’s passion for the project is matched only by her generosity. The land would’ve fetched a hefty sum from any number of developers looking to build homes in that residentially desirable pocket of Chester County. But Baldino was patient.

It took NALT two years to stitch together a funding network to purchase the property. It includes the aforementioned organizations, plus Chadds Ford Township, Delaware County’s Open Space and Recreation Grant Program and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation

and Natural Resources. “The diversity of funding partners is significant,” Carter says. “We baked the proverbial cake together, and it was a great collaboration. We’re grateful and proud of this—and Sandra Baldino is the star of the show. She’s a philanthropist at heart and has conservation at the center of her ethics and morals.”

When Brinton Run opens to the public in spring 2022, it will have a loop trail with interpretive signage and a community-based land steward concept, along with programming on permaculture and invasive species pond and wildlife management. “We’re trying to create more natural areas in more localities,” Downing says. “It’s as restorative for humans as it is for wildlife.”

Visit [northamericanlandtrust.org/explore/brinton-run-preserve](http://northamericanlandtrust.org/explore/brinton-run-preserve).

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## WHEN BRINTON RUN OPENS TO THE PUBLIC IN SPRING 2022, IT WILL HAVE A LOOP TRAIL WITH INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE AND A COMMUNITY-BASED LAND STEWARD CONCEPT.



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## THE OUTFIT

**1-4.** Arden tote bag (\$280), wallet and long strap (\$80), etched leather cuff (\$24) and old toggle necklace (\$79). All available at arden + james, ardenandjames.com.**5.** Dress by Ella Moss. \$225. Available at Blink, West Chester, facebook.com/ShopBlinkWC.**6.** Gold hammered cuff. \$94. Available at Carolyn Keys, carolynkeys.com.





### The perfect outfit for a weekend of serious shopping.

**1. Rails afton jacket.** This vintage twill military-style jacket elevates the casual look. \$228. Available at Posh Collections, 103 E. King St., Malvern, (610) 644-7220, [poshcollections.com](http://poshcollections.com). **2. Sardine fingerless cashmere gloves.** Over-the-wrist and sewn in Philadelphia from recycled, lightly felted cashmere. \$39, [sardineclothing.com](http://sardineclothing.com). **3. Carolyn Keys swish earrings.** Bold and elegant ear candy, designed and handcrafted by a Pennsylvania jewelry maker. Starting at \$150. (484) 858-0501, [carolynkeys.com](http://carolynkeys.com). **4. Weekend Vibes tote.** This sturdy canvas bag sports stylish black leather handles. \$38. Available at Louella, 227 E. Lancaster Ave., Wayne, (610) 293-9800, [louellastyle.com](http://louellastyle.com). **5. Orvis Jackson pants.** Made from quick-dry fabric with a bit of stretch to move with you. There's a tab, so you can roll up the legs to capris length. \$98. Available at Orvis, 525 W. Lancaster Ave., Haverford, (484) 383-0756, [orvis.com](http://orvis.com). **6. Roma boot.** Carry on rain or shine with these waterproof beauties embossed in a crocodile pattern. \$88. Available at Louella.



# BREAST CANCER DOESN'T *CARE ABOUT COVID*

**THE PANDEMIC IS NO LONGER A VALID EXCUSE  
FOR MISSING MAMMOGRAM SCREENINGS.**

BY DEBRA WALLACE

**B**efore she turned 65, Peggy Hager retired after 35 years of teaching in the Coatesville Area School District. She wanted to enjoy the outdoors and spend time with her husband, three grown children and nine grandchildren. Another serious motivator: her older sister, Betsy Adams,

who'd passed away from thymus cancer at age 67. She also had several friends who battled breast cancer, one who died.

Even so, Hager wasn't worried. "With my philosophy of eating well, drinking 96 ounces of water a day, staying lean and exercising regularly, I feel like I'm going to live to 105," she often told her husband.

In January 2021, the Wayne native went for a routine mammogram and was told more images were needed. Then came a discussion with a radiologist, followed by a biopsy. The head-spinning ordeal led to a diagnosis of early-stage breast cancer in her ducts (ductal carcinoma in situ), a non-invasive form

*continued on page 36*





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that was caught early and hadn't broken through to her lymph nodes. Hager was referred to Dr. Lina Sizer, an oncologist at Bryn Mawr Hospital's breast surgical center, as well as Lisa Schlosman, one of the practice's nurse navigators. Later, plastic surgeon Dr. Laura Gowen joined her medical team. Hager underwent a mastectomy, followed by implants.

With Breast Cancer Awareness Month upon us, now is the perfect time to tell Hager's story in hopes that other women will be prompted follow through with their mammograms, screenings and other appointments. "Once I got my breast cancer diagnosis, it felt like the world was coming to an end," recalls Hager. "But I realized how lucky I was that I didn't need radiation or chemotherapy, and I knew immediately that I was in great hands."

Despite superior health and no family history of breast cancer, Hager now knows that her diagnosis is not rare. According to the American Cancer Society, it's the second most common form in American women, followed only by skin cancer. In the U.S., the risk of a woman developing breast cancer is about 13 percent—a one in eight chance. Recent estimates reveal that about 281,550 new cases of the invasive

form will be diagnosed in women, along with around 49,290 new cases of DCIS—Hager's form. Some 43,600 women will die from breast cancer in 2021.

Hager's prognosis was bolstered by a stellar medical team and strong emotional support from family members, friends and neighbors. "We don't watch medical shows, because we prefer to stay away from blood and guts," says Hager. "So, although my husband is the most wonderful guy, I thought there was no way he'd clean my drains. But he proved me wrong. He came with me to every appointment and cleaned my drains twice a day."

Hager's husband also made her a shower dress out of a white plastic bag, with medical tape around the neck. "It was the funniest thing you ever saw, but it worked," she says.

March-May 2020, Main Line Health put a pause on screening mammograms due to COVID-19. As a result, some patients didn't come in even if they were experiencing symptoms. Sizer says we won't know for a few of years how the pandemic impacted breast cancer care and diagnosis. But patients at her Bryn Mawr office have shown an increase in anxiety during their care and treatment. "Women tend to put families, jobs and other priorities before

**“  
WHEN MAIN LINE  
HEALTH PUT A PAUSE  
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SOME PATIENTS  
DIDN'T COME IN  
EVEN IF THEY WERE  
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SYMPTOMS.**

ourselves," says Sizer. "Don't wait for a breast cancer diagnosis to take that step."

The American Society of Breast Surgeons recommends that women begin annual mammograms at the age of 40. "That's where we catch all these early-stage breast cancers and can really prolong women's lives," Sizer says. "Screening mammography has been crucial in helping women stay alive."

Bruce has been working with cancer patients for 13 years, with the past three focused on breast care. "The best part of my work is knowing that we

continued on page 38

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**WHEN COVID-19  
PUT A TEMPORARY  
HALT ON IN-PERSON  
TREATMENT, UNITE  
FOR HER BRANCHED  
OUT ON A NATIONAL  
SCALE. IT NOW HAS  
CLIENTS IN 37 STATES.**

can take what's an extremely stressful and anxiety-provoking experience and support patients in getting the treatment they need," says the nurse navigator.

Hager also took advantage of acupuncture, nutritional counseling and other services from Sue Weldon's Unite for Her. Weldon started the West Chester-based nonprofit organization when she was diagnosed with breast cancer 17 years ago at age 39. "I attended an inspiring yoga event and immediately connected with a woman who was younger than me with no hair, yellowish skin and hollow eyes," Weldon remembers. "I told her about all the self-care tools I used—nutrition, yoga and acupuncture—and how it could help with pain, depression and hot flashes from forced menopause," Weldon recalls. "She immediately started to cry and told me she could never afford it."

Unite for Her offers integrative care through a wellness passport and individualized packages designed by medical and wellness professionals that are delivered via [Hercarebox.org](http://Hercarebox.org). Items include cookbooks, healing tea, calendula salve for chapped skin and radiation burns, bath and beauty products, and books and other educational materials. Women also have access to \$2,000 worth of services like meditation, massage and yoga.

When COVID-19 put a temporary halt on in-person treatment, Unite for Her branched out on a national scale. It now has clients in 37 states. "Anxiety and depression are normal outcomes when someone is diagnosed with breast cancer," says Weldon. "It's important to seek the support you need to get your emotional and physical wellbeing restored ... a sense of calm, healing and balance at a time when you need it the most."

Dr. Robin Ciocca always looks forward to the time when cancer is a minor a topic of discussion at follow-up visits. "We're catching up on their

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# THE FRUITS *OF* AUTUMN

**AN ORCHARD FOR EVERY TASTE.**

**BY ROGER MORRIS**

**T**hanks to our many local orchards, the first crisp apples of autumn are here. For adults reliving the Halloween season with their kids, orchards are also a source of pumpkins, multicolored gourds, stalks of dried corn and other essential fall accessories. At more elaborate operations, there's live music, hayrides, petting zoos,

fishing and even beer gardens. During the winter holidays, some even offer Christmas trees.

As for apple season, it started in late August and runs through Thanksgiving. The beauty of modern orchards is that each variety tastes a little different. Some are great for pies, while others are better for cider. All ripen and are harvested over

a three-month period. "We grow about 25 different varieties," says Joe Piscitelli, farm manager at **Indian Orchards** ([indianorchardsfarms.com](http://indianorchardsfarms.com)) near Media.

Like many farms in the region, Indian Orchards lets you pick your own apples and other fruits and vegetables from spring to fall. Families can also purchase annual fruit shares that span the

*continued on page 44*



# MAIN EVENTS

BY CATE McCUSKER



COURTESY OF PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART



"Usuyuki" by Jasper Johns.

**Thru Feb. 13**

## **Jasper Johns: Mind/Mirror at the Philadelphia Museum of Art**

A not-to-be-missed collaboration with the Whitney Museum of American Art, *Jasper Johns: Mind/Mirror* showcases the 91-year-old artist's most celebrated paintings, sculptures, drawings and prints, along with lesser-known and recent works through his 70-year career. Visit [philamuseum.org](http://philamuseum.org).



**Oct. 6-10**

## **Philly Music Fest**

The Menzingers, Hop Along (pictured), Stella Ruze and more perform live at the fifth annual Philly Music Fest. Check out six shows over five nights at Ardmore Music Hall and other venues around the region, all while raising money for music education. Visit [phillymusicfest.com](http://phillymusicfest.com).

**Oct. 2-9**

## **Delco Arts Week**

Come out and support the local creative community at Delaware County's annual Arts Week. Enjoy concerts, performances, art exhibits, festivals and more. Visit [delcoarts.org](http://delcoarts.org).

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**Oct. 16-Nov. 14**

## **Longwood Gardens Chrysanthemum Festival**

An array of carefully nurtured chrysanthemums are the focal point in an imaginative display—the largest and oldest of its kind in North America. Visit [longwoodgardens.org](http://longwoodgardens.org).

**Oct. 14-16**

## **Great Pumpkin Carve at Chadds Ford Historical Society**

The Brandywine Valley tradition returns with more than 70 giant pumpkins carved by local artists on Thursday, then lit and displayed on Friday and Saturday. Also enjoy a kid-friendly haunted trail, raffle prizes, live music, food and local craft beer. Visit [greatpumpkin carve.com](http://greatpumpkin carve.com).





season. As the weather gets chillier, there's firewood for sale. "We even have cut-your-own Christmas trees," says Piscitelli.

It's worth noting that COVID-19 has compelled orchards to re-arrange some activities and events. "But we still have pick-your-own, including pumpkins at Halloween," says Art Whitehair of **Highland Orchards** (highlandorchards.net) near West Chester. "And, of course, we always have our food trucks and beer garden."

Like many orchards, Highland is a year-around farm with a large produce market ideal for amateur home chefs

into farm-to-table cooking. Regulars gravitate to the farm's bakery for its specialty, cider donuts.

Back in Delaware County, Media's **Linvilla Orchards** (linvilla.com) is celebrating the 50th anniversary of PumpkinLand. And if that sounds a bit Disney-ish, that's because Linvilla is a bit like an amusement park. There's fishing, indoor miniature golf, train and pony rides, and an array of farm animals. Special events range from Santa in the orchard and costume parades to hayrides to BunnyLand and the Witch's House. And there's plenty



A Linvilla Orchards hayride.

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for parents to eat and drink at the Ship Bottom Brewery beer garden.

More sedate is the sixth-generation **Ramsey's Farm** (ramseysfarm.com). The property doesn't really have any fruit trees of its own. But in the spirit of autumn, it does have about 12 acres covered with some 50,000 pick-your-own pumpkins. Located just across the Delaware state line off Route 202, the property is indicative of once-large family farms that have been carved up by population growth.

Owned by the Ramsey family from 1860 to 1986, it's now part of the First State National Historical Park. The pumpkin patch remains intact, and there's a farm stand with locally grown fruits and vegetables. In addition to the surplus of pumpkins, the farm offers evening events on weekends in October, including bonfires, a flashlight corn maze and an extended hayride.

A recent Yelp review of **Barnard's Orchard and Greenhouse** nails its traditional vibe: "It's not an overdone production like the other places—no corn maze, no hayrides. It's an actual farm, not a tourist trap disguised as one." You'll find pick-your-own apples, a country store, and pumpkins and other fall plants for sale at this modest Kennett Square institution.

Not far from the Barnard's property in Avondale, **Glen Willow Orchard** (glenwilloworchards.com) has been operated by the Rosazza family since 1955. In addition to its apple orchards, Glen Willow grows a lot of its own vegetables and has a well-stocked farm stand that includes local mushrooms. Its colorful field-grown mums are a special treat in the fall.

Yardley's **Shady Brook Farm** (shadybrookfarm.com) is one of the last family farms in Bucks County. It has acres of pick-your-own apples, blueberries, strawberries, flowers and produce. It's also an entertainment and shopping hub, with a produce market, a garden center and a pub featuring locally made wines. It's a bit farther afield but worth the trip. **MLT**

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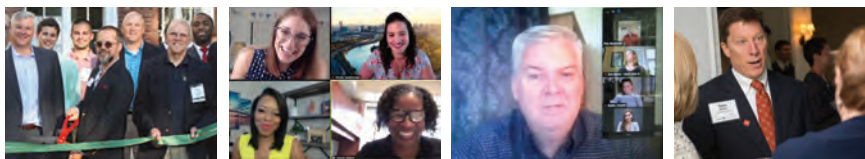


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**“ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION ARE NORMAL OUTCOMES WHEN SOMEONE IS DIAGNOSED WITH BREAST CANCER. IT’S IMPORTANT TO SEEK THE SUPPORT YOU NEED.”**

—UNITE FOR HER’S  
SUE WELDON

jobs, their families or where they’re going on vacation,” says Ciocca, a surgeon and surgical oncologist at Main Line Health Center. “It’s gratifying for all of us when they get to the other side of things—which is often hard to imagine at the beginning of their journey. Every woman with breast cancer has a life that must go on as she deals with her cancer diagnosis and treatment.”

Since her treatment and recovery, Hager is back to playing pickle ball and tennis, and riding bikes with her husband. “Don’t skip your mammograms,” she says. “Get every screening you can, no matter what your cancer diagnosis. The people beating it are those who are finding it early.” **MLT**



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# SHOW OF STRENGTH



Shot on location at Duportail House Chesterbrook. Site location coordinated by Historical Locations Management, which represents venues throughout the region.



Our 2021 Power Women honorees—20 in all—are an outspoken bunch. Here's what each of them had say when we put them on the spot with the same three questions.

By Melissa Jacobs and Hobart Rowland  
Photos by Tessa Marie Images



(From left) Diana Robertson, Katie Hansbro, Deb Ryan, Rose Fennell and Stephanie Ayanian.

## KELLY ANDRESS

**Founder and President,  
SageLife Senior Living**

### How do you define power?

Power is multifaceted. Power also means having the agency to directly control or significantly influence others in a given context. As business leaders, we must consider and weigh the impact of our decisions in the work environment—and how those decisions impact our associates' and customers' home lives, as well.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

In my 20s, I made the decision to leave a position because I was out of alignment with the character of the organization. I had a small financial cushion, but it was very stressful. The next day, I got a call from two clients who wanted to continue working with me. They were the first two clients for what came to be my solo consulting firm. Having the courage of my convictions paid off.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

Being in the senior living space, it changed immediately. Where we've always been responsible for the lives of our frailer residents, the mandated prohibition of family members from seeing loved ones increased the pressure on us exponentially. The increased emotional support and communication required to ensure our residents, their families and our associates were all in alignment was as onerous and draining as the enhanced PPE and safety-measure requirements. It was a huge relief for us to open our doors so that communication and human contact could resume face to face.



(From left) Kim Fraites-Dow, Tara Dugan and Claire Mooney.

me for recommendations on candidates, not realizing they were calling to interview me. I went from a position where I thought being second in command was good to realizing I could be the one leading, inspiring and creating focus.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

I had to find ways to keep mentally solid and emotionally resilient. I created routines and rituals that I didn't deviate from that really aided in my overall health. I kept to my running schedule—the same time, three times a week. I set goals for two 10-mile races. Instead of gaining the “pandemic 15,” I lost the pandemic 18.

## GERIANNE DIPIANO

**Founder and CEO, FemmePharma**

### How do you define power?

Power is not control. I believe in empowerment. Empowering others is the energy exchange that propels us forward. It's through collaboration, education and influence, with honesty and integrity, that you create positive change.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

We made the decision to collaborate with a multinational, publicly traded pharmaceutical company early in the history of FemmePharma. That collaboration—and ultimately the decision to sell “FemmePharma #1”—was a key turning point for the company, its shareholders and for me personally.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

My life has always been very simple. I keep my priorities in order by focusing on God, family and business. The

## STEPHANIE AYANIAN

**Producer and Director, storyshop LLC**

### How do you define power?

I define power as having the responsibility to pull together the right people to get a job completed on time, on budget and professionally, with a level of impact that inspires an audience. When we hit an obstacle, we find a solution that makes us stronger. And when we complete the task, everyone who had a hand in its creation is celebrated.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

In 2003, I moved to Philadelphia from the Bay Area to pursue an MFA in film and media arts at Temple University. Having three years to focus on my craft and experiment with concepts and techniques laid the foundation for me to get hired at WPSU, Penn State University's PBS station, as a full-time senior producer and director. At WPSU, I was given the lead opportunity

to create feature films and projects for a national audience. These experiences enabled me to start a small production company, where we focus on creating “real people” stories with impact and documentaries for a national audience.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

In March 2020, just as the pandemic was shutting everything down, I was releasing *What Will Become of Us*, a feature documentary on Armenians in America. I was scheduled to be in cities across the country for on-camera appearances, panel discussions and premieres. It was bittersweet to cancel those travel plans. While I absolutely wanted to celebrate this film and its stories, I also didn't want to risk my health or the health of my family. As it ends up, our film had large audiences and even earned a number one Nielsen rating when it premiered on PBS in San Diego—a great honor.

## MARIAN BALDINI

**President and CEO, KenCrest**

### How do you define power?

To me, power is the influence you have over the behavior of systems, communities and people. You often witness power through methods, consequences, allocations of resources, or execution of authority. But the reality is, everyone possesses that influence. My goal is to always use it for good and moral purposes that give others full regard for the choices they need to make in their life.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

I thought the last company I worked for would be where I retired. I was doing good work and creating opportunities for people to shine, but I felt the organization had lost focus. In my role, I was spinning in circles instead of having a clear direction of where to go. Around that same time, I got a call from a recruiter who was helping KenCrest in their CEO search. I thought they'd called





(From left) Dr. Cynelle Kunkle, Kelly Andress, Peggy Leimkuhler and Virginia O'Hare.

pandemic reinforced the value of peace, love and selflessness, with daily reminders to keep paying it forward, giving back and being a person for others.

## TARA DUGAN

**Founder, workS**

### How do you define power?

It's the ability to inspire others. The only "power" I really have is in my role as a connector. I created workS to bring artisans and curators together to create a fantastic shopping experience that not only benefits the makers but makes good business sense. By coming together, we all do better. That's the mission:

community, creativity, collaboration. I think that's the only power worth having.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

I opened my first store as a side business, and then it grew large enough to force a choice between my secure job and entrepreneurship. That first store (Scout & Annie) led to the connections that ultimately inspired me to bring other similarly situated people together to create workS, an artisan-centered retail collective.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

I've learned that flexibility is

necessary in every aspect of home and work life. Everything is harder and requires twice as much work as before the pandemic. But all you can do is your best.

## ROSE FENNEL

**Superintendent,  
Valley Forge National  
Historical Park,  
Hopewell Furnace  
National Historic Site,  
Washington-Rochambeau  
Revolutionary Route  
National Historic Trail**

### How do you define power?

It's the ability to feed, nurture and ignite others into being the best version of themselves.

Power is understanding how to affect change, having the ability to affect that change, and knowing when to affect change.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

Getting plucked from obscurity as an extremely content program manager in our headquarters office in Washington, D.C. I was temporarily assigned to be superintendent at Abraham Lincoln's Home in Springfield, Ill. I went from writing policy to figuring out how to implement it. That was a game changer.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

I moved here from Boston



(From left) Kizzy Morris, Marian Baldini, Michelle Histan and Kathleen Wilkinson.

in September 2020, and my family just got here in February of 2021. I only know life here during COVID. As I tell staff, “I’m neither informed nor burdened” by the “before times.” This is all I know.

### **KIM FRAITES-DOW** **CEO, Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania**

#### **How do you define power?**

Power is confidence through knowledge and having the faith to listen, to assist, to act, to delegate, to pause, to learn, to influence, to gather, to separate, to motivate, to grow, to stabilize, to sit in discomfort, to change, to evolve, to step aside, to let go, to be grateful.

#### **What was the key turning point in your career?**

I’ve had several inflection points in my life that have led me to where I am today.

There’s the root system of faith and family where I began that continues to anchor me, feed me, prune me, celebrate me and ensure that I feel the warmth of the sun. There was a bold move to New York City. There was a leap of faith to move to Philadelphia. There were great coworkers, mentors, volunteers and friends who became champions. There was a pivot out of classical music. There was a disappointment that pushed me outside my comfort zone. There were more mentors, more tough lessons, more growth opportunities. There were champions—and there *are* champions.

#### **How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?**

There were significant decisions I made through the first 18 months to reassess how I was spending my time, to increase my physical activity, to decrease my intake of comfort foods and wine, to increase the time

I spent praying, reflecting, growing, and having fun. Our Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania community took good care of each other, staying connected weekly through staff meetings, online lunch-and-learns, discussion groups, social meet-ups and more. Our organization became much more knowledgeable about budgets, plans, decision making, interdependencies, accountabilities, etc. I think we’ve all become more comfortable with not knowing what the next normal will be, while also moving forward with purpose and intention today.

### **KATIE HANSBRO** **CEO, Design Science**

#### **How do you define power?**

I define power as having the respect and trust to lead a supportive team through both good times and bad, as well as the ability to make positive impacts in the lives of others.

#### **What was the key turning point in your career?**

I was a director at Design Science when the company’s first CEO was hired. It quickly became clear to me that this new CEO did not have the work experience and ethic to lead and grow the company. I realized that I was doing C-level work and that I could excel as CEO. I positioned the owners for a COO role and then was quickly awarded the CEO role.

#### **How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?**

I’ve refused to give into the pandemic on a professional and personal level. This means working longer hours to overcome the business challenges the pandemic has brought as I also lead my three young children, with the help of my supportive husband, through this without getting bogged down in all its complexity. In summary, when



can I sleep again? (Joking ... but not really.)

## MICHELLE HISTAND

**Executive Director,  
M. Night Shyamalan  
Foundation**

### How do you define power?

Power is being comfortable with yourself and what you bring to the table, which I believe allows you to advocate for yourself. That's so important, particularly for women. You have the ability to shape your path. Knowing that—and owning it—is power.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

I wasn't technically eligible to apply [for a position] because of internal policies related to how long I'd been in my current role. But I still sent my resume to the hiring manager, said I'd be available in three months and explained why I was perfect for the job. Getting that role completely changed my path. I'm now an expert in areas I didn't even know existed.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

In a word, a lot. So much of my work relied on getting people together in a room—and virtual just isn't the same. The past year and a half has had me reassessing what I want to do with my time. As a result, I've made a career change to the nonprofit world, which I've always wanted to do. I'm constantly thinking about what's next.

## DR. CYNELLE KUNKLE

**Medical Director,  
Female Pelvic Medicine,  
Crozer Health**

### How do you define power?

Having the tenacity and courage to pursue your dreams while inspiring others to be their best. It's a person who believes there's no limit to their potential.



Pearl Somboonsong (left) and Dr. Monica Taylor.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

When I became a mom. It's amazing how much you can accomplish when you have a single focus. When you're a parent, single-mindedness is no longer feasible. You're forced to let your guard down and readjust your priorities. Being a mom has taught me how to look at things from many different perspectives, and how to be a more patient and empathetic physician.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

This experience has reminded me to live with intent and purpose—and never take

for granted the precious moments I have with family and loved ones.

## PEGGY LEIMKUHLER

**COO and Executive Vice  
President, Firsttrust Bank**

### How do you define power?

I struggle with the word, to be honest, because standalone power is not always a force for good. Power can be misused, as well. My hope, of course, is that "Power Women" use their power for good—to help build the pipeline of young female talent, use their voices to lift and spotlight others, and escalate and amplify the

amazing breadth and diversity of approach that characterizes female leadership.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

In my early 20s, I worked for a senior vice president who was very supportive of my ideas to improve our business. I was comfortable with taking the associated risks, and what I learned in that time was priceless to my future career—accountability, measured risk-taking, the importance of communication and influence, how leadership can be manifested regardless of age, title or position, the power of a good idea, the criticality of continuous learning, and the *continued on page 76*

# FALL FASHION ALERT

Clover Market is back, with 220 vendors selling antiques, handmade items and vintage goods. Here are **8** unique picks curated by Clover founder Janet Gardner Long. *For details on Clover Market dates and locations, visit [theclovermarket.com](http://theclovermarket.com).*







1. **Vintage handwriting necklaces by joeyfivecents.** Written in cursive, these monograms make quite the personal statement. \$30. [joeyfivecents.com](http://joeyfivecents.com).
2. **Joan Ramone organic cotton T-shirt.** Kids don't have to wait until Halloween to break out the bats. \$28. [joanramone.com](http://joanramone.com).
3. **Field's minimalist card wallet from Stitching Horse.** This super-slim full-grain leather wallet holds three cards and has a quick-draw thumb slot. \$42. [thestitchinghorse.com](http://thestitchinghorse.com).
4. **Stone Cooper clip-cuff brass bracelet.** Each is stamped with a custom individualized statement. \$38. [stonecooper.com](http://stonecooper.com).
5. **With Love From Philly zip bag from Ana Thorne.** Store the items you usually dig around for in your purse in this handmade cotton bag. \$13. [anathorne.com](http://anathorne.com).
6. **GeoMetricGem geranium leaf earrings.** Handmade from textured matte brass in Philadelphia. \$48. [store.philamuseum.org](http://store.philamuseum.org).
7. **Beebop and Wally scroll coat.** Snuggle up to fall in an asymmetrical Italian wool knit sweater coat. \$245. [beebopandwally.nyc](http://beebopandwally.nyc).
8. **Untold Imprint naturally dyed bandanas.** Block-printed on organic cotton, they double as a headband or face mask. \$32. [untoldimprint.com](http://untoldimprint.com).







# ANOTHER AFRICA

A photograph of three young Kenyan girls standing on a dirt path. The girl on the left is wearing a bright pink jacket and black pants, carrying a purple bag with a colorful pattern. The girl in the middle is wearing a pink patterned shirt and black pants, carrying a purple bag with a geometric pattern. The girl on the right is wearing a pink t-shirt and a blue and white striped skirt, carrying a large, colorful patchwork bag. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera.

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THE STORY OF A  
SPECIAL GROUP  
OF KENYAN GIRLS  
GIVEN THE CHANCE  
OF A LIFETIME.

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**STORY AND PHOTOS  
BY TESSA SMUCKER**





**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This piece initially ran in the August 2017 issue of *Main Line Today*. Since 2014, the Neema Project has impacted more than 145 Kenyan women and their families. But COVID has thrown the organization into flux. As schools were forced to close, the nonprofit shifted from development to relief mode, providing food for about 200 adults and 100 children. Neema's young women also used their tailoring skills to make 4,000 masks, which were distributed throughout the community.

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chose photography as a profession for reasons beyond simply loving the medium. But after seven years of working in the field, I had yet to make good on them.

I traveled to Zambia with my family in high school, volunteering with an organization called Family Legacy. When I toured the Camp Life village, where dozens of children had been rescued from the streets, I remember thinking, "This is what it's all about. If only I could tell these stories to people who haven't had access to this world, stirring emotion that leads to compassion and ultimately changes lives."

That opportunity came on a trip to Kitale, Kenya, in February 2017. The faith-based Neema Project picks up where childhood sponsorship leaves off, empowering the most vulnerable girls to discover their purpose and value. This isn't just another school—girls' lives are literally redirected through what they learn. They're given a valuable tool in the developing world: a way to support themselves through sewing.

For three years, the girls work hard in their village. In a culture run by men, where the mistreatment of women is commonplace, they're cared for and nourished, and their children are supported. The program isn't easy, by any means. But if they stick with it, it changes the trajectory of their lives.

One of my most memorable experiences was an overnight stay at the Neema compound. Our group spent the morning and afternoon with the girls, documenting their time in classrooms and their breaks throughout the day. We ate dinner with them and walked with the second-year students to their compound, watching the sun dip behind the horizon. We drank chai tea to close the evening and had a slumber party with the house mom.

We also visited graduates—now employees making a life for themselves. One night, we were welcomed into the home of the program's director. We milked the cow that gave us milk for chai, watched her prep a live chicken for the evening meal, and chatted as the cabbage was cut and the bread was rolled out and fried.

Later, we squeezed inside the small living room, filling our bellies. Several times, I found myself consciously trying to focus on every detail, every scent. I never want to forget that evening.

Visit [neemaproject.org](http://neemaproject.org).

































# SOULFUL HOMAGE IN THE WOODS





## A COUPLE REFLECTS ON 20 GROUNDED YEARS IN A HOME INSPIRED BY FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT.

BY DREW LIMSKY  
PHOTOS BY COLIN BURKHART

It's an emotionally fraught time for architect Donald Dunham and his classics professor wife, Annette Giesecke. After 20 years in the southern Chester County home Dunham designed, the couple is heading back to New Zealand, where they'd lived in an earlier chapter of their lives.

The two put their souls into the house, which is inspired by the designs of Frank Lloyd Wright. The construction of their three-bedroom, two-bath home was so hands-on that they lived part-time in a trailer on the nearly four-acre wooded property as the house rose. That trailer set the tone for the project in numerous ways. "We're big Airstream fans," Dunham says. "In fact, we've had three. Airstreams are self-contained and beautifully made, and I think a lot of architects are drawn to them."





So they bought and positioned the 1968 Airstream right on the lot, which was located near enough to the University of Delaware, where Annette taught classics. It's also close to White Clay

Creek Preserve in Landenberg. "We love the outdoors and like hiking and camping and all the things that go with what you can find in a state park," Dunham says. "It seemed perfect to us."

Though they looked at old stone farmhouses and the like, Dunham and Giesecke had another living experience in mind. "We'd go for a hike, then sit outside the trailer and look through the



“

THE HOME IS NOTHING IF NOT ECONOMICAL. INSIDE, THE PLYWOOD FLOOR IS OVERLAID WITH PURPLE ARMSTRONG TILE FROM HOME DEPOT.



trees and think about what the house would be,” Dunham says.

Even the vehicle itself informed the nascent design of the home. “We kind of wanted that honesty and simplicity,” says Dunham.

### FALLING FOR FALLINGWATER

Frank Lloyd Wright’s masterpiece in Mill Run, Pa., also proved influential. Dunham studied Wright during his architecture training at the University of Southern California. But he didn’t come to fully appreciate the master’s career until two decades after graduation, when he toured Fallingwater and had a revelatory “pinch-me moment.” He likens moving from the exterior to the interior of the home to “a spiritual journey.”

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**“LYING IN THAT BED, YOU FEEL LIKE YOU’RE FLOATING IN THE TREES. THE LOCATION OF THE HOUSE IS ON THE EAST ATLANTIC FLYWAY, SO WE SEE THE STARLINGS AND OTHER MIGRATING BIRDS RIGHT OVER THE HOUSE, AS IF THEY’RE GOING TO FLY RIGHT THROUGH IT.”**



Giesecke recalls her profoundly visceral reaction. “I’d seen so many pictures of Fallingwater, so I was really looking forward to it,” she says. “But I didn’t realize what would happen to me when I walked through the front door. I was

moved to tears that I couldn’t control. I felt the dialogue between this structure and this site, and the permeability of it so that nature is everywhere. And I think that’s what was achieved in our house, as well.”

Dunham didn’t set out to build an homage to Wright. “It just kind of happened,” he says. “Now, when people visit the house and say it’s like a Usonian Frank Lloyd Wright house, I take it as an extreme compliment.”

*continued on page 72*

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## FEATURED HOME continued from page 70

As with many of Wright's homes, Dunham's house relies heavily on horizontal lines, but with an angular twist; the planes and cantilevers make the 1,200-square-foot building, with its reinforced concrete and aluminum façade, seem much larger than it is. And the idea to punch holes into the overhangs to reduce uplift also echoes Wright's design strategies.

The home is nothing if not economical. Inside, the plywood floor is overlaid with purple Armstrong tile from Home Depot. The walls throughout are quarter-inch birch plywood, and the ceilings are clad in oriented strand board, an engineered wood coated in water-based polyurethane. Giesecke finds the patterns mesmerizing and sometimes lies on the floor just to admire them.

The many windows are trimmed with castoff pieces of finger-jointed poplar Giesecke likens to "abstract marquetry." The two initially resisted window treatments, but they finally submitted to the sun and installed retractable blinds.

The rectangular main floor contains the kitchen and

continued on page 75



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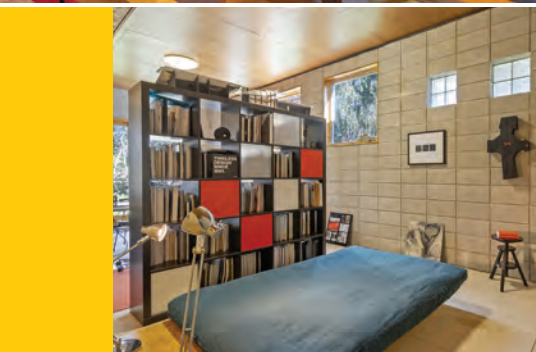
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## FEATURED HOME

continued from page 72



dining room, a generous hallway and a study that opens to a living room, and bathroom and two bedrooms. Much of the furniture is built in—again a nod to Wright. A circular staircase leads down to a studio, a guest bedroom, an extra bathroom and the garden.

## SEE-THROUGH SCHEME

Giesecke finds it almost impossible to choose her favorite spot in the home. But she enthuses about the fact that there are no solid walls, calling the glassed-in master bedroom “an amazing space.” She describes lying in the bathtub “in a Zen trance looking out at the trees.”

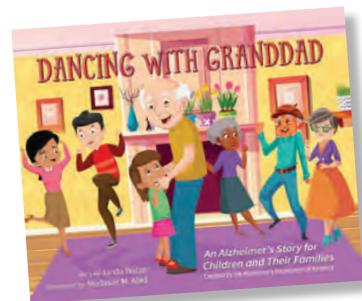
Typically, when people are offered a tour, they’re sheepish about entering the bedroom. But Giesecke always insists. “You really feel like you’re in a treehouse—like you’re up in the canopy,” she says. “And that is extraordinary. Lying in that bed, you feel like you’re floating in the trees. The location of the house is on the East Atlantic Flyway, so we see the starlings and other migrating birds right over the house, as if they’re going to fly right through it.”

As the house took shape, Dunham was consistently kept in check by his wife, whom he came to view as his client. Once it was completed, Giesecke didn’t want to change anything about the low-maintenance home, even as Dunham had the itch to tinker and refine. Indeed, her passion is evident—as is the melancholy over moving on from what she calls their beloved “transparent” house. **MLT**

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### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

None of us chose this or would've wanted it, but it's been a most extraordinarily significant, humbling yet astonishing period of time. Many of us learned that we—and our companies—had reservoirs of resilience that were previously unrecognized. We learned to recognize and rejoice in the silver linings that came along with the unprecedented challenges. In many ways, we forged deeper and more personal connections with our work colleagues.

#### **CLAIRE MOONEY**

**President and CEO Tower Health, Brandywine and Jennersville Hospitals**

### How do you define power?

It's the cultivation of the right

mindset and a clarification of your purpose for power. The ability to have influence and real power is about presence and the energy of knowing your authentic self.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

A pivotal turning point was when I was at a crossroads regarding expanding my clinical expertise versus honing my leadership expertise. A colleague reached out to me and heard that I was considering a nurse practitioner program at the University of Pennsylvania. She told me it would be a disservice not to pursue a calling in a leadership position, and that I was displaying the expertise needed to create change and lead people.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

It has really pushed me to

be more creative in finding solutions, and to leverage the resources around me. It also reinforced the need to explore networking and the expertise of colleagues.

#### **KIZZY MORRIS**

**University Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Cheyney University of Pennsylvania**

### How do you define power?

Power is the ability to influence and have an impact.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

The new provost at one of my former institutions took me to lunch. During that conversation, he shared that he'd observed my work and saw how I interacted with students, faculty and staff. He asked me what I wanted to do with my career. I told him I had a plan to help the departments work better together for our

students. At the end of lunch, he asked me to document what we'd discussed and send it to him in two weeks. I emailed him a plan I'd already drafted. I was promoted and placed on track for senior leadership.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

I'm more conscious of making sure everyone is more than OK. I take a longer pause to really check on how my people are doing.

#### **VIRGINIA O'HARE**

**Clinical Associate Professor and Director, Jefferson Center City Clinic for Behavioral Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior**

### How do you define power?

I conceptualize power as the privilege to

*continued on page 78*

## Making Powerful Contributions

Wilson Elser salutes **Kathleen D. Wilkinson**, our esteemed Philadelphia partner, on her recognition by *Main Line Today* as a 2021 *Power Woman*. Kathleen is a role model within our firm, in and around the Main Line, and as President of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, throughout the broader legal community.

We congratulate Kathleen and all the 2021 *Power Women* on this outstanding honor.



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**Peggy Leimkuhler**  
Chief Operating Officer  
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# SUCCESS STARTS WITH POWERFUL LEADERSHIP

Congratulations to our very own **Peggy Leimkuhler** on being recognized as a **2021 Power Woman by Main Line Today**. Your leadership empowers success for our customers, our company and our region at large.

**Richard J. Green**  
CEO and Chairman of the Board

support and elevate both myself and others so we can live our best lives possible. I use dialectical behavior therapy to empower my patients to build a life worth living. With Jefferson Healthcare professionals, I offer the coping skills, tools and space needed to empower them to take care of others effectively while also taking care of themselves. Within my community, I use my voice to amplify the voices of those who often go unheard regarding issues of diversity, inclusion and protecting our children from transmission of COVID.

**What was the key turning point in your career?**

Undoubtedly my career changed forever in 2019 when the Boomer Esiason Foundation awarded me a million-dollar research grant to conduct a three-year multi-site randomized

controlled trial that tested two different talk-therapies for people living with cystic fibrosis. This opportunity allowed me to reach a wide audience of patients, healthcare providers and other researchers. Most recently, this partnership resulted in our launch of the Esiason O'Hayer Institute for Behavioral Medicine, devoted to the development of cutting-edge disease-specific mental health interventions for populations with serious illness and rare disease.

**How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?**

In every possible way. My whole operation has been fully remote since March 2020. In addition to my usual work, I've also made it my mission to provide coping skills and support to Jefferson Healthcare providers throughout the pandemic.

I'm immunocompromised, so our family has had to live very cautiously, which has separated us from much of our community who seem more comfortable with risk, while greatly strengthening our relationships with other families who are similarly COVID-conscious.

**CHINWE ONYEKERE**

**Director of Equity and Inclusion, HealthSpark Foundation**

**How do you define power?**

I see power in living your authentic life and bringing your whole self to your work. Power means speaking your truth and speaking truth to power, even when it's difficult.

**What was the key turning point in your career?**

A key inflection point was during my time at Columbia

University's Mailman School of Public Health. While in graduate school, I gained a deeper understanding of the social determinants of health and the impact of structural racism. This understanding solidified my commitment to health equity and justice and has been a driving force in the work that I do today at HealthSpark.

**How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?**

There's been a sense of profound urgency to address health inequities that were amplified by COVID-19. I'm committed to taking bold steps that fight against the status quo in how we improve health outcomes for our most marginalized communities. I'm also deeply committed to supporting and learning from the community, as I believe the community has the answers

*continued on page 81*

*Congratulations*

**Claire Mooney, DNP, MBA, RN, CCRN, NEA-BC**



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and solutions to solve these complex social issues.

## DIANA ROBERTSON

**President, NAACP  
Main Line Branch**

### How do you define power?

Being knowledgeable enough about a variety of subject matters and forging important relationships with those in authority so you can influence outcomes on matters important to you. Exuding power means that people from different entities recognize your strengths, your areas of expertise and your ability to remain firm in your beliefs, so others value you as a person of influence who can effect change.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

While working for a criminal law firm, the partners acknowledged my

ability to extensively research cases and prepare briefs. This led to an opportunity to go to paralegal school. Early on, I realized how much research in a particular legal case can impact the outcome. I worked with an attorney on a criminal case, providing critical assistance. This pivotal moment taught me how valuable my work was—and that attention to detail can make the difference in protecting an individual's civil rights.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

I've been able to spend more quality time with my family. My work as a paralegal has grown even more, and I've positioned myself to do more civil rights work and educate others. I believe that the more people know, the more they're able to make better decisions for themselves and their families. I've had the

opportunity to help people broaden their thinking and embrace diversity so people of color don't feel they have to apologize for who they are. I realize more than ever that God is ultimately in control, and real change will only come through the transformation of the mind.

## DEB RYAN

**District Attorney,  
Chester County**

### How do you define power?

Power is the ability to influence others and make an impact. Although women have made enormous strides in assuming influential roles, we still have a long way to go. As district attorney, my goal is always to seek justice and to serve the community with integrity. I'm able to use my influence to ensure that we do the right thing for the right reasons at all times.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

As deputy district attorney in charge of the child abuse unit and Children's Advocacy Center, I learned about leadership and the value of teamwork. By collaborating with many different stakeholders, we were able to ensure that children and their families were provided with all the important referral services, including medical and mental health assistance. We also helped them navigate the criminal justice system.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

Everyone who works in my office is considered an essential worker because, sadly, crime doesn't take a day off during a pandemic. So, for most of us, nothing changed too dramatically. Although jury trials were on hiatus for several months, prosecutors continued



**Christine  
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## NEUMANN UNIVERSITY *salutes*



**KATHLEEN G. HOOVER, PhD**  
for her service, leadership and dedication  
to Neumann University and Nursing.



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to facilitate plea deals while detectives still investigated crimes and our support staff kept the office running. I've always appreciated the people on my team, but I've never been prouder than during the pandemic. Their resilience, flexibility and outstanding teamwork showed the best of human nature.

### PEARL SOMBOONSONG

**Director of Development,  
WIN Signature Restaurants**

#### How do you define power?

To me, it's the ability to have influence and make a difference. It's also the ability to contribute to diversity and share it with the community.

#### What was the key turning point in your career?

Being able to fully envision, design and open my own restaurant concept, the Blue Elephant, was a pivotal moment personally and professionally. Growing up in the hospitality industry as the daughter of restaurateurs, I'd see how my parents worked on new concepts. So it was very special to be involved in my own project with their support.

#### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

We were so incredibly lucky that the type of food we offer at our restaurants transitioned so well to takeout. The entire team quickly learned that we needed to act fast and be flexible. We streamlined operations and found more efficient ways of doing business, creating experiences through technology.

### DR. MONICA TAYLOR

**Vice Chair, Delaware County  
Council, Associate Professor  
of Kinesiology, University of  
the Sciences**

#### How do you define power?

I've always believed that your title or position doesn't define your power. Power to me is the ability to affect change and make an impact. It comes from the relationships you build and the impact you have on your organization.

#### What was the key turning point in your career?

Serving on the Upper Darby school board was an eye-opening experience that helped



me better understand the inequities that existed in our county. Public education is truly the pillar of our society, and the work of our school boards and school administrators is amazing.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

Learning to navigate my roles and responsibilities at council and as a university professor has been trying at times, especially while learning to adapt as a mother of three children. I've learned to embrace the pivot, understanding that we can plan but also need to be able to assess and readjust those plans depending on the situation.

### KATHLEEN WILKINSON

**President, Pennsylvania Bar Association**

### How do you define power?

I'm viewed by lawyers and judges as the representative of the legal profession—someone who embodies professionalism and civility. It's my responsibility to speak on behalf of our over 23,000 members, and I take that duty very seriously.

### What was the key turning point in your career?

By working hard and developing business, I became an equity partner at Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker. Through my bar association work, I was able to become the sixth woman chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar in 2013, which was a helpful experience on the road to later being elected to serve as the sixth woman president of the Pennsylvania Bar in 2021.

### How has your life changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?

Being able to work remotely during the pandemic has enabled me to work more efficiently. It's also afforded me more time with family and friends. Within the Pennsylvania Bar, we've made effective use of virtual technology for continuing legal education programs, happy hours, networking, board of governors meetings and other events. We're also presenting in-person programs throughout the Commonwealth while following local and state guidelines. We'll continue to be creative and use virtual technology and outside venues as much as possible.

*Gerianne DiPiano and Chinwe Onyekere were not available to be photographed.*

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323 E. Gay St., West Chester,  
(610) 430-8554, bellabellasalon.net  
Services: hair care, skincare, waxing.

### BLAZE SALON

225 S. Church St., West Chester,  
(610) 431-2190, blazesalon.com  
Services: hair care, nail care, waxing,  
makeup, DevaCurl treatments,  
hair extensions.

### CALISTA GRAND SALON & SPA

1211 Wilmington Pike, West Chester,  
(610) 399-6677, calistagrand.com  
Services: hair care, makeup, nail care,  
skincare, body treatments, waxing.

### CAPPY & COMPANY

337 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne,  
(610) 688-0900, cappyandcompany.com  
Services: hair care, skincare, makeup,  
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### CAPRIOTTI SALON EXPERIENCE

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1029 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr,  
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31 W. State St., Media,  
(610) 568-2515, dejavusalon.com  
Services: hair care, nail care, skincare,  
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### ELISE SPA & NAILS

2 Town Place, Bryn Mawr,  
(610) 527-1789, elisenails.com  
Services: nail care, skincare, waxing.

### EQUILIBRIUM SPA

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

### FLORIS SPA & NAIL

Various locations, elisenails.com  
Services: nail care, skincare, waxing.

### FUZION

137 N. Narberth Ave., Narberth,  
(610) 668-0590, fuzionstyle.com  
Services: hair care, skincare,  
body treatments, waxing, makeup.

### GRAZIA SKIN CARE STUDIO & SPA

312 E. King St., Malvern, (610) 644-4122,  
graziaspa.com  
Services: nail care, skincare, massage,  
waxing, anti-aging treatments, makeup,  
airbrush tanning, lashes.

### HAIG & CO. SALON

401 City Ave., Suite 109, Bala Cynwyd,  
(610) 668-5373  
Services: hair care, nail care,  
skincare, makeup.

### HAIR BY TRISH

564 W. Lancaster Ave., Haverford,  
(610) 526-1638  
Services: hair care.

### HEAD TO TOE HEALTHY SPA

711 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne, (610) 225-7228,  
headtotoehealthyspa.com  
Services: nail care, skincare, waxing,  
body treatments, spray tanning.

### HEADBANGERS SALON

18 Berkley Road, Devon, (484) 581-7051,  
headbangers-salon.com  
Services: hair care and coloring.

### ILLUMINATE, A BOUTIQUE SALON SPA

377 W. Lancaster Ave., Haverford,  
(484) 416-3235, illuminatesalonspa.com  
Services: hair care, waxing, nail care,  
skincare, body treatments, makeup.

### J2 SALON

78 Rittenhouse Place, Ardmore,  
(484) 416-3665, j2salon.com  
Services: hair care, nail care, waxing.

### JAY MICHAEL SALON

The Radnor Hotel, 595 E. Lancaster Ave.,  
St. Davids, (610) 964-0800, jaymichael.com  
Services: hair care, nail care, waxing,  
makeup, hair extensions.

### JOHN ANDREWS SALON

27 West Ave., Wayne, (610) 688-6811,  
johnandrewssalon.com  
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12 W. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore,  
(610) 645-0600, pageboyhair.com  
Services: hair care.

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Chester, (610) 436-6464,  
peterssalonandspa.com  
Services: hair care, nail care, skincare.

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129 Turner Lane, West Chester,  
(610) 692-2887, platinum4hair.com  
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221 Conestoga Road,  
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thepolishedspa.com  
Services: nail care, skincare, waxing.

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25 Haverford Station Road,  
Haverford, (610) 645-0707,  
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31 Rittenhouse Place, Ardmore,  
(610) 642-8600, salon-31.com  
Services: hair care.

# SALON 555

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

# SALON A

912 W. Lancaster Ave.,  
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# SALON DIGIAN

930 E. Boot Road, Suite 250,  
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salondigian.com  
Services: hair care, nail care,  
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# SALON DI MODA

846 W. Lancaster Ave.,  
Bryn Mawr, (610) 525-4123,  
salondimodabrynmawr.com  
Services: hair care, nail care,  
makeup.

# SALON ZIZA

6 Greenfield Ave., Ardmore,  
(610) 642-5200  
Services: hair care, waxing,  
makeup.

# SERENITY MASSAGE & SPA

349 W. Baltimore Ave., Media,  
(610) 565-6627,  
serenitywellnessllc.com  
Services: massage, skincare,  
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# 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

549 Lancaster Ave.,  
Malvern, (610) 640-0677,  
stylemastersonline.com  
Services: lash and brow tinting,  
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# SWARTHMORE HAIR STUDIO

4 Park Ave., Swarthmore,  
(610) 544-6620,  
swarthmorehairstudio.com  
Services: hair care, waxing,  
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# TANTRA HAIR SALON & DAY SPA

180 Town Center Road, King  
of Prussia, (610) 768-9087,  
tantrasalon.com  
Services: hair care, skincare,  
massage, waxing.

# TOPPERS SPA/SALON

745 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne,  
(610) 989-9660, toppersspa.com  
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224 S. Newtown Street Road,  
Newtown Square, (610) 356-4378,  
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Services: hair care, skincare,  
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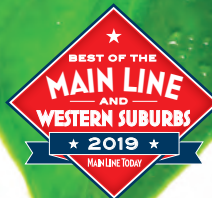
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**DEPAUL'S TABLE IS HOME TO A \$135 STEAK—AND PRICELESS OPULENCE.**

**STORY AND PHOTOS BY ED WILLIAMS**

If you're wondering what happened to the Bercy, here's your answer: The French-inspired Ardmore brasserie is now a sleek Italian steakhouse. While COVID grabbed headlines, DePaul's Table emerged from a partnership between Anthony DePaul and Stove and Co. Restaurant Group's Justin Weathers and Joe Monnich.

The 10,000-square-foot former Haverford Trust Bank building exudes opulence to begin with. So the makeover by Partum Interiors' Dominika Chanc is subtle, incorporating soft shades, contrasting plank flooring, and cushioned banquets by the bar. The Bercy's casual cafe tables are gone, replaced by square versions blanketed with white linens. Upstairs, you'll find a small bar with several intimate tables.

DePaul is behind Iron Chef Marc Forgione's American Cut steakhouse in New York City and New Jersey's ChopHouse. This his first shot at the helm of his own spot. "The building is a







masterpiece of elegant architecture in a community that I want to be a part of,” says DePaul. “The bar design is unlike anything in the area. The front-of-house staff are enthusiastic and knowledgeable, and they understand what providing a classic dining experience is all about.”

DePaul aims to “bring back the long, lost art form of the maitre d’, with elevated customer service and extra attention to detail.” To make that happen, he brought along a seasoned team of hospitality experts from the ChopHouse. GM and event coordinator Alexandra Sarnese’s customer-focused demeanor comes with some serious business savvy and an ambitious edge.

In the kitchen, executive chef Jose Galicia has orchestrated an exceptional Italian-inspired menu. Highlights include sea scallops with a porcini dusting, a 28-day dry-aged

*continued on page 92*



## DETAILS

**DEPAUL'S TABLE** 7 E. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore, (610) 589-0500, [depaulstable.com](http://depaulstable.com) **COST:** \$13-\$135. **ATMOSPHERE:** Two floors of high-end vibes and impressive service. **HOURS:** 4:30-10:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, 5-11 p.m. Saturday, 5-9:30 p.m. Sunday. **ATTIRE:** Dressy casual. **EXTRAS:** Valet parking; owner Anthony DePaul is almost guaranteed to stop by your table.





(Previous page) The historic bank interior makes an impressive first impression. (Clockwise from opposite page) Sea scallops with a porcini dusting; New York strip steak; seafood cioppino; the intimate upstairs, with its classic vibe; pouring a cedar-plank smoked Old Fashioned.





# A KEEPER IN KENNETT

**A**t first glance, **Letty's Tavern** might seem like your typical pub. But this revitalization of a faded landmark has more culinary depth than the menu lets on. West Coast



Vegan crispy cauliflower with romesco sauce and pistachio pistou.

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transplants Jacob Short, Matthew Killion and executive chef Daniel Daley are the trio behind Saucey's in West Chester. They've done something far more impressive with their transformation of the former Kennett Square Inn.

Procuring seasonal ingredients from local farms and businesses, Daley perfectly orchestrates his crisped toasts (pork and mushroom), pastas (gnocchi and agnolotti) and short ribs. A major shoutout also goes to the inspired vegan crispy cauliflower with romesco sauce and pistachio pistou.

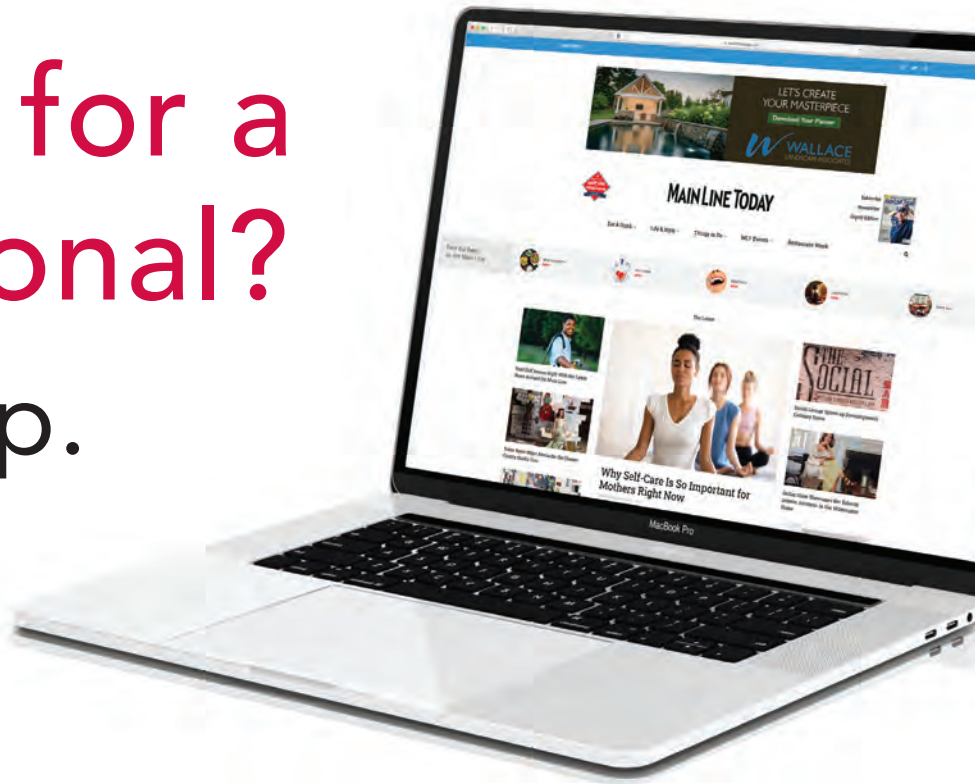
Must-try cocktails include an exceptional maitaki-mushroom-infused Old Fashioned and the playful, gin-based Cheech Marin. Letty's Bottle Shop, which occupies the ground floor, is "a vessel for all things artisan wine," says Short. "We look to host monthly tastings, winemakers dinners, tasting menus with pairings, and wine parties."

Modern art on display in the shop perfectly suits the basement vibe. "It coincides with the eclectic and unique ethos of the bottles the shop houses," Short says. **201 State St., Kennett Square, (610) 444-5687. [lettystavern.com](http://lettystavern.com). —E.W.**



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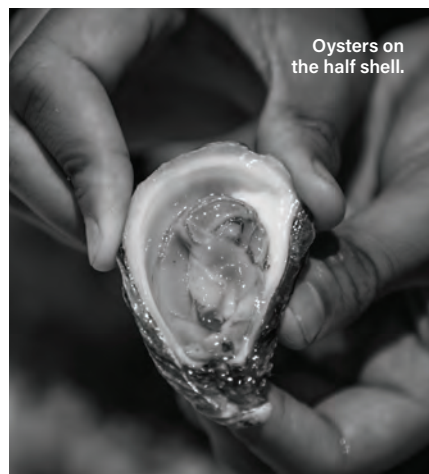


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Pat LaFreida New York strip steak, assorted wood-fired flatbreads, bone-in Veal Milanese, and a seafood tower. For hearty appetites, there's a 48-ounce Tomahawk ribeye, the menu's most expensive item at \$135.

During a recent happy hour at the 40-seat bar, we relished the tender kobe beef meatballs over whipped ricotta and authentic marinara and the heated shrimp fra diavolo. We also recommend the three-onion soup, the poached lobster Cobb salad and the wood-fired octopus.

Pasta lovers can poke and twirl at the lobster ravioli, a robust seafood cioppino atop black squid-ink spaghetti, or tender farfalle bow ties with Kennett Square mushrooms in a basil cream sauce. The raw bar features crab, shrimp, and a first-class selection of oysters and clams.

Superb California pinot noirs fill the wine bins at DePaul's Table. And the deeper, complex Argentinian malbecs and Tuscans from Italy hold their own with beef. As for cocktails, the cedar-plank Old Fashioned's smokiness enhances the rye whiskey, and the violet-colored Ardmore Vodka Martini packs an impressive punch. For designated drivers, there are creative house-made seltzers. **MLT**

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# RESTAURANTS

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## Chester County

### AMERICAN

#### 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](http://blackpowdertavern.com). \$

#### Bloom Southern Kitchen

Bringing a fresh concept to the old Eagle Tavern, Bloom exudes ambition and heart with Low Country-inspired dishes like shrimp and grits, Cheerwine-braised boneless short ribs, and chicken and waffles. 123 Pottstown Pike, Chester Springs, (484) 359-4144, [bloomsouthernkitchen.com](http://bloomsouthernkitchen.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](http://cedarhollowinn.com). \$\$

#### 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://ironhillbrewery.com). \$

#### Jimmy's BBQ

Mouthwatering authentic barbecue. 309 Lancaster Ave., Malvern, (610) 879-8805, [jimmysbbq.com](http://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](http://ludwigsoysterbar.com). \$\$\$

#### Mae's

Chef/owner Josh Taggart's impeccable culinary credentials and impassioned perfectionism fuel the inventive, locally sourced cuisine at this rustic and deservedly popular BYOB. 39 W. Gay St., West Chester, (484) 887-0062, [maeswc.com](http://maeswc.com). BYOB \$\$

#### 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](http://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](http://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](http://mckenziebrewhouse.com). \$\$

#### Nick Filet

Great Valley High School grad Nick Kline's budding franchise ups the ante on quick-service cuisine, heaping fresh filet mignon onto a Kaiser roll. 111 E. Lancaster Ave., Paoli, (484) 318-8545; 313 E. Lancaster Ave., Wayne, (484) 580-8400; [nickfilet.com](http://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](http://nookandkrannykafe.com). \$

#### Portabellos

Classic dishes and a homey setting complement a refreshingly old-school approach to cooking. 108 W. State St., Kennett Square, (610) 925-4984, [portabellosofkennettsquare.com](http://portabellosofkennettsquare.com). BYOB \$

#### Righteous Tap House

Tucked away in a quiet residential area, this unexpected hot spot offers a selection of well-executed bar fare with a decadent twist. 1548 Shadyside Road, West Chester, (484) 593-0850, [righteoustaphouse.com](http://righteoustaphouse.com). \$\$

#### 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](http://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](http://rootscafewc.com). BYOB \$

#### Sedona Taphouse

A large patio, well-executed Southwest Arizona cuisine and over 250 brews give this classy franchise an indie feel. 131 Bridge St., Phoenixville, (484) 302-5714; 44 W. Gay St., Suite 1, West Chester, (610) 738-5104; [sedonataphouse.com](http://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](http://slowhand-wc.com). \$

#### The Social Downingtown

Executive chef Dan Funk oversees the same tried-and-true New Orleans-inspired menu at this West Chester institution's second location. Signature dishes include pistachio-crusted chicken fingers, pot-roast fries and andouille meatloaf. 541 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, (484) 593-4113, [socialon30.com](http://socialon30.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](http://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](http://steelcitycoffeehouse.com). BYOB \$

#### Stottsville Inn

The kitchen at this restored circa-1858 stayover destination 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](http://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](http://suburbanbg.com). \$

#### TJ's Restaurant & Drinkery

Now under new ownership, TJ's remains a cheery beer-centric saloon offering favorites like the chicken-and-waffle sandwich and slow-braised short-rib tacos. 35 Paoli Plaza, Paoli, (610) 725-0100, [tjsbeer.com](http://tjsbeer.com). \$

#### Wrong Crowd Beer

Wrong Crowd's 5,000-square-foot brewing facility also features a kitchen that turns out artisan pizzas, lump-crab nachos, pilsner-brined wings and other tasty pub fare. 342 Hannum Ave., West Chester, (484) 983-3003, [wrongcrowdbeer.com](http://wrongcrowdbeer.com). \$

#### Verbena BYOB

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

#### Oori

Ramen (with braised pork belly, chicken or kelp) and other trendy Korean-inspired dishes shine here. Be sure to try the double-fried chicken wings, served in sauce or dry rubbed. 2228 Pottstown Pike, Pottstown, (484) 985-8071, [oorieats.com](http://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, [veekooasiancuisine.com](http://veekooasiancuisine.com). BYOB \$

## EUROPEAN

■ **Andiaro**

Reservations are a must at this acclaimed spot, where an open kitchen reveals sumptuous offerings like guinea hen, decadent pastas, and delicate Pocono trout. 106 W. Gay St., West Chester, (484) 887-0919, [andiaro.com](http://andiaro.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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://limoncellorestaurant.com). **\$\$**

**Malvern Pizza**

A casual spot serving traditional and specialty pies, plus strombolis, burgers, sandwiches and salads. 19 E. King St., Malvern, (610) 644-8888, [malvernpizza.com](http://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. 400 E. Gay St., West Chester, (610) 696-4100, [opatavernaphilly.com](http://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](http://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](http://vickersrestaurant.com). **\$\$**

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://autographbrasserie.com). **\$\$\$**

■ **Brick & Brew**

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](http://bricknbrewpub.com). **\$**

■ **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](http://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](http://thegablesatchaddsford.com). **\$\$**

**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](http://glenmorgan.com). **\$\$**

**Harvest Seasonal Grill & Wine Bar**

Prolific restaurateur Dave Magrognan's farm-to-table concept features an organic seasonal menu, with most items under 500 calories. Various locations, [harvestseasonalgrill.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://ososweet.shop). **\$**

**Pinnocchio'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](http://pinpizza.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](http://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](http://rosaliewayne.com). **\$\$**

■ **Rye BYOB**

Rye's carefully crafted cuisine should ensure its longevity in Media's crowded dining scene. Highlights include fresh seafood and pasta, plus a surf-and-turf combo with a crab cake and New York strip. 112 W. State St., Media, [ryebyob.com](http://ryebyob.com). **BYOB \$\$**

■ **Sophie's BBQ**

Sophie's owner Gregg Herman presides over two large reverse-flow smokers, and he prides himself on his marinades. The menu features dry-rub chicken, baby-back ribs, Louisiana hot links (made on-site) and pulled pork shoulder. 64 Rittenhouse Place, Ardmore, (610) 642-0100, [sophiesbbq.com](http://sophiesbbq.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](http://sterlingpig.com). **\$\$**

■ **Stove & Tap**

Justin Weathers and Joseph Monnich's expanding culinary brand features a light yet rustic Americana vibe, plus deviled eggs, burgers and exceptional pizzas. Various locations, [stoveandtap.com](http://stoveandtap.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](http://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](http://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](http://tiredhands.com). **\$\$**



### ■ The Town House

Five distinct themes make this transformation of the former D'Ignazio's locale truly unique. Diverse menus satisfy any appetite, while house-infused cocktails enhance the classic but contemporary vibe. 117 Veterans Square, Media, (484) 445-2041, townhousepa.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

At this intimate nook, diners prepare their own combo platters of marinated short ribs, chicken, pork belly and 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

### ■ Byrsa Bistro

Ahmed and Christine Chraga wow diners with traditional paella, chicken tagine, seafood linguini, cavatelli and lamb. 128 Glen Mills Road, Glen Mills, (610) 444-3277; 127 State St., Kennett Square, (610) 444-5050; byrsabistro.com. \$\$

### ■ 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. \$\$

## 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

This Tex-Mex-style eatery features 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, with a selection of classics that includes prime rib, steaks, fresh seafood, sandwiches, and entrée salads. 256 Mall Blvd., King of Prussia, (484) 322-2000, jalexanders.com. \$\$\$

### ■ Bodega by La Cibra Brewing

Bodega excels at wood-fired 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, bodegabylacibra.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 mezzal bar in the Philadelphia region. 800 Spring Mill Ave., (610) 825-3000, coyotecrossing.com. \$ MLT



# WATERLOGGED

As joggers and bikers go about their day under bright sunshine on the Manayunk Bridge Trail, Hurricane Ida's effects from the night before are shockingly apparent below. During the Sept. 1-2 deluge, the Schuylkill River and Manayunk Canal breached their banks, inundating Manayunk's Main Street.

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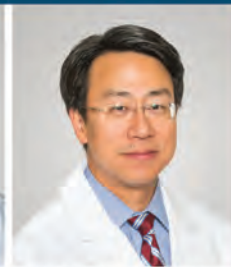
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