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The Great Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

The area’s leading business association for innovative enterprise and an issue driven organization that represents the needs and concerns of its business community. We support and promote business and economic development in Great Valley making this region an ideal area to live, work and invest.

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- Networking Events to expand your business and build strong business relationships
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- And an opportunity to support and become a part of YOUR business community

For membership information please call 610-889-2069
Email: greatchamber@gvrcc.org
Website: www.greatvalleyonline.com
This year marked the 40th anniversary of the Camp Henlopen trip for students in 7th grade at Great Valley Middle School. Pictured are (back row, left to right): Bailey Kielinski, Leah Valya, Charleston O’Donnell and Laura Levine; (front row, left to right): Mary Deitch and Julia Pyc. See story on page 18. Photo by Adam Search.

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IN Community is a publication dedicated to representing, encouraging and promoting the Great Valley area and its comprising municipalities by focusing on the talents and gifts of the people who live and work here. Our goal is to provide readers with the most informative and professional regional publication in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
Welcome to the summer issue of IN Great Valley magazine!

Summer has officially begun and we hope you will take some time to relax on the patio or by the pool and enjoy this issue that’s packed with valuable Township news on safe cycling, concerts in the park and a schedule of community events, as well as exciting School District news on the 2016 graduates, a new one-to-one technology initiative and the 40th anniversary of Camp Henlopen.

If you are a local business and would like to reach your audience in a community-oriented, family-friendly publication, please contact me directly about advertising at wayne@icmags.com.

Wishing you a safe and fun-filled summer!

Wayne Dollard / CEO
IN Community Magazines
610.924.7322
wayne@icmags.com

IN Community Magazines is the largest magazine publishing company in Pennsylvania. We are pleased to be partnered with the Great Valley communities.

Send Us Your Story Ideas!

We’d love to hear from you if you know someone in your community who is making a difference or has done something extraordinary. We’re also looking for interesting story ideas (little-known facts, history or other news) within your community.

If you have suggestions, email us at b.byrne@icmags.com.

To Advertise

To advertise, please call 610.639.0160
RELAY FOR LIFE AT GVHS

The 2016 Main Line Relay for Life at Great Valley took place June 4 at Great Valley High School. The event helped raise money for the American Cancer Society, which has a direct impact on hundreds of families every year in Chester County.

According to the American Cancer Society, hundreds of Chester County residents reach out to the organization for help every year, ranging from information to transportation to support. Many of them find reliable information about their diagnosis, treatment and ways to combat side effects.

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life movement is the world’s largest and most impactful fundraising event to end cancer. It unites communities across the globe to celebrate those who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and take action to finish the fight once and for all.

For more information on how to get involved or donate, visit RelayForLife.org.

MALVERN STROLL RETURNS FOR SUMMER MONTHS

Warmer summer evenings are a great time to “sip, shop and stroll” through the heart of Malvern.

Throughout the year, on the third Thursday of every month, King Street boutiques, galleries and shops are opening their doors and inviting the community to join them for a night filled with live music, light refreshments and surprises.

Special promotions, happy hour specials, sales, pop-up stores, product demos and more are part of the Stroll experience.

The King Street merchants offer a spectacular array of personal fashion, great dining, home decor and an all-around good time. For details of upcoming Strolls, be sure to check out Malvern Stroll on King Street on Malvern’s Facebook page.

VOLUNTEERS MAKE SHRED EVENT A SUCCESS

The annual Great Valley Shred Event was held at the Penn State Campus on East Swedesford Road in East Whiteland Township on April 30. State Representative Duane Milne sponsors the event which allows local residents to safely and properly recycle all kinds of spring cleaning items, including paper and sensitive documents, unused or unwanted prescription drugs, small appliances, TVs and computer screens, eyeglasses, hearing aids, cell phones, clothing, sporting goods and more. Traffic control was coordinated by East Whiteland Fire Police with additional help from East Whiteland, Goshen, and Paoli fire companies.

East Whiteland Fire Company hosted a table to greet participants and hand out recruitment and donation information for the fire company. East Whiteland Fire Company members also collected donations to help pay for the new Station 5 building project. To learn more about how you can help volunteer and support the East Whiteland Fire Company, visit EastWhitelandFire.org.

MALVERN RETREAT HOUSE APPOINTS NEW LEADER

Malvern Retreat House has a new President, Mark Poletunow, who joined “The Nation’s Premiere Retreat Center for Men and Women” after an extensive national search. Poletunow has been a longtime leader in Catholic ministry in Wilmington, DE, and the...
Washington, D.C. area. Board President Joseph Nardi says Poletunow gained the unanimous approval of the Malvern Board of Directors on Feb. 10.

“I am humbled by my selection to lead Malvern Retreat House and I am grateful to be able to use my professional and pastoral experience to enhance its heritage as a sacred place where men and women of all ages come to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ, through the retreat experience,” says Poletunow.

Poletunow comes to Malvern with nearly 20 years in nonprofit leadership and a master’s degree in Theology. Most recently, he served as Assistant Executive Director of the Ministry of Caring in Wilmington, DE, where he was responsible for the financial, programmatic and operational activity of the $10 million agency.

MALVERN PREP SENIOR NAMED STUDENT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Malvern Prep senior Justice Bennett is the 2016 Pennsylvania Press Association Student Journalist of the Year. In addition, his portfolio was nominated for review for national awards at the Journalism Education Association’s (JEA) convention in Los Angeles in April.

Bennett’s moving feature about climbing suicide rates for young people won the 2016 Journalism Education Association’s (JEA) Student Impact Award, according to an announcement by the private Catholic school.

“The feature started out as a small column for his journalism class. It was a topic that hit home, and once he started digging, he realized it needed to be a longer feature. The article took about two months to complete. PhillyVoice.com ran the article as a top story this April. The article originally appeared in the Jan. 2016 issue of the student newspaper.”

“It just seemed like there had been so many suicides by young people in the area and I was upset,” Bennett says. “One of those was 13-year-old Cayman Naib. He was a family friend from pre-school, and when he went missing my mom was a big help in the search and we even drove up and down the R5 hanging up posters.”

“Justice has put in more than 40 hours building a web portfolio that shares work in 11 categories of the JEA’s curriculum,” says Kate Plows, ceramics and journalism teacher and BFC advisor. “He is Co-President of the Diversity Awareness Club, a captain of the Speech and Debate team and a captain of the Mock Trial team. He also started Students Helping Students, which helps inner-city schools get the resources they need. His desire to learn and to help others, though, is best fulfilled through his work as a journalist.”

COMMUNITY SPAGHETTI DINNER

The third annual Malvern Community Spaghetti Dinner took place on Memorial Day weekend in Malvern Memorial Park.

Hosted by the Malvern Farmers Market, the dinner was prepared by Anthony’s in Malvern, featuring spaghetti and meatballs, salad, bread and dessert.

Following the dinner, the Malvern Memorial Day Parade and Family Fun Day Committee hosted the Chester County Concert Band for a patriotic concert from 7 to 8 p.m.

EAST GOSHEN COLOR RUN

The East Goshen Color Run was the happiest (untimed) 5K you’ll ever run, walk or crawl! The June 25 event took place in East Goshen Park on Paoli Pike in East Goshen. The family-friendly celebration of color was fueled by pumping music and a rush of color that’s literally showered on racers throughout the event. The color is a non-toxic, biodegradable cornstarch-based powder. Participants came wearing their whitest whites to experience a race like no other!

All proceeds directly supported the Youth Mentoring Partnership’s Friend Fitness program. Friend Fitness utilizes volunteer mentors, goal-setting, and intense physical fitness to help kids develop “grit.” Organizers say “grit helps students overcome life’s formidable challenges with passion and perseverance. It ensures success in school, work, relationships and life!”

STUDENT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

COURTESY MALVERN PREP

MALVERN PREP SENIOR NAMED STUDENT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

COURTESY YOUTH MENTORING PARTNERSHIP

PAOLI HOSPITAL OFFERS FIRST-EVER MRI FOR SOME HEART PATIENTS

Lankenauer Heart Institute at Paoli Hospital is now the first in the Philadelphia region to implant a cardiac resynchronization therapy defibrillator (CRT-Ds) approved by the FDA for use with magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans. The hospital says, “CRT devices are designed to help the heart pump more effectively in a coordinated rhythm, decreasing heart failure symptoms and helping to reduce the risk of sudden cardiac arrest. Until now, however, patients with CRT-Ds have not been able to receive MRI scans because of the potential for harmful interaction between the MRI and the device. With as many as 40 percent of CRT patients meeting an indication for an MRI within four years of receiving a device, thousands of patients implanted with CRT-Ds have not had access to MRI scans when needed.”

“Our cardiac team is excited to be leading the way in improving care for heart failure patients,” explains Matthew Goldstein, MD, electrophysiologist at Paoli Hospital. “Cardiac resynchronization therapy is a vital treatment option for heart failure patients, and has been shown to improve quality of life. Patients being treated for heart failure with these new MR-conditional CRT-D devices will no longer be denied access to MRI scans, which can be critical for doctors to detect and treat other underlying, potentially life-threatening conditions.”

PATIENTS

EVER MRI FOR SOME HEART

PAOLI HOSPITAL OFFERS FIRST-EVER MRI FOR SOME HEART PATIENTS

COURTESY YOUTH MENTORING PARTNERSHIP

EAST GOSHEN COLOR RUN

THE EAST GOSHEN COLOR RUN WAS THE HAPPIEST (UNTIMED) 5K YOU’LL EVER RUN, WALK OR CRAWL! THE JUNE 25 EVENT TOOK PLACE IN EAST GOSHEN PARK ON PAOLI PIKE IN EAST GOSHEN. THE FAMILY-FRIENDLY CELEBRATION OF COLOR WAS FUELED BY PUMPING MUSIC AND A RUSH OF COLOR THAT’S LITERALLY SHowered ON RACERS THROUGHOUT THE EVENT. THE COLOR IS A NON-TOXIC, BIODERGAMABLE CORNSTARCH-BASED POWDER. PARTICIPANTS CAME WEARING THEIR WHITEST WHITES TO EXPERIENCE A RACE LIKE NO OTHER!

ALL PROCEEDS DIRECTLY SUPPORTED THE YOUTH MENTORING PARTNERSHIP’S FRIEND FITNESS PROGRAM. FRIEND FITNESS UTILIZES VOLUNTEER MENTORS, GOAL-SETTING, AND INTENSE PHYSICAL FITNESS TO HELP KIDS DEVELOP “GRIT.” ORGANIZERS SAY “GRIT HELPS STUDENTS OVERCOME LIFE’S FORMIDABLE CHALLENGES WITH PASSION AND PERSEVERANCE. IT ENSURES SUCCESS IN SCHOOL, WORK, RELATIONSHIPS AND LIFE!”

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Paoli Hospital

Main Line Health

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PATIENTS

EVER MRI FOR SOME HEART

PAOLI HOSPITAL OFFERS FIRST-EVER MRI FOR SOME HEART PATIENTS

COURTESY YOUTH MENTORING PARTNERSHIP
Blooms Festival Brings Sunny Smiles

Rain doesn’t dampen spirit of top festival.

Story and Photos by Bob Byrne

Despite a May Day that brought lots of “liquid sunshine” to Malvern, the rain-or-shine annual Malvern Blooms soldiered on with lots of sunny smiles among the vendors, volunteers and brave souls who weathered a chilly rain to usher in spring in the Great Valley.

The Malvern Blooms Festival is sponsored by the Malvern Business and Professional Association. A balloon artist, DJ, and games for the kids were under cover in the pavilion in Burke Park. Vendors under tents offered crafts, plants and much more to festival-goers.

The MBPA also sponsors the annual Malvern Harvest Oktoberfest and Bark in the Park festival, which this year will be on Sunday, Sept. 25, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For vendor and sponsorship information, visit Malvern-Festivals.com.
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Dear Great Valley Community Members,

It is hard to believe the 2015-2016 school year has come to an end! It seems like yesterday that you welcomed me as your new superintendent. What a year it has been! While I have learned new faces and new traditions, I have also been constantly reminded of how honored I am to be a part of the Great Valley family. Each day offers examples of how Great Valley truly is a special place. Thank you so much for the warm reception and for your willingness to work together as we learn and grow.

This summer edition of our magazine highlights some of the wonderful things happening within our schools and at the district-level. This year, for example, our Camp Henlopen Trip celebrated its 40th anniversary! (See page 18). This wonderful experience for our middle school students is just one example of the many traditions in Great Valley that are rooted in our curriculum to provide experiential learning opportunities for our students.

This edition also includes information about some of the many staff and student achievements we’ve celebrated over the last few months. Kudos to you, our community, for supporting our schools in such a way that excellence is so pervasive. We see achievement in all areas – academics, the arts, athletics, and a multitude of extracurricular activities. There are indeed many reasons for our Great Valley pride to shine. And shine it did when we celebrated the Class of 2016 at graduation in June (See page 20). I am so very proud of our graduates, and I extend my heartfelt congratulations to each of their families. We, in Great Valley, cannot wait to see all that the students will accomplish in the future!

Finally, you will notice that I am pictured here with one of our students from General Wayne Elementary School. This wonderful girl is Madison Crandall who just finished fourth grade. As part of a PTO fundraiser, Madison joined me for a “lunch with the superintendent.” What a nice lunch we had! A special ‘thank you’ to Madison for providing a glimpse into the life of fourth grade in GVSD. Also, heartfelt appreciation goes to the Parent Teacher Organizations (PTOs) who continually find new and creative ways to support our schools.

On behalf of everyone in Great Valley, I wish you a wonderful summer. I hope that you find time to relax and enjoy some of the opportunities the warmer weather brings. We look forward to welcoming you back to school in the fall.

Respectfully,

Regina C. Speaker Palubinsky, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Joshita Varshney

Great Valley High School

Junior Joshita Varshney assumed a new role during the 2015-2016 school year. Varshney was selected as a Junior Representative to the Pennsylvania State Board of Education (SBE). While she is a non-voting member of the SBE, Varshney regularly interacts with the 22 adult members of the board, and her input and ideas help to shape long-term education policy for the 1.8 million K-12 students in the state of Pennsylvania.

Varshney applied for the role of Junior Representative during her sophomore year. Applicants for the position must be enrolled in a Pennsylvania secondary public school and be a junior during their term. If selected, the student is expected to attend all scheduled Pennsylvania State Board of Education meetings. Only one high school junior from across the state is selected each year to serve on the Board and the expected term is two years.

In order to be selected for her role, Varshney first submitted an application that reflected her educational accomplishments and leadership experience. Applicants must demonstrate active participation in their school and reflect on their personal interests and hobbies. Varshney, who is a stellar student, is a member of the Model United Nations Club at Great Valley High School, is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America, participates in Quiz Bowl, and is a member of the school’s Interact Club. Most recently, she was awarded a National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) scholarship for 2016-2017. As a result, she will study Chinese in China for the summer.

In addition to the formal application, Varshney competed two essays and provided three letters of recommendation before being selected as Junior Representative. She said she was drawn to the position because of her desire to influence decision-making that impacts students.

“This position is so relevant to me as a student,” she said. “I like being able to give my input and perspective. And I have an ability to influence decisions.”

Great Valley also benefits from Varshney’s work. She reports regularly to the School Board and the Superintendent about the topics being considered by the SBE. She credits Great Valley for helping her grow the skills that now help her serve as a representative.

“My experience in Great Valley has provided me with so many skills I will use over my lifetime,” said Varshney. “I think critically, definitively, and thoughtfully,” she said. “Additionally, students in most of my classes are so eager to learn that their positive attitudes motivate me to work harder. My teachers have taught me to seek help and not to be afraid of being wrong. In moments where I do catch myself hesitating, I just remember these lessons.”

Varshney, who has been a student in Great Valley since kindergarten, is the daughter of Nipin and Arti Varshney. She has one sister who just completed third grade.

“My family constantly encourages me to become a better person in many different ways,” she said. “Also, my parents strive to raise me as a global citizen. As a result, we often travel, try different cuisines, learn different cultures, and gain as much knowledge as we can. I owe a whole lot to them!”

In addition to her interest in politics, Varshney is also interested in the expanded use of technology in the classroom.

“We, as students, are always on the go,” she said. “If we can utilize technology to stay connected with our studies and with each other, I think that’s a good thing.”

Varshney is interested in pursuing international business and is currently looking at several programs. She speaks four languages: English, Hindi, Spanish, and Chinese.

When asked to reflect about her first-year experience as Junior Representative, Varshney said she gained a perspective she did not have before. That perspective includes a realization that the challenges one district faces might be different from those faced by another. “There’s never one formula that will most benefit all students,” she said. “As I look to my second term, I’m excited to serve as a mentor for the incoming Junior Representative. We will collaborate to provide an even greater voice on the State Board and in our communities.”
The Great Valley School District will launch a one-to-one (1:1) technology initiative in the 2016-2017 school year that will provide each student with a portable device. While the long-term goal is to provide every student with an iPad, the implementation plan will begin with students who are entering fifth or ninth grade in the 2016-2017 school year. Additional grades will receive devices in subsequent years, with the current plan showing full implementation by 2020.

“The 1:1 program will strengthen the integration of technology in our educational programming,” said Stephen O’Toole, director of technology, accountability, and enrichment programs in Great Valley School District. “Our goal is to see greater digital collaboration between teachers and students and to ensure that students have the skills and competencies they need not only to access, but to process and communicate using a wide range of resources and technologies.”

The conversation about a 1:1 technology program began in 2008 as part of the District’s then Strategic Plan. It again surfaced in the most recent Comprehensive Plan which was approved by the School Board in 2014. Committees of teachers and administrators then worked to research implementation in other school districts and to pilot various devices. The iPad was selected as the device of choice. Additionally, the District selected a new Learning Management System (LMS) called Canvas, which will be implemented along with the 1:1 devices.

“Our long-term goal is to really see the integration of technology in all subject areas,” said O’Toole. “Because this means using the iPad and other technology as more than just a word processing tool or note-taker, we will need to provide teachers with consistent professional development and support.”

According to O’Toole, 1:1 technology will mean that there will be consistent expectations for technology integration. “As curriculum is revised, we will actively be looking at how technology can best be integrated to enhance or expand learning,” he said. O’Toole also noted that this is why the implementation plan is a gradual one. “While many teachers are in fact using technology well in their classrooms, this is more a systemic approach that is tied directly to teaching and learning and our curriculum. It will take time to train and support teachers, and to revise all areas of the curriculum for integration.”

The current plan shows that students entering fifth and ninth grade in 2016-2017 will receive a device. Year two provides devices to the same grades, plus sixth grade. Additional grades are added as the plan progresses. By year five (2020), all students in kindergarten through 12th grade will have a personal device. Students who receive the iPad in grade five will keep it until they enter ninth grade; in ninth grade, they will receive a replacement device that they will keep until they graduate.

“Our implementation plan is not set in stone,” said O’Toole. “Certainly as we move ahead, we can alter the plan to move more quickly if we find that the system is ready for it. This means that funding will need to be available and that staff has been trained and curriculum revised. Our goal is to implement well.”

Like other districts who have moved to 1:1 technology, Great Valley will impose a fee for each device. Parents will be asked to pay a $75 per device per year fee which includes the iPad, Zagg Rugged Book case with Bluetooth keyboard, charger, and enrollment in Apple Care. The District will use a mobile device management system (AirWatch) to remotely download appropriate apps onto student iPads and to also track iPads that might be lost. Students will not be permitted to download personal apps onto the district-issued machines.

To help parents better understand the 1:1 technology implementation, the District developed a One-to-One Handbook and held a series of parent meetings in the spring. Students will receive their iPads over the summer, prior to the beginning of school. In the fall, teachers will use the new LMS (Canvas) to integrate technology with instructional units or specific core classes.

This summer, the District will also host a technology camp for students. Funded by The Foundation at Great Valley, the camp will bring a group of students and teachers together to collaborate on the instructional use of technology. “Our students have great ideas about how to best use technology,” said O’Toole. “They use technology every day to communicate, collaborate, and problem-solve. The tech camp will train students about how to problem-solve usage issues and in that way will prepare these students to support teachers and peers in their school.”

According to O’Toole, many teachers and students are already using technology well in Great Valley schools. His count shows more than 2,500 devices already in place. “We see iPads on carts and in classrooms, and various devices in our libraries and common spaces. The 1:1 effort really just formalizes the use of that technology. It ensures that all students have access to the same resources and makes technology integration an integral part of teaching and learning in Great Valley. We are excited to move ahead.”
Schools across the country navigate a host of challenges in today’s complex world, from academic standards and funding, to parent involvement and technology. And many times, challenges are hidden mental health concerns that can affect a child’s ability to learn and grow. Great Valley School District has taken a proactive approach to the topic of mental health by educating and empowering staff, students and families.

“It’s all about serving the whole child, and supporting the whole family,” said Dan Goffredo, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education and Pupil Services at Great Valley School District. “We’re doing outreach to get information and materials in the hands of parents.”

At the beginning of the 2015-16 school year, Goffredo and Jane Trimble, the district’s Student Services Coordinator, helped to organize a forum for parents in the Great Valley School District to provide information about mental health, substance abuse and suicide. More than 60 parents attended.

“We were impressed with the turn-out,” Goffredo said. “People are now feeling more comfortable to come forward when they have these concerns. People are more open.”

Since then, the district has continued to address the mental health of students and families, holding three Mental Health First Aid classes in the span of four months. One class was held for selected students, two were for parents and the community. The community classes were held in the evening, from 5:30 until 9:30, and both filled to capacity within hours.

“We’ve had excellent feedback from the parents and students,” Goffredo said of Mental Health First Aid. “The goal is to get as many people trained and to have conversations like we would for any medical condition. It takes the involvement of the entire community.”

In addition to the collaborations with Chester County MH/IDD and The COAD Group to provide Mental Health First Aid, Goffredo said the district has partnered with Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences to present the Adolescent Depression Awareness Program (ADAP). The three-day program is free and includes a student curriculum, a training program for health and school-based professionals, and presentations for parents and communities.

Goffredo noted the programs have created a groundswell of interest in the school and community.

“There will still be a focus on academics, but I think you’re going to see this shift in schools across the country. We’re moving away from all the standardized testing and seeing there are many more measures of student success,” he said.

Youth Mental Health First Aid USA is an 8-hour public education program focused on information about mental health that participants can use to help struggling adolescents, ages 12-18. The program introduces participating students to the unique risk factors and warning signs of mental health issues in adolescents, builds understanding of the importance of early intervention, and teaches how to help an adolescent in crisis or one who is experiencing a mental health challenge. Mental Health First Aid uses role playing and simulations to demonstrate how to: assess a mental health crisis, select initial interventions and supports, and connect to professional, peer, social, and self-care help.

In mid-April, 16 Great Valley High School students participated in one of Chester County’s First Youth Mental Health First Aid USA Programs. The students are: Matt Wolf, Andrew Schuck, Cassie Tiburcio, MacKenzie Farrelly, Tara Cunniffe, Matt Langlois, Divya Jain, Meaghan Loftus, Jenny Osinski, Noah Johnson, Marin Gala, Destiny McClain, Brittany John, Dyson Kennedy, Bridget O’Hara, and Avery Mote.

Reprinted with permission from the Chester County Mental Health Newsletter
Anagha Kapsi, a student musician from K.D. Markley Elementary School, participated in a sold-out performance at Carnegie Hall in May. Kapsi plays the violin and takes classes at the Music School of Delaware. He was joined in the performance by 29 other violin, viola, and cello students. “It’s like a dream come true to play on the stage where so many great musicians have performed,” said Kapsi.

Mary Kacergis, a fifth grade student at Sugartown Elementary School, finished second in the U.S. Junior Squash Championship and won two national titles in junior doubles.

- **Aakash Narayan (7th grade)** was the winner of the Chester County Spelling Bee. Aakash represented Chester County at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. This is the second consecutive year that Aakash earned a spot in the National Spelling Bee.

Great Valley High School Junior Kira Ousey was one of six Great Valley students whose film was accepted into the West Chester Film Festival (WCFF). Kira’s documentary highlighted the Great Valley High School Marching Band. Students were invited to participate in a workshop hosted by WCFF. As part of the workshop, students were asked to write a screenplay based on a prompt. Kira’s submission was selected as the winner.

Four Great Valley Middle School students won awards at the PA Regional Computer Fair. Eighth grader Avleen Kaur earned first place for web design; seventh grader Shrey Pandya took first place for programming; sixth grader Prithvi Parthasarathy earned second place in programming; and eighth grader Brooke Wilkes earned first place in logo design. Kaur, Pandya, and Wilkes advanced to the state level where Pandya won first place for the creation of his own app named Find.Me.

- **Eight Great Valley High School students also earned awards at the Regional Computer Fair:** senior Julia Sherbin took first place in animation and second place in graphic design; junior Eve Dawson earned third place in animation; seniors David Rubbo and Thomas Lantz earned second place in digital movie; Lantz also earned first place in web design; junior Christa Jones took first place in graphic design; and senior Gildardo Perez earned first place in logo design; senior Melissa Miller earned second place in logo design; and sophomore Tanvi Badhele took third place in logo design. Senior Julia Sherbin went on to win first place at the state level computer fair competition for her animation.

The Great Valley Quiz Bowl Team had an outstanding performance at the Henderson Invitational Classic. Team C (Shrey Pandya, Charlotte Cox, Lucas Armand, Tyler Yang, and Anshu Nunemunthala) earned fourth place overall in the tournament. Team B (Chris Angelov, Aakash Narayan, Rithvik Bobbili, Nick McDonald, and Tony Wang) placed third overall. Team A earned first place and qualified for Nationals. Members of Team A are: Heidi Atlas, Rishi Raman, David Nemeth, John Li, and Alan Xu.

- **Great Valley High School sophomore Maxwell Segarnick placed eighth in the state at the PMEA (Pennsylvania Music Educators Association) State Choral Festival. He is the first Great Valley student to reach this level. He then excelled at All-Eastern and subsequently qualified for All-Nationals Honors Chorus.**

Great Valley Middle Schools students Allen Sun and Bharavi Misra placed sixth and fourth respectively in this year’s You Be the Chemist Challenge. The Challenge is an interactive academic contest that encourages students in grades five through eight to explore chemistry concepts and their real-world applications. The Challenge provides a unique opportunity for a variety of individuals and organizations—including schools, members of the chemical industry, educators, and other community partners—to come together and show their support for STEM education.

- **Ten Great Valley seniors were named National Merit Scholarship Finalists. They are:** Kimber Boekell, Andrew Chow, Caley Gowen, Eliza Jouin, Jenna Li, Alison Miller, Melissa Miller, Eric Wang, Lillian Wang, and Angela Ye.
Great Valley High School teacher Matthew Ceresini was a finalist in the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra’s Ovation Award for Inspiration and Outstanding Leadership in Music Education. The award is designed to bring greater recognition to music teachers with the goal of honoring exceptional music educators who change students’ lives by not only imparting musical knowledge, but also by building character and teaching skills that last a lifetime. Ceresini was nominated by Great Valley High School senior Evelyn Bravo.

- **Great Valley Middle School** teacher Mark Cellini was named a co-director of the Chester County Youth Orchestra (CCYO). CCYO is an extracurricular ensemble for students in grades 6-12 where students have the opportunity to make music with a full symphony orchestra. The Orchestra was established in 1993 and is sponsored by the Chester County Intermediate Unit. The orchestra is composed of approximately 75 students (including 11 from Great Valley) from more than 25 different schools throughout Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties. Students are accepted by audition only.

- **General Wayne Elementary School** teacher Dustin Kasper received the 2016 Health and Physical Education Teacher of the Year award by the Pennsylvania State Alliance for Healthy, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (PSAHPERD), Southeastern District.

Sugartown Elementary School secretary Pamela Converse received the 2016 PAEOP (Pennsylvania Association of Educational Office Professionals) Gertrude E. Kopf Award of Recognition. The award is presented annually to a PAEOP member who is nominated by a supervisor and/or colleagues, and who has contributed outstanding service to education through the performance of their duties/responsibilities in an educational office.

- **Christopher Vogt**, Charlestown Elementary School third grade teacher, was named the Great Valley finalist for the Citadel Heart of Learning Award.

Kudos and thanks to these Great Valley staff members who celebrated benchmark years of service in the 2015-2016 school year:

- **40 Years of Service**  
  Dale Garrison, Secretary,  
  District Office

- **35 Years of Service**  
  Kathleen Crisi, Science, Great Valley High School  
  Charles Linderman, Director of Business Affairs, District Office

- **30 Years of Service**  
  Laura McDonald, Grade 7 Math,  
  Great Valley Middle School  
  Boyd Guie, Custodian, Great Valley Middle School

- **25 Years of Service**  
  Patricia Carlini, French, Great Valley High School  
  Lawrence Cinciripino, Social Studies, Great Valley Middle School
Charlestown Family Day

Charlestown Elementary School held its first annual Family Day of Service in April. Activities included a book drive that benefitted the Chester County Head Start Programs, The Laundromat Library leagues, Mom’s House in Phoenixville, and other community organizations. In addition, families volunteered to pull weeds, wash windows, and plant flowers at their school.

Students Take the Field

Students at K.D. Markley Elementary School participated in the school’s annual Field Day in May. The day is designed to engage students in physical fitness and teambuilding activities. This year’s theme was “Board Games.”
Know an Outstanding Great Valley Graduate?
Nominate a GV grad for induction to the Wall of Fame

The Great Valley School District Wall of Fame Program was established in the spring of 2012 to ensure that the lives and achievements of Great Valley’s most accomplished graduates will be forever known among fellow graduates, current and future high school students, and the Great Valley community.

Any person may nominate another for the Wall of Fame. A nominee for the Wall of Fame must: be a Great Valley graduate, graduated at least 10 years before the year of nomination; model high standards of excellence in personal and/or professional life; make outstanding contribution to volunteer service or local community; and demonstrate success at local, regional or international levels in any appropriate areas of endeavor, including academia and education, arts, business, media, public service, medicine, military, sports, etc.

Nominations for induction in September 2016 will open this summer. For more information, to see a list of past inductees, or to make a nomination, visit: www.gvsd.org/walloffame

The Great Valley School District is on Facebook!

Have you joined the more than 1,000 people who have already “liked” our page? Our fans get the inside scoop on weather-related closings, news and photos from our schools, School Board information, and special events! There are lots of pages on Facebook related to Great Valley, but this is the official District page. www.facebook.com/GreatValleySD
Marketing in Real Life

Students in Great Valley High School’s Sports and Entertainment Marketing class attended the “Professionals in Sports Program” at the Wells Fargo Center in February. Students met with marketing professionals and representatives from the Philadelphia 76’ers business analytics department. Students learned about branding, pricing decisions and strategies, and licensing agreements. Following a question and answer session, students then attended a basketball game. The Sport and Entertainment Marketing class is taught by teacher Kurt Balderson. Approximately 45 students visited the Wells Fargo Center for this experience.
From the Cafeteria to a Neighborhood Near You
The Great Valley Food Truck will Offer Healthy Lunches All Summer

The Great Valley School District Food Service Department is always thinking about providing healthy eating choices to students. And while students don’t come to school in the summer, that effort doesn’t end during the warmer months. In fact, this summer, the Food Service Department is taking the cafeteria out of the schools and into the neighborhood with a food truck.

“We are thrilled to launch this new initiative in the Bryn Erin Townhouse Community Park,” said Nutrition and Garden Coordinator Kelsey Gartner.

Meals will be served in the park every Monday through Thursday, from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. There is no cost for children and teens under 18 to eat, however they must be accompanied by an adult. If the adult would like to have lunch, a meal can be purchased for $3.75. Diners are required to eat their lunch on-site, in the park.

“Each year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture partners with local organizations to provide free meals to children when school is out for the summer,” said Gartner. “This partnership with Great Valley is one that we are excited about because we are always looking for ways to support our students’ good nutrition, even when school is not in session.”

Gartner said that lunches will consist of a main entrée like a turkey and cheese sandwich, as well as fruit, vegetable, and milk. The same Great Valley staff who serve lunch in school cafeterias will be staffing the food truck, giving students an opportunity to see their favorite “lunch ladies” over the summer.

“There is no application to participate,” said Gartner. “We won’t ask for proof of income or inquire about any assistance a family might receive. We just want families to come and have lunch and the cost for children and teens is on us.”

The Bryn Erin Townhouse Community is located off of Markel Road in Malvern. Lunch will be available to any family who visits, despite where they live within Great Valley, from June through August. On days where there is heavy rain or lightening, the truck will not be on-site.

For more information about the National Summer Food Service Program, visit http://www.fns.gov/cnd/summer. For questions about Great Valley’s program, contact Nutrition and Garden Coordinator Kelsey Gartner at (610) 889-2125, ext. 52167.

New Fitness Center at GVHS

When students return to Great Valley High School in the fall, a new and improved weight room/fitness center will be available to them. The $250,000 renovation project is partially funded by private funds raised by members of the Great Valley community, and includes new lighting, new paint, a hard rubber floor, and the installation of upgraded equipment. In addition, the trainer’s room across the hall from the fitness center is also being renovated. Watch for photos of the completed project in the fall edition of this magazine!
When teacher Russ LoGuidice came to Great Valley in the 1975-76 school year, he brought an idea with him that he’d seen modeled in his former school district: a program that took classroom learning out into the real world and helped students make connections and build understanding. Now, 40 years later, and under the lead of teacher Larry Cinciripino, the program known as Camp Henlopen, is still taking seventh grade students to the beach.

LoGuidice and his “founding” colleagues – Casey Caruso and Bill Beyer – are all now retired from the Great Valley School District, but the Henlopen program they helped to build at Great Valley Middle School (then Junior High) is still going strong.

“Russ presented the program to Ed Off, who was our principal at the time,” said Beyer, who still returns to volunteer at Henlopen. “Ed was able to see Russ’ vision and we were able to engage both seasoned and newer teachers. The idea of taking the learning experience for students out of the classroom and into the real world setting was met with great enthusiasm.”

Beyer noted that there was always a very strong science component to the Henlopen program. In fact, the seashore specimen collection activity is one that has been included since the very first trip. “Students go out in the bay during low tide,” said Beyer, “and they take what they’ve already learned in the classroom and apply it to what they find.”

In addition to science, the program has also evolved to include a strong history and geography component. But, according to Beyer, a significant tangential benefit is the camaraderie and respect the program builds among the students who participate.

“This program reaps many benefits that go beyond what’s often considered educational,” said Beyer. “Students interact with peers they might not normally be in classes with at the middle school and they build bonds.” Because it is seventh grade students who annually visit Henlopen together, these bonds continue as students progress into eighth grade.

Beyer pointed out that the same kind of bonds are also strengthened between the teachers who participate. Today, the program sees teachers from every level at the middle school involved, along with current and retired food service staff members and administrators.

“We wanted to work on developing student and teacher relationships outside the classroom that would benefit us inside the classroom,” said Beyer.

Jon DiVirgilio, who now attends Henlopen as a current seventh grade teacher at Great Valley Middle School, first experienced Henlopen as a student.
“Twenty-five years later, this is one of my most vivid memories from my experience in Great Valley,” he said. “It was the first time I was away from home… I remember that it forced me to get to know kids I didn’t already know. It was a real bonding experience.”

The schedule for the Henlopen visit is carefully developed. The day starts at approximately 6:30 a.m. After breakfast, students and staff engage in learning and teambuilding activities until 5 p.m. After dinner, special activities like a movie night are offered. The traditional movie has been Jaws.

“Everybody remembers Henlopen,” said Beyer. “Even this year – a year when we had only about two hours of sunshine the whole time – students and staff were excited to be there. To this day, I still have a lot of fun.”
Congratulations, Class of 2016!

Congratulations to the 287 members of Great Valley High School’s Class of 2016!
Looking for Volunteer Opportunities in Your Community?

The Foundation at Great Valley welcomes your involvement!

Have you been looking for a way to contribute your time and talents for the benefit of the Great Valley community? Are you interested in our public schools? The Foundation at Great Valley enthusiastically welcomes community members as volunteers. Opportunities currently exist for special events and for ongoing committee work. Please visit www.thefoundationatgreatvalley.org for more information, or email info@thefoundationatgreatvalley.org to express your interest!

Our volunteers play a critical role in many areas:

- Allocations – set grant policies, review teacher grant applications, and recommend funding;
- Communications & Marketing – develop promotional materials, including newsletters and videos, and support the work of development and allocations;
- Development – increase and diversify funding from individuals and businesses and serve as an ambassador for the Foundation in the larger community;
- Finance – review financial statements, prepare annual budget, and make funding recommendations to the full Board;
- Governance – work on by-laws and policy and plan for the development and training of the Board;
- Alumni – build connections with GV alumni;
- Special Events – help to plan and deliver one or more special events throughout the year;
- And more!

Teaching Responsible Online Citizenship

The Foundation at Great Valley was pleased to provide funding last school year to welcome international speaker Richard Guerry. Guerry, who is the founder of the non-profit Institute for Responsible Online and Cell-Phone Communication (IROC2), spoke to middle school and high school students about making smart and responsible use of technology, especially social media. Parents were welcome at a special evening presentation.

Funding for Guerry's visit to Great Valley was provided through The Foundation at Great Valley's Venture Grants Program. Teachers and staff members apply annually for grants that support innovation in Great Valley's public schools. In the 2015-2016 school year, The Foundation provided $30,000 in Venture Grants to teachers and staff. Look for more information about 2016-2017 grants in the fall edition of this magazine.

Pictured with Guerry (second from left) are Foundation Board Member Elizabeth McGarrigle, Superintendent Regina Speaker Palubinsky, and Great Valley High School Principal Michael Flick.
Adaptive Reuse
A Goal of Historic Commission

Have you ever heard the term “adaptive reuse”? If you’re not a history buff or in the know about historic preservation, you may not have.

Adaptive reuse is simply the term that applies to finding a new, viable use for an old and, in most cases, historic building. This is the primary goal of the East Whiteland Historical Commission. There are over 200 sites on our Township Historic Resources List. These sites are the primary concern for adaptive reuse, especially as our township undergoes significant development as can be seen by anyone driving around East Whiteland.

What have you done for me lately?

The next question that you might ask is what is an example of a successful application of adaptive reuse? Is there one in our Township that we can look at? In fact, the prime example of an old building finding a new use can be found at 600 East Swedesford Road. This is the southwest corner of Planebrook Road and Swedesford Road.

What did it look like? It looked pretty bad by anyone’s standards. If you type the address into Google maps, the picture that is displayed on the street view, indicates that it was taken in May 2009. Not that long ago, but worlds apart for the current incarnation of this same building.

As you can see from the picture, this historic barn was in dire straits. More than one person said it was beyond repair. The old barn stood this way in disrepair for over 15 years.

The building is known as the Adam Reitenbaugh Barn and it was built in 1839. It stands right next to what is arguably the most historically significant building in our township, the White Horse Tavern. An article appeared in this publication a couple of years ago when a Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission marker was installed in front of the White Horse Tavern.

Special thanks to the efforts of Bob Betty, owner of P2 Controls, who relocated his company and completely rehabilitated the building. His willingness to see possibilities in this old barn and turn it into a restored headquarters for his business should be appreciated by everyone who has the opportunity to drive by. Referring to the work that was done as a “herculean task” would not be an understatement.
Board of Supervisors Meetings Available For Online Viewing

Board of Supervisors meetings are available for watching online and on Xfinity cable.
The board’s monthly meetings can be streamed at www.municipalmeeting.com. Meetings are still shown in East Whiteland every Sunday morning at 9 a.m. on Xfinity channel 15. The Township is working to have meetings aired on Verizon Fios.
Public Works Facility Opens

The Township recently opened a new Public Works facility that will help crews better serve the community.

The 26,000-square foot facility has indoor storage space to house Public Works vehicles, tools and equipment. It also has two mechanic bays with vehicle lifts to service the Township’s vehicle fleet.

The facility also has covered outdoor space for road salt, stone and highway materials. Office space and locker room areas are provided.

Concert Series Continues

The Friends of Summer Stage and East Whiteland Township invite you to the remaining shows that are part of the 5th Annual Summer Concert Series.

Concerts will be held on June 29 and July 6 at Valley Creek Park. The music begins at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free. On June 29, Love Canon will perform with special guest Chris Kasper. On July 6, The Weight will entertain.

Come out with family and friends and enjoy great live music in a beautiful setting. Parking is available at the park in designated areas.


Visit www.FriendsofSummerStage.com for more or find Friends of Summer Stage on Facebook.
Practice Safe Cycling

Summer is here and the warmer weather means bikers will be taking to the trails and streets. The East Whiteland Police Department reminds all bicyclists that they are considered drivers and bicycles are considered vehicles under PA law. This means bicyclists must obey all laws applicable in the PA Vehicle Code. Some other tips include:

• Riding on the right side of the roadway when possible. However, vehicles must keep four feet away from bicycles when passing.
• Using hand and arm signals to signal stops and turns and try to make eye contact with motorists.
• Obeying all signs and signals. Occasionally the weight of the bicycle may not trip a traffic signal. If necessary, proceed against the light only if several attempts fail the activation. Proceed with caution using the same rules as a malfunctioning signal. Many signals are activated by cameras so progress is in the works.
• Most motorists are not expecting to see a bicycle on the road. Wear bright colors during the day and reflective garments at night. A helmet is a must for riders and passengers under 12 years old.
• Operating a bicycle at night requires a headlight and taillight.

Bicycle trails are the safest place to ride. East Whiteland has the Chester Valley Trail which runs east and west. The trail has six road crossings. At least five of those crossings are busy areas where numerous vehicles cross at speeds of at least 35MPH, but only two have signals in place. These crossings are where bicyclists have to be most vigilant. Pedestrian traffic may interfere with bicyclists on the trail and during highway crossings. Enjoy your cycling but please be safe.
Greetings to the residents of Malvern Borough,

Summer has arrived! A reminder to motorists traveling through the community: please be mindful of children. With school out for the summer, our community will be filled with young children playing outside during the day. Please be mindful of them, and all other pedestrians outside enjoying our community, as you travel through the Borough.

Recently, the Borough has been the victim of vehicle break-ins. Several of the vehicles that were broken into were unlocked. We remind all residents to please lock their cars at night.

The Malvern Police Department has received a high volume of calls related to scam activity. Some of these reports include residents receiving phone calls from individuals claiming to be from the IRS or that a person’s loved ones are in custody overseas. Please be advised that the IRS will only contact individuals through the U.S. Mail and will not call people directly. Residents are reminded not to provide any sensitive information over the phone. If you receive a suspicious phone call requesting money or information, please call the Malvern Police Department immediately.

The members of the Public Works Department have been doing an excellent job beautifying the community as we get ready for the summer weather. They have been busy caring for our community parks and streetscapes, as well as repairing roadway damage from the winter. As the weather is changing over, the Borough is beginning some of the major projects that we have outlined for 2016. Looking forward, we are outlining road paving projects in areas of the Borough. A final project still needs to be determined. Information on projects will be posted on the Borough’s website.

We are also hopeful to begin the traffic signal replacement and pedestrian improvements project on N. Warren Avenue this summer. The Borough has been awarded funding from both the PA Department of Community and Economic Development and the PA Department of Transportation in order to complete this project. We were hopeful that this project would be completed in 2015, but certain uncontrollable factors resulted in the project being delayed. It has taken a significant amount of time to replace the old traffic signals, but we are hopeful to have this project completed in the Spring/Summer of 2016.

The Borough administration has also been active in pursuing grants for various projects in the community. An application was submitted to the Chester County Community Revitalization Program in order to complete a streetscape and infrastructure improvement project on Woodland Avenue. This project has been on Borough Council’s radar for some time and we are hopeful to be awarded funding for its completion. We have also submitted an application to the Transportation & Community Development Initiative program with the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

Borough Council has been undertaking several initiatives in order to address safety matters on the Borough’s roadways. Members of Borough Council recently completed and reviewed a traffic safety study for specific intersections in the Borough. This study was completed by McMahon Associates. Borough Council has begun implementing the recommendations of this study, starting with the new stop signs at the intersections of Warren Avenue and Roberts Lane and Warren Avenue and Monument Avenue. Borough Council will continue to implement components of this study over the course of the year and is continuing to review other streets of concern to our residents.

Borough Council and the Malvern Planning Commission have been very active in reviewing and updating various ordinances. Recently, Borough Council adopted three (3) ordinances which will help to better define the subdivision and land development review process, as well as provide a greater level of consistency between the Zoning and Subdivision and Land Development ordinances. This is part of the on-going initiative of the Planning Commission to update the Borough’s guiding documents.

In addition, Borough Council recently approved an ordinance to expand the Parks & Recreation Commission to nine (9) full members. Two (2) members have already been appointed. We are still looking for volunteers to fill the final opening. If any residents of Malvern Borough are interested in serving, please email malvern@malvern.org.

With summer arriving, the festival season in Malvern Borough is in full swing. The Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund and Paoli Memorial Association will hold their annual Heritage Day on Saturday, September 24. Other community events this summer include the Parks and Recreation Committee’s “Flashback Friday” 80s Movie Night on Friday, August 12, the annual Malvern Fire Company Fair in Memorial Park from July 12 to July 16, and the Malvern Harvest Oktoberfest on Sunday, September 25. Please see the Community Events Calendar for a complete list of activities in Malvern Borough.

We are always interested in hearing from the community. If you see anything in the Borough that requires our attention, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at cbashore@malvern.org. Thank you.

Christopher Bashore
Borough Manager
Malvern Farmers Market

The Malvern Farmers Market is back in Burke Park for the summer! We had a wonderful winter market in the Baptist Church, but cannot wait to get back outside to the park. The market will be open every Saturday throughout the summer from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, rain or shine. Here is what you can expect at the market:

- Locally grown fruits and veggies
- Meats, poultry and farm fresh eggs
- Baked goods: breads; and sweet and savory baked items
- And so much more!

The market is a community event and a great place to meet up with friends. Please feel free to bring your neighbors and family to the market. And after you shop at the market, please explore the wonderful shops throughout the town of Malvern. Please check out the Malvern Farmers Market website at http://growingrootspartners.com/malvern-farmers-market/ for more information and to sign up for the weekly newsletter.
JULY

- **July 2 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Farmer’s Market in BURKE PARK
- **July 4 (Monday)** – INDEPENDENCE DAY – Borough Administration Offices Closed
- **July 5 (Tuesday)** – 7:30 pm – Borough Council Meeting
- **July 7 (Tuesday)** – 7:30 pm – Planning Commission Meeting
- **July 9 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Farmer’s Market in BURKE PARK
- **July 12 (Tuesday) through July 16 (Saturday)** – 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm each night – Malvern Fire Company Fair – Monument Park – Fireworks on July 15 (rain date for fireworks is July 16).
- **July 13 (Wednesday)** – 5:30 pm – Shade Tree Commission Meeting
- **July 16 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Farmer’s Market in BURKE PARK
- **July 19 (Tuesday)** – 6:00 pm – Paoli Battlefield Revolutionary Lecture Series at the General Warren Inne – Revolutionary War music by Charlie Zahm. ***
- **July 19 (Tuesday)** – 7:30 pm – Borough Council Meeting
- **July 21 (Thursday)** – 7:30 pm – Planning Commission Meeting
- **July 21 (Thursday)** – 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm – Malvern Stroll along King Street. Extended shopping hours until 8:00 pm.
- **July 21 (Thursday)** – 7:00 pm – Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- **July 23 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Farmer’s Market in BURKE PARK
- **July 25 (Monday)** – Malvern Public Library’s “Science in the Summer.” This year’s topic will be genetics. The event runs from July 25 through July 28.
- **July 26 (Tuesday)** – 7:30 pm – Historical Commission Meeting
- **July 30 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Farmer’s Market in BURKE PARK

August

- **August 2 (Tuesday)** – 7:30 pm – Borough Council Meeting
- **August 4 (Thursday)** – 7:30 pm – Planning Commission Meeting
- **August 6 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Farmer’s Market in BURKE PARK
- **August 12 (Friday)** – “Flashback Friday” – 80s Movie Night in BURKE PARK
- **August 13 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Farmer’s Market in BURKE PARK
- **August 16 (Tuesday)** – 7:30 pm – Borough Council Meeting
- **August 18 (Thursday)** – 7:30 pm – Planning Commission Meeting
- **August 18 (Thursday)** – 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm – Malvern Stroll along King Street. Extended shopping hours until 8:00 pm.
- **August 20 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Farmer’s Market in BURKE PARK
- **August 20 (Saturday)** – 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Malvern Fire Company Pig Roast – Malvern Fire House
- **August 23 (Tuesday)** – 7:30 pm – Historical Commission Meeting
- **August 27 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Farmer’s Market in BURKE PARK

SEPTEMBER

- **September 1 (Thursday)** – 7:30 pm – Planning Commission Meeting
- **September 3 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Farmer’s Market in BURKE PARK
- **September 5 (Monday)** – LABOR DAY – Borough Administration Offices Closed
- **September 6 (Tuesday)** – 7:30 pm – Borough Council Meeting
- **September 10 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Farmer’s Market in BURKE PARK
- **September 10 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 3:00 pm – Chester County Solid Waste Authority Household Hazardous Waste Event – Oxford School District Administrative Building, 125 Bell Tower Lane, Oxford – Please note that NO ELECTRONICS OR FREON APPLIANCES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THIS EVENT.
- **September 12 (Monday)** – 6:00 pm – Paoli Battlefield Revolutionary Lecture Series at the General Warren Inne – Lock, Stock, & Barrel – Early Firearms by Chris Reardon. ***
- **September 15 (Thursday)** – 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm – Malvern Stroll along King Street. Extended shopping hours until 8:00 pm.
- **September 15 (Thursday)** – 7:30 pm – Planning Commission Meeting
- **September 15 (Thursday)** – 7:00 pm – Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
- **September 17 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Farmer’s Market in BURKE PARK
- **September 20 (Tuesday)** – 7:30 pm – Borough Council Meeting
- **September 24 (Saturday)** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Farmer’s Market in BURKE PARK
- **September 24 (Saturday)** – 11:00 am – 4:00 pm – Paoli Battlefield Heritage Day at the Paoli Battlefield Historical Park and Paoli Memorial Grounds off Monument Avenue – This 4th annual event brings back the traditional celebration of the Paoli Massacre starting in 1817 when local veterans erected the nation’s 2nd oldest War Memorial atop the mass grave of 52 Continental Soldiers killed and gave rise to the United States first battle cry - Remember Paoli! The event features reenactor encampments from most wars and conflicts from the French & Indian War to today’s PA National Guard, military drills & firing demonstrations, rescue dogs, children’s games, contests, crafts, music, face-painting, and displays from many local historical sites, organizations and authors! More information coming in next Borough Broadcaster and at RememberPaoli.org.
- **September 25 (Sunday)** – 11:00 am – 4:00 pm – Malvern Harvest Oktoberfest & Bark in the Park
- **September 27 (Tuesday)** – 7:30 pm – Historical Commission Meeting
- **September 28 (Wednesday)** – 5:30 pm – Shade Tree Commission Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

- **October 13 (Thursday)** – 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – The Paoli Memorial Association and the Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund will hold its third annual dinner and auction at the Farmhouse at People's Light and Theater Company to benefit both organizations. Please visit www.rememberpaoli.org for additional information.

***Admission price is $49 which includes the 18th century American Fare Buffet, all soft beverages, family style sweets, all taxes and gratuities, donation to the Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund.

All meetings are held in the Malvern Borough Administration Building, 1 E. First Avenue, Suite 3, Malvern, PA 19355. In the event of inclement weather, visit www.malvern.org, for cancelled meeting notices.

Any person with a disability who requires an auxiliary aid, service or other accommodation to participate in the proceedings should contact the Borough at 610-644-2662.

In the event of inclement weather, please visit our website at www.malvern.org for cancellation information.

For more information on all meetings and events, please visit our website at www.malvern.org.
Harvest Oktoberfest and Bark in the Park

The Malvern Business and Professional Association’s annual Harvest Oktoberfest and Bark in the Park is scheduled for Sunday September 25, 2016 from 11AM - 4PM. The festivities take place in the heart of Malvern, on King Street and in Burke Park. Beam’s School of Music will be showcasing local talent on Gallagher’s Stage. Polkadelpia is back on the main stage, next to the Oktoberfest Beer Garden. And DJ Loudenclear will be rocking out in Burke Park.

There will be endless activities for the kids - bouncies, race car rides, games and prizes, meet the alpacas, balloon artists, crafts and so much more! King Street will be lined with local crafters and retailers, so come prepared for some retail therapy! And, bring your appetite, our food truck round-up is impressive!

We’re dog-gone crazy! Bark in the Park returns to Burke Park. Come meet the local rescues and their pups looking for a good home. Meet and greet local veterinarians. If it has to do with dogs, you’ll find it in Burke Park!

Want to participate in the 2016 Malvern Harvest Oktoberfest and Bark in the Park? Please visit the website, www.Malvern-Festivals.com for complete information and an online application.

Sponsorships available for the festival - this is a fantastic way to promote your business to the greater Malvern community. Please see the available sponsorships online at www.Malvern-Festivals.com, or email lisa@growingrootspartners.com to discuss.

See you at the 2016 Malvern Harvest Oktoberfest and Bark in the Park!

Malvern Public Library News

A huge thank you to the volunteers who “dialed for dollars” during our annual Phonathon and our generous donors! This is our only fundraiser and we truly appreciate the response we get from our patrons. Please send in your donation. If we missed you during the Phonation, more donation forms are at the circulation desk.

Get ready for an exciting summer reading program! The theme this year is On Your Mark, Get Set, Read! Registration for this, GO Wilma!, story times, crafts, and other special events will begin June 14. Complete this athletics-themed summer reading program and get a medal!

Science in the Summer will be held the week of July 25, and the topic is Genetics. Online registration is already open for Malvern.

Don’t forget that the library has eBooks and audiobooks available through Overdrive! If you have a library card, you have access to Overdrive, which can be viewed on any of your mobile devices, or on your computer.

And don’t forget there is now a CCLS mobile app. Download this app on your phone or tablet and have access to your account online and the catalog. You are truly able to carry the library with you on your travels.
Remember Paoli

Over 1800 British Light Infantry (Special Forces) attacked 2000 hardened American Continental soldiers under Gen. “Mad Anthony” Wayne at midnight with bayonets and swords, dispersing them in one of the bloodiest battles of the War of Independence. But, in accomplishing the mission, the Redcoats committed numerous atrocities from murdering soldiers who surrendered, forcing some to stay inside small brush “teepees” at bayonet point while they burned alive, playing gruesome games with repeated bayonet stabbings on wounded men. This so outraged American civilians and soldiers alike that it crystallized American hatred of the British. Remember Paoli was heard repeatedly in later battles. Two years later, Anthony Wayne led America’s first official Light Infantry unit in a midnight, bayonets only, attack against Stony Point, high on the Hudson Palisade. Wayne was successful. But more importantly, Wayne spared 600 captured British soldiers when all thought him justified to put them to the sword. Wayne took the high ground and no atrocities were committed. Remember Paoli took on an additional luster for now it meant more than revenge. As Benjamin Rush (Founding Father, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and Surgeon General of the Continental Army) said to Anthony Wayne:

“You have established the national character of our country. You have taught our enemies that bravery, humanity, and magnanimity are the virtues of the Americans.”

The Battle of Paoli became one of the best known places in America for more than a hundred years. And Remember Paoli became the symbol of an American Value, referred to in hundreds of speeches and newspaper articles throughout the growing nation from coast to coast. It was only in the last century that our national memory of the battle faded.

But the American Value remained and has been used repeatedly in times of military crisis up to this modern 21st Century. Our national battle cries retain the same format as Paoli’s. It is unique to America and not used or copied elsewhere in the world.

And where do you think the earliest annually held celebrations and parades to honor those who died protecting our nation and those who served in our military? You guessed it: the Paoli Battlefield Historical Park and Parade Grounds, now seeking National Historic Landmark status. In 1817, veterans of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 built a monument to stand atop the mass grave of 52 Continental Soldiers killed in the Battle of Paoli. They started an annual parade which continues to this day (now known as the Malvern Memorial Parade). Our continuing research and documentation has found all but 20 years where this Parade tradition was held at the Paoli Memorial Grounds. And we haven’t even come close to completing our research. It very well could be that what is known as the oldest, continuously-held Memorial and Veterans Parade site in America, started 199 rather than 148 years ago. Let’s take a look!
Upcoming events from July through September supporting the Paoli Battlefield include:

**A Revolutionary Lecture Series** at the General Warren Inne, Malvern, PA at 6 pm:
- Tuesday, July 19, 2016 – *An Evening of Colonial Music* presented by Charlie Zahm
- Monday, Sept. 12, 2016 – *Lock, Stock & Barrel* – Early Firearms by Chris Reardon

Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016 – annual *Paoli Battlefield Heritage Day* 11 am to 4 pm

Family fun with games, crafts, reenactor camps from all American wars, demonstrations, and displays from many area historical sites, organizations, Veterans groups and more!

The Paoli Battlefield Historical Park and Parade Grounds is located on Monument Avenue between Sugartown Road and S. Warren Avenue in the Borough of Malvern, PA.

For more information on events, our history and the Campaign to become a National Historic Landmark, go to our website [www.RememberPaoli.org](http://www.RememberPaoli.org) and like us on Facebook!

Bruce Knapp
Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund

Malvern Historical Commission News

By Kelly Maude Schmitt

“*It’s summertime, and the livin’s easy,*” as the song goes. This is the time of year when walkers of all sorts and sizes hit the sidewalks and parks in Malvern, ready to marvel in the town’s beauty.


While you enjoy the sights of the Borough, consider weighing in on what buildings you believe the commission should honor with our annual preservation awards, presented at a Borough council meeting in September.

Previously, in the winter 2015 issue of IN Great Valley, we profiled the 2015 awardees. The September 2014 awards were as follows (and be on the lookout for their circular award plaques prominently displayed):

- **Malvern Baptist Church, Channing Avenue:** Built in 1876, this property is one of three locations in Malvern with Tier I status for the Borough’s Historic Ordinance. Chester County has declared Malvern Baptist Church a historically significant structure due to its architecture. According to the Daily Local News (10/23/2012), the last major update to the building was done in 1964, to add a 13-classroom wing. Voting Malvernites are very familiar with this wing, as it provides the entryway for the polls twice a year. The Malvern Baptist Church was awarded for Institutional Use.

- **Hoffman House, W King Street:** This is a duplex home built by J. Roberts Hoffman in 1889, originally as a store and with the owners living on the second floor; an arrangement not unlike Eastside Flats today. With its conversion to a double house by the removal of the front porch, door, and one second story window, and use of the side porches, it is a variation on the numerous double houses in Malvern built in the late 1800s. They received our general stewardship award for an historic residence.

- **National Bank of Malvern, Warren and King:** This commercial building opened April 1, 1887, and was designed to become an apartment house or residence if the bank did not survive. It not only survived, but thrived, never closing during major financial events such as the Great Depression. The bank is the longest continuously running business in Malvern. Now run by founder Charles C. Highley’s descendants, it is the only female-owned bank in the state of Pennsylvania, and, as of 2014, only one of thirteen such banks in the United States.

- **Old Malvern Firehouse, Church Street:** The Malvern Fire Company used this building from 1899 until 1982, and a variety of businesses and retail shops have occupied this building since. The building was recently reconstructed to look like it did over a hundred years ago, reversing updates made by the fire company and other tenants, thus earning our adaptive reuse award.

Our third annual Historical Preservation Awards will be presented at Borough Council’s meeting in September 2016. While the Historical Commission selects the recipients, we welcome nominations from the community. Please send them to malvernhc@yahoo.com or message us at [www.facebook.com/MalvernHC](http://www.facebook.com/MalvernHC).

In other news, the Historical Commission is now accepting credit cards for payment! Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, as well as debit cards with any of those same logos, may be presented to purchase items both online and at the Malvern Festivals. The online link for purchasing items from the Malvern Historical Commission is [http://bit.ly/MalvernHC1889](http://bit.ly/MalvernHC1889). Items purchased online will include a nominal processing fee and a shipping charge to send the items an address of the purchaser’s choice.
The Malvern Fire Company has spent the spring training to keep our community safe! On Tuesday, March 15, Station Four hosted the Boy Scouts of America for weekly drill. The Scouts took a tour of the fire station and apparatus before heading outside to meet with the firefighters. The crew then demonstrated the different tools and techniques used for motor vehicle rescue. In addition, the firefighters demonstrated fire extinguishment techniques as they extinguished a constructed burn building donated to the fire company for the demonstration.

On March 15, members of the Malvern Fire Company spent the evening with members of the Paoli Fire Company for rescue training. Working as a team, the two companies reviewed using airbags for lifting and rescue tools for vehicle extrications. After a quick review, the two crews practiced their skills playing Jenga with the rescue tools and balancing water across the airbags. While fun, this drill provided crews with the opportunity to develop precision and confidence in rescue tool operation; critical when performing rescue operations in the field. While toppling cups of water or stacks of cribbing are not our concern during a rescue, rescue crews are concerned with minimizing movement and vibration to reduce injury to patients entrapped.

Recently, the Malvern Fire Company was proud to receive a Fire Vent Mobile Firefighter Training Prop for roof and forcible entry training. During drill on April 26, crews were trained in the set up and use of this valuable training tool. During a fire, planning and implementing successful roof ventilation is a vital component to fire suppression. Being able to practice this skill in a variety of different situations using the Fire Vent Training Prop will allow the Station Four firefighters and firefighters in surrounding communities to perfect this skill. In addition to practicing ventilation techniques, the training prop allows crews to develop confined space and forcible entry skills.

Looking for a way to support your local fire house? Join the Malvern Fire Company this summer for the annual Malvern Fire Company Fair July 12th through July 16th at the Malvern Monument Grounds. The fair will held from 6:00pm until 10:00pm each evening and fireworks will be held July 15th after dark, rain date July 16th. For more information please visit www.malvernfireco.com – we hope to see you there!

Then, mark your calendars for the Malvern Fire Company’s Pig Roast Saturday August 20 at the Malvern Firehouse. Great food, kid’s activities and an opportunity to meet your local firefighters! Be sure to check out our website over the summer to stay up to date regarding this and other goings on at Station Four.

Looking for an opportunity to serve your community? The Malvern Fire Company wants you to join us in carrying on a tradition of excellence in volunteer service. Are you ready to ignite your life? Whether behind the hose line or behind the desk, Station Four has a place for you. Our doors are always open – we would love to give you a tour of the station and our trucks. Want to join in the action? Fill out our online application or stop by Tuesday nights at 7pm for drill night to meet our active crew.

We look forward to meeting you! For more information and ways to serve, visit www.malvernfireco.com or call us at 610-647-0693.
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Manager’s Message

Greetings, Willistown residents!

Summer is here, and we are gearing up for another great season in our Township’s many wonderful parks. From the ballfields of Garrett Mill Park and the playground at Greentree, to the trails of Okehocking Preserve, Willistown’s parks have something for everyone. In this issue of IN Great Valley, you’ll find information about how you can participate in GO WilMa! and other Parks and Recreation events this summer.

It was a busy spring in Willistown. Our recycling events kept the Township campus buzzing, and I would like to thank all of you who took the time to drop off your items. The Willistown Township Recycling Commission and Chairman Jim Tate organized our spring events again this year. Thanks to the Commission’s efforts, Willistown Residents had the chance to dispose of documents, wood, prescription drugs, obsolete electronics and much, much more.

Willistown is a great community made even greater by the faithful support of our many volunteers. If you would like to find out more about becoming involved with our Boards and Commissions, please feel free to contact me at dburman@willistown.pa.us.

– David Burman, Township Manager

Public Works – Saying Goodbye and Hello to Staff

DID YOU KNOW? As a part of the year-round road work, our public works crew maintains the Township storm sewer lines. Here is the crew pictured with Willistown’s high pressure jet truck, used to efficiently and effectively clear sanitary sewer and storm sewer pipe.

This spring, Willistown Township’s Public Works department bid a fond farewell to one of our own. Theodore Oswald (center above) retired this year after 14 years of faithful service. Teddy’s hard-working attitude, dedication, and cheerful smile will be missed! The staff has also been pleased to welcome Kevin Gordon (second from left).
Willistown Township Meetings and Events

Unless otherwise advertised, Board and Commission Meetings are held at the Township Administration Building at 688 Sugartown Road, Malvern.

June 20, 5:30 PM – Open Space Review Board Meeting
June 20, 7:00 PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting
July 4 – Independence Day – Administration Offices Closed
July 5, 7:00 PM – Historical Commission Meeting
July 12, 7:30 PM – Recycling Commission Meeting
July 13, 7:30 PM – Planning Commission Meeting
July 13, 8:00 PM – Bartram Bridge Commission Meeting – meeting held at Bartram Bridge
July 18, 5:30 PM – Open Space Review Board Meeting
July 18, 7:00 PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting
July 21, 7:00 PM – Parks & Recreation Board Meeting
August 2, 7:00 PM – Historical Commission Meeting
August 9, 7:30 PM – Recycling Commission Meeting
August 10, 7:30 PM – Planning Commission Meeting
August 15, 5:30 PM – Open Space Review Board Meeting
August 15, 7:00 PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting
August 18, 7:00 PM – Parks & Recreation Board Meeting
August 23, 5:30 PM – Willistown Country Fair – Greentree Park – Rain Date: August 25
September 5 – Labor Day – Administration Offices Closed
September 6, 7:00 PM – Historical Commission Meeting
September 7, 7:30 PM – Planning Commission Meeting
September 12, 7:00 PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting
September 13, 7:30 PM – Recycling Commission Meeting
September 15, 7:00 PM – Parks & Recreation Board Meeting
September 21, 7:30 PM – Planning Commission Meeting
September 26, 5:30 PM – Open Space Review Board Meeting
September 26, 7:00 PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

HOW WILL YOU FIND OUT ABOUT LOCAL EMERGENCIES?

Sign up for Chester County’s Notification System
Your Source For Emergency Information

By opting into the Chester County notification system, you will be informed before, during, and after incidents that could impact your safety.

ReadyChesCo is used to notify you during a major crisis or emergency and delivers important emergency alerts, such as weather, health, or community alerts. You can choose to sign up by county or municipality. You can receive notifications and updates on all your devices:

- Email account (work, home)
- Cell phone, via voice, text/SMS or TTY
- Smartphone

Registration takes only a few minutes!
You can register by visiting www.readychesco.org
The Stormwater-Friendly Lawn

When the amount of rain falling exceeds the land’s ability to absorb it, the result is stormwater runoff. Without treatment, stormwater that runs from the land into our waterways can be unhealthy for people and bad for the environment. Runoff can carry chemicals, metals, bacteria, viruses, organic compounds, and other pollutants directly into creeks, lakes, rivers, and streams. Runoff can also cause severe erosion and flooding — even during a typical Pennsylvania storm.

What we do on the land impacts the quality of our water. That means everyone, not just government, plays a role in protecting this valuable resource by reducing runoff and the pollutants it carries. This summer, homeowners can take steps to help with the effort by making sure their lawns are “stormwater-friendly.”

- **Set your mower height to 3 inches or higher.** Taller grass slows the runoff and produces a deeper and denser root system, which absorbs more water and prevents erosion. Deeper roots also reduce the need for watering during droughts and suppress weeds from growing up around them.

- **Keep grass clippings and chopped leaves on your property.** A mulch-mower is ideal for retaining and spreading clippings on your lawn. The clippings decompose quickly, provide important nutrients for your lawn, and settle to create an organic layer on the soil that encourages stormwater infiltration. Using this mulch may also reduce or eliminate the need for nitrogen fertilizers. If mulching with your clippings is not possible, bag and store them in a compost area and then use the organic material that’s created as a fertilizer later.

- **Figure out if you really need to fertilize your lawn.** Foregoing fertilizer is ideal for the health of local waterways and ecosystems. However, if your lawn is thin or has bare spots, you may not have a choice since a dense, vegetated cover is the most stormwater-friendly lawn. There are no one-size-fits-all guidelines when it comes to fertilizer. Homeowners’ needs vary drastically based on the soil texture and pH and nutrient levels. In fact, soil tests may reveal that your lawn is suffering from “micronutrient deficiency,” a problem that standard chemical fertilizers may not alleviate. Identifying your lawn’s needs first will reduce unnecessary applications, create a healthier lawn faster, and reduce your long-term costs.

- **If fertilizer is needed, maximize the benefits of slow-release nitrogen and minimize the number of chemical applications.** Typically called “water insoluble nitrogen,” or WIN, on fertilizer bags, slow-release nitrogen limits nutrient runoff and exportation. This type of fertilizer should be applied to your lawn in the spring, instead of the fall, to provide a steady source of nutrients throughout the growing season. Another tip: Homeowners should wait until the grass begins growing in March to fertilize and then stop fertilizing after October. Fertilizing during a lawn’s dormant season increases the risk that the chemicals will run off into streams or leach into your water table because the root systems are less active.

- **Do not fertilize or use pesticides within 15 to 20 feet of a stream.** Keeping this distance will help keep chemicals out of waterways. Also, if you live near a stream, consider establishing a natural riparian buffer there instead.

Adding to these steps, when you’re done applying fertilizer, immediately sweep any granulated chemicals off hard surfaces and back onto your lawn. Your walkway, driveway, patio, or local road is often a quick route to the drainage pipes that discharge into local streams.

In the long run, little actions, such as taking a stormwater-friendly approach to your lawn, will have a big impact as all of them work together to protect our water’s quality.

Note: Information in this article is courtesy of StormwaterPA and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.
Board of Supervisors Recognizes Penny Teaf Goulding

At their March 28th meeting, the Willistown Board of Supervisors recognized Penny Teaf Goulding, a longtime resident of Willistown and 29-year member of the Township Historical Commission. Penny joined the Willistown Township Historical Commission in 1986, shortly after it was formed. One of the Commission’s first tasks was to write an ordinance to guide the protection of historic structures. Using the Breou Map of 1883 as a guide, the Commission developed the ordinance which continues to serve as the basis for historic preservation in the Township today. Throughout her many years of service, Penny donated her time, talent, and intellect to the Commission and to all the citizens of Willistown. Penny contributed to the successful application to the National Park Service for listing the Okehocking Historic District in the National Register of Historic Places. Penny is perhaps best known for her co-authorship of the 685-page tome Acres of Quakers with the late John Nagy. The book is a record of Willistown’s architectural and cultural history, and has been a valuable resource both for Willistowners and for members of the larger community in Chester County and beyond.

Later this year, Penny will be moving away from Willistown and has therefore retired from the Commission. Her contributions, preserved both in print and in the memories of all those who had the pleasure to work alongside her, will not soon be forgotten.

Photo: This logo of the Willistown Township Historical Commission was drawn by W.H. Miles, who also designed the official logo of Willistown Township.
It’s no surprise that The Desmond, Malvern’s family-owned, full-service hotel, appeals to so many people. Located in Great Valley Corporate Center, on 1 Liberty Boulevard—just minutes from King of Prussia, the Main Line and close to Philadelphia—it’s a haven for business travelers and conferences on weekdays. Evenings, Sundays and seasonally, its three restaurants – the Hunt Room, Fox and Hounds Pub, and the seasonal outdoor Sunset Grille Deck – serve as meeting spots for business colleagues, friends and family. On weekends, the hotel is a magnet for traveling social groups and sports teams... and especially weddings.

In 1994, John Desmond transformed a former hotel, built in 1988, into The Desmond. Today, it features 194 non-smoking guest rooms and suites recently refreshed to reflect a fresh take on traditional elegance. Other amenities include hotel-wide complimentary Wi-Fi, free parking, local shuttle service, well-appointed common areas, an indoor pool and hot tub, fitness center, walking and jogging trails and free access to the YMCA across the street.

The Desmond’s talented staff contributes to the hotel’s distinction, notes Kim Mullen, marketing and public relations manager. They can accommodate just about any request, including A/V needs in the hotel’s IACC-certified conference center, special dietary requests, hypoallergenic linens, and even small-pet-friendly accommodations. The hotel’s “Pink Out” Getaway package helps support the Komen Foundation, and its Hotel Loyalty Program allows guests to earn AMEX gift cards.

But The Desmond takes particular pride in its complete “wedding weekend” orchestrated by the hotel’s two dedicated wedding planners. A weekend package can include an initial “meet and greet” for out-of-town guests, a rehearsal dinner, and separate bride and groom breakfasts. Photo sessions and the wedding ceremony can be held in indoor and outdoor settings, including an expanded deck. Following the reception, the hotel can provide an after-party, as well as a morning farewell breakfast. “It’s an entire weekend with many included features,” explains Mullen.

More than a home-away-from-home and a wedding destination spot, The Desmond is also a committed community player, partnering with Chester County’s YMCA, the Citadel Heart of Learning, Youth Mentoring Partnership, Chester County Food Bank, and Home of the Sparrow, among many other organizations. Of special note is the Desmond Project, an opportunity for Great Valley High School students to obtain a hands-on understanding of the hospitality industry. Throughout the school year, students learn the duties of hotel staff as they plan an April banquet for more than 300 people. “The students do everything,” says Mullen, “and for some of them, the experience becomes their introduction to a career in hospitality services.”

The Desmond has proven its staying power to local residents and travelers, she adds. “We are more than competitive with chain hotels.”

For additional information on how The Desmond can meet your needs, please call 610.296.9800 or email info@desmondgv.com.
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Heather Lenker to join the practice this year upon graduating from the University of Pennsylvania Dental School in Spring 2016!!

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It is a one-of-a-kind class that has high school students clamoring to volunteer to wash thousands of dishes and clear tables.

“The Desmond Project” began more than 20 years ago and has become a tradition that has served generations of Great Valley parents, grandparents, school officials, local dignitaries and students with a banquet at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center every spring.

The project is actually an elective class that gives Great Valley High School sophomores, juniors and seniors the chance to learn about the hospitality business (specifically event planning and catering) from the inside. The dishwashers are freshmen angling for a spot in the class when they enter 10th grade!

Students fill every role in the planning and execution of two major events under the guidance of a teacher and members of the Desmond Hotel’s staff. Desmond employees at every level, from dishwasher to General Manager, are involved. Student jobs include ticket and program ad sales, as well as public and media relations. In that capacity students answer media questions and even prepare news releases for actual media, including IN Great Valley Magazine.

The Desmond Project is a business class/partnership with the Desmond Hotel that was developed by Michael Chain, Sr. His son, Michael, Jr., is now the hotel’s General Manager and says the program his father and Great Valley High School started is the only one like it in the nation.

The student-written press release says that students of Great Valley High School work together to host two major events for the school. The class begins the year working on several key fundraisers to help raise money for the first of the two main events—a senior citizen luncheon. These fundraisers include, but are not limited to, a raffle, games for the school’s homecoming, and a sports night.

With the money raised from the fundraisers, the students held a holiday luncheon for local seniors. Following the luncheon, the Desmond Project prepared for the annual Student Achiever Banquet.
The students interview each year with the manager of the hotel and then are assigned a job based on their resumes and the interview. Afterward, the students work together on selling advertisements, developing a menu, marketing the project and organizing a banquet for over 300 people. The class is unlike any other in that it provides real-world business experience that will be much more beneficial than anything that could be learned in a classroom.

Great Valley seniors Mady Abel and Stefanie Schwab served as the Desmond Executive Officers, leading a large team of students under Chain’s guidance and that of their teacher, Thomas “Henry” McCloskey.

They oversaw an early spring evening that started with a sumptuous opening reception outside on the hotel’s deck and proceeded to a buffet dinner with a student-planned and prepared “Tour D’Italia” menu that included multiple appetizer, entree and dessert options. Dignitaries, including the Great Valley School Superintendent, board members and State Rep. Duane Milne, were among the banquet guests who could watch what students in the kitchen were doing throughout the evening on a big-screen monitor hooked up to a live “kitchen cam.”

Mady and Stefanie said that while working hard throughout the year, they got a glimpse of the business world and further developed their critical thinking, leadership, and interpersonal skills. Throughout their three years in the Desmond Project they discovered many of their strengths, as well as weaknesses, and learned new skills that are not taught in a conventional classroom.

As the Desmond Project enters its 23rd year in the fall, the outgoing student leaders offer some sage advice: “Take advantage of every second of opportunity the class has to offer you. Learn from your mistakes, and do not be afraid to challenge yourselves to become better.”
Nestled in the picturesque setting of The Commons at Great Valley and with easy access to the PA Turnpike and multiple corporate centers, Great Valley KinderCare is a working parents’ dream come true. The learning center has been serving the Great Valley community for over 15 years and, best of all, it has select child care openings immediately available.

“KinderCare isn’t just a traditional daycare; it’s a learning center,” explains the center’s director, Rachel Maaskant. “Our programs and curriculum are designed by childhood learning experts, with a focus on preparing your child for academic success in elementary school and beyond.”

The KinderCare team is focused on nurturing a sense of discovery, joy and wonder in children. The curriculum and assessments are based in six heavily researched developmental domains:

- **Language and Literacy Development** – Involves children’s abilities to convey their ideas, thoughts, and feelings through speaking and writing, and their ability to demonstrate early reading skills.
- **Executive Function** – Focuses on the development of skills necessary for learning, such as self-regulation, attention, and persistence.
- **Social and Emotional Development** – Supports your child’s ability to express and regulate feelings and develop relations with others.
- **Physical Development and Wellness** – Gives your child opportunities to build large- and small-muscle skills, strength, stamina, and knowledge needed to live a healthy lifestyle.
- **Cognitive Development** – Supports the mental processes needed to think, make sense of the world, and understand knowledge across different subjects, including mathematics, science, and social studies.
- **Creative Expression** – Helps your child creatively explore the arts, movement, drama, and music.

The award-winning curriculum guides children toward an interest in learning, and has garnered Great Valley KinderCare some very prestigious accreditations.

“Our curriculum and the quality of our teachers have led us to be accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and the Pennsylvania Keystone Stars Program,” says Maaskant. “In fall 2016 we are on track to receive our fourth star from Keystone Stars, the highest level of achievement.”

The friendly and encouraging team at Great Valley KinderCare set the learning center far above the rest. All lead teachers have a bachelor’s degree and receive intensive training in all areas of child development. Additionally, all team members are specially trained in child CPR and First Aid. The team boasts an incredible tenure, with some members dating back to the start of the center.

Parents will be pleasantly surprised by the center’s emphasis on working families and its flexibility. “We are one of the few learning centers open all year long, with limited holidays,” says Maaskant. “We understand the challenges of working parents and we have the unique ability to allow parents to customize their care schedules.”

Great Valley KinderCare provides unique learning opportunities for Infants (6+ weeks) to Transitional Kindergarten (4-5 years). Additionally, it offers a summer camp for children up to 12 years of age. Included in tuition is a healthy and nutritious breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack.

Great Valley KinderCare is located at 65 General Warren Blvd. in Malvern. It is open from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. Prospective families are encouraged to schedule a tour. To learn more visit www.kindercare.com/our-centers/malvern/pa/303038 or call 610.647.7085. Mention this article and receive a $200 tuition credit.
Your Move!

Wise ways to buy and sell real estate.

Since the housing crisis, the real estate market has picked up – with mortgages approved to buyers for homes they can afford. Home values are on the rise and inventory is tight, so if you’re planning to buy or sell, make sure you bring your A-game. If you’re ready for a move, here are 10 ways to be a strong competitor in the real estate market.

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BUYING: Is buying always the better option over renting?

This is a debate often discussed within the real estate market and the answer depends on a variety of variables including location, financials and length of time in the home. In general, it is advised to purchase a home if you plan to spend more than two years there. Not sure how long you’ll be in your home? Find the break-even point between renting and buying to help guide your decision.

BUYING: Be sure you can afford more than just the mortgage.

Getting preapproved for a mortgage gives the buyer a sense of how much house he or she can afford, but don’t presume this figure to be your only monthly payment. Keep in mind costs that may not be as evident, such as utility bills, taxes, homeowners association dues, mortgage insurance and money needed to furnish your home. On top of that, consider closing costs (about 3-5 percent of the cost of your home) and the potential of paying private mortgage insurance (PMI) if you are unable to put 20 percent down on your home.

BUYING: Getting an inspection can save you money in the long run.

Inspection fees can range from $300-$500, allowing some to think they can save money by avoiding an inspection. In almost all instances, this is false. Many issues in a home may go unseen by the untrained eye. If an inspector reveals defects not disclosed by the seller, you are able to negotiate a new offer or rescind altogether. Without an inspection, these potentially costly issues would ultimately fall on the buyer’s shoulders.

BUYING: Protect yourself!

It’s easy to get wrapped up in signing papers and losing sight of what you are agreeing to when buying a home. Fortunately, contingency clauses can protect you from losing what is yours. An example is a mortgage-financing contingency; if you lose your job or your loan falls through, you’ll get your “earnest money” back in full. Otherwise, you may be obligated to follow through with purchasing a house you can no longer afford.
BUYING: Enjoy the view?

It’s obvious that homes with a view can sell big. In fact, Realtor.com states that homes with a view of the city sell the fastest, with an average of 83 days on the market, while homes with an ocean view sit for 98 days (mostly due to the elevated price of oceanfront property). If you are in love with a home with a view, be sure it is there to stay. Although you may see rolling hills through your living room window now, who’s to say a real estate developer won’t see that same space as the perfect opportunity to build more homes? Check with your local municipality for land use regulations to make sure your view will remain.

BUYING/SELLING: Your real estate agent matters.

Find an agent who will work on your behalf. Ask friends and family for references of agents they’ve used in the past. Look up their current listings to see if they align with the type of home you want to buy or sell. This will also indicate their knowledge of the market.

BUYING/SELLING: Get a second opinion.

When you have lived in your home for years, it’s easy to overlook problems that potential buyers may spot right away. Have a relative or trusted friend come over to spot any small fixes that
you can make prior to putting your home on the market to make sure it’s in optimal condition prior to selling. When considering buying a home, it’s also helpful to have someone who is not buying the home go with you to take a look. He/she will be able to point out potential issues that you may not see when trying to make such an important decision.

SELLING: Ignore the housing market.

Don’t waste your time watching the housing market for the best time to sell. According to Investopedia, “it doesn’t matter what your home is worth at any given moment except the moment when you sell it. Being able to choose when you sell your home, rather than being forced to sell it due to job relocation or financial distress, will be the biggest determinant of whether you will see a solid profit from your investment.”

SELLING: Will renovating always increase my resale value?

Make conscious decisions when renovating your home. While newer will entice potential buyers, be cognizant of what rooms you update and how you do it. While updated kitchens will increase the value of your home, be sure to appeal to a wide range of tastes. A good place to start is with the appliances. Realtor.com states that homes with stainless steel appliances sell 15 percent faster than those without. Updated bathrooms are easier to satisfy a wider range of buyers’ desires for luxury, but be sure to keep the colors neutral.

SELLING: Don’t spend earnest money!

Many sellers make the mistake of depositing and spending earnest money before closing day. If the transaction doesn’t go through or the buyer pulls out due to repair issues, it is up to the seller to return the cash. It is recommended to have a real estate agent or broker hold the deposit. Most buyers’ earnest money will be held in an escrow account until the closing day, allowing the money to remain untouched by either party.

FUN FACT: Get the name and numbers.

Just when you think you’ve checked all the boxes for an easy sell of your house, take a second look at your address. According to Zillow, street names and house numbers matter! If you happen to live at 666 Fanny Hands Lane, you may be out of luck (however that particular street is in the United Kingdom, so you should be safe). Innuendo-laden street names tend to not sell as quickly as those like Thunder Road. American numerology says that 666 is bad luck and could decrease the value of your home by 2-3 percent. Also, steer clear of the number four, considered unlucky in Chinese culture. Stick to the number eight, or include the lucky digits 316 in your asking price!

Before entering the real estate market, educate yourself. The more you know, the better your chances are for nailing down the home of your dreams! ■
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Loch of Ages

Auction begins new chapter for Loch Aerie Estate.

Story and Photos by Bob Byrne

It’s one of the most distinctive homes ever built on the Main Line. Loch Aerie, which has also been called Glen-Loch and Lockwood Mansion, was built in 1865 by Philadelphia shirt collar magnate William E. Lockwood.

It was designed by famed architect Addison Hutton with landscape design by Charles Miller, the Fairmount Park landscape designer. The design is described in the 1958 Historic American Buildings Survey as “being of Italianate design with Victorian Gothic details.”

Lockwood built Loch Aerie as a summer estate for his family. Over the years the house has been home to several occupants, including a motorcycle gang in the 1970s. The Warlocks motorcycle gang occupied the building for several stormy months, which saw fire destroy part of the building and a reported gunfight with a rival motorcycle gang.

The now two-acre estate was sold at auction in April to C.Z. Patel of Princeton, NJ, for $710,000. According to a report by the Philadelphia Inquirer, Patel plans to restore the house and build a hotel next to it. The property sits on Route 30 near the Route 202 interchange. It’s surrounded by a parking lot and The Home Depot, across Lancaster Avenue from The Sheraton Great Valley and a Hampton Inn.

According to information from the auction house, the property was much bigger when Lockwood built the house in 1865. At the time, it was one of the largest estates in all of Pennsylvania, covering 684 acres. It was so large that it had four railroad stations on the property.

The Pennsylvania blue marble and blue limestone used in the construction of the house was quarried directly on the estate. Water to the home traveled from a distant spring 2,600 feet away and was capable of supplying 12,400 gallons in a 24-hour period.

By 1877 the home had a telephone so Lockwood could call for assistance in case any “burglars or tramps” were on his property. He was so concerned about safety that all the doors and windows were wired with a burglar alarm.

Lockwood wanted to become a “Country Farmer” and built the home 25 miles from the city of Philadelphia, where his business, W. E. & E. Dunbar Lockwood, manufacturers of patent folding boxes, envelopes, tags, as well as shirt collars and more, was located.

Until the auction, Loch Aerie’s most recent owners were family members of Daniel Tabas. Tabas purchased the property in 1967. Architectural consultant Anthony Alden had lived there for more than 20 years and restored it before moving out in the mid-2000s.

Tabas and his brother Charles owned many properties in the region, including Mickey Rooney’s Tabas Hotel in Downingtown, the Twelve Caesars banquet hall and the Riverfront Restaurant & Dinner Theater in Philadelphia. Daniel Tabas died in 2003.

Two of his children were at the auction, according to published reports. Linda Tabas Steeple of Haverford told the Philadelphia Inquirer, “Our family always loved [Loch Aerie] and wanted to see the building have some purpose. I’m glad people were interested enough to want to do something with this beautiful property.”

Several videos on YouTube offer glimpses inside the house, including the tower and enormous underground room buried beneath a red and white cupola that sits in a side yard of the property.
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