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CHESTER COUNTY CUISINE & NIGHTLIFE

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MARY'S MESSAGE:

Ah, springtime. Stealing a line from Mark Twain, "It's spring fever... You don't quite know what it is you DO want, but it just fairly makes your heart ache." Oh how true it is and there are many things to make your heart ache in the best possible way. The Phils are back, outdoor seating is popping up all over the place, local farms are getting their first crops of the season and there's a buzz in each of our communities. Break out your flip-flops and get the scooper where to go for music, food and fun in this third issue of CC Cuisine and Nightlife. Enjoy!



Cheers everyone!
Mary Bigham
Contributing Editor
www.wcdish.com

UPCOMING:

Cinco De Mayo spots to celebrate in Chester County.

Also, Concierge Chronicles, Random Rants, the Bartender, Sound Check and much more

Cover photos by Daily Local News photographer Tom Kelly IV

Send comments to:
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THE CONCIERGE CHRONICLES

TJ'S RESTAURANT & DRINKERY




IT WAS ONE OF LIFE'S CHOICES THAT PROVED TO BE MORE TEMPTING THAN IT SOUNDED:
 "SHOULD I ORDER A HOPPIN' FROG, OR, DO I WANT DELIRIUM TREMENS INSTEAD?"

This peculiar-sounding quandary had nothing to do with jumpy amphibian's or a bad case of the shakes, rather, it was of the liquid kind - A decision on which craft beer to enjoy at TJ's Restaurant & Drinkery, the heady haven for aficionados who venture there due to its massive selection of 200 by-the-bottle and 25 drafts.

It's a restaurant where my dining guideline – Order the burger or chicken wings only if it's truly a great burger or chicken wings, comes into play; the meat patties (and Le Bus roll) and those juicy, perfectly tangy drum sticks are utterly outstanding.

BY **KEN ALAN**
 WC DISH WRITER, CORPORATE CONCIERGE, AND FOOD WRITER

English ale cheddar bisque, at a recent visit, was cheesy and satisfying. Shepherd's pie was fine, though, I'll admit, it couldn't compare to the deep, rich bowl of goodness enjoyed the week prior at another beery haunt of mine, The Whip Tavern in West Marlborough.

No matter. I'm feeling full and invigorated by another enjoyable visit to TJ's. A little confused though: Should I go with the Hoppin' Frog or Delirium Tremens?

In a life full of choices, TJ's Restaurant & Drinkery has 200 of them by the bottle, and 25 on tap.

PHOTOS BY **TOM KELLY IV**

TJ'S RESTAURANT
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How vast are the choices? Other than a few similar restaurants (Malvern's Flying Pig Saloon and Exton's Drafting Room being two), this Drinkery boasts one of the most extensive specialty beer inventory's in Chester County.

Located in Paoli Plaza off Route 30, TJ's has been managed by partners Terri Villante and Jeff Miller since September, 2003. Terri provides front and back-of-the-house supervision while Jeff cooks up an extensive menu that goes a few clicks beyond simple American food, to become creatively elevated comfort fare - hearty, rib-sticking cuisine, like their Mojo IPA marinated grilled chicken skewers, and the Doppelbock braised boneless short ribs; Belgian blonde burgers and, even the stout brownie sundae. There are also a few healthful salads and sides.

Notice a trend in those menu listings? Yup, it's all about the beer at TJ's. In 90% of his preparations, Miller incorporate lagers, ales and other malty varieties into his recipes, subtle flourishes that complement flavors while enhancing the pairability factor with those specialty beers.

TJ's look inside is casual and welcoming. The bar has a real Cheers vibe that emanates around the red-bricked walls and across all those tall-standing taps, a place where you're bound to meet up with old friends and new. Meanwhile, the dining room, also simple in its design, possesses a series of booths, and, of course, a large blackboard promoting what's on tap.

COVER
STORY

OUT &
ABOUT

BY
LAUREN
BEAUCHAMP
SPECIAL TO CC



I'M BEGINNING TO DISCOVER THAT I AM IGNORANT TO A MAJORITY OF PENNSYLVANIA. SO WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY AROSE TO GO TO CHAPLIN'S THE MUSIC CAFÉ LOCATED IN SPRING CITY, I JUMPED ON IT AND WAS EXCITED TO EXPLORE BOTH THE UNKNOWN TOWN AND VENUE.

Crumpet begins to bark at me and announces that I am "arriving at destination on right;" this is what I see: a house. I immediately u-turn and then Crumpet tells me how I am "arriving at destination on left." Maybe it's because I'm naturally blonde and overly oblivious --

but again: nothing. I U-turn and thankfully not only is the third time a charm, but my friend was with me -- she proved to be more capable at finding signs than I am.

From the outside, Chaplin's blends in with the various other storefronts along Main Street in Spring City. However, the inside displays how picturesque a venue has the capability of being.

Being inside Chaplin's reminded me of being inside a nice house as opposed to a venue. Immediately I was greeted with two things -- a giant sign declaring the acceptance of alcohol on the

property via the B.Y.O.B sign and a friendly person at the entrance. B.Y.O.B is convenient because I discovered a bar with a carry out option not even half a block away from Chaplin's.

Starving, I immediately picked up a menu, as Chaplin's has a kitchen and a coffee bar. I ordered a chicken sandwich and settled myself upstairs; the second floor is in a lofted fashion so you can see above the crowd but the entire stage. I open my first Yuengling and with that I'm ready for the show to start.

Ortolan opens the show and as the lead singer completes her first note, I already am writing "Eisley" down in my notebook to be reminded of the comparison. The four piece, all girl band stands out primarily because of the lead singer's voice. The band was good with crowds as well, as they interacted and told of how the bassist got hit by a truck and that's why currently she had a leg. Other than the Eisley comparison, their music sounded like what you'd listen to on the beach; if you heard them you'd completely understand the description. Ortolan is the epitome of summer music.

This Is Capture was second in the show line up. After some Myspace research, I learned that their band is a new formation -- that makes me appreciate them more. They had very strong reminders of Lydia, minus the female singer. Towards the end, another member of the band began to join the lead singer. Other than that, it was pretty much a déjà vu session, as I just saw Lydia a few weeks ago.

Dinner and a Suit was the headliner and finale of the three New Jersey-based bands. Most of the members in the band had afros; I didn't get it. It seemed like the majority of the crowd was family members or somewhat affiliated with this band, but I was confused as to why. Dinner and a Suit was not bad; they were musically good -- but that was it. When a show has two openers -- both good -- and then finally opens to a band on par with the openers, it kills the show musically.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 6 →



Interested in being part of a CSA? The following CSAs still have spaces available for this season. Act quickly to get your delicious local produce.

Note: If you missed the article about CSAs it means Community Supported Agriculture and is a direct connection between farmers and the consumers. CSA members pay a membership fee to cover the production costs at the farm and in turn get regular, local produce.



LOCAL CSAs

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julie.frieswyk@greenerpartners.org
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MistyHollow_Jim@mac.com

Inverbrook Farm

Claire Murray
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Kimberton, PA
610-933-8339
www.KimbertonCSA.org

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www.mbfarviewfarm.com
mbfarviewfarm@verizon.net

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610-458-8129
sam@maysiesfarm.org
www.maysiesfarm.org

Prescott's Patch

717-840-4080
sprescott@paonline.com

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Aby Wright
awright@osfphila.org

Sunny Harvest Farms CSA

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← CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

I kept waiting for something epic to happen, but it didn't, it continuously lulled on. Now, don't mistake this for me saying they are bad, because they aren't and that's not the point I'm trying to make. They just weren't headliner good and all the hype just led to disappointment for me. Nevertheless, I look forward to returning to Chaplin's. The experience of this show made me want to go back to Spring City.

— Lauren



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FOOD FIGHT

WHERE CHESTER COUNTY

BY MARY BIGHAM
WC DISH

Hit:

More bars need to be like The Square Bar and have jukeboxes so we can play our own music. D.Z.

To the beautiful bartender at The Note. You are the most beautiful girl in Chester County. I come to the Note just to see you. - C.W.

I love Ryan's Pub. It's like Cheers. Everyone knows my name. - Jason

Your bright smile makes my day each time I come into Starbucks.

I live minutes from Kennett Square and if my new business doesn't work out, I'll quit and take up mushroom farming. - Scott

If you are in the Phoenixville area come by 24 Main Street and try to chocolate hottie cookies. - E.S.

I love the little hidden treasures in Chester County that not everyone knows about... like the little book shops, stationary shops (Pages in West Chester) and Billy at Vincents. - L.G.

To A.S.- I love my little speed boy and can't wait to be your speed gal. - L.G.

Miss:

Parking tickets. Can anyone get a break in West Chester? Especially when I'm at the bar. - Andy W.C.

Man-made towns freak me out and I feel like there are more and more of them popping up. Like Main Street in Exton and Eagleview. They have a very Truman Show type of feeling to them. Is that just me? - M.A.

Would it kill anyone to come up with a late-night cab service in Chester County? - Sarah

If only the service was as good as the food, Kooma would be the best restaurant in town. - Jay

What's up with all the gel-haired popped collars at Barnaby's? - Jen

To submit your own Food Fight email wcdish@gmail.com, subject line Food Fight.

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THE FACES BEHIND BUY FRESH BUY LOCAL



BY
MARY
BIGHAM
WC DISH

The air is light and warm and gives us great reason to celebrate spring's happy arrival but there is something else going this season that deserves our recognition.

Is it me or are there less food service trucks on the road and more tiny Ford trucks packed with produce stopping off at local restaurants? Are there more home cooks proudly putting dishes out for family and friends declaring where the ingredients came from and how they lovingly prepared them. Are more chefs highlighting on menus the farm and location of where their foods come from? Farmers are no longer hidden faces in fields but artists that find satisfaction in having their work in homes around the county, and with over 30 farms, six farmer's markets and local food sections at stores, consumers happily oblige. Chester County has long survived on the fruits of its own labor, and Buy Fresh Buy Local is here to guide us on our way.

Marilyn Anthony,
Southeast Regional Director for PASA (Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture)

I'm on the eater-side of the buy fresh buy local movement, not the grower-side. I started my careers in the hospitality industry and am a chef by training. I was the CEO of White Dog Cafe in Philly and that is what lead me be involved with PASA. I was there for a year and then I left and started my own restaurant, in



Susquehanna county, called Summerhouse Grill. The purpose of that was to support the farmers growing produce in that area because there were no cities there to take advantage of their work. I left there to work in Chester County when PASA opened an office here. There is just such a clear and obvious connection for a relationship between farms and chefs and I'm happy to help foster that.



Kendra Anderson,

Assistant Program Director for PASA

I am the assistant program director for PASA where I'm responsible for events, development, maintaining the database of business profiles and our Web site. In my previous life, I was a research assistant at Cornell and small family farm organic farmer. I had a laying flock and I sold eggs to a local co-op. Then I had my little girl and I sold my flock to move closer to family in Chester County. While the local food movement in Ithaca was so impressive that they had three large permanent pavilions and had standing room only, I'm amazed with an equally impressive movement here. There is so much more of a choice to where to get specific types of local, organic or raw foods then anywhere else I've been.

Words to my daughter Carleigh: - I want her to know that we have the power as a community and as an individual to feed us well and better and that knowing that will give her great satisfaction in life.

Mary Whittam,

Member of the Advisory Committee

I have been an advocate of eating locally and supporting smaller farmers for about 10 years now. I was introduced to PASA organization in 2001. I'm on the consumer end of PASA. I worked on a farm for about five years and CSA Farm-Vollmecke Orchard Farm in Coatesville. I was interested in supporting Chester County growers and food because I come from a background of farmers. I was the fourth generation farmer at my fam-

ily's farm and had to sell it in Montgomery county, because of my heritage I had my love of the land and have been an advocate for buy fresh, buy local.

I am a member of the advisory committee. I cook and I am a lover at the West Chester Growers Market and always cook with local and I have a small garden for myself and I love cooking with fresh herbs.

Sarah Reese,

and her boyfriend Jacob Bortman

I work at Talula's Table in Kennett Square, own a vintage clothing store called He & She, write for the blog KSQfarmersmarket.wordpress.com and also write for wcdish and CC Magazine. I don't have any free time but wouldn't change it for anything. I like local food because it feels differently because you know the people that are growing it. I've always loved food but I've learned to appreciate the origin of it after working at Talula's (they pride themselves on the use of local foods and products).



I've been farming for about 10 years, before that I was a landscape architect. I enjoy farming because it keeps me humble and I like the style of life. I like living with the seasons. I like that asparagus is only here for a length of time. It's like a friend you haven't seen in a long time. Strawberries are the same way; they are prime in a very short period of time. My grandparents were all famers and my parents had a big garden and I've always been in the dirt.

My favorite thing to eat would have to be tomatoes because they are freakin' amazing. There are so many of them they are so different once I bite through the first one of the season and break though the skin and it bursts in my mouth it recharges my batteries. Oh yeah, and I love bacon. Who doesn't like bacon?



Paul Morgan,

Associate Professor: College of Education WCU

I have my PhD in Philosophy of Education and within that I specialize in environmental and ecological education. We get students when they are sophomores that are honors students and they take this class with the world's longest name, "Science, Technology and Environmental studies; sustainable through the lens of agriculture and the professions."

They used to joke that it was honors home because we do a lot of cooking, gardening and greenhouse work. The goals of the class are to focus in food and agriculture to make students aware of the where the rubber hits the road is on their

eat every day and eating is an environmental act, we want the students to leave the class with awareness of where the food comes from and the meaning of its origin, etc. The timing is critical because many of them are going to be moving out of the residence halls for the first time in their lives they are living on their own and making their own food choices. They've got to decide to eat mac n' cheese or go to the grower's market and we want prime them for making responsible decisions.

I've been with a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) for more then 10 years, even when I lived in New York City, I remember in 1993 I was a member of a CSA delivering to the upper west side and I remember the first time I got my produce I took it all out of the basket, laid it out on the counter and I took pictures of it. I fell in love. I like tasty stuff, seasonal stuff, like strawberries for example, I will not buy them out of season, they taste like pocket lint out of season.



Denise Sheehan and Yvon Post,

Business Partners for Cooking for Real

Denise: My passion is talking to anyone and teaching anyone about eating local foods. We teach hands-on cooking and nutrition and decided to do this because we wanted to be able to reach as many people to teach whole food nutrition. That means using real foods, from scratch cooking, local sourcing, and realizing it's really all the nutrients that we need are in REAL food. We call it Cooking For Real because that's what we do; we cook real food in real time. I am very passionate about connecting with children. We have a rising obesity rate in children and many have no idea where their food comes from.

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Yvon: I'm an educator and teacher and have been a vegetarian for 40 years. I've always had a strong relationship with the food I eat and my responsibility is to get the word out about the power of food to underserved communities, inter-city youth, teens and children.

My children are 18 and 20 and they are making food choices according to what they have experienced. They don't really eat fast food, they read labels on food, in fact, they both learned to read by reading labels in the grocery store.

RECIPES FROM BUY FRESH BUY LOCAL SUPPORTS & PROFESSIONALS

Sous Chef at The Terrain Cafe at Stylers Erin Fitzgerald's
CARAMELIZED ONION AND GOAT CHEESE MUFFINS

- Butter- 4 oz, or 1 stick
- Caramelized Local Onions- 4 oz (use more or less to taste)
- Sugar- 1/4 c
- Eggs- 2
- AP Flour 1 1/2c
- B. Powder- 1 1/2 t
- Salt- 1 t
- Appletree Goat Dairy Goat Cheese



- Set oven at 350 degrees F.
1. Cream together Butter, Onions and Sugar using the paddle attachment on a Kitchenaid mixer.
 2. In a separate bowl combine B. Powder, Flour and Salt. Whisk together.
 3. Once butter mix is light and fluffy, add eggs, one at a time. Scrape the sides of the bowl down until butter and eggs are well incorporated.
 4. While mixer is set on low speed, add dry ingredients until just incorporated.
 5. Scoop batter with a 4 oz ice cream scoop into greased muffins cups.
 6. Make a hole on top of each of the muffins with a spoon, scoop Appletree Goat Dairy Goat cheese into hole, use more or less depending on love of cheese).
 7. Bake muffins for 30-45 minutes, until toothpick comes out clean.

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SEE PAGE 30 FOR ANOTHER BUY FRESH BUY LOCAL RECIPE

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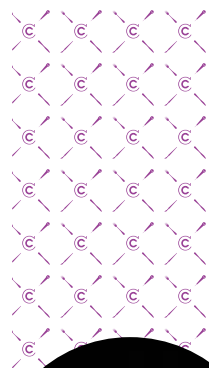
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CHEF Q&A



JOHN'S SWEET AND SPICY YAM FRIES

4 Large Yams/Sweet Potatoes

Spice mix:

1/2 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup Cajun or creole spice
1 tbs salt
6 cups of vegetable oil

Preheat oven to 450 degrees.

Bake yams until fork tender. Cool to room temperature. Heat oil in large heavy pot until 350 degrees. Cut yams into fry shapes or large wedges. Place them carefully in the hot oil and cook until potatoes float.

Transfer to paper towels, pat dry. Sprinkle with spice mix. Enjoy.

Customer's Favorite New Orleans Pizzas:

1- White Crab Pie WITH JUMBO LUMP AND CRAWFISH MEAT, BOURSIN CHEESE, MOZZARELLA AND DRIZZLED WITH CHILI AIOLI.

2- Lota Meat WITH ITALIAN SMOKED SAUSAGE, ANDOUILLE, BACON, MOZZARELLA, AND CREOLE SAUCE.

3- Sweet Dixie WITH VANILLA ROWN SUGAR, RICOTTA CHEESE AND PRALINE PECANS WITH CHOCOLATE SAUCE.

BY
MARY
BIGHAM
WC DISH

MIM'S THE WORD

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Fri-Sat 11am-1am

Q: You're famous for your Philly-area Cajun cooking. Where were you before coming to Phoenixville?

A: Well, I opened Carmine's Creole Cafe in 1998 and had locations in Havertown and Narberth, I'm proud to bring the same basic concept of Carmine's Creole Cafe to Phoenixville.

Q: So you've got two places side by side. What's are the distinctions?

A: Well, the New Orleans Pizza Kitchen was a concept I came up with in the mid 80's. I wanted something casual but creative that had a Cajun influence. Daddy Mim's is a fine dining BYOB and offers things like the \$30 chef's tasting for four courses and an upscale dining atmosphere.

Q: How long have your doors been open?

A: Daddy Mim's opened on March 13th for dining and the Pizza Kitchen opened on Friday, April 3rd. So far we have had an amazing response.

Q: What are some of the dishes we can expect from each restaurant?

A: Some of the favorites so far at Daddy Mim's are the Shrimp in a rosemary butter sauce over boursin cheese grits. Another popular one is the Blackened fish of the day topped with crabmeat, crawfish etouffee and

served over jambalaya.

Q: How about at the Pizza Kitchen?

A: Right now we are offering salads, Cajun fusion pizza, sides and will be bringing in some sandwiches as well. We will be offering a Po' Boy with 24hr braised pork shoulder, smothered in roasted garlic demi glaze and tucked into a house made roll.

Q: Why did you decide to be a restaurateur?

A: I was born in New Orleans raised by my grandmother until I was 11 years old literally grew up in a bar/restaurant.

Q: Did she teach you how to cook?

A: She worked at a neighborhood bar where she was the cook, it was called Rita's. I was there all the time up until I could walk. My grandfather was a professional boxer and drove a street car. It was a rough Irish Channel bar so I learned to be tough and I also learned life in the kitchen.

Q: So this is where you learned the New Orleans way of cooking?

A: I have to say that the one thing that got me into cooking at all was the smell of the Holy Trinity of Cajun cooking. The Holy Trinity is comprised of peppers,

celery and onions. The smell of this staple combination would haunt me in such a way that I knew I was supposed to make New Orleans style food. It's truly a culture of itself and you have to be born there to understand it. It is true soul cooking.

Q: What are your favorite things to eat?

A: I have an 8-year-old daughter and she loves steak so we tend to visit a lot of steak places for her. For me, I really like Vietnamese food. It's sweet, spicy and savory and is actually similar to Cajun cooking in that respect.

Q: What do you want your customers to experience when they eat your food?

A: I want them to really use all of their senses when they eat here. It's about the music, the hospitality, smells, tastes, and atmosphere. I want them to experience all of that. Also, Cajun food is not known to be overly pretty, a lot of it is either brown or red sauces which makes it even more exciting to have those eating it experience the layers of flavor. The more you dig in the more you can experience all of these sensations.

Q: Anything you'd like to add?

A: Tell your readers to come in and ask for me, John. Tell em to say that Mary set you.



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RANDOM RANTS

BY
RYAN
DUNN

MAN

... am I getting OLD ... or what?

I hate to ask, but am I getting old? It appears I am based on my extreme displeasure with the choice of attire the kids are opting for these days. When I say "kids," I'm referring to college age and younger ...let's say 15-23. Oh boy, it's official; I'm an old whiny fart.

When I see these hipsters happily sidestep their way into the bar gleaming with optimism, I can only assume that there are no mirrors within a ten-mile radius of their house. I don't know if it's just a great marketing campaign launched by Spencer Gifts, Airbrush kiosks, etc ... or did the Care Bears throw up on our youth?

What happened to the good ole' days of British Knights, Z Cavaricci, tight rolls and high hair? Now those were looks demanding respect from our elders! Nothing says "future political leader" like an arrogant 15-year-old white kid breaking out an iffy at best rendition of what he thinks is the MC Hammer dance to the smooth and eloquent lyrics of Vanilla Ice, then wrapping up his mating call with the Running Man.... Cool as ice!

I'm aware we all looked like application forms to Jim Henson growing up, it's just a part of being a kid but pink sweat

pants with "juicy" printed on the ass? Seriously, that's where I draw the line. Not only is it ridiculous looking but there are parents out there splurging the money for these wardrobe eyesores and in doing so, asking each and every passerby to stare at their daughters butt! And is it just me, or is juicy the last thing you want to think about when looking at said butt? I've got an idea...WHIPE IT! On top of it all -- they're sweat pants. Can we write a law that states sweat pants can not see anything other than the inside of your bedroom, and/or your gym?

On to the next painfully irritating eye raping, visor caps! This one will be short...I promise. The following is a fact, and in no way up for dispute....unless it's transparent green and your playing poker in a 1980s movie or you're currently holding a golf club, have pig tails and a vagina....you at no point in your life should ever own a visor -- let alone wear one outside.

Yet for some terrible reason, Joe P. Hipster decided in his inherent style wisdom to not only wear one, but wear it in the most illogical and horrendously ugly way possible ... backwards and upside down, GENIUS!

Actually, you know what would go well with that look ... maybe a nice polo shirt, ooooh, but make the Polo logo obscenely huge for no reason whatsoever and then follow it up with a nice sensible "going out" shoe, like say, flip flops.

You don't want to keep those gorgeously hairy and entirely gross feet to yourself now do you? We need some icing on this cake? Alright, now hear me out ... this is going to be GREAT! Pop that collar dude! Now you got it Dapper Dan.

DINE ABOUT SIX COURSES in WEST CHESTER!

BY
MARY
BIGHAM
WC DISH

The Rotaract Club of West Chester is happy to announce their 3rd Dine About in West Chester on Thursday, April, 30 from 6 PM to 9 PM.

Dine About is a fundraising event created by the Rotaract club to raise funds for local charities while providing an evening to our friends full of food and fun.

This Dine About will benefit 4sight. A wonderful charity targeted to helping support families with children with eye sight problems. For more information about this great organization go to www.4sightonline.org.

One Dine About ticket will allow you to sample a dish from each of the following participating restaurants:



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The tickets are \$25 and are limited! To purchase tickets visit our website at <http://home.ccil.org/~rotaract> or email wrotaract@gmail.com with the number of tickets you would like along with Name, Phone Number and Email Address. Tickets will be emailed to the customers or held at will call for those without email addresses.

If you would like someone to visit your club to tell you more about our Rotaract club or Dine About please email wrotaract@gmail.com.

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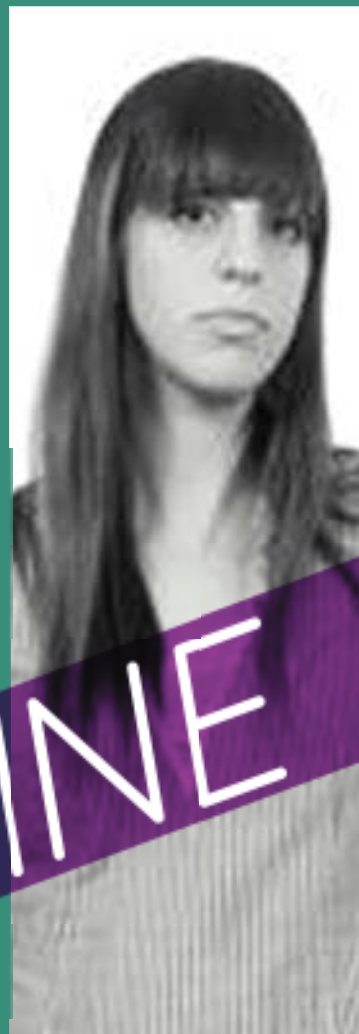
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ADAM & DAVE'S BLOODLINE

THIS WEEK WE CATCH UP WITH ADAM GARBINSKI FROM ADAM & DAVE'S BLOODLINE.

OK, CAN YOU GUYS INTRODUCE YOURSELVES AND TELL ME WHAT YOU DO?

Adam: I play guitar and sing in the band. I also drink coffee and beer. *(The rest of the band, Dave Petersen, Kirk Henderson, Brian Newell and Lois Volta were unavailable for interview...you know – jobs, side projects, geography and stuff that comes from being in a band).*

HOW YOU MEET?

Adam: Dave and I met at a punk show back in the 90's. We were little kids then ... 15 or 14 years old. We sorta kept in touch and ended up playing in some different bands together. This is the first time we've written together though. We met Brian at a garage show in South Philly. Kirk I believe I met at the Mercury Lounge in NYC. I think he was wearing his gardening outfit. Lois we met when she was still in high school. My friend Jesse was out looking for cradles to rob and

came back with her. *(eds. note – this may or may not be true as I couldn't verify.)*

COULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR BAND IN ONLY COLORS AND EMOTIONS?

Adam: Is psychedelic mind-fuck a color? If so, that's it. *(eds. note – if it's not, someone should call Crayola.)* As far as emotions ... um, maybe for me it would be happiness and delirious joy, for Dave probably bitterness and regret.

WHAT'S THE LAST GREAT SHOW YOU SAW?

Adam: Last night we played with New Motels, a sweet Kinks-y kinda band from Philly, and Youth Group, who are in the state all month from Sydney, Australia. They were both really amazing. Youth Group is going to be playing in Philly at the M Room every

Wednesday for the next few weeks, if you get a chance, check them out.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE ALBUM?

Adam: Mine? Oh man, there's so many. I guess lately I've been listening to "House Arrest" by Ariel Pink's Haunted Graffiti. One of my all time favorite albums is "Chrome Dreams" by Neil Young. It was never properly released though, so I don't know if that counts. *(eds. note – it does as far as we're concerned.)*

I HATE THIS QUESTION, BUT WHAT'S ON YOUR RINGTONE?

Adam: Mine just rings like a regular telephone. Is that boring?

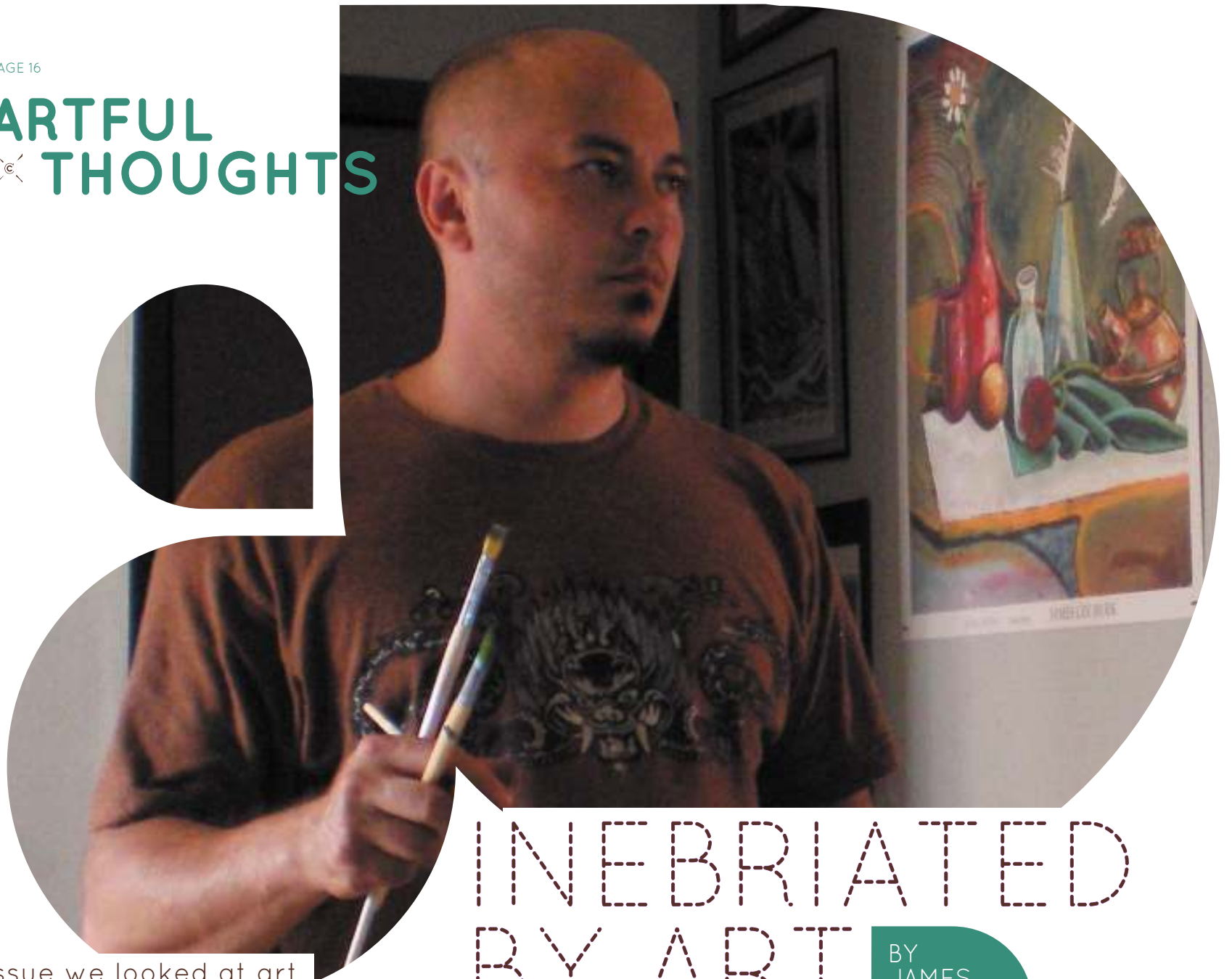
FROM LEFT: MATT SMITH, COLIN MCGETRICK, CHRIS ASPITE, TONY FLAGIELLO

MORE INFORMATION ON ADAM & DAVE'S BLOODLINE CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB (you know, stuff like tour dates, they're playing The Octoraro Hotel & Tavern in Oxford April 25, ... how to buy the record and all that useful stuff) at:
www.myspace.com/adamanddavesbloodline

SOUND CHECK is brought to you every two weeks by Mike Bardzik – drummer, recording engineer, owner of Second Story Sound Studios in West Chester and all around good guy.

Visit Mike at:
www.secondstorysoundstudios.com

ARTFUL THOUGHTS



INEBRIATED BY ART

BY JAMES LEE BURK

Last issue we looked at art, this issue we're going to look at the art of ordering a drink.

So let's begin. You want a drink do you -- a nice cold refreshing beverage, perhaps from your local bar?

Well I am here to help you in this most modest of tasks, modest that is if your going to an empty bar. But that's not going to help you. So let's play a game. The game is called I want a drink at a busy bar.

Let's suppose for instance you are not one of the super hot, slightly exotic, defiantly drunk and sexy girls that frequently seem to magically materialize a drink just by giggling and saying of course I want another drink silly! Let's say you are a customer that is an average guy or girl that's wondering how do I get a drink in this busy bar.

Ok, here goes. First thing you do is figure out what you want to drink. Ok, do you know what it is? Good, but you're not ready yet, so stop and don't approach the bar.

Why? Do you have your money ready yet? Because look around you, I'm not sure but I think everyone else wants a drink too and they have their money out.

How weird it is that everyone at the bar wants a

even seem to be a line. Is this place completely uncivilized -- NO LINE -- everyone is just mobbed at the bar barking orders at the slightly sweaty and defiantly harried bartender you wonder?

So here goes. I, the bartender, finally look at you and say what can I get you? You look back slightly nervous ... hmmm, well what do I want? Looking slightly pissed I say ok ... I'll get back to you buddy and move on down the bar to a slightly less socially challenged person who speaks clearly and hands over their money for their drinks as the bartender gives them their drinks. Thanks buddy, the lucky patron says to me as he hands a generous tip, for the efficiency in which his needs were handled. No problem I say moving down the bar.

What kind of wizardry is this? Do I have to put a spell on this guy to make him serve me you ask? As these thoughts pass through your mind you realize with dismay that the bartender had been talking to you and once again is moving down the bar dispensing bartender justice as he goes half lawman, half fairy god mother, trying to keep the peace while giving out wishes to the drunken mob.

ask yourself? You groan, not realizing you're speaking out loud.

Hey buddy a hoarse, slightly drunken voice says to you. Bewildered, you look around trying to find the source of the voice. Slightly ashamed you realize it's a little bearded man looking owlshly at you through his horn-ribbed, slightly smudged spectacles and standing right in front of you in his completely archaic green outfit. Holy crap it's a leprechaun.

On closer inspection, maybe just a really drunk old guy with a green sweatshirt ... weird, huh you say, stupidly looking at the man's obvious drunken, yet somehow wise looking countenance.

Hey buddy, do you want to know the three secrets for getting a drink in a busy bar he wheezes at you? Um, sure you reply, slightly bemused and very skeptical. Watch poetry in action he says.

Number one, but most important, what do you want to drink? Easy enough question, but very important because the bartender can't read your mind yet. Read my mind you say, stupidly repeating after the man.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 17 →



← CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

That comes later the leprechaun says.

Ok, so here we go -- the next two secrets are just as easy. I'll show you the man says. He proceeds to say to the bartender as he's passing by -- I'll have a shot of Jamison please and a drink for my friend. What are you having the bartender says, looking at you with a slightly exasperated look. Miller Lite you blurt out. Amazingly the bartender looks at you and says no problem and gets the drinks.

Last step the leprechaun says -- here you are sir, he says, handing the bartender the money for the drinks with a generous tip thrown in. Thank you he says, quickly taking another customer's order and he's off to the races.

Easy isn't it says the leprechaun winking at you? Wow, it was you say amazed, but it can't be that easy can it, you say?

Well what about the mind reading you ask? Watch says the leprechaun, sliding 10 bucks on the bar. Excuse me sir he says to the bartender. Could I have another round sir, he says smiling as he

hands over the money? Keep the change and thank you he adds, a Miller light and a Jamison, I, the bartender ask? Yup, replies the leprechaun smiling. Moments later you suck down your new beer marveling at the speed and dexterity in which your drink was delivered.

You say thanks for the three golden rules mister, looking around for the little green man. But he's gone.

Later on, what can I get you the bartender asks? Oh, a Miller Lite you an-

swer, handing him money, personally amazed with your new found skills at getting drinks. Here you are he says, handing you your change. Keep it you say, remembering golden rule number three -- tip your bartender.

So remember the three golden rules of getting a drink in a crowded bar: Know what you want, have your money ready and don't forget to tip. These rules will guarantee you success in that jungle we call a crowded bar.

-- James





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HE SAID SHE SAID / WHERE TWO SINGLES MEET AND REVIEW the food & each other.

APRIL 15, 2009 / PAGE 19

BY:
MARY
BIGHAM
WC DISH



THE GIRL:

COLLEEN

AGE: 21

JOB: Student, waitress, videographer

HOBBIES: Video producing and editing, movies, reading, going out in West Chester and hanging out with friends and family.



THE DATE:

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THE GUY:

BRIAN

AGE: 27

JOB: Aramark Location Manager

HOBBIES: Listening to records, running, enjoying wine, reading

SO WAS IT JUST THE WINE? Nah, there was some real connection there.

This couple met initially at the CC Launch party at The Note. They hit it off there but also had a lot to drink so they decided to have a real date in He Said, She Said.

FIRST IMPRESSION AT THE LAUNCH PARTY:

COLLEEN: He seemed very nice and smart and he was a friend of a friend so that made it more comfortable. Of course we both drank a lot and we just kept talking the rest of the evening.

BRIAN: Ha, well I thought she was cute and I was excited that I was introduced to her and I liked that she's a bit younger.

COLLEEN: We had a good time talking so after the party we decided to exchange numbers to go out in West Chester sometime.

BRIAN: We had really good conversations and similar interests and we had a lot of chemistry so I wanted to see where that would go so we exchanged numbers.

FOR THE REAL DATE (A WEEK LATER):

COLLEEN: He was so sweet, he brought me flowers from Katimac which was so cute. Because I had a bit too much to drink at the party I was glad to see that he was actually as cute as I had remembered.

BRIAN: My first impression was that she looked great. I was a bit nervous. She was a little late but I expected that and I wor-

ried that the connection may not be there without the alcohol. That sounds so terrible but it's true.

COLLEEN: We went to Teca first and had a glass of wine... I got a Sauvignon Blanc and he told me all about the beers on the menu which was fun to learn about. We did the whole "tell me about your background and family." You know, the "what do you want to do with your life?" kinda of stuff. We also recounted our first meeting since we were sober.

BRIAN: I had a glass of Cabernet and we talked about family and something about her purse. She had this random purse thing she had, I don't remember what it's called. It was like a purse inside her purse and I wasn't sure what it was. We just generally got to know each other. I enjoyed calling her out on her Britney Spears obsession.

COLLEEN: Things were going smoothly so we decided to eat dinner at Spence Cafe. I had never been there to eat so I was excited to try it.

BRIAN: We were hungry so we headed across the street to Spence Cafe. I had been there before and thought it would be a good atmosphere. As we were about to sit down and I wasn't sure where to sit at a four top table. Was I supposed to sit next to her or across from her? After discussing it out loud I decided to sit across from her. And then I was hoping that my quirkiness

was attractive cause it's kinda weird.

WHAT THEY ORDERED:

COLLEEN: I got the pistachio encrusted salmon and we had the cheese plate for an appetizer, it was all fabulous. It was a very cute, romantic and intimate place with candlelight and was an ideal spot for our first real date. The food was excellent and we were having fun but we did decide to leave before reggae night started because we wanted to be able to hear each other.

BRIAN: I got the goat cheese and roasted red pepper ravioli and they were awesome. It was served with pine nuts in a very light sauce, they were so good. I love the variety of cheese plates so we shared that. I had a glass of scotch to wash it all down and we decided to head to another place so that we could talk to each other and be too crowded.

COLLEEN: We decided to end the night at Iron Hill to get a beer and I felt bad because it was kind of empty later in the night and being a waitress it's hard to see that people are walking in when you're getting close to closing so we only stayed for one drink. I had a white Russian and it was delicious... and we were talking about

the big Lebowski and it got me craving a white Russian so Brian told me I should definitely have one.

BRIAN: We sat near the window, I had another scotch and we talked for awhile more before we both had to get home. It was the best date I've ever been on.

WAS THERE A KISS?

COLLEEN: I'll never tell.

BRIAN: Yes. It was wonderful and natural.

NEXT DATE:

The couple has already been talking regularly. They have had a second date and things are looking good!

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I've lived and worked as a musician and record producer in Philadelphia since 1996. I moved here with my college band from West Chester. My band mate, Jason Knight, and I found a small place in Manayunk for our recording studio, Miner Street Recordings, and we quickly made friendships and contacts in the city's indie-music community. It was an awesome way to spend our early 20s, made even better by the fact that so many of our friends from school moved there with us!

Philadelphia was in an interesting phase back then. There was very little desire among the bands we met to progress professionally...in fact, it was a stretch for many to aspire to

CONTINUES ON PAGE 21 →

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← CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

play anywhere but the city's three indie venues. It was "apathy-central."

I like to think we helped change that. A small handful of artists began to make the push toward national recognition, including my band, Marinermine, as well as fellow West Chester band, Mazarin, and the avante garde noise project, Azusa Plane. It always felt like we were all on the right path. We were working our asses off and we all seemed to raise the bar for each other at every new opportunity, meeting our heroes and some of us touring the world.

But "all things must pass," as George Harrison once said, and in time, the bands eventually broke up, and friends went their separate ways. Running my recording studio for

the past 13 years has made me realize that all communities of artists go through this exact cycle, as only a select few can really "make it."

On the other hand, a bleak reality had been emerging all the while: Recorded music was on a steady decline. The major record labels had overcharged fans for decades, and peer-to-peer file sharing struck back hard! Today in 2009, recorded music is almost completely valueless.

Last week, some friends and I announced a new non-profit music organization called Weathervane Music Organization that's designed to address this problem. Weathervane exists to improve the state of music in our culture and to fight back, even reverse the dwindling career potential of great independent artists.

The project is getting its start by producing music recordings and documentary video projects for the web featuring select, exceptional artists from around the country. It promises to introduce great artists, show the vision they have for their music and give rich, technically detailed insight into the studio process.

More than anything, it works around the simple assertion that the more we know and understand the arts, the better our culture will be.

The first two Weathervane Project Series artists were announced last week, a band from Philadelphia called East Hundred and another from Austin, Texas, called {{{SUN-SET}}}. Recording sessions are scheduled for later this month and the projects will release as the year goes on.

Information about Weathervane, as well as both artists, can be found at the organization's Web site, www.weathervanemusic.org. You can sign up for the email list, The Weathervane Occasional; you can follow the blog and by all means... leave your thoughts! The future of music in our culture is a conversation we all need to start having!

- In *The Studio* is brought to you by Brian McTear owner of Miner Street Recordings in Philadelphia. Visit Miner Street at www.minerstreet.com.

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CONCERTS

APRIL 15, 2009 / PAGE 23

TICKETS FOR MOST CONCERTS ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH LIVENATION.COM OR COMCASTTIX.COM.

THE WACHOVIA CENTER, Philadelphia: Fleetwood Mac (April 15, 8 p.m., \$49.50 to \$149.50); Eric Clapton and Steve Winwood (June 12, 8 p.m., \$65 to \$150); Andrea Bocelli (June 20 -- cancelled); The Jonas Brothers with Jordin Sparks and Honor Society (July 23 and 24, 7 p.m., \$29.50 to \$89.50); Keith Urban with Taylor Swift (Aug. 1, 7:30 p.m., \$20 to \$79.50).
THE SPECTRUM, Philadelphia: Kings of Leon with The Walkmen (April 25, 8 p.m., \$45); Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band (April 28 and 29, sold out); The Dead (May 1 and 2, 8 p.m., \$65 and \$95); Dane Cook (May 9, 7:30 p.m., \$53 to \$103).
THE SUSQUEHANNA BANK CENTER, Camden, N.J.: Andre Rieu (April 28, 7:30 p.m., \$54.75 to \$163.75); the Killers with Chairlift (May 8, 8 p.m., \$42.50); Il Divo (May 10, 7:30 p.m., \$62.75 to \$132.75); WMMR-B-Q with ZZ Top, the Offspring, Puddle of Mudd, Papa Roach, Saliva, Duff McKagan's Loaded and Halestorm (May 17, 3 p.m., \$49.50 to \$75); Coldplay with Pete Dinklage and Howling Bells (May 26, 7:30 p.m., \$41.25 to \$103.75); Nine Inch Nails with Jane's Addiction (June 5, 7:30 p.m., \$25 to \$99); New Kids on the Block with Jabbawoockeez (June 6, 7:30 p.m., \$31.25 to \$85.25); Phish (June 7, sold out); No Doubt with Paramore and The Sounds (June 11, 7:30 p.m., \$10 to \$80); Jimmy Buffett and the Coral Reefer Band (June 18 and 20, sold out); Def Leopard with Poison and Cheap Trick (June 23, 7 p.m., \$29.50 to \$125); The Fray with Jack's Mannequin and Richard Swift (June 24, 7 p.m., \$20 to \$65); Nickelback with Hinder and Saving Abel (July 11, 6 p.m., \$35 to \$89.50); Motley Crue with Godsmack, Theory of a Deadman, Drowning Pool and Charm City Devils (July 19, 5 p.m., \$34.25 to \$99.75); Jackson Browne and Steve Earle (Aug. 2, 8 p.m., \$39.50 to \$65); the Allman Brothers Band with Widespread Panic (Aug. 21, 7 p.m., \$45 and \$75); Rascal

Flatts with Darius Rucker (Sept. 11, 8 p.m., \$32.50 and \$73.25); The Dave Matthews Band with Robert Randolph and the Family Band (Sept. 22 and 23, 7 p.m., \$40 and \$75).
FESTIVAL PIER, Philadelphia: Fall Out Boy with Metro Station, Cobra Starship, All Time Low and Hey Monday (May 1, 6:30 p.m., \$36); The Roots Picnic with The Roots, TV on the Radio, The Black Keys, Santigold, Public Enemy and others (June 6, 2 p.m., \$49.50); Rise Against with Rancid and Billy Talent (July 25, 7 p.m., \$32).
MANN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, Philadelphia: David Byrne with DeVotchKa (June 5, 8 p.m., \$43.50 to \$59); Diana Krall (June 19, 8 p.m., \$49 to \$79); Celtic Woman: Isle of Hope Tour (June 20 and 21, 8 p.m.).
THE TOWER THEATER, Upper Darby: Brian Regan (April 17, 8 p.m., \$32.50 to \$40); Flight of the Conchords with Kristen Schaal (April 18, 7 and 10 p.m., \$38.50); Demetri Martin (April 24, 8 p.m., \$35); Denis Leary, Lenny Clarke and Adam Ferrara (April 29, 8 p.m., \$39.50 to \$76); Lisa Lampanelli (May 9, 8 p.m., \$39.75); Keane with Mat Kearney and The Helio Sequence (May 20, 7:30 p.m., \$35); The Decemberists (June 6, 8 p.m., \$32.50); Andrew Bird with Calexico (June 17, 8 p.m., \$35).
THE ELECTRIC FACTORY, 421 N. 7th St., Philadelphia (215-627-1332): The Disco Biscuits (April 17 and 18, 8:30 p.m., \$32.50); Lamb of God with As I Lay Dying, Children of Bodom, Municipal Waste and God Forbid (April 19, 7 p.m., \$38); Third Eye Blind (April 22, 8 p.m., \$32.50); Badfish -- a tribute to Sublime, with Scotty Don't, Three Legged Fox and Full Service (April 24, 8:30 p.m., \$22); Franz Ferdinand (May 6, 8 p.m., \$25); Adele with The Script (May 3, 8 p.m., \$29.50); Franz Ferdinand with Born Ruffians (May 6, 8 p.m., \$25); Lamb of God with As I Lay Dying, Children of Bodom, Municipal Waste and God Forbid (May 9, 7 p.

m., \$38); Animal Collective with Grouper (May 12, sold out); Pennywise and Pepper with The Superevilians and Authority Zero (May 14, 8:30 p.m., \$25); the Shins (May 16, 8:30 p.m., \$34); The Prodigy (May 19, 8 p.m., \$29.50).
THEATER OF THE LIVING ARTS, 334 South St., Philadelphia: Secondhand Serenade with SafetySuit, The Underserving and Drive A (April 14, 8 p.m., \$19); Dredg with Torche and From Monument to Masses (April 16, 8 p.m., \$15); Alexi Murdoch with Dawn Landes (April 17, 9 p.m., \$20); Lily Allen with Natalie Portman's Shaved Head (April 18, sold out); Gavin DeGraw with honeyhoney (April 22, 8 p.m., \$26); Twiztid with Boondox and Prozak (April 23, 8 p.m., \$20); Travis with The Republic Tigers (April 24, 9 p.m., \$25); AP Tour featuring 3OH!3, Family Force 5 and the Maine, with Hit the Lights and A Rocket to the Moon (April 25, sold out); The Bamboozle Road Show featuring Forever the Sickest Kids, We the Kings, The Cab, Never Shout Never and Mercy Mercedes (April 26, 6:30 p.m., \$17.50); Blue October (April 29, 8 p.m., \$29); Bloodhound Gang with After Midnight Project and SPFLD (April 30, 8 p.m., \$18); The Kills with The Horrors and Magic Wands (May 1, 9 p.m., \$15).
THE KESWICK THEATRE, Easton Road and Keswick Avenue, Glenside (215-572-7650 or www.keswicktheatre.com): Andrew "Dice" Clay (April 24, 8 p.m., \$52.50); The Manhattan Transfer (April 25, 8 p.m., \$37.50 and \$47.50); "Five Peace Band" with Chick Corea, John McLaughlin, Christian McBride, Kenny Garrett and Brian Blade (April 26, 3 and 7:30 p.m., \$47.50); Jay Mohr (April 29, 8 p.m., \$38.50 and \$58.50); Foreigner (April 30, 7:30 p.m., \$47 and \$57); ROSFEST 2009 featuring Nektar, Lazuli, Apocalypse and others (May 1, \$40; May 2 and 3, two-day ticket \$110).

CONTINUES ON PAGE 24 →

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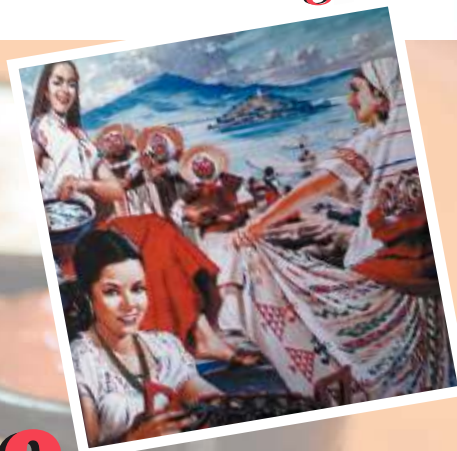
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THE NOTE, 142 E. Market St., West Chester (800-594-8499 or www.thenote.tickets.music-today.com): Radio 104.5 New Music Tuesday with Dephonic, Da Rezerek and Swift Technique (April 14, 8 p.m., \$5 - 18 and older); Orchard Lounge (April 15, 8 p.m., \$10 - 21 and older); Dengue Fever (April 16, 8 p.m., \$15 - 21 and older); Riverboat Gamblers with Fake Problems and The Casting Out (April 17, 9 p.m., \$10); The Haunted with Nachmysthium, Merauder and The Agonist (April 18, 9 p.m., \$20 - 21 and older); The Bronx with Trash Talk (April 19, 8 p.m., \$12 - all ages); Soja and John Brown's Body (April 20, 8 p.m., \$15 - 21 and older); Pet Cemetery featuring members of Brothers Past (April 23, 8 p.m., \$10 - 21 and older); Enstride EP Release with Atom Smash, Enter the Rooms and Imbala (April 24, 9 p.m., \$8 - 21 and older); Soraia, Shovelhook, New Liberty and Mike Martin Band (April 25, 9 p.m., \$8 - 21 and older); Valient Thor with Early Man and Backwoods Payback (April 27, 8 p.m., \$11 - 21 and older); Bloodhound Gang with After Midnight Project and SPFLD (April 29, 8 p.m., \$30 - 21 and older); The Sounds (May 2, 9 p.m., \$15 - 21 and older); Cartel with Sonny and Sparks and the Rescue (May 3, 7 p.m., \$15); Sum 41 with Inward Eye and American Taxi (May 5, 8 p.m., \$13 - all ages); Big Business with Tweek Bird (May 8, 9 p.m., \$15 - 21 and older); A concert to benefit the Nick Berg Memorial Fund with Steppin' Razor, Rob Perna and the New Kings of Rhythm and The Inverse (May 9, noon, free admission).

THE AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE, 2425 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster (717-397-7700 or www.AMTshows.com): Clint Black (April 26, 7 p.m., \$65); the Doobie Brothers (April 27, 8 p.m., \$70); Peter, Paul and Mary (May 3, 7 p.m., \$75); Joe Cocker (May 4, 8 p.m., \$75); Bruce Hornsby (May 8, 8 p.m., \$47); Little Big Town (May 18, 8 p.m., \$35); Lee Ann Rimes (May 24, 7 p.m., \$75); Billy Ray Cyrus (May 31, 8 p.m., \$65); Vince Gill (June 21, 8 p.m., \$75); Brian Regan (June 13, 8 p.m., \$39); Opry Legends Fest (June 27, 1 and 7 p.m., \$39.50); Herb Reed and The Platters, Charlie Thomas and the Drifters, and The Coasters (June 28, 7 p.m., \$45); Julianne Hough and Jason Michael Carroll (July 5, 7 p.m., 447); Stars of The Lawrence Welk Show (July 18, 1 and 7 p.m., \$35).

THE COLONIAL THEATRE, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville: Enter the Haggis (April 23, 8 p.m., \$19.50 to \$27.50); Brain Damage - Pink Floyd tribute, with Meeting in the Aisle - Radiohead tribute (April 25, 7:30 p.m., \$20); Dickey Betts (May 13, 7:30 p.m., \$29.50 to \$42.50); The Keith Emerson Band (June 6, 8 p.m., \$32.50 to \$42.50); ukulele master Jake Shimabukuro (June 12, 8 p.m., \$22 to \$29.50). Call 866-468-7619 or visit www.ticketweb.com.





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BRICKETTE LOUNGE, 1339 Pottstown Pike, West Chester (610-696-9656 or www.brickette-lounge.com). Line dancing on Tuesday and Thursday from 8 to 11 p.m. with DJ. Karaoke on Wednesdays from 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Live bands from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Smoke-free. No band on April 10 and 11.

BROWNIES 23 EAST, 23 E. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore (610-649-8389 or www.brownies23east.com) Kristen and the Noise (April 15); Splintered Sunlight (April 16).

CEDAR HOLLOW INN, 2455 Yellow Springs Rd. (610-296-9006 or www.cedarhollowinn.com). Call for updated schedule.

DOC MAGROGAN'S, 117 E. Gay St., West Chester (610-429-4046 or www.docmagrogans.com). DJ Tommy C upstairs on Fridays at 10 p.m. (no cover). Live bands on Saturdays from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. (no cover). Karaoke at 9 p.m. on Tuesdays. Trivia downstairs on Wednesdays at 9:30 p.m.

KENNETT FLASH, 102 Sycamore Alley, Kennett Square (484-732-8295 or www.kennett-flash.org). Del Bittle's Bluegrass jam every Thursday at 8 p.m. Admission \$3 for players

and \$5 for audience. Open Mic every Sunday at 7 p.m., hosted by Butch Zito. Admission \$4.

THE LOUNGE, 246 Eagleview Blvd., Exton (610-594-0269). Open daily at 4 p.m. Free pool on Tuesdays. Karaoke on Wednesdays at 9 p.m.

MADDIE'S RESTAURANT, BAR AND HOTEL, 330 E. Lancaster Ave., Frazer (610-644-2722 or www.maddies.com). Open every day from 3 p.m. to 2 a.m. Games, sports bar and live music. Acoustic Thursdays from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

MCKENZIE BREW HOUSE, 451 Wilmington-West Chester Pike (Route 202) (610-361-9800 or www.mckenziebrewhouse.com). Entertainment: Live music and DJ (April 10 and 11); Music Match and poker (April 15); karaoke (April 16).

MR. E'S TAVERN, 313 W. Kings Highway, Coatesville (610-384-4356 or www.mrestavern.com). Karaoke contest with DJ Kalaya on Tuesdays from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

THE OCTORARO HOTEL & TAVERN, 2 South 3rd Street, Oxford, (610-932-2290 or www.myspace.com/octorarobookings). Entertainment: The 2nd Annual Spring fling featuring The Collingwood, Adam & Dave's Bloodline, Make Me Ok, Vilebred, The National, Rifle and Malachi and artists Jonathan Murray Photography, paintings - sculpture - pottery by Amedeo Salamoni, paintings by Matt Cumisky, paintings by Carolyn Hess and paintings by James Lee Burk (April 25). Junestar, Among Wolves, Booker Lee and the County Fair (May 16). The Lulls, Selah.Selah, Jet Fighter (May 30).

SPENCE CAFE, 29 E. GAY ST., WEST CHESTER (610-738-8844 OR WWW.SPENCE-CAFERESTAURANT.COM). Entertainment: Reggae Night featuring New Kings (April 15); 4/16 Open Mic-sign up starts at 10pm, Lucas JP Band April 17, Doc Brown April 18, The Grift April 23, Delcronix April 24, Steppin' Razor April 25.

STEEL CITY COFFEE HOUSE, 203 Bridge St., Phoenixville (610-933-4043 or www.steelcity-coffeehouse.com). Mad Poets Society Open Mic on the First Tuesday of the month. Every other Tuesday is Acoustic Open Mic hosted by Leigh Goldstein. Every Wednesday "Steel City Sessions" from 8 to 10 p.m. Entertainment: "Steel City Sessions" with Hillary Wallace and Andrea Nardello (April 15, 8 p.m., free).

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FESTIVALS

West Chester Film Festival
 Downtown West Chester will be the site of the Fifth Annual West Chester International Short Film Festival from April 23 to 26. The screenings will be held at several locations in the borough, with special blocks for children and teens, workshops and special events. There will be nearly 100 short films shown, submitted from all over the United States and Canada, Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Australia. For more information, visit www.westchesterfilmfestival.com.

Yellow Springs Art Show
 The Lincoln Building of Historic Yellow Springs, Chester Springs (610-827-7414 or www.yellowsprings.org), presents the 36th Annual Yellow Springs Art Show and Sale from April 25 to May 10. The building will be filled with drawings, paintings and sculptures by more than 170 professional artists. There will be an art activity for children, an exhibit titled "Images of Yellow Springs," and a one-day arts immersion program for adults with lectures, art projects and guided tours. Admission is free from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily (11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Fridays). For reservations to the opening night party on April 24, call or visit online.



I consider myself a “jack of all trades.” Perhaps that’s why I’m a bartender. Bartending has given me so much time in the past seven years or so to pursue all of my hobbies like art, music and any old thing I can find to restore (like old boats and motorcycles). A typical work week for most bartenders I know is less than 40 hours a week, which leaves enough time to really get into your hobbies (and college too – I almost forgot) and I try not to take that for granted.

Bartending at Iron Hill has also taught me so much about one of my other hobbies – BEER! One of my favorite parts of my job is when a customer comes in who is really enthusiastic about beer. I love introducing people to different beers and giving them the opportunity to try something new.

I’ll talk all day about trips to Belgium and the great beer-related experiences I’ve had. One of which was accidentally meeting up with the “Extreme Beer Team” in Amsterdam and hopping on a train with them to the Zythos Beer festival in Brussels. Yeah, accidentally! What are the chances right? Well there I was with a buddy of mine in one of my favorite bars in the world, Café Belgique in Amsterdam, and in walk the brewers from Dogfishhead and Avery Brewing Co. and the crews from Noddinghead, Monk’s Café and Jose Pistolas from Philly. What a small world!

After they learned I was a bartender from Iron Hill, I was in. I immediately accepted their offer of joining them on their trip to Belgium for two of the greatest beer festivals in the world! Yeah, I definitely have to

thank Iron Hill for that one.

“Beer culture” is something I didn’t really know too much about before I started working as a bartender. Sure, I liked beer, but I had no idea there was such a huge world out there of people who base their whole lives around it. I try not to let myself turn into a complete beer snob though, so I still drink a regular old domestic beer every now and then. I think there’s a time and place for almost every beer. If I’m outside in 90-degree weather in the hot sun – sure I’ll have light beer. I’m a seasonal beer drinker. In the summer I like to have lighter, hoppy beers and in the winter I think there’s nothing better than an aged, old ale to warm you up.

I’ve also had the opportunity to work in the brewery part time. I’ve played the role of the “cellarman,” who typi-

cally takes the beer at a stage when it’s not quite done yet, tweaks it a little and then ages it in a cask. It’s very rewarding to have customers compliment a beer that you had a hand in making – so I can see how brewers get their motivation.

So stop in Iron Hill sometime and we’ll find you a beer you’ll love or maybe I’ll give you a brewery tour if I’m not swamped behind the bar. Got any stories about beer or about life in general? I’d love to hear ‘em! I’ve got customers who talk about being pirates and WWII veterans who tell me the same war stories over and over, and it never gets old. Hope to see you soon!

- Jesse Gilbert can be found behind the bar at the Iron Hill in West Chester, so stop in and say hi.

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THEATRE

'THE WHITE ROOM'

HEDGEROW THEATRE, 64 Rose Valley Rd., Rose Valley (610-565-4211 or www.hedgerow-theatre.org), presents the premiere of Nagle Jackson's comedy "The White Room" from April 17 to May 10. For mature audiences only. Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays, 4 and 8 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays. A 1 p.m. matinee with a tea party at intermission is scheduled May 6. Tickets are \$20 to \$30 (\$3 discount for seniors).

'CABARET'

VILLANOVA THEATRE, Vasey Hall, Lancaster and Ithan avenues, Villanova (610-519-7474 or www.theatre.villanova.edu), presents the musical "Cabaret" April 14 to 19. Shows are Tuesday to Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 to \$24, with discounts for seniors, students and groups.

'SMELL OF THE KILL'

FORGE THEATRE, 241 First Ave., Phoenixville (610-935-1920 or www.forgetheatre.org), presents the murder mystery comedy "The Smell of the Kill" on April 17, 18, 24, 25, 26 and 30, May 1 and 2 at 8 p.m. A Sunday matinee on April 19 is at 2 p.m., and benefits the Phoenixville Area Time Bank. Tickets are \$20 for this special show, and snacks will be served. Regular tickets are \$12 (\$10 for youth under 18).

ONE-ACT FESTIVAL

THE KALEIDOSCOPE PERFORMING ARTS REHEARSAL STUDIO, Ursinus College, Main Street, Collegeville, will be the site of a One-Act Play Festival from April 16 to 18 at 7:30 p.m. There will be three one-act plays written and performed by students. Tickets are \$2. Call 610-409-3795 or visit www.ursinus.edu.

'ROCKETMEN'

THE AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE, 2425 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster (800-648-4102 or www.AMTshows.com), presents "Rocketmen: The Music of Billy Joel and Elton John" from April 17 to June 6. Tickets are \$37 (\$18.50 for children under 18). Matinee and

evening shows are scheduled. Call or visit online for reservations and more information.

PEOPLE'S LIGHT SEASON

THE PEOPLE'S LIGHT AND THEATRE COMPANY, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern (610-644-3500 or www.peopleslight.org), presents: "Eggs" by Y York, based on the novel by Jerry Spinelli (April 23 to May 24); "Doubt: A Parable" (June 3 to 28); "End Days" (July 8 to Aug. 2). Matinee and evening performances are scheduled. Call or visit online for ticket information.

DUPONT THEATRE SEASON

THE DUPONT THEATRE, Wilmington, Del. (800-338-0881 or www.duponttheatre.com), presents its Broadway Series of nationally touring shows, including: "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" (April 14 to 18, \$50 to \$65); "Ain't Misbehavin'" with Ruben Stoddard (May 5 to 10). Non-subscription addition: The Ten Tenors (May 15 to 17). Call or visit online for reservations.

'RUDDIGORE'

THE ARDEN GILD HALL, 2126 The Highway, Arden, Del., will be the site of perfor-

mances of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Ruddigore" by The Ardensingers on April 24, 25, 30, and May 1 and 2 at 8 p.m. (May 2 at 2 p.m.). Tickets at the door are \$17 for adults, \$14 for seniors, \$10 for children and students. \$2 discount for advance purchases.

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<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #eee;">FRI APRIL 17th - 8PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This is an All Ages Event</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">The Riverboat Gamblers</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fake Problems - The Casting Out</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #eee;">TUE APRIL 21st - 7PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Radio 104.5 New Music Night / 18+</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">The Panic Years</p>
<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #eee;">SAT APRIL 18TH - 8PM</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">The Haunted</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Merauder - The Agonist</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #eee;">COMING SOON</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">4/23 Per Cemetery, All Project, Brannigan's Law; 4/24 Enstride, Atom Smash, Enter the Rooms, Imbala; 4/25 Sorata, Snowhook, New Liberty, Mike Martin Band; 4/27 Valient Thor, Backwoods Playback; 4/28 Cage The Elephant (All Ages); 4/29 Bloodbound Gang; 5/2 The Sounds; 5/3 Cartel (All Ages); 5/5 Sun 41 (All Ages); 5/6 The Audition (All Ages); 5/7 The Dirk Quinn Band; 5/8 Big Business; 5/9 Bergopalooza (All Ages) w/ Stepping Razor; 5/9 Peek a Boo Revue; 5/12 Josh Kelley & Bryan Cabrera (All Ages); 5/15 J-Roddy Walston & The Business; 5/16 Kate Voegelte (All Ages); 5/22 Clutch; 5/31 Matchbook Romance (All Ages); 6/5 211 (A Tribute to H2); 6/13 The Logwarmers; 7/31 Meeting in the Aisle;</p>
<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #eee;">SUN APRIL 19TH - 7PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This is an All Ages Event</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">The Bronx</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Trash Talk - Stereoblaster Trophy Scars</p>	

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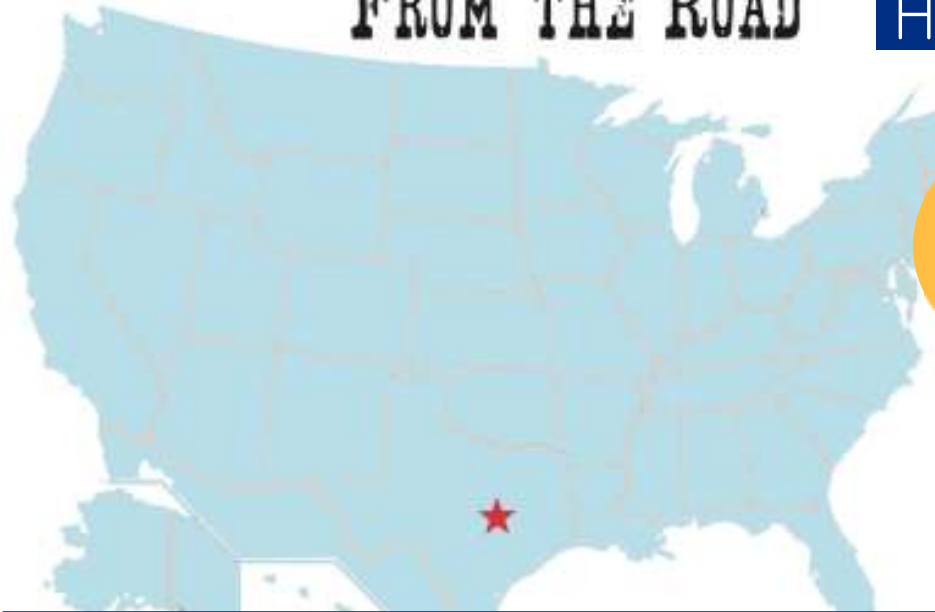
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FROM THE ROAD

HOOTS AND HELLMOUTH TRAVELS FAR TO SPEND TIME WITH FRIENDS

BY
ANDREW
GRAY
HOOTS AND
HELLMOUTH



Every March, thousands of bands pile into their vans and head into the wild Texan frontier. Their destination: Austin, Texas. Since 1987, the city of Austin has played host to the annual South by Southwest (SXSW) music conference.

Once an opportunity for smaller, independent bands to network, meet label representatives, booking agents, etc., SXSW has now seemingly evolved into a showcase for larger bands advertising their latest accomplishments, while still pandering to the smaller bands. For example, this year, Metallica performed for 2,000 people at legendary Stubb's BBQ as a result of their latest release for Guitar Hero. Also, I read on a bathroom wall that Kanye made an appearance during the festival as well. Their superstar presence certainly makes anyone's efforts of running equipment from venue to venue through drunken, sunglassesed mobs, fighting for parking spots, playing without anything close to a sound check, sleeping on floors, seem futile at best – yet, we do it anyway.

forming at any given moment, playing felt as if we were merely adding to the cacophony that engulfed the streets of Austin.

What became evident was through all of the hustle, the traffic, the hauling, the loading, the sweating and the interminable noise, we always found ourselves sharing our time with a wonderful community of people. Whether it was a crawfish dinner with our friends at Mad Dragon Records, sleeping like a can of sardines in a one-room apartment with labelmates Andrew Lipke and the Prospects, sharing laughs and a Mexican dinner at Polvo's with our friend Lavinia, from ASCAP, reuniting with our loyal friends at WMNF in Tampa, or playing a showcase sponsored by Dogfishhead Brewery, we never felt lost in the seas of SXSW. Only time will tell whether or not our musical efforts at SXSW were in vain, but at least we know how to get a free cobbler at the Salt Lick – home of the best BBQ Texas has to offer; and we understand how the communities in which we are involved inspire us to get in the van and drive to the next show.

HOOTS AND HELLMOUTH SPECIAL GREENS RECIPE

From Sean Hoots of Hoots and Hellmouth Musical Artist and Buy Fresh, Buy Local Supporter

- These greens have evolved over time. It's a hard dish to ruin. What's not to love?
- 2 bunches of collard greens (I also sometimes supplement with other greens: beet, mustard, kale, bok choy)
- 1 medium/large onion (vidalia preferred...anything sweet really)
- 1-2 apples (sweet and crisp work best)
- 1 jalapeno (I like 'em big...with all the innards!)
- 5 or so cloves of garlic (I LOVE garlic, so feel free to ease up on that)
- several splashes of apple cider vinegar or malt vinegar (sometimes both!)
- a few cups of stock

- salt, pepper, brown sugar to taste
- butter for sautéing (I use more than I should, olive oil is fine, too)
- a scattering of cumin seed
- hot sauce at will (Cholula is a perennial favorite, but Sriracha rocks, too)
- 1-2 bottles of victory beer (prima or hop devil work particularly well with this recipe)

Crack open a bottle of beer. Sip. Turn on some tunes. Heat up a big ol' pot or pan with high sides to medium-high and melt your butter. Add cumin seed and allow to roast in the pan for a minute. Dice onions and add to the pan. add a sprinkle of brown sugar and a pinch or two of salt/pepper and allow onions to caramelize a little. Dice apple and add to pan with another sprinkle of brown sugar. Stir between sips of your beer and lower heat to medium. After a minute or two, dice jalapeno and garlic and add, letting everything hang out another minute or two so as to get to know one another better. Friendly flavors are a must.

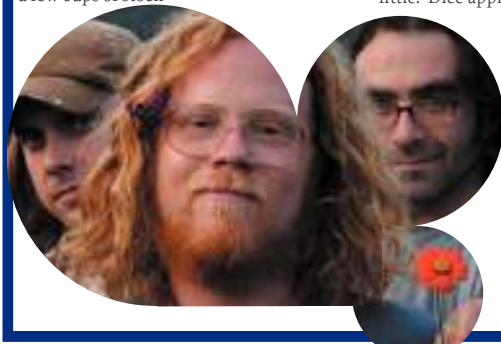
With this flavor you can leave as is and move on to the next paragraph, or mess with this "backdrop" a bit.

Variations:
Sweet: Add some honey or molasses to the mess and really get it caramelized and richly sweet.
Tangy: Or add some apple cider vinegar and letting it simmer for a minute or two...this really punches up the tongue twisting factor, so proceed with caution.
Yummy: You could also add some beer at this point, allowing it to steam off a little bit...if you haven't finished the bottle already, that is.

Clean and chop the greens into reasonably sized shreds and put on top of the sautéed mixture, wilting them a touch. Stir leaves and pour in stock till all the greens are barely submerged. Add vinegar to taste (apple cider for a sharper kick, malt for a sweeter, more muted tone). Note: this is gonna sit for a while, and the flavors will blossom as it does, so go easy with the vinegar till you've got a good handle on where it's hanging in the mix. Add hot sauce at this point, but again, don't overdo it, the heat from your jalapenos will show up soon enough.

Let it all simmer and pop the top on that second brew. Continue to stew to your liking, traditionally they are cooked all day, which can be delicious, but with greens with this much flavor, they're best when they have a chewy crunch to them at about an hour and a half.

Important note! Leftovers always seem to taste better in the days following, so don't eat all of it in one sitting no matter how hard you're tempted.



Andrew Gray plays music and tours the country with Hoots and Hellmouth. He wrote this after a stop at South by Southwest in Austin, Texas, last month. From time to time Andrew will be checking in from the road.



Why? The promise of good BBQ? A welcome break from the Mother Nature's cold and blustery winter grip? Free Shiner Bock (a fine Texas brew)? Reuniting with other road-weary friends searching for the same piece of cheese at the end of the maze? The ever-so-slight chance that our efforts will actually help our career? To all of these questions, the answer is ...yes.

Your friends, Hoots and Hellmouth, made the voyage to the country of Big Texas for the third year in a row. After a 17-hour drive from a show in Asheville, N.C., we arrived eager, unshowered and ready to tackle six shows and a filming for the famed French film series La Blogotheque in the coming few days. Our spirits were high despite being one man down, as Rob caught a sickness diagnosed as "the crud," which quickly turned our three-part harmonies into "two-part." Despite our setback, we powered through, giving the crowds every ounce of energy and sincerity we could muster. However, with over a thousand bands per-

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