



**FREE** APRIL 29, 2009

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CC is a magazine of the *Daily Local News*, published every other Wednesday and distributed free throughout Chester County. Our offices are located at 250 North Bradford Avenue, West Chester PA. Copyright 2009, Daily Local News. Reproduction of CC, in part or in whole, is prohibited without written permission.

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**MARY'S MESSAGE:**

Get ready to celebrate! The 5th of May is almost here and Chester County has plenty of places to Cinco your Mayo. Find the right place for your celebration and invite some friends for some tasty Mexican food and fun. We've also got some events coming up in May just for CC readers, so check back often to see what's goin' on. As always, we welcome your input, ideas and comments so keep 'em coming. Cheers to your margaritas. Ole!

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

**UPCOMING:**

Festival, food and fun.

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

Cover photos by Daily Local News photographer Tom Kelly IV

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## WIGGINS AND FRANKLIN

Phil Wiggins began his musical career with some of Washington's leading blues artists, including the locally noted slide guitarist and gospel singer Flora Molton. He also apprenticed with Mother Scott (a contemporary of Bessie Smith). He met John in 1976 and, along with pianist Wilbert "Big Chief" Ellis and bassist James Bellamy, they formed the Barrelhouse Rockers.

Rick Franklin's musical style of blues is known as the "Piedmont" style identified with such legendary players as Blind Blake, Blind Boy Fuller and William More. Rick has taught guitar to youths and adults both national and international. He is personally committed to the preservation and diffusion of the Blues, especially amongst the young.

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# THE CONCIERGE CHRONICLES TRATTORIA VITTORIO



## BRINGING SOME LUSTY ITALIAN TO CHESTER COUNTY

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

PHOTOS  
BY  
THE MERCURY,  
POTTSTOWN

For every stunning town center that may grace our fine bucolic countryside, Chesco still has its own Levittown-like retail pockets, such as the oh-so vanilla sounding Suburbia Shopping Center on Route 100, just south of the Route 422 (Pottstown) interchange.

The center has its typical array of stores – a salon, dry cleaner, supermarket, the ubiquitous Chinese restaurant. Look closer though. There, tucked in deep is Trattoria Vittorio, which adds lusty Italian flavors to this otherwise white bread slice of the 'burbs.

It's a storefront BYOB, brought to us by Vittorio Ottaviano, an industry veteran, whose past culinary forays have included a partnership at the former Campo di Fiori (Media), and also, time served within the Fellini mini-chain of restaurants.

Here, Ottaviano, along with his cordial daughter, Angela, has fashioned a delightfully unexpected trattoria in its truest famiglia sense; a welcoming place for simple, affordable and satisfying meals. You bring the vino and this robust man will supply the glasses, hearty fare, and some good company to boot - all with a vowel-laced accent that's authentically from the boot.

Set within the former Café Mosaic space, the trattoria has traded in some of its past contemporary look for more traditional surroundings. Wine bottles perch on

shelves, faux grapes loll here and there; oil paintings and rustic prints create a provincial scene, while piped-in opera gently fills the room.

A curved room divider remains, as does the overhead tile mosaic that's affixed to the ceiling.

The menu offers customary classics: Caesar salad, Mussels marinara, clams casino, and, as an occasional special, a hefty mountain of fried calamari ringlets.

No less than twenty-nine pastas grace this list, as do a fair share of veal and chicken dishes. I admit surprise by a total lack of beef on

CONTINUES ON PAGE 8 →



# GET YOUR CINCO ON!



For authentic, delicious Mexican food in Phoenixville, try **Los Mariachis Mexican Restaurant** located in a bright yellow building at 201 Gay St., Phoenixville.

Did you know that the United States celebrates Cinco de Mayo more than Mexico? And thank goodness for that, because not only is it a great way to celebrate spring but it's a great excuse to spice things up with a healthy dose of the Mexican culture. Chester County is chock full of places to get some great Mexican cuisine.

### What Happened on the 5th of May?

That fateful day in 1862, 4000 brave Mexican soldiers stopped an army of 8000 traitorous Mexican and French soldiers in Puebla, preventing them from seizing control of Mexico City. The French army was devastated; the loss in Puebla disabled them from supplying the Confederate rebel soldiers in the US Civil War. This allowed the Union army time to strengthen and ultimately crush the Confederates in Gettysburg, thus ending the war.

This spot has all the basics and much more. Try the \$2 tacos with traditional fixins' (cilantro and chopped onion) or prepared "tex-mex" with lettuce, tomato and sour cream. Tostadas are \$3. Hungry and want to try a variety? Get the Cominaciode Tex-Mex platter for \$15 and choose three of the following: quesadilla, chile relleno, 2 soft taquitos, 2 enchiladas, 2 tamales, 1 tex-mex taco, 1 chalupa or 1 tostada. Oh - and everything is made to order. Ole!

I may be biased because it's the closest to where I live, but I'll be celebrating the holiday at **Don Gabriel Restaurant** at 611 W Strasburg Road, West Chester (610) 431-3212. It's kind of a tradition for me to grab a fun 40-oz. beverage at the nearby Sam's Pizza Island and head to the converted Wawa, then Food Pantry, now Mexican restaurant (hence my nickname, Chi Wa Wa). It's part restaurant and market and could quite possibly be the only place in the

CONTINUES ON PAGE 7 →



BY MARY BIGHAM WC DISH

DON GABRIEL'S WEST CHESTER



DON GABRIEL'S WEST CHESTER



LOS MARIACHI'S WEST CHESTER

# CINCO DE MAYO: BEST OF THE 'FRESH'

BY  
KATIE  
BRENAN  
WC DISH  
WRITER

Sure, we all like going to tiny little authentic Mexican restaurants run by an elderly couple straight from Puebla, but with such a proliferation of "fresh Mexican" chains

mole, jack & cheddar cheeses, fresh pico de gallo, salsa, beans and choice of chicken, steak, pork carnitas or vegetables. On the lighter side, try the Mango Tango Salad, with fresh organic greens, grilled chicken breast, fresh mango salsa, almonds and mango dressing.

## Music to sooth your Cinco soul

Tiny umbrellas. Let's face it: you've been waiting for warmer weather so you can bust out your bathing suit, wear your flip-flops and, of course, lay out in the sun sipping cocktails topped with tiny umbrellas. Or maybe it's Mojitos and Coronas you desire? Whatever your cool beverage of choice, it looks like the sunny season has finally arrived. But that's not the only reason to celebrate. Cinco de Mayo is right around the corner, which means you now have two great reasons to throw a party on May 5th. Since you will need some chilled Latin music to complement all the spicy dishes you prepare for your friends, get your hands on these Brazilian classics from 2000: *Bebel Gilberto's Tanto Tempo*, *Da Lata's Songs from the Tin*, and *Suba's São Paulo Confessions*. Yes, Cinco de Mayo is a Mexican (not Brazilian) holiday, but these breezy tunes will feel right at home.

BY  
"DISH  
JOCKEY"  
WC DISH  
WRITER

out there, more often I find myself giving into a nationally marketed meal. But trust me, that doesn't mean I'm at running to Taco Bell – some of these chain restaurants are actually pretty tasty, and some are even (gasp!) healthy for you, too. Here's your guide to the best of the "fresh" in our area:

### Desert Moon Fresh Mexican Grille (Main Street, Exton)

Sometimes, you have to just enjoy things for what they are. There's nothing too authentic about the buffet style chips and salsa bar or the flaky, crispy-yet-chewy tortillas at Desert Moon, but I have to admit that I love them anyway. You really can't go wrong with their Baja Chicken Quesadilla or the Cobb Wrap with avocados and bacon, and their smoothies are as tasty as non-alcoholic drinks get.

### Mesa Fresh Mexican Grill (215 Lancaster Ave, Frazer)

No, this isn't Bobby Flay's flagship restaurant in New York, but this chain did grab Fox Philly's "2008 Best Burrito" title. My personal favorite is the Burrito El Norte with Mexican rice, guaca-

### On The Border (Main Street, Exton)

For a chain restaurant located in the middle of a shopping center parking lot, this place is pretty great. Upbeat atmosphere, surprisingly friendly waiters, and enormous margaritas make this one of my favorite spots to unwind after work. "Fresh Grill" items like Jalapeno BBQ Salmon and Bacon-Wrapped Shrimp & Steak Medallions are less likely to induce a heart attack, while their Combo platters offer a ton of food at recession-friendly prices.

### Qdoba (1103 West Chester Pike, West Chester)

Picky about what you eat? At Qdoba, you tell them how to make your meal. Unique items like Ancho Chile BBQ Burrito or Poblano Pesto Burrito are way more intriguing than your usual fast food selections. Plus, sometimes it's nice to watch your food prepared in front of you (y'know, just to make sure no one spits in it or anything).

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*As part of a large mexican Family, leaving traditions behind was very dificult. We searched many places in order to find Authentic Mexican food. Unfortunately there weren't any places that made us feel at home. We decided to have a place of our own where we could capture people with the original flavors of our country. As part of our traditions we use only the freshest ingredients and everything is homemade. We hope that our mouthwatering mexican food will make you feel like a part of our family.*

Ericka Rodriguez



← CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

county where you can get a pinata, a burrito and a cell phone all in one stop.

You cannot go wrong with any flavor of tacos for \$2, although my personal favorite is the el pastor taco (pork and pineapple) with a little of the special green sauce (always on the table) and some guacamole. Want to try a Mexican sandwich? This is the place to do it. Tortillas for \$5.50 come with any of the fillings you'd get in a taco and are served on sweet, soft bread with mayo, lettuce, tomato, onions, hot peppers and avocado. Yum. Specials change daily if you want to mix it up and get a dinner platter like the chorizo, onion and cactus grilled and served with sauce and cheese (platters range from \$10 to \$15).

For a really sweet way to celebrate Cinco de Mayo, you've gotta go to **La Michoacana Ice Cream** located at 231 E State St., Kennett Square (610) 444-2996. La Michoacana has more than 50 flavors of authentic Mexican ice cream and sorbet. With amazing flavors like corn, rice pudding, avocado and chili made with real-deal ingredients, you can't be bored. Kids will love to eat their veggies if it's ice cream.

They are always willing to give samples so you can try before you commit to a whole order. So, go on, go outside your comfort zone and let your palate play with traditional Mexican ingredients in a sweet, scoo-

pable way. Pops are \$1.50 and scoops range from \$2.25 to \$5.50 (for 3 scoops). Visitors come from as far away as Lancaster and Harrisburg to get their hands on mango with chili, rice pudding, or (my personal favorite) corn ice cream with a sprinkle of cinnamon. If you aren't brave enough to get something out of the box they make sundaes with strawberries, hot fudge, or you can order hard chocolate to coat any flavor on a stick you want and add sprinkles or pecans. Co-owner Juvenal says that they also have more than 125 freezers with their products throughout Chester County and Maryland.

**Cinco de Mayo Festival in Kennett Square**

Join in the celebrations of Cinco de Mayo on Sunday, May 3, on the Main Street in Kennett Square. This year there will be a fashion show with 32

**Do you know Mexico is sinking?**  
Mexico's capital, Mexico City (one of the world's largest cities) is sinking -- some of its buildings by as much as 4 to 12 inches a year. The city was once an Aztec capital on an island surrounded by a shallow lake. When the Spanish explorer Hernan Cortes captured the city, he drained the lake. So Mexico City rests on soft land that continues to sink.

young ladies (32 represents each state in Mexico) and one will be crowned the queen of the festival.

It is free to attend and will include dancing, music and a Mexican Ballet. Authentic Mexican food and arts and crafts will be available for purchase.

For more information contact Festival Chairman Carlos Navarro at 302-766-4698 or 610-392-8980.

**Cinco de Mayo Activity: Make Your Own Mini Maracas**  
Instructions:  
1. Paint the popsicle sticks black.  
2. Decorate the sticks and the containers using colored vinyl tape (eg, use red, green and white stripes to represent the Mexican flag).  
3. Cut a slit in the container tops to hold the craft sticks securely.  
4. Fill the containers half full with rice, beans or beads.  
5. Replace the tops. Push in the craft sticks.

- What You Need:**  
2 empty film canisters  
2 popsicle sticks  
Colored vinyl tape  
Black marker or paint  
Rice, dry beans or beads  
Scissors



PICS THIS PAGE:  
LA MICHOCACANA  
ICE CREAM  
KENNETT  
SQUARE



← CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

on Vittorio's menu ("It just doesn't move," he explains), though his salmon, along with a rotating stable of entrée specials (osso bucco, red snapper and branzino) seem to make up for any missing meats.

What elevates Trattoria V to a higher order of Italian byob, are its home-made aspects; stratchiatella soup, for example, so good, so nourishing with fresh spinach, garlic, meatballs

and real chicken stock, that it rivals recipes existing within the Italian side of my family (but please don't tell them!). Buttery veal piccata is pounded to an almost paper thinness, possessing the perfect pucker from lemon and capers. And, the sharable lasagna, with ricotta and noodles so light and ethereal - and a meat sauce of deep, rich sundried tomato flavor - it reaches a pantheon of lasagna-dom that few restaurants in our region have achieved.

Dolce endings bring what you'd expect, including cannoli, tiramisu, and a tempting limone sorbetto.

With live Italian music four nights a week, delicious made-to-order fare, a gregarious host, and a relaxing family/couples-friendly atmosphere, Trattoria Vittorio brings a refreshing taste of Italy to a conventionally suburban landscape.



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# BUY FRESH BUY LOCAL

## BUY FRESH KIDS

BY MARY BIGHAM  
WC DISH

Remember the book claiming all we needed to know we learned in kindergarten? Owen J. Roberts School District is banking on local foods having that impact with a program that connects kindergarten students to sources of nutritious foods through cooking, growing, and tasting. Many local farmers are working to build relationships with the 350 kindergarten students in the district. Some children visit farms such as Maysie's where they harvest and prepare their lunch. Farmers Dan and Deb Heckler, of Jack's farm, vis-

ited 16 classrooms to help children grow luscious pea leaves and talk about how meaningful it is to grow food for people. By using tools and books such as Eating the Alphabet, teachers work to integrate knowledge of how food nourishes, how it grows, and the care it takes to grow it. Each Thursday children try healthy foods from local caterers and Owen J. grads, Bause-Landry Catering, with a focus on local, plant-based foods.

To eat right kids need to have an understanding of cooking, so hands-on cooking demonstration is given by

CONTINUES ON PAGE 27 →





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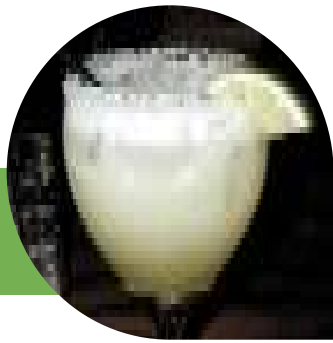
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# WC DISH TOP PICKS

BY  
SARAH REESE  
and  
JIN YOKOTA  
WC DISH WRITERS



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With warm breezes tousling hair and brushing past bare legs, the hankering for a chilly, invigorating cocktail sometimes becomes overwhelming - and with Cinco de Mayo peeking around the corner of the calendar, what better beverage to imbibe than a margarita?

Margaritas don't always come chunky and frozen in a portable bucket, appetizing as it may sound. Jin and I, along with a few easygoing friends, decided to trek around town

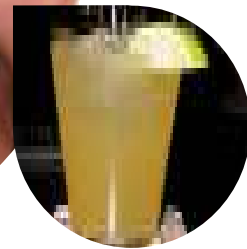
on a quest for the best inebriant. Here are our favorite three, along with many well deserved honorable mentions!

**The Classic** - Jitter's long-time bartender, James, mixed us our third drink of the hunt. The technicality of the drink was great - a perfect balance of tequila, triple sec and lime. James wouldn't give us salt - he says it's just a way to hide bad tequila - and his drink was way too tasty to need it. (Jitters Sports Bar, 146 W Gay

Street, West Chester)

**The Cadillac** - This top-shelf mix was shaken up by Kildare's staple bartender, Justin. Although it is an Irish pub, we had a feeling we were going to enjoy it - Justin has been making us some of the best drinks for years now. His margarita had a splash of Grand Marnier and the bitter orange essence rounded the tanginess out. Two thumbs up! (Kildare's Irish Pub, 18 W. State Street, West Chester)

**The Blue Margarita** - Erica over at Pietro's Prime whipped up the real deal in mere minutes. Out of all the drinks (we had 10 total!), hers was the most beautiful. Layered blue curacao in a deep, rounded glass, Erica's drink was palatable and mellow - easy to sip on and visually stimulating. (Pietro's Prime, 125 W Market Street, West Chester)



While those were our personal favorites, there were almost too many to choose from - and definitely too many to drink in one night! If you like your tequila sweetened, Kooma (151 W. Gay) is your best bet - thick, syrupy and sugary-sweet. On a hot day, grab an outdoor table at Spence (29 E. Gay) and slurp an extra frothy, super tangy 'rita. If you're heading out of town, stop by the Half Moon, at 108 W State Street in Kennett Square for a deliciously citrusy blend while sitting at their rooftop bar. We even got a margarita made with vodka...which was weird, to say the least! Grab a few friends and go on your own hunt and decide for yourself!



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# CHEF Q&A



Pico de gallo (Spanish for “rooster’s beak”) is a fresh condiment made from chopped tomato, onion, and chiles (typically jalapenos or serranos).

### ALBERTO’S PICO DE GALLO

Serves 4-5 people.

3 Tomatoes. Not too green not too ripe, somewhat firm.  
 1/2 White Onion. Peel off the first layer.  
 Lime Juice. At least one whole lime.  
 Salt to taste.

Chop the tomatoes and onion into very fine pieces. Then add lime juice and lime to “cook” the tomato and onion in the citrus. And add the following ingredients.

1/8 Red Onion. Chopped finely  
 Fresh Cilantro. Chop in big pieces or the flavor will be wrong if it gets mushed.  
 Jalapenos. To taste. Chopped finely.

Serve with chips.



BY  
MARY  
BIGHAM  
WC DISH

# MEXICAN MAGICIAN in Downingtown

*Truck driver turned chef, ALBERTO RODRIGUEZ, brings the authentic tastes of Mexico to Downingtown.  
 Wallace Ave., Downingtown 610-518-32102*

I thought I had tasted the best Mexican food in Chester County until I took a seat at a small table in the cozy space at in downtown Downingtown. I was presented with a bowl of handmade chips, a small ceramic bowl of Pico de gallo and a crock of what I called green sauce and a house-made frozen mango margarita. After one chip and one sip I was under the spell. For the rest of the interview I referred to Alberto as a magician.

**Q: How long has this restaurant been here?**

A: This has been a Mexican restaurant for 18 months but I have owned it for less than a year. We have been turning the place around since I purchased it.

**Q: Are you from Chester County?**

A: No. I was born on the East Coast and then raised in Mexico. Then I moved to California but was sick of LA. I wanted a better quality of life with my family, so I came with my wife back to the East Coast and we live in Delaware. I’m probably the only Mexican that can’t handle hot weather.

**Q: Have you had a restaurant before?**

A: No. I drove trucks for 16 years and because of that I’ve literally tasted food all over the place when I was

on the road. From driving so much I know all the places to get Mexican food along the East Coast and I can count on my hand of places that have good, real Mexican food. Because I couldn’t find any place that I thought was authentic Mexican food I had always wanted to open my own restaurant.

**Q: So why Downingtown?**

A: Well, I used to pick up loads with my trailer in Downingtown and I stopped by this restaurant five times and it was always closed. I asked a friend of a friend about it and they knew the owner and next thing I know I made an offer on it and a few days later, I owned it.

**Q: Wow, so you went from a truck driver to a restaurateur in about five days? How do you prepare for that?**

A: Well, I was driving up North for a job and got the call that he would meet me when I got back to sign the papers. On the drive back I was very excited and confident that I could make the best Mexican food for my customers. I just had to process everything that it would take to do it right. I find such pleasure in cooking and I’ve followed the steps from my grandmother and mother since I was 11 years old. If I did something wrong in the kitchen my grandmother would make

sure I didn’t make the same mistake again. It had to be done correctly.

**Q: Are you the cook at home?**

A: I am. It’s a pleasure for me to get home after work and cook. We always have a feast. I usually get home before my wife and I start to cook. My daughters love it when I cook dinner, but don’t tell my wife that.

**Q: What can your customers expect when they come here?**

A: In the words of my daughter: “You’ve tried Mexican food, now try the REAL Mexican food.” I know the real taste of Mexico from my grandmother and my mother and I was raised with those flavors all my life. I want others to be able to experience the real Mexican taste. Cooking is in my blood. When my wife and I cook at home or when we have a party everyone knows it will be the best. I will not sell anything that I wouldn’t eat myself at home.

**Q: What does the name of the restaurant mean?**

A: Rincon is Spanish for “corner” and Tarasco are the Indian people of northern Michoacán state in central Mexico. The area in which the Tarasco live has a coast,

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hot weather, mountains, cool weather, and it's dry... basically all the climates that are desired to live in an area. Because of these elements it is a place to grow wonderful, rich foods. So we like to have a corner of that region here in Downingtown.

**Q:** What would you recommend for someone to order when they come here.

**A:** Everything. Everything is home-made, we cut our own meat, make our own mole sauce from scratch that and it takes all day. We put peanuts, sesame seeds, raisins, chocolate, dry peppers, walnuts, green bananas, green apple, etc. It's a very intricate sauce and it's the best you'll have. If I don't have the "real" ingredients to make something, I don't make it. I have customers that tell me our food is better than actually being in Mexico. When you come in I want to welcome you to real Mexican food, there is nothing better.



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# IN THE STUDIO



BY  
BRIAN  
McTEAR  
OWNER OF  
MINER STREET/  
CYCLESOUND  
RECORDINGS

## BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER

This past week we began recording the first Weathervane Music Project Series sessions. Weathervane Music, to refresh your memory, is a non-profit music organization we announced at the beginning of April, the goals of which are to improve the state of popular music in our culture while providing outstanding opportunities and resources for select independent artists each year.

For The Project Series, Weathervane brings great independent artists into the studio to work with a great producer and engineering staff. All of this is the focus of a documentary video, showing the artist, their vision and goals and the creative process in the studio. The hope is to provide a unique avenue for great music to find its way into our society, while educating music fans about process

of music production, and exposing them to these excellent artists.

The first group was East Hundred, a young band from Philadelphia for whom I produced their record, "Passenger," last year. That record has received lots of critical attention and almost daily airplay on WXPN and YRock on XPN. Part of East Hundred's appeal for the Project Series is their extreme reliability, motivation and all around enthusiasm. In a phrase, they were perfect and "willing test subjects." As we got our se-

goals of a recording production crew and a video production crew simultaneously, I knew the band would easily roll with whatever we threw their way.

It was an amazing day. We set an incredibly ambitious schedule, one I didn't think we had a chance of executing, but in the end we recorded a new song, "Hammerhead" that will actually be added to future pressings of "Passenger." We staged several interviews with the band and myself as producer, and somehow wrapped up and all drove away at 8 p.m.!

Our second session is scheduled for later this week. The band is from Austin, Texas. They are called {{{SUNSET}}}.

The project will be produced by my old West Chester friend, Quentin Stoltzfus. We met in the early 90s in college at WCU. Quentin played what he called "monkey drums" in West Chester's short-lived, internationally jet-set, avant-garde noise rock outfit, The Azusa Plane. Later he would write and we would record three albums, all to an outpouring of international acclaim, under the name Mazarin.

{{{SUNSET}}} is flying in late Thursday night. I'll pick them up at the airport at midnight, and bring them back to the studio apartment where they'll get a short night of sleep before we start the day Friday morning. We'll work all day both Friday and Saturday, probably straight until their 6am flight back to Austin



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Sunday morning!

Beyond the plan, I don't know what to predict of the Project Series session. I don't know Bill Baird (the man behind very well yet, personally, but his huge body of work available on the web clues me in to the fact that he's serious when it comes to making art, music, videos, etc.

The music and video from both projects will be released in the coming weeks. Make sure to check out The Weathervane Music site for updates on The Project Series, East Hundred and as well as future artists to be announced (there are a few!).

And remember to support great music! It's incredibly important!

*- In The Studio is brought to you by Brian McTear owner of Miner Street Recordings in Philadelphia. Visit Miner Street at [www.minerstreet.com](http://www.minerstreet.com). And be sure to check out Weathervane too, [www.weathervanemusic.org](http://www.weathervanemusic.org).*

*- Check out East Hundred at <http://easthundred.com>.*

*- Check out at <http://sunsetwebsite.com>.*

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# WITH THE COLLINGWOOD

FROM LEFT: JIM PENNINGTON, CHRIS MALINOWSKI, BILL ACKERMAN

*The Collingwood plays music drawing from many influences including, goth, indie, dance and straight up rock and roll. They take their music and art seriously without being pretentious and they are also some of the nicest and most interesting and forthcoming people I've met in a while. This interview was close to forty minutes long so what is here does not represent the full scope of the band, their interests and ideas ... so please go check them out.*

## PLEASE INTRODUCE YOURSELVES AND TELL ME WHAT YOU DO.

**Chris:** I'm Chris Malinowski. I play guitar and sing.

**Jim:** I'm Jim Pennington. I play guitar and sing bad backing vocals while my beard throws sweat on women and makes them itchy...

**Chris:** He's actually the world's shortest werewolf...like a hobbit werewolf.

**Bill:** I'm Bill Ackerman. And I play bass, but there's nothing funny about that.

## CAN YOU TELL ME A LITTLE HISTORY ABOUT THE BAND?

**Chris:** I began the band in 1999 with a totally different lineup. Actually I think this is our 1000th lineup. We've had this lineup for about two years.

**Jim:** It seems like it's been like, 30 years...(Jim laughs).

## COULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR BAND IN COLORS AND EMOTIONS?

**Chris:** Indifference? I don't know if that's an emotion...gentle angst. I hate to say melancholy. It's not really an emotion either, helplessness! Definitely a bit of helplessness.

## DID SOMEONE SAY LUST?

**Jim:** Uh...

**Mike:** or where you just referring to yourself?

**Chris:** There is definitely a bit of lust meets helplessness meets exhilaration – it's about loss of innocence!

## HOW ABOUT A COLOR?

**Chris:** I always see a deep brown or a deep maroon, some sepia tones. Metallic blue.

## SO HAVING A BACKGROUND IN FILM DO YOU SEE IMAGES THAT TRANSLATE WITH YOUR MUSIC?

**Chris:** The band began with a love for cinema. The first songs were written to be the film score for an unproduced film. A lot of the phrasing and parts are arranged to score something, but something that doesn't exist. But I like to try to keep the band separate; I really want to keep it as a rock project.

**Bill:** I don't really think in terms of film when we write. I was going to see the Collingwood for years before I joined and the early stuff definitely was more reminiscent of film score writing, but now we have our songs down to five or seven minutes!

## WHAT'S THE LAST GREAT SHOW YOU SAW?

**Bill and Chris:** That's easy, Terry Reid.

**Jim:** also a band we played with from Italy called the Afterhours –plus I wasn't invited to the Terry Reid show.

**Chris:** Terry Reid doesn't like werewolves.

**Jim:** my beard is going to go see Mastodon.

## WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE ALBUM?

**Bill:** Gentleman by the Afgan Whigs. **Jim:** Gentleman is actually a big influence on all of us.

**Chris:** Can I give you a few? Terry Reid "Seat of Memory," KISS "Hotter than hell," Antarctica 8103, the Jesus Lizard, Goat.

**Jim:** Ooow. Can I give a list? Prince's "Purple Rain," absolutely, the self titled Jawbox album and Shudder to Think's "Pony Express."

**Chris:** Oh, me too.

**Jim:** and King Crimson, red and the Dismemberment Plan

**Chris:** Can I say the first Cars album?

**Bill:** The Chameleons Strange times

**Chris:** Can I put them on my list too?

**Bill:** Lebradford.

## WHAT'S ON YOUR RINGTONE?

**Chris:** I don't have one.

**Jim:** Vibrate.

**Bill:** No ringtone.

MORE INFORMATION ON THE COLLINGWOOD CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB (you know, stuff like tour dates, how to buy the record and all that useful stuff) at:

[www.myspace.com/thecollingwood](http://www.myspace.com/thecollingwood)

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.

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# What? The Tin Bird Choir? You betcha!



Chester County residents husband-and-wife duo Heather and Eric—the Tin Bird Choir—will be performing at the Kimmel Center on Friday, May 1 at 6 p.m. as part of the Spring Fling festival of happy hours with free live music that runs from April 15-May 8.

The Tin Bird Choir's FREE performance will take place in the Kimmel Center's Commonwealth Plaza prior to the ticketed concert in Verizon Hall featuring Cape Breton fiddler Natalie MacMaster, Philly native guitarist David Bromberg and his Big Band, and female vocal trio Angel Band.

Tin Bird Choir is the husband-and-wife duo of Eric and Heather Hurlock backed by musicians Josh Scurman, Ellen Houle and Daniel Bower. They have earned growing acclaim in the Philadelphia region for their distinctive "alt-folk barn rock" sound. Rooted in the rural hells of Pennsylvania, Eric's original songs are built with organic harmonies and melodies that range from lilt-ing to urgent. It's an old sound with a modern sensibility.

*We managed to exchange e-mails with the local couple.*

**Q) WHERE DO YOU LIVE IN CHESTER COUNTY? HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN HERE?**

**A)** Right now we live in Coventryville, in South Coventry township and we've lived here for almost five years. But Eric and I both grew up in Chester County, Eric in East Coventry and myself in West Nantmeal, so we've been here most of our lives

with periods of travel for a few years here and there and a few years spent in Boston.

**Q) HOW DID YOU GET STARTED IN THE BUSINESS?**

**A)** Eric and I have been singing together for more than 10 years but we started playing together in the band in the Spring 2007. In December 06 Eric and I decided to make a holiday CD for our friends and family. It was just us in our livingroom with our instruments and an 8 track recorder -- a nice way to get into the Holiday spirit. We gave the CD out to people as a gift. A few months later one of our friends who we gave the CD to, Todd Bartolow of the band The Youngers, asked us to open for his band at Chaplins in Spring City. So Eric and I played a short set, just the two of us acoustic, before his show. We had a great time and received a lot of encouragement from the people who were there. Soon after that show we played an open mic together at the World Cafe Live and were picked as the stand out performers of the night. After that the ball just started rolling and we ended up getting more and more shows, soon we were finalists in the World Cafe Live's Philly Rising competition. We started playing with Josh and Ellen in the Summer of 07 and a year later we were playing the Philly Folk Fest. It's been an amazing journey so far.

**Q) WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND?**

**A)** We're lovers of music. Regular people playing folk music. Eric's a refugee from the dot com world who works now as a solar technician, but he's a poet at heart. I'm a

refugee from the publishing world turned freelance health writer and stay-at-home mom (We just had our first baby this past August. In fact, our baby was born two weeks after our folk fest performance. I was very pregnant at that show.)

**Q) WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PART OF BEING IN THE "BUSINESS"? YOUR LEAST?**

**A)** Our favorite thing about playing music is the people we meet -- the musicians and the fans. The coolest thing about playing music for people is that you're putting yourself out there in a moment. And you share that moment with everyone else who's there, so what you're creating isn't just yours, it's everyone's. That's why people can walk up to a musician and say "I really liked that one song about the truck" or "wow you really flubbed that one part" or "you should really add some banjo after the bridge." They feel like they have a stake in the song, like they're part owner, part creator...and they are.

**Q) WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR MOST EXCITING EXPERIENCE?**

**A)** Besides the birth of our baby... Definitely playing the Philly Folk fest was a dream come true for us. We're really just a bunch of folk fest kids. But also meeting Gene Shay and getting the chance to play music for him live on his radio show was a really amazing experience. I think it's a tie between those two.

**Q) DO YOU GUYS TRAVEL A LOT? DESCRIBE**

**CONTINUES ON PAGE 26 →**

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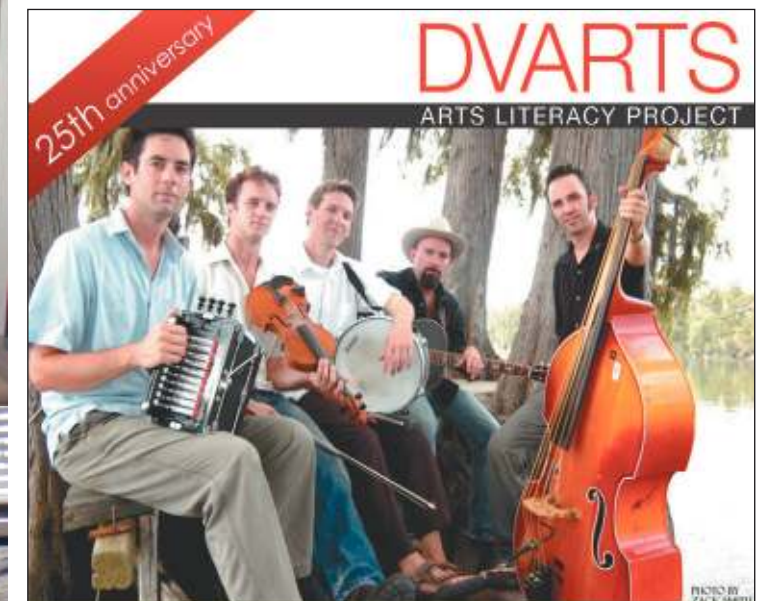
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APRIL 29, 2009 / PAGE 19

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

APRIL 15, 2009 / PAGE 20

BY:  
MARY  
BIGHAM  
WC DISH



SARAH

AGE: ??

JOB: Day Spa Director

HOBBIES: Traveling, spending time with friends, volunteering and cycling.



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BRIAN

AGE: ??

JOB: Fed Ex Employee

HOBBIES: Fishing, history buff, cars, spending time with his two children.

## HE'S CUTE, SHE'S CUTE - THAT'S CUTE

Sarah first saw Chuck when he delivered a package to her office. She thought he was cute so she wanted to be set up on a date.

### HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED WHEN THEY WENT ON THEIR FIRST DATE.

**SARAH:** When I first saw him I thought he was so cute. There was a lot of physical attraction so I was excited to get to know what he was like.

**CHUCK:** I wasn't sure which girl at the office was asking about me but when I found out it was Sarah I was pleasantly surprised. She was very cute.

**SARAH:** He is not a very adventurous eater so I wanted to go somewhere with ethnic food. We decided to go to Spice in Edgmont. I had heard that it was a cozy BYOB and had great Indian and Thai food. He's never had either and he said he was up for it.

**CHUCK:** I've never had Indian or Thai but I do love to eat. I was definitely open to trying new foods.

**SARAH:** We brought two bottles of white wine with us. I decided to get the Pad Thai (it's my favorite) and I loved it. I made him try a bite and he actually liked it. After we ordered we had a chance to get to know about each other and we joked about how we ended up on this date.

**CHUCK:** She helped me order and I went with a shrimp curry dish. I have to say I wasn't crazy about the spices but I think it's just a matter of me getting used to it. It was my first curry experience. I gave it a fair shot but I have to say I liked her Thai dish better. I'd probably get that next time.

**SARAH:** We got along so well that we finished a bottle of wine before we left. We talked about his kids and I found out he is an avid fisherman and had a lot of history trivia to share with me. I thought it was very cute.

**CHUCK:** She's never been fishing. I told her that if she was lucky I'd take her with me to go fishing sometime. I had never been out with such a worldly woman, she was born in England. I was kind of nervous about that but the conversation went so well that it was nice to teach each other things from our lives.

**SARAH:** The conversation went really well and I was happy he tried some new foods. After dinner we decided to head to my apartment to have some more wine so we didn't have to drive anywhere.

**CHUCK:** It's always a good sign when you want to keep hanging out and when a girl asks you to come back to her place.

**SARAH:** We each had another glass of wine at my place and got to know each other more. It was a fantastic date.

**CHUCK:** She's amazing. I can't wait to go out with her again.

### WAS THERE A KISS?

**SARAH:** Yes. A few of them.

**CHUCK:** Ask her.

### SECOND DATE?

They couple has since been on a second and third date and Chuck bought Sarah a fishing pole!

## CALLING ALL SINGLES!

If you would like to take part in HE SAID, SHE SAID, please email your name, age, job title and hobbies along with a picture to [wcdish@gmail.com](mailto:wcdish@gmail.com). When we have a match for you, we will let you know.

# WEGMANS

BY BRIAN McCULLOUGH  
SPECIAL TO CC

# BEGINS SELLING BEER IN DOWNINGTOWN

APRIL 29, 2009 / PAGE 21

## EAST CALN — The tap is open for beer drinkers at Wegmans' Downingtown store.

The store began selling individual bottles of beer, six-packs and 12-packs Thursday morning.

"The response overall has been positive," store manager Kevin Russell said. "We haven't had any complaints. Actually, people have come in and said, 'I'm in heaven.'"

Wegmans is selling the beer from its market café under a liquor license that permits beer sales in restaurants. It cannot sell beer from its supermarket shelves and has a limit of selling 192 ounces of the suds at one time.

Russell said beer sales are limited to four registers within the café. Shoppers can buy their beer in the café, load it in their carts and continue shopping for their normal groceries or complete their shopping trip at the café checkout registers, the manager explained.

They can also drink beer in the café with their meals.

"People are very, very happy," Russell said. "Most are saying it's about time. People are looking for convenience."

Not everyone is happy Wegmans is selling beer in Pennsylvania, though, even if it is under licenses restricted to those with restaurants.

The Pennsylvania Malt Beverage Distributors Association continues to challenge the licenses in court, hoping that the state Supreme Court will agree with it that Wegmans is using its cafés to circumvent the law that prohibits supermarkets from selling beer.

"I've been in plenty of Wegmans and I don't see the difference between their supermarkets and the restaurants attached to them," said Mary Lou Hogan, counsel and executive secretary to the MBDA.

In February, Commonwealth Court ruled Wegmans could sell beer at stores in Bethlehem and Williamsport. The distributors' association is appealing the decision, which agreed with a Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board ruling allowing Wegmans to sell beer from its cafés under the same rules that apply to restaurants throughout the state.

In addition to Downingtown, Wegmans now sells beer in Pennsylvania

supermarkets in Harrisburg, which began Monday, and in State College, Williamsport, Wilkes Barre, Scranton, Nazareth and Bethlehem, Russell said.

It is awaiting approval for stores in Warrington and Allentown and plans to sell beer at all new stores it opens, including the Uptown Worthington location in East Whiteland.

Russell said the supermarket does not know how much beer sales will contribute to the bottom line or the exact size its beer operation will be.

"There's no historical data to go off of, so we're taking it one day at a time and one customer at a time," he said. "We're really waiting for our customers to tell us what they like, what they

want us to carry and what they don't want us to carry."

If the introduction is any indication, customers will have plenty from which to choose. Russell said the store has 500 varieties, from Pennsylvania beers that include Chester County offerings like Victory and Sly Fox to worldwide brews like Asahi and Tsingtao that hail from China.

"People are so well traveled today," the store manager said. "They love it when they see one of these beers from places they've been."

Two of those who were enjoying the new service on Thursday were friends Aubrey Hays and Frank Cipriano, members of the West Chester Beer Consortium.

Hays was the first beer customer at the Downingtown Wegmans, arriving at 8:02 a.m. — the store sells beer from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Sunday.

As the two shared lunch and a Southern Tier Imperial India Pale Ale, they expressed hope that more changes are on the way for beer sales in Pennsylvania.

"It's liberating," Hays said of being able to buy beer in the supermarket. "It opens the door for change. These laws are so old."

Bobby Spaziani, owner of Spaz Beverage in West Goshen and a member of the MBDA, said he isn't overly concerned that the current arrangement

will hurt beer distributors but is worried that giving supermarkets the approval to sell cases would threaten distributors like his.

"Most people who buy cases of beer aren't going to pay the extra \$6 or \$7 more to buy four six-packs (from Wegmans)," Spaziani said. "This actually could be a good opportunity. If somebody goes into Wegmans and buys a six-pack of something and says, 'wow, that's good,' they may come in here and buy a case of it."

The concern for distributors, he said, is that "Acme Markets and others will jump on the bandwagon. We would be upset if grocery stores were allowed to sell cases of beer."

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# BAR TENDER

## CHARLIE SAYS "I'M KNOWN AS THE KEGMAN"



BY  
CHARLIE  
MOLL  
VICTORY

Around Victory I'm known as the Kegman. Behind the 'old' Victory bar when we got in the weeds, or lost behind a mountain of thirsty customers, I would be known to toss 165 pound keg on my shoulder and run it out to our thirsty customers. I have amassed many crazy memories over my tenure at Victory; I'm sure you have some too.

One of my fondest memories took place in the dining room before the renovations. At one of my tables there was a jolly old man who was enjoying the taste of Hop Wallop with his friends. While laughing boisterously at a joke, his dentures flew out of his mouth and across the table, stunning the entire dining room.

Another prime Victory moment was the last day that the old pub was open. One of our longtime regulars, Tom Jolly, brought in his bagpipes, stood on the bar and played "Amazing Grace" to the shock and amazement of the crowd. That night we

kicked every keg in the building down to the last keg of Scarlet Fire.

Reopening the new facility was almost an exercise in Murphy's Law. Our spectacular, elaborate and much talked about growler filler was not fully operational. Our dishwashers were leaking and creating a water hazard behind the bar while we were trying to serve a crowd the size of a Pink Floyd concert. By the end of the first day our shiny new, sparkling bar looked like the aftermath of a St. Patty's Day parade - after that followed 33 straight days of working doubles to get everything clean again and running smoothly.

There is a difference between the old pub and the new one, but it's not the bar you drink on, it's who you drink with. Like many bars, Victory has a following of regulars that enjoy our many delicious brews after a long day of work. I feel sometimes that we have so many regulars that I am on a first name basis with half of Chester County. If you see a handsome, well built, stud behind the bar - it's probably me! Cheers!

- Charlie Moll can be found behind the bar at Victory Brewing Co. in Downingtown. Stop in, introduce yourself and have a beer.

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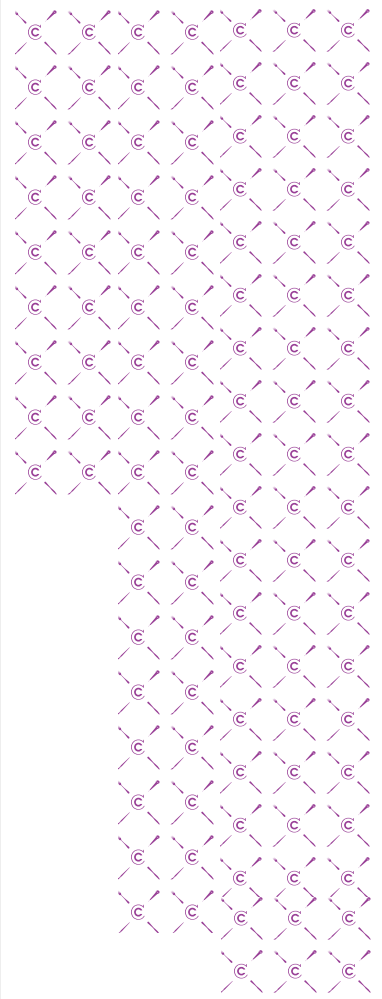


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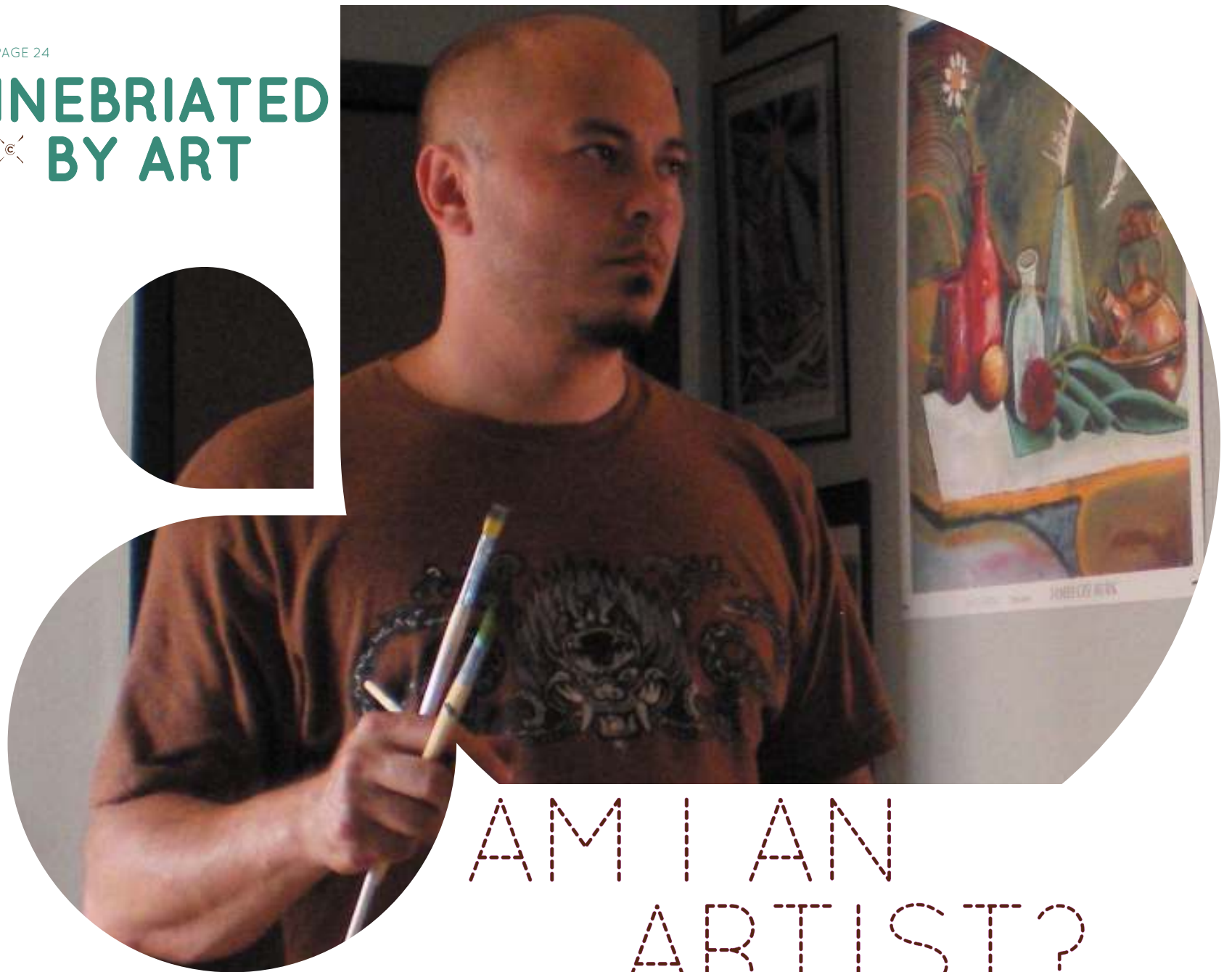
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# INEBRIATED BY ART



## AM I AN ARTIST?

## OR A SALESMAN . . .

BY  
JAMES  
LEE  
BURK

I sit here sipping more of my alcoholic beverage to help sooth my savage heart. I throw maybe four to five art shows a year and many things differ from show to show while many remain the same.

So I sit here waiting for my first fan. Will it be a new appreciator of all artistic endeavors coming to see my art for the very first time or could it be one of the myriad of fans that flock to my shows to see free art? Or was it for the free booze? (Sometimes the best way to help someone appreciate something is to loosen them up with a little liquid refreshment.)

Art is one of those little things in life that is often taken for granted. It sometimes is able to transport someone out of their own mindless tedium into another dimension or reality.

A piece of art can convey meanings that the artist didn't even intend -- influencing how people react and feel.

Hello, here's my first fan now. She walks into the room looking around slightly apprehensive. Then she sees all the paintings on the wall and she relaxes as she approaches a painting. Stopping, she looks at it, intrigued by the texture and color.

I look at her, enjoying the smile of appreciation growing on her face. Should I go talk to her I think to myself? You see, here's the dilemma: I'm an artist, not a salesman ... I'm better suited to painting alone with my thoughts late at night then to be a charming salesman, dedicated to getting that beautiful painting off my wall and on yours ... for a price of course.

So I sit there and decide I will wait for her to approach me. More people enter and I start to relax. A few of my friends arrive and I relax some more.

The purpose of an art show is twofold; it allows the artist who spends weeks and months working on painting after

painting with little or no outside input, who spends long hours of questioning his own artistic endeavors, a chance for an outside opinion -- to have an unbiased viewing of his paintings. Now, no longer just the intellectual property of the artist, the paintings are but something to critique and review by the common man and the over educated art snobs either to his benefit or detriment.

Finally, all that's left is to appreciate or deride and of course, to earn a living in order to create more art. The wait is the hardest part. No one that goes to an art show is buying something they need to have, so you're working off their desires. Do they appreciate your work enough to buy it? As always, whether it's minutes or hours or days, the waiting begins. An excited couple approaches and requests to talk to the artist. After some introductions and small talk, they

CONTINUES ON PAGE 25 →



point to the painting that their interested in and finalize the pricing and delivery of said item.

A small burden lifted off my soul once again, I have managed to buck the odds and have sold one of my many dreams for a price.

Success of any show is really in the appreciation by the fans of the months of hard work that went into producing the show. The icing on the cake is sales of art work that allows the artist to continue a quest of creation.

It's important to remember that art shows are there so you can enjoy new art produced and a celebration of creativity for its own sake. The buying and selling of art is its own separate thing.

So with the burden of whether I am one of those starving artists often compared in their numbers to the people starving in Ethiopia or one of those elite mysterious artists who actually sells art is over. Or is it?

I look down at my belly protruding slightly over my belt line. Starving? I think not. Pinching my belly, damn I can pinch an inch. Hungry? You better believe it. The one common denominator in any art show is a hungry artist and a yummy cupcake, so be a cupcake and buy some hungry artists work. Be my cupcake.

-- James



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APRIL 29, 2009 / PAGE 26

← CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

**SOME OF YOUR EXPERIENCES IN OTHER BIG CITIES. ARE THEY LIKE PHILLY? WORSE? BETTER?**

**A)** We just played the legendary club The Bitter End in New York City – I think that was the first stage we've played on together that Bob Dylan has also played on, so that was pretty cool. We lived in Boston for while but aside from busking in Harvard Square, it wasn't nearly as welcoming a music city as Philly is. The Philly music scene is like no other we've come across -- There are so many talented musicians here and we've had the pleasure of playing with a lot of them. It's like a big family. Everyone helps everyone else out. We all trade shows. It's truly an amazing community to be a part of.

**Q) WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS? WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELVES 10 YEARS DOWN THE ROAD?**

**A)** Hopefully we'll be doing what we love: making music, cooking good food, spending time with the people we love.

**Q) DO YOU HAVE FAMILY? AND WHAT HAS BEEN THEIR REACTION TO YOU BEING IN THE ENTERTAINMENT BUSINESS?**

**A)** Our families are extremely supportive. Eric's mom rarely misses a show and my parents went to almost all of our shows until the baby was born. Now they watch the baby when we play-- which they're very happy about.

**Q) IF YOU WERE TO DO SOMETHING ELSE IN YOUR LIFE, WHAT WOULD IT BE? ACCOUNTANT? INSURANCE AGENT? CIRCUS CLOWN? IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'VE CONSIDERED AS A CAREER?**

**A)** It's hard to make a living as a musician and support a family. Both of us work day jobs -- Eric as a solar technician and myself as a freelance writer.

But there's nothing we'd rather do than make music. We make music. It's what we do - whether we're performing it for people or not. Getting the opportunity to share it with people is a bonus, and we hope to continue to get the chance to do it.

**Q) WHAT'S YOUR OPINION OF THE BUSINESS IN 2009? IS THEATER, MUSIC, ARTS, ON THE WAY UP OR DOWN? HAS THE ECONOMY HURT?**

**A)** We can't really speak to the state of the music business -- We've never really approached what we do that way. Like I said, we're lovers of music. Regular people playing folk music. We've played in the street. We play in our livingroom. We sing in the shower. And lately we've been able to play for people at some really amazing venues, like the Kimmel Center, for other people who love music. Hopefully we'll continue to get to do that for a while.

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# BUY FRESH BUY LOCAL

← CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Denise Sheehan and Yvonne Post of Cooking for Real. The culminating event for the year is Farm Day, where high school students will lead tots on a food route from farm to table with projects and lessons they create to help kids value farms and the food farmers produce. The students will be entertained and engaged by folk singer, KJ ( www.kjsmiles.com ) and will usher in the local strawberry season by sipping on strawberry smoothies.

You can learn more about the "Growing Our Future" program by visiting the district wellness website, www.OJRFitforlife.com , where you can view photos from Farm Day and access recipes for snacks like the ones being sampled by your students.

get, and using them as enhancements—rather than the centerpiece—in a wide range of old stand-bys and versatile dishes. Timely and on trend, ALMOST MEATLESS offers delicious recipes that go light on the meat—maximizing health while minimizing the grocery bill.

More about the book at my blog: <http://crumbsonmykeyboard.com/2008/08/22/almost-meatless-preview/>

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# RANDOM RANTS

## C'MON weekend warrior ... SIT down and SHUT UP!

Soooo, sports season started. I couldn't have guessed! I thought all the incoherent and unnecessarily loud rambling was due to a township wide agreement to let each and every "in need of treatment" adult child, have a free for all field day!

Are you serious? Do you really think anyone at the table, or the tables around you at the bar (not even a sports bar) want to hear your over exaggerated version of what you could do in the game, that is if you weren't a total failure?

Look ... you stink! I understand you're energetic about "your team." But you're only pronouncing your inadequacies while doing so and making an ass of your self. You're so the guy who buys anything Abercrombie and Fitch sells, dates the girl that is the closest resemblance to your top dollar muzak filled porn headliner and gets excited about any miniscule bar room scuff! You're the guy every dude hates, and the occasional, forgettable girl gets off on (probably due to her daddy issues).

You will inevitably end up in a barely expensive sports car (to impress the "ladies"), shouting about your minimal accomplishments, getting rooster-chested, and patting your self on the back for all the "tail" you've gotten. All the while screaming at the top of your lungs as to how awesome you are. All that just to sit at home alone, wishing you were part of a "team."

BY  
RYAN  
DUNN

Sorry, got away from myself there. Now I know you're not all like this. I too appreciate the occasional duel or gentlemen's quarrel (hockey fight anyone?). But do we really have to be barraged constantly with all those annoying noises pouring out your mouth while you're watching the game?

The folks in that TV there, they can't hear you -- no matter how hard you try ... THEY CAN'T! But WE can -- the humans around you that are growing more and more hatred for YOU by the nanosecond.

Hey, turn around, relax and have a drink. The game will continue without your energetic input. It's a shame you have more to say (loudly) to a one dimensional object than you do to the red faced and now angry humans around you.

I say sit back, enjoy the people your actually involved with, love the people you interact with and respect the people you have yet to form an opinion on! And most of all -- have FUN!

-- Ryan



# From Talula's to now a new bistro

BY SARAH MORAN  
SPECIAL TO CC



**KENNETT SQUARE** -- The young couple who first brought you Django in Philadelphia, then Talula's Table in Kennett Square, are planning to open a bistro later this year. The as yet-unnamed place will be at the northwest corner of Route 82 and West State Street in Kennett Square, in the first floor of a building occupied more recently by a hair salon and, before that, a tailor.

"We want to focus on wines and wines by the glass, and a seasonal, fresh menu," said Aimee Olexy, who is married to Bryan Sikora, the chef at Talula's Table across the street, in the 100 block of West State Street.

A popular gourmet shop and casual restaurant for breakfast and lunch, Talula's turns into one of the most sought-after tables on the East Coast Tuesday through Sunday. (Reservations for up to 12 are taken a year to the day in advance.)

Olexy and Sikora recently signed a lease for the 2,000 square-foot space, which Olexy wants to exude a "wine-country kind of feel."

A workshop kitchen will be visible

through the plate-glass storefront windows facing Route 82.

The pair want a liquor license but neither of them wish the new spot to give off a late-night, beery atmosphere.

The couple, whose two-year-old restaurant is named for 4-year-old daughter Annalee Talula, will seek a low-interest Small Business Administration loan to finance their venture.

But given that the government's loan wheels grind exceedingly slowly, the pair, who lives in East Marlborough, is seeking individual investors and/or a bank loan to bridge that gap.

They want to install a wood-fired grille and rotisserie in the new place, to serve what Olexy called "flavors of the Mediterranean." One example: Wood-grilled local mushrooms glazed with a meat-flavored sauce.

"We want our new restaurant [which will seat between 50 and 60 people] to become a showcase for local produce, local cheeses and the like," she

explained. The cheese part comes naturally; she's an expert on the stuff.

Breads, pasta and other items will continue to be made in the cavernous kitchen at Talula's, then carted across the street.

The couple sold Django, their once-popular BYOB just off South Street in Philly, almost four years ago, returning to Chester County where Olexy grew up.

A non-compete clause in their sales agreement dictated that any restaurant they opened be at least 30 miles from Django, which is now closed. Soon, the New York Times, Conde Nast magazines and Martha Stewart got wind of the cottage industry that is Talula's.

The newspaper wrote glowingly of the place, with its distinctive yellow-striped awning and sunny façade, in a Sunday Magazine piece last year, as did several Nast publications.

And Martha Stewart featured Bryan Sikora making two of Talula's signa-

ture dishes on her daytime TV program last November.

That month, Talula's almost scored Martha and her entourage for a Friday dinner at Talula's before a Saturday book-signing at the Center City Williams-Sonoma store for her newest cookbook.

But the drive to Kennett Square from Philly was deemed too far for right before a busy Philly event the next morning, so the reservation was canceled.

To contact correspondent Sarah E. Moran, send an e-mail to [semoran219@msn.com](mailto:semoran219@msn.com).

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# CONCERTS

TICKETS FOR MOST CONCERTS ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH [LIVENATION.COM](http://LIVENATION.COM) OR [COMCASTTIX.COM](http://COMCASTTIX.COM).

**THE WACHOVIA CENTER, Philadelphia:** Eric Clapton and Steve Winwood (June 12, 8 p.m., \$65 to \$150); The Jonas Brothers with Jordan Sparks and Honor Society (July 23 and 24, 7 p.m., sold out); Keith Urban with Taylor Swift (Aug. 1, 7:30 p.m., sold out).

**THE SPECTRUM, Philadelphia:** 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); Q Concert featuring the Black Eyed Peas, All-American Rejects, the Ting Tings, Flo Rida, The Veronicas, Asher Roth, Ciara, Jesse McCartney and 3oh!3 (May 15, 5 p.m., \$49.50 to \$95); 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); Vans Warped Tour (July 17, noon, \$30); 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 and 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); Tom Jones (June 17, 8 p.m., \$39.50 to \$84); Diana Krall (June 19, 8 p.m., \$49 to \$79); Celtic Woman: Isle of Hope Tour (June 20 and 21, 8 p.m.); Boz Scaggs with Michael McDonald (June 26, 8 p.m., \$36 to \$69); The Blind Boys of Alabama and Ladysmith Black Mambazo (July 25, 8 p.m., \$28 to \$58); John Legend and guest (Aug. 5, 7:30 p.m., \$70 to \$90); Bonnie Raitt and Taj Mahal (Aug. 8, 7:30 p.m., \$39.50 to \$79.50); "The Heroes of Woodstock" with Jefferson Starship, Ten Years After, Canned Heat, Big Brother and the Holding Company and Country Joe McDonald (Aug. 18, 8 p.m., \$33 to \$73); The Tower Theater, Upper Darby: 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 with Robyn Hitchcock (June 6, 8 p.m., \$32.50); Eddie Vedder (June 11 and 12, sold out); Andrew Bird with Calexico (June 17, 8 p.m., \$35).

**THE ELECTRIC FACTORY, 421 N. 7th St., Philadelphia (215-627-1332):** Jack's Mannequin with Matt Nathanson and Erin McCarley (April 29 - postponed); 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 Supervillains 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); The National with Colin Stetson (May 29, 8:30 p.m., \$22).

**THEATER OF THE LIVING ARTS, 334 South St., Philadelphia:** Blue October with Longwave (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); Dead Tour After Party with Band of Brotherz (May 2, 9 p.m., \$15); Gojira with The Chariot and Car Bomb (May 3, 8 p.m., \$17); Fischer-spöner with Drop the Lime (May 6, 8 p.m., \$20); The Tragically Hip (May 7, 9 p.m., \$25); Mastadon with Kylea and Intronaut (May 8, 8 p.m., sold out); Ben Harper and Relentless 7 (May 9, 9 p.m., \$35); The Crystal Method (May 10, 8 p.m., \$25); Protest the Hero with Misery Signals and The Number 12 Looks Like You (May 11, 7:30 p.m., \$14); The Damned with The BellRays and Electric Frankenstein (May 13, 8 p.m., \$25); Peaches (May 15, 9 p.m., \$20); Chickenfoot (May 29, 9 p.m., \$42); Tea Leaf Green (May 30, 9 p.m., \$15); Buckethead with Wolff (May 31, 8 p.m., \$19.50).

**THE NOTE, 142 E. Market St., West Chester (800-594-8499 or [www.thenote.tickets.music-today.com](http://www.thenote.tickets.music-today.com)):** Valient Thorr with Early Man and Backwoods Payback (April 27, 8 p.m., \$11 - 21

and older); Cage the Elephant with Courage Pills and The Shackletons (April 28, 8 p.m., \$8); Bloodhound Gang with After Midnight Project and SPFLD (April 29, 8 p.m., \$30 - 21 and older); The Sounds with Hey Champ (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).

**THE AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE, 2425 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster (717-397-7700 or [www.AMTshows.com](http://www.AMTshows.com)):** 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).

**THE COLONIAL THEATRE, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville:** 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](http://www.ticketweb.com).

**LONGWOOD GARDENS, Route 1, Kennett Square ([www.longwoodgardens.org](http://www.longwoodgardens.org)), will be the site of "Garden Grooves" concerts, including:** Boz Scaggs (June 19, 8 p.m.); Rufus Wainwright (Aug. 6, 8 p.m.); Etta James and the Roots Band (Aug. 12, 8 p.m.). Tickets are available at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or by calling 800-745-3000.

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May 2: 14th Annual Trout  
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May 2: Spring Plant Sale  
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May 2: Kennett Flash Presents Sharon Little with TBA  
Doors open at 7:00PM Show starts at 8:00PM. Advance Price \$20, Day of Show \$23.

May 3: Kennett Flash Presents Joe Reilly's Three Ring Circus with Joe Campbell  
Doors open at 1:00PM Show starts at 2:00PM. Advance Price \$12, Day of Show \$15.

May 3: Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Celebration of Mexican culture  
Noon to 5 p.m.

May 8: Kennett Flash Presents Jake Armerding with Kyle Swartzwelder  
Doors open at 7:00PM Show starts at 8:00PM. Advance Price \$15, Day of Show \$18.

May 9: Kennett Township Land Trust Eco Festival & 9K Trail Run  
\$10 Members of the Kennett Township Land Trust, \$15 General Admission, \$25 Trail Run and General Admission, Kids 12 and under are FREE

May 9: Kennett Flash Presents You Know Him with Ryan Link  
Doors open at 7:00PM Show starts at 8:00PM. Advance Price \$25, Day of Show \$28.

May 13: 4-H Creating Community Networks Progressive Dinner to Feature Kennett Restaurants  
Tickets are \$75.

May 15: Farmer's Market Opens  
The market has special delays from 2:00 to 6:30 PM. The market runs through October.

May 15-17: Main Street Festival  
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May 16: The Kennett Run

May 16: Kennett Flash Presents Jeffrey Gaines with TBA  
Doors open at 7:00PM Show starts at 8:00PM. Advance Price \$23, Day of Show \$26.

May 16: Community Garage Sale  
Community Garage Sale to benefit the Garage Community and Youth Center.

May 17: Kennett Flash Presents Steve Pullara And His Cool Beans Show  
Fun for the whole family in the alley outside the Flash. Show starts at 2:00PM. FREE Family Show

May 20: The Back Alley Theater presents The Visitor  
Showtime 7:30 PM. Admission \$5.00

May 21: Old House, New Life: "Exterior Detailing"  
Instructor: Tony Sumo, Tony Sumo Restorations Kennett Borough Hall (lower level conference room) 7:30-8:30PM.

May 22: Kennett Flash Presents Flash-Dance Party  
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# OUT & ABOUT

BY  
LAUREN  
BEAUCHAMP  
SPECIAL TO CC



HERE WE ARE AT OUR COMMON PLACE, RYAN'S. IT'S ME AND SEVERAL OTHER PEOPLE - ALL OF WHOM I GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL WITH. REMINISCING ABOUT HOW RIDICULOUS WE WERE ALL THROUGHOUT HIGH SCHOOL AND SOON INTERMITTENTLY BETWEEN THE MEMORIES, LONG ISLANDS ICED TEAS BEGAN TO FLOW PRETTY FREELY DURING THE HAPPY HOUR GATHERING WHILE WE WAIT TO GO TO THE SHOW.

So here we go. Dashboard Confessional, The Color Fred and we assume some other random West Chester band is surprising us to open. This is the calculation we came up with: show starts at 8, meaning that the show will start approximately 8:15-8:30- we didn't want to see the first opening band, but were more than happy to see The Color Fred, so we decide to hangout at the bar until ten of nine, then roll. Deciding that we only have one option but to consume as much alcohol as possible -- our stories become more and more ludicrous and eventually they end up with each of us tracing back the path of when we first heard Dashboard Confessional. Yes, finally, by seeing Dashboard, I can close the book on a six year dream to see them.

We notice that it's 8:45 p.m. and begin to sprint to the WCU campus building. The show is sold out and it's obvious. The crowd is huge and all tucked within a gym. The average person at the show was this: a girl, probably a freshman

(it was on a Thursday night so the majority of the older crowd was already out), wearing a party top suitable only for Barnaby's; these details are imperative for the later.

Passing through the hordes of annoying girls, my friends and I get up to the front relatively quick. Pedro the Lion is playing on a set change list and we assume that The Color Fred hasn't been on yet. We were wrong. Disappointed that we missed our Coatesville hometown hero, we begin to ask the girls around us when Akon was finally going to start the show. "AKON?! ARE YOU LIKE SERIOUS?! IT'S A DASHBOARD SHOW DUH!" Oh, the fun you can have. We must have literally just missed the Color Fred because the set change time was a disgusting forty minutes. During the forty minutes we stood around asking people questions about Dashboard to help pass the time.

"Do you even know any Dashboard songs?" "YEA I KNOW FIVEEEE" (The five was slurred to display the level of intoxication, I'd also like to give you the visual: she showed me her hand).

Finally, Dashboard comes out and I think a piece of me dies from happiness. An acoustic set, all I wanted to hear was "Again I Go Unnoticed," oh and I did. I lost my voice screaming that loud to the song. My only complaint would be the vibe of the show, no one was singing (probably because no one had a clue) and no one was moving. At one point, a girl had a heart attack because my friend accidentally hit her flip flop; a series of traumatic events followed. It was unfortunate because while the artist can be perfect, if a crowd isn't into the show- it can really affect it. Overall: dream completed.

-- Lauren



# PARADOX of the BOCKS

BY  
JON  
LONG  
WC DISH  
BEER WRITER



APRIL 29, 2009 / PAGE 33

There are many styles of beers out there, but none quite as perplexing at the Bock. A style dating back to medieval times, the Bock has had its share of ups and downs and now it seems that the style's 2 main branches (Doppelbock and Mai/Hellerbock) are splitting. Before we get into that, we should delve into the beer itself. What is a Bock beer? I'm sure many of you have heard the term and probably have even tasted one. So, what sets it apart from other beer styles and where exactly did it come from? Although there are no definite records of where the style originated, it is most closely associated with Germany, specifically monasteries, where the monks brewed a strong beer to give them sustenance while fasting during Lent. There are several theories as to the origin of the term "Bock." Translated from German, "Bock" means "billy goat." What the heck does a strong beer brewed by monks have to do with billy goats? Well, this goes back even further than the monks to pagan days when the beer was to be brewed only during sign of the Capricorn goat; hence the goat connection and why many of the brewers use the goat as the symbol of their Bock beers.

I know what you're thinking, "thanks for the history lesson; now what exactly is this delicious liquid that I am drinking?" A Bock is a very strong, bottom-fermented lager that takes extra months of "lagering" (cold storage) for it to smooth out. There are 3 main varieties: the regular Bock, a lager that's just a bit stronger and higher in alcohol than your typical lager; the Doppelbock, a very strong, dark lager with a much high-

er alcohol content that is usually served in later winter; and the Mai/Hellerbock, a lighter colored and usually a bit sweeter version, yet still stronger than your average lager, served in the early spring. There are, as with any other style of beer out there, myriad variations, but for the purpose of this article I am sticking to the most prevalent and accessible. The interesting thing about Bocks is that they are going through something of a renaissance. This was a very common style, made seasonally by various breweries throughout the beginning and middle of the 20th Century, but then the style took a nose dive toward the end of the century. Now, the style is making a comeback with the resurgence of the Genesee Bock and the Yuengling Bock, among others. There are even beer clubs devoted to the style, which you'll find if you look up the "Merry Bocksters."

Along with beers made by bigger,

macro breweries, there is a resurgence in the craft brewing scene as well. Troegs Brewing Company's Troegenator and Victory Brewing Company's St. Victorious, both examples of a Doppelbock, are as popular as ever. The thing that really struck me while researching this article and from my own experience in the beer industry is that although the Bock and Doppelbock seem to be growing in popularity, the opposite can be said for the Mai- or Hellerbock. This is evident by the fact that both Stoudts Brewing Company and Victory Brewing Company will no longer be bottling their Mai/Hellerbocks, Maibock and St. Boisterous, respectively. Don't you fret, Maibock fans. Both beers will still be brewed; they will just no longer be bottled.

So, why is it that one version of a beer is taking off while the other is slowing down? Although I usually have all of the answers, I decided this time it would be best to speak with Bill

Covaleski, president and co-owner/brew master (basically man of many hats) of Victory Brewing Company. I figured because Victory brews one of each style, Bill might be able to shed

CONTINUES ON PAGE 35 →



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# NIGHTLIFE THEATRE

**THE BLARNEY STONE**, West Chester Pike, West Chester (610-436-5222). Bar Bingo with cash prizes on Tuesday. Poker on Wednesday (sign-up at 7:30 p.m.). DJ Tony and Quizzo on Thursday. Live bands on Fridays and Saturdays (\$3 cover from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.).

**BRICKETTE LOUNGE**, 1339 Pottstown Pike, West Chester (610-696-9656 or [www.brickette-lounge.com](http://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.

**BROWNIES 23 EAST**, 23 E. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore (610-649-8389 or [www.brownies23east.com](http://www.brownies23east.com)). Entertainment: Joe Bachman and The Crew (April 29); Splintered Sunlight (April 30).

**CEDAR HOLLOW INN**, 2455 Yellow Springs Rd. (610-296-9006 or [www.cedarhollowinn.com](http://www.cedarhollowinn.com)). Call for updated schedule.

**DOC MAGROGAN'S**, 117 E. Gay St., West Chester (610-429-4046 or [www.docmagrogans.com](http://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.

**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](http://www.maddies.com)). Open every day from 3 p.m. to 2 a.m. Games, sports bar and live music. Acoustic music on 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](http://www.mckenziebrewhouse.com)). Entertainment: Live music and DJ (April 23 and 25); Quizzo and poker (April 27); Bar Bingo (April 28); Music Match and poker (April 29); karaoke (April 30).

**MR. E'S TAVERN**, 313 W. Kings Highway, Coatesville (610-384-4356 or [www.mrestavern.com](http://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/octoraro-bookings](http://www.myspace.com/octoraro-bookings)). Enter-

tainment: Junestar, Booker Lee and the County Fair, TBA (May 16). The Lulls, Selah.Selah, Jet Figher (May 30).

**SPENCE CAFE**, 29 E. Gay St., West Chester (610-738-8844 or [www.spencecaferestaurant.com](http://www.spencecaferestaurant.com)). Entertainment: The Grift (April 30)

**STEEL CITY COFFEE HOUSE**, 203 Bridge St., Phoenixville (610-933-4043 or [www.steelcity-coffeehouse.com](http://www.steelcity-coffeehouse.com)). Mad Poets Society Open Mic on the First Tuesday of the month. Entertainment: Alex Culbreth (May 6) An Evening with Tanglefoot (May 8) The Kennedys w/Greg Klyma (May 9)

**VINCENT'S RESTAURANT**, 10 E. Gay St., West Chester (610-696-4262 or [www.vincentjazz.com](http://www.vincentjazz.com)). Al "Stumpy" Russell plays piano Friday night.

**'TALE OF TWO CITIES'**  
**THE PEOPLE'S LIGHT AND THEATRE COMPANY**, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern (610-644-3500 or [www.peopleslight.org](http://www.peopleslight.org)), presents an adaptation of Charles Dickens' "A Tale of Two Cities" through May 3. Matinee and evening performances are scheduled. Call or visit online for ticket information.

**'THE WHITE ROOM'**  
**HEDGEROW THEATRE**, 64 Rose Valley Rd., Rose Valley (610-565-4211 or [www.hedgerow-theatre.org](http://www.hedgerow-theatre.org)), presents the premiere of Nagle Jackson's comedy "The White Room" through 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).

**'SMELL OF THE KILL'**  
**FORGE THEATRE**, 241 First Ave., Phoenixville (610-935-1920 or [www.forgetheatre.org](http://www.forgetheatre.org)), presents the murder mystery comedy "The Smell of the Kill" on April 30, May 1 and 2 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$12 (\$10 for youth under 18).

**'CRAZY FOR YOU'**  
**THE FOOTLIGHTERS THEATER**, 58 Main Ave., Berwyn (610-296-9245 or [www.FootlightersTheater.com](http://www.FootlightersTheater.com)), presents the Gershwin musical "Crazy For You" May 1, 2, 8 and 9 at 8 p.m., with matinees on April 26 and May 3 at 2 p.m. There will be a special 2 p.m. show on April 30. Tickets are \$15.

**'SOMETHING INTANGIBLE'**  
**THE ARDEN THEATRE COMPANY**, 40 N. Second St., Philadelphia (215-922-1122 or [www.ardentheatre.org](http://www.ardentheatre.org)), presents Bruce Graham's comedy "Something Intangible" through June 7. The show is set in 1941 as two brothers try to get a movie made despite their deep differences. Tickets are \$29 to \$48. Recommended for 11th grade students and older.

**'MACK AND MABEL'**  
**THE PLAYERS CLUB OF SWARTHMORE**, 614 Fairview Ave., Swarthmore (1-866-811-4111 or [www.pctheater.org](http://www.pctheater.org)), presents "Mack and Mabel," a musical romance set during the era of silent films, from April 30 to May 3 and May 7 to 9. Thursday, Friday and Saturday shows are at 8 p.m., with Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$22 for adults (\$10 for students).

**'ROCKETMEN'**  
**THE AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE**, 2425 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster (800-648-4102 or [www.AMTshows.com](http://www.AMTshows.com)), presents "Rocketmen: The Music of Billy Joel and Elton John" through 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.

**'ON GOLDEN POND'**  
**THE FREEDOM CHAPEL DINNER THEATRE**, 15 N. Bridge St., Christiana (610-593-7013), presents the comedy/drama "On Golden Pond" through May 30. Matinees Tuesday to Friday (meal at 11:30 a.m. and show at 1 p.m.), and Saturday (meal at 6:30 p.m. and show at 8 p.m.). Tickets are \$47 and \$49 for dinner and show (show-only \$30). Reservations are required.

**'FOOTLOOSE'**  
**THE NEW CANDLELIGHT THEATRE**, 2208 Millers Rd., Ardentown, Del. (302-475-2313 or [www.newcandlelighttheatre.com](http://www.newcandlelighttheatre.com)), presents the musical "Footloose" through May 30. Call or visit online for performance times and tickets.

**'SAY GOODNIGHT GRACIE'**  
**THE SOCIETY HILL PLAYHOUSE**, 507 S.

8th St., Philadelphia (215-923-0210 or [www.comcastTIX.com](http://www.comcastTIX.com)), presents "Say Goodnight Gracie: The Life, Laughter and Love of George Burns and Gracie Allen" through May 31. Call or visit online for tickets.

**BROADWAY SERIES**  
**THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND THE FORREST THEATRE**, Philadelphia, presents: "Movin' Out" (May 15 to 17, \$25 to \$70); "Spring Awakening" (June 23 to 28). Tickets are available by calling 215-731-3333 or visiting [www.kimmelcenter.org/broadway](http://www.kimmelcenter.org/broadway).

**PEOPLE'S LIGHT SEASON**  
**THE PEOPLE'S LIGHT AND THEATRE COMPANY**, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern (610-644-3500 or [www.peopleslight.org](http://www.peopleslight.org)), presents: "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.

**MEDIA THEATRE SEASON**  
**THE MEDIA THEATRE**, 104 E. State St., Media (610-891-0100 or [www.mediatheatre.org](http://www.mediatheatre.org)), presents: "Thoroughly Modern Millie" (May 6 to June 7). Matinees and evening shows are scheduled. Tickets are \$25 to \$42.50. Call or visit online for reservations.

**DUPONT THEATRE SEASON**  
**THE DUPONT THEATRE**, Wilmington, Del. (800-338-0881 or [www.duponttheatre.com](http://www.duponttheatre.com)), presents its Broadway Series of nationally touring shows, including: "Ain't Misbehavin'" with Ruben Stoddard and Frenchie Davis (May 5 to 9, \$50 to \$75). Non-subscription addition: The Ten Tenors (May 15 to 17, \$50 to \$65). Call or visit online for reservations.

**'LOST IN YONKERS'**  
**THE COLONIAL PLAYHOUSE**, Ridley and Magnolia avenues, Aldan (610-622-5773 or [www.colonialplayhouse.org](http://www.colonialplayhouse.org)), presents Neil Simon's "Lost in Yonkers" May 1 to 3, 8 to 10, 15 and 16. Friday and Saturday shows are at 8 p.m., with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 evenings, \$9 matinees (\$5 at all times for children under 12).

**'HARVEY'**  
**THE GAUNTLETT COMMUNITY CENTER**, West Chester Pike and Media Line Road, Newtown Square, will be the site of performances of the classic comedy "Harvey" by the Marple Newtown Players on May 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 15 and 16. Friday and Saturday shows are at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$14 at the door (\$11 for seniors). Call 610-353-9181 or visit [www.playersstage.org](http://www.playersstage.org).

**'CHILDREN OF EDEN'**  
**ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**, 763 Valley Forge Rd., Wayne (610-688-7947 or [www.stdavidschurch.org](http://www.stdavidschurch.org)), presents a student production of the Stephen Schwartz musical "Children of Eden" on May 1 and 2 at 7 p.m., and May 3 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students under 19 at the door.



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# HOW TO FAKE IT FOR YOUR HUSBAND

AN EMPHATIC NO!

My mother, an excellent cook, would respond with an emphatic 'No!' when my brother and I would request a Mexican meal of tacos for our special birthday dinner. "How about a fajitas? I can make that good marinated grilled chicken and homemade salsa. How about that?" We would crumple our noses and shake our head. What we wanted was tacos. With ground beef. And taco shells that would break in my hands. And taco sauce from that astronaut packet. Viva Mexico!

In college, I spent a month studying in Mexico and realized what real Mexican food was all about. The pungent scent of cumin and queso fresco made from whole milk. Cilantro, fresh and green, and tasty tortillas and chili's for a kick.

After experimenting with these flavors, I love making homemade salsa. This recipe is so bold, I recommend storing it in a glass container. Your plastic would never be the same.

## HOMEMADE SALSA

- 4 to 5 ripe plum tomatoes
- 1 jalapeno, seeded and finely chopped.
- 8-10 sprigs cilantro, leaves chopped
- 2 large garlic cloves, peeled and finely chopped
- 1 green bell pepper
- 1 small white onion
- The juice of one lime
- 1 tsp. cumin
- 1 tsp. chili powder
- 1 tsp. salt

Core the tomatoes, cut in half lengthwise and squeeze out the seeds. Chop the tomatoes and place in bowl. Take care, and seed the jalapeno, then chop finely and add to the tomatoes. Add chopped cilantro, garlic and green pepper to the mixture.

Peel and chop the white onion. If you like less of an onion taste, put chopped onion in a strainer and rinse. Shake out the excess water and add to the mixture.

Taste and season with lime juice, cumin, chili powder and salt.

Let stand to allow flavors to marry together.

Serve with your favorite tortilla chips.

light on the popularity of the Doppelbock and decline of the Mai/Hellerbock. The following is an excerpt from our discussion:  
Jon: In your opinion, why do you think the Doppelbock is going strong, but yet the Mai/Hellerbock is in decline?

Bill: I think it is a matter of timing. When the Doppelbock traditionally comes out, people are acclimated to drinking darker, heavier-bodied beers, whereas the Hellerbock runs counter to all of the beer marketing out there telling people to drink lighter, lower-alcohol beers when the weather is getting warmer. All beers have a life span, some longer than others and it seems that the life span of the Hellerbock has run its course. There you have it, straight from the source. A sad day for us Hellerbock lovers, but fear not. It shall live on in kegs and, who knows, in time, like a smooth, malty and slightly higher-alcohol phoenix, it may one day rise again from the fermenter and join its

brother the Doppelbock in a brown bottle in a fridge near you!  
In the meantime, make sure you take advantage of the final round of bottling of Stoudt's Maibock and Victory's St. Boisterous. And, in case you

are interested, here are some other breweries that make a Bock: Pennsylvania Brewing Company - St. Nicholas Bock; Ayinger - Celebrator; Spaten - Optimator; Ottercreek - Mud Bock.



BY JAMIE ROGERS  
WC DISH

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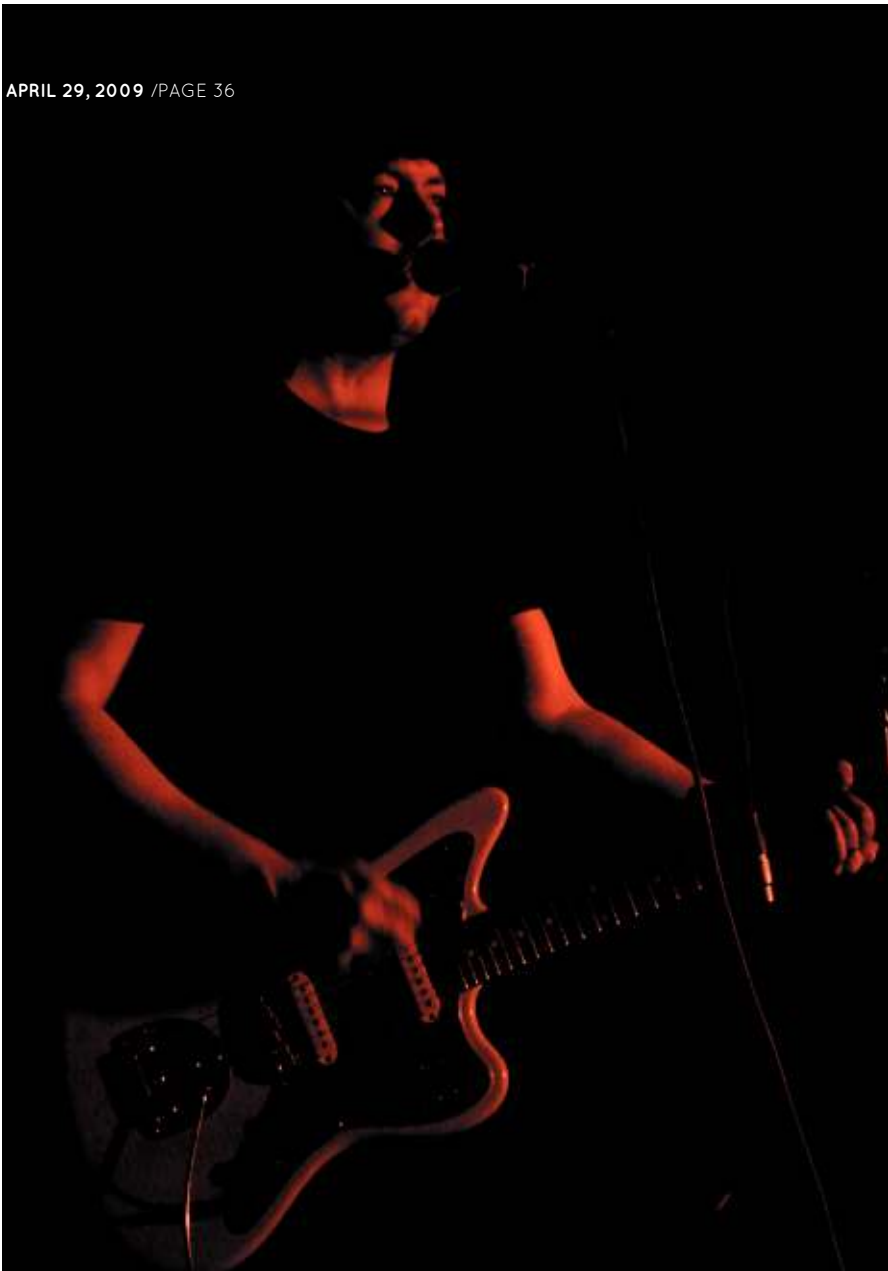
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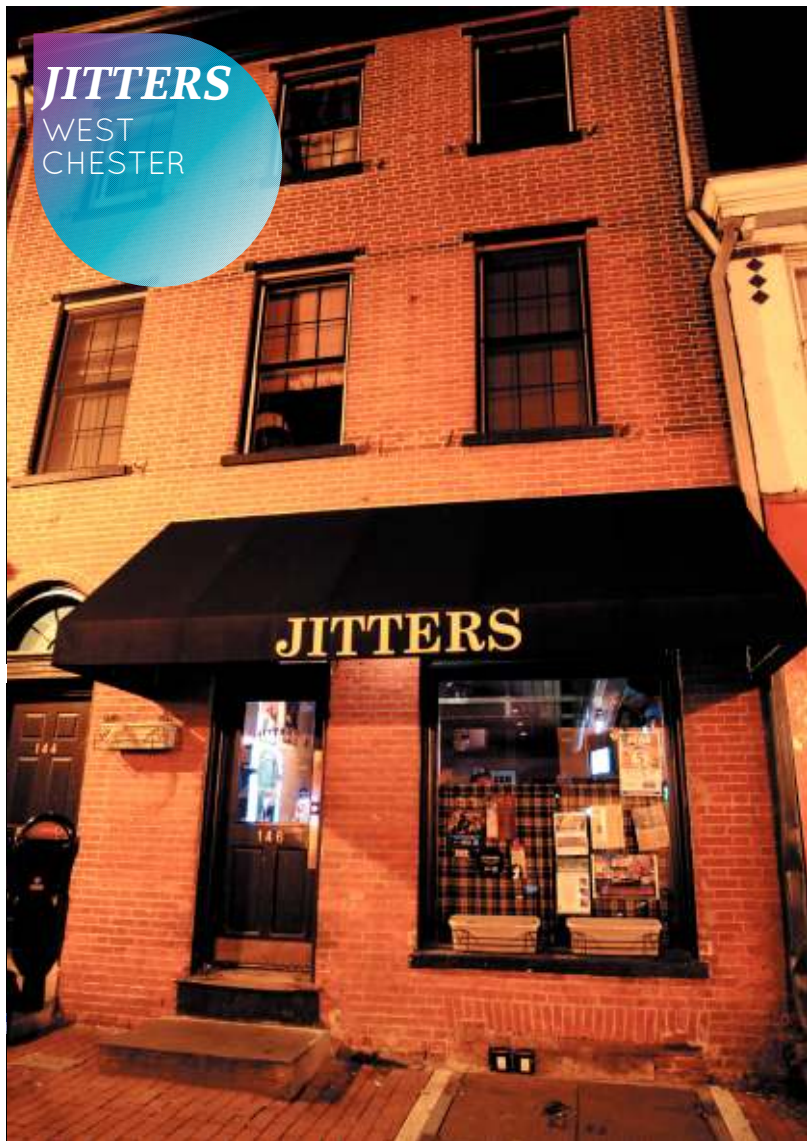

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**Brooklyn's Screen Vinyl Image** passed through the Octoraro Hotel & Tavern on April 11 while touring the east coast and we were there. Be sure to check them out at [www.myspace.com/screenvinylimage](http://www.myspace.com/screenvinylimage).

**JITTERS**  
WEST  
CHESTER



APRIL 29, 2009 / PAGE 37

**ON THE  
TOWN** €



**VICTORY**  
DOWNING-  
TOWN



# PIECE OF CAKE

BY  
KEELEY  
LOUISE  
SPECIAL TO CC



## Spring, time for BBQs, beaches and apartment hunting (ugh)

Hey, isn't this weather great? Gone are the surprise snowstorms and toe-numbing cold fronts. Break out the flip-flops, it's time for BBQs, graduation ceremonies, beaches and ... apartment hunting! Are you looking for a new apartment? If you are, then you already know it's not easy. As a matter of fact, it can be downright exhausting. But relax, there are plenty of options to consider, and here are a few guidelines to help smooth the process.

**Wanted:** Recent college grad seeking same to share townhouse. Own bedroom and bath, separate entrance, use of entire house. \$500.00/month, all utilities included. Won't last!!

Sounds great, doesn't it? Unfortunately, when you get there, you find that recent "College Grad" is actually an unemployed harmonica player who likes to practice at 2 a.m. with his three buddies in the room next to yours. Oh, and that private bath - somebody forgot to mention that it doesn't have a shower!

Hopefully, I'm not painting the wrong picture here: going in with a couple of roommates is a great idea for a few different reasons. One being you can pretty much guarantee there

will always be a supply of beer handy, the other being that you can still live in a fantastic apartment (or house) for a fraction of the cost. And in this economy, who wouldn't give that a second thought? Just be sure to take precautions against a potentially disastrous living situation. It might be better to get together with a few friends you already know and trust and make all decisions as a group from the start. That way, not only will it be clear what is expected from each person, everyone will also know each others' different personalities, living habits, and boundaries and be in a better position to respect them.

If the idea of sharing a place doesn't really appeal to you, or if you've already been there and done that and feel like it's time to move on, get ready to do some serious pavement-pounding. You will soon find yourself scouting out countless potential dwellings. Apartments that are too small, too expensive, too far away. Some that you wouldn't even live in if they paid you. There might even be one or two places that you go look at just to drool. This is where you want to live, and you could, too - if only somebody decided to just triple your salary. But seriously, your next apart-

ment is out there, and you will find it ... I promise. You just might have to accept a couple of minor flaws, that's all. Like the occasional waterbug staring up at you in the morning when you pull back the shower curtain. Or the power outages that inevitably accompany every thunderstorm. (Welcome to a couple of my not-so-pleasant first apartment experiences). Oh, just one more thing - when you're out there looking at places, try to stick with private landlords. Realtors and apartment complexes can charge anywhere between \$25-\$100 (per person) for credit and background checks. Unless you have A-1 credit, or at the very least, a co-signer, there's a good chance your application will be turned down. And depending on how many apartments you apply for, those fees can really add up. Save yourself the additional costs - you can use the money later to throw yourself a housewarming party.

Finally, if you are one of those super-organized, super-responsible people whose credit score automatically makes you a bank's best friend, why not think about becoming a homeowner? Take all that money you would use to pay rent and put it into a mortgage. With mortgage rates being the lowest they've been in 30 years, now is a great time to buy - if you feel like you are in the position to do so (do I sound jealous yet?). Think about it, total freedom to do almost anything you want. Feel like painting your walls candy-cane pink? Go for it! (Hopefully no one reading this would really want candy-cane pink walls, but you know what I mean). Bonus: you can supplement your income, and ease those mortgage payments by renting out one part of your house while you live in the other.

**For Rent:** 1 bedroom apt. on top floor of private house. Separate entrance, looking for quiet working professional. \$775.00/month, pay only cable and hot water. Available Immediately. Harmonica players need not apply.

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**11100 AREA**  
**EXTON VT** 5rms appls storage garage utilities paid! \$675  
**RT 202 VT** 4br apt! No credit check w/d yd newly renov \$900  
**RT 30** Great location! Cottage Unique encl porch w/d yd \$750  
**DOWNTOWN** Huge Studio apt air w/d yd pets No credit ck! \$480  
**RT30/RT100** Country 5rm hse/apt I/G pool priv entr w/d yd \$750  
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 Brandywine Garden Apartments  
 215 N. Everhart Avenue  
 Starting 1BR-\$750 & 2BR-\$900  
 Call Anytime: 610-692-6600  
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 M-F: 4 PM to 7:30 PM  
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 Call (610)918-1694  
 No Pets/Except Guide

**MODENA AREA** - large, 2 BR, plus 1 sm. BR, apt., 1st. flr., overlooking Brandywine, \$875/mo. incld. water, sewer, trash & HW. No pets (exc gde) 1 yr lease. Call: 610-331-2827 Lic'd.

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 April & last month's rent free (610)692-1881

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 Effic. Studio & 1 BR apts. in downtown W.C. Starts at \$790 + utils. Short Term & Furn Units avail. For info, or to make an appl., contact Chris at: 610-430-6255 x 17  
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ONE BEDRM Starting \$785  
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**WC BORO** 123 E. Washington St. 2nd flr., 2 BR, heat & HW incld. \$925/mo. Call (610)696-1414

**WC BORO** - Lg. efficiency on 2nd flr. W/D on premissis. 1st, last & security dep. req. \$575/mo. + elec. 610-692-7752 before 8pm

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- Full Power  
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Jeff's Invoice \$20967  
EP Pricing \$19994  
Rebate \$1000  
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