

June-July 2017

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ELS

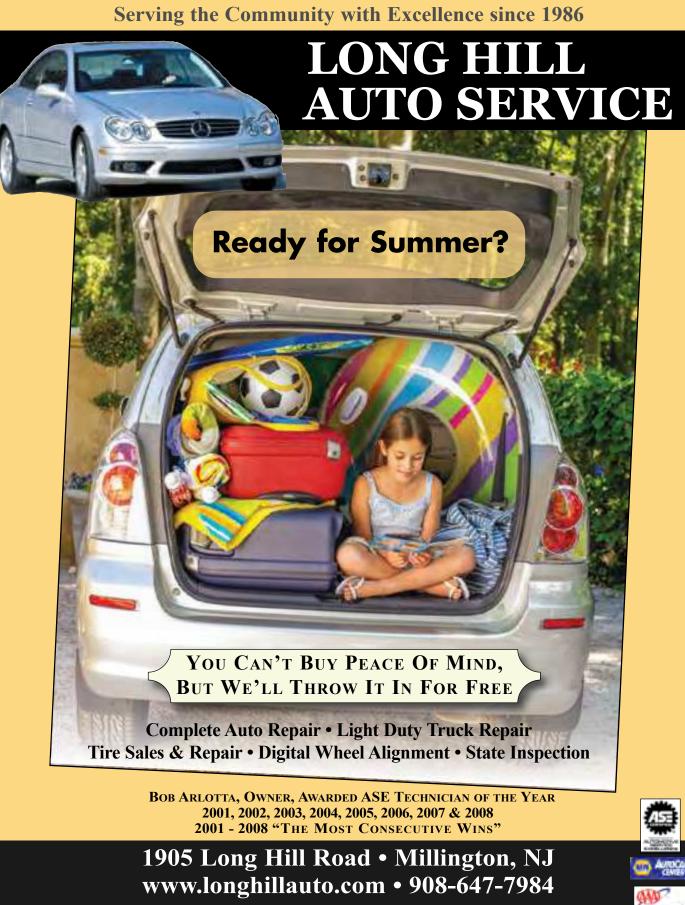
HOME IMPROVEMENT LANDSCAPING CRAFT BREWERIES FARMERS' MARKETS SUMMER FUN AROUND TOWN RECIPES

and more!

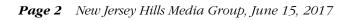
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Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

It seems as if I just finished my note reminding you that winter was fading and to look ahead to spring. But summer has already blossomed and has again evoked in me childbood memories of long days spent reading, swimming, and exploring. A bot, bumid day always brings to my mind rocking gently on a swing, trying to finish an ice pop before it melts into a sticky, syrupy puddle.

How does summer speak to you? Do you recall days spent at the shore? Sleepaway camp adventures? Tending a garden?

Author Harper Lee exquisitely captured the flavor of the season when she wrote: "Summer was our best season: it was sleeping on the back screened porch in cots, or trying to sleep in the treebouse; summer was everything good to eat; it was a thousand colors in a parched landscape."

If you're looking for new summer inspiration, these pages will give you plenty of food for thought – from summer recipes to local warm weather diversions. Dig in and enjoy!

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- Roberta Burkhart, Editor

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Home Improvement

2017 Home Improvement Trends

f your home is still sporting a 1990s builtin kitchen desk or a "feature wall" from the turn of the century, you aren't alone. A 2014 Department of Housing and Urban Development survey revealed the average age of New Jersey homes ranged from 40 to 49 years, many likely still bearing elements of decades past. Updating those home features that no longer work for you can help you create a space you love again.

According to a Harris poll survey, 41 percent of homeowners planning renovations are looking to invest in decks, patios and landscaping. Other project favorites include home repairs and technology upgrades, bathroom remodels and kitchen makeovers.

Moving Out

The explosion of outdoor living has homeowners requesting larger decks constructed of composite materials. "Decks are popular because they add another entertainment area to the house at much less cost," says Bob Kiefer of Decks by Kiefer.



To reduce maintenance and extend the deck life, Kiefer has turned to Resysta, a new product that addresses many of the issues common to other decking materials. Resysta resembles wood, but is much more durable and, unlike decking products made from wood flour, Resysta is formed from PVC and rice husks. "The company has actually tested the product underwater for 30 days with no evidence of problems," says Kiefer.

Other features homeowners desire include outdoor kitchens,

Cont. on page 6

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908.766.5450 www.hibernatebedding.com 80 Morristown Rd., Bernardsville (Kings Shopping Center, next to Starbucks)

Home Improvement

Cont. from page 4

pizza ovens and gas fire pits. "Two level decks are a common request, but if you don't have something to draw people to the lower deck, no one goes.Add a fire pit and suddenly your lower level is being used," explains Kiefer.

Home Smarts

Smart home technology may be the new kid on the block but it is definitely here to stay. If you are even mildly tech savvy, you can manage multiple household functions through the use of a smartphone, tablet or computer.

Owners of a fully automated smart home can control the lights, heat, air conditioning, security system, refrigerator and a variety of other household devices remotely, creating a more secure, productive home. From devices that detect 1 eaks to digital assistants that pre-heat the oven, in 2017, technology continues to change the way you live.

Bedroom Bonuses

No matter how elegant the bedroom, without a great mattress, it is tough to get a good night's sleep. Pam Nardone at Hibernate Bedding in Bernardsville has a solution. The specialty mattress store now carries Vispring, the ultimate British



luxury mattress.

The exclusive mattress company created the pocketed coil more than 100 years ago and their mattresses have graced some of the finest European hotels and luxury liners, including the ill-fated Titanic. Handcrafted from the most elegant natural materials, including cashmere and vicuna (a rare Camelid known for its silky, luxurious wool), every Vispring mattress comes with a lifetime guarantee.

"Each Vispring mattress is crafted of all natural materials, so there are no synthetics to break down. The mattresses come with a choice of coil tension and each component from the mattress, to the divan (box spring) headboard and legs are fully customizable," says Nardone. Prices start at \$4,000 with a top-of-the-line Masterpiece Superb reaching as much as \$100,000.

Kitchen & Bath

After decades of ruling the appliance world, stainless steel is finally getting a makeover. The shiny, bold look that is synonymous with quality appears to be stepping aside for the more glamorous matte finished stainless. With major appliance manufacturers including black stainless in their lineups, style gurus predict it is only a matter of time before elegant matte finishes dominate in the kitchen.

Integration is another important trend. Homeowners are looking for sleek, built-in appliances that can be placed seamlessly into cabinetry. Appliance drawers filled with dishwashers, refrigerators, slow cookers and warming compartments are also expected to grow in popularity thanks to their space-saving, aesthetic properties.

Expect shower stalls to shrink from the cavernous spaces of the past decade to a more reasonable square footage. Space-hogging freestanding bathtubs, while still popular with suburbanites, are losing their luster for urbanites and those living in smaller spaces.

Topping the list of innovative bathroom products is Toto's Neorest 750H toilet, winner of the Kitchen & Bath Industry Show's Best of Bath Gold Award. Outfitted with a special stick resistant glaze and integrated UV lighting to speed waste breakdown, the self-cleaning showstopper promotes cleanliness with an after flush misting of electrolyzed water. But don't expect such luxury to come cheap – the Toto Neorest retails for a pricey \$10,000.

This summer, consider investing in your home's future. With so many products to choose from, your dream home may be just a renovation away.





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The Fine Art of Landscape Design

With today's emphasis on outdoor living, it is ideal to expand your home's living space by creating an outdoor space that is designed to your lifestyle and which accommodates the natural topography of your home site.

A Landscape Architect will design a site plan for your property in much the same way an Architect designs buildings. A Landscape Architect has a knowledge of design theory and space and will create a finalized site plan that reflects the property owner's preferences and also integrates seamlessly into the natural landscape.

The Landscape Architect is a "problem solver." The professional Landscape Architect will create a site plan which incorporates the preferences and ideas expressed by the property owner. At the same time, the proposed plan will also be appropriate to the contours and shape of the landscape. The proposed design plan will typically include hardscaped areas of the property owners' choice enhanced by appropriate plantings. The plantings are carefully and professionally chosen for each location to perform well and to compliment the hardscape design. A professionally installed design will become an extension of the home owner's living space and provide years of enjoyment.

A Master Plan designed by a Landscape Aesthetics' Landscape Architect is a detailed concept drawing based on an in-depth



meeting with the home owner. The Landscape Architect will want to become acquainted with the home owner's lifestyle, preferences and expectations. Drawing upon his or her knowledge of design and construction, the resulting Master Plan will be a creative rendering of the proposed project.

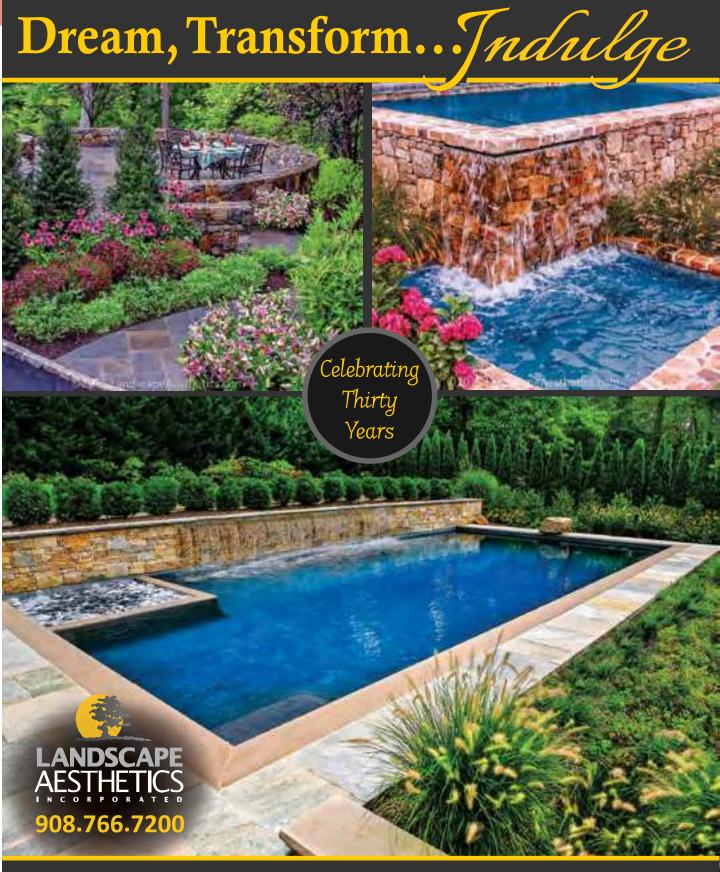
It is our goal at Landscape Aesthetics to create an outdoor living space

consistent with the property owner's wishes and compatible with the landscape. We look forward to each new project with enthusiasm and strive to create a magnificent outdoor space tailored specifically to the property owner's wishes.

To view our distinctive designs, please visit our Gallery and Projects pages on our website: www.landscapeaesthetics.com.

Editor's note: This article was provided by Landscape Aesthetics, Inc. of Bernardsville.

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ELS

Studio 7

Studio 7 Fine Art Gallery in Bernardsville offers the work of many talented New Jersey artists.

The two small windows on Route 202, with eye-catching rotating art, are deceiving. The gallery spans 2,500 square feet on the second floor of 5 Morristown Road in Olcott Square in the heart of Bernardsville.

Since 2007, the gallery has hosted the First Friday BernARTsville Art Walks, 10 months out of the year, with a new artist featured each month. Many of the artists attend the openings. The artist offer a wide array of realist works, in all mediums, that can enhance the beauty of your home or office.

Charlie Churchill is known for his portraits in oil, which were recently featured at Mansion in May, along with portraits by Mary Ann Viola, Janet Cunniffe-Chieffo and Anthony Panzera and work by W. Carl Burger. Mr. Panzera, who is Professor Emeritus of Hunter College recently published The Leonardo Series and will be the featured artist in September. Janet was honored to be commissioned to paint the portrait of C. Scott Vanderhoef, retired Rockland County Commissioner as part of their Art in Public Places program, which was dedicated on May 17. Andrea Gianchiglia is known nation-wide for her amazing portraits, in oil, graphite and pastel, of family pets including dogs, cats and horses.

Gary Godbee, who teaches at the Montclair Museum and the Center for Contemporary Art, creates realist paintings in oil of cityscapes and landscapes. **Gerry Heydt**, a plein air impressionist who was recently featured in the Studio 7 Gallery at Mansion in May, captures the landscapes of New Jersey in large oil paintings full of amazing colors and light. **James McGinley** also paints large, capturing the light and shadows



Peonies by Gerry Heydt, 24" x 30", oil on linen

of our beautiful state.

Mark de Mos, who has painted and taught in the area for more than 30 years, is known for his local scenes of our favorite places in Morris and Somerset counties. From the historic homes of Morristown, to the Carol Sing in Basking Ridge, to the iconic Jerolaman's Store in Bernardsville, Mark has painted them all in oil, pastel, and watercolor. He founded the Pastel Society of New Jersey in 2005 and is now the president of the New Jersey Watercolor Society.

Thomas Valenti, just completed 10 vears as the president of Allied Artists of America. He can be seen teaching on cable television. Another great artist of architecture, his favorites scenes are New York cityscapes. Robert Pillsbury, currently in his third term as president of the famed Salmagundi Art Club in New York City has brought new mediums to the gallery, offering mono prints and paintings in encaustic. Rae Hoffman will be having a show of her beautiful floral paintings at the Somerset County **Business Partnership in Bridgewater** through July.

James Fiorentino will be showing his sports and wildlife watercolor paintings in the Starlight Gallery at the Mayo Center for the Performing Art in Morristown, from Monday, July 10, through Wednesday, Sept. 6. Known nationally for his sports art, James has also excelled with his wildlife art and was recently promoted to Signature status with the Society of Animal Artists. His Rare Wildlife Revealed, wildlife exhibit of the endangered species of New Jersey is currently on display at the Hiram Blauvelt Wildlife Museum in Oradell through July. The gallery also offers art glass by Vandermark Merritt, Jake Pfeifer, Cody Nicely, Barry Entner and Nicolas Emeric, Murano Glass Jewelry by Leslie Ann Genninger, hand-painted lighting by Jamie Barthel and sculpture by Miles Van Rensselaer and Stanley Yeager.

The current exhibition, "Celebration of Summer," will run through Saturday, Aug. 26. The gallery is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesdays through Saturdays. The gallery can be rented for events or business meetings, for 25 to 150 guests, and is offered to non-profit organizations for Friend-Raisers or Fund-Raisers at no cost. It is located at 5 Morristown Road, Bernardsville, NJ 07924 with free parking on site. For information, contact Kathleen Palmer, director, at (908) 963-0365. Sign up for show announcements at www.studio7artgallery.com.

Celebration of Summer FEATURING THE ARTISTS OF STUDIO 7 MAY 31- AUGUST 26, 2017



Dawn's Early Deliver by Robert Pillsbury 24" x 30", encaustic on panel

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Craft Breweries

Cheers to New Jersey Craft Breweries

By Nita Crighton

A 2016 Gallup poll confirms what most of us already suspected – Americans love their beer. Among the 65 percent of Americans who drink alcohol, 43 percent prefer beer. That love of a great brew has led to a surge in craft beer production around the country and right here in New Jersey. By definition, craft beer is brew produced by small, independent breweries that distribute no more than six million barrels of beer each year. The majority of a craft brewery's alcohol output must be beers that get their flavor from traditional or innovative brewing ingredients and their fermentation. According to the Brewers Association, New Jersey was home to 92 craft breweries in 2016 and that number continues to grow.

Long Valley Pub & Brewery is an award-winning brewpub in Hackettstown. Housed in a 200-year-old former dairy barn at the foot of Schooley's Mountain, all beer is brewed on site. From menu staples like Lazy Jake Porter black beer and Hookerman's Light wheat ale to limited run seasonal and special brews, you won't find these beers anywhere but here. Brewery tours are available by reservation Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m., May 6 through Oct. 28. Cost is \$10 and includes samples.

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TAPHOUSE GRILLE SERVING UP CRAFT BEER FAVORITES By Nita Crighton

Whether you are celebrating a special event or just dropping by for a quick beer after work, Taphouse Grille is the perfect choice. With locations in Hackettstown and Wayne, Taphouse offers 24 beers on tap, many from New Jersey breweries.

"We do have a variety of beers, but we also focus a lot on our food," says owner Mike Fetherston. "Our American cuisine is prepared with fresh seasonal produce so our fare is a little lighter and healthier. Part of our menu changes often, but we always have good burgers and pizza."

The servers at Taphouse are happy to assist with beer and food pairings and choices include local brews like Ramstein Revelation and Man Skirt Dubbel Pleated.

August 13 through 20 is New Jersey Craft Beer Week at the Taphouse Grille. Throughout the week, each of the 24 lines will be devoted to New Jersey beers.



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Craft Breweries



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Hackettstown is also home to Man Skirt Brewing, named for the owner's aversion to pants and affinity for Utilikilts. Man Skirt produces three flagship brews: Gold Bar Blonde (blonde ale),

Better than Pants (English bitter) and The Great Porter (American porter). Occasionally, they also brew seasonal, new and rare beers. Tasting room hours are 4 to 9 p.m. Thursdays, 2 to 9 p.m. Saturdays and noon to 5 p.m. Sundays.

Man Skirt patrons have access to generous street and municipal parking and the brewery is kid and dog friendly. Growlers and Syntec cartridges are gladly filled for off-site consumption.

In nearby Mount Olive, beer lovers can sample micro brews with maximum taste at Jersey Girl Brewing Company. Here, carefully selected hops and grains are introduced to a 30-barrel brewing system capable of producing more than 900 gallons per batch. Look for Jersey Girl beers like Rake Breaker New England IPA, Blonde Amber or Amarillo and Citra India Pale Ale at your favorite restaurant or pub or stop by the brewery to try a pint.

Craft beer aficionados will appreciate the small experimental batches the brewery creates in their sampling room. The exclusive taproom beers are available to tasting room patrons only while supplies last.

Jersey Girl is open for tours, tastings and retail



sales Thursdays and Fridays from 5 to 9 p.m., Saturdays from 1 to 9 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 6 p.m. Guided tours start hourly when the tasting room is open and no reservation is necessary.

Twin Elephant Brewing Company opened in May 2016, but the establishment is fast becoming a favorite destination for beer lovers. Located in Chatham Borough, Twin Elephant specializes in fresh, high quality ales and lagers brewed with locally sourced ingredients, when possible.

Free brewery tours are provided to first-time patrons and otherwise by request. Twin Elephant is open Fridays 4 to 10 p.m. and Saturdays noon to 10 p.m. The brewery sells and refills growlers, but due to small production size limits sales to 64-ounces per person.

Established in 1996, High Point Brewing Company in Butler is really the grandfather of New Jersey craft beer. Whether it is High Point's strict adherence to the German Purity Law

> that limits ingredients to only malt, hops, water and yeast, or the brewery's special Bavarian yeast that give Ramstein beers their unique character, one thing is certain, the brews are distinctly German.

> High Point offers year round brews like popular Blonde Hefe-Weizen, Dunkel Hefe-Weizen and Double Platinum Blonde Weissbock, along with a host of seasonal, rare and exclusive beers. Hours are Monday through Friday 3 to 7 p.m. and Saturday 1 to 5 p.m. Free, guided tours with samples are scheduled for Sept. 9 and Nov. 11.

> Beer drinkers know it just doesn't get any better than a cold pint on a hot summer day. Why not take advantage of the season by embarking on a tasting tour of the area's craft breweries?

Beer drinkers know it just doesn't get any better than a cold pint on a hot summer day.

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Farmers' Markets



by Roberta Burkhart

T's no secret that New Jersey is the Garden State. It's even proudly displayed on our license plates.

But what's a fruit and veggie lover to do if they haven't got a green thumb? If their tomatoes die on the vine? If their zucchini flowers wilt away? If their herb garden provides nothing but woe? If the neighborhood groundhog harvests everything edible before the sun is up?

Luckily for the gardeningchallenged, plenty of local communities host a weekly farmers' market stocked with an abundance of everything from just-picked Jersey Fresh produce to pickles, artisan breads and oils, handicrafts and art, organic meats and poultry, fresh squeezed lemonade and everything in between.

According to New Jersey's Department of Agriculture, our state boasts 10,300 farms and 730,000 acres of farmland despite being very densely populated. The Jersey Fresh campaign focuses on promoting and continuing to keep the farming tradition



www.ChesterNJFarmersMarket.org

alive in New Jersey.

Why choose Jersey Fresh?

What makes Jersey Fresh produce so special is the quality and freshness, according to www.jersey fresh.nj.gov.When a fruit or vegetable earns the Jersey Fresh seal, it is guaranteed to meet a certain quality standard for the size, shape and coloring.

Often times when produce is shipped to New Jersey from other states, it must be harvested before it reaches its peak of flavor and ripeness to allow for both time and shipping conditions of that item from another state, or sometimes even another country. If the produce were harvested at their tree or vine-ripened stages, it would become bruised or damaged during shipment and would not have the shelf life necessary to be sold.

A Jersey Fresh fruit or vegetable is grown right here and, because of the obvious geographic proximity to local distribution centers, it can be harvested at its peak tree- or vine-ripened stage and offered to customers in a much shorter amount of time, which also preserves more of the produce's very important vitamins and minerals, according to the website.

In Bernardsville, the Farmers' Market has become a summer and fall mainstay for fresh-minded shoppers.

The market is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through Nov. 12 at the train station parking lot on Route 202 in the downtown area.

This season's vendors include Silver Lake Farms of Blairstown and Hensler Farm of Belvidere, which offer fruits and vegetables, Griggstown Farm Market of Princeton, which supplies poultry and fruit pies, Alan Grossman Flowers of Chesterfield, which offers an array of cut flowers, vegetables and fruits, Baker's Bounty of Linden, which brings baked goods, breads, cakes, and cookies, Pickelicious, of Bogota, for a variety of pickle products, Valley Shepherd of the Long Valley section of Washington Township, which sells breads and baked goods, Krakus Deli, for a variety of savory items and Coopers Hollow Farm of Bernardsville.

Coinciding with the height of the peach season, the Bernardsville Farmers' Market will host its annual "Peach Party" from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 22. The event will feature free peach cobbler from Baker's Bounty, peach ice cream from Penguin Ice Cream of Bernardsville, and the chance to win a basket of fresh peaches or a one-year subscription to Edible Jersey magazine. Everyone is invited to enjoy the fruits of the season until the treats run out.

In Chester, the weekly farmers' market – run by the Chester-Long Valley Rotary Club – only permits Jersey Fresh farmers and New Jersey-based specialty vendors. The market is open Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. from June 18 through Oct. 1.The market will be closed Sept. 10 to make way for the

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Farmers' Market

Chester Craft Show.

Bill McGuire, the market manager and Rotary president, says the market started small, with just a few farmer stands, but over the years has successfully added additional specialty vendors to make the market into a one-stop shopping destination.

There are fancy oils and vinegars – perfect for dressing fresh greens – from Chester's Stony Hill Farm, organic, freshly picked produce from Let It Grow Farm, also in Chester, and savory and spicy Defcon Sauces of Millburn that could be used to give a fiery kick to some fresh meat selections from Four Fields Farm of Great Meadows. High Mountain Food of Kenvil is on hand selling their fresh raviolis and mozzarella, stuffed clams and mushrooms. Damn Good Chicken offers perfectly grilled half and whole chickens for Sunday dinner and Pickleicious offers a wide variety of pickles, olives and other tasty noshes. Most of the vendors are food-related, although a few local crafters and artisans set up booths as well, selling handmade purses, Alpaca wool items, soaps, lotions, and more, McGuire said.

So, don't despair if your backyard garden plot has gone to the birds (literally). Chances are, you can find a palate-tempting array of fresh produce just up the street.And maybe a few other staples – or luxuries – that you didn't know you needed!

Farmers Markets in Your Area

Bernardsville: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Saturdays from June 10 through November 11, train station parking lot located at the intersection of Route 202 and Claremont Road.

Boonton: 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturdays, June 10 through November 18, Upper Plane Street Parking Lot.

Chatham Borough: 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Saturdays , June 17 through Nov. 18, located in Railroad Plaza South off Fairmount Avenue.

Chester: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Sundays through Oct. 8 on Perry Street, right off Main Street.

Clinton: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Sundays weatherpermitting through October 29, Clinton Fire Company parking lot, 1 New Street (off Highway 22 near the post office).

Denville: 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Sundays through Nov. 19, Bloomfield Avenue parking lot.

East Hanover: Noon – 6 p.m. Mondays from June 12 through Oct. 30, Lurker Park, 609 Ridgedale Avenue.

Flemington: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Saturdays year-round Stangl Factory Farmers' Market, Mine Street and Stangl Road, Flemington. High Bridge: 8:30 a.m. – noon, the second Saturday of each month through October, parking lot of Riverside Wine and Liquors, 45 Main St.

Madison: 2 p.m. – 7 p.m. Thursdays, June1 through Oct. 26, Central Avenue between Main Street and Cok Avenue.

Mendham Township: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturdays through October, at Pitney Farm, 1 Cold Hill Road.

Morris Plains: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturdays, June 10 through Oct. 7, Speedwell Avenue Merchant Block Extension.

Morristown: 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sundays, June 18 through November, in the municipal parking lot at the intersection of Spring and Morris Streets.

Raritan Township: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sundays, May 21 through Nov. 19 at the Dvoor Farm, 111 Mine Street off the route 12 circle in Raritan Township.

Washington Township: 3 to 7 p.m. Thursdays, The Long Valley Green Market, 20 Schooley's Mountain Road.

Watchung: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays through October 22 at the Best Lake parking lot.

Bernardsville Farmers' Market



Located in the Bernardsville NJ Transit Station on Route 202 and Claremont Road.

Saturday, June 10th -Saturday, November 11th 9am to 1pm

Our market offers a wide variety of fresh vegetables, fruits, pies and poultry products from New Jersey farmers – Silver Lake, Hensler and Griggstown Farms.

Also, fine products from: Valley Shepherd Creamery, Pickelicious, Baker's Bounty, Krakus Deli, cut flowers & herbs from Alan Grossman and native plants from Cooper's Hollow Farm.



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Summer Fun

New Jersey Summer Fun for All Ages by Nita Crighton

There's no need to plan a summer getaway with so many great activities available right here in New Jersey. Adults, families and kids of all ages can enjoy a variety of relaxing, educational or just plain fun events close to home.

Here's a glimpse of what's happening across the state this season:

Nurture the nature lover in your child with a Somerset County Park System Naturalist Program. There's a full array of fun, educational activities designed for kids ages 4-16. Check out the following programs and more at the Environmental Education Center, 190 Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge:

• Coyote kids (ages 4-6) "Animals" – beginning July 31 and continuing through August 3, the morning program offers an introduction to live animals, games, crafts and outdoor hikes • Eco-Explorers (ages 7-9) – choose from a variety of one and two week programs including Mystery in the Swamp, Most Extreme Earth and Junior Naturalist. Programs feature activities such as hiking, canoeing and water games along with opportunities to learn about habitat within the swamp or fascinating facts about planet Earth



• AWESIM (Animals, Wetlands, Environmental Science and Incredible Minds) Kids (ages 10-13) – two-week sessions focused on topics like the Earth's water sources, edible nature or human and animal survival

Looking for a fun family day? Visit the Environmental Education Center for information on The County Caper, a

one-day game that takes families on an interactive tour of Somerset County parks and facilities. Register by August 16 for the August 20 event.

Slow down and step back in time over 100 years with a family outing to Fosterfields Living Historical Farm at 73 Kahdena Road, Morris Township. Tour the authentic 1920s farmhouse along with an 1844 Gothic revivalstyle mansion. While there, roll up your sleeves and participate in daily

Small Business Video Content Event Videography





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Summer Fun

farm chores such as egg gathering, corn grinding or harness cleaning. Check the Morris County Park Commission website at morrisparks.net for upcoming special events at the farm.

Keep your cool with a mid-summer visit to Morris Parks Sunrise Lake Beach Club at Lewis Morris County Park, 270 Mendham Road, Morris Township. Open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, families can enjoy activities like fishing and paddleboat rentals. Kids over age 7 can test their skill at Wibit, an inflatable water obstacle course and little ones can participate in Tiny Tot Tuesdays, a morning program for parents and children 4 and under. Twice during the season, on June 23 and August 4, the park hosts an overnight family adventure, "Campout on the Beach," featuring a roaring campfire, s'mores and games.

Take advantage of one or more of the local street fairs and festivals in the area. The events are a great way to soak up the summer weather and connect with the community.

Festival locations and dates are as follows:

Berkeley Heights Street Fair – June 25 with hundreds of vendors, tasty foods, kids activities and music, it's sure to be a day of family fun

Randolph Township Freedom Festival June 29 through July 1

at the County College of Morris. Free admission with fun-packed carnival rides, live music and entertainment, gourmet food trucks, parade and more

Rockaway Summer Food Truck Festival – August 5 \$5 admission fee with kids under 10 free. Featuring gourmet food trucks, wine bar, craft beer, kids activities and live music

Morristown Jazz & Blues Festival – August 19 culture abounds at this 7-year-old music festival. Grab a blanket and head to the Morristown Green for musical entertainment by Vince Giordano & the Nighthawks, the Bucky Pizzarelli Quintet, Louis Prima Jr. & the Witnesses and six-time Blues Music Award nominee, Ana Popovic.

Gather the family and head to Pleasant Valley Park in Bernards Township for free Tuesday night summer concerts starting July 11 or enjoy no cost Wednesday night movies at Dunham Park. For more information, visit bernards.org.

With so many opportunities to get active, why not shut off the electronics and take advantage of the vast array of summer activities available in NJ communities? Boutique

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Recipes

Heat Up Summer – Not Your Kitchen – With Tempting Grilling Menu

By Claire Nines



It has been a very long winter but the weather is warming up and summer is just around the corner. If you haven't begun already, then now is time to pull off that outdoor cover. Let's get those tongs out and start grilling!

Life can be made easier by grilling all of your courses when entertaining or just family. This way, you can stay outside instead of heating up your home or missing out on the party.

Let's start with a simple but healthy appetizer that is always a crowd pleaser: **Grilled Vegetables Marinated in Flavored Oil and White Balsamic Vinegar**. Here we have marinated sliced zucchini and red onions overnight and roasted our red peppers right on the grill. Serve them up with grilled flatbread and you've got a hit.

But don't forget your cocktails. My **Red Raspberry Cocktail** blends fresh raspberry puree with Raspberry wine and Prosecco to really refresh the palate on a hot, summer day.

What is better for a main course than a cut of **Flank Steak**, seasoned and grilled to perfection? For a spicier change, serve my Flank Steak with an authentic and hot Chimichurri sauce, a family recipe from a kitchen in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The dessert portion of your meal could not be simpler and more delicious than an **Almond Pear Cobbler** grilled in a cast iron skillet. The pears and dough can be prepped ahead of time and placed in the fridge. Then toss it in the skillet and within 30 minutes the result is the perfect ending to your grilling party.

Grilled Vegetables with Flatbread Appetizer

2 large red peppers 2 large zucchini, sliced into 1/4-inch slices 1 red onion sliced into 1/8-inch thick pieces flavored or extra virgin olive oil white balsamic vinegar salt and pepper Flatbread (Boboli or any store brand)

Recipes

Grilled Vegetables continued...

Place zucchini slices and onions in a bowl and coat with oil, vinegar and seasoning. Refrigerate for three hours or overnight to marinate.

Turn grill to medium high heat and place peppers on grill. Close lid and allow to grill for three minutes before turning. Continue to turn until peppers are charred and softened. Remove from heat and place in a heat proof bowl with a lid to cool.

Remove zucchini slices from marinade and place on grill following red peppers. *They can be placed with red peppers to cook but must be watched carefully so they do not burn.

Close lid and allow zucchini to grill for 3 minutes on each side. Remove zucchini to a plate and set aside.

Place onions and marinade in a skillet and put on grill. Close lid and allow to sizzle for 6-8 minutes to soften before removing and adding to plate.

Peel and core grilled red peppers. Slice and serve with zucchini and onions.

Throw flatbread on grill for two minutes on each side. Slice and serve with grilled vegetables.



Red Raspberry Cocktail

2 tablespoons Raspberry puree 1/4 cup Red Raspberry Wine Chilled Prosecco

Fill bottom of glass with puree.Add wine

and stir. Add Prosecco and garnish with raspberries. Serve.

Flank Steak





1 flank steak olive oil salt pepper smoky or spiced season blend for steaks 1 recipe for Chimichurri sauce

You may use your own marinade recipe for the steak, but I advise that you make it simple if you plan to serve it with my Chimichurri sauce. Marinate your steak your way or simply rub olive oil and add seasoning to both sides of steak. Preheat one side of grill to medium high and the other on low.

Toss steak on the preheated medium high side and allow to sear for 2-3 minutes, depending on thickness of steak. Flip and sear again then move to low heat side of grill and allow to cook until temp reaches either 120 for medium rare or up to 150 for medium well.

Remove from grill and allow to cool before cutting.

Be sure to cut against the grain and serve.

Recipes

Authentic (Spicy) Chimichurri Sauce

3/4 cup olive oil
1/4 cup red wine vinegar
3 garlic cloves, chopped
2 cups packed parsley, separated
2 teaspoons cayenne or hot pepper
3 teaspoons dried oregano
2 teaspoons black pepper
salt
rind of 1 lemon
juice of a half lemon

Place olive oil, red wine vinegar, garlic cloves, 1 cup parsley, cayenne, paprika, oregano, pepper, lemon rind and juice in a processor and chop until fine. Remove from processor and place in a bowl.

Chop remaining cup of parsley with a knife and add to dressing. Mix and salt to taste. Refrigerate four hours or overnight.



Grilled Almond Pear Cobbler

- 1 cast iron skillet, 6- or 8-inch
- 2 large Red pears
- 4 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice 1 cup flour
- 1/2 cup ground almond paste1/2 cup ground almonds1/2 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup butter, cubed
- 2 tablespoons sour cream
- 2 teaspoons almond extract

Peel, core and slice pears to an 1/8-inch thick. Toss them in a bowl with sugars and lemon. Set aside. In a food processor, combine flour, almond paste, almonds, sugar, baking powder and salt. Pulse to blend. Add butter and pulse to incorporate into dough. There should be no lumps of butter when done. Add sour cream and extract and pulse until a dough forms.

Assembly

Get out your cast iron skillet. Preheat the grill to between 375 to 400 degrees.

- Place pears and any juices from pears into skillet. Break off dough and drop over pears, covering them.
- Put skillet on grill and close the lid. Allow the cobbler to bake for 20 minutes.
- Open lid to check it. It should still need 10 minutes more to brown on top so close the lid and reduce the heat to 350 degrees. After the last 8-10 minutes, check to see if it is done. Top should be crisp and bottom very bubbly.
- Remove carefully for it will be extremely hot. Allow to cool for 10-15 minutes before serving.

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