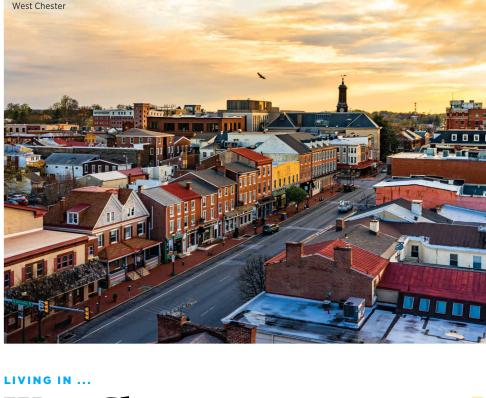


Downtown



West Chester

The biggest college town in the region offers urbane delights and a relaxed pace of life.

by SANDY SMITH

Town and gown 😜

West Chester is the second-largest of Philly's collar-county seats, with more than 19,000 residents. For nine months of the year, though, that figure nearly doubles thanks to the 17,000plus full-time students attending West Chester University. Today, the school, founded in 1871 to train teachers, is a multifaceted university located just a few blocks south of downtown. It also serves as a cultural hub for the borough, with performing arts and exhibits through-

out the academic year.

Global taste • Those denizens plus the Chester County government support a busy downtown filled with distinctive eateries. Name your cuisine and you can probably find it, from Italian (Limoncello, 9 North Walnut Street) to Mexican (Más Mexicali Cantina, 102 East Market Street) to Hawaiian and Japanese (Rai Rai Ramen and Hawaiian BBQ, 124 East Market Street) to Mediterranean (the Mediterranean. 150 West Gay Street). Or stop at **Carlino's** gourmet market (128

to pick up ingredients for a meal at home.

Shop talk Curious shoppers will find much to delight them in the boutiques. Creep Records (133 West Gay Street) is a record store and record label rolled into one. Blink (136 West Gay Street) offers the latest women's styles.

West Market Street)

NEIGHBORHOOD STATS

Typical house value, April 2023



Building on its past • West Chester boasts many grand Victo-

rian homes on its

north side, especial-

ly around Marshall

Square Park. "There

are some phenomenal

old homes there that

add character to the

town," says Rotelle

Development Com-

Rotelle, whose firm

pany president Peter

builds new homes in

and around the bor-

countryside is equally

ough. He adds that

phenomenal, with

"winding roads that

are neat to travel on."

the surrounding

What you can buy for ...

\$1.2M+



1034 Hershey Mill Road. This rebuilt 1800 farmhouse sits on 1.3 landscaped acres bisected by a stream and pond. 4BR, 3/1BA, 3,708 sg. ft. Lisa Yakulis, Kurfiss Sotheby's International Realty, 610-517-8445.

\$725K+



811 Oakbourne Road. Early settler John Townsend built the original stone farmhouse in Westtown in 1758: Amish craftsmen constructed the large rustic addition in 1989. 6 BR, 2/1BA, 5,509 sq. ft. William Cochrane, James A. Cochrane Inc., 610-469-6100.

\$600K+



211 North Adams Street, Close to a park and B. Reed Henderson High School, this vintage twin has been transformed into an airy, modern house with an open main floor, 3BR. 2BA, 1,800 sq. ft. Jennifer Fryberger, BHHS Fox & Roach Realtors, 484-883-0438.

ROM TOP: BILLY KYLE; TYLER MONASTERO; KEVIN WAL: