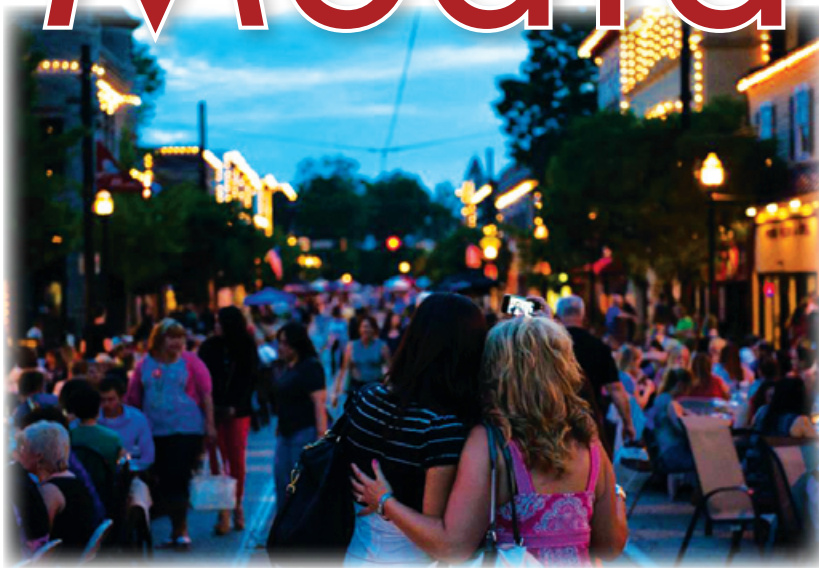




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MAGAZINE

Media
PENNSYLVANIA

Meet me in Media



Glad we could spend some time catching up
in Everybody's Hometown!

Jaimieliynn Cooper



It's been too long! The kids are shifting into summer gear so schedules are in flux. And that's the perfect time to carve out some time to catch up. I'm happy we're able to get together, and relax—and there's no better place to meet than Media.

Main Street, USA

Driving down Media's main street, State Street, is a trip back in time. If you're coming from the north, you'll pass the landmark Media Theatre. This 1920s restored gem has undergone some major changes over the years, but the building still features the same classically decorative fixtures and windows that create its character.

Get used to the nostalgia you feel passing the theater because that's the special charm of Media. The commuter trolley—tying Delaware County's county seat to Center City Philadelphia—is the last in the country that runs through a main street—did you hear the clang, clang, clang? Combine that with the distinctive shops lining State Street, complete with flowers in the window boxes and friendly neighbors and shop owners, and it's easy to see why Media is "everybody's hometown."

Stroll, Shop

It's too early to eat, so why don't we get some shopping in first? This strollable town welcomes window shoppers and those with a long shopping list. And Media offers plenty to see and check out!

Let's start with Sorella Boutique, offering high LA style mixed with elegance and sophistication. The boutique is brimming with gowns, accessories, handbags and more. From there we can head to Per Lei. If you like what you see at this designer boutique, but aren't sure if you want to get it just yet, don't worry—they have shops down the shore, in Avalon and Sea Isle City.

If you're looking for something extra special, why don't we stop into Tancree's. The specialty boutique has been in Media for 58 years and offers elegant evening wear and tasteful accessories. Media is a fashionista's destination.

Looking to dress your home? Head to Ten Thousand Villages. A founding member of the World Fair Trade Organization, this unique shop is right at home in America's first Fair Trade town with handcrafted items from diverse artisans, like those in Asia, Africa and India.

The baskets and wall-hangings there will make you want even more home décor, so let's go to Earth & State—a great source for pottery, in just about every color you can imagine. New to town is Silver Moon Studio with gorgeous antique and vintage home and garden pieces—from chairs and pillows, to frames and flower pots. If the shop sounds familiar, that's because it might be—it recently moved from Wayne, PA.

And if you can't find what you're looking for anywhere else, try looking in Deal's. A very different kind of one-stop shop, Deal's is a true general store, offering everything from hardware to schools supplies to kitchen towels.

Wine & Dine

Shopped up an appetite? Me too. Lucky for us, Media is a melting pot of restaurants with international selection. And now that summer is finally here, let's dine outside—everything tastes better al fresco!

In the mood for something tres bon? Let's head to La Belle Epoque Wine Bistro, with authentic French cuisine—escargot and canard aux framboises. If the

dinner options sound appealing, the wine pairings will entice you even more.

Prefer Italian? Let's try Fellini's Cafe Trattoria's fresh baked bread with house-made bruschetta to start, then hand rolled pasta with so many sauce options we'll work up an appetite.

If you're ever in town for brunch, stop by Spasso Italian Grill. Their menu is mouthwatering, and filled with frittatas, plus sweet and savory specialties like panettone stuffed French toast.

For a quick bite but staying with Italian, we can indulge at Little Anthony's for real Italian pizza pie. It's hand-made everyday by owner Michael, who hails from Monte di Procida in Naples.

Or maybe you're in the mood for something with a little spice? If you are, Sher-E-Punjab has a medley of Indian dishes that you don't often find this side of the Atlantic. Their Biryani is my favorite—rice specialties served with raita and your choice of veggies and meats.

Would you rather have a sampler and a flight? Pick a winner at Iron Hill Brewery's brewpub. The Media location won the 2014 World Beer Cup World Champion Brewery & Brewmaster for Small Brewpub. With house beers like Raspberry Wheat and Iron Pig Porter, you'll know why. Or if you're in the mood for an authentic Irish pub, Sligo is for you.

Come Back Soon!

Before summer is over, be sure to come back on a Wednesday night for Dining Under the Stars. State Street shuts down from Jackson to Orange, and restaurants move out into the street for a night you won't forget.

And there are also plenty of destination events in town. On June 8, Media hosts its 48th Art Exhibition and Craft Fair, and on Saturday the 14th, the Annual State Street Blues Stroll will be back for its 14th year. The music festival features blues greats like the 2013 headliners The Holmes Brothers and Lonnie Shields Band, with Jeanie Brooks.

If you've never been before, don't miss Bastille Day, on July 12 this year. The family-friendly, Francophile event is filled with art, music and historical attractions—like a replica of le Tour Eiffel—plus food, friends and a bunch of fun.

I'm happy we caught up, and we'll have to do it again, soon. Maybe in the fall, for dinner and a show. Broadway's *Les Misérables* is coming to the Media Theatre. Mark your calendar now so we can make it a date.

Let me know what you discover when you head back to Media this summer to sample what we couldn't tonight.

Hope to see you again soon! ♦



PHOTOS BY:
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