



Best of the Best

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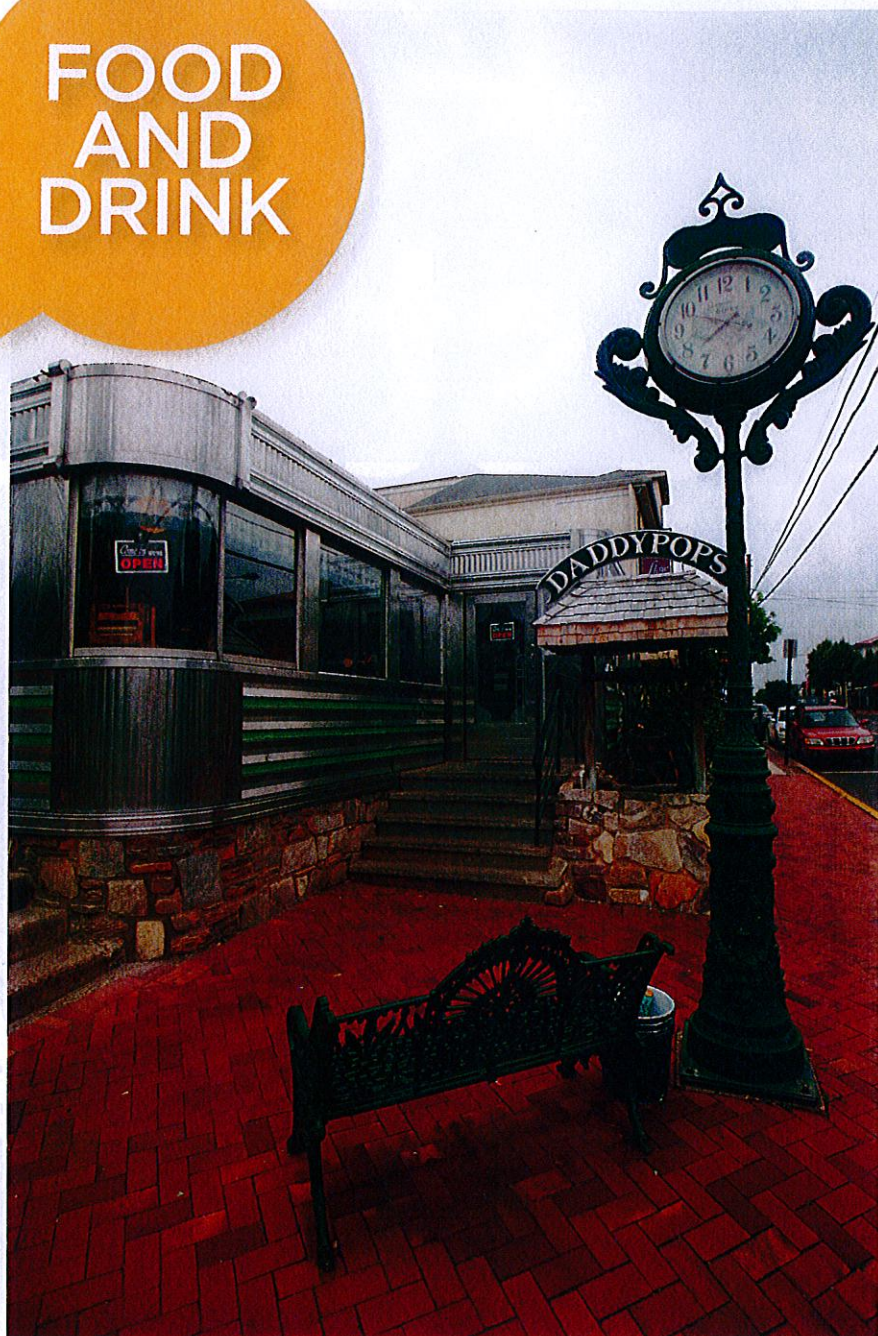
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People who were born in Philadelphia and its surrounding suburbs stay here for a reason—or, better put, a lot of reasons, and in the following pages we outline as many as possible: namely, the top local restaurants and can't-miss eateries; the best places to calm your mind and soothe your spirit; the most exquisite shops and salons at which to help you look and feel your best, etc. For some, the area is quite literally (and understandably) the center of the universe.

Thanks for the 2011 Best of the Best list are due largely in part to you, dear reader, for voting for your favorites on our website, SuburbanLifeMagazine.com. We also chose some of our top picks, based on weeks of “painstaking” field research of the finest places locally (meaning in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties, as well as a handful in Philadelphia and across the river in New Jersey) to eat, shop, play and relax.

We certainly didn't mind doing the “legwork” to identify these local landmarks and standout shops ... and we expect you won't either, too. Enjoy.

FOOD AND DRINK



BREAKFAST

You can't miss at **Daddypops** in Hatboro. It's packed daily, and the fact that it's been featured on the Food Network's "Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives" should be proof enough that the breakfast gems of this Hatboro institution are worth waiting for. Some might call it small—even cramped—but this old-time diner (somehow "greasy spoon" doesn't seem fair) has perfected the art of breakfast, using eggs over easy and expertly seared squares of scrapple as its medium. The service is quick, the atmosphere is anachronistically festive, complete with barber chairs at the counter, and the food is the best possible

reward for waking up in the morning. 232 North York Road, Hatboro, 215-675-9717

BRUNCH

Every Sunday, just across the river from historic New Hope, **The Inn at Lambertville Station** unveils a brunch that's nearly impossible to beat. The brunch features a variety of choice sides—fruit, cheese, bagels, pastries, breakfast meats, seasoned potatoes and yogurt—and at least two rather memorable signature dishes, Belgian waffles and eggs Benedict. The best part: Sleep in if you like, because the brunch runs from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m. 11 Bridge Street, Lambertville, N.J., 609-397-8300, LambertvilleStation.com



CHINESE

It begins and ends with Michael Wei's **Yangming**. Chinese Restaurant News named it the best Chinese restaurant in the country ... and for very good reason. Even the standard dishes found on the menus of just about every local Chinese restaurant—spring roll or hot-and-sour soup, say—find unexpected life and flavor at this Bryn Mawr darling. 1051 Conestoga Road, Bryn Mawr, 610-527-3200, YangmingRestaurant.com

ITALIAN FOOD

You'll find some of the best Italy-inspired cuisine at **Fellini's Café**, a cozy trattoria in Media. Seemingly ancient Romanesque columns and hand-painted murals create an authentically warm Italian dining experience, but this is mere preamble to the abundance of Italian classics sure to push your taste buds into overdrive. 106 West State Street, Media, 610-892-7616, FellinisCafe.com

BYOB

Pho and Beyond may be on the smallish side, tucked unassumingly in a semi-urban strip center, but don't let its outside appearance fool you: Pho offers the finest authentic southern Vietnamese cuisine this side of Saigon. Whether vegetarian or carnivore, the menu offers memorable dishes you'll want to come back for—perfect for pairing with your best bottle of white—from vermicelli noodle bowls to fresh garden spring rolls to the signature noodle soup after which the restaurant takes its name. 47 Easton Road, Willow Grove, 215-659-3464, PhoandBeyond.net