From yoga on the front porch to raw chocolate workshops among friends, this 8,000 square foot mansion is the grand estate you always wished your family had

By Lucy Bayly

If you were to dream of the perfect weekend away, it would probably include a beautiful home filled with period furniture, acres of enchanted forest... and a live-in chocolatier, right?

Tucked away in the wooded hits of Delaware County there les such a place. Formerly known by such grandlose names as the Fleischmann Park House, the Ledever House, and now simply going by "Spillian," this 8,000 square foot shingle/stick-style mandon has always been something of a gathering spot.

It was built in 1881 for the Heischmann family (the yeast pioneers after whom the town was named), who goly entertained the gillteralt of the day of this glorious summer "cottage," and ultimately attracted other wealthy New York City families to the crea to build their own palaces.

This house was originally part of the Fleischmanns' private tarnly estate, with an ornate gated entrance leading to multiple grand homes dotted on the hillside, plus a deer park, tennis court, ornamental gardens dubbed "the finest in all the Catskills," and a riding arena compete with chandelers.

Recent eclectic get-togethers have included a Great Gatsby garden party, a parkour weekend, a cheese-making class, and a dreams workshop.