

Westtown Township

1039 Wilmington Pike

P.O. Box 79

Westtown, Pennsylvania 19395

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The Westtown Gazette

THE QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE CITIZENS OF WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP

From the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors

Thomas A. Foster, Chair

Carol R. DeWolf, Vice Chair

Charles P. Barber, Police Commissioner

For Police, Fire, and Medical EMERGENCIES, DIAL 911—For NON-EMERGENCIES, dial 610-692-5100

The Westtown Gazette

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Westtown Township, County of Chester

Forth Quarter 2008

Chester County Useful Contacts and Phone Numbers

Government Services Center – 601 Westtown Road
Chester County Court House – 2 N. High Street, West Chester Borough
District Justice for Westtown – William Kraut
(District Court 15-2-03) – 610-436-5757
Chester County Court House & Government Services Center
Information – 610-344-6000
Children, Youth & Families – 610-344-5800
Department of Emergency Services – 610-344-5000
Health Department – 610-344-6225
Septic Systems – 610-344-6126
Recycling/Hazardous Waste – 610-273-3771, ext. 226
License Bureau (Dog, Fishing, Hunting) – 610-344-6370
Marriage License Bureau – 610-344-6335
Office of the Ageing – 610-344-6009
Passports – 610-344-6050
Recorder of Deeds – 610-344-6330
Tax Assessment – 610-344-6105
Tax Claim/Lien Bureau – 610-344-6360
Voters Services – 610-344-6410
Chester County Conservation District – 610-925-4920
West Chester Area School District –
829 Paoli Pike, West Chester PA 19380
Main Number – 484-266-1000
School Tax – 484-266-1035
State Senate District – 26th District
Edwin B. Erickson – Local 610-853-4100 – State 717-787-1350
State House District – 168 District
Tom H. Killion – Local 610-325-1541 – State 717-772-0855
U. S. Senator
Arlen Specter – Local – 1-215-597-7200 – Federal – 1-202-224-4254
Robert Casey – Local – 1-215-405-9660 – Federal – 1-202-228-0604
www.casey.senate.gov
Congressional District – 7th District
Joe Sestak – Local 610-892-8623 – Federal – 1-202-225-8137

Chester-Ridley-Crum Watershed Association

The Chester-Ridley-Crum Watershed Association (CRC) is devoted to the water resources of the Chester, Ridley and Crum creeks. This watershed covers Westtown Township from Route 202 to the eastern boundary. Westtown has created a link to the CRC on our website, www.westtownpa.org for the convenience of residents who are interested in CRC's many activities and programs.

FALL LEAF PICKUP

Leaves will be collected on Saturday, November 1st, Saturday November 8th, Saturday, December 6th, and Saturday, December 20th.

Leaves must be in biodegradable paper bags or in a container that can be dumped. NO PLASTIC BAGS. They will not be collected. Leaf bags can be purchased at the Township Office at a cost of 3/\$1.25. Please have bags or containers curbside by 7:00AM.

CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP – SATURDAY, JANUARY 17TH 2009

CURBSIDE BY 7:00 AM. DO NOT LEAVE ANYTHING ON THE TREE. PLEASE DO NOT PUT TREE IN A PLASTIC BAG AS TREES ARE TAKEN TO THE COMPOST FACILITY AT THE LANDFILL.

See Township Calendar

on Page 6

Westtown Township * Chester County * Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Street Address: 1039 Wilmington Pike, West Chester, PA 19382-7370

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 79, Westtown, PA 19395-0079

Phone: (610) 692-1930 ** Fax: (610) 692-9651 ** E-mail (questions for the Township office) - info@westtown.org;
(Comments for the Manager & Board of Supervisors) - supervisors@westtown.org ** Website: www.westtownpa.org

Westtown Township is both family and community oriented. Westtown emphasizes a high quality of life while enjoying and maintaining its natural and manmade environments.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT

PUBLIC SEWER UPDATE

In the summer of 2007 Westtown Township planned to undertake an inspection of all on-lot septic systems. The purpose of this was to gather data which would allow the Board of Supervisors to evaluate the septic needs of the Township on a neighborhood basis, so that the public system could be extended to only those places where it needed.

The cost of these inspections is anticipated to be several hundred dollars each. In order to save on this expense, the Township has been negotiating with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) over the design of the program. The expectation has been that, if DEP approved, the department would reimburse a significant portion of the expense.

It is anticipated that a formal approval will be granted soon. After that, the Township will finalize the program and start the inspection process.

Given the need for this formal approval, and that fact that inspections in the winter can be difficult, it is expected that the actual program will begin in the spring of 2009.

SUPERVISORS COLUMN

Board of Supervisors Adopts Zoning Amendment to Allow Development of Crebilly Farm and to Protect Open Space

On September 15, 2008, the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors adopted a zoning ordinance amendment that expands development options for the eastern portion of Crebilly Farm and other properties along the western side of Route 202. The zoning amendment does not actually change the zoning for the Southwest portion of the Township that covers nearly 500 acres. It creates a special use overlay district of approximately 150 acres on ground that is currently zoned Agricultural/Cluster Residential and R1 Residential, so certain conditional uses may be allowed. It also assures that large amounts of open space will be preserved.

The overlay district was created primarily to allow possible development of Makemie Ridge, an 88-acre continuing care retirement community by Presbyterian Homes to be built on a portion of Crebilly Farm, which is owned by the Robinson family. The zoning amendment allows an additional 60 acres of ground bordering the western side of Route 202 owned by various parties including the

Westminster Presbyterian Church to be developed as a business center after appropriate subdivision is approved by the Township. Any business center development would require a minimum of 25 acres and could include such uses as offices, medical clinic, conference facilities, a hotel and limited retail commercial space.

At the same time that the overlay district was approved, the Robinson family deed restricted the remaining 175 acres of Crebilly Farm east of New St. No more than 15 additional residential structures can ever be built on this ground, thus preserving a large amount of permanent open space in the Southwest section of the Township. No plans for building any homes on this ground are anticipated any time soon.

The Robinson family has also submitted a plan for developing a 24-unit cluster community on the 61 acres it owns on the western side of New Street. This conditional use application does not require inclusion in the new overlay district, but it is being

presented as a part of master plan that covers all of Crebilly Farm, as well as property owned by the Westminster Presbyterian Church and other owners along Route 202.

A zoning amendment for this area has been under consideration for several years. The choice of a special use overlay district has been in active discussion for more than one year. The Planning Commission drafted the ordinance amendment after many months of input from landowners, potential developers and interested Westtown residents. The Board of Supervisors held more than a dozen hearings on the proposed uses and additional public hearings on the zoning language itself.

The conditional use hearing for the Makemie Ridge project and the 24-unit cluster development have been going on since last Spring and are expected to conclude on September 22 with approval by the Township.

*Thomas A. Foster, Chair
Board of Supervisors*

Oakbourne Mansion Captured In Painting for Arc of Chester County

Noted Chester County artist Christopher Chadwick has painted Westtown Township's Oakbourne Mansion in a watercolor that captures the Victorian structure's unique and eclectic features in a winter scene. The painting was commissioned by the Association of Retarded Citizens of Chester County (Arc), which each year has a noted local artist paint a famous landmark to be used for holiday cards, note cards and prints suitable for framing. Sales of these cards and prints are the primary annual fundraiser for Arc, which serves hundreds of disabled people throughout Chester County.

The painting will be unveiled at Oakbourne Mansion during a special "meet the artist" event open to the public on Thursday, November 6 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served. Holiday music will add to the festive atmosphere. The cost of the event is \$20 per person. Space is limited, so pre-paid reservations are advised. The Arc is taking credit card reservations by phone at 610-696-8090. The Township office will accept cash

reservations. Payment may be made at the door if space is available. Cards and prints will be available for sale that evening, along with similar items from years past. After the event, the Oakbourne Mansion prints and cards will also be available at the Township building and at private events held at the mansion over the holiday season.

While the main purpose of this event is to introduce artist Chris Chadwick and his painting, the event also officially opens the mansion for the holiday season. The Oakbourne Mansion Commission is decorating the building in holiday splendor for all of November and December, so it can be used by local businesses, organizations and even families for festive holiday parties.

Each of Oakbourne's five main rooms on the first floor will be richly decorated with trees, wreathes, garland and other holiday materials with a Victorian theme. Local businesses are being invited to sponsor the cost of decorations in each room. Much of the decorating will be done by professional florists, and Westtown resi-

dents will do the rest. Volunteers who would like to spend a few hours decorating during the last week of October and the first week of November are welcome and should call Eva Foster at 610-399-1846.

Rental packages that include use of the decorated first floor of the mansion, along with entertainment, food and beverage from first class caterers, should be booked now. Availability will be on a first call, first serve basis. Call 610-399-1846 or go to the website at www.oakbourne-mansion.org.

Westtown Township is very proud to have a well-known artist such as Christopher Chadwick make Oakbourne the subject of one of his major works. Chadwick has been painting local landscapes since he was a teenager. Chadwick especially likes to paint winter scenes. As the 45th artist for The Arc of Chester County, Chadwick chose to paint Oakbourne Mansion after a fresh blanket of snow has fallen.

"Oakbourne Mansion is an excellent example of the human creative spirit in architecture," says Chadwick, who adds that the unique structures and eclectic combination of building materials presented a significant challenge.

Several local galleries have displayed Chadwick's work that primarily consists of small watercolor landscapes of barns, bridges, springhouses and historic houses in the region.

"The historic structures speak of the legacy of those who first settled here and a simpler time when life moved at a slower pace," says Chadwick, who has taught at the Chester County Art Association and Chester County Night School for almost two decades. More recently, Chris began teaching at the Chester County Youth Center, incorporating art into the Intermediate Unit's education program for both shelter and detention residents.

For more information about the Arc of Chester County, call 610-696-8090 or visit www.arcofchestercounty.org



Artist Christopher Chadwick was commissioned by the Arc of Chester County to paint a watercolor of Oakbourne Mansion. Residents are invited to meet the artist and buy signed prints and holiday cards at a special reception at the mansion on November 6, 2008. Reservations are highly recommended.

Numbering of Buildings

On May 17, 1993 the Board of Supervisors of Westtown Township adopted Ordinance No. 93-5. This ordinance concerns the numbering of buildings. In an ongoing survey to determine compliance with the recycling requirement it was observed that more than 15 % of the residences in the Township do not have compliant numbers on their property.

The visibility of house numbers is very important when emergency vehicles are dispatched to a property. If you need an ambulance or in the event of a fire or other emergency proper identification of your street address is essential to assure a prompt response.

The Ordinance requires that the officially designated street address number must be posted on each building, dwelling unit or commercial or business establishment or its associated mailbox in accordance with the following specifications

and regulations:

- A. If the principal building is served by a mailbox mounted at the end of the access drive, the designated street address number shall be posted on both sides of the box or post.
- B. If the street address number is not visible as described in Subsection A above and there is no mailbox located at the access drive, the street address number must be posted on a marker placed at the driveway entrance.
- C. If an access drive serves more than one principal building the street address numbers shall be posted at the end of the drive and auxiliary numbers shall be posted to identify the main entrance to each structure and/or dwelling unit.
- D. The street address numbers shall be Arabic in design, shall have a

minimum height of three inches and shall be mounted in a secure fashion in accordance with the appropriate specification in Subsection A, B or C above.

- E. The numbers shall be so designed as to be readily legible and visible during daylight hours by a person possessing normal vision from the center lines of the facing street, and shall be placed so that trees, shrubs and other obstructions do not block the line of sight of the numbers from the center of the facing street to any appreciable degree.

Of course the existence of the above Ordinance contains provisions for enforcement of the provisions. We do not want to begin citing residents for violations of this ordinance but we do ask for cooperation in this matter.

Code Enforcement Department

Great fun was had by all who attended the first ever Westtown Township Dog Show held on Saturday, September 13th at Oakbourne Park!

Residents of all ages and their furry companions came for an amusing morning of socializing and competition. Special thanks to the three judges, who also serve as the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors – Tom Foster, Carol DeWolf, and Charlie Barber. They made the tough decisions to determine the winners for each category. And the winners were:

Prettiest Female: Hilda Haupt, a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel



Handsome Male: Tupper Salamon, a Portuguese Water Dog

Most Unusual Mix/Looking: Rufus Hetzel, a Standard Poodle/Greater Swiss Mountain dog mix

Best Costume: Maggie Madden, a Pug dressed as Wonder Woman

Biggest: Bonnie Lisi, a Great Pyrenees

Smallest: Lola Baselice, a "Pooichon" (half Poodle/half Bichon)

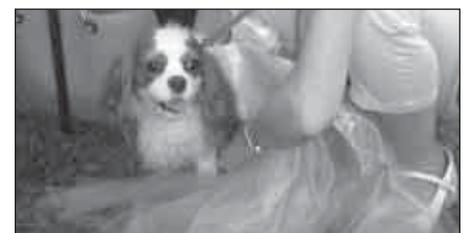
Hairiest: Ricky Whitlock, a "special" Terrier mix

Best Smile: Marley, a black Pug

Best Tail Wagger: Patrick Quinter, a "Border Collie-Chow-Lab"

Best Veteran (oldest dog): Bonnie Lisi, a 13? year old Great Pyrenees

Best Agility: Sir Lancelot, a King Charles Spaniel



PLANNING CALENDAR

The Township Office will be closed on the following dates

November 27th and November 28th
for Thanksgiving

December 25th, and December 26th
for Christmas

January 1st News Year's Day

If your normal trash/recycling collection is on Thursday your Thanksgiving Day pickup will be Saturday, November 29, and your Christmas pickup December 27th.

All Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission Meetings are held at the Township Municipal Building, 1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown. Time 7:30 PM

BEHIND THE BADGE

WESTTOWN-EAST GOSHEN OFFICER MIKE GALLAGHER

Officer Mike Gallagher is a 12 year veteran of the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department and is assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Gallagher is a graduate of the Delaware County Police Academy and possesses an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice from Delaware County Community College. He is currently completing course work towards his Bachelor's Degree. Officer Gallagher enjoys sports and spending time with his family. Officer Gallagher is married with a son and is a resident of Chester County.



October

Board of Supervisors: 6th and 20th

Planning Commission: 8th and 22nd

Friends of Oakbourne: 9th Oakbourne Mansion Meeting Room

November

Board of Supervisors: 3rd and 17th

Planning Commission: 5th and 19th

December

Board of Supervisors: 1st and 15th

Planning Commission: 3rd and 17th

January

Board of Supervisors: Reorganization - 5th, Regular Meeting 5th and 19th

Planning Commission: 7th and 21st

Ready For Snow?

It may be early for this reminder, but winter is coming! The township would like to offer some tips to help with the snow removal efforts:

- Please keep all cars parked in driveways and special designated spaces. If they are parked in the street, it just makes it more difficult to clear away the snow.
- Do not plow or shovel snow into the street. It creates a safety hazard,
- Beware of where you pile the shoveled snow. Don't block your neighbors or your view of oncoming traffic.
- If you have a fire hydrant on your property, please shovel the snow away. The cleared area will be needed in an emergency. Rescue personnel have little time to clear snow and fight a fire or rescue a life!

The township's contractor will make every effort to keep the streets clear and safe, but your help is needed too. As the snow melts try to clear the storm drains so that the water can flow freely to the drain. Your help is appreciated.

REFUSE & RECYCLING

Recycling

Returnable Container Act (Bottle Bill)

The Board of Supervisors joined with other Townships in Chester County and passed a Resolution 2007-9 in support of the "Returnable Container Act" also known as Senate Bill No.1035. This Act promotes the return of beverage containers by placing a returnable deposit value on returnable beverage containers and allows for the redemption of empty returnable beverage containers.

The main purpose of this bill, besides recycling, is litter control on Pennsylvania Roads and Highways. Beverage containers make up 5% of the municipal waste stream in the United States, and 40 to 60% of roadside litter. If you have ever driven through a State like Maine who has a returnable container bill you can see a big difference on their roadsides. Of course there is a strong lobby from the container industry against this bill.

The last action on this bill was on July 20th, 2007 when it was referred to the Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee where it is stalled in Committee. I urge you to contact you State Representative Tom Killion, 610-325-1541 or your State Senator Edwin B. Erickson, 610-853-4100 and add your support to this important bill.

Non-Residential Recycling

All non-residential properties (office buildings, shopping centers, gas stations etc) in the Township are mandated by State Act 101 to be recycling. The Act requires that you recycle three items: Cardboard, office paper, and aluminum cans. The Township is revising its Solid Waste Recycling Ordinance to require that all non-residential properties are to recycle the same items as residential properties. The items are as follows: All paper (newspapers, office paper, junk mail, magazines, phone books) glass (clear, green, brown), aluminum cans, bi-metal cans and plastic #1 -#7). All owners of business complexes in Westtown are required to provide recycling services for their occupants. Please contact Helen Greer or Adrienne Kane at the Township Office (610-692-1930) if you have any questions concerning your recycling obligations.

Apartment Recycling

If you live in the Windermere, Jefferson at Westtown or Heather Glen Apartment complex you are considered living in a residential property and are mandated to be recycling. Your apartment complex should provide recycling bins for their residents. Please contact Helen Greer or Adrienne Kane at the Township Office (610-692-1930) if you have any questions or if the owner of your apartment complex is not providing this service.

RECYCLING AND TRASH INFORMATION

Computer Recycling – Staples Office Supply Store is now collection used computers/printers at all their locations. There is a charge of \$10.00 item.

Holiday Pickup – The following are the official holidays for A. J. Blosenski: New Years Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Trash will not be collected on these days. Your makeup days are: Monday Pickup – trash/recycling is collected the Saturday before the holiday. Thursday pickup your trash/recycling is collected the Saturday after the holiday.

How to Prepare Items for Recycling

Glass—Green, Brown & Clear: Bottles or Jars only. Rinse Clean. Remove lids and rings. Labels may be left on. <i>NO plate glass, ceramics, drinking glasses, etc.</i>
Plastic: Must be marked with #1 through #7 inside triangle on bottom. Rinse clean. Remove lids and discard. Labels may be left on. <i>NO unmarked containers or containers marked with other than #1 through #7 inside the triangle on bottom.</i> No antifreeze or motor oil containers.
Aluminum Beverage Cans: Rinse clean. Cans may be flattened. No bottle or jar lids, no pie plates or aluminum foil. <i>No other aluminum items.</i>
Bi-Metal Cans: Rinse clean. Cans may be flattened. Examples include pet food cans, soup cans, vegetable cans. <i>NO cans with plastic parts. NO paint or aerosol cans.</i>
Newspaper, Magazines, Phone Books, Junk Mail, small cardboard boxes (cereal, crackers, etc) & Office Paper: Combine in paper bag or bundle and tie.
Yard Waste (excluding leaves): May be included in regular pickup. Bags of grass not to exceed 50 lbs. Branches acceptable in tied bundles no longer than 3' in length.
Cardboard Boxes: Must be cut in <u>three foot squares</u> , tied and placed next to the recycling bin. This is necessary because of the compacting system of the recycling truck. Unfortunately if the cardboard is not prepared this way it will be taken with the regular trash. Cereal boxes and similar cardboard items may be combined with newspaper.

A.J. BLOSENSKI, INC.

Trash & Recycling Service

A.J. Blosenski, Inc. specializes in prompt deliveries, efficient and personalized service to meet the needs of our customers at all times.

For complete waste removal services call, **610-942-2707**

Fax: 610-942-2495



Service Includes:

Residential • Commercial • Industrial • Construction
Special Pick-Up • Roll Off Container Service



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