

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

Volume XII, Issue 3

Westtown Township, County of Chester

Third 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

House Numbers

In my travels throughout the Township I notice that approximately fifteen percent of the residents do not have the required street identification numbers posted. The importance of the proper posting of numbers can only be realized in the event of an emergency such as a fire or ambulance responding to a call from your residence. We ask that you check your residence for proper posting of street numbers.

John Wilson, Building Inspector

Think Composting.

Most yard waste can be composed along with fruit, vegetable scraps, coffee grounds and egg shells. The end product from composting is great for your trees, flower and vegetable gardens. Composting bins are available free at the Township Office.

A Fence is a Fence

There is a saying, "Good fences make good neighbors". But where you put your fence and how tall it is are zoning issues. Call the Township Office before installing a new fence.

Westtown Gazette by Email

Residents who would like to receive the Westtown Gazette via email, please contact Sandi Preston in the Township Office. The email version will arrive several days earlier and the pictures will be in color.

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.

In Memory of Dr. Kenton Stokes



On April 23rd Westtown Township lost one of its most dedicated and distinguished citizens. Unexpectedly, Dr. Kenton Shawl Stokes passed away, leaving a definite void in the Township family.

Kenton Stokes generously volunteered his time and expertise to the Township for more than half of

his 64 years. In this time he served on the Board of Supervisors for thirteen years, as a member of the Environmental Conservation Commission, the Planning Commission, and the Parks Advisory

Group. He was Chairman of the Zoning Hearing Board at the time of his death. These were years in which Westtown Township was transformed by the onslaught of development. Skilled hands were necessary to assure that the best interest of the community was always primary. And no one was more skilled nor had the interest of the Township more at heart than Dr. Stokes. We all owe him an enormous measure of gratitude for his efforts.

And yet, that is not what we appreciate most about Kenton Stokes. We will best remember him not primarily for his good deeds, but for the grace and humor he brought to even the most difficult situations. In conducting the affairs of the Township, Dr. Stokes left those around him assured of the rightness and sincerity of his efforts and confident in their outcome. He made all of those around him appreciative of the association. This is what we will remember and what we will miss the most.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT

RECYCLE, YOU MUST!

As mandated by the State, Westtown has had a curbside recycling program for its residents for the past seventeen years. Recycling, besides helping the environment by limiting the amount of refuse that goes to the landfill, also has a financial benefit for you as a resident. Almost 30% of the Township's budget for solid waste collection is the Landfill tipping fee. The tipping fee is based on the actual tonnage that is deposited in the landfill and the Township is charged for that weight. In order to defray that cost the Township has applied yearly for a Performance Grant from the State. The amount received for the grant is

based on the tonnage of the materials recycled in the Township. The more materials recycled the more the Township receives in grant money. Therefore it "pays" to recycle.

The State is now conditioning the receipt of any grant money on the Township's enforcing its recycling program. In other words the State wants the Township to compel its citizens to recycle. The Township does not feel that we should go through your refuse. Rather we will undertake spot checks throughout the Township on your collection days. If it's determined that a resident is not putting

out a recycling bin over a period of time you will receive a reminder notice that recycling is mandatory and will be asked to inform the Township as to the reason for non compliance. Recycling bins, compost bins, and information on both of these programs are available at the Township Office.

We appreciate the recycling efforts of our residents since the program started. We will try to make this State mandated regulation as painless as possible.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT

Update on Sewer Planning.

Where do we stand on sewer?

What is happening with the on-lot inspections which the Supervisors stated were going to happen this year?

These are valid questions and have been repeated to the Township many times over the past months. To have an answer one needs to understand the underlying issues and the many aspects of the on-lot inspection program.

As to the first, last year the Board announced that they are reexamining their plan to sewer the Township. Specifically, the Supervisors said they would do an assessment of the current situation in order to determine if certain areas of the Township could function with on-lot systems and into what areas the public sewers would need to be extended. This would be

done by an on-lot inspection program wherein the Township would hire outside firms to conduct inspections of all on-lot systems and to issue reports on each to the Township. The Board of Supervisors would accumulate all of these and map them out on a Township wide basis. At that time, they could evaluate the situation and make a determination of the need for public sewers.

The Township had planned to hire the inspectors in an effort to make the program more affordable. If the individual homeowner were to hire the inspector, the owner would be required to pay 100% of the cost. If the Township hired the inspector, DEP would pay a portion of the cost and the property owner would be responsible for the difference.

When Westtown approached DEP with its inspection plan, DEP notified

the Township that it would not be providing any funds for the program. Feeling that this would result in an unacceptable expense for the residents, the Board of Supervisors has been working for the past few months to get a funding commitment from DEP.

The Township now has DEP's agreement to fund 85% of the inspection cost. All that needs to be done is to make some minor changes in the written plan prepared for DEP. These changes will not alter the program's basic structure.

With this funding commitment, the Township can finalize the paperwork relative to the program. This should be completed in the next couple of months. After that the actual inspections will begin.

BEHIND THE BADGE

WESTTOWN-EAST GOSHEN OFFICERS RECEIVE PROMOTION

On Tuesday evening, April 15th a promotion ceremony was held at the East Goshen Township Board of Supervisors meeting. Officer Dave Leahy of the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department was promoted to Corporal and Corporal Guy Rosato of the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department was promoted to Sergeant.

Corporal Dave Leahy graduated from the Delaware County Municipal Police Academy in 1997 and attended West Chester University. He is a 9 year veteran of the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department. Corporal Leahy serves as one of the Department's Field Training Officers and TASER instructor. Cpl. Leahy is also a member of the Department's Bike Unit and was named the Police Department's Officer of the Year in 2005. Cpl. Leahy is married with two children and he enjoys running, weight lifting and is an avid Phillies and Eagles fan.

Sgt. Guy Rosato graduated from the Delaware County Municipal Police Academy in 1986. He is a 20 year veteran of the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department. Sgt. Rosato serves as one of the Department's Field Training Officers and is a certified emergency vehicle operations instructor. Sgt. Rosato was named the Police Department's Officer of

the Year in 2002. Sgt. Rosato was the Police Department's first K-9 handler and was partnered with his K-9 dog Rikko. K-9 Rikko was trained in patrol tactics and narcotics detection and recently retired in October 2007 after 8 years of service. Sgt. Rosato is married with 2 children and enjoys boating, fishing and motor sports.



Sgt. Guy Rosato left and Cpl. Dave Leahy right.

FRIENDS OF OAKBOURNE TREE DONOR PROGRAM



Walter Pavelchek and daughter at dedication honoring Mr. Pavelcheck's many years of service to Westtown Township.

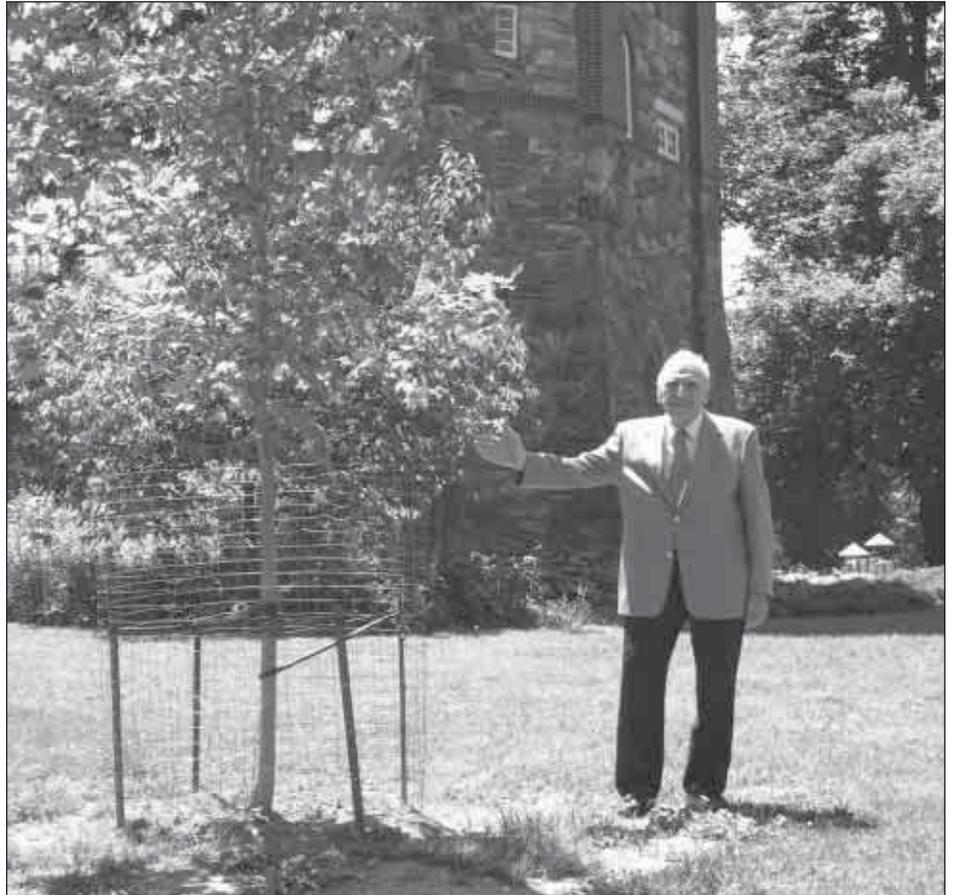
The Friends of Oakbourne have established a tree donor program. The goals of the tree donor/planting program are to replace dead or dying specimen trees in the park arboretum and to introduce new trees into other areas of the Oakbourne Park.

As part of this tree program, provisions have also been made to allow donations from individuals for dedicated or memorial trees to be planted in specific areas of the park and arboretum. The donor program is an ideal way to enhance the beauty of

our park and to honor a special person or loved one, or to commemorate an important occasion.

Memorial/Commemorative trees are available at costs of: \$150, \$250, \$350 or \$500.

For more information on the tree donor program or to order a tree, please contact Tom Bare at 610-399-1572 or tmbare@hotmail.com.



Former Supervisor L. Charles Scipione with the oak tree dedicated in his honor.

THE FRIENDS OF OAKBOURNE

On April 19, 2008, The Friends of Oakbourne, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and maintenance of Oakbourne Park and its historic mansion and grounds, celebrated Earth Day for the third year in a row by planting trees with the help of young people of our community. This April the young volunteers were members of Daisy troops 4020 and 4840, Brownie troops 439, 4540 and 4620 and Senior troop 4277 and their parents and leaders. These troops are part of the Huntfield Service Unit in the Girls of Eastern Pennsylvania Council. We planted a Kousa Dogwood, three clumps of River Birch trees and a Crapemyrtle tree. The scouts also learned

about the importance of trees in the health of our local ecological environment. After their hard work, The Friends of Oakbourne treated them to a pizza lunch in the park pavilion and a hike to the Oakbourne pond to check out the resident turtles and fish.

We are always looking for volunteers who share an interest in maintaining this gem we own and call Oakbourne Park. If you would like to learn more about The Friends of Oakbourne or are interested in planting a memorial or dedicated tree in Oakbourne Park, please call Kathy Stambolian, 610-436-6496.

PLANNING CALENDAR

The Township Office will be closed on the following dates

Independence Day – July 4th
Labor Day – Monday, September 1st

If your normal trash/recycling collection is on Monday your Labor Day pickup will be Saturday, August 30th.

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

***Tuesday Meeting**

July

Board of Supervisors: 7th and 21st

Planning Commission: 9th and 23rd

Movie Night at Oakbourne Park: Friday, July 11th – 8:15Pm – (Rain Date 7/18)

Friends of Oakbourne: July 10th Oakbourne Mansion Meeting Room

August

Board of Supervisors: 4th and 18th

Planning Commission: 6th and 20th

Movie Night at Oakbourne Park: August 8th – 8:15 PM – (Rain Date 8/15)

September

Board of Supervisors: 2nd* and 15th

Planning Commission: 3rd and 17th

October

Board of Supervisors: 6th and 20th

Planning Commission: 8th and 22nd

Friends of Oakbourne: 9th – Oakbourne Mansion Meeting Room
In Memorium – Kenton Shawl Stokes

☆ Save The Dates ☆

The Parks Advisory Group of Westtown Township is pleased to continue its summer-time events. For more information on any of these activities, please contact the Township Office at 610-692-1930.

Movie Nights at Oakbourne Park!



Friday, July 11 – Cars, the animated Disney/Pixar family favorite (rated G)

Friday, August 8 – Groundhog Day, a romantic comedy starring Bill Murray and Andie MacDowell (rated PG)
Movie times – 8:15 p.m.

No cost at attend; BYOP (Bring Your Own Picnic)



Best of Westtown Dog Show at Oakbourne Park!!

Saturday, September 13, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

\$5 entry fee for all dogs

Samples prizes to be awarded: Most Unusual, Hairiest, Best Tail Wagger, Best Smile, Smallest, Biggest, Best Dressed, etc.
Entry forms will be available at the Township Office and on the Township website.

As always, the Parks Advisory Group welcomes volunteers! If you would like to get involved, please call 610-692-1930.

West Chester Area Council of Governments

Westtown Township is a member of the West Chester Area Council of Governments otherwise referred to as a COG or the WCACOG. The WCACOG was formed in 2004 and includes the municipalities of West Chester Borough, West Goshen Township, Thornbury Township, East Goshen Township, East Bradford Township and Westtown Township. These six member municipalities are represented at bi-monthly meetings by elected officials from each municipality.

The mission of the West Chester Area Council of Governments is inter-municipal cooperation with the goal of improving the efficiency of each member municipality through identification and implementation of opportunities for local government cooperation. The WCACOG has established a regional Building Code Appeals Board, 'lobbied' our elected State Representatives and State Agencies like PADOT, and sponsored multi-municipal employee training programs.

The objectives of a council of government like the WCACOG includes improving individual municipal

services through collective efforts and cooperation. To this end we would like to solicit your input for ideas about where we might focus our regional efforts.

Below is a list of topics and potential opportunities to further the mission of the WCACOG in the interest of each citizen and taxpayer in our six municipality region.

- Deer Management
- Transportation Improvements and Maintenance
- Litter Control
- Recreation, Open Space and Trails
- Furthering Opportunities for Cooperation with West Chester Area School District, West Chester University and related entities
- Stormwater Management

Please take a few moments to consider these ideas, add any ideas of your own, and communicate your thoughts to your Township officials by mail or phone, or by attending a Township meeting.

REFUSE & RECYCLING

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.

Thank you for your recycling efforts. The Township residential recycling collection for 2007 was 33%. Keep up the good work. If you need a new recycling bin or an extra bin they are available at the Township office. Compost bins also available at the Township office.

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. *NO plate glass, ceramics, drinking glasses, etc.*

Plastic: Must be marked with #1 through #7 inside triangle on bottom. Rinse clean. Remove lids and discard. Labels may be left on. *NO unmarked containers or containers marked with other than #1 through #7 inside the triangle on bottom.* 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. *No other aluminum items.*

Bi-Metal Cans: Rinse clean. Cans may be flattened. Examples include pet food cans, soup cans, vegetable cans. *NO cans with plastic parts. NO paint or aerosol cans.*

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 three foot squares, 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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