

*Westtown Township*

*1039 Wilmington Pike*

*P.O. Box 79*

*Westtown, Pennsylvania 19395*

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WEST CHESTER, PA  
PERMIT NO. 119



# The Westtown Gazette

THE QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE CITIZENS OF WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP

From the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors

Carol R. DeWolf, Chair

Charles P. Barber, Vice Chair

Thomas A. Foster, Police Commissioner

**Sept 2009**

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

# The Westtown Gazette

Volume XIII, Issue 4

Westtown Township, County of Chester

Forth Quarter 2009

## 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](http://www.casey.senate.gov)  
Congressional District – 7th District  
Joe Sestak – Local 610-892-8623 – Federal – 1-202-225-8137

## FALL LEAF PICKUP

Leaves will be collected on Saturday, October 31st, Saturday November 7th, Saturday, December 5th, and Saturday, December 19th.

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 16TH 2010

CURBSIDE BY 7:00 AM. DO NOT LEAVE ANYTHING ON THE TREE. TREES IN BAGS WILL NOT BE TAKEN.

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Westtown Township \* Chester County \* Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

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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](mailto:info@westtown.org);  
(Comments for the Manager & Board of Supervisors) - [supervisors@westtown.org](mailto:supervisors@westtown.org) \*\* Website: [www.westtownpa.org](http://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.*

## ROAD REPORT

### Shiloh Road

The West Chester Area School District will be dedicating the relocated section of Shiloh Road to Westtown Township in the near future. A recent inspection of this road section revealed structural failures of the asphalt wearing surface in a portion of the road between Street Road (Route 926) and Dunning Drive. The road surface was milled to a depth of 1 1/2 inches, areas of failed base asphalt were removed and inspected. Deficiencies with the subsoil and material thickness were discovered during the repair process. The base asphalt has been installed to open the road for travel.



Westtown Township is currently working with WCASD, Alan A. Myers, Inc., and consulting engineers to rectify the inferior conditions before dedication can proceed.



### Carrie Lane

Westtown employees are replacing a deteriorated outfall pipe structure in a stormwater detention basin behind the Carrie Lane cul-de-sac. This is part of this summer's extensive repair work on stormwater structures throughout the Township.

## FALSE ALARM FEES

Fire alarms and alarms to detect intruders are very beneficial. They alert public safety officials of a problem allowing a quick response. At the same time, such alarms can malfunction and call out such officials when there is not a problem. Such "false alarms" cost money. In addition, they limit the ability of police, fire departments and other emergency personnel to respond to a real situation that may occur at the same time.

In order to deal with this problem, Westtown Township has enacted a "False Alarm Ordinance". A warning will be issued for the first occurrence and actual fines imposed for subsequent false alarms. The Ordinance provides for progressively steeper fines for repeated false alarms.

This procedure was not enacted to generate income. Rather, its purpose is to encourage residents to repair defective alarm systems so that the emergency personnel are not responding to false alarms thereby decreasing protection to the rest of the community.

Finally, it needs to be noted that this ordinance deals with false alarms only. If the alarm is genuine and there is a real emergency, no penalty will be imposed.

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

September was National Preparedness Month. By the time you get this, September will be over, but the need to be prepared is never over. In an emergency situation, the better prepared to take care of yourself and your family, the better off you will be. Here are some ideas to help you get started....

Go to the American Red Cross website [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org). Here you will find lots of useful information to help you and your family prepare for disasters. It's all simple, common-sense stuff that will make a huge difference if you ever need it.

Check out Ready PA [www.readypa.org](http://www.readypa.org). This is a Pennsylvania preparedness site. It has specific sections on how to prepare to protect children, older people, those with special needs and even livestock.

Learn about the H1N1 (Swine Flu) virus. Pennsylvania has set up a new website with good, basic information on H1N1 and what you can do to protect yourself. You can find it at [www.H1N1inPA.com](http://www.H1N1inPA.com)

Get your flu shots! This year, there are two different shots, one for seasonal flu (available now), and a sec-

ond one for H1N1. At this time it appears that the H1N1 vaccine should start to be available in October. Supplies may be limited, and certain groups are being designated to get the shots first. Details should be available on the [www.H1N1inPA.com](http://www.H1N1inPA.com) site.

If you want to be informed about emergency situations, severe weather and road closures here in Chester County, sign up to receive automated notifications by cell phone and email through a new program called ReadyNotifyPA. You can sign up at [www.readynotifypa.org](http://www.readynotifypa.org)

## SUPERVISORS COLUMN

## “Victorian Holiday Season” at Oakbourne Mansion

During November and December, Oakbourne Mansion will again be decorated in authentic Victorian style and will be available for companies, organizations and families to hold their holiday parties.

The entire first floor, with four large meeting rooms, a grand hallway and several smaller rooms will be festooned with garland, swags, wreaths and trees—all in period decorations. The layout is specifically planned for cocktail parties and receptions where the guests can wander from room to room to gaze at the beautiful decorations.

To add to the Holiday spirit, the Arc of Chester County is displaying dozens of prints used for Christmas cards in years past. All are available for purchase. The Oakbourne Mansion Commission will

begin the decorating during the first week of November and is seeking volunteers to help with the set up.

The Oakbourne Mansion Commission has made the event planning easy by making special arrangement with several of Chester County’s finest caterers to meet every budget. Each has a wide assortment of menus for hors d’oeuvres and buffet fare, as well as bartending service (required for alcoholic beverages), servers and tables and linens in all price ranges. Or, you can select your own caterer or food service that is licensed in Chester County.

Make your reservation early. For rental pricing, event information, reservations and volunteer opportunities, call Eva Foster at 610-399-1846.



## BEHIND THE BADGE

### Officer Peter Keegan

Officer Keegan is an 8 year veteran of the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department and is presently assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Keegan previously served as a Police Officer with the Kennett Square Police Department. Officer Keegan is a member of the Police Department’s Bike Unit as well as the Chester County M.I.R.T. (Major Incident Response Team). His hobbies include spending time with his family along with baseball, football and volunteering his time for various school functions and activities. Officer Keegan is married with two children and resides in Chester County



## In Memory



In memory of our K9 Rikko, the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department is collecting for dogs serving with our armed forces abroad.

Timothy Jones, a K9 handler deployed to Kyrgyzstan writes, “I have several friends deployed throughout Afghanistan and Iraq with their faithful companions keeping soldiers out of harm’s way. A lot of the gear we get issued isn’t made for combat situations, stuff breaks and there’s not a lot of supply for dog teams.”

Items needed include: dog treats, new dog toys (large), retractable leashes for large dogs, new blankets, donations (checks payable to WEGO PD K9 Unit). WEGO will purchase booties, ice packs, etc.

Collection at the following locations until October 31, 2009:

#### Westtown-East Goshen PD

1041 Wilmington Pike  
West Chester, PA 19382  
610 692-9600

#### Westtown Twp. Bldg.

1039 Wilmington Pike  
West Chester, PA 19382  
610 692-1930

#### East Goshen Twp Bldg.

1580 Paoli Pike  
West Chester, PA 19380  
610 692-7171

#### Thornbury Twp. Bldg.

8 Township Drive  
Cheney, PA 19319  
610 399-1425

## Parks & Recreation Report

What a fun summer of activities! After tallying the vote by Township residents, the two most popular movies were shown at our **Summer Movie Nights** – *Bolt* on June 26 and *Wall-E* on August 7. A lively addition to the last show was the radio station B101 playing music, making balloon animals, and a special appearance of their mascot, BuzzBee. Ice Wizards was also on hand for anyone with a water ice craving.

In between the two movie nights, we had the first-ever **Christmas in July** on July 25. Kids and adults alike

played in snow, enjoyed horse and carriage rides, made arts and crafts, and played themed games, all while listening to Christmas music. And



what a joy it was to see Santa pull into the park in his convertible! He handed out candy canes and listened to early wishes all morning long.

Last, but not least, was the 2nd annual **Westtown Dog Show** on September 26. Attended by 150 residents and their furry friends, there were many opportunities to show off the favorites in 11 categories. The list of winners:

**Best Costume:** Logan (Logi Bear) Lang, a Great Pyrenees, dressed as a horse for his human, Sarah, who was dressed as Pocahontas

**Hairiest:** Toby Corby, a very, very fluffy Sheltie

**Best Trick:** Bijana Amigh, who could dance and jump through her human's arms

**Best Barker/Howler:** Noonan

**Biggest:** Kodi DeNicola, a massive Bernese Mountain Dog

**Smallest:** Grady Stromberg

**Best Licker/Kisser:** Daisy Dostellio, a pretty Brindle Boxer

**Best Tail Wagger:** Lacey King

**Prettiest Female:** Sofie Willey with her lovely brindle coat

**Handsome Male:** Sullivan (Sully) Rader, a very handsome Irish Setter

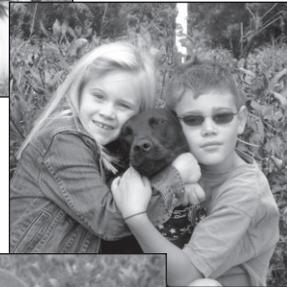
**Best Jumper:** Peanut Holmsten, a very active Rhodesian Ridge Back

New this year was the category of Best in Show, given to the dog that best exhibited what we love most in our dogs – their companionship, loyalty, and cheerfulness. Honorable mention went to Kodi DeNicola, and **the 2009 Best in Show winner was Logan (Logi Bear) Lang.**

Parks and Recreation gratefully acknowledges a number of individuals for making these events such a success – Alan Clark who truly brought Christmas to Westtown, Tom Zane from Trinity Horse Carriages, and our Dog Show judges: Westtown Solicitor Bob Adams, Police Sergeant Guy Rosato, and resident Bill Schwacke, who received assistance from his two daughters, Erin and Cara, when the decisions were too tough to call.



Plans are under way for the 2010 events. If you would like to get involved or make suggestions, please call 610-692-1930 or email [PAG@westtownPA.org](mailto:PAG@westtownPA.org).



Best Kisser



Best in Show

## PLANNING CALENDAR

**Fall Leaf Collection – All Saturdays – October 31st, November 7th, December 5th and December 19th. Leaves must be in biodegradable paper bags, or a container that can be dumped. Christmas Tree Pickup Saturday January 16th, 2010. Please make sure all ornaments, tinsel, etc are removed from the tree. Do not put in a bag.**

**The Township Office will be closed on the following dates**

**Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 26th, and Friday, November 27th.**

**Christmas, Friday, December 25th, and Monday, December 28th.**

**Thanksgiving is a holiday for A. J. Blosenski, if your normal trash/recycling pickup is Thursday your make-up day is Saturday, November 28th.**

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

**Parks Advisory Group and the Oakbourne Mansion Commission meet as needed.**

### October

**Board of Supervisors – 5th and 19th**

**Planning Commission – 7th and 21st**

**Friends of Oakbourne – 8th Oakbourne Mansion Meeting Room – 7:00PM**

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection – 10th Government Services Center**

**Oakbourne Garden Club – 20th – 7:00PM Township Building, 1039 Wilmington Pike**

**Tom Reeves – a Naturalist will be the speaker. The program is “Butterflies, Insects and Native Flowers. All our welcome.**

### November

**Board of Supervisors - 2nd and 16th**

**Planning Commission – 4th and 28th**

### December

**Board of Supervisors – 7th and 21st**

**Planning Commission – 9th and 23rd**

### January

**Board of Supervisors – 4th and 18th**

**Planning Commission – 6th and 20th**

## OCTOBER IS NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION MONTH

### CHILDREN AND FIRE

Children playing with fire cause hundreds of deaths and injuries each year. Preschoolers and kindergartners are most likely to start these fires, typically by playing with matches and lighters, and are most likely to die in them.

#### Facts & figures

- In 2006, children playing with fire started an estimated 14,500 structure fires that were reported to U.S. fire departments, causing an estimated 130 civilian deaths, 810 civilian injuries and \$328 million in direct property damage.
- Nearly two-thirds (63%) of all fatal victims of fires by playing are children 5 years old and younger.
- Nearly two out of every three child-playing fires -- and four out of five associated deaths and injuries -- involve matches or lighters.
- The items ignited by home fire-play are principally mattresses, bedding or clothing.



- ▶ Store matches and lighters out of children's reach and sight, up high, preferably in a locked cabinet.
- ▶ Never use lighters or matches as a source of amusement for children; they may imitate you.
- ▶ If your child expresses curiosity about fire or has been playing with fire, calmly but firmly explain that matches and lighters are tools for adults only.

### SMOKE ALARM SAFETY TIPS

Smoke alarms save lives. Almost two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out.

If you have any questions regarding the installation of your smoke detector, please call the Township Fire Marshal's Office at 610-692-1930 and we will be glad to assist you.

Robert Gliem, Fire Marshal

Donald Herb, Assistant Fire Marshal

## RECYCLING AND TRASH INFORMATION

**Fall Hazardous Waste Collections** – 9:00AM – 3:00PM

**Saturday, October 10th – Government Services Center** —  
601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA 19382 –  
COMPUTERS ACCEPTED

Call the Township Office (610-692-1930) for the list of hazardous items that are acceptable.

**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.

### Recycling Suggestions

#### Habitat for Humanity

The Habitat for Humanity Home Store takes donations of new and used building materials. All items must be in good repair and sellable condition. One of the items they accept are appliances that are less than 10 years old, in good working condition and clean. Proceeds from the HomeStore support Habitat for Humanity in building decent, affordable homes.

Call 610-466-1890 or email [Homestore@fhfcc.org](mailto:Homestore@fhfcc.org) for a list of acceptable items.

#### Office Depot

Office Depot (1115 West Chester Pike) has a tech recycling service. For a small charge you can fill a box with old or broken electronics which will be turned into useful raw materials.

### 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.

### RAIN BARRELS PROMOTE CLEANER STREAMS

A rain barrel collects and stores stormwater runoff from rooftops. By temporarily holding stormwater runoff during a rain event, you can reduce peak runoff to storm sewers and creeks, reducing erosion of nearby streambanks. Collected rain water released at a later time recharges groundwater and can be used to water thirsty plants and lawns. Rain barrels also help reduce water pollution by reducing the amount of pollutants and sediment washing into our streams.

#### Rain Barrel Installation & Maintenance

- Barrel must be placed on flat and level surface.
- Barrel should be raised about two feet off ground in order to enhance gravity flow into a hose and get good drainage. Cinder or landscaping blocks provide a good base.
- Overflow hose must be installed in addition to an outflow spigot. Overflow from the barrel as well as the garden hose from the spigot must be directed into a landscaped bed or lawn area at least 4 feet away from foundation.
- Empty rain barrel within a week after a rain event to optimize use for the next rain event, and to avoid problems with standing water.

#### Winter Care

- Empty buckets, watering cans, rain barrels. Emptying reduces freezing damage, prevents the accumulation of debris and allows for any needed repairs or refurbishing.
- Disconnect downspouts and redirect.

To view or download "How to Build Your Own Rain Barrel," or for information on where to purchase rain barrels, see [www.crcwatersheds.org/resources](http://www.crcwatersheds.org/resources). This message is brought to you by your municipality and Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association, [www.crcwatersheds.org](http://www.crcwatersheds.org).

Sources: Stroud Water Research Center, Education Department; Graphic courtesy of Philadelphia Water Department.





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*15 cubic yards  
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