

## Jody Bowden

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**From:** Robert Pingar <rpingar@westtown.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 28, 2017 9:26 AM  
**To:** Jody Bowden  
**Cc:** Patrick M. McKenna  
**Subject:** FW: Supporting documents and images for Crebilly  
**Attachments:** IMG\_20161212\_174946.PNG; IMG\_20161212\_174723.PNG; American Crisis Philadelphia September 12, 1777.pdf; Joseph Townshend Battle of the Brandywine.pdf

Jody. #1 of many to follow.

Rob

**From:** Kenneth Lawson [mailto:ken.lawson83@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 10:27 PM  
**To:** rpingar@westtown.org  
**Subject:** Supporting documents and images for Crebilly

Hi Rob,

(please disregard previous email send before attaching all files)

As discussed, here are some supporting documents for the Crebilly decision. Specifically, I'm including the entry in the American Crisis written by Thomas Paine the day after the Battle of Brandywine and the account by local quaker Joseph Townsend. Both were eyewitnesses to the Battle.

Paine only wrote about key and significant events in the war and it's important to consider his views in any decision regarding the potential destruction of the land where the event he writes about occurred. Townsend's account gives detailed description of the Battle from an observer's perspective. A significant part of his story occurs in Westtown. His final walk home and the patrols he encountered most likely occurred over Crebilly given its location and elevation. I copied his account from a book at the Swarthmore Quaker Library which explains the small print.

I've also included photos of the historic marker on Crebilly which marks it as part of the Brandywine Battlefield. Can you believe it, after all this time nobody mentioned the farm is already designated as a battlefield. I forgot to mention it tonight, so here are the photos. Note: this boundary is now replaced by the study in the last Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan and now extends east of Darlington Corners. I assume you have a copy of the latest BBPP from 2012. If not, I can send you one.

Thanks again,  
Ken Lawson

40° 13' 27" N 75° 29' 45" W - 1/25/2016 8:11

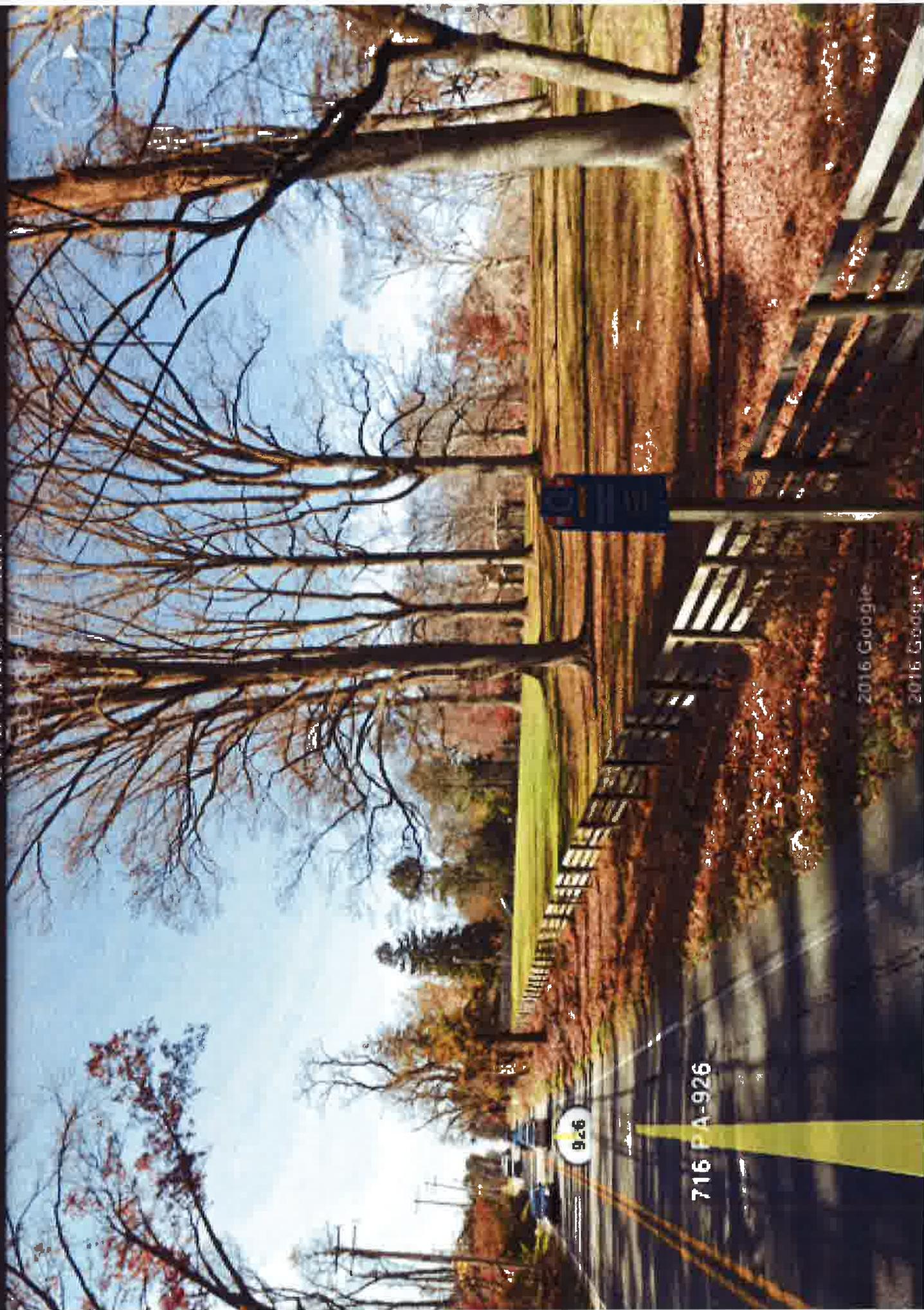


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39° 54' 35" N, 75° 59' 54" W, google.com/391



The Crisis by Thomas Paine

The American Crisis: PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 12, 1777

THOSE who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigues of supporting it. The event of yesterday was one of those kind of alarms which is just sufficient to rouse us to duty, without being of consequence enough to depress our fortitude. It is not a field of a few acres of ground, but a cause, that we are defending, and whether we defeat the enemy in one battle, or by degrees, the consequences will be the same.

Look back at the events of last winter and the present year, there you will find that the enemy's successes always contributed to reduce them. What they have gained in ground, they paid so dearly for in numbers, that their victories have in the end amounted to defeats. We have always been masters at the last push, and always shall be while we do our duty. Howe has been once on the banks of the Delaware, and from thence driven back with loss and disgrace: and why not be again driven from the Schuylkill? His condition and ours are very different. He has everybody to fight, we have only his one army to cope with, and which wastes away at every engagement: we can not only reinforce, but can redouble our numbers; he is cut off from all supplies, and must sooner or later inevitably fall into our hands.

Shall a band of ten or twelve thousand robbers, who are this day fifteen hundred or two thousand men less in strength than they were yesterday, conquer America, or subdue even a single state? The thing cannot be, unless we sit down and suffer them to do it. Another such a brush, notwithstanding we lost the ground, would, by still reducing the enemy, put them in a condition to be afterwards totally defeated.

Could our whole army have come up to the attack at one time, the consequences had probably been otherwise; but our having different parts of the Brandywine creek to guard, and the uncertainty which road to Philadelphia the enemy would attempt to take, naturally afforded them an opportunity of passing with their main body at a place where only a part of ours could be posted; for it must strike every thinking man with conviction, that it requires a much greater force to oppose an enemy in several places, than is sufficient to defeat him in any one place.

Men who are sincere in defending their freedom, will always feel concern at every circumstance which seems to make against them; it is the natural and honest consequence of all affectionate attachments, and the want of it is a vice. But the dejection lasts only for a moment; they soon rise out of it with additional vigor; the glow of hope, courage and fortitude, will, in a little time, supply the place of every inferior passion, and kindle the whole heart into heroism.

There is a mystery in the countenance of some causes, which we have not always present judgment enough to explain. It is distressing to see an enemy advancing into a country, but it is the only place in which we can beat them, and in which we have always beaten them, whenever they made the attempt. The nearer any disease approaches to a crisis, the nearer it is to a cure. Danger and deliverance make their advances together, and it is only the last push, in which one or the other takes the lead.

There are many men who will do their duty when it is not wanted; but a genuine public spirit always appears most when there is most occasion for it. Thank God! our army, though fatigued, is yet entire. The attack made by us yesterday, was under many disadvantages, naturally arising from the uncertainty of knowing which route the enemy would take; and, from that circumstance, the whole of our force could not be brought up together time enough to engage all at once. Our strength is yet reserved; and it is evident that Howe does not think himself a gainer by the affair, otherwise he would this morning have moved down and attacked General Washington.

Gentlemen of the city and country, it is in your power, by a spirited improvement of the present circumstance, to turn it to a real advantage. Howe is now weaker than before, and every shot will contribute to reduce him. You are more immediately interested than any other part of the continent: your all is at stake; it is not so with the general cause; you are devoted by the enemy to plunder and destruction: it is the encouragement which Howe, the chief of plunderers, has promised his army. Thus circumstanced, you may save yourselves by a manly resistance, but you can have no hope in any other conduct. I never yet knew our brave general, or any part of the army, officers or men, out of heart, and I have seen them in circumstances a thousand times more trying than the present. It is only those that are not in action, that feel languor and heaviness, and the best way to rub it off is to turn out, and make sure work of it.

Our army must undoubtedly feel fatigue, and want a reinforcement of rest though not of valor. Our own interest and happiness call upon us to give them every support in our power, and make the burden of the day, on which the safety of this city depends, as light as possible. Remember, gentlemen, that we have forces both to the northward and southward of Philadelphia, and if the enemy be but stopped till those can arrive, this city will be saved, and the enemy finally routed. You have too much at stake to hesitate. You ought not to think an hour upon the matter, but to spring to action at once. Other states have been invaded, have likewise driven off the invaders. Now our time and turn is come, and perhaps the finishing stroke is reserved for us. When we look back on the dangers we have been saved from, and reflect on the success we have been blessed with, it would be sinful either to be idle or to despair.

I close this paper with a short address to General Howe. You, sir, are only lingering out the period that shall bring with it your defeat. You have yet scarce began upon the war, and the further you enter, the faster will your troubles thicken. What you now enjoy is only a respite from ruin; an invitation to destruction; something that will lead on to our deliverance at your expense. We know the cause which we are engaged in, and though a passionate fondness for it may make us grieve at every injury which threatens it, yet, when the moment of concern is over, the determination to duty returns. We are not moved by the gloomy smile of a worthless king, but by the ardent glow of generous patriotism. We fight not to enslave, but to set a country free, and to make room upon the earth for honest men to live in. In such a case we are sure that we are right; and we leave to you the despairing reflection of being the tool of a miserable tyrant.

daughters) are living at this time. Making in all a family of twenty-three, of whom but six survive, and but nine lived to years of maturity.

His brother and seven sisters, all married, and (with one exception) had families. They remained in Chester county or removed to Philadelphia, and lived to an advanced age, from 60 to 90 years, except two sisters, who died in middle age.

Preserving the regular and temperate habits of his early life, he lived to the age of 85 years and seven months. His death was sudden and without apparent pain. He died in his own house in the city of Baltimore, on 5th day, 30th of the 9th month, 1841, having been arrested while at dinner, by his first death-stroke, from which he so far recovered as to rise from the table and lie down, when a second stroke, in a few moments, summoned him away from the living.

His remains were interred in Greenmount Cemetery, on First day, 10th mo. 3d, 1841.

SOME ACCOUNT  
OF  
THE BRITISH ARMY UNDER THE COMMAND OF GENERAL HOWE,  
AND OF THE  
BATTLE OF BRANDYWINE,

*On the memorable 11th of September, 1777, &c. &c.*

During the winter of 1776 and the spring of 1777, the British army had possession of New York, Long Island, &c., and numerous were the conjectures respecting their future destiny, or on what part of the continent the ensuing campaign would be opened. This continued to be the case until the summer approached, when information was generally spread that they were making preparations to leave their winter quarters, which actually took place in the month of July, but their intended movements remained a profound secret until the latter end of the ensuing month, August, when they made their appearance in the Chesapeake Bay. It was then ascertained that their object was to get possession of Philadelphia, and to march thither the most direct and favorable route to obtain that purpose, having been led to believe that the productive country through which they were to pass would render great facilities to their contemplated march, and that but little obstruction or opposition would be met with from the inhabitants of that portion of the country. The number of soldiers under arms amounted by computation to 17,000, 5000 of them being German troops, generally termed Hessians, the former being under the command of General Howe, and the latter under General Knyphausen. The fleet conveyed them up along the mouth of the Susquehanna river, and landed them a little east of Turkey point, from which place they commenced their contemplated

A majority of the inhabitants were of the Society of Friends, who could not consistently with their principles take any active part in the war, and who generally believed it right to remain at their dwellings, and patiently submit to whatever suffering might be their lot, and trust their all to a kind protecting Providence, who had hitherto protected and prospered their undertaking in an extraordinary manner, ever since their first settlement of the country under the proprietor and governor William Penn.

General Washington had his head quarters at Benjamin Rings' who resided near the east side of Chadd's ford, and General La Fayette was near at hand in the neighborhood.† They were frequently together, which afforded an opportunity to spectators to view them both at the same time. Lord Stirling took possession of the dwelling of Amos House,‡ near the fording place. He was one of those who had removed his family and property to a more retired and secure place a few days previous to the army's encamping there.

On the 10th of September, in the evening, the British forces arrived and encamped at Kennet Square and its vicinity, and early on the morning following were disposed to carry into effect their concerted plan of crossing the Brandywine Creek and routing the American army from their ground of encampment, which was for General Knyphausen to conduct the troops under his command to the high grounds of the creek on the west side and commence a brisk cannonading, in order to keep up the appearance of an attempt to cross the stream of water, while General Howe conducted his troops, artillery, &c., up the creek about 7 miles to Jefferis' Ford, that he might surprise Washington's army, which lay south-east of Birmingham meeting house.

The order given to General Knyphausen was complied with. He arranged his artillery on the lands of William Harvey, Jacob Way and others adjoining, as the most eligible spot for the intended purpose, having the principal part of his troops under arms in full view of the Americans, who occupied the eminences on the east side.

General Knyphausen commenced his cannonading early after daylight, and continued it the greater part of the forenoon; it then in a great measure ceased, and it appeared as if the troops were retiring; so much so, that a company of Americans ventured to cross the creek at the ford and advance some distance on the west side without any interruption from the enemy. Thus were the Americans amused during the forenoon, and until information arrived that General Howe and his troops were crossing the creek at Jefferis' Ford, which unexpected intelligence occasioned a

\* See plan, fig. 22. † See plan, fig. 21. ‡ See plan, fig. 26.

march. The news of their landing soon spread throughout the adjacent country, and some were of opinion that a general devastation would be the consequence. Others concluded that the country was now conquered, and peace and tranquillity would be restored by the former government's being re-established, as considerable commotion and disturbance had taken place in that section of the country respecting it.

At that time I resided at my father's, (John Townsend,) the place of my nativity, adjoining to the ground where West Chester now stands, a neighborhood where the inhabitants were alive to the prevailing reports and rumors of the day.

The first account received after their landing was, that they were at Iron Hill, a place not much known or spoken of previously as a place of note; the next news was that they were at Allen's tavern, in the settlement of New Garden, a person having arrived who had been in sight of them, so near as to discover the buttons on their coats, which I suppose was a regiment of the German troops, who were, during the whole march, kept in front of the army, to cover the English troops from any skirmishing that might take place with the Americans, (or Rebels termed by them,) which probably would be the case before they arrived at Philadelphia, their intended winter quarters.

Things at this time began to wear a serious aspect, and the countenances of many were changed; some of them evidently appeared gloomy, others somewhat brightened up from the consideration of pleasing prospects before them, and the favorable issue soon to be experienced.

General Washington was early apprised of the British forces' landing on the shores of the Chesapeake, and disposed of his troops in different directions to arrest their progress, in their intended march through that section of the country, and to make a stand against them at every position favorable for that purpose. A breast work was thrown up on an eminence on the east side of Brandywine creek, nearly opposite to Chadd's ford, near which his principal army was encamped. Scouting parties were reconnoitering in various directions for several miles up the said creek, to discover, if possible, the ford over which they intended to force their march.

Several persons in the neighborhood, who had manifested a disposition to support the Americans, now thought it advisable to remove their families, stock and furniture to a distance, that it might be safe from the British plunderers, as destruction would be the consequence if left in their way. Others being of a different opinion, were disposed to remain at home and risk the danger that they might be exposed to, let the consequence be what it might.

general consternation and commotion throughout the whole of General Washington's army.

It may be recollected that the whole of the movements of the enemy were concealed from General Washington. He could procure no correct intelligence respecting them, except the firing of the cannon opposite Chadd's Ford. It was near 12 o'clock before the information reached him, and it took some considerable time before he could arrange his forces to risk an engagement with them, which he endeavored to do by posting such of his troops as were prepared for action, on the eminence in front of Birmingham meeting house. Some few of them were sent forward to the meeting house, the burying ground and site contiguous being favorable for the first attack, which took place accordingly.

As the object of these memoranda is to recite some particulars of the transactions of that day, I shall now turn to the early part of it, and relate some circumstances leading thereto. On the arrival of General Washington's army from the eastward, in order to impede the progress of the British, after their landing on the shores of the Chesapeake, a considerable number of the soldiers were sick in consequence of their long marches through the excessive heat of that season of the year; on that account the commissaries and those who had the charge of the disordered persons, were obliged to take possession of the meeting houses and other public buildings as hospitals to accommodate them. Among the number thus occupied, Birmingham meeting house was to be one, and preparations were making therein for that purpose. First-day morning arrived. Friends assembled as usual, from an expectation that the meeting might be held in the house if it should be taken possession of afterwards: but from the situation of it, their request could not be granted, they therefore got permission to take some of the benches out of the house, and placed them under the trees which stood in front thereof, on which they seated themselves in the quiet, as far as was practicable under existing circumstances—as the officers and workmen were moving about and engaged in making preparations to receive the sick, to be brought there as soon as the premises could be got in readiness. After the meeting had sat some time, a female Friend was concerned in public testimony—her communication was solemn and edifying. In the course of it she made mention of the visitation she had experienced when young in years from a kind Providence, who had been her support through every trial and difficulty, both inward and outward, to the present time, and the covenant she had entered into with Him to serve Him as her ability might be afforded through every dispensation she might have to pass, either within the walls of the meeting houses, or out of them, as might be her lot to experience. To me it was a favored time, and I felt thankful in being present. Under these

circumstances it became necessary that some other building should be provided to accommodate the meeting in future, until the meeting house should be cleaned and put in order for the purpose, and how soon that would be the case was uncertain from the present gloomy appearance. Several houses and rooms were talked of, but it was finally concluded to hold the next meeting in a large wheelwright shop, which stood on the eminence north of the dwelling house\* now owned by Philip Price, at a place called Sconnel Town. The next meeting day was on the 11th of the month, which proved to be a memorable day.

Amos House, who had left his dwelling near Chadd's Ford, and was succeeded therein by Lord Stirling and his attendants, was in the practice of visiting the premises almost daily, to see what discovery he could make, went down on the morning of the 11th, after the cannonading had commenced, and rode under the cannon balls that were discharged from the artillery on the hills on each side of the creek without receiving any injury therefrom.

Possessed of curiosity and fond of new things, my brother William Townsend and myself with some others, rode along side of the Brandywine for some distance, to discover the approach of the British army, in case they should attempt to cross any of the fords on the creek between Jeffers' and Chadd's; we fell in with many like ourselves, but no intelligence could be obtained. We then returned to the aforesaid wheelwright shop to assemble with Friends in holding our week day meeting, being near the hour appointed. While we were sitting therein some disturbance was discovered near the house and about the door, which occasioned some individuals to go out to know the cause, and they not returning, and the uneasiness not subsiding, suspicions arose that something serious was taking place, the meeting accordingly closed. On our coming out of the house, and making some inquiry of what had happened, found it to be an alarm among some of the neighboring women, that the English army was coming, and that they murdered all before them, young and old. Some of us endeavored to quiet their fears by telling them it was not likely to be the case, and that they had better compose themselves than to make further disturbance, and while we were reasoning with them, our eyes were caught on a sudden by the appearance of the army coming out of the woods into the fields belonging to Emmor Jeffers, on the west side of the creek above the fording place. In a few minutes the fields were literally covered over with them, and they were hastening towards us. Their arms and bayonets being raised, shone as bright as silver, there being a clear sky and the day exceedingly warm. Recollecting that there was no one at our dwelling, except some of our sisters, we concluded it advisable to return home as expeditiously

\* See plan fig. 1.

as possible, as we had no doubt but that they were marching direct for Philadelphia, and would pass by the house and over the farm. (Our parents had a few days before been called to their daughter Lamborn's, at Kennett, on account of the illness of her children, one of whom had died during their stay there. They were considerably plundered by the rabble who accompanied the army during their encampment at Kennett Square, to which they were contiguous.)

After our arrival at home, and our horses were enclosed in the stable, we were in momentary expectation of the army's approach, but in this we were disappointed; and having waited some time, we ventured down the roads towards them, and when in sight of Jeffers' ford, we discovered that they had turned their course towards Birmingham, and were passing by where the meeting had on that day been held. Being disposed to have a better and nearer view, we set out for the purpose, and passing by the dwelling of Abel Boake,\* we soon after met Sarah, his wife, who had been as curious as ourselves, and had been among the soldiers as they marched along. The space occupied by the main body and flanking parties was near half a mile wide. She encouraged our going amongst them, at the same time admiring their appearance, and saying what fine looking fellows they were, and to use her own expression "they were something like an army," which we would see for ourselves, if we would go amongst them, and that there would not be any objection to our entrance; thus encouraged, we walked on until we approached the flanking party, when a soldier under arms called out "where are you going?" We replied, "we wished to see the army, &c., if there was no objection." He observed "there was their Captain, we might speak to him," which being done, leave was readily obtained, and in a few minutes we found ourselves in the midst of a crowd of military characters, rank and file: little to be discovered but staff officers, and a continued march of soldiers and occasionally a troop of horse passing; great numbers of baggage wagons began to make their appearance, well guarded by proper officers and soldiery. We passed through them until we reached one of the most eligible houses in the town, and soon afterwards of the principal officers came in, who manifested an uncommon social disposition. They were full of their inquiries respecting the rebels, where they were to be met with, and where Mr. Washington was to be found, &c. This inquiry respecting the rebels, was a general thing among the common soldiers and others, as they moved along. The officers aforesaid, were replied to by brother William Townsend, who modestly and spiritedly told them that if they would have patience a short time, he ex-

\* Still standing about three-quarters of a mile S. W. of West Chester, and owned by Abraham Gibbons.  
† Scorneltown.

pected they would meet with General Washington and his forces, who were not far distant, (the front of his army was then in view on the heights of Birmingham meeting-house, though three miles distant from us.) They inquired what sort of a man Mr. Washington was. My brother had a knowledge of him by being with him at his quarters at Chadd's Ford, and replied that he was a stately, well proportioned, fine looking man, of great ability, active, firm and resolute, of a social disposition, and was considered to be a good man. This he observed to check their ardour for a sight of him, and to bring forward some further observations from them respecting him, to which one of them answered "that he might be a good man, but he was most damnably misled to take up arms against his sovereign." During the interview, while I was conversing with one of the officers, I inquired of him at what place they had encamped the night before, to which he replied that he knew not where the main body of the army was, but their regiment lay on the south side of the hill beyond Kennett Square. He then observed to me in some rapture "you have got a hell of a fine country here, which we have found to be the case ever since we landed at the head of Elk." The house we were in was elevated, so that on the first floor where we stood we had a pretty full view of the army as they progressed along; and while we were conversing together, my brother called on me to step to the door to see General Lord Cornwallis, who was passing by. He was on horseback, appeared tall and sat very erect. His rich scarlet clothing, loaded with gold lace, epaulets, &c., occasioned him to make a brilliant and martial appearance. The advanced part of the army made a halt at this place, and refreshed their horses by hastily cleaning off some of the corn patches that were within their lines. It may be observed that most or all of the officers who conversed with us, were of first rank, and were rather short, portly men, were well dressed and of genteel appearance, and did not look as if they had ever been exposed to any hardship; their skins being as white and delicate as is customary for females who were brought up in large cities or towns.

As we spent no idle time in viewing the strangers who surrounded us, I discovered on a sudden there was a general stir and movement among them; inquiry was made as to what could be the cause, and it was answered by one of them that they were resuming their march, and that the halt that had been made was only to refresh their horses, to enable them to perform the several duties prescribed them.

Having by this time become familiar with them, and no danger or difficulty to be apprehended from them, my curiosity or ambition was increased, and I wished a further and more full view of them than I had before had, and to have it to say that I had seen the whole of them as far as was practicable. I invited James

Johnson, an acquaintance, who was standing by, to accompany me, and we proceeded through the crowd on the public road until we reached the advanced guard, who were of the German troops. Many of them wore their beards on their upper lips, which was a novelty in that part of the country. They were then between the dwelling of Richard Strobe and Osborne's Hill. Being now in the front, we walked on inconsiderately until we arrived at a pair of bars, opposite the ancient dwelling of Amos Davis,\* through which we went into the field south-west of the road, and walked up to the upper fence, being the division line between the two tracts of land of Amos Davis and the heirs of his uncle, Daniel Davis. On turning our faces back, we had a grand view of the army as they advanced over and down the south side of Osborne's Hill and the lands of James Carter, scarce a vacant place left. While we were amusing ourselves with the wonderful curiosity before us, to our great astonishment and surprise the firing of the musketry took place; the advanced guard aforementioned having arrived at the street road, and were fired upon by a company of the Americans, who were stationed in the orchard north of Samuel Jones' brick dwelling house.† The attack was immediately returned by the Hessians, by their stepping up the bank of the road alongside of the orchard, making the fence as a breast work through which they fired upon the company who made the attack. From the distance we were from them (though in full view until the smoke of the firing covered them from our sight), I was under no apprehension of danger, especially when there was such a tremendous force coming on and ready to engage in the action; nevertheless, I concluded it best to retire, finding that my inconsiderate curiosity had prompted me to exceed the bounds of prudence. I proposed to my companion, but he refused to return, being disposed to see what further steps would take place, and how it would end.

I then made the best of my way through the crowd until I arrived at the aforementioned bars on the road, which opened into the field of Amos Davis, where I was met by several companies of soldiers, who were ordered into the field to form and prepare for the approaching engagement—the opening of the bars was not of sufficient width to admit them to pass with that expedition the emergency of the case required. A German officer on horse back ordered the fence to be taken down, and as I was near to the spot, I had to be subject to his requisits as he flourished a drawn sword over my head with others who stood by; on the removal of the second rail, I was forcibly struck with the impropriety of being active in assisting to take the lives of my fellow beings, and therefore desisted proceeding any further in obedience to his

\* See plan, fig. 5.

† Now occupied by his nephew, James Forsythe.

‡ See plan, fig. 7.

commands. The hurry was great, and so many rushing forward under arms, I found no difficulty in retiring undiscovered, and was soon out of the reach of those called immediately into action. I lost no time on my return; and when I arrived on the top of the hill I discovered on the eminence in Samuel Osborne's field a number of my acquaintances who were standing near to a considerable number of persons on horseback and viewing them, and the different movements of the army; I joined in with them. It was now a time of some seriousness and alarm among them—the battle had commenced in earnest—little was to be heard but the firing of the musketry and the roaring of cannon from the parties. It appeared that those on horseback were some of the principal officers of the British army with their aids, who had collected together to consult respecting carrying on the engagement to the best advantage. Among them was General Howe. He was mounted on a large English horse much reduced in flesh, I suppose from their being so long confined on board the fleet between New York and the head of the Chesapeake Bay, which was about six weeks, occasioned by contrary winds, &c. The general was a large, portly man, of coarse features. He appeared to have lost his teeth, as his mouth had fallen in. As I stood alongside I had a full opportunity of viewing him as he sat on horseback, and had to observe his large legs and boots, with flourishing spurs thereon. While the officers were in consultation, and we viewing them together with the smoke issuing from the cannon and musketry, we heard a tremendous roaring of cannon, and saw the volume of smoke arising therefrom at Chadd's ford. General Knyphausen having discovered that the engagement was on with the front of Howe's army at the meeting house, he immediately forced the troops under his command across the Brandywine, and the whole of General Washington's army in that station were routed from their breastworks and the different positions which they had taken to impede the march of the British. From these circumstances General Washington concluded it prudent to effect a retreat which took place accordingly. While we remained on Osborne's hill, we had the opportunity of making many observations—the engagement of both armies—the fields in front of us containing great heaps of blankets and baggage, thrown together to relieve the men for action—the regular march of the British army, consisting of horse and foot, artillery, baggage and provision wagons, arms and ammunition, together with a host of plunderers and rabble that accompanied the army. Almost the whole face of the country around appeared to be covered and alive with those objects. Their march continued about four hours.

We remained on the hill for some time, and when the engagement appeared to be nearly over, or at least that part of it which

was in view, and the day being on the decline, we were about retiring; but as admiration and curiosity had been the order of the day, I proposed to some of my companions that we should go over to the field of battle and take a view of the dead and wounded, as we might never have such another opportunity. Some of them consented, and others with some reluctance yielded. We hastened thither and awful was the scene to behold—such a number of fellow beings lying together severely wounded, and some morally—a few dead, but a small proportion of them considering the immense quantity of powder and ball that had been discharged. It was now time for the surgeons to exert themselves, and divers of them were busily employed. Some of the doors of the meeting house were torn off and the wounded carried thereon into the house to be occupied for an hospital, instead of the American sick for which it had been repairing some days previous.

The wounded officers were first attended to—several of disincision had fallen, and as every thing appeared to be in a state of confusion, and we being spectators and assistance required, some of our number, at the request of the surgeons, became active in removing them therein—of whom I was one. I should have been willing to have been informed who they were, but it was not a time for inquiry, and I do not recollect to have heard the name of one of them mentioned at that time. After assisting in carrying two of them into the house I was disposed to see an operation performed by one of the surgeons, who was preparing to amputate a limb, by having a brass clamp or screw fitted thereon, a little above the knee joint, he had his knife in his hand, the blade of which was of a circular form, and was about to make the incision, when he recollected that it might be necessary for the wounded man to take something to support him during the operation. He mentioned to some of his attendants to give him a little wine or brandy to keep up his spirits, to which he replied, "No, doctor, it is not necessary, my spirits are up enough without it." He then observed, "that he had heard some of them say there was some water in the house, and if there was he would like a little to wet his mouth." As I was listening to the conversation and waiting for the water to arrive, one of my companions caught me by the arm and mentioned that it was necessary to go out immediately, as they were fixing the Picquet Guards, and if we did not get away in a few minutes we should have to remain within the lines of encampment during the night. I instantly complied, and we saved our distance, and were at liberty to return home.

The dusk of the evening was then on, and we set out, being twelve or fifteen in number, two of whom had started earlier and were some distance before us, and I suppose we were all under the erroneous idea that from what had passed during the day, there was not the probability of an American under arms in the whole neighbourhood. But in this we were grossly deceived, for the

two persons aforesaid who had started early were talking rather freely on the defeat of the American army in the course of the afternoon, and were overheard by a scouting party which had been following the rear of the British army during the day. They were posted in a field on an eminence and viewing the movements of the British in the evening after the battle was over. They found it necessary to hail the two gentlemen, who had been and were then taking such liberties, but as no answer was returned they repeated their call, which continuing to be the case, one of them without further hesitation or ceremony fired upon them. The ball penetrated the thigh of one of them, S. K., and he fell.

They then rode off and were discovered travelling up the public road that led to our dwellings. The report of the musket was heard by some of our number who were behind, and that not without serious apprehensions, not knowing what it could mean. When we arrived at the place where the circumstance happened, Richard Sirode, had assisted in carrying the wounded man into a small house, where he lay groaning and lamenting in a most grievous manner.

It would be difficult to express our feelings on this occasion. We were all panic struck, not knowing but what it might be our fate, or perhaps we might fare worse in a few minutes. We felt our imprudence or inconsiderate conduct with great force, and the novelties of the day were now damped. To move forward was terrifying—to remain where we were would be no small punishment under existing circumstances. Some of us had left our families, consisting only of a few females and children, and we knew not what dreadful events might have taken place in our absence. Imagination was worked up to a great height, and our fears were as great as we could bear, such was the dilemma that we were in. I considered that it had overbalanced all we had seen, and was now without remedy. A consultation was now held and we found ourselves surrounded with difficulties—to pursue the public road home was dangerous, from the expectation that the aforementioned scouting parties or others of the military were lying in wait for us, and that we might be fired upon or otherwise taken up, and carried before the prevailing power to answer for our conduct. If we attempted to return through the fields, we were apprehensive we might be met by some of the military, and more guilt would appear than if we went boldly along the road. We were two miles from home, and the moon having got up, the night was clear and bright and remarkably still, so that every movement could be discovered at a distance. After various projects being suggested, we finally resolved to take the nearest way home, which was through divers fields and woods, from a hope that there would be less danger and risque of being detected. Coming to

this conclusion before we set out, that no conversations should take place on the way, or observations made that would be unfavorable, provided we should be overheard. We accordingly commenced our route and reached our dwellings at a late hour of the night without molestation or alarm, except in one instance, when climbing over a fence on the way, we surprised a flock of sheep which lay alongside taking their repose—they started and ran off as if their worst enemy were in close pursuit of them. Our fears were up in an instant, not knowing but that those whom we so much dreaded were close at hand.

We found all safe and undisturbed when we arrived at home, but met with a severe reproof from one of our sisters for having taken such liberties, and given way to idle curiosity, which might have involved ourselves and family in great difficulty and distress, saying that for her part she had no wish or desire to see one person in the whole British army. I was satisfied with the correctness of her observation, but it was now too late to be remedied. I can say for myself I do not recollect ever to have felt a more thankful heart to the great Author of my existence than I did after I retired to bed, though I knew not what might be the consequences of that day's expedition when it came to be known that we had shown such an attachment to and familiarity with the enemies of our country, and which the American forces were contending against, and over whom, under the assistance of a protecting Providence, they finally prevailed, which event was the introduction and establishment of a great and powerful nation.

#### APPENDIX.

Having, in the foregoing, given some account of the engagement and adventures of one day, the memorable 11th of September, 1777, I shall now proceed to give some further account of what took place shortly thereafter. The British army remained on the ground of encampment at Birmingham, until the third day of the week following, being the 16th of the month, having in the course of that time removed all their wounded that survived to the borough of Wilmington, (at that time in their possession) amounting to 11½ wagon loads. They on that day commenced their further march for the city,—having formed two divisions; one of which, commanded by General Knyphausen, proceeded by way of Chester, and the other, being the grand one under the command of General William Howe, who proceeded direct to the Swedes' ford on Schuylkill, and after marching through a severe day's rain, they encamped the following night on the south side of the valley hill and around the Boot tavern, at which house the general had his head quarters.

The ground which they had lately occupied at Birmingham

being now clear, and left in a desolate condition, exhibited a scene of destruction and waste. Some few of the inhabitants who remained thereon, and some others who were returning to their respective places of abode, found it necessary to call in the assistance of their neighbours, to re-bury many of the dead who lay exposed to the open air, and destruction of beasts and wild fowls, having (in consequence of the late heavy rains) been washed bare, and some few of them had never been interred. I was among a number who attended and performed that duty.

It would be difficult to describe the many cases of horror and destruction of human beings that came under our notice in this undertaking, but we accomplished it, though in many instances of a most disagreeable and unpleasant nature. During the performance of it, we had a full opportunity of beholding the destruction and wanton waste committed on the property of the peaceable inhabitants of the neighbourhood, and on the ground of encampment. Those who were obliged to remain thereon, had their stock of cattle destroyed for the use of the army—their houses taken away, and their household furniture, bedding, &c., wantonly wasted and burned. It was not uncommon to see heaps of feathers laying about the farms, the ticks having been stripped off and made use of, and the remains or small pieces of valuable furniture which lay about their fire places in the fields unsummed, when there was no want of timber and fence rails that might have been used for their cooking, &c.; but being in an enemy's country, inhabited by rebels, there was no restraint on the soldiery or rabble who accompanied them.

Having made mention that the meeting house at Birmingham had been taken out of our possession by the Americans, in order to accommodate the sick soldiers, it so turned out that before they occupied it for that purpose, General Howe had the control of it for the use of his wounded officers, and when vacated, and the army removed, Friends were at liberty to cleanse and purify, which was so far done that we held one meeting in it on the First day following after their departure, but considerable repairs were necessary afterwards, to place it in the condition it was in previous to our being deprived of it. During their occupancy of it several of the principal officers died, and were interred in the burial ground adjoining. One of them said to be a near connection of the Duke of Northumberland, a young man by the name of Percy.\*

\* There is a tradition that Lord Percy was killed in this battle. This is an error. Hugh Earl Percy, afterwards second Duke of Northumberland, who commanded at the battle of Lexington, and was engaged in the reduction of Fort Washington, left America previously to the battle of Brandywine, and died in England on the 10th of July, 1817, at the age of 74. See Playfair's Fam. Anct. : 1st vol. p. 161. Gent. Mag. for July, 1817.

Copied at Swarthmore  
College library book named  
"Eyewitness Accounts of  
the American Revolution"  
17-2047

### NOTICE OF THE LIFE OF JOSEPH TOWNSEND.\*

Joseph Townsend was the seventh child of John and Joanna Townsend, and a grandson of Joseph Townsend, who was born in Berkshire, England, in 1686, and emigrated to this country in 1714, where he purchased and occupied a large tract of land lying in East Bradford Township, in Chester county, Pennsylvania, near which the village of West Chester is now built. Joseph, the subject of this sketch, was born on the 26th day of February, 1756, upon the original tract purchased by his grandfather. He was, by birth, a member of the religious Society of Friends, as his ancestors had been for some generations before him. He remained upon the paternal farm until 1782, and witnessed in the meantime the battle of Brandywine, which occurred on the 11th September, 1777. The devastation committed by the passage of the British army under the command of Gen. Howe, through Chester county, induced him to emigrate, and in the year 1782 he removed to the Little Falls of Gunpowder, in Harford county, Maryland, where he taught school one year. In the fall of 1783 he removed to Baltimore, and the town being then small and growing, he soon took an active part in its advancement—was a member of the Board of Health in 1794, 1797 and 1800, during the three several visitations of the yellow fever, and was active in the purchase of the Potter's Field, and the Maryland Hospital, both of which were demanded by that fatal disease. In 1794 he was one of the founders of the "Baltimore Equitable Society for Insuring Houses from Loss by Fire,"—an establishment based upon the mutual principle, and over which he presided for the long period of forty-seven years, until his death, having seen his adopted town expand into the importance of a large city, third in rank in the United States. Various other offices of trust and responsibility, he also held—both under the city and State governments, in corporate bodies, and in the administration of private estates, too numerous to mention in this short outline of his life.

He was three times married.  
June 6th, 1782, to Hannah Winter, of Chester county, by whom he had two children; both of whom died.

May 31st, 1787, to Mary Matthews, of Baltimore, by whom he had eight children, one only of whom survives at this date, (a son.)

June 3d, 1803, to Esther Hallett, of Long Island, who survives him. They had a family of thirteen children, of whom five (a son and four

\* The above sketch was at request kindly prepared by Henry C. Townsend Esq., a grand nephew of the author of the following narrative.

Cecilia Wright 1151 Lake Dr Westtown

- Your decision has far reaching results impacting our area far into the future.  
A very heavy weight on the decision.  
These decisions are irreversible.

The residents have heard many references & presentations with out paperwork, so we are at a disadvantage.

- Toll Brothers employees & contracted specialists - none that I am aware of live in close proximity to Grebilly Farm and all were paid by Toll. so I feel they are not vested in this area.

- Differences in the number of home will significantly impact
  - traffic
  - schools
  - views
  - historical connections
  - sewage
  - significant increase in township costs

- Preserving the Brandywine Battle Land should be of utmost importance. It is our history and needs to be preserved.

- who will supervise this building & inspect hours  
extensive lawsuits for substandard  
building of homes + May 2017, Action  
News report

Lawsuits include

stucco damage  
water damage  
shoddy roofing material  
faulty construction  
failure to comply with building  
codes

houses built with vinyl bricks,  
fiber cement siding, vinyl siding  
all not sealed properly.

Last year Toll brothers estimated  
its liability for repairs at 80 million  
currently its upwards of 324.4 million

Consumer affairs web site TollBrothers  
has an overall rating of 1.2 out of 5  
a very poor rating.

They also list

leaking windows  
defective heating,  
mold, foundation damage, etc

My name is Richard Bennett. You know me as the Chairman of the WT PC  
 However I am not speaking today in that capacity. Now on behalf of the Planning  
 Committee. I am speaking in a more formal way to you regarding the progress of the  
 planning committee of the work the PC did as part of the process. The more  
 than 40 people could be recommended. But would be aware of opening  
 up of more meetings with the estate. I wish we did not have to be here.  
 I'm confident the BOB members can empathize with those the residents

What leads me to three points I'd like to make:

1st, on behalf of the residents, thank you to the BOB, ~~and~~ the best support  
 for your diligence in taking to the heart your hours of reports, the  
 comments & questions of the members to their process, & to the public at  
 large.

Richard Bennett  
 1005 Robin Drive  
 Westchester

Second, I took the liberty to review all the minutes of the PC meeting with Tom. And as a reminder there is one comment from Andrew of Feb. that still remains even more so today than it did then, and I would like to ask you to think about it or you make your decision.

He was asked the question of whether he would give various considerations to all the comments & suggestions & recommendations for the PC & the publication that might be used for thought or thus possibly result in changes & then present proposed plans.

He was asked what have you learned or seen from what you've heard that might result in a different approach: very few comments do says draft, to be corrected to instead with documents independent etc.

Each time Andrew said he wanted to wait till the PC had events for itself to process before commenting.

Well, respectfully, subjects for that Pen 711 may have been no  
interest - I can tell by a flash of an eye at all in the part of the  
my house - as the one had requested - brought the original report  
everything. As for my own, agreed to of course, I don't see them.

Maybe the best - the way please. Any of the various I had told  
of your value - to be open to other ideas that would be a constant  
better reflect the sentiment of this student of the country.

As date I've over indicated. As the Tolley or no way.

I do understand Andrew & Guy (of whom I have a great deal of respect)  
& understand his day in job request  
no credit.

Have a job to do - it  
to do up some numbers  
which has to be on that point. & find

One of my favorite books pieces of literature is the book "The People of the Congo" by John Fitzgerald Kennedy. Myself people include people who like  
found with challenges that ranged from conflict to moral equality, men, and  
the difficulty not explicit decisions; ~~but the result of asset buildup~~  
rather than should ~~conquer~~ general ~~conquer~~ under the most intense pressure.

If you feel that Poll has demonstrated in genuine concern & care for the  
health with its proposal to date, that it has demonstrated a  
genuine confidence in its important credit for life, us, + it would also be  
to reflect the history of the country; that the world would not  
& character  
culture

Vote should ~~be~~ a desire to improve the world  
with include the changes of some light ~~light~~ conditions of  
has presented as a ~~strong~~ ~~structure~~ 5 V E

However, should you conclude that Tolls intensity does not have not  
reflected either sufficient reflected who ~~be~~ <sup>be</sup> ~~will~~ <sup>will</sup> ~~on~~  
meant a ~~good~~ <sup>short</sup> ~~days~~ <sup>time</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~mean~~ <sup>way</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~things~~

My boy, may the just a piece of paper & full with ~~know~~  
houses spread across the landscape,

But is critical to all <sup>the</sup> ~~other~~ ~~degrees~~ ~~characterized~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~outlook~~  
as the corner centerpiece of ~~the~~ ~~land~~,

The I story & reputation that you will emerge you &

take the road less traveled & more challenging & ~~very~~

No to the development & ~~but~~ ~~let~~ ~~the~~ ~~fact~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~way~~

& make the return pay & sell ~~where~~ ~~where~~ ~~over~~ ~~the~~ ~~way~~



# BELENOS

This is a matter very personal to me on 2 numbers of different fronts.

- 1) I live less than 2 half a mile from the proposed duplex site
- 2) My family was given a 150 acre land grant from K.C. for payment as serving as G.W.'s personal bodyguards. The farm was a working horse farm about an hour from here and it sat in the middle of urban sprawl. ~~It was~~ the help of land trusts, the local govt, it is preserved in perpetuity for its historical significance. Men like Cubilly. It's considered a crown jewel in the Belawan Valley's <sup>preservation</sup> initiative.
- 3) Our family dealt directly w/ Toll Bros before it was preserved and I can speak first hand about their tactics.

Just like anyone else here, I care about ~~what~~ maintaining the integrity of our local community, ~~but~~ but also about preserving ~~our country's~~ those places which represent and are directly tied to ~~our~~ significant events in our nation's history. This development will destroy both the look, feel of our local community & forever <sup>take away</sup> a piece of history. Study after study <sup>shows</sup> that townships + residents financially lose with large dense developments like this one. Besides taking away what makes the community any attractive place to live, it ~~breaks~~ breaks the infrastructure across the board and the developer does not absorb this, taxpayers do.

Studies also show that townships aren't <sup>economically</sup> financially  
when they maintain open space versus incurring the burdens  
associated w/ development of this scope.

Toll Bros. has not demonstrated that they've met the  
~~financial~~ <sup>necessary</sup> thresholds around environmental concerns,  
traffic issues and historical ~~Admission~~ <sup>Admission</sup>. Toll Bros also has a long  
record of not dealing in good faith w/ townships, suing them ~~and~~  
about conditional requirements after the deal has been closed,  
leaving land ~~topsoil~~ <sup>stripped</sup> and mineral b/c the economic  
conditions have changed and the ~~idea~~ <sup>Permits</sup>, after witnessing them show up  
by ~~guaranteeing~~ <sup>to come to any</sup> favor ~~for~~ <sup>the hope & designs</sup> the town.  
County has made it clear that the profit is to not  
have this land developed. There are other avenues ~~left~~  
to pursue ~~the~~ numerous ~~groups~~ preservation, ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> that groups  
would stand behind such an initiative from a financial  
perspective.

I would like to kindly ~~remind~~ <sup>remind</sup> the Board that they're  
in the driver's seat here and that you represent the  
people of this township, not Toll Brothers. The best  
interests of this community - environmentally, financially,  
historically are ~~inherently~~ <sup>inherently</sup> not in a dense, second rate  
development.

Once it's gone, it's gone forever

Here you w/ a quote from G.W. that I came across -  
Experience teaches us that it is much easier to  
prevent an enemy from posting themselves  
than it is to dislodge them after they have possession

Grew up on: 1163 Lake Drive  
West Chester, Pa 19382

Rebecca Dault  
2403 Barker Circle  
West Chester, Pa, 19380

### Public Statement

Lived here  
36 years

Just because you have the right to do something  
doesn't mean you should.

It's not can you - but should you?

My fear is  
the unintended  
consequences  
of the project  
Quarry -  
can not  
guarantee it won't  
be affected.

- endless cycle of development - more people = more  
schools = more development = more problems

- ecologically - not sound Not met adequate  
standards for storm water & management

- Beauty of open space - it's what makes  
Chester County unique & unfortunately desirable,  
but this can cause an

- Progress & development is not automatically  
or always a good thing

in the  
past 20  
years  
- we have seen endless development,  
increase in traffic, increase in  
accidents, ~~more houses~~ than  
~~open space~~ & decrease in open space  
meanwhile wildlife is being pushed  
out, homes are being overshadowed by

Quality of life  
decreasing

the same ~~development~~ <sup>cookie cutter</sup> development

- at ~~the~~ <sup>a high</sup> price point - will homes actually  
sell? Average families will not be buying  
these homes. Are we stuck with empty developments?

agree w/ Maria Dault

~~Have the schools and be able to make up the difference~~

Should be something that benefits the community & like East Boston Park ultra trails & value to the community

I'm afraid ~~the consequences~~ <sup>Toll</sup> Once you puts up these houses, they will be like the Music Man & leave town to <sup>their</sup> ~~your~~ next venture & not see the consequences while the current residents are left to clean up ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> mess. Created by poor planning & execution & frankly blatant disregard for traffic patterns, historic & ecological value, <sup>school district limitations & most importantly,</sup> ~~the current residents concerns~~

\* Current residents concerns

~~~~~~~~~

**Jarl Mork**

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**From:** Jarl Mork <morkjw06@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 11:25 AM  
**To:** 'supervisors@westtown.org'; 'Banthony@thornburytp.com'; 'administration@thornburytp.com'; 'birminghamtp@comcast.net'  
**Cc:** 'mindy rhodes'  
**Subject:** The Development of Crebilly Farm

*add:  
East Bradford Township  
The Board of West Chester  
West Chester University*

Gentlemen:

To the Supervisors of Westtown, Thornbury and Birmingham Townships:

You have the responsibility to protect the health, safety and welfare of the current and future citizens of your townships and of those who pass through your townships, and to preserve open space, farmland and historical properties. Are you doing everything you can to foresee the impacts and to satisfy those responsibilities?

To the Robinsons:

You have the opportunity to leave a positive legacy and good neighborhood relations by working with the community to preserve as much of the farm as possible and still achieve a reasonable return by engaging in a dialog with the land conservancies, the developers and other interested parties.

To Toll Brothers:

You have the opportunity to improve your image and practices by working with the interested parties to achieve a reasonable development and a reasonable profit and also preserve a significant portion of the historic property.

To PennDot:

You have the opportunity and responsibility to get ahead of the serious and worsening traffic situation on Rts. 202 and 926 and other surrounding roads, to include Pleasant Grove Road, New Street and Birmingham Roads.

To all parties:

Do the right thing: Plan and act to minimize the number of homes and maximize the preserved open space of Crebilly Farm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jarl Mork, Birmingham Township resident.

Elizabeth Moro  
102 Pennfield Dr.  
Kennett Square, PA 19348

<sup>a</sup>  
At ~~the~~ last meeting to defend the possibility of another option for Crebilly Farm, I shared with Chadds Ford Live the importance to make every effort we can to preserve our historic battlefields and honor those who valiantly fought for the birth of our nation. By keeping these spaces open, every generation has the opportunity to re-witness the battle and hear the courageous tales of our founders. It is about preserving our quality of life--historically and environmentally. ~~I hope you will take time to learn more about the special places in our district and join the efforts to find ways to save them.~~

~~Sign on property that states you are in the Brandywine Battlefield.~~

- Principle over profit
- Patriotism to our country for the larger good.
- Preservation of our natural resources and bucolic beauty.

At at time in our nation's history where all these things are being questioned, let us not let this moment pass when we have the chance to make the difference. Some have criticized on what merits I present my thoughts, and it is this-I am a citizen of this state and resident of the county--I have a vested interest in retaining the beauty of our area for generations to come. Under Article One Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, "The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic, and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all of the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people."

Reason why Beaver Valley was won.  
Legal Precedent

John Dernbach, Widener University law professor, has written about the Environmental Rights Amendment, and his analysis was cited by Chief Justice Castile in his landmark plurality opinion.

- 1 - The right to clean air and pure water is equivalent to the right to free speech.**
- 2 - The people of Pennsylvania voted 4-1 in favor of the bipartisan amendment.**
- 3-According to the Supreme Court, "The right delineated in the first clause of Section 27 presumptively is on par with, and enforceable to the same extent as, any other right reserved to the people in Article 1." That includes the right to life, liberty, property and the pursuit of happiness; it includes freedom of speech, freedom of religion, the right to trial by jury and the right to bear arms.**

Dear Board of Supervisors:

November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017

My name is Catherine Quillman. I live in West Chester, and I am a local historian and author. I'm currently have a contract to write a book titled *The American Revolution in the Brandywine Valley*. My interest in the battlefield dates to the late 1980s, when I first wrote about a grass roots organization that is now part of the Chester County Planning Commission called the Brandywine Battlefield Taskforce

I wrote about this group when I was a suburban staff writer for *the Philadelphia Inquirer*. There were numerous articles over the years, including one in 2000 that focused on the "battle" over the Fieldpoint subdivision, originally a Toll Brothers ~~property~~ <sup>project</sup>. I don't know if Toll was part of the final agreement but only 46 acres of what is now called Sandy Hollow Heritage Park was saved.

I bring this up because with the exception of Sandy Hollow and the recent acquisition of the Dilthworth Farm, no large scale parts of the battlefield have been preserved beyond scenic easements. Of course, this greatly saddens me that a battle that has been called the turning point of the American Revolution is largely crammed with housing developments despite decades of preservation efforts. (One Toll development is located on Rt. 52, near the John Chads' Ford house and where the Americans were positioned on Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, 1777. Efforts to preserve that farm also failed).

I believe the entire Crebilly property should be saved and not merely the so-called battlefield corridor. I also want to inform you another American Revolutionary site that Toll developed. According to Wise Preservation Planning which wrote the "historic narrative" or documentation, more than a 1000 soldiers encamped on the former Daniel Evans homestead near the village of Eagle on Route 100 or what Toll now calls Chester Springs.

This property is now part of Toll's "Byers Station," which spans two townships. Toll's first development stage began in 2001. I have included recent photos of the Daniel Evans homestead, where General Wayne joined Washington on Sept. 21, 1777 after the "Paoli Massacre." Despite the decades since Toll purchased the former Evans/Ewing farm, the 18<sup>th</sup> century Evans homestead is still used as Toll office and is not being treated as a historic structure as promised. In fact, the "black hole" of the sewer treatment system is within yards of the house, and the rare springhouse/residence now faces a "wall" of grass, part of 24 foot high embankment. As you can see from the photos, several trailers have been there so long, the wheels are embedded into the ground.

According to Upper Uwchlan Township records which I acquired, Toll received bonus density despite the fact that the Evans barn (described by WISE as dating to the 1700s) was never converted into a club house. To quote the township minutes of 2003, the barn "was sound in 2002 but changing the roadway grade several years ago shifted the pressure on the basement walls, which compromised the barn. It hasn't been maintained and continues to deteriorate." *The barn was razed.*

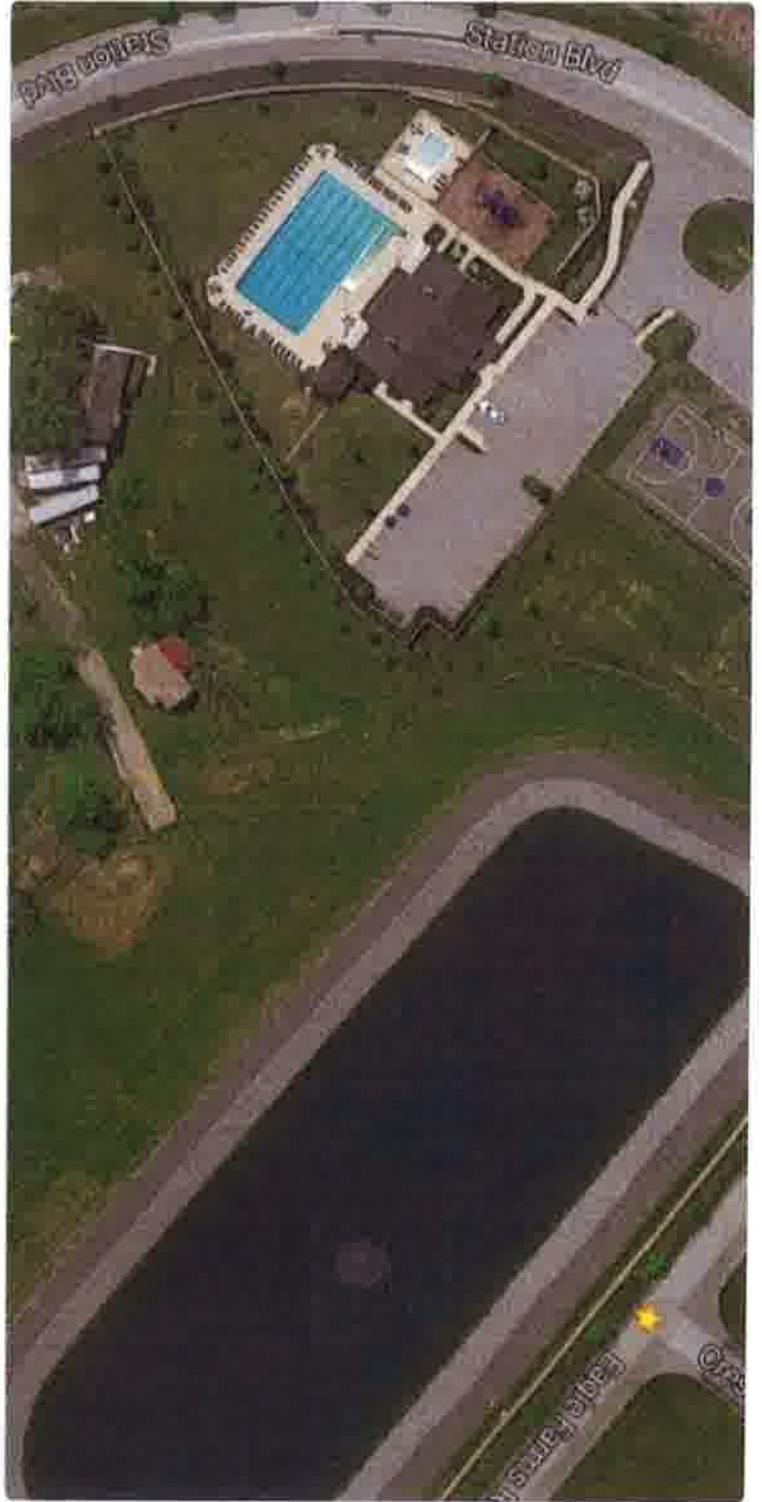
The minutes also speak of Toll's plans for "recreational amenities" - evidently that was more of an issue than saving any of the historic buildings. In fact, several early outbuildings including a log "wagon" house was damaged by a fallen tree in early 2002 and left to rot instead of being removed, for instance, to the Uwchlan's park known as Upland Farm on Rt. 100.

Another barn, in West Vincent township, was converted into a club house. However, the early house next to it remains boarded up. Another 18<sup>th</sup> century house was renovated but it has been described as the "cheaply" done renovation and care wasn't even taken to match the color of the old roof to a new "plastic" addition. (See the photo) I was told by a local historian that the barn of that house mysteriously burned to the ground since Toll began this phase of the development in 2006.

I bring up the Evans/Ewing farm, because, like Crebilly, it was not only eligible for the National Register, the paperwork was completed but never submitted by the Ewing family. I should also point out that Byers Station has nearly the same development plan as Crebilly's such as "carriage houses," and "single family homes" I also think it relates because several residents in recent meetings including Randall Spackman have spoken about their concern for the long-term care of Crebilly's historic buildings. If Byers Station is any indication, Toll Brothers has no real concern for historic structures let alone properties associated with the American Revolution.

Sincerely, Catherine Quillman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catherine Quillman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.



Byn's Station

Mr. Kessler addressed those concerns as follows:

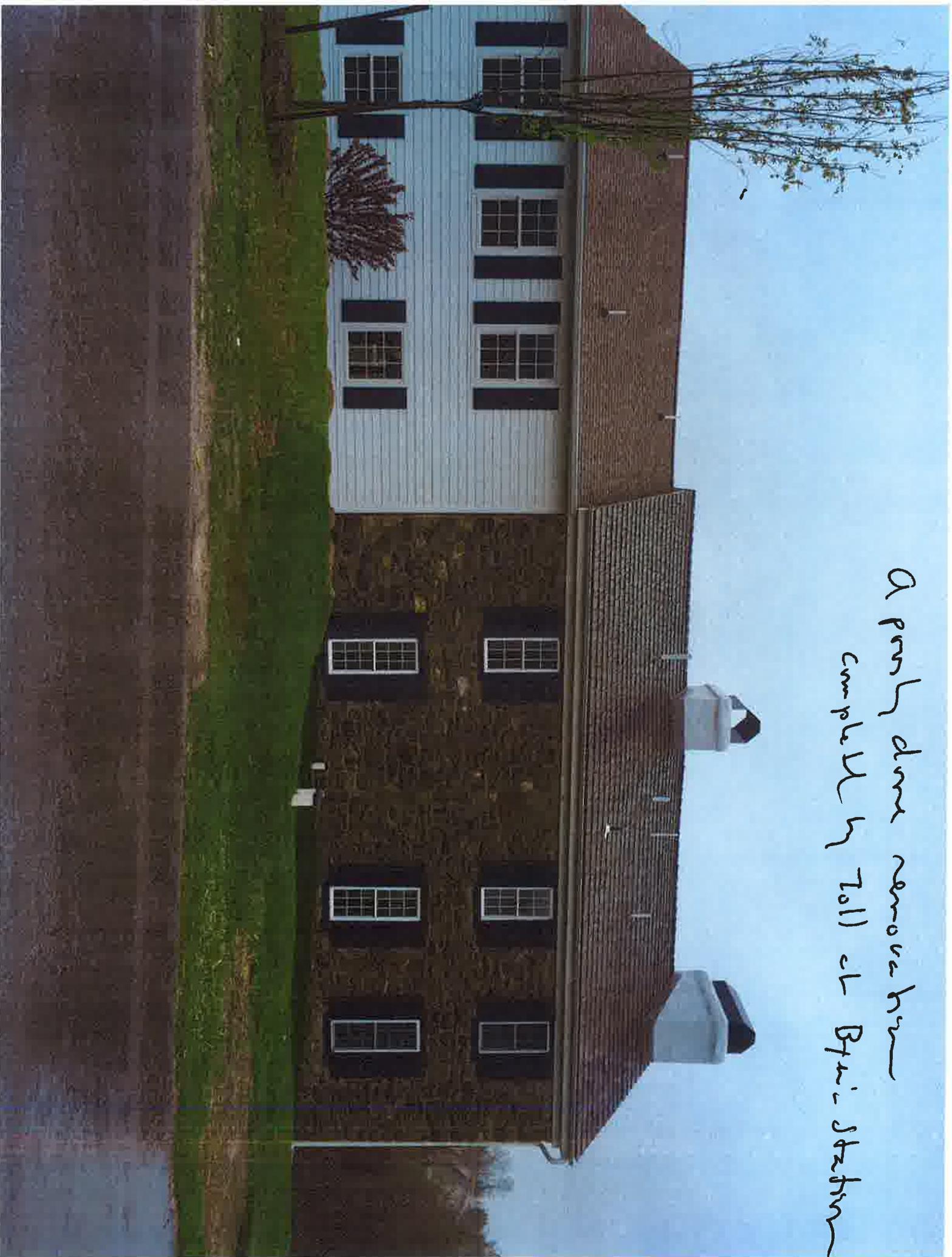
The open space and playing fields are in West Vincent as this parcel has been set aside for the rec center and pool all along. They are trying to adapt to the current set of circumstances regarding the condition of the Barn and also satisfy the residents' request for a larger pool. All of the surrounding lots are built out or planned open space.

Mary Lou Farrow advised that the Barn was sound in 2002 and changing the roadway grade several years ago shifted the pressure on the basement walls, which has compromised the Barn. It hasn't been maintained and continues to deteriorate, which is disappointing. She and Doris Grassi met with Mr. Kessler to discuss the condition of the historic buildings. Also discussed was Toll's offer to enhance various recreational amenities.

Connecting trails repairing the driveway and installing...

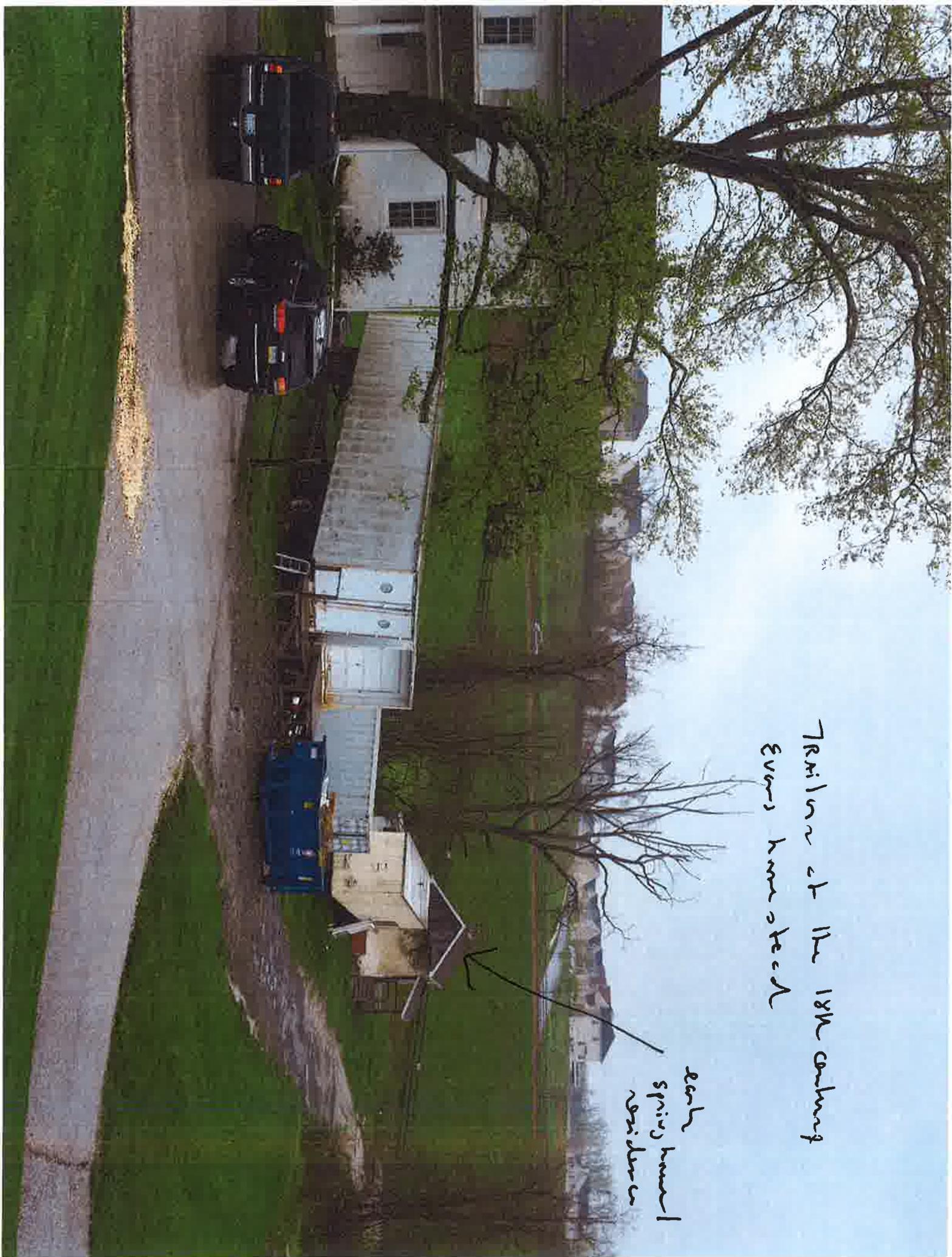
Byer's Station

A partly done renovation  
completed by Toll at Bryn Station



Trail on the 18th century  
Evans homestead

early  
spring house  
evidence



wells

addressing the top supervisors -

I am not going to repeat what has been discussed ~~before~~ regarding traffic - emergency vehicles not being able to drive thru - ~~and~~ the possibility of having to build a new school - and history and environment.

I ask the top supervisors to think of the citizens in this room and other residents of the area, before you cast your vote.

Think of the fact that none of us want 300 ~~plus~~ plus new homes in our area.

Think of how this would impact westtown!

I would like to mention that the crebilly site could benefit the community by making it into a year round facility. It could be used for day care, winter and summer sports, wedding venue, biking and hiking trails.

I implore you to think of the citizens of beautiful westtown before you cast your vote.

Gloria Dault  
1163 LAKE DR  
WC PA  
610 793 2769  
rdault@verizon.net

**WESTTOWN**  
**Leopson Township**

**Public Hearing – Crebilly Farm**

**Nov. 27, 2017**

**To: Planning Committee Members**

**Fr: William P. Worth III**

**1075 Meetinghouse Road, Birmingham Township**

**Re: Prevent Housing Development on Crebilly Farm Property**

**Good evening. I am the co-owner of a 115 acre farm in nearby Birmingham Township. The farm is under a Conservation Easement, arranged by the Brandywine Conservancy. My wish had always been that Crebilly Farm would have gone the same route.**

**In my youth, I had many fun times playing around the farm with Jimmy Robinson. One summer I was helping loan hay onto a wagon being pulled across his family's fields.**

**I can argue for preserving land fought upon by soldiers of the American Revolution, and argue against increased traffic. But those arguments have already been well made.**

**My plea tonight, to the Board, and to the Planning Committee members, is to act upon what you believe is best for the community, the children, and their children, and how they could grow to love this surrounding protected land and, and carry it forward, as their parents did.**

**Yours truly, and good night.**

November 27, 2017

Anne Satterthwaite  
701 Weatherstone Dr  
Paoli PA 19301  
© 484-947-8857

Dear Westtown Supervisors,

I have lived in Chester County in East Goshen and Willistown Townships for the past 54 years. //  
In those years, // I have seen numerous family farms devoured by housing and shopping  
developments in Westtown and other townships in Chester County. Where I once relaxed and  
enjoyed driving by beautiful fields of livestock and grain, // I see houses, townhouses and stores.  
With all this development, traffic has grown exponentially. Now a days, I spend my time stuck  
in traffic on routes 1, 3, 202, 322, and 926. With all the building and traffic, I can <sup>with certainty</sup> say my quality  
of life has diminished exponentially.

As supervisors, are you not charged with protecting the quality of life of your Westtown  
community, // and the adjacent township communities? This past spring, the Toll Bothers traffic  
person said that the current state of traffic near Crebilly Farm is rated as F. // With an additional  
600 plus car, if calculated as two cars per unit, that rate will become a F minus, minus,  
minus.....? Is this not adversely impacting the quality of life of the Westtown, // and surrounding  
communities?

In five, ten, 15, or 20 years would you like to be remembered as the township supervisors who  
allowed Crebilly Farm, // the crown jewel of Westtown Township, // to be developed into houses?  
Conversely, wouldn't you like to be remembered as the supervisors who stood up to Toll  
Brothers and protected the last large family farm in Westtown Township?

"Our land feeds our bodies and souls, // and it is the most important legacy we can pass on intact  
to our children and grandchildren." Willistown Conservation Trust 

Sincerely,

  
Anne Satterthwaite

November 27, 2017

**First, I would like to address the developer, Mr. Andrew Semon:**

Thank you for being so gracious any time our paths have crossed in this last year. If you are granted Conditional Use by this board, I realize legally, you will have every right to develop Crebilly Farm under the current application submitted. I do not like it; I do get it. Just because you *can* does not necessarily mean you *should*. And I have faith in you that you can do better than the plans we have seen so far.

I wonder if you would, in this case, think outside the box of so many typical development projects by your company and consider a different direction for Crebilly Farm? *What if* you permitted a Phase One Archeological Survey? *What if* you made the decision to protect our National History and keep the development out of the Brandywine Battlefield swath? *What if* the Civil War Trust, Preservation Pennsylvania, our county, state and local conservancies pulled together to purchase that part of Crebilly Farm and buy down the development rights? *What if* you were a catalyst to help bridge the gap between the Robinson Family and Westtown Township? *What if* you helped the landowners see a bigger picture and a different way? *What would* the national headlines look like for your company once the media caught wind of 'Toll Brothers develops historic land thoughtfully and saves American History?' Every one of us in this room stems from the events that occurred September 11, 1777 on the land of Crebilly Farm and the surrounding area. That was the birth of our *nation*.

**To the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors:**

Thank you to each of you for your hard work and thank you for taking this so seriously. I can imagine this isn't quite what you thought you signed up for, yet here we are. A development of this magnitude will permanently cripple our community. When I try to imagine what West Chester will be like without Crebilly Farm and then upon her demise, gain such an inappropriate massive development on historic land, I equate it to severing an artery and leaving a gushing geyser that will never recover.

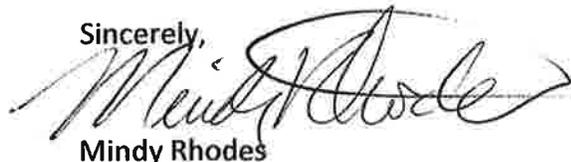
Over the last year, I have attended every single Planning Commission meeting and Conditional Use hearing. I can honestly say, *never*, in the fifty plus hours of meetings and testimony, nor in the countless letters, emails and phone calls I have exchanged over the last year regarding this subject, have I ever heard a single soul say: Gee I really can't wait for that historic farm to get developed with over 300 houses!

The fate of this community and surrounding communities lies within the decision the three of you will make. Please keep going. Please do not give up. Find a way. Prepare to strap in for the next chapter as the rest of us are already prepared to do.

The people of Westtown Township are your constituents. They voted for you; they *chose* you. The three of you work for them. Though I think it is wise to be frugal when spending other people's money, it's *their* money. I think their message has been clear and consistent: DO NOT grant Conditional Use to this developer.

Leave no stone unturned. If not you, then who?

Sincerely,



Mindy Rhodes

[www.CrebillyFarmFriends.com](http://www.CrebillyFarmFriends.com)

331 Broad Run Road  
West Chester  
West Bradford Twp.

Public Comment on Crebilly – Toll Brothers Development – 11/27/17

Good Evening. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these proceedings. My name is Myron J. Grubaugh. My wife and I reside at 1024 Dunvegan Rd. We are a party to these proceedings through Neighbors for Crebilly. I will have a paper copy of these comments available upon completion, if you wish to have it.

First, I want to express my deep, deep disappointment at this and past Board of Supervisors, for the utter and complete lack of action and disregard on doing what many other surrounding communities have already done. Namely, establishing an Open Land Preservation fund for this community. If a \$100 tax per household/year had been collected since we moved in this township in 2000, based on approx. 3700 households, this township would have had approx. \$5.55M dollars to contribute toward the price required to place Crebilly Farm into Conservancy, as of 2015. That would have shown other local, state, and Federal entities that Westtown was serious about trying to preserve open space, and could have prevented this debacle we've been part of for the past 14 months, or so. Instead, over the years, all of the Westtown Boards did nothing. So, here we are, fighting Toll Brothers and the Robinson's to try and save this beautiful farm, our history and preserve some level of quality of life.

When we moved here, I had no idea how important that farm was to the Battle of Brandywine. Truth be told, I knew little to nothing about the Battle. However, based on the testimony from the last meeting alone, Mr. Mike Miller showed how important the preservation of Crebilly can be for our future, and our past. "Staff Rides" by current military commanders and leaders allow them to understand the importance that landscape can have on a battle, and allow them to use that knowledge in current military campaigns. Add to that all the other testimony that was presented at the last meeting, and I feel it borders on criminal to allow this development, which will result in the loss of a significant portion of the Brandywine Battlefield, to move forward.

I am a degreed electrical engineer. I help design radar systems. In engineering, you have to have a set of specifications that are clearly delineated in order to design a system that will work. I have attended all of the Planning Commission and BoS Conditional Use meetings about this development. I have to admit that I completely dumbfounded as to how this development can be allowed to move forward. I have heard nothing about concrete development plans. Instead, I have heard about preliminary design plans, conditional design plans, and conceptual

design plans. I don't understand how the BoS can be asked to approve such a complex development without actual concrete plans and specifications. At least, the development should be delayed until real plans and specifications can be produced and delivered to the BoS so they can perform a true and thorough review of the proposed development. Then, and only then, can the Board make a truly informed decision about whether this development should be allowed to move forward...and not until then. Also, given the new information about the probability that skirmishes did occur on Crebilly Farm, it would be completely remiss of the Board of Supervisors to fail to impose a requirement of ground penetrating radar to determine if there is, indeed, bodies buried on Crebilly Farm, or other buried, historically significant, artifacts that would be destroyed by development. Once you start tearing up the ground, you can't turn back.

Finally, I want to enter into the public record a portion of a letter that was written by O. James Lighthizer, President of the Civil War Trust to the Westtown Planning Commission. The Civil War Trust is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization devoted to the preservation of America's hallowed battlegrounds, including Revolutionary War Battlefields. According to the date of the e-mail, Mr. Lighthizer sent this letter to the Planning commission, on or around Oct 2, 2017. In that letter he states:

“With this letter, I seek to convey the Trust's concern with the Toll Brothers' proposed development of the 322.36-acre site known locally as “Crebilly Farm,” located in Westtown Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. Significantly, this property is situated within the historic footprint of the Brandywine Battlefield.”

Later in the same letter, he states:

“Although the Civil War Trust recognizes that people need places to live, work and shop, we believe it is possible to balance development with historic resource and land preservation, so local communities can benefit from the economic opportunities that both can provide. Preserved battlefields are heritage tourism magnets that generate revenue for states and localities throughout the country. Further, passive and educational recreational open spaces like battlefields contribute to the quality of life of local residents (Sandy Hollow Heritage Park being a local example of such benefits). A housing development can be moved; historic battlefields cannot, and once they are destroyed they are gone forever.

Given Crebilly Farm's significance in the Battle of Brandywine, the Civil War Trust encourages Westtown Township to consider the long-term economic and open space benefits of preserving the property and its history. The Trust urges

Westtown Township and Toll Brothers to consider alternatives to the current development plan, and further their outreach to the local community, battlefield advocates and other stakeholders. With the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution only 8 years away, now is the time to be protecting our Revolutionary War history.”

It is the last two sentences, urging the Township and Toll Brothers, and the Robinsons, by default, to find alternatives to the current development that speaks to me the most. There is another way to go about this that will satisfy Toll Brothers, and allow the Robinsons to profit from the land their family has owned for over 80 years. All we have to do is work with other entities, such as the Civil War Trust, maybe the Agricultural Land Preservation Board, County and State government groups, and others, and we can find a way to make this a win-win situation for all involved.

There are many other points I could make about the problems this development will cause...from waste water issues, traffic congestion, school overcrowding, to increased taxes all of us will be forced to pay for this development. I could also point out all the horror stories that have been made public about other Toll Brothers developments. But, I'll leave that to all my fellow Westtown neighbors. I've taken enough of your time.

Finally, I urge you to deny this conditional use application, based on lack of proper planning and engineering design, loss of quality of life for those residents who will be most affected by the development, significant worsening of already horrible traffic and congestion problems in the immediate area, and the loss of a historically significant part of a Revolutionary War battlefield ground. Then, **if** you deny the application, you **MUST** take action to preserve the farm, while providing a means for the owners to profit from the sale of their property, as is their right. You can't simply deny this application and expect this to not happen again.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully submitted,

Myron J. Grubaugh  
1024 Dunvegan Rd  
West Chester, PA 19382

November 27, 2017

I am attending tonight's meeting with the intention of addressing a few issues related to Crebilly Farm. I have lived in Westtown for almost 27 years, 16 years in West Glen and currently in Arborview.

The proximity of my home to Routes 926 and 202 have made me keenly aware of the traffic congestion at those intersections. It has gotten progressively worse over the years. I sometimes wait through 3-4 lights before being able to turn on to 926 East. With the revamped shopping center (which most people like), the ability to get through this traffic is horrific. The addition of a new development and the cars and traffic that go with it, will exacerbate the problem tenfold.

Westtown is a beautiful Township with Crebilly as its gem. To rid the Township of this open space, will deter people from living here.

Please look to the future and realize the impact this development will have from so many perspectives. So very sad that this municipality has allowed such perfect land to disappear amidst the protests of its residents.

Michele Ritchie Barbacane  
129 Hidden Pond Way  
West Chester, PA 19382

November 28, 2017

Dear Westtown Board of Supervisors,

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to speak at your public meeting on November 27<sup>th</sup> 2017. The time, expertise and passion my neighbors have poured into researching the potential impacts of the Crebilly Development on Westtown Township, West Chester School District, regional traffic, water and air quality as well as the historical significance of the site is impressive.

My decision to attend seemed last minute, because I debated whether my voice would make a difference. I rationalized that every argument had been made and every fact provided. What more could I add? Given the gravity of the situation and the time that you and others have invested, I now wonder how could I *not* have attended this meeting and want to say thank you again for your service and the professionalism exhibited throughout the process.

My twelve-year-old son, who was with me last night, said “mom, if you speak up I will support you.” It was in that moment I pondered my own legacy, realizing I could not look him in the eye and honestly say that I helped save Crebilly Farm if I didn’t get up and take part. So, while I did not come with a prepared speech, I felt an obligation to him and others who have put in so much effort into protecting this precious piece of land. I wanted to take this opportunity to add to my commentary and state for the record that this development is not in the best interest of the community.

I lived in West Chester borough for 13 years before moving to Thornbury Township, Delaware County, where I’ve lived for the past 14 years. Part of the charm of this area, and a big part of our family life, is the many open spaces provided in Delaware and Chester counties. I recognize that these spaces were hard won by people who have gone before us. I do not take them for granted and feel a responsibility to do the same for the next generations.

Like many beautiful places—the more people want to live in them, the more they get destroyed. People move to West Chester for the great combination of lower taxes, good schools and open space. As I witness mass development, it seems only logical that West Chester will become just like the over-developed, over-taxed communities people are fleeing. The impact of all the services demanded by new residents occupying new homes that were either under-accounted for or never accounted for in the builder’s plans will be part of the fallout. As someone mentioned, the mess will be left for the current residents to deal with long after the developer has left town.

Please vote NO on the conditional use for Crebilly Farm.

Respectfully,

Pamela Cloud  
69 Skyline Drive  
Glen Mills, Thornbury Township

## Toll Brothers comments

First point:

Jeffery Madden was your Stormwater Management witness that provided testimony regarding the feasibility of your submitted plans. He works for a company called ESE Consultants. I would like to point out on the record that according to the ESE website, ESE Consultants, Inc (ESE) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Toll Brothers, Inc. (TBI).

I would like to point out to Mr. Adelman that you cannot call into question the integrity of the stormwater management witness presented by Neighbors for Crebilly because she has also represented activist groups in the past, when your own witness is literally on your payroll.

Additionally, Mr. Madden testified that the "soil remediation" technique used to mitigate the impact of storm water management would fall on the homeowners and would be policed by the HOA for compliance. Therefore, the homeowners are responsible for enforcing that practice on themselves. This is a conflict of interest and will not happen. If there are no laws in place to demand this, no enforcement agency, no way to educate new homeowners, and would cost them money, it will not be done. Therefore, I ask the board to realize this is not a legitimate storm water management practice.

Second point:

The superintendent of the west Chester school district, Dr. Scanlan testified that the district would most likely move to add modular classrooms in the event that this neighborhood is built and will result in a substantial increase in students. I would like to support the call to assess an impact fee to Toll Brothers to help the school district avoid

this. My main reason being: I graduated from Unionville High School back during a fight between taxpayers and the district to expand the school to accommodate an increasing number of students. The school district moved to modular classrooms and placed them in the front and back of the school. I attended classes in these classrooms for 2 years, and felt at risk every day that I walked in and out of the front doors with no way to keep out an intruder. While it's horrible to think about, armed intruders are a part of American life at this point, with another shooting occurring at an elementary school within the past month. That school avoided deaths by locking down the school using practiced plans. Modular classrooms interrupt these plans and make it increasingly difficult for a school to protect its students. Though I don't have kids of my own, I would be furious as a parent that if this neighborhood goes in, my school district would have to choose between cutting their current offerings and adding modular classrooms. God forbid anything were to happen at a west Chester school impacted by this development, modular classrooms would surely make the situation harder to secure. As a past student that had to worry about this every day during my final years of high school, I plead you not to put the school district in that situation. Don't risk safety of students for a political ploy.

Third Point:

*Additional developments*

These aren't just numbers on a page - you are decreasing the quality of life for those of us that live here. So Andrew, when you lay down tonight, in your home on the national historic registry one street away from one of the largest preservations of land in Chester County, the Stroud Preserve, be sure to know that your home choice sends a message: you won't even buy the junk your company produces. So why should anyone else?

**Statement of  
Peter D. DuFault, President  
Brandywine at Thornbury, Homeowners' Association  
Presented to the  
Westtown Township  
Board of Supervisors  
November 27, 2017**

As President of the Brandywine at Thornbury HOA, I have followed closely the Toll Brothers Conditional Use application, through the Planning Commission hearings, as well as these many hearings before the Board of Supervisors. My working career included several years with a realty firm in Northern New Jersey that developed and constructed both office/industrial parks and planned residential communities. I have an appreciation for the complexities of this matter, the realities of the zoning applicable to the property and the competing interests involved.

There has been much testimony given about many aspects of this application, I acknowledge these are very valid concerns, and many have spoken eloquently about them. While I strongly urge the Board to carefully and thoughtfully consider these issues, it is the TRAFFIC ISSUE that gives the Brandywine at Thornbury community legitimacy and standing as an interested party, and that is where I wish to direct my remarks. First looking at traffic as an area-wide issue, then focusing on the specific problems facing the Brandywine at Thornbury community.

With all due respect to PennDOT, who has a vested interest and the Traffic Engineers who have testified for the Applicant, I would encourage them to put aside their statistics, formulae, maps, measurements and technical jargon for a moment, and consider the realities experienced by residents and the public when using the nearby roads, namely Routes 202 and 926 and the W. Pleasant Grove Road area. Imagine living in the area for a few days and going about your daily activities, whether it is shopping, commuting, taking kids to school, or anything else. Picture yourself in the following situations:

\* As a resident of W. Pleasant Grove Road and the surrounding area, contending with commuters who use this narrow road as a cut-through speedway to avoid the 202/926 intersection during morning rush hours.

\* As the resident of Brinton Village whose spouse suffered a cardiac event on a weekday morning, and the Rescue Squad, after negotiating the delay at the intersection, was further delayed because the entrance to the development was blocked by backed-up traffic on Street Road.

\* As a resident of Brandywine at Thornbury who must make a left turn from Bridlewood Blvd to go westbound on 926 during the morning rush hour, but can't safely do so, because the eastbound traffic backup blocks both the view and the intersection.

At the heart of these problems is the intersection of Routes 202 and 926, a long-standing nightmare for everyone who lives in the area, as well as any motorist from elsewhere who must frequently pass through it on the way to their destination. To this the Toll Brothers project would add 317 new dwelling units. In other words, to a pot of water that is boiling over, more water is added. While the additional water may cool the situation, it does nothing to reduce the underlying problem of volume at the intersection.

Now much has been made of proposed improvements to the 202/926 intersection, including realignment of turn lanes and adjustments to the cycle time of the traffic signals. Supposedly, these relatively minor changes will not only improve current traffic flow but also absorb the impact of the additional vehicle trips generated by the development at Crebilly Farm. Does anyone who lives in the real world believe that? Even before the Toll Brothers project was introduced, PennDOT itself acknowledged, more than two years ago, that after completion of

their proposed plan, the intersection's Level of Service, currently an F, would still be an F, and they further predicted it would remain so through 2035.

No matter how many additional vehicle trips are generated by the new project to the existing mass of vehicles, the testimony is “the situation will be improved”, even if the improvement is from one Level of Service F to another Level of Service F. It remains a FAILED intersection. One need not be a Traffic Engineer to assess the potential impact on surrounding roads; what is now a major traffic nightmare may well be elevated to standstill status, particularly at morning rush hours, when testimony shows that the east bound queue extends from US 202 nearly a half mile back to Bridlewood Blvd, and contains approximately 100 cars, meaning it may take 15-20 minutes for the vehicle at the proposed Bridlewood/926 intersection to finally clear the 202/926 intersection.

Now let me talk for a moment about the Brandywine at Thornbury community that contains 497 dwelling units and a daycare center. Bridlewood Boulevard is a local street that has ingress/egress to both 202 and 926. There is a 25-mph speed limit along its entire length, two All Way Stop intersections and seven pedestrian crosswalks. When school is in session, there are seven bus stops along Bridlewood Boulevard, with approximately 25 school buses running varied schedules throughout the day to accommodate the more than 200 students who live in our community and attend the WCASD public schools, or the 11 parochial and private schools in the area.

Brandywine at Thornbury is a family- oriented community with a population ranging from families with young children to older retirees. It has walking trails, recreational fields, tennis courts, a basketball court, a swimming pool, a playground and a club house. These facilities serve the many adults and

children in the community and are accessed by walking, biking and/or driving on or near Bridlewood Blvd.

The addition of 317 dwelling units in the area will place a further burden on the already busy roads in the area surrounding Crebilly Farm, but this is particularly true for Brandywine at Thornbury. Presently, we have a substantial volume of cut - through traffic seeking to avoid the 202/926 intersection, particularly at rush hour. Most of this cut-thru traffic greatly exceed the posted speed limit and many have a general disregard of stop signs. With the development as proposed, the threat to the safety and welfare of our residents will only get worse, and with the addition of a connector road and alignment with Bridlewood Boulevard it will get much worse.

The 2001 Comprehensive Plan for Westtown Township called for the building of a connector road through any future development of Crebilly Farm from Westminster Presbyterian Church to SR 926, running parallel to Route 202. That has now been expanded in discussion to include the Stetson jughandle. PennDOT in a preliminary report of December 6, 2016 stated: "As a regional roadway network improvement, the Department has interest in the provision of a connector road through the subject parcel...". We fully understand why the Department has an interest; it will serve as a relief valve for the turmoil at Rt 202/926, both southbound and northbound, something PennDOT, after several studies and proposals over the years has failed to do.

To require this connector road based on an outdated Westtown Comprehensive Plan and as a PennDOT blessed workaround for the major traffic problems that exists at the 202/926 intersection is not only unfair to the existing residents of Brandywine at Thornbury; it is also unfair to your future Westtown

residents who will reside in the new Toll Bros. community. In our view, it would transform Bridlewood Blvd., designated a local road whose function was to serve a single community, i.e. Brandywine at Thornbury, into a major highway bypass. This is at the direct expense of our community and puts in severe jeopardy the rights of our residents to enjoy a safe and secure environment for themselves, their children, other family members and guests. The traffic problems presently caused by the existing cut-thru traffic seeking to avoid the delays at the 202/926 intersection that affects the Brandywine at Thornbury community will also affect those who move into the proposed Toll Bros. community and will become Westtown's problem as well. The financial burdens placed on Thornbury Township for additional traffic patrols and road maintenance to handle this new problem will also become Westtown's. I ask you to consider the negative impact the connector road and its alignment with Bridlewood Boulevard would place not only on our residents but Westtown and its future residents as well.

In summary, whether PennDOT and some traffic engineers think we can or should absorb the added traffic from 317 new homes, I think most people in this auditorium, who live in the real world, would say, ENOUGH IS ENOUGH! The line must be drawn somewhere, and this is as good a place as any to draw it. This development as proposed with a connector road and four-way intersection is the straw that breaks the proverbial camel's back.

We strongly urge you to look carefully at the potential scale of this proposed development, and particularly to reject the connector road and the creation of a four-way intersection with Bridlewood Boulevard.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

November 27, 2017

**First, I would like to address the developer, Mr. Andrew Semon:**

Thank you for being so gracious any time our paths have crossed in this last year. If you are granted Conditional Use by this board, I realize legally, you will have every right to develop Crebilly Farm under the current application submitted. I do not like it; I do get it. Just because you *can* does not necessarily mean you *should*. And I have faith in you that you can do better than the plans we have seen so far.

I wonder if you would, in this case, think outside the box of so many typical development projects by your company and consider a different direction for Crebilly Farm? *What if* you permitted a Phase One Archeological Survey? *What if* you made the decision to protect our National History and keep the development out of the Brandywine Battlefield swath? *What if* the Civil War Trust, Preservation Pennsylvania, our county, state and local conservancies pulled together to purchase that part of Crebilly Farm and buy down the development rights? *What if* you were a catalyst to help bridge the gap between the Robinson Family and Westtown Township? *What if* you helped the landowners see a bigger picture and a different way? *What would* the national headlines look like for your company once the media caught wind of 'Toll Brothers develops historic land thoughtfully and saves American History?' Every one of us in this room stems from the events that occurred September 11, 1777 on the land of Crebilly Farm and the surrounding area. That was the birth of our *nation*.

**To the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors:**

Thank you to each of you for your hard work and thank you for taking this so seriously. I can imagine this isn't quite what you thought you signed up for, yet here we are. A development of this magnitude will permanently cripple our community. When I try to imagine what West Chester will be like without Crebilly Farm and then upon her demise, gain such an inappropriate massive development on historic land, I equate it to severing an artery and leaving a gushing geyser that will never recover.

Over the last year, I have attended every single Planning Commission meeting and Conditional Use hearing. I can honestly say, *never*, in the fifty plus hours of meetings and testimony, nor in the countless letters, emails and phone calls I have exchanged over the last year regarding this subject, have I ever heard a single soul say: Gee I really can't wait for that historic farm to get developed with over 300 houses!

The fate of this community and surrounding communities lies within the decision the three of you will make. Please keep going. Please do not give up. Find a way. Prepare to strap in for the next chapter as the rest of us are already prepared to do.

The people of Westtown Township are your constituents. They voted for you; they *chose* you. The three of you work for them. Though I think it is wise to be frugal when spending other people's money, it's *their* money. I think their message has been clear and consistent: DO NOT grant Conditional Use to this developer.

Leave no stone unturned. If not you, then who?

Sincerely,



Mindy Rhodes

[www.CrebillyFarmFriends.com](http://www.CrebillyFarmFriends.com)

331 Broad Run Road  
West Chester  
West Bradford Township.

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**Crebilly Farm**

1 message

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**meg kramer** <megmkramer@gmail.com>  
To: administration@westtown.org

Sun, Nov 19, 2017 at 3:13 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Toll Brothers development at Crebilly Farm. Crebilly Farm is a rare and extraordinarily beautiful part of Chester County's landscape. In addition, its historical significance cannot be understated. Toll Brothers should not be allowed to destroy the beauty, history and environmental benefits Crebilly Farm provides and Chester County residents cherish.

As the Chairperson of West Bradford Township's Open Space Committee I know all too well that developers care only about the dollars tied to a piece of land and not the intangible but ultimately more valuable elements of the land's character. I am also aware that Westtown's residents will shoulder the additional and permanent costs of the proposed development both in terms of actual dollar costs as well as the noise pollution, lower water quality, increased traffic and crowded school rooms the development will bring, while Toll Brothers walks away with massive profits.

Given the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's 2012 survey that found that 33% of Chester County residents believe that the best thing about living in Chester County is the open space, it is unconscionable to allow the proposed development to proceed. Ted Browning said it accurately. I hope you will consider his wise words.

*"Our local landscape is exceptional both environmentally and visually. Our local landscape is a work of art. Why should it be preserved only on the walls of the Brandywine River Museum?"*

*Ted Browning*

Sincerely,

**Meg Kramer**

Meg Kramer  
Master of Environmental Studies Candidate  
Environmental Sustainability Concentration  
University of Pennsylvania  
610-329-9834  
megkra@sas.upenn.edu  
megmkramer@gmail.com

---

**RE: Crebilly Farm/Toll Brothers**

1 message

**Deidre Frederick** <deidrefred@gmail.com>

Mon, Nov 27, 2017 at 12:16 PM

To: administration@westtown.org

Bcc: mindyrhodes1@gmail.com

Dear Supervisors -

My husband and I have lived in Chester County since 1981. Our first home was located on Overhill Road in Westtown. We lived there for eight fantastic years. We moved further west to East Bradford due to our concerns of increased traffic in our small community - this was in 1989!

We currently live in West Bradford Township and work very hard to be able to enjoy the magic of what our area provides with respect to those benefits which align with open land and conservation.

Simply stated, the quadrant where Crebilly Farm is situated, is just not suitable to clustered housing. There is no reason, other than Developer greed, that this incredible land be chewed up for hundreds of residential units.

Please listen to the outcries of the citizens that are pervasive and in unison. Our reasoning includes, but is not limited to Noise pollution, Air pollution, Depletion of our natural resources, Assault on the land with the insertion of inadequate sewage systems, Traffic bedlam and Gridlock, and the overall negative impact on the surrounding schools, our children, and our communities that has been voiced over the past twelve months.

Thank you for your continued service and commitment to your civic responsibilities as elected Supervisors of Westtown Township.

Sincerely,

Lyle and Dede Frederick  
411 Broad Run Road  
West Chester, PA

---

## The Development of Crebilly Farm

1 message

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**Jarl Mork** <morkjw06@verizon.net>

Mon, Nov 27, 2017 at 11:25 AM

To: supervisors@westtown.org, Banthony@thornburytp.com, administration@thornburytp.com, birminghamtp@comcast.net

Cc: mindy rhodes <mindyrhodes1@gmail.com>

Gentlemen:

To the Supervisors of Westtown, Thornbury and Birmingham Townships:

You have the responsibility to protect the health, safety and welfare of the current and future citizens of your townships and of those who pass through your townships, and to preserve open space, farmland and historical properties. Are you doing everything you can to foresee the impacts and to satisfy those responsibilities?

To the Robinsons:

You have the opportunity to leave a positive legacy and good neighborhood relations by working with the community to preserve as much of the farm as possible and still achieve a reasonable return by engaging in a dialog with the land conservancies, the developers and other interested parties.

To Toll Brothers:

You have the opportunity to improve your image and practices by working with the interested parties to achieve a reasonable development and a reasonable profit and also preserve a significant portion of the historic property.

To PennDot:

You have the opportunity and responsibility to get ahead of the serious and worsening traffic situation on Rts. 202 and 926 and other surrounding roads, to include Pleasant Grove Road, New Street and Birmingham Roads.

To all parties:

Do the right thing: Plan and act to minimize the number of homes and maximize the preserved open space of Crebilly Farm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jarl Mork, Birmingham Township resident.

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**CREBILLY FARM**

2 messages

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**Mary Marines** <mmarines@pennockins.com>  
To: "administration@westtown.org" <administration@westtown.org>  
Cc: mindy rhodes <mindyrhodes1@gmail.com>

Fri, Nov 17, 2017 at 3:56 PM

To Whom It May Concern

I have been following the events regarding the development of Crebilly Farm since the beginning. Now that it looks like it is coming to some conclusion, I feel obligated to speak up.

I live and work in Chadds Ford. As many of the residents of this area, we were all so saddened by the news of the development of this historic, peaceful part of our community. Many times I have taken in the beautiful views and marveled at how precious this open space is and how fortunate we all are to have such a wonderful place in our community.

My Chadds Ford residence sits on a hill overlooking the Brandywine Battlefield and I can see the American Flag at the battlefield from my kitchen window. I consider this a precious and humble part of my life that I live in such a beautiful community with history all around me. Development of Crebilly would **NOT** make our community better only contribute to the destruction of another of our landmarks of history and beauty.

If all of this were to go away, what do we have left to enjoy, the traffic up and down the roads, I certainly hope not. To disturb this beautiful land with a 300 plus housing development is almost criminal. All we have to look forward is the sprawl that is slowly creeping into our lives. More traffic, more congestion, and just more and more.

This is my two cents on the subject of further development in our area. We are crowded enough, many of us moved into these communities to get away from the creeping sprawl and now we cannot stop it, soon there will be no more land to build on in our communities except for the snippets of what is left as the developments call "open space". I think we all want more than just that "open space"

Please remember, the Crebilly's of the world are precious to all of us. Keep it that way.

Mary Marines, AAI

President



2 Christy Drive, Suite 100

Chadds Ford PA 19317

800-662-5182 x 1235 – Voice

**Mariellen Ward – Kane**

**384 North Church Street**

**West Chester, PA 19380**

**November 27, 2017**

**To the Board of Supervisors for Westtown Township:**

**I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed Toll Brothers project on the Crebilly Farm property. By allowing the Crebilly/Toll project to happen you are from taking away open space and destroying part of what was part of a critical battle in the Revolutionary War. What a tragedy if we lose that space and piece of the battlefield forever. I am also deeply concerned about the added traffic to Rt. 202 as my elderly mother lives in Sunrise of Westtown, next to the township office. I am afraid that the heavier traffic will cause emergency responders to not be able to respond in a timely manner to Sunrise due to the grid lock of traffic constantly present on Rt 202 near Sunrise putting lives in jeopardy. God forbid they have a fire like at the Barclay Home during rush hour! Many lives could be lost! And lastly my husband and I are tax payers in the West Chester area school district. My husband is retired, and we are living on a fixed income. I do not want to see the school taxes I already pay go up any higher due to the greed of a few individuals who stand to make a great profit from this project if it is allowed to go through! I urge you to do the right thing for Chester County and reject all Toll Brothers and any other developers plans for the proposed development of the Crebilly Farm property!**

**Sincerely,**

**Mariellen Ward - Kane**

---

**re: Crebilly Farm Public Comment**

1 message

**Marie Boisvert** <mboisvert54@gmail.com>

Fri, Nov 24, 2017 at 11:25 AM

To: [administration@westtown.org](mailto:administration@westtown.org)Bcc: [mindyrhodes1@gmail.com](mailto:mindyrhodes1@gmail.com)

Dear Westtown Township Board of Supervisors:

As a lifelong resident of Chester County growing up in Edgmont Township, I feel that it is a bad idea on several levels to build such a density of houses on Crebilly Farm. First, I really want to tell you that one of my ancestors was one of the Hessian troops that crossed those fields on his way to the Battle of Brandywine. It greatly saddens me that the importance of these historic lands is being threatened by development. Also, I try to avoid travelling along Route 202 from my home in the Northern part of East Bradford to Painter's Crossing because of the high volume of traffic and the exponential growth of apartments and other complexes that are on that stretch. Even yesterday - Thanksgiving Day - the traffic was pretty slow and backed up at a time when people should have been with family or taking in the football games. The stretch from the South side of West Chester Boro to Painter's Crossing is the most difficult 8 miles to travel because of the numerous complexes.

If Crebilly is developed, I feel that Toll Bros. should pay for 202 to be a limited access highway. Also, South New Street and Street Road are going to be impossible to travel.

Lastly, I need to point out that Toll is not known for respecting nor maintaining Historic Structures as evidenced with the Historic Barn in their Byers Station Development in Upper Uwchlan Township. This barn was even the site where the movie "The Lovely Bones" was filmed and it is now rubble. A friend of mine who lives nearby the Byers Station development is very upset about this.

It is my opinion that many Historic buildings in our area have survived for a couple of centuries where Toll's construction may not survive a few decades. You can't put up buildings made out of sawdust and glue. I saw a townhouse in Byers Station where the moldings had come off the windows and that is what trim and moldings and windowsills are made of in that development.

As an active member of the community, I truly hope that you keep these concerns and reflections in mind.

Sincerely,

--

Marie Boisvert  
East Bradford Township Resident  
Ph: 610 430-6999  
e-mail: [mboisvert54@gmail.com](mailto:mboisvert54@gmail.com)

## Jody Bowden

---

**From:** Mike Mays <mike\_mays@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 5:25 PM  
**To:** supervisors@westtown.org  
**Subject:** Crebilly Farm / Toll Brothers

Dear Westtown Township Board of Supervisors:

Please reject Toll Brother's request for a Conditional Use Permit to develop Crebilly Farm for the follow 10 reasons.

**1. Hallowed Ground:** Historians have confirmed (including from the Chester County Historical Society) that the Battle of the Brandywine took place on Crebilly Farm which is located within the Federally designated battlefield footprint. Much of the battlefield site has been lost to development making preserving Crebilly Farm that much more important to honor our soldiers and enable telling the story of what happened there on September 11, 1777 for future generations. As a nation, how can we let this sacred ground and view shed of the largest and most significant single day land battle of the Revolutionary War be paved over and destroyed? It would be the same as if Toll Brothers was allowed to build 317 massive homes in Gettysburg National Historic Park!

**2. Water and Environmental Degradation:** Toll Brothers has a disgraceful record of ignoring and violating U.S. law protecting our waterways and drinking water. On June 20, 2012 the U.S. *Environmental Protection Agency* and the U.S. Department of Justice announced that *Toll Brothers Inc.* will pay a civil penalty of \$741,000 to resolve alleged *Clean Water Act violations* at its construction sites, including stormwater run-off violations covering 370 sites in 23 states, including 55 in Pennsylvania.

During expert testimony at the October 24, 2017 Westtown Township hearing regarding Toll Brother's Storm Water Management Plan for their Crebilly proposal, Michele Adams had this to say:

"The plans lack essential information including detailed information on stormwater management. However, the preliminary information that is provided proposes a site design and stormwater system that will create significant disturbance in the project area, with a stormwater system that will fail to manage the increase in runoff volume and rate, fail to recharge groundwater, and unquestionably will adversely impact the downstream water quality of receiving streams and wetlands."

In other words, Toll will irreparably harm the water quality of Radley Run, which courses through Crebilly Farm, and downstream waterways including the Brandywine River which is the primary source of drinking water for 140,000 people living in the Greater Wilmington, DE area.

**3. Traffic.....we don't need more of it!** Toll's development will add 2,000 vehicle trips each day to already over crowded area roads especially at the intersection of SR 202 and SR 926. Increased traffic not only means longer commutes, more accidents and

pollution, but cars and trucks are expected to cut through quiet residential neighborhoods making them unsafe for children and residents. Toll's proposal does not adequately address this problem.

**4. Taxes will go up!** According to separate well-regarded national studies by the American Farmland Trust, the Keystone Conservation Trust, and the Trust for Public Land (as well as by our own Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission), each dollar of revenue raised by a new residential development actually costs a taxing authority between \$1.03 and \$2. Townships, districts, and counties like Westtown, WCASD, and Chester County therefore, face higher tax bills when residential developers come to town. The West Chester Area School District passed a resolution demanding \$645,000/year for five years from Toll to pay for the large influx of new students to the district. The problem is under current PA law Toll is not obligated to pay a single dime.

**5. Unconstitutional!** Toll's proposal violates Article 1 Section 27 of the Pennsylvania constitution known as the PA Constitution Environmental Rights Amendment, which was passed by referendum in 1971:

The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.

**6. Open Space Ignored:** Toll's plan does not adhere to current requirements to preserve 50% open space by improperly including areas that cannot be built on anyways, like wetlands and drainage basins, and including narrow strips of land between houses calling it open space. In addition, our local officials have not followed either the Westtown or Chester County Comprehensive Plans which specifically call for engagement with the owners of Crebilly Farm to preserve and protect this valuable parcel.

**7. Farm to Table.** Crebilly is a local operating farm reducing the need to transport food long distances, reducing pollution, and providing local employment. While agriculture remains Chester County's leading industry, Crebilly is one of the few remaining farms in the eastern part of the county.

**8. Historic Buildings:** The Westtown Inn, built in 1823 of locally quarried serpentine stone, is eligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. 4 additional historic buildings can be found on the property.

**9 and 10. We Can Do Better** - By turning Crebilly Farm into a national historic battlefield site, a county park and maintaining the operating farm, this gem in our community can generate revenue for the local economy while providing open space for residents and visitors alike to enjoy while preserving the environment and historic nature of the region. Most notably, battlefield parks bring tourism jobs and revenue. Local real estate values will be enhanced by preserving the quality of life that people come to Chester County for. We've had enough development in the area already. Conservation and historic organizations, like Chester County Open Space Preservation, Chester County, Campaign 1776, Brandywine Battlefield, Brandywine Conservancy, Natural Lands and others are ready to help to Save Crebilly Farm.

Thank You,

Mike Mays  
49 Longview Lane  
Newtown Square, PA 19073  
610-212-6746







9. Tax burden cost and economic benefits of open space real estate values and tourism with battlefield

10. Does not protect scenic view sheds as required by..

11. **We Can Do Better!** The County of Chester County along local land conservation organizations, local townships, and others, including Civil War Trust, have called for the preservation of Crebilly Farm and indicated their willingness to work with Toll Brothers, the owners, and Westtown Township to accomplish this goal. There are other solutions!  
14. Iconic historic Chester Co Farm, so much other development has already taken place

This is a critical time to voice your opinion as we expect the supervisors to make a decision in the December/January timeframe.

Thank you for your support!!

Oh, do you have a Save Crebilly lawn sign? If not, would you like one...I have a few left.

Mike

**SAVE CREBILLY FARM**

<http://www.neighborsforcrebilly.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/savecrebillyfarm/>

## Jody Bowden

---

**From:** Robert Miller <walden2828@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 4:07 PM  
**To:** supervisors@westtown.org  
**Subject:** Crebilly Farm

Mr. Domenico, Ms. De Wolf, and Mr. Haws,

I had wanted to express in my own words my wish that you do everything in your power to prevent the development of Crebilly Farm, but I find that my daughter has already said it more eloquently, and so I quote her:

The change in national political administrations this past year has shown us how transitory many social battles are. Laws are passed and overturned, directives issued and altered, to the point that we may feel some relief, believing that if a decision didn't go our way this time, at least we may have the chance for a different outcome in a few years. But the battle to save the open space and natural lands of Chester County is no such fight. Our landscape develops over millennia. We here have been touched in more recent centuries by the shaping forces of agriculture, which have created the Chester County countryside now iconic to us, yet even so it's been a development of generations, and one which retained many of the native species, the ecology, and the formation of the land which is ancient. The profiteering of Toll Bros flattens and destroys that which took generations and millennia to develop, and makes it irretrievable and unrecognizable. If the decision were made to allow them this land at Crebilly Farm, and then overturned in 10 years and the houses demolished, the natural landscape would no longer exist in the same way to be recovered. This destruction is, as far as our lifetimes and our children's lifetimes go, permanent. The fields at rt. 202 and 926 act as a gateway for our community. While rt. 202 is a commercialized artery, the intersection and entrance to the Brandywine Valley that exists because of Crebilly Farm at 926 is a transporting change in scenery, and signals the best of the landscape still left, as one ventures along Street Road towards the Brandywine River. Our river valley community, which we think of as full of the prestige of history and the beauty of horse farms, is distinguished and raised by the glory of this entryway. The rolling pastures raise the tone of the Brandywine Valley for all the other landowners and residents of the area. As another sprawling housing development off 202, we would become anonymous, ugly, and congested. This development may mean financial gains for a small few, but it impoverishes the community and the surrounding land owners.

Please do not allow this to happen.

Sincerely,

Robert Miller  
Kathy Miller  
Hannah Miller  
Peter Travers  
Joshua Miller  
Rebecca Miller

## Jody Bowden

---

**From:** Rebecca Miller <rebecca.miller@muralarts.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 2:44 PM  
**To:** administration@westtown.org; supervisors@westtown.org  
**Subject:** Crebilly Farm/Toll Bros.

Mr. Domenico, Ms. De Wolf, and Mr. Haws,

The change in national political administrations this past year has shown us how transitory many social battles are. Laws are passed and overturned, directives issued and altered, to the point that we may feel some relief, believing that if a decision didn't go our way this time, at least we may have the chance for a different outcome in a few years. But the battle to save the open space and natural lands of Chester County is no such fight. Our landscape develops over millennia. We here have been touched in more recent centuries by the shaping forces of agriculture, which have created the Chester County countryside now iconic to us, yet even so it's been a development of generations, and one which retained many of the native species, the ecology, and the formation of the land which is ancient. The profiteering of Toll Bros flattens and destroys that which took generations and millennia to develop, and makes it irretrievable and unrecognizable. If the decision were made to allow them this land at Crebilly Farm, and then overturned in 10 years and the houses demolished, the natural landscape would no longer exist in the same way to be recovered. This destruction is, as far as our lifetimes and our children's lifetimes go, permanent.

The fields at rt. 202 and 926 act as a gateway for our community. While rt. 202 is a commercialized artery, the intersection and entrance to the Brandywine Valley that exists because of Crebilly Farm at 926 is a transporting change in scenery, and signals the best of the landscape still left, as one ventures along Street Road towards the Brandywine River. Our river valley community, which we think of as full of the prestige of history and the beauty of horse farms, is distinguished and raised by the glory of this entryway. The rolling pastures raise the tone of the Brandywine Valley for all the other landowners and residents of the area. As another sprawling housing development off 202, we would become anonymous, ugly, and congested. This development may mean financial gains for a small few, but it impoverishes the community and the surrounding land owners. I rent in Philadelphia now, and so have no financial stake in this cause. And yet no issues catch my heart as deeply as the destruction of the land of Chester County, where I moved in 1988, and where my parents still live, off route 52. The irrevocable nature of the loss could not be more disheartening. I've seen toll bros profit insensibly off our land throughout my life, and am sickened by their callous disregard for the unique countryside that has made their company so very rich. If they but saw the landscape, rather than flattening the rolling hills, tearing out all the trees, planting the occasional scattered lawn ornament, and cramming as many properties into a space as possible... If they but saw the land and worked within it, how different the landscape around us would be right now. But their way is simply exploitation, and it is beyond time we stopped allowing it.

Please,  
Rebecca

--  
Rebecca Miller  
Lead Teaching Artist

Mural Arts Philadelphia  
The Lincoln Financial Mural Arts Center  
at the Thomas Eakins House  
1727-29 Mount Vernon Street

Philadelphia, PA 19130

<http://rebeccasimonmiller.com/>

<https://www.instagram.com/rebeccasimonmiller/>

Reflect on history. Imagine the future. Change the present. See Philadelphia in a new light with [Monument Lab](#), a public art and history project taking place citywide in fall 2017. [#monumentlab](#)

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## Jody Bowden

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**From:** Ang Onorato <aonorato@leanexecs.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 12:24 PM  
**To:** supervisors@westtown.org  
**Subject:** Hearing on Toll Brothers Development on Crebilly Farms

To Whom It May Concern,

Because I cannot attend the 6p BOS hearing this evening, please accept this note is an official letter and request for consideration to DECLINE any options for Toll Brothers to begin development on such an important local landmark. Open space and historical locations are an ever decreasing commodity in our community. We need to preserve and restore as much of this history and culture to pass on to other generations. Aren't there enough housing developments.....everywhere? PLEASE consider this request form a very concerned citizen. We need to preserve our history for our children.

Let's please work together as citizens and business to find another solution rather than destroy this beautiful land for a corporate machine.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Regards,

**Ang Onorato | Director**

O: 800-322-5185

D: 603-873-4349

M: 610-996-0066

[aonorato@leanexecs.com](mailto:aonorato@leanexecs.com)

[www.leanexecs.com](http://www.leanexecs.com)

[www.linkedin.com/in/angonorato](https://www.linkedin.com/in/angonorato)



## Jody Bowden

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**From:** Pam Coleman <pcoleman@westtown.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** rpingar@westtown.org  
**Subject:** FW: PLEASE Remember Crebilly Farm

FYI

**From:** Margaret Hudgings [mailto:mhudgetings@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 9:19 AM  
**To:** administration@westtown.org  
**Subject:** PLEASE Remember Crebilly Farm

Please protect it for future generations.

The Hudgings family, graduates of Westtown School

## Jody Bowden

---

**From:** Pam Coleman <pcoleman@westtown.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** rpingar@westtown.org  
**Subject:** FW: Crebilly Farm/Toll bros.

FYI

**From:** Donna Landon [mailto:donnalandon2@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 10:31 AM  
**To:** administration@westtown.org  
**Subject:** Crebilly Farm/Toll bros.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I just wanted to send a note to say I appreciate the time you have dedicated to your job as Supervisors.

I hope you are able to save the land that is Crebilly Farms from development by Toll bros. One look at the development of Riverside in Pocopson Township gives us a preview of how they will develop Crebilly and what we will have to live with for the rest of our lives. My take away from the meetings I have attended is they will do the very minimum required for the community.

There are conservation community developers who develop with a thoughtfulness towards the land and the rest of the community.

If the land can't be put into Conservation then development by a more respectful developer would be preferable to Toll Brothers.....we know what they do.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,  
Donna Landon

## Jody Bowden

---

**From:** Pam Coleman <pcoleman@westtown.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** rpingar@westtown.org  
**Subject:** FW: Crebilly Farm/Toll Brothers

FYI

**From:** Stephen Regan [mailto:stephenregan33@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 10:32 AM  
**To:** administration@westtown.org  
**Subject:** Re: Crebilly Farm/Toll Brothers

Dear elected officials,

Since I cannot attend the hearing this evening due to an out of town business commitment, I wanted my voice to be heard. My family and I are against the development of Crebilly Farm by Toll Brothers.

The reasons for our opposition are listed below (but not limited) and are in no particular order:

- Traffic- I commute 70 miles each way to work. My drive is peaceful and enjoyable, that is until I approach the 202 south intersection just prior to Kelly Sports. About a 1/4 mile prior to that intersection, traffic is unbearable. It takes a good 15-20 minutes for me to go the final 3 miles of my commute before I arrive back to my home on Hidden Pond Way. Putting 300+ homes on Crebilly Farm will exacerbate this problem and will force us to look at option outside of Westtown
- Historical Context- Having heard first hand testimony from many historical experts about the land and the American Revolution, the land should be historically preserved. It is the right thing to do, enough said
- School burden- developing 300+ homes will burden our schools. One of the reasons why we chose Westtown when relocating to the area four years ago were the schools. Why burden a great system

I could go on and on, but you all get the point. While I understand the Robinson family are entitled to see their land, there has to be an alternative that the town can agree to with them. You and your colleagues have an opportunity, like many other communities in PA have, to make the right decision here. Listen to the people- how many citizens have spoken up in favor of the development.

I leave you all with a famous quote:



Highest Regards,

Steve Regan  
111 Hidden Pond Way  
West Chester, PA 19382

## Jody Bowden

---

**From:** Pam Coleman <pcoleman@westtown.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 11:48 AM  
**To:** rpingar@westtown.org  
**Subject:** FW: Crebilly Farm/Toll Brothers

FYI

**From:** Maia Tolsdorf [mailto:maiat23@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 10:47 AM  
**To:** administration@westtown.org  
**Subject:** Crebilly Farm/Toll Brothers

Supervisors,

I am writing as so many have done to express my hope that you will, as our elected officials, exercise the discretion that you have to preserve the incredible gift that is Crebilly Farm. This is one of those pivotal moments in the life of this community, and we are counting on you to resist the destruction of history and natural resources. You alone have the discretion to recognize this moment and to know that while money can change hands many times, land cannot be reclaimed once it is developed, and environment destruction is so difficult to undo. Please stand with courage among the people of Chester County who treasure this sacred land and know how much this massive development will impact our history, waterways, schools, traffic, and feel of our community. We need you!

Sincerely,

Maia Tolsdorf

## Jody Bowden

---

**From:** Jarl Mork <morkjw06@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2017 11:25 AM  
**To:** supervisors@westtown.org; Banthony@thornburytwp.com;  
administration@thornburytwp.com; birminghamtwp@comcast.net  
**Cc:** 'mindy rhodes'  
**Subject:** The Development of Crebilly Farm

Gentlemen:

To the Supervisors of Westtown, Thornbury and Birmingham Townships:

You have the responsibility to protect the health, safety and welfare of the current and future citizens of your townships and of those who pass through your townships, and to preserve open space, farmland and historical properties. Are you doing everything you can to foresee the impacts and to satisfy those responsibilities?

To the Robinsons:

You have the opportunity to leave a positive legacy and good neighborhood relations by working with the community to preserve as much of the farm as possible and still achieve a reasonable return by engaging in a dialog with the land conservancies, the developers and other interested parties.

To Toll Brothers:

You have the opportunity to improve your image and practices by working with the interested parties to achieve a reasonable development and a reasonable profit and also preserve a significant portion of the historic property.

To PennDot:

You have the opportunity and responsibility to get ahead of the serious and worsening traffic situation on Rts. 202 and 926 and other surrounding roads, to include Pleasant Grove Road, New Street and Birmingham Roads.

To all parties:

Do the right thing: Plan and act to minimize the number of homes and maximize the preserved open space of Crebilly Farm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jarl Mork, Birmingham Township resident.

## Jody Bowden

---

**From:** Virginia Cadle <virginia@friendshipministries.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 24, 2017 11:06 AM  
**To:** supervisors@westtown.org  
**Subject:** crebilly farm

To whom it may concern,

As someone who is planning to move into the Radley Run area, I want to voice my opposition to the Toll Brothers proposal.

Based on their poor environmental record, I have grave concerns about the detrimental effect this would have on the water supply and environment,

And I have concerns about the historical significance of the Brandywine Battlefield being lost or damaged.

I also have great concerns about the horrific effect on traffic this plan would have on the area, especially Routes 926 and 202.

Please reject the Toll Brothers plan.

Sincerely,  
Virginia Cadle, Ph.D.

## Jody Bowden

---

**From:** janet stewart <jstewart1100@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 24, 2017 12:18 AM  
**To:** supervisors@westtown.org  
**Subject:** Credibly Farm

I have lived in Westtown for nearly 30 yrs. Have seen many changes and not all good. I sold my home and now live in East Goshen. We do not need more traffic on RTS 926 and 202. Rt 926 is a small 2 lane road already overloaded. There is no solution for Toll Bros to suggest even if they tried. This area is already overdeveloped and our roads cannot handle more. Sadly "road rage " will probably be one of the results. Please SAY NO TO TOLL BROS. !!!!

Janet Stewart  
Resident of East Goshen but still  
loving Westtown.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

## Jody Bowden

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**From:** Alyce R. Zellers <furdude@usa.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 23, 2017 10:24 AM  
**To:** supervisors@westtown.org  
**Subject:** It's not all about you

To Westtown:

Think ahead twenty years.....the baby boomers are aging out and dying off. The need for real estate will not be what it was. If you really, really, need to develop a PORTION of Crebelly Farm, you should seriously consider a developer that would build a sustainable community that are now becoming more prevalent. Westtown would be a held in a more chairtable light in that it respected the land instead of just trying to grab it for some quick cash.

Toll Brothers are like the energy companies doing the fracking. Coming in, destroying the environment, making their money without any consequences and leaving the local communities to deal with the damage. Don't do the same and have a conscience, unlike other municipalities.

Everyone needs to think of future generations and what they will inherit. Have a soul and **do the right thing** by not overdeveloping this prized open space.

Thank you,  
Alyce R. Zellers  
Penn State Master Gardener

**Jody Bowden**

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**From:** Lainey Weller <laineyweller@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 20, 2017 3:12 PM  
**To:** administration@westtown.org; supervisors@westtown.org; rpingar@westtown.org  
**Subject:** Crebilly Farm / Toll Brothers

Dear Township Officials,

Just in case I am unable to attend the 11/27/2017 public comment meeting, I would like to share with you photos of the imperiled trees along the Radley Run on the Northern side of my property.

The storm water runoff from this massive development is a major concern to me not only for the sake of these trees but also for the welfare of my pond which is directly fed by the Radley Run.

Sincerely,  
Carol Weller  
1150 Lake Drive  
West Chester, Pa 19382





## Jody Bowden

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**From:** Pam Coleman <pcoleman@westtown.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 20, 2017 8:57 AM  
**To:** rpingar@westtown.org  
**Subject:** FW: Crebilly Farm

FYI

**From:** meg kramer [mailto:megmkramer@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 19, 2017 3:14 PM  
**To:** administration@westtown.org  
**Subject:** Crebilly Farm

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Toll Brothers development at Crebilly Farm. Crebilly Farm is a rare and extraordinarily beautiful part of Chester County's landscape. In addition, its historical significance cannot be understated. Toll Brothers should not be allowed to destroy the beauty, history and environmental benefits Crebilly Farm provides and Chester County residents cherish.

As the Chairperson of West Bradford Township's Open Space Committee I know all too well that developers care only about the dollars tied to a piece of land and not the intangible but ultimately more valuable elements of the land's character. I am also aware that Westtown's residents will shoulder the additional and permanent costs of the proposed development both in terms of actual dollar costs as well as the noise pollution, lower water quality, increased traffic and crowded school rooms the development will bring, while Toll Brothers walks away with massive profits.

Given the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's 2012 survey that found that 33% of Chester County residents believe that the best thing about living in Chester County is the open space, it is unconscionable to allow the proposed development to proceed. Ted Browning said it accurately. I hope you will consider his wise words.

*"Our local landscape is exceptional both environmentally and visually. Our local landscape is a work of art. Why should it be preserved only on the walls of the Brandywine River Museum?"*

*Ted Browning*

Sincerely,

Meg Kramer

Meg Kramer  
Master of Environmental Studies Candidate  
Environmental Sustainability Concentration

University of Pennsylvania  
610-329-9834  
[megkra@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:megkra@sas.upenn.edu)  
[megmkramer@gmail.com](mailto:megmkramer@gmail.com)

## Jody Bowden

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**From:** Pam Coleman <pcoleman@westtown.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 20, 2017 8:48 AM  
**To:** rpingar@westtown.org  
**Subject:** FW: CREBILLY FARM

FYI.

**From:** Mary Marines [mailto:mmarines@pennockins.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 3:56 PM  
**To:** administration@westtown.org  
**Cc:** mindy rhodes <mindyrhodes1@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** CREBILLY FARM

To Whom It May Concern

I have been following the events regarding the development of Crebilly Farm since the beginning. Now that it looks like it is coming to some conclusion, I feel obligated to speak up.

I live and work in Chadds Ford. As many of the residents of this area, we were all so saddened by the news of the development of this historic, peaceful part of our community. Many times I have taken in the beautiful views and marveled at how precious this open space is and how fortunate we all are to have such a wonderful place in our community.

My Chadds Ford residence sits on a hill overlooking the Brandywine Battlefield and I can see the American Flag at the battlefield from my kitchen window. I consider this a precious and humble part of my life that I live in such a beautiful community with history all around me. Development of Crebilly would **NOT** make our community better only contribute to the destruction of another of our landmarks of history and beauty.

If all of this were to go away, what do we have left to enjoy, the traffic up and down the roads, I certainly hope not. To disturb this beautiful land with a 300 plus housing development is almost criminal. All we have to look forward is the sprawl that is slowly creeping into our lives. More traffic, more congestion, and just more and more.

This is my two cents on the subject of further development in our area. We are crowded enough, many of us moved into these communities to get away from the creeping sprawl and now we cannot stop it, soon there will be no more land to build on in our communities except for the snippets of what is left as the developments call "open space". I think we all want more than just that "open space"

Please remember, the Crebilly's of the world are precious to all of us. Keep it that way.

Mary Marines, AAI  
President

 Pennock  
Insurance, Inc.

2 Christy Drive, Suite 100  
Chadds Ford PA 19317  
800-662-5182 x 1235 – Voice  
800-577-4499 - Fax  
610-476-8458 - Cell  
[mmarines@pennockins.com](mailto:mmarines@pennockins.com)

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## Jody Bowden

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**From:** Neighbors For Crebilly <info=neighborsforcrebilly.org@mail254.atl101.mcdlv.net> on behalf of Neighbors For Crebilly <info@neighborsforcrebilly.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 18, 2017 6:04 PM  
**To:** rpingar@westtown.org  
**Subject:** Toll actually did this three different times in the last 12 years...





November 18, 2017

*The FINAL conditional use hearing for Toll Brothers' proposed development of Crebilly Farm will be held at Rustin High School on November 27th at 6pm. The entire meeting will be devoted to public comment. Come out and be heard!*

## **TOLL HAS DONE THE RIGHT THING BEFORE. WHY NOT NOW?**

What do you get when people come together to fight for environmental protection? You get environmental protection, "naturally." Over the past couple years in Ferguson Township – in Penn State country – a large group of environmentally concerned citizens have been working to protect an important watershed from a large Toll Brothers development. Responding to this community pressure, Toll Brothers has decided to pursue a different



piece of Penn State property in a more densely populated area closer to the university. This is not the first time that Toll has decided to do the right thing in our region. Back in the early aughts, Toll helped protect our history and landscapes when it sold its interest in 60 acres inside the authorized boundaries of Valley Forge National Historical Park. Then again in 2015 in Pennsbury Township just down the road from Crebilly, they sold 23 acres adjacent to the Pennsbury Township municipal building. Now it's time for them to do the right thing with Crebilly Farm. They should add a fair conservation markup and then sell their interest in the land to a consortium. Protecting this most iconic farm in eastern Chester County and saving a large piece of our vanishing history is the right thing to do.



We still have lawn signs available! Respond to this email to get one.

## **IT'S OUR QUALITY OF LIFE**

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## **SAVE CREBILLY FARM**

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**JOIN US**

**SAVECREBILLY.ORG**

To get a sign, please contact Ginger and Sandy Gray at 610.430.1698 and/or email at: [gingergray@verizon.net](mailto:gingergray@verizon.net) Signs can be picked up at their house at 706 Jacqueline Drive, West Chester, PA 19382 We're asking for a \$10 contribution to cover our printing costs.



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**Donate to our legal and communications efforts**

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You are receiving this email because you expressed interest in receiving updates on Neighbors For Crebilly. Thank you for your interest and support in preserving Crebilly and open space for future generations.

**Our mailing address is:**

Neighbors For Crebilly  
Chadds Peak Farm  
158 McFadden Road  
Chadds Ford, Pa 19317

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)



## **Jody Bowden**

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**From:** May Holgren <mlgholgren@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 06, 2017 5:51 PM  
**To:** Supervisors@westtown.org  
**Subject:** Crebilly Farm

To the Westtown supervisors:

I hope that you will do everything in your power to save Crebilly Farm from the huge Toll Brothers development plan. We are losing so many precious sites related to the Revolutionary War, such as Crebilly Farm, and once they are gone they can never be reclaimed. This property in particular is very special as it is adjacent to the Brandywine Battlefield, where the largest battle in America until the Civil War was fought.

With best wishes,  
May Holgren

## Jody Bowden

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**From:** Eleanor Schwandt <elschwandt@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 28, 2017 4:44 PM  
**To:** Jody Bowden  
**Subject:** Fwd: Crebilly Farm BOS Mtg. Stafford Notes -11/27/17

Hi Jody  
Thanks so much for forwarding the submissions from last night.

Thought maybe this should be included in your packet.

Have a good night!  
Eleanor

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jennifer Stafford <[eyestyle4u@yahoo.com](mailto:eyestyle4u@yahoo.com)>  
**Date:** November 28, 2017 at 2:34:25 PM EST  
**To:** [eyestyle4u@yahoo.com](mailto:eyestyle4u@yahoo.com), [elschwandt@hotmail.com](mailto:elschwandt@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** Crebilly Farm BOS Mtg. Stafford Notes -11/27/17

Eleanor,

You requested the written notes from last night's BOS meeting. As my hand writing is terrible and I inadvertently gave you the draft copy of the notes, I've typed up the notes for you via my phone to ensure accuracy etc. Please reach out with any questions.

Thank you.

Jennifer Stafford  
951 South New St  
Westtown Twp., Pa

This is a matter that is very personal to me on a number of fronts.

One, I live less than a half a mile from the proposed development site on South New Street.

Two, our family was given a 150 acre land grant from George Washington as payment for my two great, great, great etc uncles having served as his personal bodyguards.

The farm is a working farm about an hour from here and set in the middle of urban sprawl. With the help of land trusts, conservancies and local governments, it is now preserved in perpetuity for its historical significance. Just like Crebilly farm, it too is considered a crown jewel in the Delaware Valley's open space initiative.

Three, our family dealt with Toll Brothers directly before the farm was preserved and I have first hand experience with their tactics and their integrity or lack there of.

Just like everyone here tonight, I care about maintaining the integrity of our local community and what makes it unique, but also about preserving those places directly tied to significant events in our nation's history. The development will strip the pastoral landscape of our local community and forever remove a piece of our nation's history.

Study after study shows that townships and its residents lose financially with dense developments like this one. Besides taking away our quality of life, the open space and what makes our township unique, it strains the infrastructure across the board. The developer does not absorb these costs, tax payers do.

Studies also show that townships receive great financial benefits by maintaining open space versus incurring those financial burdens associated with developments of this density.

Toll Brothers has not demonstrated that they've met the necessary thresholds around numerous environmental concerns, traffic issues and historical ramifications. Toll Brothers has a long history of not dealing in good faith with townships or home owners; suing to remove or diminish conditional items after the deal is closed, leaving land stripped of its topsoil after economic conditions change, land ruined and unusable. After witnessing Toll representatives showing up at my grandmother's funeral, matriarch of our family farm, I can personally attest that they'll sink to any depth to get a deal.

The community has made it clear that the wish and priority is to not allow this land to be developed. There are other avenues remaining via land trusts, preservation groups and that township's residents that would stand behind an open space initiative from a financial perspective. These groups work to make the family whole while allowing the community to keep open space.

I would like to kindly remind the board that they're in the driver's seat, not Toll, and you represent the people of the township, not Toll Brothers. The best interests of this community, environmentally, financially, historically do not lie in a second rate housing development.

I implore you to vote a big no on this development. I'm going to leave you with a fitting quote from George Washington I came across.

“Experience teaches us that it is much easier to prevent the enemy from posting themselves than it is to dislodge them after they have possession.”  
Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone