Soon after the spring daffodils and crocuses bloom, the township will break ground on a new Public Works facility at the intersection of E. Pleasant Grove Road and Wilmington Pike. The Public Works Department consists of six highly skilled employees who are responsible for operating and maintaining Westtown’s sewage treatment facilities, roads, bridges, stormwater management facilities, municipal buildings, parks and open space. The department is managed by director, Mark Gross, who has worked for the township since 2000. The new garage will supplement the existing structure built in 1996, which the department has outgrown due to the increasing maintenance needs of new residential developments, the township’s aging infrastructure, the transition to in-house maintenance of 350 acres of township-owned parks and open space, and in-house snow plowing of 55 miles of township roads. The existing building simply no longer meets the needs of the department.

The most significant deficiency with the existing garage is size. It has three vehicle bays, but they are not wide or deep enough to accommodate a loaded 40’ X 11’ truck with snowplow. During a snow storm, repairs must be made outside in extremely harsh conditions. The new garage will have four 70’ X 14’ bays, so trucks can be brought inside a heated space to thaw and be worked on quickly and safely, and also stored securely. Offices, locker rooms, break room, and a separate wash bay for steam cleaning salt-covered trucks have also been incorporated into the design. The existing garage will be repurposed primarily as a workshop and storage for smaller trucks and equipment. The new Public Works facility will help extend the life of Westtown’s significant investment in vehicles and equipment, and provide a safe workplace for our most important investment, our employees. Construction is expected to be completed in November.

My final words are about spring cleaning. Westtown is a wonderful community where residents take great pride in keeping their property and neighborhoods clean. Nevertheless, every spring we receive comments and complaints about trash that has accumulated over the winter along the sides of township and state roads. Please accept this as a respectful plea to pick up roadside trash, particularly on properties that front major roads (Street Road, S. Chester Road, Wilmington Pike, West Chester Pike, Oakbourne Road, Westtown Road, and S. Concord Road). Working together, we can make Westtown the best-town and cleanest town too!

As always, I invite you to stop by the township building for a visit. I welcome the opportunity to meet you, hear your concerns, and answer any questions about Westtown Township.

Best Regards,

Rob Pingar
Rob Pingar, Township Manager
Westtown Township, County of Chester
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Board of Supervisors: Carol De Wolf, Scott Yaw, Mike Di Domenico
Street Address: 1039 Wilmington Pike • West Chester, Pennsylvania 19382
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 79 • Westtown, PA 19395-0079
Phone: 610-692-1930 • Fax: 610-692-9651 • www.westtownpa.org

CHESTER COUNTY USEFUL CONTACTS & PHONE NUMBERS

Chester County Government Services Center:
601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA 19382
Information: 610-344-6000
Children, Youth & Families: 610-344-5800
Department of Emergency Services: 610-344-5000
Health Department: 610-344-6225
• Septic Systems: 610-344-6126
• Recycling/Hazardous Waste: 610-344-6692
License Bureau (Dog, Fishing, Hunting): 610-344-6370
Marriage License Bureau: 610-344-6335
Office of the Aging: 610-344-6009
Passports: 610-344-6050
Recorder of Deeds: 610-344-6330
Tax Assessment: 610-344-6105
Tax Claim/Lien Bureau: 610-344-6360
Voters Services: 610-344-6410

Chester County Court House:
313 W. Market Street, West Chester Borough, PA 19380

District Justice for Westtown:
William Kraut (District Court 15-2-03): 610-436-3575

Chester County Conservation District:
610-696-5126

West Chester Area School District:
782 Springdale Drive, Exton, PA 19341
Main Number: 484-266-1000 / School Tax: 484-266-1035

State Senate - 9th District:
Tom Killion: Local: 610-436-3320 / State: 717-787-4712
www.SenatorKillion.com

State House – 156th District:
Carolyn Comitta: Local: 610-696-4990 / State: 717-705-2075
www.pahouse.com/Comitta

U. S. Senators:
Pat Toomey: Local: 215-241-1090 / Federal 202-224-4254
www.toomey.senate.gov
www.casey.senate.gov

Congress – 6th District:
Ryan Costello: Local: 610-696-2982 / Federal: 202-225-4315
www.costello.house.gov

For Police, Fire, & Medical EMERGENCIES, DIAL 911.
For NON-EMERGENCIES, dial 610-692-5100.
Westtown Summer Series 2018
All Events are FREE at Oakbourne Park
1014 S Concord Rd, West Chester, PA 19382

MOVIE NIGHTS
All films start at dark.

June 15th
Join us and bring your canine companion as we watch Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit (2005). The adventures of an eccentric inventor and his trusty dog. Snacks for you and your pooch will be available.

July 20th
Celebrate Christmas in July! Cool off from the heat by watching Elf (2003), a holiday favorite about an elf-raised man in New York City.

August 17th
May the Force be with you. Watch the original Star Wars, Star Wars: A New Hope (1977), on the big screen. Dress up as your favorite character and join the Rebels, or the Empire.

September 21st
Fall back with a classic western. Gather up your darlin’ and bring your wagon to the park to watch Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly in High Noon (1952).

Children’s Series

June 27th – Science Tellers
Wild West: The Mystery of the Golden Piano
Grab your spurs and journey with us to the Wild West, where a legendary bank-robbing outlaw is back in town, about to strike again! Throughout this absolutely wild adventure story, volunteers from the audience will help us explore the fascinating science behind chemical reactions, acids and bases, combustion, air pressure, inertia and more.

July 25th – The Magic of Ari Paul Felber
Come see the Ari Paul Felber Children’s Magic Show. It is a fun, funny, entertaining and INTERACTIVE experience that will keep them laughing throughout the show.

August 8th – Peter Moses Kids Musical Experience
Join Peter Moses for a funny, upbeat, interactive singalong. Concerts are highly participatory with original folk & pop-rock for children.

All children’s series events start at 10:30AM at the pavilion.

Events are brought to you by the Westtown Parks & Recreation Committee
Passmore Williamson, Westtown’s Crusading Abolitionist
by David Walter, Westtown Township Historical Commission

As the Moyamensing Prison cell door slammed shut on Passmore Williamson on July 27, 1855, he surely realized he was a long way from the leafy campus in Westtown where he was born and lived as a young Quaker lad.

With the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act in 1850, Northern Abolitionists were challenged to continue their efforts to free human beings – African-Americans held in slavery – while defying the laws of the land. Passmore Williamson stood in the forefront of that effort.

He was born Feb. 23, 1822 to Thomas and Elizabeth Pyle Williamson, in a house on Westtown School’s campus, where Thomas was employed as the Bookkeeper/Librarian. When he was five years old, his father resigned from Westtown School. By 1839, the family was in Philadelphia, having transferred to worship at the Friends Meeting of Philadelphia. Thomas and Passmore were engaged as “conveyancers;” that is, they drew up legal papers, such as deeds, to transfer real estate properties.

A young man of strong convictions, at age 20, Passmore joined the Pennsylvania Abolition Society (PAS). At the time, abolitionism was not a popular stand, even in Northern states where slavery was being gradually abolished (according to the 1840 U.S. Census, there were still 64 slaves in Pennsylvania.)

Despite the fact that the state had few slaves, outrage against abolitionists was rife: the Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery Society’s hall in Philadelphia had been burnt to the ground on May 18, 1838, just four days after it opened. PAS stood for gradual abolition, and was an “all white” group. Lucretia Mott, and more radical abolitionists, in the integrated Anti-Slavery Society, called for the immediate end of slavery. Many of them participated in the Underground Railroad assisting those who had escaped slavery. Passmore joined the radicals and was disowned by the Society of Friends in 1848.

Yet victories were being won in Pennsylvania. In 1847, Pennsylvania passed a law that repealed the privilege of slaveholders from traveling through the state with slave property. In effect, any slaves they brought voluntarily into Pennsylvania were free the moment they set foot in the state. Other northern states followed with such “personal liberty” laws. However, the federal government, through the political power of the Democratic Party and the slaveholding states, passed the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 which vastly expanded the power of the federal government to hunt and return alleged fugitive slaves in every state of the Union. For all practical purposes, this Act nationalized slavery.

It was against this background that Passmore Williamson was drawn into notoriety in July 1855. He was working closely with a free black man, William Still, on abolitionist matters. Williamson and Still approached an in-transit slaveholder, Col. John Wheeler (the newly appointed U.S. Minister to Nicaragua), and his party on the Philadelphia docks. In the party were Jane Johnson and her two young sons, slaves of Col. Wheeler. Still and his friends informed Johnson that she was free by virtue of being on Pennsylvania soil, and they followed Still to freedom. An infuriated Wheeler went to his friend,
Federal District Court Judge John K. Kane, a pro-slavery Democrat, and Kane ordered Williamson to appear, with Johnson and her sons, in court. Williamson truthfully did not know where Still had hidden Johnson, so was unable to comply, whereupon Kane had Williamson sent to prison for contempt, as he had failed to comply with the Fugitive Slave Act’s requirements that all citizens must assist in returning escaped slaves to their masters.

In August, Still and his assistants came to trial. Johnson, then living in New York City, testified that she had voluntarily left Wheeler’s custody and had not been forcibly abducted as claimed by Wheeler’s attorneys. Thus, she claimed, she was free under Pennsylvania law. The jury agreed: Still and his friends were acquitted, but Judge Kane refused to free Williamson from prison.

The Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery Society kept up a drum-beat of publicity, selling a lithograph of Williamson in his cell, and spreading the story throughout the nation. Friends furnished his cell comfortably and visitors were allowed, including Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass. Senator Charles Sumner sent him a letter, as did foreign anti-slavery societies, and the poet, John Greenleaf Whittier.

Williamson filed a writ of habeas corpus, for false imprisonment, but it was denied by the State Supreme Court.

Eventually, public pressure caused Judge Kane to relent, and Williamson was released on Nov. 3, 1855, suffering some health effects from his 100 days in prison. His suit against Judge Kane for false imprisonment was never settled before Kane died in 1858.

Williamson remained a champion for abolitionism and voting rights for women. However, he was not as far-seeing when it came to financial affairs. Executor of his father’s estate upon his death in 1871, Williamson invested some of the estate in speculative ventures that failed, causing two sisters to sue him for mishandling the estate.

Passmore Williamson died, at age 73, on Feb. 28, 1895, and is buried next to his wife, Mercie, and his father, Thomas, in the Friends Cemetery in Upper Darby.

His prison visitors book, designated as one of the “Top Ten Endangered Artifacts in Pennsylvania,” is in the collection of the Chester County Historical Society in West Chester.

Westtown was not a stop on the Underground Railroad, but it did send forth an acclaimed champion of human rights and the dignity of all mankind.
Friends of Oakbourne News
by Tom Bare, President, Friends of Oakbourne

After a winter of some strange weather patterns that included four nor’easters in March, the Friends of Oakbourne (FoO) are looking forward and anxious to actually doing some physical work in the park as the weather warms. Our first order of business will be to plant at least one dedicated tree and then to focus on preparing the Clock Garden in front of the mansion for the installation of four dedicated stone benches.

On my park walk-about in early April, it appeared that all of the trees that were planted last year came through the winter just fine. In particular, the 19 individually fenced trees that were planted along the park’s entry drive escaped damage from deer. It’s still too early to see if all are viable, but they look to be in good shape.

On the other hand, the “deer resistant” holly plants FoO installed in the Clock Garden did not escape being grazed. Virtually all of the tips of each of the holly branches had been nibbled off; note that these hollies are classified as deer resistant, not deer proof! And while the deer did not bother the newly planted hollies during the summer, they did eat the tender holly terminal shoots when food became scarce during the winter. The lavender (deer don’t like strongly aromatic plants), as well as the barberry and knockout roses FoO planted, did not appear to be touched during the winter. Actually, the deer may have done us a favor with the hollies, since we were going to prune them in April to stimulate branching during the summer growing season.

In the past, we’ve always referred to the large area surrounding the Oakbourne Mansion as the Arboretum, and indeed these grounds contain many varieties of magnificent specimen trees, some dating back to the 1800’s. While we talk about and refer to the Oakbourne Arboretum, it is really not an officially accredited arboretum that has met certain minimal professional standards and levels of practice. During the winter, FoO started to prepare documentation, which will allow the arboretum surrounding the Oakbourne Mansion to become a Level 1 accredited arboretum of the internationally recognized ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program. There are 4 levels of accreditation, with Level 4 being the highest. ArbNet is sponsored and coordinated by the world famous Morton Arboretum, in cooperation with the American Public Gardens Association and Botanic Gardens Conservation International. We plan to submit our arboretum application in the next month or two and, if accepted, Oakbourne Park Arboretum will be listed along with numerous arboreta world-wide, including several local ones such as Longwood Gardens (Level 4), Chanticleer (Level 1), and West Chester University (Level 2).

Recently, I received an email from Scott Wade, curator of the Pierce tree collection at Longwood Gardens. (The Pierce trees were planted by the Quaker family that first bought the land from William Penn.) Scott was interested in knowing whether Oakbourne had any trees that dated back to the 1800’s. I responded that Oakbourne has a number of trees dating back that far, and sent Scott a partial survey from 2002 of trees in the arboretum area. I particularly mentioned the large London Plane tree adjacent to the Oakbourne Mansion as a magnificent specimen. Scott visited our park and took some pertinent measurements of the tree. After some research, he determined that this tree is the second largest London Plane tree in the state of Pennsylvania. It has a circumference at 4.5 feet from the ground at 188 inches, a height of 111 feet, and a spread of 92 feet. Go to: (www.pabigtrees.com/tree_detail.aspx?tree=TR20180322082744370 ) to see the official listing of this tree on the Champion Trees of Pennsylvania website.

A deer nibbled holly in the Clock Garden
In the London Plane tree picture, note the bushy evergreen growth on the main trunk of the tree. This is mostly an euonymus vine, which over the years has worked its way up the tree. Deer love to eat euonymus leaves, hence the vine’s leaves start about 5-6 feet above the ground.

Finally, we bid a sad farewell to two magnificent copper beech trees that had become diseased over the last several years. These trees, located in a grouping of four old copper beeches situated on the left along the park’s entry drive, had become hazardous and were taken down by a tree service. I believe that this grouping of trees is close to 150 – 200 years in age; two trees of this grouping remain, so look for them as you enter the park about halfway up the driveway on your left. Several years ago, FoO started planting another grouping of copper or purple beeches near the originals to replace them.

INTERESTED IN IMPROVING YOUR BEAUTIFUL TOWNSHIP PARK?

Please join us at the Friends of Oakbourne’s upcoming meeting at 7:00 pm on July 19, 2018 at Oakbourne Mansion. Contact Tom Bare (tmbare@hotmail.com or 610-399-1572) if you are interested in donating a park bench or tree to be planted in Oakbourne Park to honor a special person or loved one or to commemorate an important occasion.
Earlier this year, the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department held a promotional ceremony for Sergeant Michael O’Brien and Officer Stephen Hiro. Sergeant O’Brien was promoted to Sergeant and Officer Hiro was made a full-time officer.

WEGO is also proud to introduce its newest officers: Bill Verikakis, Frank Toth, and Jennifer Wolf. The three new officers had an intensive Field Training Program and recently completed their training. Please welcome them – they look forward to serving the citizens of the community.

Sergeant James Renegar recently graduated from the prestigious NJSACOP West Point Command & Leadership Academy. The Academy is an intensive and demanding 14-week program that originated in 1993, when the U.S. Military Academy worked to adapt the fabled West Point model of command and leadership to the needs of law enforcement.

CRIMEWATCH Pennyslvania

The department also recently launched a new website and Facebook page. The website (www.chester.crimewatchpa.com/wegopd/) was developed in partnership with CRIMEWATCH Pennsylvania and is part of the CRIMEWATCH Network (www.crimewatchpa.com). This online tool gives the public direct access to crime and public safety information happening in their community.

Please also visit the WEGO Facebook page: facebook.com/WEGOPD
Code Corner

The Westtown Township Code (Ordinances) can be found on the township website under the Resident Resources tab. The Code is searchable, making it very easy for residents to locate information on topics such as noise, the keeping of animals, and property maintenance. Township resolutions, agendas and minutes for Township meetings, and the Township budget are also archived within the Township Code and completely searchable.

**Do I need a permit to place a temporary storage unit on my property?** For temporary storage used fewer than 30 days a permit is not required. For example, a Portable On-Demand storage unit (POD) might be used to store household items during a painting or interior renovation project. On a single-family lot, a storage container must be behind or beside the house; it cannot be placed in the front yard or in the street. For townhouses and apartments, the container may be placed on the street in front of the residence.

A permit is required for storage periods longer than 30 days. The storage container must be screened from any public right-of-way and any contiguous residential use by evergreen plantings and/or an architectural screen along with other conditions. See the Township Code referenced below for complete details.

Chapter 170: Zoning
§ 170-1509: Storage.
https://ecode360.com/12398228

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Neighborhood University

Neighborhood University 2018 to Start September 6

The West Chester Area Council of Governments is proud to announce that another year of Neighborhood University is set to begin in September. This free program offers the opportunity to learn about local government, tour public facilities, and better understand available municipal services and resources. The goal is to provide area residents with the tools necessary to be better advocates for their community.

Neighborhood University of Greater West Chester is open to any resident or business owner, age 16 or older, from one of the participating communities: East Bradford Township, East Goshen Township, Thornbury Township (Chester County), West Chester Borough, West Goshen Township, West Whiteland Township, and Westtown Township.

Local officials will cover topics including the structure of local government in Pennsylvania, public safety, zoning and land development, trails and open space, stormwater management, transportation, Public Works infrastructure, county services, and public finance.

Registration deadline is August 28. Class size is limited. Sessions will be held on Thursdays from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in various locations throughout the Greater West Chester area. Once enrollment is confirmed, the course schedule and session locations will be distributed to participants. More information can be found at www.nugwc.org.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mimi Gleason, West Whiteland Township Manager (admin@westwhiteland.org) or call 610-363-9525.
Meetings & Events

APRIL 2018
2, 16 – Board of Supervisors
4, 18 – Planning Commission
7 – Yard Waste Collection
10 – Parks & Recreation
19 – Historical Commission
26 – Friends of Oakbourne

MAY 2018
5 – Yard Waste Collection
7, 21 – Board of Supervisors
8 – Parks & Recreation
9, 23 – Planning Commission
17 – Historical Commission
28 – Office closed

JUNE 2018
2 – Yard Waste Collection
4, 18 – Board of Supervisors
6, 20 – Planning Commission
12 – Parks & Recreation
15 – Movie Night
21 – Historical Commission

JULY 2018
4 – Office closed
7 – Yard Waste Collection
10 – Parks & Recreation
16 – Board of Supervisors
18 – Planning Commission
19 – Historical Commission
19 – Friends of Oakbourne
20 – Movie Night

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS – 7:30 pm
HISTORICAL COMMISSION – 6:00 pm
PLANNING COMMISSION – 7:30 pm
Township Municipal Building
1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown

FRIENDS OF OAKBOURNE – 7:00 pm
PARKS AND RECREATION – 7:00 pm
Oakbourne Mansion
1014 S. Concord Road, Westtown

Stormwater Management

Residents may be the first to recognize illicit discharges - typically any flows other than rainwater - being directed into storm sewers or streams. Residents are encouraged to report violations or problems they notice including:

- leaking sanitary sewer manhole covers
- soapy water entering storm drains
- strong odors (sewage, gasoline, etc.)
- swimming pool discharges into streets
- broken water mains
- drainage of sump pumps directly into creeks
- dumping of trash or yard waste near creeks
- running hoses into creeks or storm drains
- fish kills

“Dry weather flows,” defined as flows from stormwater outfall pipes after a 48-hour period without rain, should also be reported for further investigation. Call the Township during business hours, or the DEP water quality hotline (484-250-5900) anytime.

If you fertilize your lawn, please follow the directions and use sparingly. Excess fertilizer washes into streams and rivers, causing algae to grow, which depletes oxygen that fish and amphibians need to survive.

Your efforts are key to protecting clean water!
Recycling Information

How To Prepare Items For Recycling:
Glass, plastic (#1-7), aluminum, and metal recyclables should be rinsed. This reduces the likelihood of attracting mice, rats, birds, insects, and other pests. All lids should be removed and discarded, as they are too small to make it through the sorting process. Cans and plastic may be flattened.

Mixed paper may be co-mingled with other recyclables or in a paper bag. Please do not put plastic bags or plastic wrapping film in your recycling bin as they get tangled in the conveyors at the recycling plant. Plastic bags and film can be recycled at your local grocery store.

Corrugated cardboard boxes must be flattened and cut into approximately 3-4 foot squares, tied, and placed beside the recycling bin. This is necessary because of the compacting system of the recycling truck.

Recycle Right!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCEPTED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aluminum cans, pie plates, and clean foil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metal food, beverage, and aerosol cans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green, brown, blue, clear glass bottles and jars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed paper – magazines, newspapers, junk mail, paperback books, phone books, box board (cereal, crackers, toilet paper rolls, etc.), paper egg cartons, clean pizza boxes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk, juice, and broth cartons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic bottles and jars (#1-7)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOT ACCEPTED</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oil or antifreeze cans or bottles, aluminum cookware, aluminum siding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paint cans, metal cookware</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Window glass, drinking glasses, ceramics, flower pots, mirrors, light bulbs, ovenware</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tissues, paper towels, napkins, metallic wrapping paper, dirty paper plates/cups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juice pouches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Styrofoam, plastic bags, Tyvek envelopes, plastic toys</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

General Trash Information

2018 Holiday Pickup Schedule
Trash will not be collected on New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, and Thanksgiving. For Monday pickups, trash and recycling will be collected the Saturday before the holiday; Thursday pickups will be collected the Saturday after the holiday.

Household Hazardous and Electronic Waste Collection
Pennsylvania law prohibits the disposal of hazardous waste or E-waste in the regular trash. Visit chestercountyswa.org for hazardous waste collection events scheduled throughout the county.

Tube TV’s, computer monitors, appliances, and other electronics can be disposed of at the Lanchester Landfill for FREE through the end of the year (7224 Division Highway, Narvon, PA 17555). Residents can bring up to 3 items per day. Retailers and e-waste collection events are now charging for TVs and computer monitors, so take advantage of this service!

Bulk Items
Large items will be taken on the last collection date of the month. You may put out 3 large items, such as appliances (without Freon) and furniture. Construction debris (shingles, drywall, lumber, etc.) will not be collected. If you are unsure about the disposal of a bulk item, please contact the Township.

Yard Waste
Collected on scheduled days. Must be in paper bags or a container that can be dumped. Branches no more than 3” in diameter & 3’ in length must be bundled & tied. Yard waste collection dates are posted on the Township website westtownpa.org, and on your utility bills. Pickup reminders are emailed to residents who subscribe to the township listserv. Subscribe on the website.
Recognize this Structure?

The Westtown Township Historical Commission needs your help. Do you know where this structure is? If you do, please e-mail the township at: administration@westtown.org.