



WESTTOWN GAZETTE

A Quarterly Newsletter to the Citizens of Westtown Township - Fall Issue #43



photo by Pam Coleman

“WHAT DOES A WESTTOWN SUPERVISOR DO?”

...is a question I have been asked frequently since my election to the Board of Supervisors three years ago this coming November. Also, “Is it interesting?” “Do you enjoy it?” “In retrospect, are you happy you ran, and won?” As well as, “if you knew then what you know now, would you do it all over again?”

Those questions have crossed my mind. A lot! Not just because fellow residents, friends and Township supervisors of other municipalities have asked me. Rather due in part to the fact that the past almost three years have been as intellectually challenging, at times as physically tiring, on occasion as frustrating as heck, yet also as fully self-actualizing (a term from my college days) than I could have ever imagined. Every day often different from the previous.

The subject matters to review and read, and the issues to opine on and to decide are wide rangingly diverse. Here’s a sampling:

Over the past few months, my colleagues have voted to approve a veterinarian’s new practice specializing in small animals; okayed Crebilly Farm to be put on the ballot for a referendum vote in November; approved a new housing development (Sawmill Court), whilst seeking more information of another.

We said yes to a survey being conducted by the Environmental Advisory Council whilst still deliberating on requests for significant budgetary increases from the likes of emergency services to libraries and sites of historical interest. We are increasingly confronted with complex unfunded mandates such as stormwater management; updating the relevancy of ordinances often decades old; and always being fully apprised of our fiscal and financial wherewithal.

All the while we continue to pay careful attention to progress related to the Oakbourne Park initiative, while bading farewell and gratitude to those leaving our employ and welcoming newcomers just joining.

Whilst sharply cognizant of the political and social and socio economic policy tensions so prevalent throughout the country, and what if any of its implications are on Westtown Township.

And that does not even begin to touch on our responsibilities as financial partners with East Goshen Township with the Westtown East Goshen Police Department (WEGO) with whose officers we are presently involved in the collective bargaining process.

In closing, while I may have not answered all the questions posed, I trust you have a little better sense of what your Board of Supervisors does. And whether it be by phone, snail mail, email, text, or when making certain to cast your choice on the referendum in November, always feel free to reach out to me...

And as always, stay well.

Dick Pomerantz

Dick Pomerantz

Board of Supervisors

WEGO Police Commission (Chair)

IN THIS ISSUE:

Contact Information & Bulletin Board.....	2
Manager’s Message and EAC Survey and Contest	3
Everything You Need to Know: Tax Referendum	4/5
Westtown Day and Fundraiser: Cornhole Tournament	6
Friends of Oakbourne	7

The Vietnam War Era’s Local Voices: Let’s Listen.....	8/9
Important Dates and News from the West Chester Public Library	10
Trash and Recycling Information	11
E-Waste Collection Event.....	12



Westtown Township, County of Chester

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Board of Supervisors: Scott Yaw, Richard Pomerantz, Tom Foster

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

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CHESTER COUNTY USEFUL CONTACTS & PHONE NUMBERS

Chester County Government Services Center:

601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA 19382
 Information: 610-344-6000
 Aging Services: 610-344-6350
 Children, Youth, & Families: 610-344-5800
 Emergency Services: 610-344-5000
 Health Department: 610-344-6225
 Septic Systems: 610-344-6526
 Recycling/Hazardous Waste: 610-273-3771
 License Bureau (Dog, Fishing, Hunting): 610-344-6370
 Marriage License Bureau: 610-344-6335
 Passports: 610-344-6310
 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:

Martin Goch (District Court 15-2-03): 610-436-5757

Chester County Conservation District:

610-925-4920

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:

John Kane: Local: 610-436-3320 / State: 717-787-4712
www.legis.state.pa.us

State House - 156th District:

Dianne Herrin (D): Local: 610-696-4990 / State: 717-705-2075
www.pahouse.com/herrin

U. S. Senators:

Robert Casey: Local: 215-405-9660 / Federal: 202-224-6324
www.casey.senate.gov
 Pat Toomey: Local: 215-241-1090 / Federal 202-224-4254
www.toomey.senate.gov

Congress - 6th District:

Chrissy Houlahan (D): Local: 610-883-5050 /
 Federal 202-225-4315
www.houlahan.house.gov

For Police, Fire, & Medical Emergencies, DIAL 911.

For Non-Emergencies:

610-692-5100

BULLETIN BOARD

Open Space Tax Referendum Meeting

The Township will host an informational meeting at the Rustin High School auditorium at 7 PM, September 12. Residents will have an opportunity to listen to guest speakers and ask questions from panelists to better understand the open space tax referendum question that will be on the November 8, 2022 general election ballot. In the meantime, answers to many of the questions that residents have already raised can be found on the Township website: <https://www.westtownpa.org/parks-trails-crebilly/>.

Crimewatch

This online tool gives the public direct access to crime and public safety related information happening in their community. Residents are encouraged to download the CRIMEWATCH mobile app. For more information visit www.chester.crimewatchpa.com/wegopd/ or to learn more about CRIMEWATCH Pennsylvania visit www.CrimeWatchPA.com.

Ready Chesco

This service is used to notify you during a major crisis or emergency, and delivers important emergency alerts, such as weather, road closures, health, or community alerts. To sign up for Chester County's electronic notification system for emergency information go to <http://www.readychesco.org>.



Stay Informed

To receive information about meetings, special events, and public service announcements via email, please go to the Township website and click on the blue Get Email Alerts button at the top of any page.

Pay Sewer and Trash Bills Online

Residents can use Visa, Master Card, or Discover to pay utility bills online at www.westtownpa.org. There is no fee for this service.

Save paper!

If you would like to receive the *Westtown Gazette* electronically, send an email to administration@westtown.org and we will remove you from the mailing list. Newsletters are archived on the Township website.

Manager's Message

Westtown Township Staff Wishes You a Happy Fall!

On behalf of Township staff, I'd like to wish everyone a very happy fall! Between Westtown Day on Sunday, October 2, and the Open Space Tax Referendum on the November 8 general election ballot (see page 4 for more information), there's a lot going on!

Westtown Day, in particular, promises to be the highlight of the Township's social calendar. A mix of food trucks, family-friendly games and activities, artisans, vendors, music, and fun, Westtown Day is a celebration of the community bonds that tie us all together, and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on October 2 at Oakbourne Park! The Township is especially grateful to Pam Boulos, Chair of the Township's Historical Commission, and Jennifer Jacobs, Chair of the Township's Parks & Recreation Commission, for their work in coordinating the event. They, along with all the Township residents who serve on Township commissions, are truly the engines that make Westtown run.



New Stormwater Requirements Coming to Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is requiring that all municipalities throughout the Commonwealth update their stormwater ordinances in order to reduce flooding and erosion and better protect water quality in our watersheds. To that end, Westtown Township, like all the other townships and boroughs in Chester County, has been discussing amendments to our ordinance for the past few months, with the goal of adopting a new ordinance before the September 30 deadline mandated by the DEP.

Currently, all projects that result in over 1,000 square feet of impervious surface being added to a property require that stormwater controls (also known as "best management practices" or "BMPs") be installed so that there is less stormwater runoff post-construction than there was pre-construction. The new ordinance would subject all BMPs to a regular inspection cycle, conducted by the Township's engineer, to ensure that they continue to operate as designed. The new ordinance would also impose more stringent stormwater requirements for redevelopment projects, prohibit specific discharges into the Township's stormwater system, including chlorinated swimming pool discharges, and encourage developers and property owners to use "green infrastructure" designs for stormwater projects, whenever possible.

To learn more about the new stormwater ordinance, please visit the Township's stormwater management page at <https://www.westtownpa.org/storm-water/>.

Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) Survey and Contest

Environmental protection begins in each of our own homes. We know many Township residents have taken action in these five essential sustainability areas:

- Household Energy
- Transportation
- Waste Reduction
- Natural Resources
- Food Production



To recognize these efforts, the EAC is hosting a **Residential Sustainability Contest**. Township residents may submit one entry per household. Three of highest scores and two randomly selected contest entries will be awarded gift certificates to local sustainable businesses such as Roots Café, Thornbury Farms CSA, Harvest Restaurant, Wedgewood Garden Center, and Pete's Produce. In addition, the winners will be announced at Westtown Day on October 2, 2022. Simply scan the QR code to complete the contest questionnaire.



To help guide the activities the EAC pursues in the future, the EAC also requests that residents complete the **Westtown Environmental Survey**. We thank those of you have already participated in the survey, and encourage those who have not to weigh in on what you feel is important! The survey only takes about 5 minutes.

Sustainable practices promote a healthier Westtown and can save you money! For more information about steps you can take, visit the EAC page on the Township website: <https://www.westtownpa.org/eac/>.

We hope you'll find something you can do to enhance the quality of your life while protecting our shared home.

Everything You Need to Know About the Open Space Tax Referendum *but were afraid to ask...*

On November 8, voters in Westtown Township will be asked whether they are in favor of raising the earned income tax rate by 0.08% and the real estate tax rate by 0.42 mills to acquire and maintain open space. These tax increases would pay for the Township to acquire and maintain 208 acres of the 322-acre Crebilly Farm, and acquire conservation easements over an additional 104 acres of Crebilly Farm to protect it from further development.

Needless to say, this issue has elicited numerous questions, and this article will attempt to make sense of the issue so that voters can make an informed decision at the ballot booth.

How we got here...

In April, the Township Board of Supervisors entered into an agreement of sale with the Robinson family to purchase 208 acres of Crebilly Farm for \$20.8 million or \$100,000 per acre. This sales price was based on a property appraisal conducted in late 2021. The agreement of sale is contingent upon two key conditions being satisfied:

- 1) The passage of an open space tax referendum on the November 8 ballot; and
- 2) The Township securing approximately 75% of the purchase price from outside sources, including grants.

If the referendum is unsuccessful or the Township does not receive a sufficient amount of grant funding, the Township can terminate the agreement of sale, and the property owner would be able to remarket the property, including to developers. If the referendum is successful and the Township receives sufficient grant funding, then the Township would acquire the property and convert it into a passive recreation area with walking trails and a parking lot. It is not envisioned that the property would be used for "active" recreation, such as ball fields for youth sports leagues. In addition, farming or any revenue-generating activity on the property would not be permitted, pursuant to the terms of the open space grants that the Township is applying for. Some of the specific plans for the 208 acres, including the location of trails, the maintenance plan and permitted uses are currently being discussed by the Board of Supervisors. We encourage you to visit the "Crebilly Farm" page on the Township website at <https://www.westtownpa.org/parks-trails-crebilly/> to learn more about the Township's options for owning and maintaining the 208 acres of new open space, should the sale close.

In addition to selling the 208 acres of proposed Township open space to the Township, the property owner intends to secure conservation easements over four parcels covering 104 acres

along the western portion of the property. These conservation easements would limit further development to one new home per parcel, plus regular accessory uses such as a pool or barn. These large parcels would then be sold to private property owners. However, further subdivision of these parcels would not be permitted.

If the open space referendum is successful, the Township intends to use some of the new tax revenue to pay for up to 50% of the cost of these conservation easements. The remaining 50% of the cost of the easements would be paid for from Chester County grant funds, should that grant application be successful. As part of the property appraisal conducted in late 2021, the appraiser calculated the value of the conservation easements over 104 acres at \$4.368 million. In other words, because potential future development of the parcels would be substantially restricted, the properties would collectively be worth \$4.368 million less than without the easements in place. Therefore, the Township's share of the conservation easements would be about \$2.2 million.

The map of Crebilly Farm below depicts the location of the 208 acres that the Township would purchase ("Purchase Area") and the four parcels that would remain as private property but with conservation easements in place ("Existing Lot", "Easement 1", "Easement 2" & "Easement 3").

Brass taxes, and dollars and sense...

As noted above, the referendum would ask Township residents whether they are in favor of raising the earned income tax by 0.08% and the real estate tax by 0.42 mills to pay for the acquisition and maintenance of open space. If the referendum is successful, the financial impact on your household will be a function of a) your earned income and b) the assessed value of your home.

Currently, Township residents pay a 1% tax on earned income. This 1% is split 50/50 between the Township and the West Chester Area School District. Therefore, if the referendum is successful, the earned income tax rate would increase to 1.08%, meaning that a household with \$100,000 in earned income would pay an additional \$80 per year in taxes. Importantly, local earned income tax is only levied on income that is earned from a job. Therefore, Social Security, pension income, 401ks, and capital gains are generally exempt from earned income tax, although we encourage you to contact a tax professional if you have questions about your personal tax situation.

Meanwhile, property owners in Westtown currently pay a Township mill rate of 3.5 mills per \$1,000 of assessed value.



Exhibit B

CREBILLY FARM/ROBINSON PROPERTY
 Tax ID: p/o 67-4-29, 67-4-29.4, p/o 67-4-29.2,
 p/o 67-4-29.3, 67-4-33.1, 67-4-33, 67-4-32,
 67-4-31, and 67-4-30
 Westtown Township, Chester County, PA

- Municipal Boundaries
- Parcel Boundaries
- Waterways
- Crebilly Farm/Robinson Property**
- Purchase Area (+/- 208 acres)
- Easement Areas

Natural Lands
 1001 Palmers Mill Road, Media, PA 19063
 610-353-5487 | natlands.org

1. Parcels, waterways, roadways, and municipal boundaries from Chester County.
 2. Purchase and Easement areas from Natural Lands.
 3. 2020 aerial imagery from DroneMap/NeatMap.
- Compiled By: MEB 03/29/2022

Disclaimer: This map is not a survey. The information imparted with this map is meant to assist Natural Lands Trust, Inc., describe the placement of certain retained, reserved, or excluded rights and to calculate acreage figures. Property boundaries, while approximate, were established using the best available information, which may have included: surveys, tax maps, field mapping using G.P.S., and/or orthophotos. Natural Lands Trust, Inc., makes no representation as to the accuracy of said property lines (or any other lines), and no liability is assumed by reason of reliance hereon. Use of this map for other than its intended purpose requires the written consent of Natural Lands Trust, Inc.

Under the proposed real estate tax increase, the mill rate would increase to 3.92 mills. In other words, if your home has an assessed value of \$250,000—which corresponds with a fair market value or current sales price of about \$555,000 (remember that in Chester County, the last assessment was conducted in 1998, based on 1996 sales prices)—your property taxes would increase by \$105. Of course, every home in Westtown has a different assessed value. You can find yours on a recent Township, County, or School District real estate tax bill or by searching for your home on the County’s “ChescoViews” website at <https://arcweb.chesco.org/CV4/>.

By splitting the tax increase between earned income tax and real estate tax, the Township can ensure that residents on fixed incomes are not overburdened by new taxes, while also not putting the entire tax burden solely on working residents.

All total, the Township expects that the new taxes would raise approximately \$681,000 in new taxes annually. Of that amount, it is expected that about \$545,000 would be used to pay for principal and interest payments on \$7.5 million in new borrowing to finance the Township’s share of the acquisition cost of the 208

acres and the conservation easements over the other 104 acres. It is expected that the remaining \$136,000 would be used for operations and maintenance of the new 208 acre park.

Final thoughts...

Whether municipalities should impose open space taxes is one of the very few public policy questions that Pennsylvania law permits to be on ballot referendums. This is therefore a rare example of direct democracy in action. Importantly, the Township collectively takes no position on this ballot referendum, and encourages all residents to let their voices be heard at the ballot box on November 8.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me at jaltshul@westtown.org or 610-692-1930 if you have any questions about the open space referendum that are not addressed in this article or on the Township’s Crebilly Farms page at <https://www.westtownpa.org/parks-trails-crebilly/>

Westtown Day – Sunday, October 2

The Township Historical and Parks and Recreation Commissions are making final preparations for Westtown Day.

This annual community celebration will take place:

Sunday, OCTOBER 2ND	11:00 AM – 3:00 PM OAKBOURNE PARK
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As usual, the event will feature carnival games, food trucks, live bands, Civil and Revolutionary War re-enactors, local vendors, crafts for the kids, and more!

Take a tour of the historic Oakbourne Mansion. Let the kids “dig” for archaeological artifacts. Shop from local businesses and artisans. Tour a police car, ambulance, and fire truck. There’s something for all ages.

For more information, visit www.westtownday.com. If you are interested in sponsoring this event, or volunteering to assist the day of the event, please contact Pam Boulos at PBoulos@cvmprofessional.com.



Fundraiser Cornhole Tournament



INAUGURAL JOSH MICUN CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT SEPT 17TH, 2022

Location:
Goshen Fire Company
1320 Park Ave, West Chester, PA 19380



ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE MICUN FAMILY

TEAM REGISTRATION & GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS CAN BE OBTAINED AT:

[HTTPS://PHILLYBURBS.LEAGUEAPPS.COM/TOURNAMENTS/3282481-2022-INAUGURAL-OFFICER-JOSH-MICUN-CHARITY-CORNHOLE-TOURNAMENT--RECCOMP-DIVISIONS](https://phillyburbs.leagueapps.com/tournaments/3282481-2022-inaugural-officer-josh-micun-charity-cornhole-tournament--recomp-divisions)

Friends of Oakbourne

By Tom Bare, President, Friends of Oakbourne

The Friends of Oakbourne (FoO) are continuing to work on completing and filling in empty spaces in the new Oakbourne Water Tower Garden that we designed and started last year. This garden is located at the rear entrance of the Oakbourne Water Tower. In addition to the serviceberry that we planted in this garden last Fall, this Spring/Summer we planted 6 Otto Luyken Cherry Laurels (*Prunus laurocerasus* 'Otto Luyken'), 6 Glossy Abelias (*Abelia x grandiflora* 'Kaleidoscope'), a Rising Sun Redbud (*Cercis Canadensis* 'JN2'PP21451), a selection of perennials (including Meadow Sage, Phlox, and Coreopsis), and annuals (many marigolds to provide some instant color for the late summer and early Fall). FoO plans to continue to develop this garden to provide a beautiful area attractive not only to park visitors, but also to all kinds of pollinators including butterflies.



Water Tower Garden with newly installed trees/shrubs/flowers

An interesting Eastern redbud tree (*Cercis Canadensis* 'Alley Cat'), prized for its variegated leaves, was planted as a memorial tree. Like other redbuds, this variety produces pink/purple flowers on bare branches in the spring, and after blossom drop, foliage emerges as copper-pink and soft green heart-shaped leaves; however, unlike all other redbuds, these leaves become variegated with white speckles and striations as they mature. This tree was dedicated by Rob Spiron to his long gone parents, Claude and Sissy Spiron, and can be viewed in a grouping of other Eastern redbuds adjacent to a planting of oriental grasses along the park's entry drive.



Alley Cat Eastern Redbud dedicated to Claude and Sissy Spiron

One of our large ornamental cherry trees in the Cherry Tree Grove along South Concord Road died and was replaced with an identical variety, a Yoshino Cherry (*Prunus x yedoensis* 'Akebono') during late spring. There are 18 cherry trees in this grove, made up of 6 groupings of three trees, each grouping being a different variety of tree. Each grouping has a slightly different bloom time so that in the spring there is a wide range of blooming times and colors. These trees were planted in 2006 and 2007 as a Friends of Oakbourne project to celebrate Earth Day; the plantings were done with the help of numerous Penn State Master Gardeners, a large group of Girl Scouts, and the 2nd and 5th grade classes from Westtown Thornbury Grade School.



Variegated leaves of the Alley Cat Redbud

FRIENDS OF OAKBOURNE

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.

The Vietnam War Era's Local Voices: Let's Listen

by Robert J. Kodosky, *Historical Commissioner*, and Madelyne Maychak, *WCU history major*

So, there we stood. Officer Jimenez and me. As we eyed one another warily, I could only imagine the headline: "West Chester University (WCU) Professor bailed out by students after a run in with the United States Capitol Police. Story at 11." That never transpired. Good thing. I am not sure my students would have bailed me out. They appeared a little too amused by it all.

"Dr. K's Capitol Confusion," as it quickly became known on campus, occurred during a field trip to Washington, DC in April 2022. Three generations of military veterans accompanied a group of WCU students to visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial before meeting with United States Representative Chrissy Houlahan.

The journey proceeded accordingly as it neared the time to meet at the Capitol. Like many a professor, I misplaced my students. Frantically, we texted to locate one another and, it turned out, I went to the wrong side of the building. With a tight window to meet with Rep. Houlahan, I sprinted to find my students, oblivious to the barricaded area I cut through. I failed to notice the motorcade idling in my path as well.

As officer Jimenez stopped me to point these things out, my cell phone rang. I answered my phone carefully to hear the voice of Rep. Houlahan's aide on the other end of the line. Sensing officer Jimenez's skepticism, I handed him the phone. Surprisingly, he took it. Rep. Houlahan soon joined us and officer Jimenez's colleague offered to drive her to find my students. After they pulled out, my students, looking for me, came around the corner. Seinfeld could not script it better.

Officer Jimenez radioed his colleague and Rep. Houlahan's squad car soon reappeared. All ended as well as it began that morning at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. There, a representative from the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration, a national program established in 2012 under the secretary of defense, greeted the group when it arrived. He presented each Vietnam veteran with a Vietnam Veteran Lapel pin as an official token of the nation's gratitude.

This ceremonial gesture offered a welcome home that eluded many Vietnam veterans when they initially returned. Instead, they received scrutiny. As one veteran recalled to a student, "I was told if you had any brains, you wouldn't have gone to Vietnam. And my answer to that was, you don't understand how the army works." Another remembered, "I was two or three years younger than you and they put you in a situation where you don't know how you are getting out of it."

For students like Madelyne Maychak, a history major, such firsthand accounts generate historical insights not located in textbooks. Every story matters. Each perspective is unique and promotes an understanding of the era's complexity. One veteran

observed, "There were people pro-war and anti-war, but a bunch of people like me in the middle, trying to figure out what to do with it." Such testimony enables students to grasp the confusion, the ambiguity of the time. It further establishes a personal connection to the past, illuminating the individual impact of sweeping events.

As the group in D.C. worked to reconcile past and present, it ventured across the Mall to the World War II Memorial, a significant space for Vietnam War veterans as well. One veteran made clear the connection, "Some were kind of dreading the draft and others, I guess because the greatest generation is the one that raised us. You know, we felt a calling to duty."

For many veterans, that call to duty brought sacrifices that remain ongoing. One reflected about the chemical defoliant Agent Orange, "They didn't know anything about this stuff." They just said, "it will kill the foliage and expose the enemy so we said 'Let's go! You know, they didn't tell you that this stuff was going to kill you, your kids, your grandkids, your great grandkids.'"

The exchanges that took place that day on the National Mall proved invaluable. For many of the era's participants, the war's aftermath rendered an uncomfortable silence. According to the acclaimed combat psychiatrist Jonathan Shays, trauma survivors require for healing the knowledge that "enough of the truth of their experience is understood, remembered and retold with enough fidelity to carry some of this truth." The excursion to Washington, D.C. capped the first part of an oral history project at WCU that aims to do just that.

Students spent the first part of the spring semester (2022) learning about the Vietnam War era and considered how the events of the time resonated locally. This aimed to prepare them to conduct oral history interviews with individuals who volunteered to share their experiences. Participants included WCU retired faculty and former students, members of the American Helicopter Museum and Education Center, local Vietnamese, the Chester County Marine Corps League and Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 436.

Students received training and support from several internationally renowned oral historians, including ones from the defense department's Vietnam War Commemoration. They submitted their oral histories, video recorded, to the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky. This fall at WCU, students will build a website to exhibit the interviews digitally. A physical exhibit and book project are also in the works.

Students conducted forty interviews and collected over one hundred photos and artifacts from local veterans and activists. Student interns worked over the summer to prepare building



the website, continue the interviews, and further research the local history. One of them, Madelyne Maychak, notes that on October 15, 1969, a National Day of Conscience Protests, three hundred and fifty students from West Chester State College protested in front of the County Courthouse. Such activism continued in the following years.

In 1971, a delegation of students from West Chester joined forty thousand others in the nation's capital as part of the May Day protests that resulted in several getting arrested. Three years later, in an event organized by the Veterans Action Committee, a group of West Chester Students once again traveled to Washington, D.C. to demand an increase in G.I. Bill benefits. According to Maychak, her research for this project "furthers student education of local history and its connection to larger historical events." For project participants, she suggests, oral history offers the "opportunity to feel safe and speak up about their involvement during the war."

2025 will mark fifty years since America's involvement in Vietnam concluded. The sons and daughters of the country's "Greatest Generation" grow smaller. Recording their stories now is essential. They reflect lifetimes committed to President John F. Kennedy's calling, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." They continue to inspire.

The Vietnam generation's members did not always agree about how to best serve. One veteran recalls telling a protestor, "I said, look, we have both done things that we're not going to apologize for, but we better live with it." Whichever side, though, all concurred about the need for engagement and the value of service. They repeatedly exhibited the willingness to uphold the integrity of their nation's ideals. Their stories offer lessons that remain as vital now as then. Let's listen.

Important Dates

SEPTEMBER, 2022

- 5 - Office Closed
- 6, 19 - Board of Supervisors
- 7, 21 - Planning Commission
- 13 - Historical Commission
- 17 - E-Waste Collection
- 17 - Yard Waste Collection
- 20 - Parks & Recreation
- 27 - EAC

OCTOBER, 2022

- 2 - Westtown Day
- 3, 17 - Board of Supervisors
- 5, 19 - Planning Commission
- 8 - Yard Waste Collection
- 11 - Historical Commission
- 18 - Parks & Rec Commission
- 26 - EAC

NOVEMBER, 2022

- 5, 19 - Yard Waste Collection
- 7, 21 - Board of Supervisors
- 8 - Historical Commission
- 9, 23 - Planning Commission
- 13 - P&R Night Hike
- 15 - Parks & Recreation
- 22 - EAC
- 24, 25 - Office Closed

DECEMBER, 2022

- 3, 17 - Yard Waste Collection
- 5, 19 - Board of Supervisors
- 7, 21 - Planning Commission
- 13 - Historical Commission
- 20 - Parks & Recreation
- 23, 26 - Office Closed
- 27 - EAC
- 30 - Office Closed

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - 7:30 pm
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY - 7:00 pm
PLANNING COMMISSION - 7:00 pm
HISTORICAL COMMISSION - 7:00 pm
Township Municipal Building
1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown

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

News from the West Chester Public Library

Do you have ambitions to get your writing published?

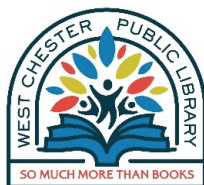
Want help managing your newborn's sleep schedule? Thinking of making changes to your Medicare coverage? Looking for children's story times and afterschool activities, both virtual and in-person? West Chester Public Library has fall programs lined up to cover all that, and more.

With your Chester County Library System (CCLS) card you have access to local and regional attractions like the Museum of the American Revolution, the Brandywine River Museum, and Mt Cuba, as well as ebooks, emagazines, specialized databases including ancestry.com (in-house use), and all the books and DVDs in the libraries across the county. If WCPL doesn't have that one book you're looking for, you can reserve it for pick-up at WCPL, and if need be we'll look outside the county for a copy you can borrow via our Inter-library Loan service.

Visit our website <https://wcpublishing.org> to register for programs, reserve a pass, access the online catalog, and find out more about the library. Don't have a library card? Stop in with your current ID and get one on the spot, or apply online and we'll mail you your card. And, yes, there is an app - available for Apple and Android devices; search for Chester County Library System.



Local ukulele group has been meeting weekly at the library, sometimes enjoying the terrace.



West Chester Public Library

 @ccls.org

415 North Church Street | West Chester, PA 19380



Household Waste Disposal

Please follow these guidelines on the preparation and disposal of household waste and recyclables:

TRASH

Household trash must be securely contained in plastic bags or lidded receptacles. Construction debris, hazardous waste, and electronics are not accepted.

RECYCLING

Recyclable materials (glass, plastics #1-7, aluminum, steel, paper, and cardboard) must be in the recycle bin, or other clearly marked recycling container. **Do not put recyclables in plastic bags.** Rinse food debris and dispose of lids. Flatten cardboard boxes and place in the recycle bin or another cardboard box, or bundle with twine or string (do not use duct tape) and place beside the bin. **Loose cardboard will not be collected.**

YARD WASTE

Yard waste is collected on scheduled days posted on the Township website. It must be in paper bags or containers that can be dumped. Branches no more than 3" in diameter and 3' in length must be bundled & tied. Logs, stumps, rocks, dirt, and ashes will not be collected. Pickup reminders are emailed to residents who subscribe to the Township listserv. The Township strongly encourages residents to compost yard waste and mulch grass clippings.

BULK ITEMS

On the last pick up of each month, A.J. Blosenski will collect up to three bulk items per house. Holiday collection make-ups include bulk items. A mattress and/or box spring is accepted on bulk item day. Construction debris, TV's, safes, and auto parts cannot be accepted for collection.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Visit <http://www.chestercountyswa.org> for hazardous waste collection events scheduled throughout the county.

MEDICAL WASTE

There is a medication return box at the Westtown East Goshen Police Dept. Additional information on the disposal of home healthcare waste is available on the Township website.

ELECTRONIC WASTE

TV's, computer monitors, appliances, and other electronics may be disposed of at the Lanchester Landfill for FREE (7224 Division Highway, Narvon, PA). Residents may bring up to three items per day visit, including one TV (no projection TV's). Retailers and E-Waste collection events charge for TV's and computer monitors, so take advantage of this service.

Recycle Right. When in Doubt, Throw it Out!

Recycling RIGHT is more important than recycling MORE. Many people are still operating under the misconception that recycling every possible scrap of paper, metal, plastic, and glass is the most environmentally sound practice. Clean, uncontaminated recyclable material improves marketability.

Here's a guide for what **NOT** to put in the recycling bin:

- Anything with food waste in it - You don't have to wash containers, but rinse to remove food scraps and residue.
- Plastic bags and film - These items get stuck in the processing machinery, resulting in expensive repairs and downtime. Recycle CLEAN plastic bags, and plastic film packaging at the grocery store.
- Empty snack bags
- Greasy pizza boxes
- Used paper plates, napkins, paper towels, tissues, or diapers
- Paper cups (e.g. coffee cups, fast food drink cups) - The thin plastic lining that helps prevent cups from leaking makes it difficult to process.
- Plastic straws, plastic utensils, or takeaway cup lids
- Shredded paper
- Styrofoam
- Scrap metal, hangers, aluminum siding, or metal cookware

If you want to do something positive for the planet by recycling, then do it right. When in doubt, throw it out!

AJB Trash & Recycling Service
A.J. Blosenski Inc.
www.ajblosenski.com
610.942.2707

Discount Code: Westtown
\$25.00 off a Roll-off Dumpster
\$10.00 off Junk Removal Service

Four Generations of Quality Service from the Blosenski Family

- 96 Gallon Carts Available
- Bulk Item Removal
- Special Cleanups
- Roll-off Dumpsters
- Storage Containers
- Commercial Compactors
- 1-40 Yard Containers
- Event & Party Boxes
- 100% Customer Satisfaction

15 cubic yards
14ft long / 8ft wide / 5ft high

30 cubic yards
22ft long / 8ft wide / 6ft high

Dependable Roll-Off Service

MasterCard American Express Discover VISA

Discount cannot be combined with any other offer.

Servicing Westtown Township



Westtown Township
 1039 Wilmington Pike
 P.O. Box 79
 Westtown, Pennsylvania 19395

Prsrtd Std
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 West Chester PA
 Permit #50

Recycling Day

Anything with a Plug™

September 17, 2022
 Westtown Township | 1039 Wilmington Pike
 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

All residents must pre-register. Visit the Eventbrite link below:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/electronics-recycling-day-anything-with-a-plug-tickets-344819152367>

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP

is proud to offer township residents the opportunity to responsibly recycle obsolete electronics.

This service is available to all residents and small businesses with fewer than 50 employees.

Electronics will be recycled by eForce Compliance, Philadelphia's first Certified Responsible Recycler.

We will accept all electronic devices with a plug, **NO SMOKE DETECTORS, LARGE APPLIANCES, or PROJECTION TVs** will be accepted.

Coupon of equal or greater value provided for all TVs or monitors charged.

All Data Media Will Be Destroyed or Wiped!

ACCEPTED ITEMS INCLUDE:

- | | |
|-------------|------------------|
| Laptops | Computers |
| Peripherals | Mice |
| Typewriters | Small Appliances |
| Telephones | Fax Machines |
| Cameras | Keyboards |
| Cell Phones | Printers |
| Calculators | |

\$30 fee per TV or computer monitor
\$100 per wooden console TV
\$10 per microwave, dehumidifier, air conditioner

