

1936-2019

CHESTER COUNTY DAY

Houses Open 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

CHESTER COUNTY DAY COMMITTEE 701 E. MARSHALL ST., WEST CHESTER, PA

Saturday, October 5, 2019

79th Annual Chester County Day

Chester County's Oldest Historic House Tour
Benefits Chester County Hospital



Welcome to Chester County Day Saturday, October 5, 2019



It is an achievement and or a success in life when someone or something hits a milestone and we have that milestone this year with Chester County Day tour number 79. It ranks us as one of the longest running tours in the nation, certainly the longest in the county, and that is a part of our legacy. The legacy is pertinent especially when the tour is as differentiated each year as possible. And, for the 79th, we should be celebrating as our latest tour is as special as can be. We are motoring through the southeast quadrant of the county this year and will visit a plethora of family homesteads, community structures, and the natural wonders that have been a part of the tour since its conception. Every year the House Committee starts to work right after the previous day's tour to round up our favorite farm houses, country properties, town homes, and long scenic roadways to capture the essence of our Chester County and its special day.

I have a small framed quote in my living room which sits up on a small easel and every time I pass by the table and read its message, it makes me smile. It reads: This is not quite heaven, but I have the same zip code. Our tour this year gives me reason to think of the quote and think of the glorious county in which we live. Imagine William Penn seeing his Penn's Woods today and thinking if naming this region for his home land in Cheshire, England has changed since that early time. Yes, we can say that many of our wide open spaces are gone only to be replaced by dwellings of people who find our neck of the woods an interesting spot in which to live. To think that it was a day's carriage ride to go from the one-time capital, Philadelphia, to the Westtown School and today one can go the 25-mile distance in less than an hour, unless you hit commuter traffic! Drovers taking animal stock for Lancaster County to Philadelphia could travel down the Strasburg Road and cover about 5 miles per day with the livestock and hence our Drovers Inns are that distance apart. That could also be a truck and a few hours ride today. Our tour this year is a pretty concise one and covers less than 50 miles so one should be able to motor all around this quadrant and make good time unless, that is, you stumble upon a horse and buggy jam!

We are very fortunate to be living rather well in a thriving county which has such an abundance of spectacular vistas, wonderful histories, great natural wonders, and some lovely and important historic homes and properties. Many of them seem to be vanishing with development, but many are still there and offering us the beauty that has made our Chester County such a gem and a serene place to reside. We feature many of them as part of this tour. It offers us the opportunity to live well with the

abundance of so many fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables, organically raised proteins, and the businesses that focus on the quality things which we take into our bodies and minds. It makes me think of another quote that says: A return policy is not offered for a life well lived. I cannot think of anyone who would want to return their Chester County living experience.

Sometimes we do lose an impressive part of our living here and this past year we lost a great friend and volunteer to the Chester County Day clan when Eric Chandlee Wilson passed away. He served as editor of this paper for twenty-five years amongst the other positions he took part in, including lecturing for the preview parties and helping secure homes to open for The Day. I know it can be pretty swell to be the recipient of a special treasure, it need not be extravagant and sometimes a simple friendship can be just as meaningful. He was a great friend with me and the committee will miss his kindness, his friendship, his expertise and his dedication over all of his years of volunteering for the Day Committee. As I resay in the article honoring him in this edition of the paper, if I could remember half of what he has forgotten about Chester County, I would be considered a scholar of our local history. He would be most impressed with our first for the newspaper and that is a scanable QR code that will enable you to hear the opera singing of Madame Louise Homer from a 1909 performance. You can listen to it as you read the article about her West Chester life.

We consider our tour the oldest and the best of its kind so as you motor your way around the southeastern quadrant of the county, take in the areas that you drive past that celebrate the open space, the natural wonders of nature, and the proliferation of lovely old homes that dot our landscapes and make up "The Day". At 79 years of age a person usually seems to slow up some and they take the time to smell the roses, as they say, and let life pass by leisurely. Our Women's Auxiliary to the Chester County Hospital has no intentions of taking on that pattern as they hit the 79-year mark. They are up and ready to give you the best experience for this year and are already working on tour #80! Enjoy the mums, savor the aromas emanating from the kitchens, gather decorating ideas for both inside and out, marvel at the homes that have been so beautifully restored and readied for your visit, and plan to join us again next year with your friends and family.

Michael Pillagalli
Editor

Chester County Day ☽ Saturday, October 5, 2019

Houses Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This year we cordially invite you to visit old and interesting houses, gardens and historic landmarks in Chester County. Plan now to spend October 5, 2019 enjoying an all-day tour. Tickets will be limited. Tickets are non-refundable.

Please refer to pages 4 & 5 for all pertinent information.

Public Preview Presentations, Food & Rest Stops all on page 5

Also, Where and How to Purchase Your Tour Tickets



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends:

Since the beginning of 2015, our hospital family and trusted partners have worked tirelessly to design, build and prepare for the opening of Chester County Hospital's most transformational expansion yet. And in just a few months, the fruits of this combined labor will be made available to our community.

In January 2020, Chester County Hospital will open its new main entrance unveiling 250,000 square feet of progressive, staff and patient centered design. The project will feature state-of-the-art operating rooms, high-tech labs for cardiac catheterization and electrophysiology procedures, and new areas for interventional cardiology and pre-admission testing.

The project will also include a 26,000 square foot renovation and expansion of the Emergency Department, complete with advanced security measures to ensure a safe environment for both staff and the community. This ambitious growth endeavor is rounded out by a 99-bed tower featuring private patient rooms and a new retail pharmacy. Patients and their loved ones will also enjoy new dining and shopping options in the new café bistro and Gift Shop.

These advancements will support our nationally recognized Medical Staff, nurses and care teams in providing to our patients the highest possible quality care for years to come.

Throughout this process, we've stayed true to Chester County Hospital's architectural roots and rich history. The new pavilion complements our existing campus with white stucco and terracotta roofs – reminiscent of an Italian villa as inspired by Mr. Pierre S. du Pont nearly 100 years ago. Glass elements, courtyards and a healing garden have been incorporated to provide natural light and calming spaces where patients, family and staff can enjoy the natural beauty of Chester County.

As I reflect on our past and look toward our bright future, I am incredibly proud and grateful for all we have been able to achieve together as a community to expand lifesaving care to our patients.

Today, your participation in Chester County Day will continue to support lifesaving care by contributing to the Women's Auxiliary's newest pledge, "Heart to Heart." The pledge will raise \$1.25 million to purchase leading edge electrophysiology technology, which will help us prevent stroke and improve the quality of life for countless patients with atrial fibrillation and other arrhythmias.

Thank you for all you do to support Chester County Hospital's mission to provide world-class care to all we serve.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Duncan, President and CEO, Chester County Hospital

Chester County Day Sponsors

Our appreciation and thanks go to:

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CHESTER COUNTY DAY VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are always needed on the "Day" to make it a success. The areas to volunteer are Greeters, Host/Hostess, Parking and Route Marking. If you would like to get involved, please call The Chester County Day office 610-431-5301 and leave your name, phone number and in what area you would like to volunteer. Someone from that committee will get in touch with you.

Thank you for your support.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRS



Welcome to the 79th Chester County Day. This year's tour has so much to offer in the way of history, architecture and interior design, featuring homes and historic sites in the southeast quadrant of Chester County, including Willistown, Malvern, Berwyn, West Chester, Westtown and Glen Mills.

As always, we start the "Day" with a fox hunt. Radnor Hunt will host this year's early morning event. Enjoy hot coffee and homemade pastries while you learn more about fox hunting in Chester County. Please be parked by 8:30AM. The riders and hounds will move off shortly after 9AM in search of the elusive fox. Pick up a pre-paid boxed lunch while you are there to save for the perfect picnicking spot later along the route. Start the tour from the hunt to visit the nearby houses in the Sugartown area. A 2017 built "Okie-style" re-creation features historic architectural features with stunning interior design. Park at our first lunch stop to tour the former estate of a Philadelphia socialite to enjoy a picnic lunch on the veranda or under the outdoor tent. No need to move your car just walk next door to a pre-Victorian manor house built by a French drummer boy who came to this country with General Lafayette during the American Revolution. Around the corner near Historic Sugartown visit a charming c1785 schoolmaster's house.

As we celebrate the distinctive architecture of Chester County with a strong emphasis on history, specifically the American Revolution, plan to visit a restored 1723 home built by early settlers to this area, a house once owned by Loyalists during the American Revolution and a 12-acres estate that includes an 1804 dairy barn on the property. At the Paoli Battlefield walk the grounds of the 9th bloodiest battle of the Revolutionary War and visit the 2nd oldest Revolutionary War monument in the country. If you love barns, there are several unique barns that have been completed transformed into magnificent family homes. Enjoy a picnic lunch at our second lunch stop at historic Oakbourne Park at the covered pavilion behind the mansion.

VIP Ticketholders will have an exclusive tour of an 1830 Georgian manor house on seven acres, with many special outdoor features, including a magnificent clock tower. In addition to a tour of this home, VIP ticketholders will be provided a gourmet boxed lunch from Montesano Brothers Italian Market. See VIP ticket information on page 5 for more details. Not sure how to plan your Day? Attend one of our public preview lectures given during the month of September and right up until Friday night before the "Day" to get a peek inside all the stops on the tour.

We hope that you will find the "Day" to be a memorable experience.

Debbie Hess and Jeanne Reith, Co-Chairs

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2019 CHESTER COUNTY DAY COMMITTEE

CHESTER COUNTY DAY 73rd Annual Edition

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TICKET INFORMATION

TOUR TICKETS ARE \$50 ∞ VIP TICKETS ARE \$100

All tour ticket orders must be received by September 26, 2019. Orders received after this date must be picked up on "The Day" at the Chester County Day Information Center. This office is located in the North Hills Medical Building, 795 E. Marshall St., which is adjacent to the East side of the hospital parking lot.

Purchase tickets online at www.chestercountyday.com Starting July 1, 2019. There is a \$3.74 fee for this service, \$6.49 for VIP

By mail at Chester County Day, PO Box 1 West Chester, PA 1938

Or in person, starting on September 3, 2019 at our Satellite locations and Chester County Hospital, 701 East Marshall St., West Chester, PA 19380

Hospital Locations: *Credit Cards Not Accepted.*

CASHIER'S OFFICE

Monday – Friday 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM

VIP Tickets will be available at this location.

WAGS GIFT SHOP

Monday – Friday 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM Saturday Noon – 4:00 PM Sunday Noon – 4:00 PM

VIP Tickets will be available at this location.



ABSOLUTELY
 No Pets
 No Children under age 12
 No Babes-in-Arms
 No Backpacks
NO EXCEPTIONS

Ticket Orders

Please PRINT Legibly

Please send No. _____ Tour Tickets @ \$50.00 each - \$45 tax deductible

Please send No. _____ VIP Tickets @ \$100.00 each - \$75 tax deductible

Make checks payable to CHESTER COUNTY DAY

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email (optional) _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Check # _____

We do not share this information with any third parties. Information 610-431-5301

Tickets will not be replaced if lost.

Tickets are limited and non-refundable.

Mail Order Form to: Tickets Chester County Day
PO Box 1
West Chester PA 19381

Tickets will be mailed after September 3rd. Tour ticket orders received after September 26th must be picked up on the "DAY" at the Information Center at the North Hills Medical Building, 795 E. Marshall St., West Chester PA.

INFORMATION CENTER WILL BE OPEN ON THE 'DAY'
FROM 8:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

SATELLITE TICKET LOCATIONS

PURCHASE TICKETS AT THESE BUSINESSES

Tickets for the "Day" may be purchased, in person, at the following locations beginning Sept. 3, 2019. Credit Cards **Are Not** accepted at these locations. Businesses with (*) will have **VIP Tickets** available.

- Boutique W
5001 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square 610-356-1566
Hours: Monday thru Saturday 9:30 AM – 5:30 PM
Thursday 'till 8:00 PM
Sunday 12:00 NOON – 5:00 PM
- Brandywine View Antiques
1244 Baltimore Pike (Rt. 1), Chadds Ford 610-388-6060
Wednesday thru Sunday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Chester County Historical Society
225 North High Street, West Chester 610-692-4800
Tuesday – Saturday 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM
- Cricket's Antiques & Garden Center
1641 Horseshoe Pike (Rt 322) Glenmoore 610-942-7500
Open Everyday from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Thursday 10:00 AM – 8:30 PM
- Eleanor Russell, Ltd.
2948 Conestoga Road, Glenmoore 610-321-2777
(in Ludwigs Village Shopping Center)
Tuesday & Wednesday 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM
Thursday & Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM
- Gardener's Landscape & Nursery
535 E. Uwchlan Ave. (Rt. 113), Chester Springs 610-363-5455
Monday thru Saturday 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Giunta's Furniture & Accessories – West Chester Location (*)
513 E. Gay Street, West Chester 484-887-8271
Monday thru Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Hallman's Store
1600 Pikeland Ave. (Rt. 113), Chester Springs 610-827-7721
Monday thru Saturday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- Maria Fe's Upscale Consignment Boutique
117 E. King Street, Malvern 610-407-4570
Hours: Monday thru Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- R-P Nurseries Garden Center(*)
656 Unionville Rd (Willowdale) Kennett Sq 610-444-1116
Monday thru Saturday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Stuart Jewelers (*)
925 Paoli Pike, West Chester 610-692-6181
(West Goshen Shopping Center)
Monday thru Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- The Encore Shop
1056 E. Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square 610-388-6269
(Re-opens Monday, August 26th)
Monday thru Saturday 9:30 AM – 4:00 PM
- Visual Expansion Gallery
132 N. High St., West Chester 610-436-8697
Monday thru Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM
Sunday Noon – 4:00 PM
- WSFS Bank
1201 E Lancaster Ave, Downingtown 610-535-6820
(Next to Cracker Barrel Old Country Store)
Monday thru Thursday 9:00 AM – 5:30 PM
Friday 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM Saturday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- WSFS Bank (*)
210 Font Rd. (Rt. 100 Above Eagle), Downingtown 610-535-4830
Monday thru Thursday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM Saturday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

FRIDAY EVENING PREVIEWS

At Longwood Gardens & the Chester County Historic Court House

On Friday evening, October 4, at Longwood Gardens, Day guests will have the great pleasure of seeing a PowerPoint presentation of every home and landmark in our CCD house tour. This will take place in the Visitor's Center Auditorium with Day ticket holders being admitted first. Ticket holders may also tour the gardens at no charge all day on Friday Preview Day until 9 PM and all day on Sunday (10/6). You must show your CCD ticket AT THE TICKET WINDOW FOR AN ADMISSION PASS to Longwood on Friday and Sunday. Tickets are NOT good for Nightscape.

Presentations will begin promptly at 5, 6, and 7:00 PM—no seating after the lecture begins. **Main fountain garden performances will be at: 11:15 AM, 1:15 PM, 3:15 PM, 5:15 PM, 6:15 PM, 7:15 PM, and the full illuminated**

show will be at 8:15 PM.

Live Music in the Beer Garden from 5:00 PM, to 8:00 PM.

Also, on Friday evening in Court Room 1 of the Thomas U. Walter's 1846 Historic Court House at High and Markets Streets in West Chester, you will have the privilege of seeing the PowerPoint presentation of homes and landmarks featured on October 5. Presentations will begin promptly at 6:00 and 7:30 PM.

Chester County Day ticket holders will be admitted *free of charge* to the Historical Society Museum on Tuesday, October 8th through Saturday, October 12th. Visitors must have a CCD ticket for admission.

CHESTER COUNTY DAY OCTOBER 5, 2019 PUBLIC PREVIEW LECTURES

Tuesday, September 10, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

Hershey's Mill ~ Hershey's Mill Community Center
1500 Greenhill Road, West Chester

Sunday, September 15, 2019 @ 2:00 PM

Chester County Library & District Center ~ Struble Room
450 Exton Square Parkway, Exton

Monday, September 16, 2019 @ 1:00 PM

Tel Hai Retirement Community
4000 Tree Line Drive-StoneCroft Building
Honey Brook

Monday, September 16, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

Freedom Village Brandywine ~ Auditorium
15 Freedom Boulevard, West Brandywine

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

West Chester Public Library
415 N. Church Street, West Chester

Monday, September 23, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

East Goshen Township Building ~ 2nd Floor
1580 Paoli Pike, West Chester

Wednesday, September 25, 2019 @ 6:00 PM

Henrietta Hankin Library Annex ~ Large Community Room
215 Windgate Drive, Chester Springs

Thursday, September 26, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

Chester County Hospital
Mira Conference Room – First Floor East
701 E. Marshall Street, West Chester

Tuesday, October 1, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

Chester County Hospital
Mira Conference Room – First Floor East
701 E. Marshall Street, West Chester

Wednesday, October 2, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

Easttown Library & Information Center
720 First Avenue, Berwyn

Friday, October 4, 2019 @ 6:00 & 7:30 PM

West Chester Historic Court House
Court Room 1 – 2nd Floor
2 N. High Street
(Enter building from Market Street)

Friday, October 4, 2019 @ 5:00, 6:00, 7:00 PM

Longwood Gardens ~ Visitor Center Auditorium
1001 Longwood Road, Kennett Square

ENJOY "THE DAY" IN STYLE

Treat yourself to a VIP Ticket

VIP Tickets Include these Supreme Benefits:

- **Preview Party at Oakbourne Mansion in Westtown Township.** This private VIP Reception is for homeowners and VIPs. Guests will enjoy fine cuisine and wine and then will be treated to a preview of this year's tour.
- **Private Tour of VIP House with gourmet boxed lunch included.** VIP ticket-holders can enjoy a tour of this spectacular Georgian manor house built in 1830 and known for its prominent clock tower, built in 1912. The property recently underwent a 5000 square foot addition and features intricate tiled floors, plaster crown moldings, beautiful chandeliers and wallpaper.
- **Gourmet Box Lunch Menu provided by Montesano Bros Italian Market & Catering**
Choice of:
 - » Roasted turkey & crisp bacon on a baguette
Aged cheddar, lettuce, Jersey tomato, avocado mayo
 - » Cold baked Virginia ham on sourdough square bread
Soft brie cheese, honey dijonaise, fresh arugula
 - » Raw vegetable & roasted garlic hummus, sundried tomato wrap
Shredded lettuce, pickled red onion, Jersey tomato, marinated cucumbers, roasted sweet peppers, feta

All choices include: Roman orzo pasta salad, mint & berry salad, gourmet potato chips, bottled spring water & white chocolate & macadamia nut cookie

VIP tickets cost \$100. 100% of your contribution benefits Chester County Hospital. If you have already purchased a General Admission Tour Ticket and would like to upgrade to a VIP ticket for an additional \$50, please contact the Chester County Day Office at 610-431-5301 by September 21st.

Per IRS regulations \$45 of each \$50 tour ticket and \$75 of each \$100 VIP ticket may be counted as a tax deductible contribution to The Chester County Hospital Foundation. For more information please contact the Foundation office at 610-431-5328.

Complement Your Tour with a Picnic Lunch

Arianna's Gourmet Café - \$12 per lunch

- Gourmet Chicken Salad on a Croissant
- Turkey Wrap with Cranberry Mayonnaise
- Ham with Swiss Cheese on Rye
- Roasted Vegetable Wrap



Sandwiches come with your choice of Caesar Pasta or Fruit Salad, a beverage: Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite or Spring Water and homemade cookies.

Pre-Order by October 3rd

Online @ www.chestercountyday.com

Call or email Arianna's at 610-696-2910 or ariannaswc@aol.com

Please Specify Desired Pick Up Location (Pick up will begin at 10:30 AM)

Stop #9

The Institutes
720 Providence Road
Malvern, PA 19355

Stop #23

Oakbourne Park
1014 S. Concord Road
West Chester, PA 19382

(All lunches must be picked up by 2:30 PM at Oakbourne Park and The Institutes)

Stop #6

At The Fox Hunt
The Radnor Hunt Club
826 Providence Road
Malvern, PA 19355

*For early pick up from 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM
(All lunches must be picked up by 11:00 AM)*

REUNITED,



& IT FEELS SO GOOD.



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1724 Chester County Courthouse: Still Standing but not in Chester County

By Thomas M. Walsh



rior to the coming of William Penn in 1682, court cases were held by magistrates and justices who met in the village of Upland along a stream that emptied into the Delaware River. After Penn arrived, the village was renamed Chester as was the creek and, of course, this being one of Penn's three new counties, would be known as Chester County. The early courts were held in buildings large enough to accommodate judicial activity (churches, houses, etc.). In 1707, the County of Philadelphia built a brick combination courthouse, "which was built above arches, the ground floor being used for market shops." The second floor featured a main courtroom.

Seventeen years later, Pennsylvania's second courthouse was built in Chester. By 1723, the locals had pressured the Pennsylvania Assembly and 300 pounds was set aside for its construction. The new courthouse would be four blocks from the river and east of Chester Creek on Market Street. Attributes of the location included being near the market square as well as being next to the new workhouse and new jail, plus the Kings Highway now passed through Chester. There are some who believe Chief Justice David Lloyd of Chester took part in the design of the building. Some say that it is similar to the 1707 Philadelphia Courthouse, but without the market. When it opened in 1724, it was described as a rectangular, two-story building (31' x 36') of quarried stone from along Ridley Creek. "The courtroom was on the first floor. The windows were placed 13 feet above ground so that the proceedings could not be seen by anyone outside. The bay window for the judges was added in 1744. Two to three years later, the hexagonal bay, which was one of the earliest in the country, was added. The second story housed the grand jury room and a petit jury room. Heat, which wasn't available on the first floor, was provided on the second via two fireplaces."

There was no basement. A bell cast in London was added in 1729 and was the same bell used to ring out freedom at the reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 8, 1776.

"All the great lawyers and judges of Pennsylvania at some time gave service in the Chester County Court House. These included Andrew Hamilton, James Wilson, Signer of the Declaration, Tench Francis, Richard Peters, Thomas McKean, Edward Shippen, Joseph Galloway, Benjamin Chew, Jasper Yates, and many others. But in the hearts of the local people, no one ever quite equaled John Morton. John Morton was a local lad, born in Ridley Township in 1724, the year the Court House was built. His father died before he was born, but a devoted stepfather taught him to make the best of his abilities. Descendant of some of the fine 17th century Swedish families, he had few years of formal education, but his land and road surveys are a work of art. He was called in by his relatives to write their wills, act as guardian, etc. Soon his talents were recognized in wider circles. In 1756, when he was 32, he was chosen one of Chester County's representatives to the Assembly, which met in the State House, now Independence Hall. From then on, except for one short period when he was appointed High Sheriff of Chester County, he never missed a meeting. Delegate to the Stamp Congress in New York, Justice for Chester until John Penn failed to renew his commission (to the distress of Benjamin Franklin), he was also Presiding Justice of the Orphans Court for Chester County. In 1774, he was Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and a member of the Continental Congress in 1774, 1775, and 1776."

Space does not permit a review of famous colonial cases; however, it is suggested that you check out the life of James Fitzpatrick, aka "Sandy Flash," whose trial was held here on September 15, 1778. The 1770s also saw the beginning of the petition movement to remove the county seat from Chester. The March 20, 1780 Supplemental Act authorized the purchase of land in East Caln for a new courthouse. The land was purchased but nothing else occurred. The March 22, 1784 Supplement Act authorized Col. John Hannum, John Jacobs, and Isaac Taylor to purchase ground near the Turk's Head Tavern in Goshen Township. The purchase was made on May 1, 1784, and construction began soon after. The anti-removalists caused the construction to be stopped with the passing of the Legislative Act of March 30, 1785. The march on Turk's Head soon followed, led by



1724 Chester County Courthouse

Drawn by C.P. Tholey, Bowem & Co., Lith.,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Major John Harper, a tavern keeper from Chester and his anti-removalist armed force. They were met at the construction site by an armed group led by removalist Col. John Hannum. An armistice was agreed to and Major Harper's keg of whiskey was enjoyed by all. Construction began again when on March 18, 1786, the Legislature repealed the Suspension Act.

On September 25, 1786, a law was passed that allowed the Sheriff of Chester County to remove the prisoners from the old jail in Chester to the new one near the Turk's Head, and on November 28, 1786, the first case was heard in the new courthouse. On March 3, 1788, the Legislature allowed for the Courthouse area of Goshen Township to be called a "county town." With this act the present-day boundaries were solidified and the name West Chester became official. The old courthouse and jail in Chester were sold to William Kerlin. The Chesterites, still smarting after the removal, pushed to have the County divided. On September 26, 1789, The Act for Dividing the County of Chester was passed. The commissioners of the new Delaware County repurchased the building from Mr. Kerlin. In 1851 the 1724 Courthouse was sold to the City of Chester when the county seat was moved to Media.

Today the 1724 courthouse still occupies its original location in the city of Chester. It is still used for the annual Law Day ceremonies. Next door to the courthouse is the Delaware County Historical Society Museum and Library. After 295 years the original Chester County Courthouse is still standing but is now part of Delaware County.



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SUFFRAGISTS WIN THE RIGHT TO VOTE

By Robyn Young

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO, Pennsylvania ratified the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution giving women the right to vote. It was approved in the House of Representatives in May and then in the Senate on June 24, 1919. Pennsylvania was seventh in the nation to ratify. By August 20, 1920, the rest of the states ratified the amendment. The work of thousands of women had finally paid off and they were able to vote in the 1920 elections. Tax-paying women had been convening, petitioning, and marching since 1848 to be recognized as equal citizens. Local women of Chester County contributed to this momentous accomplishment.

The first women's rights convention in Pennsylvania took place on June 2-3, 1852, at Horticultural Hall in West Chester, four years after the first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York. Many famous speakers visited here and lectured on women's rights, anti-slavery, and temperance. Lucretia Mott (1793-1880) of Philadelphia attended the convention and had connections to Chester County because Dr. Ann Preston of West Grove was her personal physician. Due to their work on the Underground Railroad, many early Quaker suffragists already had a network in place to support their activities. Sojourner Truth also visited and made speeches in Chester County.

Hannah Darlington (1805-1882) of Kennett Square who later moved to West Chester, organized the 1852 convention. She also donated land for the construction of the West Chester Public Library. Hannah worked tirelessly for women's rights after attending the 1851 convention in Worcester, Massachusetts.

In 1851, Dr Ann Preston (1813-1872) of West Grove, was a member of the first graduating class of the Female Medical College of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia). Dr Preston taught at the medical school and later became dean. She also participated in the fight for women's rights. Preston attended and actively participated in the 1852 convention. She later lectured on hygiene, physiology, and temperance.

Sidney Pierce, a woman, of Longwood was recording secretary of the 1852 convention. She was involved in temperance work and obtained sig-

natures on petitions to abolish alcohol. She was a member of the Longwood Progressive Friends Meeting in Kennett Square and was involved in the women's suffrage movement until the 1880s.

After the outbreak of the Civil War, the suffragists set aside their work and instead focused on nursing wounded soldiers. Many volunteered as nurses in hospital tents on the battlefield and on hospital ships. Women on the home front donated medical supplies, clothing and food through the Sanitary Commissions in each state.

After the war, efforts for suffrage slowly resumed as women established national, state and local suffrage associations. They started getting signatures on petitions to be presented to their representatives in Washington, DC.

Sara Louisa Oberholtzer (1841-1930) was a poet, reformer and suffragist. She lived at the Mill at Anselma in Chester Springs. She was active in campaigning for women's rights and temperance. Oberholtzer published articles about suffrage and attended the World's Congress of Women in 1893.

Jean Foulke Kane (1867-?) lived on a 67-acre farm in Lenape, East Bradford. Starting in 1913, Kane was a suffrage campaigner and served on the boards of the Women's League for Good Government and the Equal Franchise Society of Pennsylvania. She made speeches as chair of the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women's Committee for Rural Women and attended all of the federation's conventions. During World War I, the Equal Franchise League assisted in organizing the Women's Land Army to mobilize efforts to increase food production. Jean Kane provided housing at her home on "Bala Farm" for women who committed themselves to leaving their jobs to learn agriculture and farming. She participated in the suffrage marches in Washington DC in 1918.

In 1881, the minutes and resolutions of the previous conventions were published in the History of Women's Suffrage by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Matilda Joslyn Gage and Susan B. Anthony. As the older suffragists passed away, younger women who had benefited from their efforts in education and in the workplace replaced them in larger numbers. The younger suffragists were radical in their ideas and were soon holding suffrage marches and parades, picketing at the White House, getting arrested, and going on hunger strikes while incarcerated.

In 1915, Katherine Wentworth Ruschenberger (1853-1943) of Stratford contributed her own funds to have a replica of the Liberty Bell cast in bronze and then taken around the state to dramatize the effort to pass the suffrage amendment. The Justice Bell, as it was called, weighed 2,000 pounds and its clapper was shackled with chains. It was displayed in all 67 counties with its final stop in West Chester. In September of 1920, the bell rang out after justice had been served giving women the right to vote. The home of the Justice Bell is in the Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge National Historic Park.

After 72 years, women in the United States finally cast their votes!



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AT A MEETING OF A NUMBER OF INHABITANTS of the township of Upper and Lower Thornbury and parts adjacent, in the counties and Delaware, had agreeably to public notice, at the school house on the street road near the corner of Westown Board School farm, in Chester county, the 7th of 9th month, 1821; Thomas Pierce, Esq. was called to the Chair, and Thomas Williamson, appointed Secretary, when the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted viz:

That whereas we have earned with regret that the baneful vice of Horse Racing hath been frequently practiced with impunity in this neighborhood to the evil example of others; but thus, setting at defiance the gook and wholesome laws of the commonwealth, a practice not only illegal, but demoralizing in its tendencies and highly injurious to its effects to the peaceable citizens in the neighborhood, as well as a very great and grievous nuisance in the public highways.

And whereas it hath been represented to us, that other matches are made up, the time fixed upon for running, and that considerable bets are already made—Therefore,

Resolved, That we pledge ourselves to each other by sacredties of friendship and good faith, to use our best endeavors individually and collectively to put a final stop to the evil practice

Resolved, That Philip Price, Samuel Painter, Thomas Williamson and Abner Hoopes, be appointed to attend each and every such collection that may come to their knowledge, and report the same to the members of this Association, with power to convey them when thought necessary



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ESTABLISHED 1992

The 1852 Women's Rights Convention

By Robyn Young



The first women's rights convention in Pennsylvania was held at Horticultural Hall, the home of the current Chester County Historical Society at 225 N. High Street in West Chester. This event took place on June 2nd and 3rd, 1852, four years after the first women's rights convention at Seneca Falls, New York. Horticultural Hall was designed by architect Thomas U. Walter and built in 1848 with a recessed Norman arch at the front entrance. The original height of the building was not as tall as it appears today. In the 1870s, the roof was raised to accommodate the hall's new use as a theatre and opera house. The front of the hall was made of local serpentine stone and the remaining three sides of brick. The building was constructed for the community's use as an exhibition hall and meeting place for "Horticultural and Public purposes."

Since Horticultural Hall was open to all citizens, abolitionists such as Lucretia Mott, Sojourner Truth and Horace Greeley lectured there.

The convention was organized by Hannah Darlington, who later donated the land for the building of the West Chester Public Library, and Jacob Painter, a founder of the Tyler Arboretum in Delaware County. A year earlier, Hannah Darlington and Jacob Painter had attended the Women's Rights Convention in Worcester, Massachusetts, with Jacob serving as a delegate.

On April 20, 1852, an advertisement was published in the American Republic inviting friends of justice and equal rights



Convention organized by Hanna Darkington of West Chester

for women to attend a convention on June 2-3, 1852. Speakers included women's rights advocate Lucretia Mott of Philadelphia as well as the first woman in Pennsylvania to receive a medical degree, Dr. Ann Preston of West Grove.

James and Lucretia Mott were well-known abolitionists and attended the women's rights conventions together. They had worked together for years in the anti-slavery movement. In 1840, the Motts attended the World's Anti-Slavery Convention in London, England. Lucretia met Henry and Elizabeth Cady Stanton at the convention. Due to their sex, the women abolitionists who attended with their husbands were made to sit behind a curtain and not per-

mitted to participate in the proceedings. Some of the men joined the women in protest. Mott and Stanton decided to hold a woman's convention upon their return to the United States. Eight years later, they made good on their promise. Mott and Stanton were among the organizers of the 1848 Women's Rights Convention, the first in the nation, held in Seneca Falls.

Out of town participants at the West Chester convention were advocate and author of the Married Women's Property Act of 1848 Ernestine Rose of New York, suffragist and editor of the Windham County Democrat Clarina Howard Nichols of Vermont, abolitionist and writer Frances Dana Gage of Ohio, and Dr. Harriet Hunt of Boston. Local attendees were Oliver and Mary Ann Johnson of West Chester, abolitionist



Speakers: Dr. Ann Preston of West Grove and women's rights advocate Lucretia Mott of Philadelphia.

and teacher Abby Kimber of Kimberton, first president of Penn State University Evan Pugh of Oxford, abolitionists Joseph and Ruth Dugdale of East Marlborough, and Hannah and Chandler Darlington of Kennett Square. Thirty-seven of the attendees were members of the Religious Society of Friends also called Quakers.

Lucretia Mott called the meeting to order and nominated committees for election of officers. The presiding officers of the convention were Mary Ann Johnson, president, Chandler Darlington, vice presi-

dent, Alice Jackson, secretary, and Sidney Pierce, recording secretary. Speeches were made and letters were read on the topics of temperance, medical education, equal pay for equal work, and voting rights for women. A series of resolutions were passed granting women certain rights, among them the right to vote, the right to a higher education and equality of the sexes. Reports of the convention appeared in newspapers after the event. Most reports ridiculed the men for attending a women's conference and criticized the women for taking part. Organizers of the convention were quick to print the minutes and

resolutions as pamphlets. The pamphlets were distributed to women's organizations and in 1881 published as the proceedings of the West Chester Convention

in the History of Women's Suffrage by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Matilda Joslyn Gage, Susan B. Anthony and Ida Husted Harper.

Several years after the 1852 convention, a Women's Rights Convention was held in Philadelphia, followed by all of the states hosting conventions, petitioning for suffrage, and forming women's suffrage organizations. After 72 years, women finally won their right to vote with the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920 - all without firing a shot!



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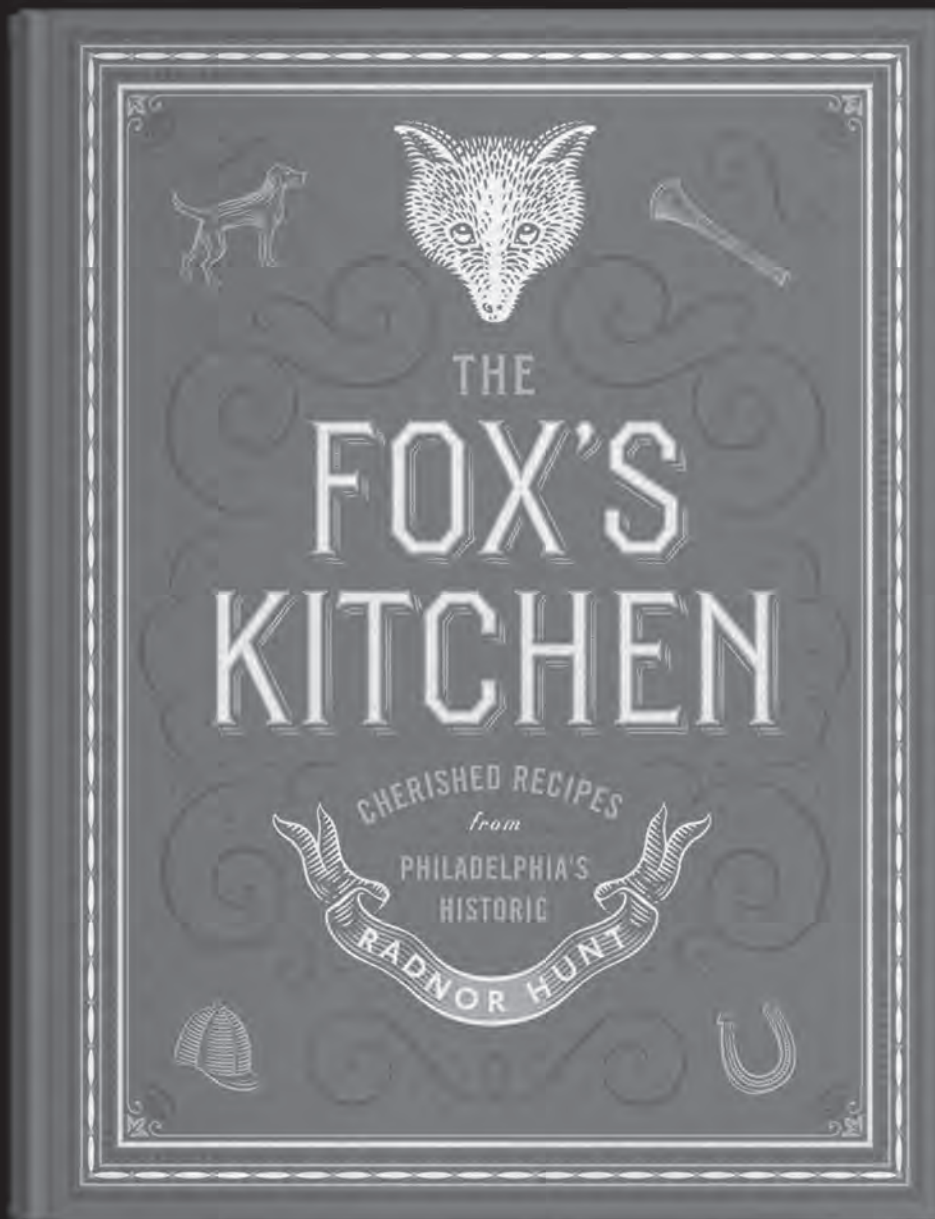
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Duffy's Cut, Revisited

By Wayne A. "Tony" Conaway

It has been eight years since The Chester County Day paper has noted the activities at Duffy's Cut. Any historical event which can inspire a television documentary, two books and several songs is worth noting!

In railroad parlance, a "cut" is a grading, dug out of elevated land, which allows railroad engines to traverse more smoothly or directly. In America in the 1830s, railroads had begun to compete with canals as the primary means of mass transportation in the USA. Both canals and railroads were constructed by hand, using large gangs of unskilled laborers. Few native-born Americans wanted to work at such hard labor, so the work went to immigrants.

In the Western USA, Chinese immigrants would man the railroad gangs. Here in the East, the laborers were largely Irish immigrants, although later workers included Italians and African-Americans.

The work was difficult and dangerous. Typically, such unskilled workers were paid only 50 cents per day, plus lodging, food and whiskey. Medical care was primitive, and the mortality rate high - hence the contemporary expression: There's an Irishman buried under every railroad tie.



Duffy's Cut Memorial
West Laurel Hill Cemetery

The workers commemorated by the Pennsylvania historical marker were working on Mile 59 of the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad. The men were all Irish immigrants, fleeing starvation in Tyrone, Donegal, and Derry. They were hired at the Philadelphia docks by a Willistown contractor named Phillip Duffy (hence the name "Duffy's Cut").

Six weeks after they began work, the laborers were stricken by disease. The exact ailment that struck them is unknown. At the time it was described as "black diphtheria." Modern medical knowledge leads us to believe it was cholera.

Prejudice against the Roman Catholic Irish was strong among native-born Protestant Americans. Only a decade later, the anti-immigrant political party commonly referred to as the "Know Nothing party" elected national representatives. (The party began as a secret society, so members who were questioned by the authorities were advised to respond "I know nothing" - hence the popular name for the movement.) Apparently, the citizens of Malvern had similar attitudes toward the Irish laborers. Few people in Malvern were willing to give them medical assistance. Work on this stretch of railroad stopped as dozens of workers fell ill. The Bishop of Philadelphia secured the help of two Sisters of Charity, but their nursing skills were unable to save many of the men. It is believed that 57 Irish laborers died and are buried in an unmarked grave near this historical marker. Work on the rail line resumed in the fall, after the outbreak died down.

But the story grew that not all the workers died of illness. It

was rumored that, to prevent the disease from spreading, vigilantes from Malvern slew the surviving workers!

Now that some of the bodies have been recovered, there is indeed evidence of blunt-force trauma on some of the skulls. In a story reported in the Wall Street Journal, historians Frank and William Watson found evidence of trauma on three out of four recovered skulls. One of the skulls even had entry and exit wounds consistent with gunfire!

Whatever truly happened to the laborers, no one from Malvern wanted to remember the incident. The Philadelphia and Columbia was purchased by the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1857. No marker commemorated the mass grave until 1870, when some local railroad workers built a wooden fence around the presumed site of the unmarked grave. Today, SEPTA's R-5 line uses the railroad tracks.

Archaeological work on Duffy's Cut, led by a team from Immaculata University, has now finished. The only likely unexamined sites would require digging too close to the railroad tracks. (SEPTA's R-5 line still uses those railroad tracks.) William E. Watson, J. Francis Watson, and two colleagues at Immaculata have written a book on the subject, titled *The Ghosts of Duffy's Cut*. The Watson brothers also wrote the popular book called *Massacre at Duffy's Cut*.

A documentary, also called "The Ghosts of Duffy's Cut," has been filmed, and was nominated for Best Documentary in Ireland. Interest in the incident remains high in Ireland - as evidenced by multiple songs about Duffy's Cut.

You can visit the Pennsylvania state historical marker near the corner of King and Sugartown Roads in Malvern. It commemorates the 57 railroad workers who died in August 1832, and were buried in a mass grave at Duffy's Cut.

For more information on Duffy's Cut, go to <http://duffyscutproject.com>

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A Chester County Day Menu

By Michael Pillagalli



This year I am celebrating my 20th year of submitting recipes for the Chester County Day Menu. It is always fun to conjure up ideas in the cold of winter as the paper gets started and plan ahead for a fall menu and especially one which is rather easy to prep and serve after a long day of house touring! I have always considered the quality and variety whenever possible and trying to come up with a different entrée each year goes through some serious thought and I do not think I have used the same entrée twice. I have gone in different directions with vegetables as I started to find what was the “vegetable of the year” and used that as part of the menu. I would order dessert before an entrée so the final course has always been one of my favorites. Chocolate has dominated my repertoire over these years and in trial runs has always been a treat for me. My son-in-law is not a chocolate lover, if one can imagine that, and often passes on dessert so I still make chocolate themed finales as often as possible for the rest of us at trial run dinners. Fruit is the second choice if chocolate seems too heavy to balance out the meal. It has been mentioned many times that these recipes should be put into a Chester County Day Cookbook and after 20 years I probably have enough to fill up one. Let’s add some more for this year of 2019!

Corn / Hominy Chowder

Like Father, Like Daughter they say! How true in the case of the corn which her Pop-Pop grew. It was some of the best corn and it was eaten freshly pulled from his garden just boiled with butter and salt. She still eats corn with relish today, as do I, although my dad is no longer with us to continue to plant it in two week intervals so the season would last longer. My daughter thought it amazing, as she was chomping away at an ear or two at dinner, when an International Student which we hosted, who went to my daughter’s school, was with us for a weekend and when asked if she liked corn on the cob, she found it interesting that we ate it like that as she said it was only fed to livestock in Germany. After reluctantly trying it, she was a huge fan almost immediately. She also taught us that most Europeans enjoyed white asparagus as the green was animal fodder there also!!!

Here is a great make ahead soup that celebrates the autumnal season of the finale for corn and hominy. Hominy is made from whole corn kernels that have been soaked in a lye or lime solution to soften the tough outer hulls. The kernels are then washed to remove the excess solution. Dried and ground hominy is also known as grits. This is definitely a make a day ahead of the tour as the flavor magnifies as it sits overnight. Remove from refrigeration for a while before reheating while serving some appetizers.

4 garlic cloves

Leave whole if you want a faint taste / chop finely to make 1 ½ tablespoons

1 large sweet onion peeled

1 bunch scallions (6 to 8)

3 tablespoons of Extra Virgin Olive Oil

2 tablespoons unsalted butter

2 stems of fresh thyme stripped of their leaves or ¼ teaspoon dried thyme.

1 teaspoon dried marjoram

6 cups of fresh chicken stock or boxed low sodium variety

1 pound of fresh seeded and chopped tomatoes

1 can of white hominy which was rinsed (28 ounces can or so)

2 cups fresh corn

Preferably grille roasted and cut from cob or frozen can be used

1/2 teaspoon sea salt

Freshly ground white pepper

Not visible but the same taste is there- black will work also

10 or so fresh springs of Italian (flat) parsley or cilantro removed from stems.

Cut the onion into small diced pieces, trim both ends of the scallions and chop both the white and green sections. I am not much of a garlic fan as I grow older so I throw the whole pieces into this recipe so that they can add some flavor but can be removed mid-way through cooking. If you enjoy the taste, then mince and add with the onions and scallions.

Heat your butter and olive oil in a large heavy soup pot over medium- high heat (remember, hot pan- cold oil, food won’t stick and the oil and butter combination hinders burning.) When the oil and butter are incorporated in the hot pan add the garlic, scallions, and diced onions to the heated oils. Stir and cook for 5 minutes or so until the contents are wilted and translucent. At this point, you can remove the garlic cloves if you only want a faint hint of that flavor. Add the thyme and marjoram to the hot pan and stir to incorporate well. Add the chopped tomato pieces and any juice that was generated from them while resting, the broth, salt and pepper and the rinsed hominy. Stir well and when it comes to a boil, reduce the heat and let simmer for 20 to 25 minutes to incorporate the flavors. Stir a few times while it is simmering so it does not stick or burn on the bottom.

After 20 or 25 minutes of simmering, add the fresh cut corn and cook over the same heat for 15 to 20 minutes or so to thoroughly cook through. Remove from the heat and taste for salt and pepper. Add half the chopped parsley or cilantro to the mixture and stir. Let sit on a warming burner to keep hot. If served in soup bowls from the kitchen, garnish the top of each bowl with the remaining chopped parsley or cilantro or ladle from a tureen and scatter the leaves on each serving as it is passed. Serve hot.

Serves 6 as a first course.

Roasted Pork Loin Stuffed with Dried Apricots

I love pork and have included it as an entrée several times before in different ways and here is a new version with apricots. If you want, you could substitute a couple large Granny Smith apples and a few Fuji or Braeburn and have the same sweet and savory taste. The dried apricots will have a more intense flavor than fresh and really kick this entrée up a notch. I buy non-sulphered ones to consume fewer chemicals into my body. It can be prepped ahead and popped into the oven after you have come home from the day and are gathering friends together to talk about your day’s adventures.

2-pound pork loin split almost through and pounded somewhat flat

4 tablespoons unsalted butter

1 or 2 tablespoons olive oil

4 or 5 fresh sage leaves or ¼ teaspoon dried sage

12 or so dried apricots

Presoaked in hot chicken broth or water to cover and reserve the liquid

Salt and freshly ground pepper

2 or 3 tablespoons of good quality apricot jam

Start by placing the dried apricots into a bowl and pouring boiling chicken stock or boiling water over them to submerge them for 15 minutes or so. They should be rehydrated before usage.

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F

In an ovenproof skillet, add 2 tablespoons of the butter to the hot skillet and sauté the hydrated apricots in the butter, stirring for 5 to 7 minutes. Remove apricots from the pan and place on one side of the open faced pork loin. Pull the unlayered side over the apricots and tie with butcher’s twine. Tuck the sage leaves under the twine. Utilizing the same heated sauté pan, add the rest of the butter and the oil (to prevent burning) and place a little of the apricot hydration liquid into the pan. Let cook down some and add the pork roast and brown for a minute or two on all four sides. If the pan gets too dry add more apricot liquid or butter. After each side of the roast has been browned, place a lid on the pan and place it into the oven for 10 or 12 minutes. At that point, remove the lid, add the apricot jam over top of the stuffed roast and stir to incorporate into the juices, turn the roast over, baste the roast with the liquid and turn the pan around in the oven and bake for another 6 to 10 minutes. If the internal temperature is in the 145 to 150-degree area, remove the pan from the oven and allow it to rest for 10 minutes with the lid on. Allowing it to rest lets it stay moist when cut. Slice in ½ inch slices and spoon some of the pan drippings over the slices.

Should serve 6

Kale and Spinach with Almonds

I have planted two or three different types of kale in my garden again this year and have also done the same at my daughter’s house as we all love the green whether fresh in a salad or added to a cooked dish. Kale is a hot item now in the food world and a basis for many sweet and or savory smoothies. In other words, it is the “in” leafy green to add to your diet. And, we all know the advantages of spinach with its abundance of iron. Along with the healthy kale and spinach we add almonds to this dish. Each raw almond has about seven calories and is rich in good fats for your body. One reads that we should eat 8 to 10 almonds as a snack every day- just make them raw and unsalted!! This provides a nice complement to our entrée and adds the necessary color to our dinner plate. If you buy kale in a bag, it will be de-ribbed and probably a mixture of different types. If you buy it by the bundle or pick it fresh from your garden, try to mix up the types and de-rib each stalk to get the tough center core out from the tender leaves. The spinach in a bag or container should be ready to go in the pan with a rinse.

3 or 4 pounds of fresh kale-cleaned, de-ribbed, and torn into small pieces

2 pounds of fresh spinach leaves cleaned and de-ribbed

1 1/2 cups slivered and toasted almonds. Raw and unsalted

2 small shallots finely chopped

4 or 5 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
2 tablespoons salted butter
Salt and freshly ground pepper

Cook the kale and spinach until tender in a pot of boiling water stirring for 3 to 5 minutes to just wilt the leaves. Drain the kale and spinach in a sieve and set aside on paper towels to drain. In a large sauté pan over low to medium heat add the oil and butter to melt both and stir. Add the almonds slices and stir to release the almond flavor to the liquid which should take 6 or 7 minutes. Add the chopped shallots to the hot oil and almonds and stir slowly to wilt the shallots. When the shallots look translucent, turn the heat to medium and add the drained kale and spinach and toss around in the nuts and oils to thoroughly incorporate and heat through. Add salt and pepper to taste and serve immediately.

Serves 6 people

A Gratin of Sweet Potatoes

One knows, for those who have followed the menus from past issues, that I was not a fan of sweet potatoes as a child and I also have mentioned that my dad, an avid gardener, explained to me the difference when I decided that I really liked sweet potatoes. He told me that yams are orange and sweet potatoes are white and I hold that thought as gospel in the kitchen. And, it is Sweet Potatoes that I really enjoy today. Growing up, I think that we grew every potato and yam which we ate which were stored in their cold cellar all winter long for use until the next crop came in the following summer. Here is a simple and very filling side dish to accompany our entrée. If you want a heartier and sweeter version, use regular orange yams in place of the white sweet potatoes.

2 tablespoons unsalted butter for the recipe

Some extra to butter the baking vessel

1/4 cup seasoned breadcrumbs

1/3 cup of crushed gingersnap cookies

Ivan's are readily available and perfect for this recipe

2 tablespoons corn meal

2 cups of heavy cream

1/4 cup real maple syrup

2 teaspoons fresh thyme

1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Pinch of pumpkin pie spice (if you have it around)

Pinch of sea salt

3 pounds white sweet potatoes washed and cut to 1/4 inch thick.

I do not peel them-your choice

Preheat your oven to 375 degrees. Melt the butter in a smallish sauté pan over medium heat. When butter is melted, add the breadcrumbs and crumbs of cookies stirring for 3 to 5 minutes until looking toasted and set aside.

Combine the heavy cream, maple syrup, spices and salt in a medium sized sauce pan. Bring to a slow boil and remove from the heat and let cool to room temperature.

Using a 3-quart size baking dish that is acceptable to use on your



A Chester County Day Celebration Feast.

table as a serving dish, butter the bottom and sides of the pan and then put the cornmeal into the dish and turn and shake to lightly cover the bottom and sides. Spread a single layer of the sweet potatoes onto the bottom of the pan in a single layer and then pour about 1/3 of the cream mixture over the potatoes. Add and second layer of potatoes and then another 1/3 of the cream and finish with a final layer of potatoes and the remaining cream mixture. Cover with aluminum foil and bake for around

45 minutes. Then remove the foil and return to the oven for another 40 to 45 minutes. During the last 5 to 10 minutes of baking (cream should be bubbling and potatoes easily pierced with a fork) sprinkle the toasted breadcrumbs and cookies crumbs over the top of the gratin and return to the oven for another 5 minutes or so.

Serves 6 to 8 people

Salted Caramel Apple Crisp

Last year our dessert was a flourless chocolate cake with a salted caramel sauce and this year I am continuing with a salted caramel theme for dessert. It seems to be the favorite new taste sensation. I am also going from a more formal dessert presentation to a country feeling with an old fashioned Crisp with a scoop of topping on it or on the side. It can be served straight from the baking dish or if well cooled and at room temperature, it could be plated ahead and served at the table with a garnish of a homemade salted caramel ice cream or plain vanilla Greek Yogurt. The dusting of corn meal to the buttered baking dish REALLY helps to make it easily removed by spatula. I like to use a combination of rice flour and/or all-purpose flour and as it seems to make the crust both lighter and "flakier" than by using all regular flour. Irish shortbread cookies are the best example of rice flour as a substitute as it produces a delicate and finely textured cookie.

Crust

1 1/2 sticks unsalted melted butter or 12 tablespoons

(extra tablespoon or two for prepping baking pan)

2 1/4 cups old fashioned oak flakes (can use quick oats)

1 cup rice flour (can use all-purpose if rice flour is not in your pantry)

2/3 cup packed light brown sugar

2 tablespoons corn meal for dusting baking dish

1 tablespoon ground cinnamon

1 tablespoon pure vanilla extract

1/4 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice

Pinch of sea salt or kosher salt

Filling

5 Granny Smith apples cored and chopped into small bite size pieces.

I leave skin on but you can peel them if you prefer

1/4 cup demerara sugar

1 1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon finely chopped crystalized ginger

5 dozen or so chewy caramels all unwrapped

1 cup heavy cream

Streusel Crust

1/2 cup all- purpose flour

1/2 cup rice flour

1 cup chopped walnuts

1/2 cup packed light brown sugar

1 stick of melted unsalted butter

1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Pinch of freshly grated nutmeg

Pinch of sea or kosher salt

Prep oven to 350 degrees. Using extra butter, grease the bottom and sides of a 9 X 13-inch baking dish and then dust the baking dish with the cornmeal to prevent sticking. Set aside.

Make the crust mixing the melted butter, flour, oats, light brown sugar, cinnamon, vanilla, pumpkin pie spice and salt into a large bowl until well incorporated. Press the crust mixture into the sides and bottom of the baking dish to create an even crust on bottom and sides. Bake for 20 minutes or so watching to see the top edges start to brown as well as the center of the bottom crust. Remove from the oven and place on a cooling rack while you start on the filling.

Combine the apples, demerara sugar, cinnamon, crystalized ginger in a large bowl. Place unwrapped caramels and the cream into a microwave safe container and microwave on for 30 seconds and off for 30 seconds until the caramels and cream are stirred to smoothness. Gently add the cubed apple mixture to the caramel mixture so as not to break the apples up too much and pour onto the crust.

Finally, make the topping by combining the all-purpose and rice flours, walnuts, brown sugar, melted butter, cinnamon, nutmeg, and salt into yet another large bowl. Using your hands for the heat, mix the contents and drop chunks over the filling. Bake for 30 to 35 minutes and check to see if the caramels are bubbling and the topping is browning. If they are remove from oven and place on a cooling rack for 45 to 60 minutes. If the caramel is not bubbling when you check, allow to bake in the oven until you see those results. Another 10 minutes or so should do it.

Serve with a scoop of salted caramel ice cream, Greek yogurt, or whipped cream for a great finale!

Serves 8

The Short Life of the Chester Creek and Brandywine Railroad

By Jonathan L. Hoppe

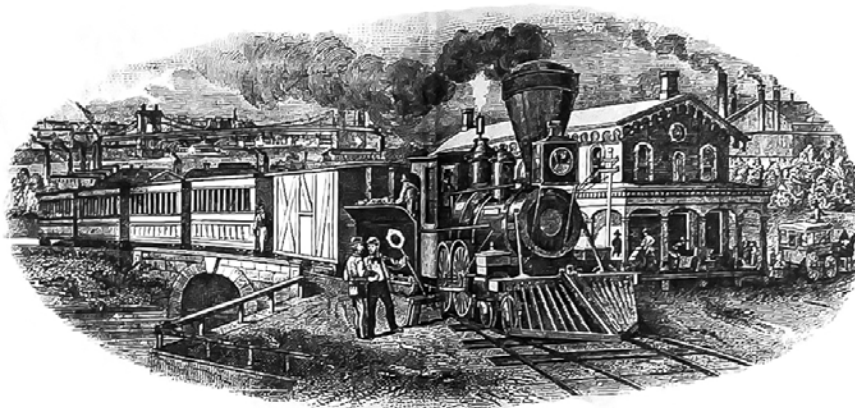


fter the Civil War, American railroads entered a time of rapid expansion. Lines were pushed westward across the length continent; Southern railroads, destroyed during the war, were reconstructed. In the industrial northeast, venture capital flowed freely to back nearly any speculative scheme to build a railroad connecting point A to point B. As long as there was cheap credit, the wheels of commerce would keep the good times rolling.

On August 9th, 1873, the Chester Creek and Brandywine Railroad company was organized to construct a railroad to connect the West Chester and Philadelphia Railroad with the Wilmington and Reading Railroad. Starting at a point just north of Street Road Station in Westtown township, the railroad would extend westward five miles, past Darlington's Corners through the lands of Henry Whale, past Brinton's quarry and down into the Brandywine Valley through Birmingham Township and connecting with the Wilmington and Reading near the mouth of the Pocopson Creek. The company hoped, in a later phase, to extend its line all the way down into Maryland via Unionville to make a through route from Baltimore to Philadelphia in direct competition with the Philadelphia and Baltimore Central Railroad, but in the meantime, the line would offer a direct connection between agriculturally-rich southcentral Chester County and the markets of the city of Philadelphia.

A preliminary route was surveyed across both townships and construction began late in September. Workmen's shanties were erected at Street Road station and a crew began to build up an embankment for the roadbed. Curving gently northwestward, the earthwork would carry the line to the Chester Creek where a stone bridge would take it over the water and onward to Pocopson.

But the company could not have picked a worse time to begin construction. Financial troubles in Europe that summer were percolating to the United States' banking sector, pushing many firms over the brink. One of the country's largest lenders, the brokerage house of Jay Cooke and Company in Philadelphia, had overextended itself in what were proving to be worthless railroad investments. It could not take the additional economic pressure brought on by the European market turmoil. The firm



collapsed, declaring bankruptcy on September 18th. The fall of the banking giant sent shockwaves rippling through the economy of the United States, much as the fall of Lehman Brothers would do 135 years later. By November, many railroads, now without their financial backing, had failed and many more were in dire straits. The Panic of 1873 was at hand.

The Chester Creek and Brandywine Railroad was not spared. By December, local merchants and farmers around the construction site at Street Road were complaining of unpaid bills for board and for horse feed left by the railroad's laborers. Work seemed to have come to a halt. Company officials claimed that they were getting their financial affairs in order, and that the any delays on paying the workmen's bills were from the company having to pay out compensatory damages to the landowners through whose properties the line would pass. They blamed the weather for the work stoppage, and stated that they were waiting on the stone for the bridge over Chester Creek to be shipped in before work could resume. It was noted in the press that in spite official reassurances, the company's bonds were selling for mere pennies on the dollar in Philadelphia—and that no one was buying.

The stone for the bridge never would arrive; the dream was over. Work on the railroad was officially suspended in early 1874, and it never would again be taken up. The Panic of 1873 triggered a global depression with effects lasting a decade or more. The railroad bubble had burst for good. Never again would Chester County see another new line completed without the backing of the mighty Pennsylvania Railroad.

Today, only an overgrown, tree-lined embankment curving through a creekside meadow in Westtown Township is the only indication that the Chester Creek and Brandywine Railroad had ever been.


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Horace Pippin
(2/22/1888 – 7/6/1946)

Horace Pippin was an internationally-known American artist of African heritage who was born in West Chester. From age 3, he lived his early years in Goshen, New York, and later Paterson, New Jersey. He married and returned to West Chester in 1920, where he would spend the rest of his life. It is thought that Warren Burton of West Chester introduced the works of this self-taught artist to Christian Brinton and N. C. Wyeth. The rest is art history.

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Oakbourne Mansion: A Daily Local news article published November 17, 1885, describes the mansion, "...the mansion is built of dark stone and contains eighteen rooms, each superbly furnished. A feature consists in a massive ornamental copper gable end and cornice of great value, and a large tower runs up to a considerable height, from the top of which a magnificent view is obtained. Everything about the estate is in keeping with the lawn and mansion; there are quite a number of elegant buildings, 'lodges', etc. Mr. Smith devotes much time to raising livestock, and he possesses many valuable horses, cows, etc."

Eric Chandlee Wilson

By Michael Pillagalli



he Chester County Day Committee lost a great friend, supporter, volunteer, writer, and Editor for the Chester County Day Newspaper this past spring following a rather long illness. It is not known what year he actually started to work with the committee, but we do know that he steered the helm of the newspaper as its editor in chief for 25 glorious years. For many of those years he assisted in the production of the paper with the editor and one of The Days founders, Mrs A. William Ball and later with house photographer and Chair Jean Oakes. It was Bernie Ball who turned over her editorship of the paper to Eric when she decided that she had put in her time and was ready to pass it on to the next generation and after all his years of input was ready to take the editor's seat.

Eric was born in our Healing House on the Hill and started living on Linden Street in West Chester as a toddler. The major part though of his early years was living on Ashbridge Street in town across the street from the West Chester Country Club. He was a graduate of the West Chester High School class of 1960 and went on to further his education at the Bowman Technical School earning a certificate in Horology. Quite fitting since he came from a long lineage of Chester County clock makers. The Chandlee family of clock makers is one of the most treasured and revered collectible clock works family of Chester County timepieces. They were located in the Nottingham area and in northern Maryland surrounds. While taking classes at the Lancaster facility, he held down two different stints working at the Chester County Historical Society while taking undergraduate courses at West Chester State College. He later earned his undergraduate degree from Ursinus College.



*Eric Chandlee Wilson,
Longtime editor of this
Newspaper*

Eric used his Horology background to continue the family's tradition as he established a business focusing on tall case clocks, popularly known as Grandfather Clocks. He also started back at the Historical Society taking care of their impressive collection of Chester County tall case clocks. It was he who wound them, repaired them, tended to their needs, and whose heart beat with the swing of the pendulum of each and every clock on exhibit. For many years he was a part of many local antiques shows with a booth that featured a wide assortment of tall cased clocks around the perimeter of his booth entertaining the guests of the show and the dealers as the hour struck and all the chimes were sounding the time.

Eric was prolific in writing about his beloved Chester County and contributed many, many articles for the Chester County Day Newspaper and was included in the list of authors for the "West Chester the First 200 Years from 1799 – 1999". He was one of our leading authorities on Chester County and West Chester history and shared his wealth of knowledge with friends Paul Rodebaugh, Dorothy Lapp, Tom Walsh, and Bart Anderson of the Historical Society. In one of her last acts as Mayor of West Chester, Carolyn Committa named Eric as the West Chester Historian in a formal town proclamation. I was privileged to know Eric and to work with him on the Chester County Day Committee and the newspaper for many years. I would be proud to say that if I could remember half of the information on our local history that Eric had forgotten, I would be considered one of the area's leading historians today.

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WHATEVER HAPPENED TO HENRY WHALE?



By Jonathan L. Hoppe

Residents of the Benedict Canyon neighborhood of Los Angeles realized they had not seen actress Yvette Vickers in over a year when her body was discovered in her home in April 2011. The news was a sensation in the tabloid press, but to those who knew her, the discovery was not unexpected; they had watched her grow increasingly paranoid and estranged from those who were once important in her life as she retreated into herself. They had come to see her as “a recluse by her choice.” It was in that self-imposed isolation, surrounded by the hoarded debris that had formed the last years of her life, where she died. When news of her passing was announced, many wondered how someone of such talent and promise could have come to such a lonely end.

132 years prior, the same questions were asked in the Philadelphia area after Henry Whale didn’t show himself to his Westtown Township neighbors one cold January morning in 1879.

That he wasn’t out and about that morning in and of itself wasn’t unusual; Whale lived alone in his own quiet way, a veritable hermit. They cared for and respected the old man and his choice to live as he did. They let him be in his choice of solitude, permitting him to reach out to them when he chose to do so. But when there were no stirrings whatsoever from within his little frame house on the Wilmington Pike by late afternoon, his neighbors grew concerned. Whale had told them that if he should some day not show himself at his usual hours, that something must be wrong. Two teenagers, Frank Coburn and Wilfred Cheever, took it upon themselves to check on their reclusive neighbor. Finding his windows locked and doors barred, they secured a ladder and effected entry through a second-story window. There they found him, dead at the threshold of his bedroom; he had had a heart attack in the night. He was 75 years old.

Later, at a public sale of the residue of his estate after his death, Ebenezer Faucett purchased a ratty-looking violin that belonged to the old man for \$1.06—less than \$30 in today’s money. Faucett would spend a great deal more than that putting the fiddle back into good repair, for it was said to be the favorite instrument of its departed owner—Henry Whale, former child star, musical prodigy, and at one time the most famous teacher of dance in the United States.

What had led a man of such renown to such an ignominious end?

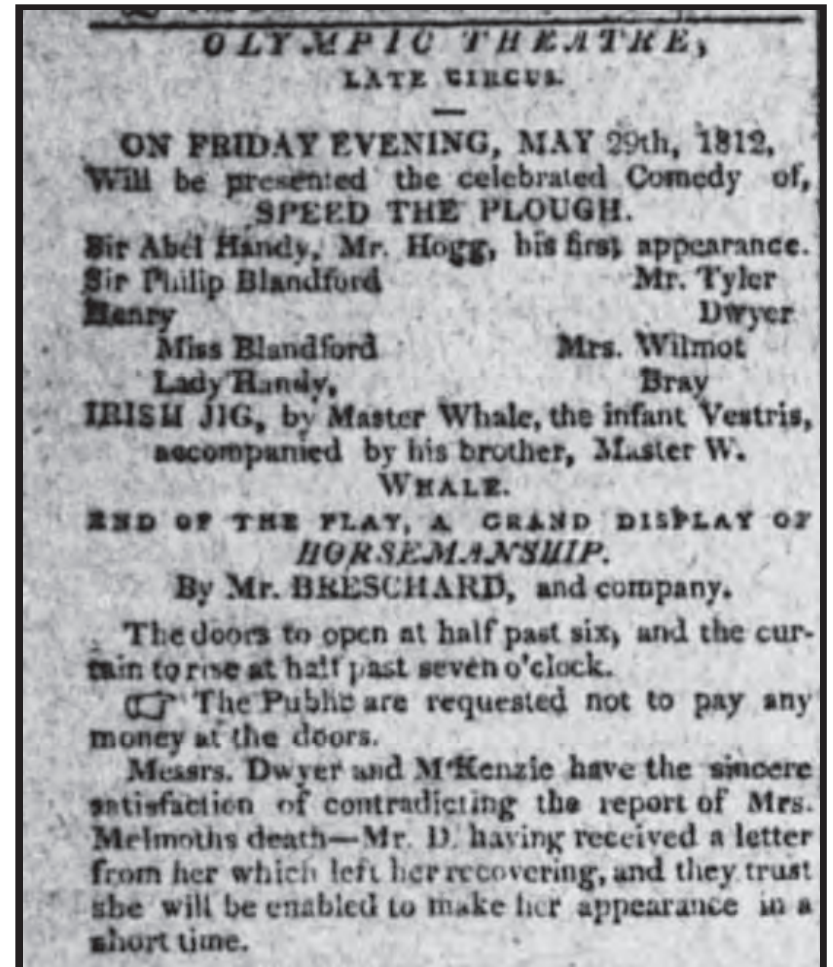
Henry Whale was born on July 14, 1803 near Bath, England, son of dancing Thomas Whale. When Henry was a young child, his father moved his family to London in the hope of finding more of a market for his talents. There, in the spring of 1804, he partnered with a Mr. Wills at his school on Golden Square, Soho, offering regular classes and private lessons to the city’s wealthiest elites. In 1805, Mr. Wills was called to teach the court of King George III at Buckingham Palace, leaving the duties of the school at Golden Square solely in the charge of Thomas Whale.

By 1808, Thomas had dissolved the partnership and was looking for new opportunities. He decided to settle in Philadelphia, then the second-largest city in the United States. In 1809, he removed his family there and opened up his own dancing school on South Front Street. Shortly after their arrival, Thomas attached young Henry New Theater on Chestnut Street—one of the largest and most elegant theaters in the country. There, then-six-year-old Henry took the stage name “The Infant Vestris,” after the famed French ballet dancer Gaétan Vestris—once the dancing master to the ill-fated King Louis XVI—who had died the previous year. After his debut performance at the New Theater, “Infant Vestris” became an overnight sensation. On the 27th of November of that year, *The Tangram* (a popular theatrical tabloid) said of the young Master Whale, “Considering that Englishmen are not reputed for the elegance and grace of their movements, he promises fair to be the head of his profession, for, laying aside the gentility of his address and the politeness of his phraseology, he powders his hair, which is at least respectably, if not elegantly, done.”

In short time the child prodigy became a hit performer of dance in the City of Brotherly Love. Over the next several seasons “Master Whale” would become such a hit that publishers would print music from the shows in which he had danced, such as “The Shawl Dance, as danced at the New Theater by Master Whale, the infant Vestris.” By 1810, he had made his father one of the highest-paid performers in the city; by January 1812, he had his own starring ballet solo in a production of Shakespeare’s *The Winter’s Tale* performed at the Olympic Theater, which is today the Walnut Street Theater.

But it was not enough for Thomas Whale; in the summer season of 1812, he moved his family to New York City in search of more lucrative prospects. In October he opened a dancing academy at the City Hotel. There, Henry and his brother William (known as “The Master Whale”) performed a variety of dances at night while his father taught classes and gave lessons during the day. The young brothers would soon ascend to the New York stage, performing solos and in company with one another. Interestingly, during the War of 1812, his father had to register his family as potential “enemy aliens” with the city’s marshals, as the family were naturalized citizens from England. Evidently, their country of origin was enough to cast a pall of suspicion over them during those uncertain times. The war did not dampen their popularity, and both Henry, his brother, and his father continued to enjoy success on the stage and within the city’s social circles.

Henry Whale continued to perform on the theater circuit throughout his teenage years. By his early twenties he had grown weary of the grueling pace of that life; he longed for the city of his childhood. In September 1825, notice was given in the Philadelphia papers that “Henry Whale,



known some twenty years ago as the Infant Vestris,—having danced on the Philadelphia stage with much éclat, though very young then,—now proposes to open a dancing academy.” The ad stated that he had been teaching dancing in New York and Albany. He opened his dancing school at the northwest corner of Seventh and Chestnut Streets which would run for many years to come.

As he had in his youth, Henry Whale found high praise in the City. Dressed faultlessly and stylishly, Whale taught dancing, put on lavish cotillions and performances, composed music (such as a series of military quadrilles selected from various operas, arranged and dedicated to Captain George Cadwallader and the officers and members of the Philadelphia Grays, a regiment of the Pennsylvania State Militia). He was said to have inspired his pupils with a sense of pride that they had been accepted as his students. Such was his popularity and talent he grew quite wealthy—and that money he poured into real estate. Like many wealthy Philadelphians, fearing the annual yellow fever epidemics the warmer months brought to the City, he built his own summer house in the county. For its location, he decided on West Chester. He built a large and handsome brick residence at the southwest corner of Miner and New Streets. Additionally, he purchased a 43-acre farm in West Goshen Township, near McCall’s Station on the railroad (now Fern Hill), where he built a stone farmhouse. During the summer season, he gave dances and recitals in the borough and taught classes to local residents. Everything seemed to have come together in his life.

But then, something changed in him, or, perhaps, made itself a more prominent part of his personality. He began to give fewer and fewer dances and recitals. In 1847, he sold off the farm in West Goshen. Soon the big house in West Chester was disposed of, and a few other properties he had. Whale purchased considerable acreage in Westtown, ostensibly to become a gentleman farmer. Neighbors expected him to build a stately manor house in the township in which to retire, as other wealthy Philadelphians like Joseph Hulme had done. All in all, they had every reason to expect Whale would build attractive ornament to the neighborhood which would become a local landmark

And indeed, he did build a fine stone house on Wilmington Plank

Road near Darlington's Corner—surrounded by, it was later said, the first iron fence in the neighborhood—which he occupied. But after a few years of farming, he gave up the practice entirely. In 1852, he disposed of the house and most of the land he had purchased, sold his farming equipment and many of his personal goods at a public sale, burrowed into an old wooden frame tenant house that stood on the land he had purchased, and disappeared from the public eye. He lost his taste for most human contact, it seems, caring not for his once-faultless appearance. He allowed himself to become unkempt and slovenly, and the formerly trim and polished man that many had once known became a shadow of his former self—recognizable, it was said, only by his polite and impeccable manners.

Having no children, his last contact with his family came in the summer of 1878, when his sister Esther Marsden and her husband called on him, traveling all the way from Quebec, Canada. The couple begged the self-imposed hermit to come live with them—if not for his sake, then for hers. Their family had scattered across the continent years ago, and she and Henry were, at that time, the last of the surviving children of Thomas Whale. She was evidently persuasive, for it was said that he had been making plans to do join them in Canada.

He never did. He died alone, leaving only a few salvageable household goods and the residue of his estate over which his distant relatives would squabble for years to come, and a number of old-timers to mourn his passing. He was buried at Oaklands Cemetery under a modest monument belying the fame and prominence he had once attained.

So whatever happened to Henry Whale? Some blamed failures in the affairs of the heart, others for reasons entirely different. Perhaps it was an undiagnosed mental illness, or perhaps years of being in the spotlight from the earliest age had taken their toll. His estate finally settled, his household and goods disposed of, Henry Whale faded into obscurity. His home at Darlington's Corner was torn down and the plot converted back to farmland; today, the Westminster Presbyterian Church sits near where the house once stood. His stately home on Miner Street was eventually purchased by wealthy merchant J. Curtis Smith, whose wife, Mary Schreiner Smith, greatly enlarged the home after her husband's death and converted into Fontgarth Hall, a boarding school for girls. The home did not gain its signature columned portico until the 1960s. Hidden now behind its fanciful façade is the wealth and the elegance of that forgotten personage that made it all possible—Mr. Henry Whale, of the village of Bath, England—dancing master and musical prodigy.



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TANGUY SCHOOL

By Margaret M. Baillie



“SCHOOL DAYS, SCHOOL DAYS...” The song with the lyrics that recall calico and slates dates back to 1907, before the establishment of the Union Independent #3 School, “Tanguy.” Grades 1 through 8 were taught there and it was located on the northeast corner of Routes 352 and 926 in Westtown Township. It was named Tanguy after its location and was in existence for over twenty-five years.

The building was originally Tanguy’s store which was established in 1857 by Charles B. Tanguy. He sold it in 1869 and moved to Birmingham Township to his new farm. Abram Baily purchased the building and immediately remodeled it and added another exterior door so that the building faced Street and Chester Roads. The building had two floors and a basement. In 1871 the store building became the Union Independent School Hall and began to be utilized for educational purposes. Groups that met there in the late 1800s consisted of Union Independent School, Union Sunday School meetings, Tanguy Literary Society, and a new church, Bethlehem M.E. Church. Other organizations and lyceums began to meet in the hall above the store on the opposite corner.

In the early 1900’s, Home and School Leagues came into being and they pushed for smaller school boards and increased teacher pay. The Tanguy Home and School League was organized in 1923. At the first meeting, the assistant county superintendent Mr. Fretz was in attendance and presented three points for the need of a Home and School League: Why they needed a Home and School League, the kinds that Chester County had and what kind of league they wanted. The parents of the students from Chester and Delaware Counties made up the school board. The first officers were elected for the 1923-24 school year. They were Chester A. Supplee, President; Mr. Griswold, Vice President; Mrs. Smedley, Treasurer; and Mrs. Anna Lawton, Secretary. Twenty-five cents monthly dues were voted on and purchases were made of 5 dozen cups, curtains for the school platform, a basketball and fixtures. They paid to send their children to the school.

When the school began in the fall of 1924, 23 students attended.

Eight teachers taught over the years it was open. They were:

- 1924-25 Lydia Wilson Haenn
- 1926-32 Elsie Carr
- 1932-36 Dorcas R. Scott
- 1936-37 Beatrice H. Leighton
- 1937-44 Esther J. Stanton
- 1944-45 Elva K. Miller, Sarah O., Dorothy T. Mechline

The number of students fluctuated each year, 32 in 1943-44 being the highest attendance and 14 in 1929-30, the lowest. The school year went from the first Wednesday in September to May 31 with a few days off for select holidays. After students graduated from eighth grade, they went to work or attended high school. West Chester, Media, or Swarthmore were the high school choices. An entrance test was given by the County to enter West Chester High. Once acceptance into high school was given, students utilized the train via Cheyney Station or the trolley on Route 3, West Chester Pike, to get to school, paying their own fare if transportation was

needed.

Teacher Elsie Carr attended the Union school in 1914 in the same building during her younger years and reminisced in the book “Edgmont: The Story of a Township” about her walk on Route 352 to school in the snowy winter. She would stop at what used to be “Grandmother” Morrow’s house on the hilltop where she was invited in to warm her feet by the stove before going the rest of the way down the hill to the school.

Upon entering the building and passing the cloak room, the younger students sat on the left and the older students sat on the right at desks which were connected to the chairs. The desks were purchased in 1925 to replace older ones that had been carved on and that were no longer deemed adequate for modern education needs. On the left was a stove, and at the front was a blackboard and piano. The school utilized only the first floor. Bathrooms were, of course, outhouse toilets.

Baseball was played out front during recess along with tag, hopscotch and the like. “Tiddly-Eye-Over” was played sometimes and it consisted of a student throwing a ball over the school roof to another student on the other side of the building who would catch it and run around and tag someone else. The side with the most people won. A music program was held on Friday and they sang hymns and other songs. Once a month the students held a program of entertainment with music and small plays which the parents could participate in. They had a Safety Patrol program, too, which ended the year with the traditional Safety Patrol picnic at Lenape Park.

The school building served as a central location for various events. During World War II, War bonds could be purchased at the school and items were collected for the metal drive. Victory gardens were a common way for area residents to support the war effort. A teacher, Mrs. Stanton, had help from two students and her son in tending her garden. They picked asparagus and strawberries and earned some spending money. Children would often stop by Hance’s Store across the street from the school to purchase penny candy from their allowances. They could walk north to the Androwick’s gas station to make purchases and occasionally walking “uptown” for lunch was a treat.

By July of 1946, Union Independent School District Number 3 was dissolved and Tanguy was closed. During its last year in session, the eighth graders were transferred to Westtown-Thornbury elementary and 1st through 7th grade finished their year at Tanguy. The following year, all grades attended Westtown-Thornbury. Many of the students became lifelong friends and you can still meet graduates from the school.

The Tanguy building was rented out to Edgmont Township, Delaware County for their use while Gradyville School was being rebuilt after it had fire damage. When Gradyville School was finished renting Tanguy, the building reverted back to John Stratton and the land was given to a member of the local Hoopes family. The school building became a residence and suffered two roof fires in 1963. In February 1964, fire broke out again while the tenant was at work. Goshen Fire Company, assisted by Edgmont Township Fire Company, put out the roof fire which caused two thousand dollars in damages. The building was not harmed. In the 1980s it was purchased and transformed into a photography studio. It is currently for sale. So when you drive by the former Gifford Photography Studio, remember your own school days and hum a bar or two for yourself.

BEGIN	RECITATION	GRADE	Class D I - II	Class C III - IV	Class B V - VI	Class A VII - VIII
9:00	Opening Exercises	I-VIII				
9:10	Reading and Phonetics	I-II	Reading	Arithmetic	Arithmetic	Arithmetic
9:30	Arithmetic	III - IV	Seat Work	Arithmetic	Arithmetic	Arithmetic
9:45	Arithmetic	V - VI	Seat Work	Arithmetic	Arithmetic	Arithmetic
10:05	Arithmetic	VII - VIII	Use Readers	Reading	Arithmetic	Arithmetic
10:25	Reading	III - IV		Reading	Reading	Library
10:40	Recess	I - VIII				
10:50	Numbers	I - II	Numbers	Reading	Reading	Geography
11:05	Reading	V - VI	Blackboard	Geography	Reading	Geography
11:20	Geography - Nature Study	III - IV	Seat Work	Geography	Geography	Geography
11:30	Geography	VII - VIII	Seat Work			
11:45	Writing	I - VIII				
12:00	Noon	I - VIII				
1:00	Music	I - VIII				
1:05	Reading and Stories	I - II	Reading	Composition	Geography	Composition
1:20	Geography	V - VI	Blackboard	Composition	Geography	Composition
1:30	Composition and Spelling	III - IV	Handwork	Composition	Composition	Composition
1:50	Composition and Spelling	VII - VIII	Handwork	Written Work	Composition	Composition
2:10	Composition and Spelling	V - VI	Use Books	rawing	Composition	Reading
2:30	Recess	I - VIII				
2:40	Reading and Spelling	I - II				
3:00	Reading	VII - VIII	Reading	Reading	Written Work	Reading
3:15	Reading	III - IV	Seat Work	Reading	History	Reading
3:25	History	IV - VI	Seat Work	Reading	History	History
3:40	History and Civics	VII - VIII	Excused	Handwork	History	History
3:55	Dismissal	I - VIII				

The Women's Auxiliary TO CHESTER COUNTY HOSPITAL *Established 1893*

The Women's Auxiliary to Chester County Hospital was founded in 1893, just one year after the hospital's founding. The volunteer group was organized for the purpose of extending the interests of the hospital to all parts of the County and to raise funds for erecting, furnishing and maintaining the hospital. It also rendered personal services to the hospital through Hospital-Auxiliary coordinated programs. Today, with a membership in the hundreds, it continues to raise friends and funds for the hospital. Each year, the Women's Auxiliary raises in excess of \$650,000 through various special events and projects.

Special Events & Projects

The women of the Auxiliaries host fashion shows, brunches, luncheons, trips, raffles, sales and holiday events throughout the year in support of the hospital.

Service Projects

The women of the Auxiliary lend their support and compassion to make the environment of the Hospital more comfortable for patients and employees.

Events

POLO CUP

The Polo Cup is a combination of fun tailgating, children's activities, face painting, and wonderful food for the entire family. It benefits the Prenatal Clinic of Chester County Hospital.

FORE HEALTH GOLF INVITATIONAL

This great day of golf includes great refreshments on and off the course and a silent auction, all for a great cause Health Services for Women and Children at Chester County Hospital.

HOLIDAY MARKET

Each auxiliary branch prepares their specialty from jewelry, scarves and ornaments to home-baked goodies and fresh floral arrangements.

REMEMBERING OUR ANGELS

We recognize our loved ones with personalized ornaments during a beautiful tree lighting ceremony at the Church of the Loving Shepherd. All proceeds benefit Neighborhood Health Hospice In-Patient and Home Services.

CHESTER COUNTY DAY

The Chester County Day House Tour, the oldest in the nation, opens the doors to the most extraordinary private homes in the county.

DILWORTHTOWN INN WINE FESTIVAL

Benefits the Abramson Cancer Center at Chester County Hospital and Neighborhood Health Hospice.

AUXILIARY FUNDED PROJECTS

2018	Heart to Heart (Advancement of Heart & Vascular Program)		Lymphedema Treatment Table (Kennett Physical Therapy Dept)
2016-2017	The Birth Of An Era (NICU Expansion and Renovation)		3 Cardio Pulmonary Monitors (NICU)
2015-2016	Pathway to Your Heart (Interventional Cardiology Lab)	2004-2005	Maternity Books and Videos (OB/Gyn Dept)
2014-2015	3D Mammography (Breast Tomosynthesis equipment for Radiology Dept)		Ultrasound Equipment (Radiology Dept)
2013-2014	Great Expectations (Mother and Baby Pavilion)	2003-2004	C-Arm for Operating Room (Cardiovascular Surgery)
2012-2013	Emergency Department Renovation		Renovation of the Family Lounge
2011-2012	Advanced Equipment (Operating Room)	2002-2003	Prenatal Books
2010-2011	Philips Monitoring System (Emergency Dept)	1999-2002	Renovation of West Wings I and II (Including cubical and window treatments)
2009-2010	Eclipse Treatment Planning System (The Cancer Center)	1998-1999	MRI Lease for one year
2008-2009	Axiom Luminis TF (Fluoroscopy equipment for Radiology Dept)		3 year \$1 Million Pledge for Reconstruction and expansion of the Maternity and Obstetrics Floor
2006-2007	2nd \$1 Million Pledge to The Hospital's Capital Campaign	1997-1998	Dexa Scan Machine
2005-2006	1st \$1 Million Pledge to The Hospital's Capital Campaign		Educational Video "First Days at Home" (Obstetrics Dept)
	2 Total Care Beds (Nursing Dept)		Funded Community Health Education Programs and Outreach
	ED X-Ray Room (Emergency Dept)	1996-1997	Advanced Breast Biopsy Instrumentation
	Mammogram Multi-Viewer (Radiology Dept)	1995-1996	"ABBI Suite" (Breast Surgery)
			Construction of the NICU Unit
			Purchase of the Linear Accelerator (Radiation Oncology)

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Women's Auxiliary consists of 10 branches including women of all ages, backgrounds and life experience. We encourage new members to select a branch that best meets her needs. You may join any branch you wish. Each division is unique in its location, size, demographics, special projects and dues structure. They each meet at various dates and frequency and support different events or projects at the hospital.

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- WEST CHESTER - DAY
- WEST CHESTER - EVENING
- WILLISTOWN

Meeting schedules can be found by visiting the Foundation's website:
chestercountyhospital.org/foundation

We are happy to help you find a perfect fit for your volunteer efforts. To join or for more information about The Women's Auxiliary to Chester County Hospital, call 610.431.5054 or email Kate.Pergolini@penntel.com.

To learn more about other volunteer opportunities for women, men, and teens at the Hospital, please call 610.431.5191.

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PEACHES AND MODEL A's



Margaret M. Baillie



idow Mary Lovett Balderston came to Westtown in the 1920s with her three children, William, Robert P. and Ruth, and purchased a farm on the corner of Routes 352 and 926. She opened a produce stand where Tin Lizzies and touring cars stopped by to pick up baskets of peaches and other delectables. Generations dined on her wares and in 1935, her 21 year old son Robert Pitfield Balderston IV, took over the farm, Fairhope Orchards.

Robert quickly became involved in many area farming organizations, eventually assuming leadership roles in Delaware and Chester Counties and was a president of the Chester County Farm Bureau. He was a general committee member of Westtown School. Along the way, he set up orange and grapefruit groves in Florida which he would travel to and check on a regular basis. Turkeys were added to his repertoire in the late twentieth century. He continued the Westtown operations with tenacity and years of experience under his belt. His brother, William, went into farming, too, with his initial farm in Exton on Whitford Road, and his second farm in Little Washington on the corner of Swinehart Road and Culbertson Run.

In the spring of 1982, a young college man who lived nearby applied for a summer job at Fairhope Orchards. "This would be good," the young man thought, "it's within walking distance and I'll be outdoors." Slightly "whistling while he worked," he soon learned about and experienced the life of a farmer. He debeaked the turkeys with a hot iron so they wouldn't peck each other and carried them by their feet to move them to different pens when required. Sometimes they'd get excited and get away from him. Cherries were picked after climbing an A frame ladder which swayed in the breeze, with bees and wasps flying around. Next came the apple press which he scraped down and then he washed the walk-in freezer. Vegetables were picked and house shutters were painted. Spring turned to summer and the early white peaches were ready for harvest.

The sun shone hot and each day he had to wash the sticky peach dust off his hands, arms and neck where it clung to his skin. The peaches

seemed to get heavier every day even though he used a fruit picker basket, which had hooks on it, to gently drop the fruit into a bushel basket, thus assuring no bruising. The filled baskets were placed on the homemade wooden bed of a 1956 Ford 350 truck which he drove, sitting on a peach basket for a seat, in third gear to avoid losing a load. He pressed on and finished the summer job successfully, but he didn't think he ever wanted to see a peach again. However, he chuckles now and refers to them as good times.

Referring back to the turkeys, Mr. Balderston ordered the chicks from a hatchery in Ohio for arrival in June. At times, he had as many as 800 ordered. He made sure they were kept warm and clean as they grew and were ready for the autumn holiday season. He also provided some for companies who gave them to their employees. When interviewed in the 80s he said that raising turkeys as a small farmer was only "marginally profitable" and competition with chain stores was tough. Just when he would think about making it his last year to sell turkeys, someone would ask for one because, as one of his customers said, they "wouldn't think it Thanksgiving without a Balderston bird."

Mr. Balderston would go into West Chester to the town Agway and place orders for sprays and such with Marty Yarnall, his friend from earlier days with the various Delaware and Chester County farm associations. They would catch up with each other over the orders.

Mr. Balderston worked his farm as long as he could still selling apples out of his barn into his eighties. He lived until 2009 when he passed away at the age of 94. Remnants of the Fairhope Orchards and Farm can be seen along the same corner, and you may be able to catch a brief scent of peaches in the air as you drive by.



Fairhope Orchards worker hoisting a crate with the R. P. Balderston name.



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A Westtown Love Story

By Dave Walter,



Westtown Twp. Historical Commissioner



Now and then, an historian will uncover a true story that is more fantastically improbable than any novel or Hollywood screen play. One such story surfaced in researching Camp Elder, the Union paroled prisoner of war camp situated in Westtown for a short time after the Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863.

Thomas Nolan was born in Ireland circa 1832. As a young man, he emigrated to America, the promised land for generations of Irish seeking to improve their lives. The 1860 Federal census lists several men with his name, and approximate birthday, living in Ohio and working as day laborers. In any case, our Thomas Nolan enlisted in the Union Army's 25th Ohio Infantry regiment, Company F, in Steubenville, on June 13, 1861 for a three year term of service.

After Union forces lost the battle of First Bull Run, it became obvious the Confederates would not be defeated in 90 days. The 25th Ohio regiment went through four weeks training at Camp Chase, in Columbus, and was sent – 1,000 strong - to the fighting front in what later became West Virginia. The 25th Ohio saw combat all through 1862 and 1863. They were assigned to the Army of Virginia which chased Confederate General Stonewall Jackson's "foot cavalry" and was beaten at such battles as Cross Keys, Cedar Mountain, Second Bull Run, and Chancellorsville.

Thoroughly battle-hardened, Thomas Nolan, now a Corporal, was one of less than 300 men left in the 25th Ohio when it joined the pursuit of General Robert E. Lee's invasion of Pennsylvania in June 1863. Now assigned to Gen. O.O. Howard's XI Corps, the 25th Ohio was among the first Union soldiers to confront Lee's army north of Gettysburg on July 1st. Fighting alongside their brigade mates in the 75th Ohio, they could not stand against overwhelming odds. After putting up a fierce defense, they were overrun. Today, their monument on the Gettysburg battlefield tells the story: "Engaged 220, Killed 16, Wounded 96, Missing 71, Total loss 180." Corporal Thomas Nolan was one of the 15 missing and captured from Company F.

Fortunately for Thomas Nolan, when the battle ended in Lee's defeat, Lee could not transport all 6,000 of his prisoners back to Virginia. Nolan, and almost 2,000 other Union soldiers, were offered paroles: that is, they could not fight again until formally exchanged for Confederate prisoners held by the Union Army. Such parolees were kept, under guard by fellow Union soldiers, in parole camps.

The Gettysburg parolees were marched to Harrisburg then transported by train to West Chester where the Union soon established a parole camp on the Westtown farm of Enoch Williams, along what is now Goose Creek and the West Chester & Philadelphia Rail Road.

Here, 1,861 paroled prisoners camped for seven weeks. With little to occupy their time, some prisoners were allowed to work, for pay, with neighboring farmers. The fruit and wheat crops were ready to harvest, and many farmers needed help. Their usual farm hands were off fighting too; many had joined Chester County's 97th Pennsylvania Infantry.

Thomas Nolan, seeking to supplement his meager Army pay, answered farmer Anthony Kirk's call for laborers. Kirk, 39, and his wife, Ellen Harington Kirk, 30, farmed 27 acres just off Little Shiloh Road in Westtown. It had been their land since 1853, having been previously divided several times since Joseph Shippen (uncle of Peggy Shippen, Benedict Arnold's wife!) bought the property in 1792. According to the 1860 Federal census, the Kirks had three children: Catharine 9, John 6, and Anthony 2, and Mrs. Kirk was pregnant with James.

One can imagine the shock when Nolan showed up for work at the Kirk farm and discovered that Mrs. Ellen Kirk was the girl Nolan had courted back when they both lived in Ireland!!

Soon, the War Dept. ruled all the paroles given by Gen. Lee at Gettysburg were invalid. Camp Elder was shut down; and, by Sept. 7th, Thomas Nolan was on his way back to the 25th Ohio regiment in Virginia. Then, on December 31, 1863, Anthony Kirk, age 43, suddenly passed away. He was buried in St. Agnes Cemetery, West Chester; his tombstone reads "IHS Erected by Ellen Kirk in memory of her husband, Anthony."

How fast did the widow, Ellen, notify Thomas of her new status? We can speculate that it was quickly, because in January 1864, Thomas Nolan refused to join the majority of the his regiment's soldiers in re-enlisting for the war's duration. Those who did re-enlist got to go home to Ohio on leave. Thomas, and the other refusers, were transferred to the 75th Ohio regiment on Jan. 16th to serve out the remainder of their three year enlistment. On July 16, 1864, Corporal Nolan was mustered out.

He soon returned to Westtown because, as was later reported in the local newspaper, he had "met a widow lady whom he had courted years before in Ireland. Their old love and affection for each other returned and in due time the blue uniform was exchanged for the more unostentatious garb of a farmer, and the two who had never met since their parting in the

old country were married." We don't know the marriage date, but we know from the 1870 Federal Census that they already had 2 children: Mary, 3, and Ellen, 1. Lizzie would follow in 1872 and Annie in 1874.

The couple lived happily and worked their Westtown farm until 1885 when Thomas, age 52, died on January 25th. The newspaper noted that he "was a useful and prominent citizen of (Westtown). He was highly respected by his neighbors as a man who possessed many excellent traits of character which rendered his example well worthy of imitation." His obituary says the funeral service was at St. Agnes Church in West Chester, but he was to be buried in Oaklands Cemetery, West Chester. (His grave, marked or unmarked, has not yet been identified.)


Within three months, Ellen sold the farm to her oldest daughter, Catharine Kirk McMahan. Unfortunately, tragedy again entered Ellen's life; her son, Anthony, Jr., a carpenter by trade, was killed on Sept. 25, 1886 when he fell four stories from a house he was building in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Ellen Kirk died in 1915, in Philadelphia; and their youngest child died in 1959. The Kirk/Nolan farmhouse, much expanded and modernized, still stands on Shippen Lane off Centre School Way, testimony to

an improbable coincidence that brought the path of two Irish lovers together in Westtown. As you tour through the house, try to imagine the look on the faces of Thomas and Ellen in 1863 when they again laid eyes on each other so far from Ireland.



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Insuring Fine Art and why you should care

By Kevin T. Brooks, CIC, CPCU

Owners of older and historic homes have plenty to think about when it comes to purchasing and maintaining their property. One of their top priorities often includes decorating their home with a variety of furniture and antique items from the period the home was built. So, does this require separate insurance coverage? Let's do a deeper dive.

What constitutes "fine arts"? While "fine arts" can encompass a variety of items, the generally widest accepted categories include: Artwork includes paintings, photographs, sculptures, etc. Antiques includes furniture, decorative items, etc.

Some companies consider "fine arts" to include items such as old baseball card collections, antique toys, and even collections of shrunken heads! (No joke—this has been insured on a "fine arts" policy in the past).

While more traditional categories of fine arts encompass artwork and antiques, the items which can fall into these categories are limited only by the imagination of the insurance company you are working with.

What are you insuring against?

Typically, insurance will cover damage or destruction of the piece(s), theft of the piece(s), and mysterious disappearance. Coverage is often worldwide and not bound to a specific location, unlike the "contents" coverage found on a basic homeowner's policy.

What are the coverage options? There are two methods of insuring fine arts: "itemized" coverage, and "blanket" coverage.

Itemized Coverage: allows you to insure a specific piece to a specifically stated value. A description of the item is required up-front, along with a corresponding value. Depending on the amount of coverage requested, the insurance company may require documentation to validate this value, such as a bill of sale, recent appraisal, etc.

Blanket Coverage: this form of coverage is recommended for items purchased with greater frequency but commanding lower overall values. You can secure coverage without providing any specific documentation, descriptions or corresponding values. However, blanket coverage often comes with lower "per-item" coverage limitations. So, blanket coverage typically can't be relied upon for higher-valued items.

Disclaimers: Although you are not required to maintain documen-

tation for items being extended coverage on a "blanket" basis, it is still highly recommended. Additionally, the method in which you will be compensated for your fine arts during a claim varies by insurance company and should be discussed with your company or agent prior to coverage being purchased.

What is the cost? Most homeowners are relieved to learn that fine arts coverage is typically significantly less expensive than jewelry coverage.

As a rule of thumb: Premiums are determined per \$100 of coverage requested. Premiums for fine arts coverage can be as low as \$0.25 per \$100 of coverage. Conversely, jewelry coverage is often priced closer to \$2.00 per \$100 of coverage.

Additional rating considerations could come into play: Blanket versus itemized—many insurance companies have different premiums based on the type of coverage requested. Geographic location—typically more expensive in urban areas versus suburban or rural areas. Economies of scale—generally, lower rates per \$100 of coverage apply over a certain dollar threshold. These are benchmarks only and should be discussed with your insurance company or agent prior to coverage being purchased.

Other Benefits? Other benefits of securing separate fine arts coverage include: Typically, no deductibles apply. You may opt to choose a deductible for additional premium savings, but most people do not. If you didn't have specific (itemized) or blanket coverage for your fine arts, your homeowner's deductible would apply.

Worldwide coverage: Without blanket or itemized coverage, the protection you receive for your fine arts may be severely limited by its current location. More straight-forward claims process. As logic would tell you, the more information an insurance company has about the piece(s) that sustained damaged or are stolen/missing, the more quickly and efficiently claims can be settled.

There are many items to consider when securing insurance coverage for your older or historic home, and properly protecting the special property inside is no exception. Have a discussion with your insurance company or agent today to decide which options are best for you.



Detail of an undated painting by Chester County artist Harry Dunn. (1929-1998)



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GENERAL GEORGE ARCHIBALD McCALL OF "BELLE AIRE," WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP

By Thomas M. Walsh



On August 22, 1853, George Archibald McCall, after 31 years of military service in the United States Army, resigned his commission as Colonel and Inspector General of the Army. The Philadelphia-born McCall retired to a 42-acre farm east of West Chester in West Goshen Township on Goshen Road (and present-day Phoenixville Pike) near the old Fern Hill station of the West Chester Railroad (later Pennsylvania Railroad). It is presently not known whether he built the mansion known as "Belle Aire" or simply expanded an earlier farmhouse. McCall was the great-grandson of George McCall who came to Philadelphia from Scotland around 1701. He was the youngest son born to Archibald and Elizabeth Cadwallader McCall on March 16, 1802. Young George would later receive an appointment to West Point and graduated in the class of 1822 where he ranked 26 out of 40. He then embarked on the first phase of his military career which took him to Florida, the southwest, and the western part of the United States. He would serve in both Seminole Wars as well as the Mexican/American War of 1846. He was recognized for his actions at the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma.

He married Elizabeth McMurtrie (1829-1903) on August 13, 1851, at the age of 49. After resigning in 1853, he and his wife went to Europe for a year to improve his health which had deteriorated during the Mexican campaigns. In 1855, the family settled at Belle Aire and they had five children with one dying in infancy. It should also be noted that upon his return from the war with Mexico, the citizens of Philadelphia presented him with a ceremonial sword.

The pleasant life of the Belle Aire estate was interrupted with the outbreak of the Civil War. The Governor of Pennsylvania appointed McCall as Major General of the Pennsylvania Militia. In May of 1861 he was commissioned Brigadier General of volunteers and would help form 15 of the 25 Pennsylvania regiments into the Pennsylvania Reserves Division. McCall's Division of the Army of the Potomac consisted of Regiments 1 through 15 (they would later be designated 30-44). General McCall was instrumental in helping defeat the Confederates under General J.E.B. Stuart at Dranesville in Fairfax County, Virginia, on December 20, 1861. This small victory was the first for the Union Army in the East. The Pennsylvania Reserves Division was then assigned to the 2nd Division of the 1st Corps, and by the time of the Peninsula Campaign, were part of the 3rd Division, V Corps. McCall and his men saw very heavy action in the Seven Days Battles, especially Mechanicsville, Gaines Mill, and Glendale or Frayser's Farm. It was at Frayser's Farm on June 30, 1862, that



McCall was wounded and captured. He would be sent to Libby Prison in Richmond where a previous illness added to his suffering. In August of 1862, Brig. General George A. McCall was exchanged for the Confederate Brig. General Simon A. Buckner. He went on sick leave and re-resigned from the military on March 31, 1863. It should also be noted that the citizens of Chester County presented him with another ceremonial sword in 1862.

While on leave at his farm, McCall was a Democratic candidate for Congress in the fall of 1862 and was defeated by John M. Broomall, the Republican candidate. He would spend his time at Belle Aire involved with agriculture, natural history, and scientific pursuits with Philadelphia's Academy of Natural Sciences. He died at Belle Aire on February 25, 1868, and was buried at Christ Church Cemetery in Philadelphia. Before his death, 105 of his letters were assembled and were published posthumously by J. B. Lippincott & Co. in 1868 under the title of Letters from the Frontiers, Written

During a Period of Thirty Years' Service with the Army of the United States. Newspaper records show that the family remained at Belle Aire. McCall's youngest daughter, Elizabeth "Bessie" McCall married Edward F. Hoffman there on October 19, 1887.

When the property changed hands is not exactly known. A 1915 Daily Local News article indicates that Henry K. Kelly of Fern Hill and a veteran of the Civil War has been a long-time "dweller in the suburbs of West Chester." Another clipping from 1920 relating to the probated will of Mrs. Elizabeth McCall Hoffman states that "her early life was spent at Belair, now the home of Henry Kuhl Kelly." It appears that the name Belle Aire followed the McCall family. Henry K. Kelly's funeral was held at "his late home at Fern Hill." The 1940 obituary of his daughter Margaret describes her as having lived until recently at Fern Hill when the property was sold to Joseph W. Passmore. The pre-Civil War railroad tracks are gone as is the Fern Hill railroad station. West Goshen Township records show that Belle Aire was demolished in 2012. Thirty-two acres and outbuildings remain today under ownership of members of the Passmore family.



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Miscellaneous Timeline Tidbits General George A. McCall

- 1802** George Archibald McCall born March 16 in Philadelphia
- 1852** Edward Hallowell names the Flat-tailed Horned Lizard of New Mexico to honor Col. McCall – *anota mccalli* (now *phrynosoma mccalli*)
- 1854** John Cassin names the Texas Screech Owl (McCall Eastern Owl) to honor Col. McCall. – *otus asio mccalli* (now *megascops asio mccalli*)
- 1867** Local Civil War veterans form the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Post #31 Gen. George A. McCall in West Chester
- 1868** General George A. McCall dies in West Goshen at Belle Aire on February 25
- 1868** Letters from the Frontier by George A. McCall published posthumously
- 1903** Gen. George A. McCall Post #31 moves into Horticultural Hall in West Chester as provided by the will of Mrs. L. A. Painter, widow of Uriah Painter. The building is repaired, restored, and renamed Memorial Hall.
- 1911** "Old Glory" – On June 11. The Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Monument was unveiled to honor veterans of the Civil War. On this 50th Anniversary unveiling, the cord was pulled by Ethel Peters Butler, 9-year-old daughter of Smedley Butler. Capt. William S. Underwood of Post #31 gave the acceptance speech.
- 1911** The General George A. McCall Elementary School was opened in Philadelphia. Located at 325 S. 7th Street, the school serves Society Hill, Chinatown, and Old City. It was named a National Blue Ribbon School in 2017.



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AMERICAN OPERA SINGER MADAME LOUISE HOMER

By Robyn Young



Louise Dilworth Beatty Homer was born on April 30, 1871 in the Shadyside section of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. She was a daughter of the Rev. William Beatty, a Presbyterian minister who founded the Pennsylvania Female College, and Sarah Colwell Fulton Beatty. Louise grew up in Pittsburgh and then moved to West Chester in 1882 after the death of her father.

The widowed Sarah Beatty lived in West Chester with her eight children. Also residing in the home were Mrs. Beatty's Aunt Sarah with her husband, the Rev. Samuel Fulton, and another aunt, Kate with her husband, the Rev. Martin Schoonmaker. Louise and her siblings grew up in this very happy household. Louise attended the First Presbyterian Church in West Chester and sang in the church choir. She loved music as a child and later took voice lessons in Philadelphia.

In 1888, Louise graduated from West Chester High School as valedictorian. She worked as a stenographer in Philadelphia for several years and then attended the New England Conservatory of Music of Boston. In 1893, she began taking music theory lessons from composer Sidney Homer. Louise and Sidney Homer were married in 1895. The newlyweds then traveled to Paris for further cultivation of Louise's voice. Louise made her operatic debut in La Favorita at Vichy in 1898. She sang at Covent Garden in London in the summer of 1899; in Brussels in 1899-1900, and again at Covent Garden in 1900. Louise signed a three-year contract with the Metropolitan Opera of New York in 1900 and remained with the opera house for 19 consecutive seasons, repeating performances off and on for 27 years. Madame Louise Homer was a well-known operatic contralto.

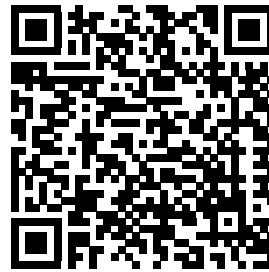
The Homers bought a home in New York city, rented houses in West Chester, and built a summer home called "Homeland" in Lake George, New York. They lived at 506 N. Church Street, 411 S. Walnut Street, 303 S. High Street (later changed to 313, then 315 S. High) in the borough, and



on "Bellevue Farm" in West Goshen township. Although she traveled extensively, Louise called Chester County her home. The Homers had six children, including a set of twin girls. While performing and traveling, the children were cared for by Louise's maternal family in West Chester or Sidney's sister in New York. The children sometimes accompanied Louise on tour. Madame Homer performed locally when not touring. She did benefit concerts for local churches, hospitals and organizations. In 1923, the National League of Women Voters selected her as one of America's twelve most eminent greatest living women for the music category. Her immense popularity came from her second career as a recording artist for RCA Victor and Columbia Records and not from the stage. Her final performance at the Met was in Il Trovatore in March 1929. She died in Winter Park, Florida, on May 6, 1947 and is buried in the Bolton Cemetery near Lake George, New York, where she spent summers and holidays with her large family.

The West Chester composer Samuel Barber was Louise Homer's nephew, the son of her older sister Marguerite. Samuel Barber was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Music twice.

Something new for Chester County Day Newspaper. Scan the QR code.



*Louise Homer Sings
"Voce di Donna"
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By Amilcare Ponchielli
circa 1909*

89018—Trovatore—Ai nostri monti (Home to Our Mountains) In Italian Verdi
By Louise Homer and Enrico Caruso

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MANRICO: If any love remains in thy bosom,
If thou art yet my mother, oh, hear me!
Seek thy terrors to number,
And seek repose from thy sorrows in soothing slumber.

AZUCENA: Yes, I am grief-worn and fain would rest me;
But more than grief have sad dreams oppressed me;
Should that dread vision rise in my slumbers
Rouse me! its horrors may then depart.

MANRICO: Rest thee, oh mother! I'll watch o'er thee,
Sleep may restore sweet peace to thy heart.

A fierce and avenging gypsy no longer, but a broken woman whose consuming passions of remorse and revenge have died away, she dreams of the happy days gone by.

AZUCENA: Home to our mountains, let us return, love,
(dreaming) There in thy young days peace had its reign;
There shall thy sweet song fall on my slumbers,
There shall thy lute, make me joyous again.

MANRICO: Rest thee, my mother, kneeling beside thee,
I will pour forth my troubadour lay.

AZUCENA: O sing and wake now thy sweet lute's soft numbers,
Lull me to rest, charm my sorrows away.

BOTH: Lull { me } to rest!
 { thee }

Caruso sings this beautiful scene with that tenderness of voice which he can assume when he will; while Mme. Homer delivers Azucena's music with exceptional purity and charm. Altogether one of the most beautiful records in the Red Seal List.

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The Whip Tavern: 1383 North Chatham Rd., Coatesville: 610-383-0600
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INSURING HISTORIC HOMES

RECONSTRUCTION COSTS AND REBUILDING TO CODE

By Kevin Brooks, CIC, CPCU

Often owners of historic homes are faced with a dilemma – What coverage limit is appropriate for my home? Historic homes demand special attention and care when developing your insurance policy coverage provisions and limits. Unique construction features, handcraftsmanship and other rebuilding considerations all need to be evaluated.

Consider the typical features of a Historic Home: extensive handcraftsmanship, plaster and lath walls and ceilings, solid masonry exteriors, random width hardwood floors, custom crown moldings, and the list goes on. If you have renovated your historic home you understand the associated materials and construction costs are inherently more expensive than materials typically used in construction today.

By the numbers:

Custom carved molding in historic homes can cost as much as \$30 per linear foot, doubling standard cost of 3 inch to 5 inch molding.

Plaster and lath are approximately three times more expensive than drywall and is more labor intensive to repair or replace. Solid masonry and stone can increase the rebuilding cost by 20-30% more than veneer. Asphalt shingles cost about \$5 per square foot compared to the \$28 per square foot for slate shingles.

So, what coverage limit is appropriate? You have a significant investment in your home, and an integral element is the historical value which may be difficult to measure. Rebuilding cost is often very different from the Real Estate Value or any Mortgage Commitments. A qualified reconstruction estimate would include your home’s special features and attributes. One aspect of coverage on a historic homeowner’s policy could mean the difference between a positive claims experience and an insurance limbo nightmare. The coverage referenced is Rebuilding to Code (also known as “Ordinance or Law”).

After a loss, rebuilding to code frequently results in added, unforeseen, costs. All repairs must conform to current building codes and zoning ordinances. While this is typically not an issue with homes of newer construction, rebuilding historic homes can be a challenge to bring them into compliance with ever-changing building codes and regulations. Items that could be impacted include:

- Updating the electrical system (from knob and tube wiring, etc.),
- Widening staircases and hallways,
- Updating the plumbing,
- Adding a sprinkler system.

It is estimated that rebuilding a home to meet current codes, or demolishing the undamaged portion of the home, can increase costs by up to 50 percent. Unfortunately, most homeowner’s policies provide only 10% of the home’s insured value towards rebuilding to code.

The best solution is to have an insurance company that specializes in older or historic homes. These companies provide unlimited coverage to repair or rebuild your home in compliance with local ordinance. They also provide guaranteed replacement cost coverage, which promises to repair or rebuild your home using materials of the same like, kind, and quality. The combination of these coverage features assures that, regardless of the extent of damages, your home will be repaired or rebuilt with the same authentic feel while remaining in compliance with local building codes.

Now is the time to make sure you have the proper protection in place, because the only thing worse than paying your insurance premiums is paying out of pocket for an uncovered claim. So, when you get around to your holiday cleaning this year, dust off those old insurance policies and ask yourself, “What is my historic home really worth?”



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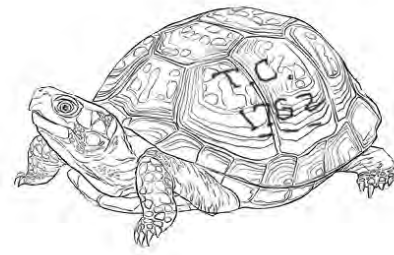
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OLD AND RESPECTABLE -- THOMAS CHEYNEY, ESQ. residing in Thornbury township, in this county, informs us he found in one of his fields last week, a land turtle with the initials T.C. and the date 1762 cut on its shell. What the age of the turtle was when this was cut, is not revealed, but if this old resident were a baby at the time, he or she, we know not which, is coming up to a century. The initials and date were cut on the creeping thing, by Thomas Cheyney, of revolutionary memory – the man who bore important information to Gen. Washington, a few hours before the Battle of the Brandywine was fought. He was the grandfather of the present owner of the farm. A few years since, one these old chaps was

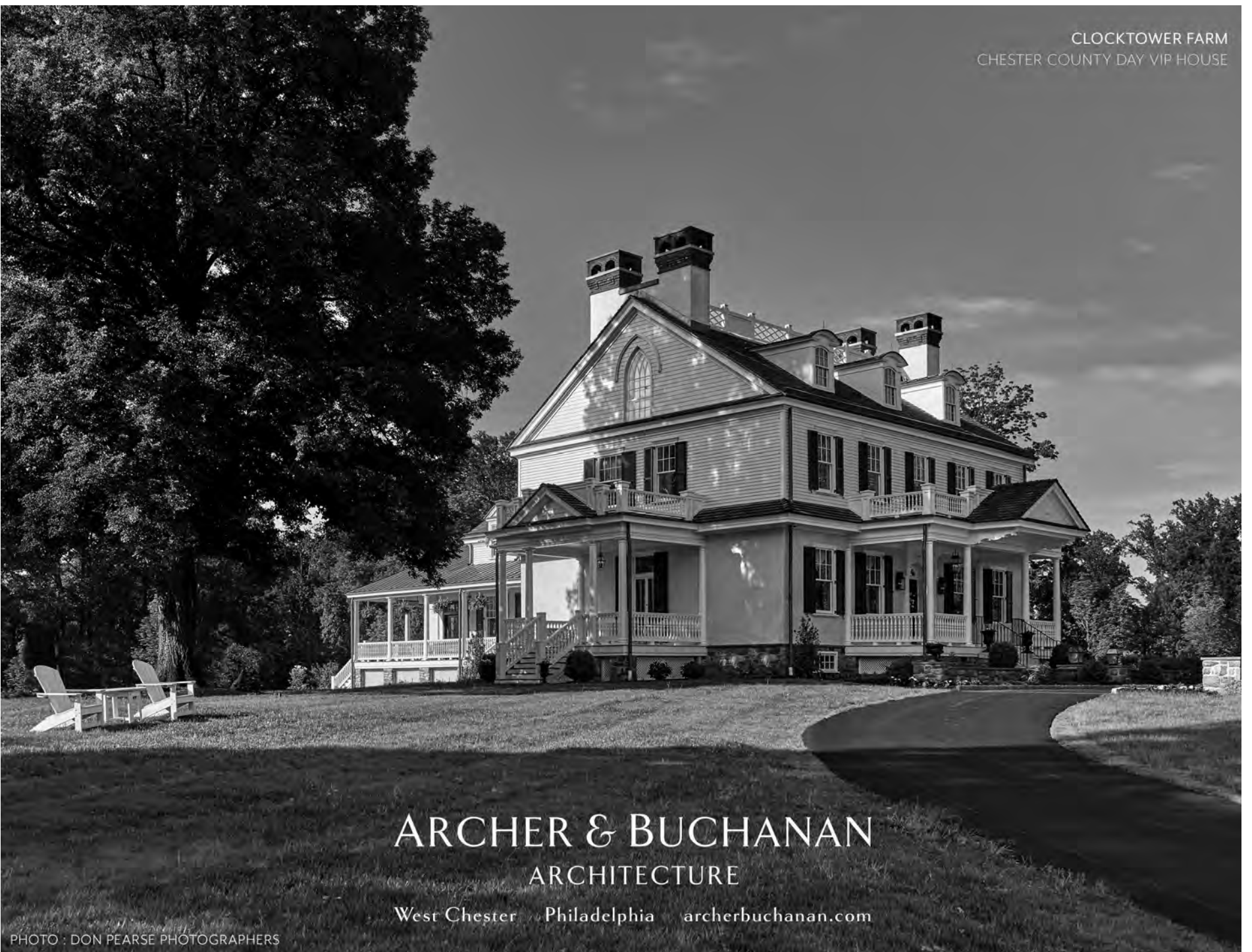
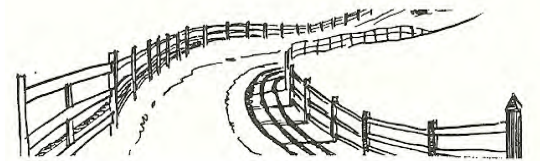
killed on the same property by a wagon running over him, the shell of which contained the same initials, with the date of 1754. Mr. Cheyney informs us that he has been keeping a look-out for the survivor for some time past, knowing him to be a resident of the farm, or its vicinity, and he has been gratified in looking upon the venerable traveler who has been about the premises for 92 years at least.

American Republican, July 11, 1854.



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WEST GOSHEN'S OAKLANDS CEMETERY

By Michael Pillagalli



It was not until I was part of a walking tour, led by Thomas Walsh as part of the West Goshen Historical Commission, along with 50 people or so, that I realized the importance of Oakland's cemetery in the names that we know from "Old West Chester". The names Worthington, Townsend, Hemphill, and Darlington, to name a few, are synonymous with the history of West Chester and Chester County and many of them are interred at Oakland's.

At one point there were several cemeteries in the borough of West Chester. Hannum Hill, originally a part of Christ Church, was thought to be one of our earliest burial sites in the borough as early as 1793. Christ Church is the present day Saint Agnes Church. Around 1885, the graves were all removed from the hill and moved to The Saint Agnes Cemetery, which adjoins Oaklands Cemetery. At this point in time, the burial areas became known as Cemetery Hill and still claim that name to many West Chester people. One travels by car up Route 100 toward Exton and passes Cemetery Hill. As a kid that was a long stretch of road to hold one's breath as we were told to do so to keep the spirits in the area out of our bodies.

The Society of Friends had their own burial grounds at the meeting house location on North High Street and started to bury their followers there as early as 1813. There does not seem to be any mention of the Chestnut Street Meeting having its own burial site on the site of our now Grower's Market on Chestnut Street between High Streets and Church Streets. The Society of Friends also utilized a burial area on West Rosedale on the West Goshen side of the street which came into use as of 1884. And, in 1874 they established a cemetery across the parcel from Oakland's on "Cemetery Hill".

The Methodist Church established on Gay Street in the 100 block in 1816, buried their followers on site. When that area could hold no more burial spots, the Baptist's, Methodist's, Episcopalian's, and Presbyterian's all used a burial area in the southwest area of the borough. The area was defined as west of New Street and south of Barnard Street.

In 1851, Borough Council drew forth an ordinance stating that no more burials should take place within the confines of Chestnut, New, Barnard, and Matlack Streets. As of 1873, there were no more burials within the town limits.

Realizing that this was going to be a problem for a growing population, alternative burial sites needed to be found close to the borough, but not within the borough limits. As of April 14, 1851, "An Act to Incorporate the Oakland's Cemetery" was passed by Pennsylvania legislators and signed by the Governor. A subscription was established to find land and raise funds for its purchase. \$4000. was obtained as the payment. Now all they needed to do was find the land. Headed by Dr. Wilmer Worthington, Mr. John S. Bowen, Mr. J. Lacy Darlington, Mr. William Townsend, and Mr. Joseph Hemphill the committee searched for a suitable site. There was a power house of "old" West Chester names!

They located approximately 23 acres that were available from Mr. Joseph L. Taylor about a mile and a half north of the borough. It was recorded as twenty-two acres, three roods, and seventeen perches on the deed as of 1852. The men thought the land perfect as it was well timbered and there were two streams passing through the acreage. A Philadelphia firm was hired to lay out the grounds and prepare them for interments. 500 burial sites were established along with a small lake, the drives and walkways between the burial sites and the whole area was enclosed in a "substantial pale fence". A cottage was built for the grounds superintendent along with a receiving vault and upon the completion of all the areas, the dedication took place on December 10, 1853. Oakland's was committed to the liberality, care and attention of the citizens of West Chester and its vicinity for which it had been created. The mission statement of sorts from the 1854 Charter and By-Laws of Oakland Cemetery was to hope that the good sense and public spirit of our citizens, without distinction of sect or party, will cherish this permanent abode of the dead by improving and adorning it, and thus making it an enticing place of resort for communing with the spirits of departed friends and relatives, and preparing the souls of the living by serious contemplation to join those who have preceded them to the other world.

As one walked the designated area led by a tour guide, one had to be impressed by the list of burial spots of some of the areas more and most prominent citizens. The Taylor family, from whom the 23 acres was purchased, were given a large family parcel which is still used by the family today. Probably one of the earlier burials there was that of Isaac Barnard who died in 1834 and was buried in the borough and moved to Oakland when it opened. He fought in the War of 1812 and returned to West Chester to resume his law practice and was then elected to several appointed offices. He organized the Republican Artillerists, a body similar to today's National Guard, and was responsible for securing the land and a monu-

ment to memorialize the Battle of Paoli known as the Paoli Massacre. He was also appointed as a Secretary of the Commonwealth and then on to the United States Senate. And it was his own Chester County whose opposition caused him to fail in his attempt to be nominated as Governor of Pennsylvania.

Jean Claude Antoine Brunin deBolamar was born in France in 1797 and came to our area in 1828. In 1838 he took charge of the West Chester Academy and in 1844 purchased Mrs. Phelps's Ladies Boarding School and immediately converted it to a boarding school for Young Men and Boys. With his military background he ran it like a military establishment and according to Futhey & Cope, it became one of the most popular and flourishing institutions in the country attracting students from the United States and West Indies.

Buried at Oakland in 1863 was Dr. William Darlington who was studying to become a physician and who also mastered French, Latin, Spanish and German at the same time of schooling. He was the first Chester Countian to graduate from The University of Pennsylvania with a Doctorate in Medicine. His interest in botany also made his name known in international horticulture worlds. He served in the War of 1812, served two stints in the United States Congress. In 1826, he published his first book of botany, *Flora Cestrica*, charting floras grown around the borough of West Chester. He founded the Medical Society of Chester County and became its Chair and headed the company that built the West Chester Railroad. 1830 brought him the presidency of the Bank of Chester County which he helped to organize in 1814. By the end of his life he also received a Doctorate of Law degree from Yale College and a Doctor of Physical Science from Dickinson College.

Some of the other well-known West Chester names interred here include Major General Smedley Butler, one of the Marine Corps most colorful officers and one of two who received two Medals of Honor for separate acts of heroism. Congressman Thomas Butler who took over the unexpired term of Judge Futhey and served thirty-three years in the United States Congress. As Chair of the Naval Committee, he received from the Japanese, the famous cherry trees found in Washington DC and planted one at his residence on Miner Street which is still blooming today.

The Father of Pennsylvania Forestry, Dr. Joseph Trimble Rothrock, whose credentials include informed scientist, botanist, and medical doctor, was buried here in 1922. Mr. Wilmer Worthington MacElree, who was named for one of the Oakland Cemetery founders, Dr. William Worthington, and was known as an attorney about town and progenitor of two County judges and as a popular and collectable novelist on the Brandywine Creek, was buried here in 1960.

In the Arts field we have Mr. Samuel Barber, a Pulitzer winner twice, elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and whose work, "Adagio for Strings" has appeared in Hollywood movies as *Platoon*, *The Elephant Man*, *Lorenzo's Oil* and *El Norte*. Locally he was the writer for the West Chester High School, now B. Reed Henderson's, alma mater. Mr. Harry Dunn who was born in West Chester and studied at the Academy of Fine Arts and the Philadelphia College of Art. He worked in New York in television on industrial, commercial, and entertainment filming but is best known as the creator and designer for the NBC Peacock. He has shown his art work at the NY Museum of Modern Art, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Cincinnati Art Museum, and his works hang in countless West Chester homes. Mr. Barclay Rubicam, whose works of old West Chester are well known in this area hang prominently in our local banks, hospital, historical society, and assorted businesses. He is in the collection of the Brandywine River Museum and has been a featured show there and at the Chester County Historical Society. And, one of the most prolific West Chester writers of the 1940's, Mr. Joseph Hergesheimer, was buried there in 1954 after writing many popular novels which chronologically discussed the very wealthy and their corrupt and sophisticated lifestyles. It is said that many West Chester families served as models for his characters. Also buried here is Mr. Joseph Emley Borden who was a major league baseball player in the early years of professional sports. His pseudonym was Nedrob, which is his last name spelled backward. He pitched for the Philadelphia "Fillies" and on July 28, 1875 he pitched the first major league recorded no-hitter.

There are countless other well-known people interred here and most have a local, West Chester, or Chester County connection. Oakland Cemetery continues to make the grounds a permanent, beautiful, and attractive burial spot and they try to excel in all that gives solemnity and attractiveness to such a place. This tour reminds me of our Chester County Day tour since we like to visit the old, discuss the history of such, and appreciate the past for what it shows us today.

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Who was Jack Lapp?

John Walker, "Jack Lapp," was born in Frazer on September 10, 1884. "Lapp broke into semipro ball in 1905 with nearby Berwyn of the Main Line League." He began his professional baseball career in 1907. A catcher, he reached the big leagues with the Philadelphia Athletics of the American League in 1908 and remained there through 1916. Most of his career he served as a back-up catcher or caught for a particular A's pitcher (ex: Jack Coombs). He finished his career with the Chicago White Sox in 1916. Lapp died of pneumonia on February 6, 1920, and is buried in Philadelphia's Mount Peace Cemetery.



Jack Lapp, c. 1910

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REBUILDING TO CODE

(AND WHAT IT MEANS TO YOU)

By Kevin T. Brooks, CIC

Many owners of older or historic homes overlook a coverage aspect on their homeowner's policy which could mean the difference between a positive claims experience and an insurance limbo nightmare. The coverage in reference is Rebuilding to Code (also known as "Ordinance or Law"), and it's worth knowing more about.

After a fire or other covered incident, all repairs must conform to current building codes and zoning ordinances. While this is typically not an issue with homes of newer construction, no home is immune to the ever changing law of the land. For homes build six or more decades ago, the ordinance issue can be significant.

Items that could be impacted include:

Updating the electrical system (from knob and tube wiring, etc.)

Widening staircases and hallways

Updating the plumbing system Adding a sprinkler system

It is estimated that rebuilding a home to meet current codes or demolishing the undamaged portion of the home can increase costs by up to 50 percent. Unfortunately, most homeowner's policies provide only 10% of the home's insured value towards rebuilding to code. So what's the best solution??

The best solution is to have an insurance company that specializes in older or historic homes. These companies provide unlimited coverage to repair or rebuild your home in compliance with local ordinance. They also provide guaranteed replacement cost coverage, which promises to repair or rebuild your home using materials of the same like, kind, and quality. The combination of these coverage features assures that, regardless of the extent of damages, your home will be repaired or rebuilt with the same authentic feel while remaining in compliance with local building codes. Now is the time to make sure you have the proper protection in place, because the only thing worse than paying your insurance premiums is paying for an uncovered claim out of pocket.

Kevin Brooks is a personal insurance advisor with Johnson, Kendall & Johnson in Newtown, PA. He can be reached at 215-579-6434 or at kbrooks@jkj.com

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CLOCK TOWER FARM

By Michael Pillagalli



Perched on a hill in East Goshen Township and built in the 1830 to 1840-time period is a splendid mansion with a rather interesting history that goes back to William Penn land grant issue time in the early, early 18th century.

The original owner of the parcel of land acquired from a patent of William Penn in 1703 was a Roland Ellis. Mr. Ellis was born in 1650 in Wales and as an adult lived at his farm, which was called Bryn Mawr, near Dolgellau. After George Fox, Father of Quakerism, visited Dolgellau, Mr. Ellis and several other townspeople converted to Quakerism and due to the religious persecution that came with that conversion, he decided to emigrate at age 36 years old to Penns Woods in the colonies of the New World. After a two-year stint here, he went back to his beloved Bryn Mawr to get his life affairs in order and came back to Pennsylvania for good. He was so into his new life here and made such a presence of himself that he was elected to represent Philadelphia at the provincial assembly in 1700. He was responsible for naming the present town of Bryn Mawr as a memory of his home land and farm.

His appointment and his charge was to look at certain roads which had been already laid out and to establish one main 50-foot-wide road which started at William Powell's Ferry at the Schuylkill, went past the Haverford Meeting House, and onward to Goshen Township. Goshen Township was split into East and West Goshen Townships in 1817. The road was to end at the upper settlement on the Brandywine Creek. All this while, Mr. Ellis never lived in Goshen Township. Yet it is interesting to note that the dividing road today between East and West Goshen is Ellis Lane.

George Ashbridge (1676-1748) who came from Yorkshire, England to Goshen in 1698 acquired 70 acres from Penn in Edgemoor, as it was then called, and then went on to buy 341 additional acres in Goshen from Mr. Ellis in 1708. He married in 1701 and had five boys and five girls with his wife Mary Malin. He went on to add to the 341-acre parcel by buying 250 acres from Thomas Storey in 1712 and added further to that in 1726 with 331 acres which he bought from Stephen Beakes. This put his land holding in East Goshen, as it was now known, at almost 900 acres. After he bought his first parcel from Mr. Ellis in 1708, he built his first home by Ridley Creek less than a mile from the present Willistown Township line. He replaced the first dwelling in Edgemoor Township in 1720 with a more prestigious home in Goshen Township in what is now Clock Tower Woods neighborhood, was appointed as Constable of Goshen in 1710, added a mill in Goshen in 1717, and continued his religious beliefs as a Quaker by attending the Goshen Meeting. Upon Mary's death in 1728, George remarried two years later and moved his new wife and son to Chester. He lived there until his death in 1748 making him 72 years old at his death which was remarkable for that time period.

George's eldest son, John, was deeded the original 341-acre parcel, bought from Rowland Ellis in 1708 in 1730, for the cost of 100 pounds. Two years later, he married Hannah Davies and they had eight children. John, like his father, held a number of public offices to include Constable in 1732, Overseer for the Poor in 1738, and Supervisor of "Highways" in 1742. Five years later, at age 45, he died in 1748. His son Jonathan inherited the property upon his father's death at the young age of 13. Jonathan claimed his right to the two-thirds portion of the lands upon attaining his majority and bought out his siblings one-third share to be the sole owner of the 341 acres. He lived in his grandfather's house and married Sarah James. From 1762 to 1772, he divested some of the 341 acres. He started by selling his present home, built by his grandfather, and the surrounding 200 acres to his uncle Joseph Pratt in 1762. The following year, Mr. Pratt bought another 23.5 acres from Jonathan. The last 117.5 acres was sold as two separate parcels in 1772. So, why did he sell the property one might wonder? Jonathan became a public service position holder as did his father when he was appointed as the Overseer of the County in 1764 and also decided to become a distiller much to the chagrin of his neighbors. This activity got him shunned by the Goshen Friends and he sold the property to a Mr. Joseph Pratt.

Joseph Pratt was born in Goshen in 1727 and at age 18 married Jane Davis in 1745. They had nine children and upon Joseph's death in 1775, his eldest son inherited the property and not his wife. His eldest son, Abraham served as the Clerk of the Goshen Meeting in 1801 and died in 1813 at age 66. He left the property to his grandson, Pratt Roberts. Pratt was 8 years old at the time of the inheritance. Abraham's widow was given life time use of the new west wing of the 1720 mansion and use of the entire kitchen which was probably a separate building. Pratt was born in Goshen in 1805 and reared by his grandparents who sent him to a private school in nearby Sugartown. He married a Unionville girl in Philadelphia in 1829 and they go on to have five children. Two of the five children lived

to adulthood. Pratt who was fond of literature and art was considered one of the wealthiest gentlemen in the county. He decided the 1720 mansion was no longer fitting for them and built the present structure on East Boot Road in the 1830 to 1840-time period. Upon its completion, Pratt and his family moved into the new mansion and rented the 1720 house and a portion of the surrounding land to Mr. Reuben Eldridge. Pratt Roberts dies in 1882 at the ripe old age of 78.

The two sons of Pratt and Ann Roberts, George and Charles grew up in the old 1720 manor house but moved into the new mansion on Boot Road upon construction completion. George attended the well-known Mr. Bolmar's West Chester School and went on to school in New York and Haverford. He was a student of Yale College and graduated from there in 1857 with high honors. He read Law at Yale and continued his law studies upon returning to West Chester. He was admitted to the bar in 1858 in West Chester and stayed here for only one year more before moving on to Chicago. At the onset of the Civil War he enlisted in July of 1861. He was commissioned as a Major in the Illinois Volunteer Infantry and in five months' time was advanced to Colonel and Commander of the regiment. He successfully led his troops through battles from late winter to early spring of 1862, and on December 1, 1862, at Stones River in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, he was killed when General Braxton Bragg attacked the right flank and opened up the battle. Roberts was ordered to attack with his men and in the ensuing charge he was killed. His body was brought back to West Chester where he was interred at Oakland Cemetery.

Charles Roberts was also educated in West Chester and went on to Delaware State College. He enlisted in the Army as a Lieutenant of the Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry and shortly thereafter he was promoted to Captain and was assigned as the aide-de-camp where he served until his enlistment ended. He decided to reenlist and was commissioned as a Captain and placed in command of Company A serving in Antietam and Chancellorsville, where he had some narrow escapes, but came out of all of them unscathed. In 1864, he married Mary Miller and in 1865 George was born followed by Josephine in 1871. As the only surviving child of Pratt Roberts, George inherited the mansion house on Boot Road which at the time was called Bellevue Farm. After inheriting Bellevue Farm, he went on to buy the 198.5 acre Allerton Farm in East Bradford in 1884 and two years later, in 1886, he purchased another 186.5-acre parcel, Rockland Farm, in East Goshen Township. When he inherited Bellevue Farm, he added a two story addition to the dwelling to include a kitchen, laundry, and additional sleeping quarters. A bay window was added to the existing property and outside a new wagon and carriage house was erected and the barn was completely remodeled. Charles devoted his time to the raising of Holstein Friesian Cattle at all three of his farms and collected the prizes they won at state and county fairs. Beside his raising of stock, he was an officer for the West Chester Cold Storage and Ice Company, served as a member of the West Chester Board of Trade, a trustee to Penn State, Delaware College, and West Chester State Normal School. He was a Mason, an Odd Fellow, and a part of the Patrons of Husbandry. All this time he was an active member of the Society of Friends. In 1890, he was one of the first homeowners to have a telephone installed in the mansion. After he inherited Bellevue and had a short stay there, he moved to his Allerton Farm and shortly before his death, in December of 1895, he sold the family property in East Goshen to Mr. A. Sidney Logan.

Mr. Sidney Logan frequented the property as a summer residence using it to pursue his hobbies of writing, woodworking, photography, horsemanship, hunting, skating, dancing and yachting. The country life of a wealthy gentleman! In 1912, he installed on the property a clock making facility to use for his horology avocation and changed the name of the farm from Bellevue to Restalrig. He had an idea to create a clock tower and started the building of one in 1919. It became a county landmark. The clock tower constructed of onsite stone rose 65 feet and the clock works were made at the farm by Mr. Logan. The face was six feet in diameter and it had a fifteen-foot pendulum and time could be seen from all angles afar. The bell, three feet in diameter, which was made of brass at the McShane Bell Foundry in Baltimore in 1919, and which rang on the hour could be heard for miles it was said. It was said he built it so that farmers in the fields need not stop and reach into their pockets for their watch to check on the time. It took 8 years to finish the tower and the works and have them attached to the large face and it was christened in 1920 as The Peace Tower. An inscription was added that reads: "I count the unreturning as they pass." After enjoying the farm for thirty years, Mr. Logan died in 1925 and left the farm to his wife and son as life tenants. His will also stipulated that upon their death, the property would go to the Old Men's Home of West Philadelphia. The estate was valued at \$700,000. In

1926, the property was sold by the life tenants and the inheritor to a Mr. Christopher Cox who turned around and flipped it in the same year to Mr. Samuel Eckert. Mr. Eckert divided it up and sold a 58-acre portion, to include the mansion house, to Mr. Harry T. Lewis in September of 1926. It was believed that Mr. Eckert lived in the original 1720 house on the rest of the property and it was sold at his death to developers. The 1720 house was set aside on eleven acres and sold separately. Mr. Lewis kept his 58 acres until April of 1928 and then sold the entire parcel. The next owner kept the property for thirty years.

The mansion and 6.75 acres subdivided from the 56 acres was sold in 1958 to a family with eight children and over the eight years they occupied the mansion the 7 boys and 1 girl wreaked havoc on the property burning several of the out buildings. They sold the property in 1968 and the new owners went about restoring the burned buildings which were left as is, but in the process they had a bonfire which burned most of the interior woodwork of the house. And, after two years the property was again sold to a family that put a lot of the farm back in order over the 37 years in which they lived there. In 2005, the owners sold to a couple who were considering using the house as a Bed and Breakfast. Five years later it was sold again to a couple in the restoration business who did a lot of replacement woodwork, interior and exterior painting installation of a modern HVAC system and established paddocks for their horses. Six years later, in January 2016, the property was sold again in an unfinished state to the present owners, Christopher and Beth Knauer.

To say the current owners have restored the house would be an understatement. They have utilized a local restoration architecture firm to work on the property over a two-year period of time taking out what was not appropriate to the home and adding a new addition to the back of the house that blends the original dwelling to a very functional and period style addition. Entering the home on the original slabs of stone in the front walkway, past the lit gas lanterns and planted iron urns, through the restored original front door with period box lock, one enters the magnificent front hall with polished wainscoting and original floorboards. The plaster has been redone in many of the rooms as it was falling off of the lath, the woodwork, some actually done with plaster, has been replaced and restored to include some of the crown moldings. All systems in the house were upgraded and replaced, the grounds were landscaped anew, the old buildings were further restored, a pool house and outdoor kitchen were added to the existing pool, and a magnificent widow's walk was perched on top of the house commanding a multi mile and million-dollar view. There probably is not one inch of the property, both inside and out, that has not been touched by the professional hands of architects, contractors, decorators, landscapers, and the home owners. The clock tower has been seen to and the clock is now in running condition again. Time has been both good and trying for this magnificent property and now the owners have made it a perfect time as the mansion and grounds are at the peak of their respectability and in the best condition that they have been in in years. This has become the show-piece that it was built to represent over almost 200 years ago.



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We Just Want the Facts...

1. In West Goshen Township, this area was noted for being the spot where the first execution, a hanging, publically took place on August 1, 1805 in Chester County. The executed individual was a woman. The area was situated in the V where the present Route 202 and Route 3 conjuncture. For many decades an old log building stood on this hilltop, but it was torn down in 1961 when the new highway was built. This was the first and last execution to take place at this spot but it has been noted that one other hanging took place about 300 yards northeast of this spot.

The area was known as...?

2. This serpentine building was built in 1870 for use by the Principal (actually the President) of the State Normal School as his personal residence. It was located on the southwest corner of High and College Avenues, where the Philip's Memorial Building now stands. It was the scene of numerous social gatherings over the years and was simply know by this name and not its location.

It was known by all as...?

3. A West Chester street was named in honor of the man considered to be the "Father of West Chester" since it was he who was largely responsible in 1784 for locating the County Seat near Turk's Head. This street was previously known as Strasburg Road as it led to the expansive country estate of said gentleman.

The Colonel and the street named for him were...?

4. During much of the 19th Century the High Street Friends Meeting House was sometimes called by another name that was a tad shorter to pronounce.

It was quietly called by the name for a long time due to its location in the borough.

5. Hotel Hagerty was the town's name for this well-known spot.

What was the actual building used as?

6. In 1892, the town reported that a new name had been given to a portion of Barnard Street between High and Church Streets. The name was very apropos since all but one of the structures on the south side was used for manufacturing. Located there was Denny Tag Factory, a carriage factory, a machine shop, a stocking factory, and a wheelwright and blacksmith shop.

The new name for this area was known as...?

7. Dr. Edward Jackson, a Denver doctor who was born and raised in Chester County, deeded to the borough a twelve-acre parcel as a gift memorial to both his mother and father in 1926. This parcel was to be used as a no-admission public park for the residents and was finally made suitable for use in 1932.

What was the park originally known as when it opened in 1932 and what is its name today?

8. At the turn of the 19th Century some controversy raged amongst Borough Council and interested citizens over the proper name of this street. When the town said that new street signs bearing this name would be erected, many people held public talks to voice their objections. One of these was Commodore Janes M. Bull of 424 North High Street who stated that if the borough would officially reinstate the name of the street to its former name, he would provide a marble slab to be placed along the street marking the spot where this famous general reviewed the troops during his historic visit to West Chester in 1825.

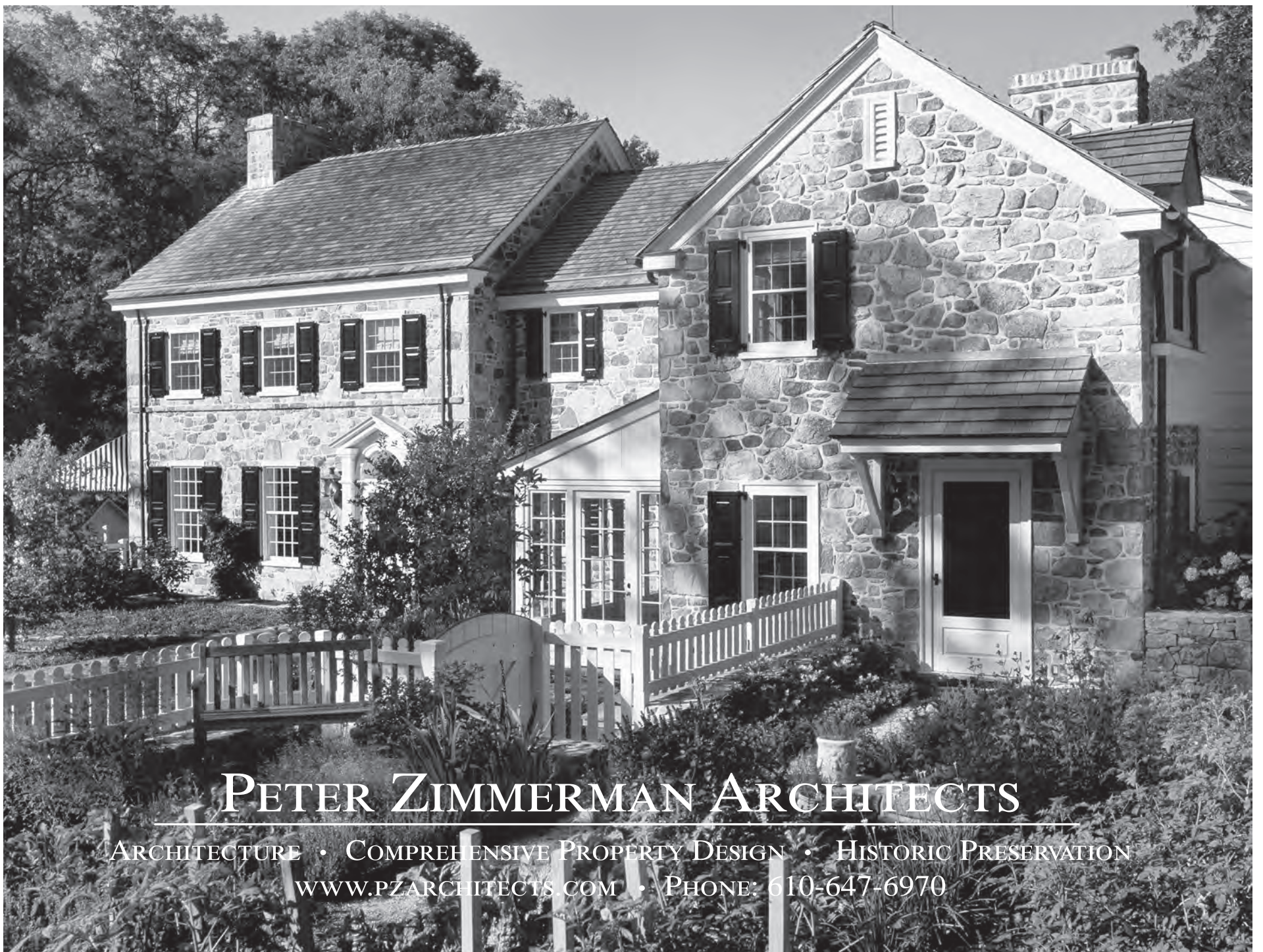
The original marble slab is still in place and the street today is known as...?

9. Once considered "the outskirts of town" this property boasts a rough piece of grey slate that served as the entrance to the main residence, which was built about 100 feet south of the resting spot stone of William Dean who died in 1742 and sold five years later to Nathan Sharples. The stone was marked by a cutter in 1984 and establishes the names of William Dean 1742 and Nathan Sharples, March 5, 1747 and can still be seen.

This stone was known as...?

10. In the late 17th and early 18th Centuries a long line of log dwellings stood along the west side of High Street from the rear of the Black Bear Inn to the present Barnard Street. The dwellings were thought to be among the first area of homes. They were not planned and built by a developer but just seemed to grow one at a time all on their own by the owners. Many of our prime movers and shakers lived here to include Philip Derrick, the printer of the town and Charles Miner. The last of these dwellings was torn down around 1900.

These dwellings were known as...?



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