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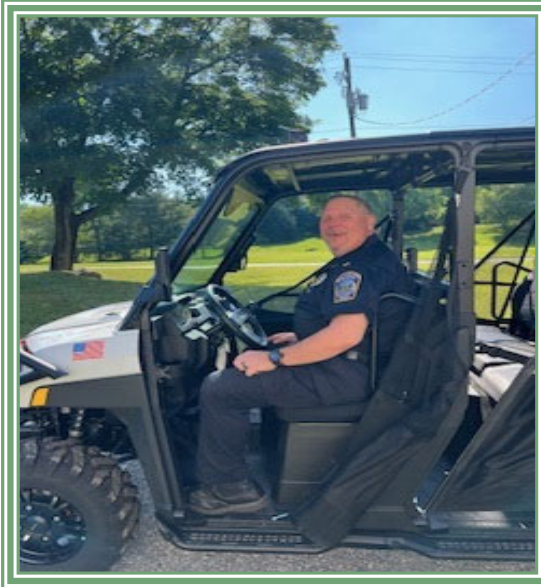
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WEST VINCENT TOWNSHIP TIMES

New Four Wheeler for the Police



*The West Vincent Township Police Department is happy to announce a new vehicle added to our fleet! This Polaris Police UTV was fully funded through a grant provided by **TC Energy** and can be utilized in many ways to assist the residents and visitors throughout our township. It is equipped with red/blue lights and a siren as well as flood lights and a winch. We will also be adding life-saving equipment in the coming days. The Polaris is intended to be used for search and rescue throughout the vast trails and wooded areas of our township, as well as for special events where larger vehicles cannot be utilized.*

*We want to send a special thank you to **TC Energy** for this generous grant which has provided us the opportunity to better serve the community with this purchase.*

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MESSAGE FROM THE ZONING OFFICER, TRACEY FRANEY

Rental Units in West Vincent

Let's talk about Rental Properties.

There are many different types of rental properties here in West Vincent and for the protection of you, the property owner, your renters, and your neighbors, there are a few rules to follow for successful rental use of your property.

When Permits are Required:

If you are building a new building for someone to live in (whether for a short-term or long-term, you are required to get a zoning permit (ex. A granny cottage).

If you are changing the use of an existing building into a livable dwelling unit, you need a zoning permit as well (ex. turning a barn or wagon shed into a granny cottage).

If you are adding an apartment style unit in the primary dwelling on the property, you need a zoning permit (ex. turning your basement into a dwelling unit with separate entrance and cooking facilities).

Long-term Rentals:

If you are renting out your primary dwelling to a renter with a six (6) month or longer lease, no permit is required, only a [renter registration form](#) is needed to be completed within 30 days of your renter moving into the house.

If you are building a rental unit where there wasn't a unit previously, you need a [zoning permit](#) and often times a [building permit](#), and then a registration after your renter moves in.

Short-term Rentals, such as Air BnB, VRBO, and other vacation rentals:

Short-term rentals require a little more preparation before you begin using your property this way. There are also two types of short-term rentals defined here in West Vincent:

Host rentals are rentals, "where the owner of the property remains on site during the entirety of the rental period," and non-host rentals are "where the owner of the property does not remain on site during the entirety of the rental period."

Turning your primary building/home or any accessory building into a short-term rental requires a zoning permit as you are changing the use of the building. Additionally, short-term rentals have limits as to the number of rental bedrooms and overnight stays based on the size of your lot and zoning district. This info can be found in the zoning ordinance, or you can call the zoning officer at the township building to help you navigate this information.

Additionally, short-term rentals need to be re-registered by January 31 of every year. This registration is free, and the form can be found [here](#).

Why are these Registrations and Permits Important?

This is the easiest question to answer: these permits and registrations are important for safety reasons, especially if the owner is not on the property in the event of an emergency. This is a fairly small township and someone on staff knows when many people spend whole seasons away from their home in West Vincent, but we don't know if first responders should be looking for someone in your home if an emergency situation arises.

Also to note is that if you are adding walls, windows, doors, plumbing fixtures, and/or electrical fixtures, you may need a building permit as well. Call into the township to ask before starting construction!

Tracey Franey , Zoning Officer

Roadworthy News from the Traffic Safety Committee

“Paul Miller’s Law” prohibiting the use of hand-held devices while driving is now in effect.

Recently, Governor Josh Shapiro signed Senate Bill 37—also called “Paul Miller’s Law” - which prohibits the use of hand-held devices while driving. Motorists can still use their phones to alert emergency responders, make phone calls, connect to GPS, and listen to music, only if they are using hands-free technology.

The law is named for Paul Miller Jr., who was tragically killed in 2010 by a distracted driver.

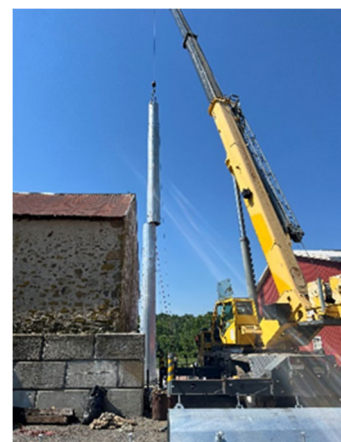
Prior, local police and state troopers could only cite distracted drivers, along with those physically holding a phone, if they had observed a separate infraction taking place. The new legislation now allows officers to immediately pull someone over if they suspect this law is being broken, with no other reason needed to substantiate the action. In 2023, distracted driving was the leading cause of car crashes in Pennsylvania with traffic deaths rising by 2.25% compared to 2022, according to PennDOT.

The Traffic Safety Committee meets on the second Thursday of every other month at 7:00PM in the township building.

A Good Reception for the Tower

In our area, two things are certain in the summer: the landscape becomes lush and beautiful and our cellphone reception declines as the leaves fill in the trees. For many, cell phone reception is already spotty. But hopefully the Township’s new cell phone tower will help a bit.

In June of 2023, Valore, LLC, gave a [public presentation](#) on putting a cellphone tower at the Township building. Not only would it help to boost connectivity for many residents, but the Township would collect a monthly fee from Valore. After much discussion, [the Board of Supervisors voted to move forward with the tower](#) in November 2023. This June saw the construction of the tower. As of this writing, the tower is assembled and the antennae are the only pieces still missing. The Township has received one monthly payment for the tower so far, and these payments can increase in size as more carriers are added.



From Heart of Gold to Silver Star: Larry Liss Receives Military Honor, Written by Christina Casey

On March 5, 2024, Vietnam War veteran, [Larry Liss](#), a longstanding resident of West Vincent Township, was awarded the Silver Star for Gallantry in Action for his heroic service. The Silver Star is the third-highest military combat decoration that can be awarded to a member of the United States Armed Forces. A captain in the United States Army, Mr. Liss was recognized for flying his UH-1 “Huey” rescue helicopter, not equipped with machine guns, into a battle six times and also left the helicopter’s cockpit two times, to engage a superior North Vietnamese Unit with his personal weapons, to save his fellow soldiers – historically known as the *Rescue at Cau Song Be* on May 14, 1967. Mr. Liss was credited as saving 85 lives under heavy fire during this rescue. Accolades of this stature represent the true extent of Mr. Liss’s giving nature. A born storyteller, he opened his personal history to us so that he could share his remarkable life with his neighbors.



Mr. Liss is first generation American, being born to Russian-Ukrainian immigrants in Philadelphia. His father was a civilian worker at the Philly Navy Yard. His mother was highly active in politics but promised to curb those activities once Larry was born in 1941. Five years after Larry was born, he was joined by his brother, Arthur. “My friends were his friends. My enemies were his enemies,” Mr. Liss said. Their early years were filled with stickball and scouting.

Around the age of 13, the family moved from Overbrook to Penn Valley where he attended Lower Merion (now Harriton) High School. Mr. Liss admitted with a slight chuckle, “I was a little ‘out there’ as a kid. I got in a lot of trouble.” At age 14, he hot-wired a new Oldsmobile and took it on a joyride. Unfortunately, when trying to take a turn, the power-steering failed, and he scraped three cars. This incident resulted in various professionals telling Mr. Liss’ parents to keep this active lad busy.

Mr. Liss was a great golfer, but even more so, “I loved to drive, so I started racing. I was 14 when I raced my first race at Vineland, NJ, and I raced 35 times over two years. I got my certificate to race on the track. I couldn’t drive on the street... I raced an Aston Martin at Watkins Glen, and I didn’t do too badly.” In fact, he raced with Aston Martin at [Bahamas Speed Week](#) in Nassau, and he shared driving responsibilities with [Stirling Moss](#).

However, thoughts of college loomed for the young man, and Mr. Liss was faced with a decision which was made easier on Mother’s Day 1958. [Pennsylvania Military College](#) (now Widener University) hosted an annual parade. “The entire Cadet Corps marched out including the calvary.” He made the decision to apply the following year and, “PMC accepted me right away. I really liked it! My first year was rough as a plebe. After that, I was a member of the Pershing Rifles, and it was a national championship drill team. Out of the hundreds of drill teams all over the country, we became number one. I became a brother of Company Q5 Pershing Rifle. And I had total liberty. Even as a sophomore, I had Senior Privileges.”



Mr. Liss soon graduated and shipped out. "I was a well-known scout, and I was always getting pulled in for different duties where they couldn't send anybody else in, so they sent me and my team." While Mr. Liss was scouting on the Czech/German border during a snowstorm, a chance encounter with helicopter pilot Randy Merritt changed his life. "This guy came in a Huey, and he put down his window. He had on short sleeves, and he was drinking a cup of coffee, and I was freezing my butt off, and he just looked at me and he said, 'You're such a jerk. Look at you! You're freezing your [bleep] off. It's snowing. It's sleeting. I'm here. I'm nice and warm. Man, you should sign up for helicopter training.' So,



helicopter pilots, so I said, "Take me!" Within four days, I was in the states going through flight school."

He received his wings as a helicopter pilot in 1966. He flew a total of 650 combat missions in 9 months, and his ground-duty consisted of being the leader of a pathfinder detachment during *Operation Junction City*.



Mr. Liss readily admits that he struggled in flight school. "I was not a good pilot for the first 300 hours, especially in Vietnam. I was dangerous. I just couldn't get it all together. And then one day something happened where I did, and it was just the opposite. Now rather than ME riding along in a helicopter, IT was riding along with ME. It was going where I wanted it to go. And I just went up to a whole different level. And from then on in, I was known as a Top Gun Helicopter Pilot and Instructor."

Danger was around every corner. "My claim to fame as a helicopter pilot was I got shot down five times... three times in one 24-hour period." But Mr. Liss continued to stay, even though his hours and missions would have allowed him to take a desk job in Operations. "I stayed because I could accomplish the missions. The helicopter is not going to kill me, and the odds of [the enemy] getting me and shooting me were pretty slim. I had a white helmet with the Star of David on the back in blue tape while everyone else was in green ballistic helmets which gave me headaches. So, I joked they couldn't hit a white helmet... they would miss. I always say it worked... except once." On that occasion, a round came through the window, denting his forehead and blowing the helmet off his head. Mr. Liss was able to land his helicopter at Cu Chi Base Camp before passing out from his head wound. "The only thing I remember was I was on a dolly, and the nurse looking down at me said something like, 'Oh my god!' All I can remember is that I threw up and don't remember anything after that."

But when it comes to recounting the *Rescue at Cau Song Be*, which led to his Silver Star, Mr. Liss becomes quiet and introspective. A piece of the nomination process required eye-witness testimony, and Mr. Liss' co-pilot, Tom Baca, provided this item. However, having earned his Silver Star, Mr. Liss is now hoping it opens the door to nominating other soldiers, and he has already initiated the conversation with a number of congressional personnel. He is also hoping to bring awareness to the few Jewish soldiers who have received honors for service in combat.

In addition to the Silver Star, some of Mr. Liss' awards include 25 Air Medals, one for valor, 3 Purple Hearts, the Bronze Star, the Valorous Unit Award for Extraordinary Heroism, the National Defense Service Medal, the Meritorious Unit Commendation, Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnamese Campaign Medal and the Distinguished Flying Cross for Valor. He was also awarded the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry for valor twice and received the Armor Officer's Order of St. George Medallion in December of 2017. "The 4-star general that gave me the award [Silver Star] was really an amazing guy. He whispered in my ear as he tried to pin the Silver Star on me, 'How can someone with so little time have so many medals?' I said, 'I was very busy.'"

After completing his military service in 1970, Mr. Liss returned home with extra cargo: his wife and daughter, Stacey. "Stacey was born in Germany in 1965. Her mother was an American-born Czechoslovakian. We were together for 20 years... but Stacey... she is this gorgeous smart

VIETNAM HELICOPTER WAR STATISTICS	
***** 1961 - 1975 *****	
HELICOPTERS SENT	11,827
HELICOPTERS DESTROYED ...	5,086
HELICOPTER PILOTS SENT	40,000
HELICOPTER PILOTS KILLED .	2,202
NON-PILOT CREW KILLED	2,704
HUEY HELICOPTERS SENT	7,013
HUEYs DESTROYED	3,305
HUEY PILOTS KILLED	1,074
OTHER HUEY CREW KILLED ...	1,103
TOTAL HUEY HOURS FLOWN	7,531,955
(1966 - 1975)	

woman. We're connected. She learned a lot by being with me. It probably got her inhibited in some areas and gave her power in others." When pointing out his wide range of experiences, he chuckles at the reference his daughter made when she got older, "My daughter calls me Forrest Gump with a slightly higher IQ."



Capt. Larry Liss receives the Distinguished Flying Cross in July, 1967, in Vietnam. He flew more than 650 combat missions.

Mr. Liss also speaks with awe about West Vincent Township. During his many trips to the Valley Forge VA Hospital after his return from Vietnam, Mr. Liss would find himself with a few hours between appointments. "I would drive around. One day, I wound up on Route 23 and made a left turn and came through the [Sheeder-Hall] covered bridge... and parked in front of the [Birchrunville] General Store. And there was a John Deere tractor, and there was a Jag that I later found out was Hy Mayerson's, and there was some guy sitting around

this pot belly stove smoking cigarettes and talking, and I walked into the post office [which] had AnnaMae... AnnaMae asked, 'Did you come through the covered bridge?' I said, 'Yes! Why?' She said, 'Well, you're never going to leave.' She was right. One week later I rented a house from Helen Wade Parke on Hollow Road."

And years later, Mr. Liss found a log cabin tucked into the woods off Jaine Lane for sale. "It was built in '78 and I got there in '80. I drove down the driveway, I said, 'This is it! I'm gonna get it!' Something said, 'Do not let this go...'" And he softly states, "I wouldn't want to leave here."

It is this same conviction that led Mr. Liss to start Flightways Corporation, a regional air carrier. "I started an aviation company with \$1,200 bucks in my pocket, and it basically got bought out by FedEx [in 1975]... and then I started a company called Diversified Environmental which was rigging buildings to save energy. It was so easy to sell them because people were really freaking out when it came to their energy bills. This was in the late-70s, early-80s. And it got very big." After selling his interest in this company, Mr. Liss then became a global leadership consultant with Gap International. Wade Parke on Hollow Road."

However, one constant over these years was his role as a speaker and executive consultant, hosting seminars designed to create breakthrough thinking for senior corporate executives and managers of Fortune 1000 companies. And it was at one of these seminars in 1982 that his whole life changed. "I'm up on the stage looking around. The last people were coming in and the doors were about to close, and this really tall GORGEOUS woman - she was 6'1" AND in heels - squeezed through the doors and was standing there looking around. And I was SMITTEN. It was more than [love at first sight], boy... I think that whole room of 350 participants saw it because people were turning around." But as quickly as she entered, she was gone. So, Mr. Liss did the only thing that he could.



Larry and his wife Celeste McQuade

So, Mr. Liss did the only thing that he could.

"I called a break... fast, like within 15 minutes... and you usually don't call a break until an hour. And I scooted out the back door looking for her because she was gone. So, I'm running down the hall and I made the turn and I bump right into her... I jumped up trying to recover myself, and I looked up at her. I said, 'I've been looking for you my whole life.' And in my head, I was like, 'Oh shut up you fool! This gorgeous thing and you say that stupid line!'" The beautiful woman was named Celeste, and she told him to go back and lead his seminar; she would wait for him. And she did. Mr. Liss happily shares, "By 1990, we were married and living in what Celeste calls 'the little log cabin up a dirt road' in Birchrunville... The thing with Celeste and I is we have not MOVED from each other for the last 15 years. And since the pandemic, we're never not together... I love it. [She's my] best friend."

With 83 years of successes and failures scattered through Mr. Liss' life, the free-flowing conversation stops as he's asked how he wants to be remembered. After an extended silence and with tears welling in his eyes, He references a scene from the movie *Saving Private Ryan* at the gravesite where Ryan says to his wife, "Tell me I've led a good life. Tell me I'm a good man." With Mr. Liss' voice barely above a whisper, he says, "That I cared, and I helped people. That's really the bottom line."



POST NOTE: If you are interested in learning more about Mr. Liss' contributions during Vietnam, the BBC produced an award-winning four-part series entitled "Helicopter Warfare." You can watch Mr. Liss' episode called "Vietnam Firefight" at the link found [HERE](#).


SUSTAINABLE SATURDAY

LAWN CONVERSION AND RAIN GARDENS

The West Pikeland Township Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) will be presenting the third part of our Sustainability Saturday series on July 20th beginning at 10:30 am.

This two-part program will focus on lawn conversion and rain gardens. It will begin with a brief presentation at the Chester Spring Library and will proceed to two member's homes 5 minutes away to show residents how these elements work in their gardens.

<i>Rain Gardens</i>	<i>Locations:</i>	<i>Lawn Conversion</i>
Capturing rainwater from your home's downspouts creates a beautiful garden opportunity that also improves water quality and reduces stormwater runoff. Native plants used in a rain garden will also tolerate dry spells. Learn how and where to place a rain garden in your yard during the site visit.	10:30: Chester Springs Library 1709 Art School Rd, Chester Springs 11:00: 924 Meadow Creek Rd, Chester Springs 12:00: 839 Byers Rd, Chester Springs	Watering and mowing have made grass lawns one of America's most expensive, labor intensive and environmentally devastating crops. At this program you will learn about alternatives to lawns such as: native species pollinator gardens, low mow or no mow lawns, meadows, vegetable gardens, and managed "let it go" areas.



2024 Litter Lifters of West Vincent - 2nd Quarter Recap

The Litter Lifters of West Vincent Township is an all-volunteer group who care about preserving the beauty of our land. We keep the roads in our Township and Northern Chester County, and activate residents to pick-up litter in their own free time.

If you would like to volunteer email Litterliftersofwestvincent@gmail.com

We primarily focus on the PA state roads such as Rt. 100, Rt. 401 , Saint Matthews Road, and Pughtown Road.

On April 6th, in coordination with Green Valleys Watershed Association, LLWV coordinated a clean-up event on Rt. 100 from Prizer Road to Route 23. This is GVWA's Adopt-A-Highway section. 18 volunteers picked up 70 bags of litter. We were kept safe by the PA State Police.

On April 27th, LLWV did our Adopt-A-Highway section of Rt. 100—between Horseshoe Trail and Blackhorse Road. 25 volunteers picked up 80 bags of litter, assisted by WVPD for safety. Owen J. Roberts High School students have been consistently helping us at litter clean-ups. The students are from clubs, such as Leo, NHS, Enviro, and Anchor.

On May 1st, a few LLWV members met with Glenn Wenger from the West Pikeland EAC to pick up litter on Rt. 401 between Dewees and Messner Rds. It's a road we all travel. Five volunteers picked up 15 bags of litter. On May 3rd, Chester County Conservation District and Chester County Water Resource Authority held the 2024 Watershed Roundtable event which included Beth Intoccia as a guest on a panel about "litter clean up best practices". At the May 22nd West Vincent Elementary School Earth Day event, LLWV volunteers Traci Frederick, her daughter Blair, Ann Dyer and Beth Intoccia presented education outreach "Open Your Eyes to Litter" to 580 students who received content on protection of our environment. We covered the three R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, had a teacher wear a litter bug mascot costume, and explained the harm that balloons, aluminum cans, and fishing line do to our horses, cows, and wildlife.

On June 4th, Beth Intoccia was a guest speaker with Green Valleys Watershed Association for Pennsylvania Master Naturalist Organization. (<https://pamasternaturalist.org>)

If you want to clean up a road and need trash bags, safety vests, or gloves, please contact us. We'll be happy to help!

Litterliftersofwestvincent@gmail.com

2024 Sustainability Committee of West Vincent

A Shredding and Battery Drop-Off Event was held May 4th. Over 2,000 pounds of documents and 200 pounds of batteries were collected and diverted from our landfill. Thank you!

The township and committee have held multiple public discussions on an ordinance to ban some single-use plastic products used by our retailers. All feedback was incorporated into a final proposed ordinance. A final vote on passage of the ordinance may be held at the July 15, 2024 Board of Supervisors Meeting.

The Clean Energy Transition Team (CETT) is now part of Sustainability, which will enhance our suite of sustainability programs and increase our outreach efforts. The CETT has delivered clean energy transition plans for the community and municipal operations. It has worked with residents, businesses and held many public events thus far; CETT continues to apply for grants to benefit our community. Residents, schools, places of worship, institutions and businesses are already benefitting from federal and state funding, rebates, and tax incentives to save long-term energy costs while also reducing the harmful emission of greenhouse gases.

Please contact us if you have any questions or needs.



MEETING SCHEDULES

**ALL MEETINGS BEGIN
AT 7:00 PM**

**Board of Supervisors:
Workshop (As Needed):
1st Monday of each month**

**Regular Meeting:
3rd Monday of each month**

**Environmental Advisory Council:
1st Thursday of each month**

**Open Space Advisory Board:
4th Tuesday of each month**

**Historical Commission:
2nd Wednesday of each month**

**Historic Resources Committee:
1st Tuesday of each month**

**Human Relations Commission:
4th Monday of each month**

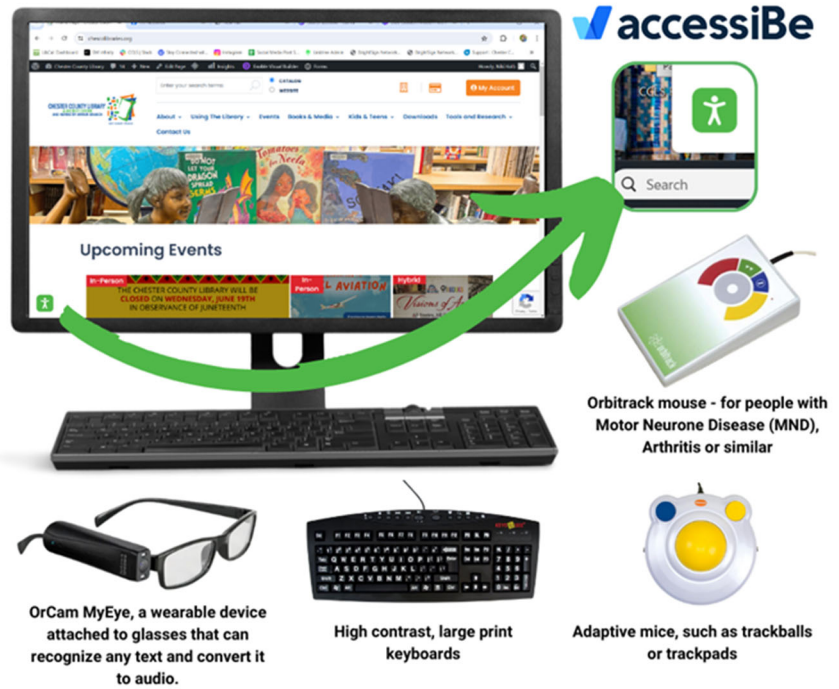
**Parks & Recreation Commission:
1st Wednesday of each month**

**Sustainability Committee:
3rd Wednesday of each month**

**Planning Commission:
3rd Thursday of each month**

**Traffic Safety Ad Hoc Committee:
2nd Thursday of alternate months**

**Zoning Hearing Board
Meets as needed**



Highlighted Service of the Month: Assistive Technology at the Libraries

About 2.3 percent of the U.S. population needs some form of assistive technology to fully access the web. Did you know our website offers accessibility accommodations for the blind and visually impaired, the motor disabled, those with developmental delays, the elderly, and patients with epilepsy?

AccessiBe is a web platform that aims at creating an inclusive web experience for people with disabilities. It leverages artificial intelligence to comprehensively scan websites and automatically makes changes to the site's code and content to make them compliant with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG). To access this service, visit our website at www.chescolibraries.org and click on the little green figure at the bottom left-hand side of the landing page. This will then open up a box that will allow you to choose your accessibility options.

Also, check out the Assistive Technology available inside the Chester County Library! Located in the Jacobs Technology Center and Reference Department, you'll find the following items that can be used inside the library:

- OrCam MyEye, is a wearable device attached to glasses that can recognize any text and convert it to audio.
- High contrast, large print keyboards
- Keyboard guard
- Adaptive mice, such as trackballs or trackpads
- Touchscreen computer monitors
- Video magnifier
- Braille

Some of these devices are freely available at designated computer stations, while others may need to be signed out with a photo ID. Please ask the Jacobs Technology Center or Reference staff for assistance. Funding for this technology was provided courtesy of the West Goshen Lions Club, West Chester Lions Club, the Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation, and the Friends of the Chester County Library.

Highlighted Service of the Month: Assistive Technology at the Libraries Continued:

The 5- top checked-out titles for [May 2024](#) were:

[The Women](#) by Kristin Hannah

[Funny Story](#) by Emily Henry

[The Truth About the Devlins](#) by Lisa Scottoline

[Lessons in Chemistry](#) by Bonnie Garmus

[Guinness World Records 2024](#)

Some Program Highlights for July 2024

Wednesday, July 10, 6-7 pm: Bollywood Adventure: Community Bollywood Dance Project (*In-person at Chester County Library*) Children in grades PreK - 5 and their families are invited to join this fully interactive and inclusive Bollywood dance experience. The Community Bollywood Dance Project gets kids and adults out of their comfort zones, in a safe space, and dancing! An adult must remain with a registered child during the program. Register [here](#).

Tuesday, July 16, 1:30 – 2:30 pm: Teens: Candy Sushi (*In-Person at Henrietta Hankin Branch*) In this program, you will make your own sushi (using candy!), learn how to use chopsticks and have the chance to play Sushi Go!, a fast-paced card game. This program is for kids entering grades 6-12. Register [here](#).

Thursday, July 18, 5-7:30 pm: Board Game Night (*In-Person at Henrietta Hankin Branch*) Join us in the Reference Department to play old favorites or learn something new. Bring a group or come alone and make new friends. Games are appropriate for ages 7 and up, so families are welcome. Come by each week for a rotating selection of board and card games. No previous knowledge of the games or registration required.

Thursday, July 18, 6-7 pm: Fact or Fiction? News Literacy in the Age of Social Media (*In-Person at Chester County Library*) Sharpen your news literacy skills and learn how you can leverage library resources to inform your world with Rebecca Manuel, our Information Literacy Librarian, and Jamie Claxton, our Periodicals Librarian. Register [here](#).

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER



What a glorious Summer we are having. Be sure to visit our parks and trails this summer. Looking ahead, Jaine Lane road paving will be completed in the very near future. The Fellowship Trail plans will go back out for bid in late summer or early fall. We are waiting for the Opalanie Park Plans to be reviewed by the grant funding agencies and we hope to get that project out for bid early next year.



**LUDWIG'S CORNER HORSESHOW
ASSOCIATION PRESENTS:**

**LUDWIG'S
CORNER
CARNIVAL
JULY 9-13 2024**

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

WWW.LUDWIGSHORSESHOW.COM

Back In The Day... with Isabelle Travaglini

SPOTLIGHT ON: THE JOHN COINE FAMILY

John Coine's family has lived in this area for a long time. This 1927 charcoal drawing by Chester Springs illustrator James M. Clement for the Saturday Evening Post, shows John's grandmother inside what is now the Butterscotch Café. At that time, it was the Dewees Steam Bakery. The woman on the right is believed to be Mary Dewees.



"Going Home to Bally Shannon" was the short story being illustrated. In fact, Coine's grandmother, Jane Ann Coine, was from Ireland. The woman in the center was Helen Hypeleous of Phoenixville.

In the 1920's and 30's, many of our older houses were purchased by "city folk"; some notable names turn up on chains of title. They were used as summer places or weekend retreats.

The Historic Resources Committee has very few photographs, drawing, letters, diaries, account books or other memorabilia of the houses, barns, businesses and especially people in West Vincent. BUT I BELIEVE THEY ARE OUT THERE!

Please consider digging these out and sharing them with us. Contact us through West Vincent Township's office to set up a time to show us your "archives" and memories.



Used Bicycle & Sewing Machine Collection

SPONSORED BY CHESTER CO. SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY

SUNDAY OCT. 20TH 12PM-3PM

We're collecting adult & kids' bikes and sewing machines to send to Togo, Tanzania, Belize, Guatemala and Albania. Help us put unused bikes and sewing machines to good use in the developing world.

**WEST GOSHEN MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
1025 PAOLI PIKE (ENTRANCE ON FIVE POINTS RD)
WEST GOSHEN, PA 19380**

A donation of \$20 per item is requested to help offset shipping costs overseas.

All material and monetary donations are tax deductible and a receipt will be provided on site.

Bikes should be rust free. No children's trikes, but bikes with flat tires in need of some repair are accepted. Portable sewing machines should be in working condition.

For more info contact:

Patti: 484-796-4039

To read more about our cause visit:

P4P.org



**West Vincent Tours Native Gardens:
Mount Cuba - the Longwood Gardens of Native Plants
& Stoneleigh - the Natural Garden of Natural Lands**

On a gorgeous morning in early June, a group of West Vincent neighbors met at the Mount Cuba Center in Hockessin, Delaware. There we were met by a distinguished gentleman, Alan, who led us on a 2 hour tour of the estate gardens - widely considered to be the preeminent showcase of ecological gardening in the mid-Atlantic. Alan was a font of knowledge - not only of native plants and Piedmont ecosystems, but also of the complicated, sometimes dark history of the DuPont family. We learned that Mount Cuba was chosen to be the homesite of Pamela Cunningham Copeland because of its high hill and sweeping vistas. Pamela Copeland married Lamont du Pont Copeland - President of DuPont and nephew of Pierre du Pont of Longwood fame - in 1930. They broke ground on their Georgian mansion in 1935 and christened it Mount Cuba - the name of the historic village surrounding the estate.

Although trained as a vocalist at Juilliard, Pamela Copeland is best known today as a horticulturist and pioneer in native plant gardening. She was determined to use her immense wealth in service of the environment and proper stewardship of our natural resources. Long before Doug Tallamy published "Nature's Best Hope" and launched the "Homegrown National Park" movement, she planted native wildflower meadows and showcased native trees and shrubs in both grand and humble settings. Her long term intent was to turn the estate over to a public trust to ensure its preservation and offer environmental education and inspiration to future generations.

Pamela Copeland died in 2001 and established a trust for the preservation of Mt Cuba, environmental education, and open space



preservation. Today Mt Cuba comprises over a thousand acres of formal gardens, woodland gardens, naturalized gardens, and trial gardens - where various species of native plants are evaluated to prioritize their ecological benefit and suitability to home landscaping. Mt Cuba opened to the public in 2013 from April to November and offers many educational programs in ecological gardening and conservation. Because the Mt Cuba trust is so rich and the estate itself is relatively inexpensive to manage, additional funds have been used to preserve over 15,000 acres of open space in the mid-Atlantic region.

If you have ever doubted that native plants can't also be beautiful additions to home landscapes, you must visit Mt Cuba! <https://mtcubacenter.org/>

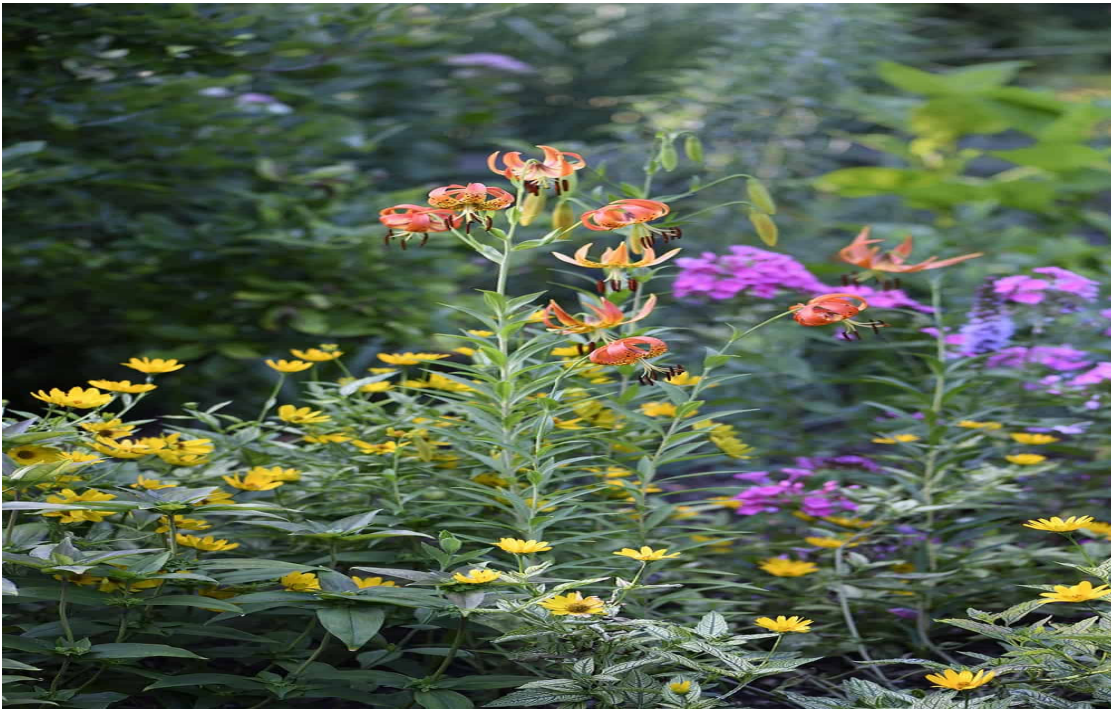
In response to high interest, the West Vincent Township EAC will be sponsoring *another* native garden tour on **Saturday, August 17, 10:30 AM to Noon at Stoneleigh: A Natural Garden**. Cost is **\$15/person** and can be paid directly to Stoneleigh on the morning of the tour. (There is a \$150 minimum, so if less than 10 people attend, the cost will be adjusted accordingly.) **RSVP to EAC@westvincenttp.org**. Carpooling is encouraged. Please indicate in your RSVP if you're interested in carpooling. Otherwise, meet at 10:15 AM at the main entrance - **1829 County Line Rd, Villanova PA 19085**.

Stoneleigh, the public garden of Natural Lands, is one of the non-profit conservation organization's most accessible and popular properties. The garden offers inspiring displays of native plants and regional ecology in a magnificent former Main Line estate. Stoneleigh was generously donated by the Haas family to Natural Lands in 2016 to magnify the reach of Natural Lands in its mission to save open space, care for nature, and connect people to the outdoors and each other. It comprises 42 acres of open vistas, towering old growth trees, native plant displays, and some exquisite hardscape elements. There is over a mile of porous paved pathway and numerous bluestone pathways which are accessible to people of various abilities, including those with wheelchairs, walkers, and strollers. Our tour will cover all of the core areas, including a first floor tour of the mansion as well as a peak at the resident organ.

In the 7 years since Stoneleigh was acquired by Natural Lands, its grounds were gradually transformed to showcase native flora, educate the public about the importance of native ecosystems, and inspire the public to transform their own relationship with the land around them. From Stoneleigh's website: "Biodiversity and the complex interplay of living things are essential to human life, directly impacting our well-being, food supply, and air and water. We all have a vital role to play in the health of our planet, starting with how we manage our own gardens and community spaces." <https://stoneleighgarden.org/garden/home>



WVT residents on tour with Alan



Here are some other upcoming opportunities sponsored by the West Vincent Township Environmental Advisory Council. Email EAC@westvincentwp.org for more information.

* June 22, 10:00 AM – **Wild Tree Care** – Weatherstone Trail – rain date June 23

* September 9, 7:00 - 8:30 PM – **Nature Book Club - "Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teaching of Plants" by Robin Wall Kimmerer** – at the West Vincent Township Building

* Another **Foraging Walk and Talk** at Opalanie Park is also being planned for the Fall. Date TBD.

Carys Egan

"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." ~ Sir Winston Churchill

Why Does WVT Require Driveway Permits? by Tracey Franey, Zoning Officer

West Vincent adopted a new driveway ordinance in October of 2022. The need for this new ordinance came about when township officials were seeing a growing number of driveways being resurfaced as a matter of regular maintenance but being done in incorrect ways.

Driveways need to have proper drainage. Good drainage directs water way from buildings to a suitable drainage area, such as water permeable ground or a municipal sewer system. A driveway with good drainage consists of appropriate slopes and various drains to manage the water and prevent pooling and flooding... not only to YOUR property but to your neighbor's property , as well.

Improper drainage can cause many issues such as: erosion when water is not given a specific path to follow; cracks and potholes in the driveway and roads leading to shorter lifespans of those items; higher risk of flooding if water is directed incorrectly; standing water which can be a breeding ground for bugs

In West Vincent, our stormwater management is done largely by groundwater filtration, which means the water coming out of your well was originally rainwater which has been infiltrated into the ground and has collected in your well for you and your family to drink, bathe, cook, and clean with. Ideally, all rainwater will be infiltrated into and filtered by the earth before we drink it. The main collection system for rainwater on or near our roads is our townwide gutter and swale system. A swale is a shallow channel with gently sloping sides.

All driveways are required to either be graded so that rainwater falls into the swale along the road or if the property owner prefers or it is found to be necessary by the township engineer, a pipe may be placed under a driveway in order to convey water from one roadside swale to the other.

Because our water and waterways are so important, it is imperative that driveways be graded properly. The Township considers all new-builds and their impact to stormwater. However, when residents decide to "spruce up" their driveways, small changes can lead to big impacts to the stormwater paths. Please remember that all plans for new driveways or driveway modifications (including repaving) need this permit going forward. When your stormwater runs off your property, you need to consider where and how it is traveling.



DONATE BLOOD. HELP SAVE LIVES.

Blood Drive
West Vincent Township

Township Building - Meeting Room
729 Saint Matthew Rd.
Chester Springs, PA 19425

Tuesday, July 9, 2024
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: West Vincent Township to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.

If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation. Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Get a NEW Red Cross umbrella when you come to give blood July 1 to July 14, while supplies last!

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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