**2017**MAY/JUN

# Chamber Chamber Chatter

THE MEMBER NEWS & INFORMATION RESOURCE















PROVIDING LEADERSHIP AND OPPORTUNITY FOR BUSINESS







## **WEST CHESTER**

**Auto and Truck Service is BETTER at Fred Beans Ford Lincoln of West Chester!** 

## Oil Change Special



Synthetic & diesel customers receive \$18 off

Good only at Fred Beans Ford Lincoln of West Chester. Up to 5 quarts of conventional oil. Must present coupon at time of write-up. 1 coupon per vehicle per visit. Not valid with any other discounts, specials, offers or prior purchases. Tax not included. Expires 12/31/2017. Code: CC3-17B



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Fred Beans

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# From the **PRESIDENT**

#### Dear Readers,

At The Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce we are devoted to serving the businesses, entrepreneurs and consumers in our thriving local communities. I could not be more excited for the opportunity to bring the news and matters of the Chamber to the readers of the Daily Local News.

Connecting our members to the community is one of the chief tenets of our non-profit organization. The nearly 700 Chamber members span ment. In order to support this mission, from retailers to restaurants, artists to lawyers, and just about everything in between. They are at the heart of our robust local economies.

The Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce recognizes that a thriving business community is an integral part of the outstanding quality of life in the Greater West Chester Region. Due to that GWCC advocates for the following principles - Improved Tax Structure & Local Economic Vitality; Improved Infrastructure, including Transit; Training, Education & Workforce Develop-



the Chamber has made it a priority to educate both the full Chamber Membership as well as the Legislative Delegation of issues of importance.

Professional development and networking opportunities provided by the Chamber include panel and roundtable discussions, business card exchanges, open houses and networking luncheons. This September we'll once again bring the worldclass training course Disney Institute to Chester County, providing attendees with invaluable techniques and strategies for business development

and optimization.

As community members ourselves, it's our great joy at the Chamber to produce the annual QVC West Chester Christmas Parade and Benchmark Twilight Cycling Classic, hallmark Chester County events for which we draw on the support of scores of local businesses and volunteers, as well as tens of thousands of community

Other upcoming Chamber events include the Gallery Walk, 10 Grand Club offering a chance to win \$10,000 and Quest for the Chamber Cup Golfing Outing, all scheduled for this May. For more information on our many programs and events, please visit us at GreaterWestChester.com.

We're thrilled to now partner with the Daily Local in sharing with you, our community, the many exciting happenings of the Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely,

Mark Yoder President Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce



#### CHAMBER STAFF

Mark Yoder, President Dave Fairman, Director of Membership Bethany Kopp, Event & Program Manager Jeff Zajac, Marketing & Communications Manager

#### CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce, 119 North High Street, West Chester, PA 19380 tel 610.696.4046 | fax 610.696.9110 | www.GreaterWestChester.com



# **READY. SET. GROW.**

No matter how your small business defines growth, chances are, we have a solution to make it happen.

Fulton Bank offers you the resources to help your business grow - whether you need to expand, renovate, or acquire. Plus, we are a Preferred Lender for the Small Business Administration (SBA). The Fulton Bank advantage means you get the products and services of a large bank along with the dedicated, one-to-one personal service of a community bank.

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# **Health Care for the 21st Century:**

# A New Way to Purchase Coverage

UnitedHealthcare and the Chamber's My Benefit Advisor program are working together to bring small business owners a simpler, new way to purchase health coverage

# MYBENEFIT ADVISOR

for their employees. Buying health coverage hasn't been easy in the past but this online tool guides you through a simple 3-step process.

Step 1: Choose Multiple Plan Options - Offer Up to 25 Different Health

Step 2: Set Contribution Rates - Control Your Costs as an Employer

Step 3: Employees Choose the Plan that is Right for Them

This online tool was designed to be easy-to-use and allows employers to shop and buy health coverage at their convenience. My Benefit Advisor experts are always available to answer any questions or help guide employers through the process.

You can learn more about this new offering by visiting gwcc.mybenefitadvisor.com/shop.html or contact Jim Pitts at (610) 537-1377.



#### **ADVERTISING RATES & SPECIFICATIONS**

## Advertise in the **Membership Directory**



#### Reach over 12,000 homes in the greater West Chester area.

Back Cover – Full Page Color Ad	4.75"(w) x 7.5"(h)	\$1995
Inside Cover – Full Page Color Ad	4.75"(w) x 7.5"(h)	\$1495
Full Page Color Ad	4.75"(w) x 7.5"(h)	\$895
Half Page Color Ad	4.75"(w) x 3.75"(h)	\$495
Quarter Page Horizontal Color Ad	4.75"(w) x 1.85"(h)	\$295
Quarter Page Vertical Color Ad	2.312"(w) x 3.75"(h)	\$295

Make your directory listing to stand out! Highlight your directory listing and

add a tagline for \$100



Contact the Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce 610-696-4046 | info@gwcc.org | GreaterWestChester.com

Deadline: June 15

Chamber member businesses receives a complimentary listing in the directory plus the opportunity to advertise. Rates listed above include the Membership Directory print edition (circulation 12,000+)

West Chester Borough | East Goshen | West Goshen | Birmingham | Thornbury | Westtown | East Bradford

AUTO REPAIR

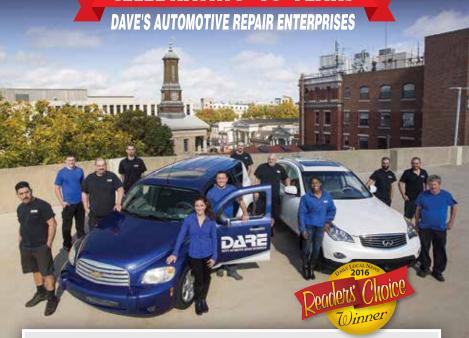
AUTO BODY

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Dave's Automotive Repair has served the West Chester, PA area with a commitment to service and value for over 40 years.

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**JONATHAN'S** 

**EST 1999** 



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610-696-7153 www.DareAuto.com

301 S. Bolmar Street, West Chester, PA 19382 8:30-5:00 Monday-Friday | 8:30-4:00 Saturday

# Chamber **ADVOCACY**

# No Budget Impasse vs New Revenue

wealth's June 30th fiscal year deadline — one from Governor Wolf and one authored and passed by House Republicans that is now in the State Senate awaiting revision. All indicaand Governor are working diligently to avoid another prolonged impasse and these separate budgets proposals will be central to negotiations and discussions on a host of other items such as further liquor privatization, increased education funding, pension reform and expanded gaming.

In fact, the House and Senate Republican majorities have already started to introduce and position lice services and increasing the Min- maintenance and repair and busilegislative vehicles on some of the imum Wage. The aforementioned ness storage.

der consideration for the Common- gotiations. The Senate Republicans get negotiations. are planning a pension reform measure. House Republicans have been moving at least two liquor privatization bills, HB438 and HB991 that would potentially include come revtions are the Legislative Leadership enue. HB 438 allows hotels and restaurants to sell up to 4 bottles of alcohols, and HB 991 expands the pansion to the Sales Tax, a 6.5% sevamount of retail stores allowed to sell wine and spirits to 2000. There are also several proposals to expand gaming in the Commonwealth; namely legalizing video game terminals, sports wagering and internet gambling. Other revenue streams up for negotiation include the Governor's plan to charge for State Popared food sold to airlines, aircraft

Two budget proposals are now un- above items in advance of budget ne- bills could all be part of final bud-

However, it is unclear if legislative leadership will also agree to a tax increase, nevertheless have the votes in their respective caucuses to fully pass one. If so revenue possibilities include an increase to the Personal Income Tax, an increase and/or exerance tax on natural gas extracts, changes to Corporate Net Income (CNI) Tax rate, expansion of the insurance premiums tax to most previously exempt insurance entities, and elimination of exemptions in the sales and use tax for specialty software and computer services, pre-

### **Letter Sent to the West Chester Borough Council and the Mayor:**

West Chester Borough 401 East Gay Street West Chester, PA 19380

Dear XXXX:

As the main voice of our business community, the Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce and our members are committed to the economic vitality and quality of life in West Chester and the surrounding region.

Because of this, the Chamber is contacting you in support of the development of high-quality lodging in the West Chester Borough, as well as the sur-

LETTER » PAGE 14



# West Chester's Jeweler

Sandra Riper, owner, **Graduate Gemologist GWCCC** Past Board Chair

since 1983

Greater West Chester Chamber members receive special discount

Sunset Hill Jewelers & Fine Arts Gallery



23 North High Street West Chester, PA www.SunsetHilllewelers.com

610-692-0374



# The Chamber Welcomes **NEW MEMBERS**

#### 51 Taps & Spirit

www.51westchester.com Restaurant/Cafe

#### **AlottaJava®**

www.AlottaJava.com Gifts & Gift Cards

#### Avanté Salon & Spa - West Chester

www.avantesalon.com Beauty Services

#### **DetailXPerts**

www.DetailXPerts.net/ChesterCountyPA **Automotive Services** 

#### **Great Valley Industries, Inc**

www.greatvalleyind.com Wholesale Distributors

#### Green Construction Company, LLC.

Greenconstructioncompanyllc.com General Contractor/Custom Builder

#### JDog Junk Removal & Hauling

Jdog.com Refuse Removal

#### **Letterhead Comics**

www.letterheadcomics.com Books

#### Local Yoga Cafe

www.LocalYogaCafe.com Restaurant/Cafe

#### Mariposa Teams, LLC

mariposateams.com Coaching: Business & Personal

#### Miles Financial Management, Inc.

www.MilesFinancialMgt.com Accountants

#### **Monkey Fish Toys**

www.monkeyfishtoys.com Retail

#### **PNC Bank**

www.pncbank.com Banking/Saving/Loans

#### **Practical Energy Solutions**

www.practicalenergy.net Consultant

#### Purple Picnic People/Cricket Catering & Special Events

cricketcatering.com Caterers

#### Resident Theatre Company (RTC)

www.rtcwc.org Entertainment

#### Semper Payments

www.semperpay.com **Business Services** 

#### **Sunrise of Westtown**

sunrisewesttown.com **Retirement Communities** 

#### **Time Machine Tours**

letsbuildatimemachine.com Marketing/Public Relations

#### **Union Community Bank**

www.unioncommunitybank.com Banking/Saving/Loans

#### West Chester Rugby Football Club

WestChesterRugby.org Not-For-Profit Organization

#### **Chamber Membership ANNIVERSARIES**

Please help us congratulate these businesses celebrating milestone anniversaries who renewed their membership with the Greater West Chester Chamber in February and March 2017.

#### 35 Years

Tolsdorf Oil Lube Express West Chester Area YMCA

#### 30 Years

Whirlaway Travel, Ltd.

#### 25 Years

Model Specialties Co. Lorgus Flower Shop

#### 20 Years

USI Affinity Insurance American Window Treatment, Inc. Harley-Davidson of Chester Springs Buckley, Brion, McGuire, & Morris LLP

Diane Matthews School of Dance Arts Brandywine Valley Heating & A/C Faunbrook Bed & Breakfast

#### 10 Years

West Chester Computer Doctors

#### 5 Years

Yori's Church Street Bakery

#### Join us on May 12 with colleagues and friends to enjoy the Chamber's most exciting social event of the year!















Friday, May 12, 2017 | 7:00pm - 10:00pm

The American Helicopter Museum

\$200 (to play), \$75 guest ticket

New Venue, New Food, Another Year of Chances...

Your \$200 ticket includes:

## 1 in 200 chance to win \$10,000

PLUS Dinner & Drinks provided by John Serock Catering!

#### Even Losers are Winners...

- 1 in 3 tickets wins BIG prizes
- All losers are immediately entered into a "Second Chance" prize drawing!
- You don't need to attend to win!

For details, call 610-696-4046 or visit



Benefits the Chamber's Education Foundation Scholarship Program



The Kit Anstey Real Estate Team

www.AnsteyTeam.com

Thank you! 3 Consecutive Years!









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### MANAGING PESKY MOSQUITOES IN YOUR COMMUNITY TO HELP REDUCE THE SPREAD OF DISEASE By Gavin Ferris

Mosquitoes pose a significant risk to public health, as they carry and transmit dangerous diseases like Zika and West Nile Virus, Preventing the transmission of mosquitoborne diseases, and the other unpleasant consequences of mosquito infestation, requires a proactive multi-pronged approach. Homeowners can be educated to eliminate other potential mosquito breeding sites on their property. Even if you live in an area with low risk of Zika or West Nile virus, mosquitoes are a royal pain that nobody wants to deal with.

itat around homes, items that ural predators of mosquitoes, tirely from our lives, they can hold water like tires, flower Additionally, a fountain or aer- be mitigated against by limitpots and buckets should be ation system can help reduce ing and managing their breedthrown out or emptied regu- the prevalence of mosquito lar- ing habitats.



larly. Maintaining a benefi- vae by keeping water circulatcial vegetative buffer around a ing. While mosquitoes are an To help limit breeding hab- for dragonflies, which are nat- we are unlikely to remove en-

pond can help provide habitat annoyance and a hazard that

Aedes aegypti is a containerbreeding species of mosquito known to carry Zika virus.



Gavin Ferris is an experienced Ecologist with SOLitude Lake Management, an environmental firm providing a full array of superior lake, pond and fisheries management services and solutions. Gavin has a Master's degree in entomology from the University of Delaware and research experience in fisheries biology, entomology, invasive plant ecology and nutrient management. www.solitudelakemanagement.com

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Brandywine Valley is locally owned and operated and has been serving the Greater West Chester Area for nearly 25 years.







# Spring **EVENTS CALENDAR** MAY/JUNE

See full details of Chamber events at GreaterWestChester.com

#### Friday, May 5th | 5:00pm - 9:00pm 27th Annual Spring Gallery Walk

Visit nearly three dozen galleries and One-Night-Only Art Shows on 'First Friday.' Bring a group of friends and make a night of it in downtown West Chester! FREE to the public

#### Friday, May 12th | 7:00pm - 10:00pm Annual 10 Grand Club Event

Only 200 seats available @ \$200 each for a chance to win \$10,000. Great food and drink provided by John Serock Catering and dozens of wonderful prizes donated by Chamber member businesses. Tickets available NOW. Call the Chamber office for more information. The American Helicopter Museum, 1220 American Boulevard, West Chester

#### Wednesday, May 17th | 11:45am - 1:15pm Membership Luncheon – Education Foundation

The Chamber's annual Education Foundation Scholarship presentation recognizing six of the West Chester Area School District's most entrepreneurial high school seniors. Also, Dr. Jim Scanlon will give us an update on what is happening throughout the district. West Chester Golf and Country Club, 111 W. Ashbridge Road, West Chester Reservation required. \$25 for members / \$35 for non-members.

#### Thursday, May 18th | 5:30pm - 7:30pm Business Card Exchange - Home Bridge Financial Services / Unruh Turner Burke & Frees

Meet the Home Bridge and UTBF teams in the newly renovated iconic glass building on Gay Street!

17 W. Gay Street, West Chester RSVP appreciated, but not required. Free for members, \$10 for non-members.

#### Saturday, May 20th & Sunday, May 21st | 10:00am - 7:00pm VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY-Tough Mudder

Serve up liquid courage and refreshment to thousands of competitors plus their families and friends!

Plantation Field, 387Green Valley Road, Coatesville Multiple shifts available. Visit GreaterWest Chester.com to sign up.

#### Monday, May 22nd |10:00am - 6:00pm Quest for the Chamber Cup Golf Outing presented by Bryn Mawr Trust

Individuals and foursomes are encouraged to spend the day with us at one of Chester County's premier courses. Corporate sponsorships available — call the Chamber office for details. Stocked Swag Bag plus Lunch, Dinner & Cocktail Hour included! Radley Run Country Club, 1100 Country Club Road, West Chester

#### Wednesday, May 24th | 5:30PM-7:30 PM Women's Executive Roundtable — Stop Trying to Boil the Ocean in an Hour with Lauren D'Ambrosio

RSVP is required. \$55 Members; \$65 Non-Members

#### Wednesday, June 7th | 7:45am - 9:00am Coffee Connection - Tan & Moore Holistic Day Spa

Not only will you be enjoying company of others, coffee, and light fare, but hear why your experience at Tan & Moore is different from the rest. If you have ever wondered what

holistic means, this is your chance to get educated!

704 West Nields Street, West Chester RSVP appreciated, but not required. Free for members, \$10 for non-members.

#### Tuesday, June 13th | 11:45am - 1:30pm The Exchange - Co-ed Executive Round Table

"To Empower People To Wake Up Excited.... Go To Bed FulFilled....And Have Business and Personal Growth In Between So They Can Live Their Dreams and Live a Life By Design not Default" by Ed Fordyce.

Restaurant 51, 30 N. Church Street, West Chester

RSVP is required. \$35 Members; \$45 Non-Members

# Wednesday, June 28th | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Women's Executive Roundtable - Kim Brumbaugh

Faunbrook Bed & Breakfast, 699 W. Rosedale Avenue, West Chester RSVP is required. \$55 Members; \$65 Non-Members

As the **premier dental office** in West Chester, we are excited to open our doors to an **additional 18 insurances** and serve more of our community.

Comprehensive, family-focused dental services, a professional and caring staff and a dentist that accepts your insurance are the fundamentals of exceptional dental care. We're excited to meet you!

# FREE teeth whitening x-rays, exam and consult with your first appointment.

For a limited time only—so don't wait! Call **610-696-3371** to schedule today.





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Financial Advisor

704 West Nields Street, Suite G West Chester, PA 19382 610-436-4101

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# **VISION: PROTECTING YOUR** WINDOWS TO THE WORLD

By John Gose

sight? When our vision be- from computer screens and gins to fade, we can improve to make sure light does not contacts, exercises or laser Check to make sure your surgery. But until we correct ceiling lights are not shinit, we may strain our eyes try- ing directly in front of your our surrounding environ- through a reflection. ment.

to experience headaches, neck and muscle tension / and a deteriorating posture. so that the top of your com-It can even cause pinched nerves due to poor posture, resulting in a feeling of pins

area can be a cause of eye

what you understand in this this standard but it is also world is processed through important to reduce glare or correct it with glasses, shine directly into your eyes. ing to get a clear picture of work space or into your eves

Computer monitors need Eve strain can cause you to be positioned high enough so that you can hold your head upright. To achieve this, soreness, upper back pain, adjust your seat up or down puter is at eve level. The monitor should also be about 28 - 32 inches from your eyes, and needles or numbness in which is approximately armsthe arms, hands and fingers. length from your standard Lighting in your work sitting position.

If you develop neck and strain since the nerves in upper back muscle soreyour eyes require optimal ness, get in the habit of movlighting to easily focus. To ing away from your desk for are available at four prevent this, indoor light- about five minutes for every ing should be set to ap- hour of work. Practicing eye ChesterCountyHospital. proximately 500 lumens. exercises can also help, such org/PhysicalTherapy | Fortunately, most offices as looking left then right and 610.738.2480

Did you know that 80% of have their lighting set to up and down repeatedly, 10 times each way. Then alternate those exercises by focusing on one near object and one far object. Make sure the object is in focus before shifting to the other item. These exercises can strengthen the muscles of the eves and have been shown to improve vision clarity. A Physical Therapist with experience in visual training can help. Those therapists often are trained in vestibular and / or Concussion rehabilitation.

> John Gose is the Director of Physical Therapy, Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine at Chester County Hospital, part of Penn Medicine. A complete range of programs for physical, occupational and speech therapy convenient locations. Visit



Eye strain can cause you to experience headaches, neck and muscle tension / soreness, upper back pain, and a deteriorating posture.

# THINKING OF SELLING? **NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT!**

By Brad Moore

selling your property, now is the time to take advantage of the current market. Housing inventory continues to be at an all-time so high, there are signifilow, and buyer demand is cant advantages for sellers outpacing the supply in not only price, but also the certain areas and price terms of a sale, such as, inranges. As we all know, the spections, appraisal, and fibest time to sell is when nancing contingencies. supply is low and demand is high.

is fast paced and becoming more competitive. One of the biggest challenges buyers are facing today is and much more need to be

ket, and (sometimes in multiple-offer situations) successfully securing a sale. Because buyer demand is

navigate the buying and The real estate market selling process. Structuring the best deal, negotiating terms and handling multiple-offer situations,

If you have thought about this limited inventory mar-real estate professional can assist in making sure you are in position to WIN the

Brad Moore, owner of the Moore Maguire Real  $\textit{Estate Group} \mid \textit{Keller}$ Williams Real Estate. Moore Maguire Real Estate Group offers its clients Knowledge is needed to the confidence of working with top-performing real estate agents who offer the highest level in client care. www. mooremaguire group.com| 484-266-7450 | Brad@ finding the right home in addressed. An experienced MooreMaguireGroup.com.

# **Stroll through West Chester for an** evening of art, dining and shopping

The Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce will host its Spring Gallery Walk on Friday, May 5, 2017 from 5:00pm until 9:00pm (rain or shine). The Spring Gallery Walk provides the perfect opportunity to experience downtown West Chester's intriguing blend of urban sophistication and small town ambiance. The historic borough is home official Gallery Walk. to an eclectic and exciting mix of galleries.

will combine with more than twenty additional "one-nightonly" show hosts throughout Arts Gallery - the original crethe downtown business area. ator and longest running par-Brochures with walking maps will direct visitors to show locations (or download map from GreaterWestChester.com). Look for signs that designate



Generous support is provided by Signature Sponsors, Five prominent galleries The West Chester Business Improvement District (BID), Sunset Hill Jewelers & Fine nancial Services. ticipant of Gallery Walk, Otto's Mini-Exton, ShopRite West Chester, Market Street Print & Copy, and M&T Bank. Featured Sponsors include The Master's

Baker, Sleep Number Glen Mills, and Daniel Robins RE/MAX DI-RECT along with Supporting Sponsors, The Accounting Office. Inc. and Swarthmore Fi-

"Make an evening of it" and bring together a group of friends to experience Gallery Walk! Dine, shop and explore everything downtown West Chester and the Chamber has to offer.

## The Greater West Chester Chamber Presents **WOMEN'S MENTAL TOUGHNESS** WORKSHOP SERIES



Big goals? What's holding you back? Identify it. Overcome it.

> 4-week coaching series in June 4 topics to choose from:

Women's Mental Toughness: Guts, Grit & Grace Rainmaking: Attracting Your Ideal Client Living A Quality Life: Declaring Your True Priorities Energy of Money: Money Stress to Money Abundance

www.GWCCMentalToughness.com

Chamber early registration discount through May 12th

Presented by the Chamber in partnership with Boldful. Life



Boldful.Life WOMEN'S MENTAL TOUGHNESS

#### ROOFTOP SPONSOR



Sunset Hill Jewelers & Fine Arts Gallery

PINNACLE SPONSORS



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COUNTY LINES

# ON THE ROF



# BEAUTIFICATION OF DOWNTOWN WEST CHESTER

- Chestnut Street Garage
- Saturday, June 3, 2017 │ 7-11pm \$100 per person; \$120 at the door

Live Music, Buffet, Beer and Wine, and Rooftop Martini

HONORARY CHAIRPERSONS: Mark and Joanne Yoder

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT BY The Donny Syracuse Band

DINNER COMPLIMENTS OF Limoncello

APPETIZERS & DESSERTS COMPLIMENTS OF "Taste of West Chester" featuring John Serock Catering and various downtown restaurants and bakeries

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.WCDF.org.

For questions or tickets contact the Chester County Community Foundation at 610-696-0501.



The West Chester Downtown Foundation and Up on the Roof are charitable funds of the Chester County Community Foundation. A copy of the official registration and financial information for the Chester County Community Foundation may be obtained by calling the PA Dept of State at 1-800-732-0999 (toll-free in PA.) Registration does not imply endorsement. EIN 23-2773822.

# **MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

# Brandywine Water Systems

Brandywine Water Systems is a retirement in the 80's. family owned and operated company that has been serving Chester County's water filtration needs of the company trace back to Wil-County, McIlvaine chose well pumps and continued in that field until his business owner. During the first ten

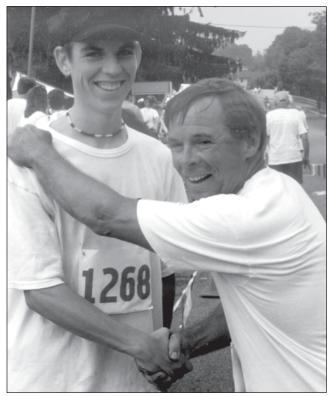
Barb McIlvaine (future State Representative for district 156) was the daughter of "Bill" and Louise. In for over three decades. The origins 1972 she married Robert Whitney Smith, an entrepreneur with a small liam McIlvaine Sr., who became a but successful fiberglass business farmer after returning from the in Paoli. Several years and two kids Navy where he served in the South later, Smith's shop was also ravaged Pacific until 1945. He and his wife by a fire and he lost everything. Bob Louise raised cows at their farm on (as he was went by) began working the corner of South Whitford Road for his father in law, who had by this and Lancaster Avenue until 1962 point expanded into water testing when a fire consumed the barn. and filtration. For several years Bob All of the animals got out safely but learned everything he could about he was forced to find a new line of the water filtration industry and in work. Taking advantage of the bur- 1980, he incorporated his own busigeoning housing market in Chester ness as Brandywine Water Systems.

Bob worked hard as a father and

years he expanded his business to have three trucks out on the road and a larger client base that included parts of Delaware and Montgomery Counties. During the early 90's the recession hit hard and he was forced to scale back, but through his honest business practice and solid reputation with the community he managed to stay afloat and emerge as one of the leaders in the field.

In the late 90's Bob's only son Matthew came on board to help out while he recovered from a work-related hernia. From there, the two worked together for four years while Matthew attended West Chester University. Matthew, an artist and musician, did not intend on getting

WATER » PAGE 14



Robert (Bob) Whitney Smith (right) and son Matthew Smith are the second and third generation owners of Brandywine Water Systems.







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## The 2017 Philly Tough Mudder is coming to **Chester County on May 20th and 21st!**

Get ready to test your stamina, strength, and mental toughness as the 2017 Philly Tough Mudder is returning to Chester County on the weekend of May 20th and 21st. Set in the heart of the Brandywine Valley, the 10-12 mile mud and obstacle course will feature over 20 different tasks to overcome, including new and familiar challenges. The two day event will take place on Plantation Field at 329 Apple Grove Road in Coatesville.

community involvement. The Greater West receive a free all access pass to watch the Chester Chamber and friends are volun- competitors battle it out in the mud.



teering again at this year's event, which gives the chance to work the beer tent for Enjoy a day of riveting spectating and a few hours (certain restrictions apply) and

#### FROM PAGE 6

of development in our region will help create jobs and strengthen the retail and hometown environment.

Improvement District notes that Hotel development will the overall outstanding athave a direct impact on our member businesses that depend on clientele not only ous benefits the project ofbeing drawn to the Greater fers to the 700 members West Chester Area, but also of the Greater West Cheshaving the ability to stay

As you know, local leg- ter community as a whole, islation often has a far greater impact than federal or state legislation. This is especially true rounding region. This type when pertaining to the economic vitality of a region. A thriving economy in Greater West Chester is of benefit to your constituents by providing in-A study by the Business creases to your tax base, the employment rate and mosphere of the borough.

Thus, given the numerter Chamber of Commerce, and the Greater West Chesthe chamber encourages the borough and the Zukins to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues that are a barrier to moving the project forward and to revitalizing the corner of Walnut and Gay Streets. If you would like to meet to discuss this further, I am more than willing to schedule myself and members of the Chambers Business Advocacy Committee.

Sincerely,

Mark Yoder President, Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce

## Water

#### FROM PAGE 6

into the water business. and moved to New York City after school to pursue his dream of playing mu- ter his recovery. Unfortusic while Bob continued as a one-man show.

In late 2006 Bob was to help keep the family next six months Bob taught them settled down in West best approaches.

his son everything he knew about the business - from his hospital bed. Matt officially took over as president of the company in January 2007 with the hope that his father could continue on as a consultant afnately Bob lost his battle in May of 2007.

diagnosed with cancer. over the next few years to Matt immediately relo- build the business and escated from New York City tablish the trust his father had earned with his cusbusiness going while his tomer base. A decade later father underwent aggres- Matt married the love of sive chemotherapy and ra- his life Carin Beam, a Maldiation treatment. For the vern native, and the two of

Chester. In 2015 the couple had their first daughter Eloise Whitney Smith (Whitney after Bob's middle name.)

Matt continues to serve the greater Chester County area as a one-man business. He personally installs the equipment he sells and performs the year-to-year ser-Matt worked very hard vice himself. Like his father and grandfather, Matt sees the importance of building a personal relationship with his customers and learning each home's unique water quality issues by being hands-on. Sometimes the simplest approaches are the



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