Letter *from the* Editor

Kate Chadwick shares some personal insight into this month's theme



Several years ago, I answered one of those Q&As on Facebook. It was a "getting to know you" thing — not unlike filling out a purgatorial online dating profile — but ultimately just FB collecting data. Among the questions was, "What would you buy if you won the lottery?" It had to be something you would purchase, for yourself. Two disparate things leapt to mind simultaneously: a pool table and a horse.

Soon after, I bought a gently used (and super cheap!) pool table from craigslist. It was fetched, disassembled, carried into my apartment, and reassembled by a rather sketchy band of gentlemen led by an even sketchier acquaintance, who drove off in the van I'd rented for an uncomfortable length of time to "grab a couple guys," returning with five. So much for the 50 bucks, case of beer, and large pizza I'd planned to foist on him; he'd insisted that he'd do it alone for free, having been a recent guest at my Thanksgiving table (long story). I cried when it was finally assembled. I'd taught myself to play on my downstairs neighbor's table after a brain injury in my twenties had left me unable to work for a year. My godfather/uncle was a pool shark, and, to a lesser degree, so was my dad. Genetic? Maybe. And yes, once recovered, I hustled in bars. Pool is the only math I'm good at.

The horse...well, that's been a tougher get. I have loved them since childhood, voraciously tore through every horse book I could find. Other friends had Barbies; I had poseable horse figurines. We lived in West Philadelphia, and the only horses I saw carried police officers, except during our Sunday drives through Chester County. Occasionally my father would get a side job on a farm, and he always took me along. My parents couldn't afford riding lessons, so I took dance instead. Years ago, I tried to persuade a publisher to let me take lessons and write about it for his magazine. Nope. I took them anyway. I also took some during that year of recovery, much to my mother's chagrin.

The thought "I need to get on a horse soon" crosses my mind on a regular basis. Maybe someday I'll acquire one for real.

In the meantime, I hope you enjoy Kelly Murray's feature about the thriving WC horse scene in this issue as much as I did. It's a fascinating peek into local life with these magnificent creatures. And what's the old saw about being upstaged by kids and animals? We have kids here, too. They're incredibly talented young skaters whose hard work has paid off in a big—as in national big—way. Finally, Jesse Piersol delivers an excellent story about a timely and important organization, the Goose Creek Alliance. It should be required reading for anyone living in town, and it's a great cause to consider supporting.

Thank you for reading The WC Press, and welcome to fall in West Chester! ***—kate@thewcpress.com***

The Press

"I hope I can be the autumn leaf, who looked at the sky and lived. And when it was time to leave, gracefully it knew life was a gift." –Dodinsky

PUBLISHER
Dan Mathers
dan@thewcpress.com

ADVERTISING MANAGER
Nick Vecchio
nick@thewcpress.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Kate Chadwick
kchadwick@thewcpress.com

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS
Jesse Piersol
jpiersol@thewcpress.com
Danielle Davies
ddavies@thewcpress.com
Kelly Murray
kmurray@thewcpress.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Erik Weber
@westchesterviews

COLUMNISTS
Becca Boyd
bboyd@thewcpress.com
Andrea Mason
amason@thewcpress.com
DJ Romeo
romeo@thewcpress.com
Kate Chadwick
kchadwick@thewcpress.com

Published By...
Mathers Productions
1271 Phoenixville Pk
West Chester, PA 19380
mathersproductions.com
610-299-1100

The WC Press is a monthly magazine mailed to more than 3,000 homes throughout West Chester, as well as being dropped off to about 100 locations in and around the borough.

For a free subscription — digital or mailed — visit thewcpress.com.

Worth Noting

Our no-nonsense table of contents

7 #THEWCPRESS
Our favorite social media posts, in print

9 TELL ME SOMETHING GOOD
We spotlight citizens for doing something swell

11 GOOSE CREEK ALLIANCE
The organization restoring the health of Goose Creek

23 DESIGN DILEMMAS
Our resident interior designer helps you upgrade your space

25 A DAY IN THE SADDLE
A glimpse into the life of West Chester's equestrian community

33 MARKET FORECAST
Your planetary predictions with a particularly local twist

39 FROM WEST CHESTER TO THE STATE GAMES
Ice Line skaters go for the gold

51 HOME BECCANOMICS
Becca Boyd shares tips on life and cooking

53 PHOTO HUNT
Spot the five differences and win a Barnaby's gift card

55 AUTUMN HIT LIST
DJ Romeo curates a list of songs you'll be singing this spring