

# Brandywine Hills Gazette

Volume 27: Issue Three

July 2023

## Honoring Linda Gray



As reported in an official City of Wilmington News Release, a white oak tree was planted on May 31st in honor of our neighbor, **Linda Gray**. The planting was part of a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of renovations to Haynes Park. Linda passed away suddenly in November. Linda Gray represented the 1st District on Wilmington City Council at the time of her death and was formerly president of the BHCA. She was a driving force behind the Haynes Park upgrade.

The plaque reads:  
"Beloved Community Leader,  
Member of Wilmington City  
Council and Friend of Haynes  
Park." Wilmington Mayor  
Mike Purzycki and Director of  
Parks and Recreation Ian  
Smith joined with City

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## **BHCA General Meeting July 27 @ 7:00 P.M.** **Location: New City Church @** **201 Hawthorne, just past Marlowe**

We are looking forward to our second in-person quarterly meeting of the Brandywine Hills Community Association. Please plan to attend on **Thursday, July 27 beginning at 7 p.m.** at the social hall of the **New City Church located at 201 Hawthorne Drive**, which is about a block off Washington Boulevard. We had a good turnout in April at the last meeting. Please come and mingle with your neighbors or welcome newer neighbors who have moved to Brandywine Hills. We'll also be serving coffee and donuts!

Our invited guests and topics for the meeting include:

- Members of the Wilmington Police Department's Community Engagement Team for a public safety discussion and to address any community concerns.
- Legislative updates from our State Senator Sarah McBride and our City Council Member Vincent White.
- A presentation regarding the preservation of City neighborhoods by the Development Director of the Wilmington Landbank, Bud Freel, who is a former member of City Council.
- A discussion about planning a community picnic for mid-September. The annual picnic had been a grand gathering for everyone, especially the children, until the pandemic derailed everything. It's time to get together once again and enjoy each other's company as well as good food, refreshments, raffle prizes, and fun activities for the children.
- Other topics that you wish to bring to the table for discussion.

Thank you,

John Rago, President  
Jonathan Neumark, Vice President/Treasurer  
Al Wieand, Secretary  
Rob Harris, Board Member  
Martha Narvaez, Board Member  
Paris Dupree, Board Member  
Steve Anzulewicz, Board Member  
Fritz Petit, Board Member  
Nnamdi Chukwuocha, Board Member

[http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Brandywine\\_Hills](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Brandywine_Hills)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/brandywinehills/>  
Ellen Casson, Newsletter Editor (ellenc4000@cs.com)

## Brandywine Hills Community Association Financial Report

**Paid Membership =**
**116**

7/22/2023

\$6,240.01



PNC			
Check A/C	7/18/2023		\$22,547.62

<b>Donations</b>			
Ron Kimbrough	Zelle	1/8/2023	\$10.00 General Donation
Katherine Collins	Paypal	1/9/2023	\$47.01 General Donation
Melrose Robinson	Check	1/11/2023	\$50.00 General Donation
Michael Terne	Check	1/12/2023	\$50.00 General Donation
Buccini Pollin Group	Check	1/16/2023	\$600.00 Medians 2022
Jacqui Danker	Check	1/19/2023	\$25.00 Advertising Q1 Bulletin
Steve Anzulewicz & Assoc	Check	1/27/2023	\$2,000.00 Medians 2023
Martin's Home Improvement	Check	1/27/2023	\$2,000.00 Medians 2023
Kash Srinivasan	Check	1/29/2023	\$50.00 Medians 2023
Clarence Grasty	Paypal	1/29/2023	\$48.03 Medians 2023
Ellen Casson	Check	2/4/2023	\$75.00 For dogsitter and Hanover advertising
Martha Yates	Paypal	2/6/2023	\$47.01 General Donation
Katherine Collins	Paypal	2/13/2023	\$58.21 General Donation
Faith and David Lane	Zelle	3/9/2023	\$20.00 General Donation
Central Landscaping-William	Check	3/30/2023	\$250.00 General Donation
Weiqing Zeng (603 Milton)	Check	4/21/2023	\$250.00 General Donation
Ron Kimbrough	Paypal	4/24/2023	\$48.03 General Donation
Ann Warner	Paypal	4/26/2023	\$48.03 General Donation
Nnamdi Chukwuocha	Check	4/27/2023	\$100.00 General Donation
Clarence Glasty	Zelle	4/28/2023	\$50.00 General Donation
Freire Charter School	Zelle	5/16/2023	\$50.00 Advertising Q2 Bulletin
Libby Montelego	Zelle	5/18/2023	\$100.00 Matson Run Cleanup
Mary Mirabeau	Check	5/22/2023	\$50.00 General Donation
			<b>\$6,026.32</b>

**Expenses**

County Franchise Tax	ACH	2/9/2023	\$25.00
Selective Insurance	ACH	2/28/2023	\$271.00
Martha Narvaez Easter Egg Hunt	Zelle	4/5/2023	\$196.17
Charge- Spring Cleanup	ACH	4/18/2023	\$2,375.00
Charge- May maintenance	ACH	6/2/2023	\$600.00
Charge-June Maintenance	ACH	6/16/2023	\$600.00

**\$4,067.17**

Escrow (in PNC Checking)

\$231.89 Signs

Zelle Payments Address: brandywinehillsde@gmail.com

## **Brandywine Hills Tidbits**

### **Thank You Note**

At the egg hunt in early April, a donation drive was also held for the **Latin American Community Center** in Wilmington. Thank you to all the neighbors that contributed! In May, a thank you letter was addressed to Martha Narvaez, one of the egg hunt organizers. It was from Maria Matos, President and CEO of the Latin Community Center, thanking everyone for their donations to their food closet. The Latin Community Center provides a variety of programming services to empower the Latino community through education, advocacy and collaborative services.

### **New Neighbors**

We are grateful to **Bill Collins** and **Priscilla Goldsmith** who volunteered to represent the neighborhood as a welcoming committee. If you are aware of new neighbors, please pass information on to **Ellen Casson**, our newsletter editor, at [ellenc4000@cs.com](mailto:ellenc4000@cs.com), so we can do our best to welcome them to the neighborhood. The following new neighbors were welcomed recently.

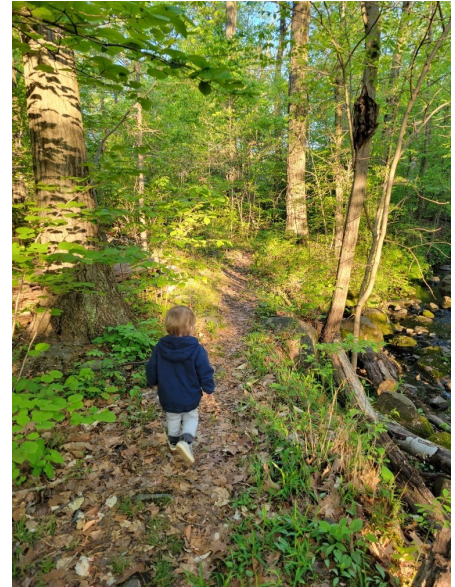
- After extensive and handsome renovations, 608 West Matson Run Parkway opened its doors to **Ellen Vogel** in the spring.
- **Michelle and John Hirt** have moved to 309 Hawthorne Drive. When you have a chance, please say hello.
- Irving Drive welcomes yet another new family. **Ken Finegold and Elaine Swift** now live at 307.
- Although not within the Brandywine Hills boundaries, but very close by, **Zefanne (Zef) and Alex Quach** are the third family to move into the new houses at the top of Lea Boulevard. They can be visited at 807.

We also share news of our neighbors who have passed. We extend our condolences to the family and friends of the following:

- Our neighbors, **Anthony and Angela DiFonzo** passed in the Spring. They lived on Whittier Road for many years. Anthony and his wife, Angie, owned the bakery on Union Street. Anthony died in March and Angela in April.

- **Audrey Mason** died in April. She lived on Lea Boulevard and regularly attended community meetings when we used to meet in the Medical Arts Complex on Lea Boulevard. It became more difficult in her later years for her to get to meetings, but she remained very interested in the community.

### ***Spring walk in Matson Run Park***



### **Matson Run – Preserving an Exceptional Natural Habitat**

And speaking of walking in Matson Run Park, our community natural habitat preservation initiative has been on hold. The volunteers, expressing a willingness to help, have been on overload, for a variety of reasons.

We had a gathering and some training with Bill Haldeman, a specialist in natural lands management. Our initial focus will be the preservation of the tree canopy in Matson Run, by removing invasive vines that are overtaking mature trees, weakening and potentially killing the trees.

All of a sudden summer arrived and it has been too tropical, hot and humid to get started. We plan to get moving later in the fall and do most of our work in the winter. If interested, reach out to Ellen Casson to be informed of our future activities.



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**BHCA**



Advertising space can be purchased by organizations, businesses and contractors recommended by residents, for \$100 for a full page ad, \$50 for a half page, and \$25 for a business card size. Personal notices requested by neighborhood residents, lost and found, or announcements about neighborhood activities are included at no cost.

*Continued from page 1*

and State officials and community leaders, and local residents for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of renovations to Haynes Park. Located at West 30<sup>th</sup> Street and Miller Road in the City's 9<sup>th</sup> Ward, the park's improvements include a brand-new playground as well as a renovated basketball court with perimeter fencing, and restoration of the City's only lighted tennis court. These upgrades are the park's first since 2010.

The ceremony included remarks from Mayor Purzycki, Parks Director Smith, City Council Members At-Large Al Mills and James Spadola, Thea Lopez, President of the Harlan Park Civic Association, and New Castle County Council Member Penrose Hollins. State Representative Nnamdi Chukwuocha, who represents the 1<sup>st</sup> Representative State House District which includes Haynes Park, was also in attendance. Council Member Hollins spoke about his friendship with former Council Member Gray and her husband, Harold.

*Linda and Harold Gray pictured in the back, with Diana Hoopes, Linda George, John Rago and Steve Anzulewicz at the start of the 2016 community picnic.*

