

Brandywine Hills Gazette

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Dim Headlights?

By Dr. R. Scotti Lee

Does it seem like the headlights on your vehicle are not illuminating the road well? If the vehicle is over 3 or more years old, the plastic coating on the headlight lens can start to deteriorate. They become yellowed or cloudy over time. The headlights are providing about 22% or less of the light than when they were new. At night drivers need a minimum of 300 to 350 feet to see, react and brake when traveling at 60 mph. If headlight illumination drops 22% of the original brightness, visibility would drop enough to make night driving very risky. What can be done? Several things:

The lens can be replaced, which is not cheap. Each lens could cost several hundreds of dollars each. Several types of lens cleaning kits are on the market. These can be found in most auto parts stores. They are very simple to use; no tools are needed. It takes 20 to 30 minutes for each light. And, of course, using baking soda toothpaste and a toothbrush will do the job. After they are clean and dry, coat them with clear fingernail polish.

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General Meeting October 24 @ 7:00 P.M. Meeting at New Community Church 201 Hawthorne, just past Marlowe

Please join us for our quarterly meeting of the Brandywine Hills Community Association.

- ♦ James Spadola, the current chairman of the board for the Wilmington Housing Authority, will speak to us about the progress WHA is making in serving the residents of the City.
- ♦ John Tracey, an attorney with Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor LLP will discuss the demolition of the old Forman Mills store and future plans for construction at the 4601 Market Street location.
- ♦ A representative of the police department will be present to answer questions and address concerns.



Everyone had a great time at the annual picnic and fall neighborhood party! The trackless train was a big hit as you can tell from these happy faces.

BHCA Executive Committee

Linda Gray, President, 764-8634
John Rago, Vice Pres., 571-1152
Diana Hoopes, Treasurer, 764-6466
Melrose Robinson, Secretary
Linda George, Assistant Secretary

BHCA Board Members

Steve Anzulewicz
Nnamdi Chukwuocha
Martha Narvaez
Jonathan Neumark
Fritz Petit

We're on the Web and FaceBook!

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/wilmington-de/brandywinehills/>
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/brandywinehills/>

Great Time at the Picnic!

The annual picnic was great! We had super summer-like weather. There was a great turnout and we had good food, good music, and lots of fun. We had some new fun things for the younger set. Adults and kids alike enjoyed the trackless train. Word has it the adults had to get out and push on one occasion, because they were weighing it down!

Thank you to all who helped out with food, setting up and cleaning up, and donating items. Check out the wonderful picture collage below provided by Pat McCormick.

We heard several comments from residents who were enthusiastic about the gathering. One example: "Great event yesterday. Thanks to the whole team who put it together-- really enjoyed the live music too!"

DeIDOT Briefing About Miller Road

Senator Tom Carper and other community leaders invite you to attend a meeting with DeIDOT regarding plans to improve Miller Road. The meeting will be Wednesday, November 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the PS DuPont School library on 34th Street.

Please park in the rear parking lot adjacent to the school. There will be a large "event sign" to indicate which door to enter the school. Once inside, there will be white board easels pointing to the hallway to the "E" stairwell to the 2nd floor where the library is located.

We hope neighbors will come out to learn about this exciting initiative.



Brandywine Hills Tidbits

David P. Kozinski, our neighbor and the 2018 Delaware Division of the Arts Established Professional Poetry Fellow, will read his poetry on Sat, Oct. 26 at the Route 9 Library & Innovation Center in New Castle. It will be the first poetry program staged in the Black Box Theater of the beautiful 2-year-old facility at 3022 New Castle Avenue.

Titled *“Three Generations of New Castle County Poets”*, the program was designed by David at the request of New Castle County Executive Matthew Meyer and New Castle County Libraries Programs and Services Coordinator Catherine Wimberley. He will be joined by former Delaware Poet Laureate E. Jean Lanyon, and Delaware Literary Connection Prize finalist, Lindsey Warren, who will also be reading their poetry.

La Pizzeria Metro opened next to the Wilmington Brew Works this summer. Maybe everyone in the neighborhood except the newsletter editor has been there already, but I understand it is excellent. It is serving up all the mouth-watering Italian classics, plus a few extras. There are over a dozen specialty pizzas, plus your basic cheese, marinara, white or Margherita, which come in your choice of a 12-inch round or 12-inch square. Wine, beer and spirits are also available.



Neighbor Scotti Lee has shared a couple of interesting tidbits for our newsletter. This tidbit is *What's in a Barrel of Crude Oil?*

There are two parts to this story. The first is what kind of products are in a barrel of crude oil. The second part is why is a barrel of

crude oil 42 gallons versus a 55-gallon barrel?

Below is a list of some of the products from a 42-gallon barrel of crude oil. All these product sizes could be more or less, depending on the crude oil:

- 18.19 gallons gasoline
- 8.73 gallons diesel
- .50 gallons lubricants
- 4.23 gallons jet fuel or kerosene
- 1.68 gallons propane
- 1.4 gallons tar
- 1.68 gallons wax/coke
- 24 plastic water bottles
- 40 polyester skirts
- 200 wax crayons or birthday candles
- 500 toothbrushes
- 600 hair combs

In about 1859 oil was discovered in northwestern Pennsylvania. The oilmen decided that a 42-gallon wooden barrel best met their needs. The question often asked is why a 42-gallon wood barrel and not a 55-gallon barrel was picked? England's King Richard III defined a "tierce" as holding 42 gallons as watertight casks. The 42-gallon barrel became a familiar 19th century container.

When filled with crude oil the 42-gallon tierce weighed more than 300 pounds – about as much as a man could move. 20 would fit on a barge or railroad flatcar. Bigger barrels were unmanageable and smaller were less profitable. All these tierces were manufactured from the forest that surrounded the oil fields.

This is why the term 42-gallon barrel is still used today.



Steven Anzulewicz & Associates

Steve Anzulewicz

ABR, AHWD, Associate Owner

Office: (302) 299-1100

Direct Line: (302) 299-1105

Email: steveanzul@aol.com

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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.

Ads requested by neighborhood children, lost and found, or announcements about neighborhood activities are included at no cost.

Annual Leaf Collection Program

Wilmington's Department of Public Works began the City's Leaf Collection Program on Monday, October 14. It will continue through Friday, December 20. City sweeper or vacuum trucks will collect leaves from the street in designated areas on scheduled days. Residents are asked to sweep all leaves into the street, next to the curb, for collection.

Public Works Commissioner Kelly A. Williams reminds citizens that not all city streets can accommodate the City's leaf vacuum vehicles. In those cases, residents should place their leaves into brown paper bags and place them at the curb next to your recycling bin for curbside pick-up on their regular recycling collection day.

Residents who use a private contractor for leaf removal are asked to coordinate leaf removal in accordance with the city schedule, or have the contractor bag your leaves in

brown paper bags and place the bags at the curb next to your recycling bin on your recycling day. Also, residents wishing to arrange a community-wide leaf clean-up and schedule collection are asked to contact the Public Works Call Center prior to the event.

For more information on the City's Leaf Collection Program, please contact the Public Works Call Center at 302.576.3878. Customer service representatives are available Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Brandywine Hills is scheduled for Wednesday collections from Oct 14 through Nov 29. Leaves may still be falling after Nov 29. Public Works will still come out and collect leaves after that date, if needed. They will always pick up yard waste and leaves that are bagged in paper bags, but you can also contact the call center and ask for a vacuum truck, if necessary.

