

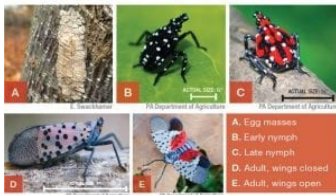
Brandywine Hills Gazette

Volume 24: Issue Three

July 2020

Nature is Calling

Have you heard about the latest invasive species, the Spotted Lantern Fly? It has been seen in our neighborhood in all of these various forms. The



DE Depart of Agriculture has enacted a quarantine for this destructive pest. The host plant is Tree of Heaven, an invasive species now found in our Matson Run Park and in our own landscapes. See photo below. For more info go to page 3...



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BHCA General Meeting Online July 30 @ 7:00 P.M.

Meeting will be locked after 7:15 pm to protect the meeting from intruders.

To join the meeting on a computer or mobile phone:
<https://bluejeans.com/667084016/7041>

Want to test your video beforehand? Use: <https://bluejeans.com/111>

To dial in without a computer use one of the following:
+1.408.419.1715 or +1.408.915.6290
Meeting ID: 667 084 016
Participant Passcode: 7041

**Please join us for the first virtual meeting of the
Brandywine Hills Community Association!**

President, Linda Gray, has two items of business on the agenda:

- ♦ Election of Treasurer, Jonathan Neumark
- ♦ Discussion of bylaws, specifically IV. E through V. B; please see copy of bylaws enclosed.

The virtual BHCA meeting will be made available to candidates for political office, running in the September primary. Those present will be invited to speak for three minutes.

For more information on the primary and general elections coming up in Delaware, particularly those local elections impacting Brandywine Hills residents and the City of Wilmington, see article on page 2 and go to:

https://elections.delaware.gov/services/candidate/prim_fcdtd_2020.shtml

BHCA Executive Committee
Linda Gray, President, 764-8634
John Rago, Vice Pres., 571-1152
Jonathan Neumark, Treasurer
Melrose Robinson, Secretary
Linda George, Assist Secretary

BHCA Board Members
Steve Anzulewicz
Nnamdi Chukwuocha
Martha Narvaez
Fritz Petit

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/wilmington-de/brandywinehills/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/brandywinehills/>
Ellen Casson, Newsletter Editor (ellenc4000@cs.com)

Primary and General Elections are Coming: Be Informed and VOTE!!

As a public service to the residents of Brandywine Hills, the community association urges you to become informed and be prepared to vote in the **September 15 primary election** and in the **November 3 general election**. When you go to your local polling place, or if you choose to vote by absentee ballot because of COVID 19, you will have the opportunity to vote for a slate of candidates who will directly represent you in the state, county and city governments as a resident of the Brandywine Hills community.

For information about the September 15 primary election, we suggest you visit the Delaware Department of Elections website at https://elections.delaware.gov/services/candidate/prim_fcddt_2020.shtml.

This link takes you to the listing of candidates in the primary election beginning with statewide offices such as Governor, State Senator and State Representative. Scroll further and you will see New Castle County candidates like County Executive and NCC Council President and then scroll further and you'll see the candidates running for the City of Wilmington positions such as Mayor, Treasurer and City Council. Races of immediate interest to our local community include:

- The 1st district State Senate race for this area which features Democrat Sarah McBride facing off against Democrat Joseph McCole. The winner will meet Republican Steve Washington in the November general election for a chance to occupy the senate seat held by long-time retiring Senator Harris McDowell.
- The 1st District State Representative seat is currently held by Brandywine Hills resident and former City Council Member Nnamdi Chukwuocha who is unopposed in seeking another two-year term in Dover.
- The race for Mayor has incumbent Mike Purzycki being challenged by Velda Jones-Potter, who will not seek re-election as City Treasurer, and former City Council Member Justen Wright.
- The City Council President contest has incumbent Hanifa Shabazz opposed by Council Member Ernest "Trippi" Congo.
- In the City Treasurer's race, Wilmington's current small and disadvantaged business manager DaWayne Sims is opposed by Va'Shun Turner who is not seeking re-election to the 5th District Council seat.
- The 1st District City Council race features current appointed Council Member Linda Gray, (also the long-time President of the BHCA) running against Al Mills, one-half of the renowned Twin Poet's duo and a State Poet Laureate, and community members Coby Owens and Karen Flowers.

Brandywine Hills residents should also pay close attention to the City Council At-Large race where the four eventual winners (three Democrats and one Republican) will represent the entire City beginning next January including our community. Democrat At-Large candidates on September 15 are:

- Rysheema Dixon, seeking reelection
- Sam Guy, seeking reelection
- Loretta Walsh, seeking reelection
- Maria Cabrera
- Robert Oliver
- Tyrone Johnson
- Charles Potter
- Arisa White

The following Republican Council At-Large candidates will appear on the November 3 general election ballot along with the three Democrat winners from the September 15 primary:

- Ciro Adams, seeking reelection
- Calvin Brown
- James Spadola

View all of the candidates seeking office in both the primary and general election by logging onto the State Elections Department website at <https://elections.delaware.gov/index.shtml> or call the office at 302.577.3464.

(Continued on page 3)

Neighborhood Monthly Food Donation Drive

Brandywine Hills neighborhood showed wonderful generosity with the weekly food donation we sponsored at the beginning of the summer; however, we realized that once a week was just too often. Having taken a few weeks' break, we're now gearing up for a once a month collection on the **first Monday of each month**. You'll receive a reminder the week before by group email and Facebook. As always, non-perishables are needed. Items like soups, spaghetti sauce, pasta, rice, beans, tuna, peanut butter, canned vegetables and fruits, baking mixes, peanut butter and jelly are appreciated. The food will go to alternating food pantries: Latin American Community Center, Hanover Presbyterian, Lutheran Community Services, St Stephen's. If anyone has a suggestion for a food pantry with which they're affiliated, please let me know.

The food can be dropped off at the home of Marti Yates, 400 Hawthorne Dr. She can be reached at martiyates@gmail.com or 480-567-4498. Just leave it on the front porch any time before the first Monday. Call if you cannot drop off and I'll be happy to pick up.

(Continued from page 2)

You can also learn how to obtain an absentee ballot should you choose not to vote at a polling site in either September or the general election in November when the top race will be Delaware's Joe Biden versus Donald Trump for President of the United States. Be informed and VOTE!!

Speaking of being informed, there will be a **Voter's Forum to be held by ZOOM on Wednesday, August 12th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.**

This event is sponsored by individuals living in Brandywine Hills, but is not sponsored by BHCA. Candidates for First District seats on Wilmington City Council and the State Senate will be presenting their views for 5 minutes each, then followed by questions from the audience. Notice of the Zoom Meeting login, phone numbers and passcode will follow through an email announcement.

One frequent concern raised by residents in the community is weeds in sidewalks. Weeds break up concrete over time, requiring repairs.

The need is still great while the economy is struggling and so many people are unemployed or furloughed.

It's great to live in a neighborhood where people help other people.

(Continued from page 1)

For more information about the **Spotted Lantern Fly** and the quarantine and what you can do to help eradicate it, go to:

<https://agriculture.delaware.gov/plant-industries/spotted-lanternfly/>

There is a Hotline to report sightings. Call 302-698-4632 or email Hitchhikerbug@delaware.gov. Treatment is available and if you have large Tree of Heaven trees on your property, you may qualify as a high-risk location and the Department of Agriculture may be able to help remove them. There is a high demand right now.

Please do not use the sticky tape to catch nymphs on your trees. It seems like an easy method to help deal with the bugs, but it will also catch birds, squirrels and beneficial insects.

Weeds can also lead to walking hazards. Weed-free sidewalks just look better too. If you don't like using weed killer or pulling them out by hand, you can cut them and then use boiling water, or try a combination of a gallon of vinegar, 1 cup of salt & 1 tsp of detergent.



For sidewalk repairs & replacement, there is a complaint process. According to the department of Licenses & Inspection, repairing sidewalks is a discretionary function, based on funding in the budget for such repairs. Additionally, a property owner cannot be given a citation by the City to repair a sidewalk. This is a big dilemma if the property owner can't afford to repair the sidewalk and the City does not have the money to do it either. Residents can notify L&I of sidewalks that need repair and ask that a complaint number be assigned. The inspectors then review the complaints, conduct inspections, and categorize them based on condition. If money is available, the worst ones are repaired first. Sometimes our State Representatives are able to obtain state transportation funds to help with repairs.

<p>Steven Anzulewicz & Associates</p>  <p>Steve Anzulewicz ABR, AHWD, Associate Owner Office: (302) 299-1100 Direct Line: (302) 299-1105 Email: steveanzul@kw.com www.yourhomewithsteve.com kw Keller Williams Realty 1521 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19803</p>	<p>Martin's Home Improvement, INC</p> <p>Martin Jodko 304 Concord Ave Wilmington, DE 19803 302-367-4789</p> <p>Quality Work GUARANTEED!!!</p> <p>Basement Waterproofing, Basement Finishing, Drywall Repairs, Kitchen and Bathroom Renovations, Window and Door Replacement, Interior/Exterior Painting, Concrete Work, Flooring. We also clean out junk.</p>
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Communications and Information:

Key to a Strong Connected Community

In Brandywine Hills, we pride ourselves on maintaining and preserving our beautiful neighborhood. Over the years, our ability to communicate with each other and share information has helped greatly in this regard. Today, communicating is even more important as we continue to build a neighborhood that is informed and protected.

That's why your neighborhood association is asking every property owner in Brandywine Hills—and there are approximately 240 or so of you—to confidentially share your email address and cell phone number so we can build an even better internal neighborhood communications system. If there is a public safety alert from local police, or if trash and recycling collections are altered or if your pet goes missing, it's important that the neighborhood association and you have a mechanism to receive and transmit information as quickly as possible. We know social media helps, but we find that our neighbors like receiving urgent information via email also.

Currently, we have about 120 dues paying members out of the approximate 240 properties in Brandywine Hills. We would like more of you to become members, but whether you're a member or not, please become better informed by joining our community communications system. Send your name, email, address and phone number to Brandywine Hills Board Member and Treasurer Jonathan Neumark who is assembling our improved communications platform. Please send the information to brandywinehillsde@gmail.com. **All information will be kept confidential and for use by the Brandywine Hills Neighborhood Association only.**

Jonathan is working jointly with Ellen Casson, our long-time newsletter editor and email manager to improve our ability to notify neighbors as needed. And, by the way, we'll gladly take this moment to thank Ellen for her continuing neighborhood volunteer work which has been key to keeping our community strong over many years.

Thank you again for providing this information. If you would like to become a member of the neighborhood association, use this [Membership Form 2020](#).

Finally, many of you reach out to the neighborhood association for a variety of reasons and it's always good to hear from you. When you contact us, please send the information to President Linda Gray at lhgray@comcast.net, Vice-President John Rago at rockthecity@aol.com, and Treasurer Jonathan Neumark at brandywinehillsde@gmail.com. That way, we'll be sure to see the information and respond as quickly as possible.

BHCA

Advertising space can be purchased by organizations, businesses/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.

