



Haverford Civic Association

Lower Merion Township

January 2026 Newsletter

Greetings, Haverford neighbors!

Now that the Old Year has taken its leave, and the New Year has recently arrived, many of us are making resolutions to become all manner of better: thinner, sexier, taller(?), nicer, richer, happier, healthier, calmer, wiser, greener, neater, funnier, less judgmental, more generous . . .

Speaking of generous, Haverford Civic Association is starting a fund drive to replace the aging snowflake lights on the Haverford stretch of Lancaster Avenue. The Association, with partial funding from Lower Merion Township, maintains and installs these seasonal decorations along our main business artery.

It will take upwards of \$15,000 to replace them. That's an amount beyond the limits of our operating budget, so we need your help. We're asking Haverford residents and friends to consider becoming or renewing as an HCA member at the \$145 Snowflake level, which covers an annual membership and supports our Snowflake campaign. To sign up, go to

haverfordcivicassociation.com/join-donate

or scan the QR code in the poster below. And, of course, donations of any amount are appreciated. Thank you!

'TIS THE SEASON . . . TO PAY YOUR 2026 DUES!

(DUES PAID NOW ACCRUE TO 2026)

★ HOUSEHOLD \$30

BUSINESS/INSTITUTIONAL \$100

BIRDWATCHER \$80 ★

HELPS SUPPORT SHARPE PARK BIRD SANCTUARY

SNOWFLAKE \$145

HELPS SUPPORT LANCASTER AVE SNOWFLAKE LIGHTS

PAY ONLINE AT ★

www.HaverfordCivicAssociation.com

OR SCAN THE CODE



Haverford Civic Association
Lower Merion Township



Township Commissioners' Updates

(Ray Courtney, Charles Gregory and Scott Zelov each represent a part of Haverford)

Road Report: Commissioner Scott Zelov has agreed to report monthly on Haverford-area traffic metrics compiled by the Lower Merion Police Department. Here's the latest report:

- Citations – 51
- Warnings – 27
- Equipment notices – 39

HCA Secretary Charles Ault calculated that police issued an average of 10 citations and 5 warnings per week during the five-week period from December 10 to January 7.

No commissioners were able to attend the January meeting.

Federation of Civics

(Haverford is a member of the township-wide Lower Merion and Narberth Federation of Civics. We send delegates to their meetings to exchange news and concerns.)

HCA Delegate Anne Mezey reported that Scott Houchins, zoning officer in Lower Merion Township's Building and Planning Department, gave a rundown of the township's zoning policies and procedures. She also said the Federation was advised that the seven fire companies in Lower Merion Township and Narberth Borough have each received \$406,000 in grant money from the township.

Anthony Arechavala, another of HCA's Federation delegates, reported that the township reaffirmed plans to install EV charging stations in the parking lot across from the Bryn Mawr Train Station. He also said Lower Merion Police would offer a Community Watch Patrol Training on Thursday, March 12, from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Lower Merion Township Building. Local residents can click [here](#) to register. HCA will send a representative.



Uncollected trash in the Haverford Train Station northwest parking lot immediately adjacent to Sharpe Bird Sanctuary, within eyesight of condominium residences.

Minutiae

(Highlights from the January 13 HCA Board Meeting.)

Uncollectible? Large, industrial size black trash bags often go uncollected for days or weeks at the Haverford Train Station. Thanks to the efforts of HCA members who made calls to a variety of authorities, these eyesores were finally picked up.

Traffic Calming: HCA board member Barbara Cohen's report :

- **Red Light Cameras** – Installation of red-light cameras at the Lancaster Avenue/Remington Road intersection, previously slated for the end of December, has hit a speed bump. It's now described as pending. Deployment of cameras at the Lancaster Avenue/Haverford Station Road and Montgomery Avenue/Airedale Road intersections is still on tap for the first quarter of 2026.
- **Speed Limit Reduction** – The speed limit on the eastern stretch of Lancaster Avenue from Wynnewood Road to City Avenue has been reduced from 40 to 35 mph.

- **Montgomery Avenue Traffic Study** – Data collected during the months-long transit study, which began last spring, will be presented to the public on Tuesday, February 3. The event is scheduled for 6 to 9 p.m. in the township administration building. Any recommendations coming out of the study would be aired at a later date.
- **Implementation Grant Denied** – The township's application for an implementation grant from the same source that funded the Montgomery Avenue study was not successful. Only one Pennsylvania jurisdiction, the city of Erie, got any of the \$982 million distributed in follow-up funding from the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All program. A second round of \$1 billion in funding will be announced in 2026.

Membership Report: From HCA Secretary Charles Ault:

- **Membership** – HCA tallied 77 prepaid memberships for 2026 by the end of December. Over the next few weeks, we're hoping to top the 90 paid-up members we had in 2025.
- **Social Media** – Our social media statistics are holding steady, with 127 Facebook followers and 28 subscribers to our website. And our email subscribers are nearing 250.
- **Help Wanted** – HCA still needs help with our social media messaging. No writing or technical skills necessary. We'll provide the minimal training needed to post weekly updates on Facebook. If you can spare a few minutes a week for this important work, email haverfordcivicasassociation@gmail.com. (P.S. We can also use some technical assistance with the website.)

In Other News:

- **2026 HCA Events** – The 2026 Party in the Park is on the calendar for Saturday, October 17, with Sunday the 18th as a rain date. The 2026 Annual Meeting will be held in January 2027 at Merion Cricket Club.
 - **Pricey Lights** – HCA Vice President Catherine Abrams noted that there are 24 available locations to hang seasonal snowflake lights along Lancaster Avenue in Haverford. Currently only 18 of them display lights that work, and many of the others are in serious disrepair. She suggested replacing a dozen lights at a time over a couple of years to give HCA more time to raise the money needed to buy new ones. The campaign committee will continue to explore vendors and pricing. A single six-foot snowflake can cost \$500 to \$750. Who knew?
 - **Committed Relationship** – HCA remains committed to promoting the continuing beautification of Sharpe Bird Sanctuary. The Board made another contribution of \$750 to The Garden Workers, a local affiliate of Garden Workers of America, for their on-going work to maintain and enhance Haverford's community nature preserve.
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Coulter Place, a mixed-use development in Suburban Square.

Bits & Pieces

(A miscellany of factoids from various sources.)

Shop at Home? Coulter Place, a five-story mixed-use development opened in Suburban Square this month. Situated across from Trader Joe's and Ardmore Farmer's Market, Coulter Place residents will hardly have to leave their apartments to pick up their groceries. The \$100 million development has 131 apartments, upscale, on-site amenities and ground-floor retail. *[Philadelphia Inquirer]*

Piazza's Progress: Construction has begun on The Piazza, the five-story, block-long development at 100 Lancaster Avenue in Ardmore. The complex will have 270 apartments, street-level retail, and 480 parking spots. It's estimated to cost \$187 million and will take two years to complete. *[Philadelphia Inquirer]*

Helpful Neighbors: Billionaire Jeff Yass, Pennsylvania's richest resident, lives in Haverford. He and his wife are partnering with Haldon House to redevelop neighboring Gladwyne. Tom Toole, a local realtor, says "the goal is to reinforce Gladwyne's identity as a small, historic village — not transform it into something unrecognizable." Haldon House CEO Andre Golsorkhi called the project a "revitalization" at a recent public meeting, where the proposal got a mixed reaction from residents. *[Tom Toole Sales Group Blog]*

Smoke Gets in Your Eyes: Well, maybe not so much after Lower Merion Commissioners in December moved ahead with an ordinance to limit the number of smoke and vape shops in the township. The new rule would create a 1,000-foot buffer between such businesses, limiting locations where they could be established from 1,000 to 300. *[Philadelphia Inquirer]*

Subscribers Wanted: The Association's monthly newsletter is a project of the Membership Committee to reach out to the broader community and foster greater

engagement with our membership. We encourage members to share the newsletter with their friends and neighbors. Subscription and membership requests can be sent to haverfordcivicasassociation@gmail.com. We encourage subscribers to also become dues-paying members to help defray the cost of our email service.

Stay connected!

Don't miss our next meeting to stay informed and involved. Remember, your voice matters in making Haverford a better place for all.

Tuesday, February 10, 7:00 p.m.
Merion Room of the Merion Cricket Club
325 Montgomery Avenue
Haverford PA 19041

Warm regards,
The Haverford Civic Association Board

JOIN / DONATE