



Haverford Civic Association

Lower Merion Township

June 2026 Newsletter

Greetings, Haverford neighbors!

Well, it's that time of year again. That languorous summer season when we venture to shift our work-life balance toward the life side and away from the day-to-day grind of earning our daily bread. Here's wishing you great success calibrating your personal teeter-totter to achieve precisely the harmony you desire. But first, a few last words before your editor climbs into his hammock and sways athwart the solstice.



Taming Traffic on Montgomery Avenue

Haverford Civic Association board member Barbara Cohen put together this handy guide to understanding the problem and possible solutions. Click on the title below to read her report.

[**Traffic Calming: What's It All About?**](#)

(Best viewed on a desktop or tablet.)

Township Commissioners' Updates

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

Road Report - There was no road report this month.

Commissioner Scott Zelov attended the June HCA board meeting and offered these updates:

- The public presentation of proposed Montgomery Avenue traffic calming measures has been delayed. Township staff need more time to prepare a revised set of recommendations in response to commissioner comments on the initial proposals. The most contentious issues, he said, are proposals to reduce traffic to a single lane in one direction on segments of the corridor.
- The Police Department has not had any problems attracting recruits, and the training of new officers has been ongoing.
- Red light cameras will be installed at two additional intersections after the Police Department evaluates the effectiveness of the installation of cameras at Lancaster Avenue and Remington Road and implements internal procedures to process violations.
- AMTRAK has announced a multi-year project to replace the overhead centenary structures that support electrical lines powering trains on the Main Line from the Philadelphia Zoo to Paoli. A public meeting to discuss project parameters for the segment from Paoli to Bryn Mawr was scheduled for June 16.
- How to apply for income-qualified housing for seniors at Ardmore House II will be discussed online June 18 and in person June 23 at [PALM](#) (Positive Aging in Lower Merion, 117 Ardmore Ave, Ardmore).

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.)

Federation delegate Anne Mezey reported on the following topics and speakers at the June 8 Federation meeting:

Guest speaker Lower Merion Police Chief Andy Block reviewed recent developments in the Police Department:

- The department is expected to be fully staffed with 136 officers by the end of the year, after new recruits finish their police academy training. With the additional officers, Chief Block said, he expects to create a bike patrol and beef up speed limit enforcement.
- Since school bus stop-arm cameras were installed in June 2025, 9,786 violations have been recorded. The Chief said many drivers apparently aren't aware that drivers in all lanes in both directions have to stop on a four-lane road when school bus lights are flashing red.
- The red-light camera at Lancaster Avenue and Remington Road went live on May 15. There is a 60-day phase-in period when violators are issued a warning. So far, 936 warnings have been handed out. Violators will start racking up fines once the warning period ends in mid-July.
- Two more red light cameras will be installed at local intersections, first at Lancaster Avenue/Haverford Station Road and then at Lancaster Avenue/Airdale Road.
- There were 1,149 reportable motor vehicle crashes in Lower Merion in 2025, 3 of them resulting in fatalities.
- There has been a rise in retail theft, mostly perpetrated by "kids," with the hot spots being stores in Suburban Square and Target, Whole Foods and Giant in Wynnewood.

- To deter car thefts, Chief Block suggested wrapping your key fob in foil paper or using a Faraday bag, which blocks the radio signal that unlocks the door. Thieves can compromise unprotected key fobs using sophisticated technical gear from several feet away.

Minutiae

(Highlights from the June 9 HCA Board Meeting.)

Annual Meeting:

The Haverford Civic Association annual meeting will be held Thursday, November 19, at the Merion Cricket Club. Featured speaker to be announced.

Haverford Train Station:



Lee Tabas grabbed this shot of what appears to be an impending roof repair finally being made at Haverford Train Station last month.

Party in the Park:

Board member Hala Imms shared a letter to be distributed to local businesses soliciting support for this year's Party in the Park. The community festival is held at Sharpe Park on the corner of Montgomery Avenue and Haverford Station Road. It's scheduled for Saturday, October 17, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., with a rain date on Sunday, October 18. Merchants will be asked to fund a vendor or activity at the event, donate prizes for a raffle or become a dues-paying member of HCA. She also distributed flyers to be posted at businesses, condo and apartment complexes, post offices and transit stops throughout Haverford and environs.

Hala and vice president Catherine Abrams will convene a meeting later in June to organize canvassing teams and assign coverage areas. Click [here](#) to sign up or request posters.

Sharpe Park Watering:

Catherine Abrams is looking for volunteers over the summer to water the newly planted Sunny Bed in the local park. Watering directions are in the green metal bin in the center of the park near the new Sunny Bed. Here's a link to sign up and view the watering schedule: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084FA8A92EA6FB6-64461002-sharpe>.

Snowflake Lights:

Treasurer Lee Tabas said a payment of \$4,700 was made early in June for 10 brand new Snowflake lights with photovoltaic switches that turn them on at dusk and off at dawn. They will replace dim and aging lights along Haverford's Lancaster Avenue corridor. Several last-minute \$100 donations helped seal the deal.

HCA will request a 50 percent reimbursement from Lower Merion Township, which is in line with the township's routine practice of subsidizing the annual cost to install and remove the lights.

Another 16 new lights are needed to replace the rest of the older ones no longer in their prime. That will cost upwards of \$7,500, a heavy lift for a small nonprofit like HCA. Click [here](#) if you'd like to contribute to the Snowflake Fund. Just write "Snowflakes" in the comment section of the donation form.

Traffic Calming Report - From HCA board member Barbara Cohen:

The township's public presentation on proposed traffic calming measures for Montgomery Avenue has been postponed from early June to September.

The HCA primer, "[Traffic Calming: What's It All About?](#)," she noted, was created to:

- educate members on traffic calming goals, tradeoffs and tools,
- explain which measures work for roads like Montgomery Avenue and
- prepare members to give informed feedback once recommendations are released.

Barbara also reported that an accident involving a tractor-trailer hitting overhead wiring caused a transformer to fall and temporarily closed part of Montgomery Avenue near Woodside Road, highlighting ongoing safety concerns.

Membership Report - From HCA secretary Charles Ault:

Social media activity has been slowing down and there is little or no change to paid memberships and email subscribers.

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 haverfordcivicasociation@gmail.com. (P.S. We can also use some technical assistance with the website.)

Bits & Pieces

(A miscellany of factoids from various sources.)



Lower Merion Historical Society: LMHS is preparing for its Inaugural Fundraising Gala & Silent Auction on November 14, 2026, at the Cynwyd Club. If you'd like to be an event sponsor, click [here](#). To donate items for the silent auction, click [here](#). [LMHS]

Summer Heat: PECO withdrew its 12.5 percent rate hike request for 2027, but the utility is charging its customers 3.1 percent more this summer due to higher energy demand during the hottest season of the year. [Patch]

Past, Present but, Sadly, No Future: After 50 years, owner Sherri Tillman is closing the quirky, much-loved Ardmore gift shop, Past*Present*Future. Tillman ran the business in Center City before moving to Ardmore. It's currently at 15 Lancaster Avenue. Stop by and make the most of the 20-percent-off retirement sale. [various]

Slim Margin: Megan Griffin-Shelley, a Whitemarsh Township Supervisor and PA House staffer, edged out environmental attorney Jason Landau Goodman in the May 19 primary by 105 votes. She is expected to replace retiring State Rep. Mary Jo Daley in the heavily Democratic 148th District, which includes all of Whitemarsh Township and Narberth Borough and parts of Lower Merion Township, including Penn Valley, Gladwyne, Bala Cynwyd, and Penn Wynne. [Phila 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 haverfordcivicasociation@gmail.com. We encourage subscribers to also become dues-paying members to help defray the cost of our email service. Click [here](#) to sign up.

Stay connected!

The Newsletter is taking a break over the summer. It'll be back in September with a fresh report on what's happening in Haverford and our Lower Merion neighborhood. Stay

informed and involved. Remember, your voice matters in making Haverford a better place for all.

Tuesday, September 8, 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 / RENEW / DONATE
Annual membership is on a calendar-year basis, due in January.
(Dues paid early accrue to the following year.)