

Discover Haverford to celebrate 15 years of fostering township's economic growth at Sip and Savor Soiree

Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Parade planned to go down Parkway on Sunday

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Discover Haverford will present The Community Champion Award to Nolan Painting, a Haverford Township business that has shown exceptional commitment to the Haverford Township community and whose efforts have enhanced the vitality of the community and the quality of life of residents. Above, Nolan Painting employees cleaning up the Pennsy Trail, which they adopted. (COURTESY OF DISCOVER HAVERFORD)

HAVERFORD — Discover Haverford will celebrate 15 years of growth and success at their fundraising Sip & Savor Soiree, 7 to 10 p.m. Friday, April 25 at Brick & Brew, 31 E. Eagle Road, Havertown.

At the event, Discover Haverford will recognize its 2025 Awards of Excellence recipients.

Discover Haverford is a partnership between Haverford Township, business and property owners and residents.

It fosters economic growth in the township by supporting local businesses; promoting Haverford as a shopping and dining destination; hosting shop and dine local events such as their Havertown Holiday Festival, Dining Club, Haverfood Festival, Love Local Nights; and revitalizing the township's business districts and public spaces through matching façade grants to businesses; and the installation of planters, gardens, fountains, benches, and signage.

“The transformation in Haverford Township over the past 15 years has been remarkable,” explained Discover Haverford’s board President Jon Druhan in a statement. “Haverford Township has emerged with renewed energy and an updated look and Discover Haverford has been an integral part of these changes.”

“It has been such a pleasure to witness and be a part of these changes,” said Jeanne Angell, Discover Haverford executive director. “There has always been something special about Haverford Township: families who have lived here for generations,

the close-knit neighborhoods, the family-centered culture, and the high level of civic engagement and volunteerism.”

At the Sip & Savor Soiree, Discover Haverford will honor local businesses and civic leaders with their annual awards.

“An exciting part of the evening will be presenting our Awards of Excellence,” Haverford Township commissioner and event co-chair Judy Trombetta announced. “It is always a joy to shed light on our amazing civic leaders and businesses.”



Haverford Township resident and volunteer Chris Whiting will be awarded the Donald Kelly Award for Civic Engagement. Whiting will be recognized for his extensive volunteer work in the township. (COURTESY OF DISCOVER HAVERFORD)

The Donald Kelly Award for Civic Engagement is presented to a volunteer whose extensive efforts have enhanced the quality of life and economic development of Haverford Township in meaningful and significant ways.

The 2025 award will be presented to Chris Whiting for his work with many Haverford Township civic groups, including the Haverford Township Civic Council, Beechwood Civic Association, Haverford Township Historical Society, Haverford Tree Tenders, Discover Haverford, Haverford Music Festival, Freedom Playground and Friends of Haverford Trails.

“I am so honored to be selected for this award,” declared Whiting. “I truly love Haverford Township and my volunteer work for various community groups and projects has been deeply satisfying. It has been my pleasure to be part of a large group of fellow volunteers who are working to improve our community!”

The Community Champion Award will be presented to Nolan Painting.

This award is presented to a township business or organization that has shown exceptional commitment to the community and whose efforts have enhanced the vitality of the community and the quality of life of residents.

According to Discover Haverford, Nolan Painting is a business leader in the community in terms of giving back, and the business’s Nolan in the Neighborhood initiative has invested over a million

dollars into charitable causes, including being a founding member of HPED, organizing an annual run to support the American Cancer Society, running blood drives, adopting the Pennsy Trail and supporting many local organizations.

“Community is at the core of who we are at Nolan Painting,” explained Jon Meyer, Nolan Painting’s president and CEO. “Being recognized as a Community Champion in our hometown of Havertown is really meaningful to us.”

The new Business Innovation Award will be presented to Plant Roots/The Bookery Coffeehouse for their partnerships with other local businesses, unique products, popular workshops, and their outdoor Flora events combining food, drink, live music and shopping.

The 2025 Eye-Catching Award goes to Centrella’s Deli, for façade renovations over the past several years.

“Improving the appearance of a commercial property not only enhances its own value,” explained Don Kelly, chair of Discover Haverford’s Windows and Façades Committee. “But it often changes the equation for others nearby in deciding whether to make an additional investment in their own properties, leading to the revitalization of entire business districts.”

The Standing Ovation Award is selected by popular vote and presented to a business of the highest standards, offering exceptional customer service, an attractive, welcoming

environment, and engagement in the community life of Haverford Township.

The 2025 award will be presented to JD McGillicuddy's, which has been a popular anchor business in the Brookline business district since 2010.

For more information about the Sip & Savor Soiree and to buy a ticket, visit www.DiscoverHaverford.org/sip-and-savor-soiree.

Community invited to Mass at St. Patrick's Church parade on Sunday

Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez will serve as the principal celebrant and homilist at the Saint Patrick's Day Commemorative Mass at 9 a.m. Sunday, March 16 at St. Patrick's Church, 20th and Locust streets, Philadelphia, prior to the St' Patrick's Day Parade in center city Philadelphia.

The Rev. Kevin Gallagher, parade chaplain and pastor of St. Denis Parish in Havertown, will concelebrate.

Prior to the Mass, the Philadelphia Emerald Society Pipe Band will lead a procession into the church. The Bishop Shanahan High School Choir and cantor Karen Boyce McCollum will provide music.

Following Mass, Gallagher will join marchers at 11 a.m. in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, which has been held for more than 250 years in the city.

With a new route this year, the parade will start at 16th Street and John F. Kennedy Boulevard, proceed west on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway and end at Eakins Oval at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

The grand marshal for the 2025 parade is Paddy Rooney and this year's theme is "Saint Patrick, Bless Those Dedicated to Serving Others."

For more information about the Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Parade: <http://PhillyParade.com>.

Bethel Township Senior Citizens meet monthly

The Bethel Township Senior Citizens Group meets for fun and games at 11 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month in the John L. Myers Building, 1092 Bethel Rd., Garnet Valley.

The next meeting will take place Wednesday, March 19.

Seniors can bring their own lunch but coffee, tea and dessert will be provided. All Bethel Township seniors are welcome to attend.



Pictured at the Pathways PA Center for Families in Media are, left to right, Keyana Nelson, Pathways PA Resident Advisor and Cook; Lenora Pope, Pathways PA Program Director; Mark Dungee, Pathways PA Staff Accountant; Ebony Perkins, Pathways PA Program Supervisor; Asia Pope, Pathways PA Residential Advisor and Cook; and Shane Piecara, Propell Credit Union Marketing Lead.

Propell Kids' Foundation cooks up ways to support local families navigating road to independence

For families working to rebuild their lives, having a safe place to call home is just the beginning.

At PathWays PA Center for Families in Media, mothers and children affected by homelessness and child welfare issues find not only shelter but the tools to move toward long-term stability. Thanks to

a donation from Propell Kids' Foundation, these families now have a fully equipped kitchen to support their journey toward independence.

The Propell Kids' Foundation, formerly BHCU Foundation, a nonprofit founded and managed by Propell Credit Union, recently provided essential kitchen equipment to the Pathways PA Center's renovated cooking space. The donation included a commercial microwave, an industrial mixer, ingredient bins, a rolling pan rack, food supplies, and hygiene products, all aimed at making meal preparation easier for families staying in the residential cottages.

“Financial independence starts with stability, and having access to everyday essentials — like a functional kitchen — creates a sense of normalcy for these families,” said Gary Golden, CEO of Propell Credit Union. “By helping to provide meals, life skills, and a welcoming environment, we hope to support PathWays PA's mission of empowering families to rebuild their lives.”

Cooking plays an essential role in the center's services, which include case management, life skills education, mentoring and therapeutic support. Through their cooking program, mothers can learn valuable skills to provide for their families.

This isn't the first time Propell Kids' Foundation has supported the Pathways PA Center. Three years ago, the foundation donated bean bag chairs, gaming systems, DVDs, and other items to create a more comfortable lounging space for families.



Ryan Conte, VP, Chief Revenue Officer, is shown bringing items in to equip the kitchen at PathWays PA Center for Families in Media. Thanks to a donation from Propell Kids' Foundation, the Center's families now have a fully equipped kitchen to support their journey toward independence. (COURTESY OF PROPELL KIDS' FOUNDATION)

“At Propell, we mean business, not just for our members, but also for our community,” Golden added. “We’re proud to stand behind organizations like PathWays PA that make a real difference in the lives of local families.”

Through these partnerships, Propell Kids’ Foundation continues to invest in programs that give families the resources they need to thrive. Because when families have the right support, financial independence becomes a real possibility, the foundation said.

For more information on Propell Kids’ Foundation and its community initiatives, visit www.propellcu.org/kidsfoundation.

Brandywine Battlefield Park opens for season

The Brandywine Battlefield Park opened for its regular tour season last week, and will continue to be open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every Friday and Saturday until mid-December.

Currently, the Visitor Center is open those days but is under construction with no inside restrooms. Portable restrooms are available outside of the building.

Visitors to Brandywine Battlefield Park can watch an 18minute orientation video, take a self-guided tour of the museum, and shop in the museum store.

Additionally, tours of the Benjamin Ring House, which was

Washington's Headquarters, are offered at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Tours of the Gideon Gilpin House are offered at 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Admission is \$8 for adults; \$7 for seniors/AAA/AARP; \$5 for children 3-11; and free for younger kids and active-duty military.

The park is a National Historical Landmark on 52 acres in Chadds Ford. It is part of the site of the Battle of Brandywine fought on Sept. 11, 1777, during the Revolution. The site is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission with the active support of the Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates.

For more information on the Park, visit www.brandywinebattlefield.org or follow on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

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