



# BOROUGH OF BRADFORD WOODS

## NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2: Fall/Winter 2019/2020

WWW.BRADFORDWOODSPA.ORG

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### COMMUNITY CORNER

#### REMEMBER TO VOTE NOVEMBER 5!

##### MEET YOUR CANDIDATES:

**Jennifer Griffin** has lived in the Borough for eight years. She has been actively involved in the community throughout that time, serving as a Treasurer for Couples Club and Chair of the Bradford Woods Community Church Council, and currently serves as Chair of the Environmental Committee at Bradford Woods Elementary School. She and her husband Rob have four children ranging in age from two to thirteen. Jennie consults part-time with technology manufacturing companies in product innovation strategy. She looks forward to serving - and preserving - this unique Borough and representing the interests of its residents on Council.

**Todd Hipwell** (Current member of Council and head of Finance Committee) Todd grew up in Bradford Woods and currently lives on Edgewood Road. He is the Vice President of Finance for Dick's Sporting Goods and has been with the Company for over twenty years. Todd and his wife, Alisha, and their three boys moved back to the Borough in 2002 and he someday hopes that all three of his kids, and their future families, will also reside in the Borough.

**Tom Kosmala** (Current on North Hills COG and Public Relations Committees; Executive Board Authority for Northland Public Library). As a long-term resident (52 years), Tom was the Couple's Club Musical Director for 20 years and has a private piano studio in the Borough. He has been an advocate to preserve the heritage of our bucolic community and plans to ensure that the wooded nature of Bradford Woods continues for future generations. Borough Council should represent the wishes of all residents through transparency and communications. Keep Bradford Woods safe and green ! He is a Liberal Democrat.

**Doug Marsico** (Current Mayor) Doug moved into the Borough with his family in 2012. Previously he lived one mile up the road where he established many of his current Borough friendships. He feels the Borough is a special place and serving the public as the Mayor is a good way to connect to its community. Throughout the years Doug has gained appreciation for the Borough's distinctiveness and feels that it must be maintained.

#### BOROUGH RECEIVES TWO P.S.A.B COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS

On June 11, 2019 Borough manager, Natalie Thiess, attended the PA Association of Boroughs (PSAB) Conference in Hersey Pa. There are 958 Boroughs across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania of varying numbers of residents. Bradford Woods borough is proud to announce that it was the recipient of Two Communication Awards presented to Boroughs with a population of less than 2,500. We received a 3rd place award for our Newsletter and a 1<sup>st</sup> Place award for our Website. These accomplishments join our Gold Certification for Sustainable PA that was earned in 2018. In addition to accepting these latest accolades, Ms. Thiess attended several educational sessions, including one presented by Governor Tom Wolf, who acknowledged the challenges that Boroughs face as they are often small municipalities with a limited tax base .

## **BOROUGH ORGANIZATIONS**

### **Bradford Woods Couples Club**

For more information, email  
bradfordwoodsclub@gmail.com

### **Bradford Woods Women's Club**

Contact President Shelley Byers 412-973-6371 or  
Bradfordwoodspa.org/2206/Womens-Club

### **The Heritage Committee**

For more information contact June McCartney. (724-816-3042) or visit Borough website.

### **Bradford Woods Conservancy**

Go to bradfordwoodsconservancy.org for more information on becoming a member of the Conservancy, as well view monthly events they host!

### **Bradford Woods Volunteer Fire Company**

It's time to get involved and volunteer for your community! Contact facebook.com/BWVFC

## **INFORMATION REGARDING NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION**

Members of the Bradford Woods Conservancy have voiced their concerns regarding natural resource protection within the Borough's boundaries. The ordinance that pertains to protecting natural resources is Chapter 210 Trees; Natural Resource Protection. Borough Council is currently reviewing this ordinance as questions have arisen related to its effectiveness and enforceability. Council discusses the ordinance at the public meetings held on the second Monday of each month at 7 PM.

At the August 12, 2019 monthly Council meeting Borough Solicitor, Kate Diersen, explained the building permitting process, specific roles and procedures and what the current laws allow the Borough to do (under Uniform Construction Code, Municipal Planning Code, PA Borough Code and the Bradford Woods Ordinances/ Home Rule Charter).

**A Public Forum will be held on November 7, 2019 at 7 PM in the Borough Hall** to allow for public comment on the ordinance under review. The Mayor and members of Council encourage residents to attend and offer input on their formulated suggestions and opinions with respect to Natural Resource Protection. *The complete ordinance; Chapter 210 is available on the borough website.*

## **2019 ROADS PROGRAM**

The 2019 Roads program was placed out for bid in February/March and opened publicly March 15 at the Pine Township Municipal offices. The program was awarded by Council at the April 8<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting to lowest bidder: Liberoni Paving. The road improvement project for 2019 includes: Crystal Springs (paving and installation of storm drains); Oak Grove; Glenmore (between Forest and Wexford Run); catch basin replacement on Meetinghouse; and trench drain installation on Elm. The estimated cost for 2019 road program is \$205,454.

## **SEATS OPEN IN 2020 FOR PLANNING COMMISSION, ZONING HEARING BOARD, AND EPAC**

Your involvement in your Borough is important! In January 2020, there will be 2 seats open on the Planning Commission (4 year term), 1 seat open on the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) (3 year term) and 1 seat on the ZHB Alternate (3 year term), 1 seat open on Environmental and Parks Advisory Committee (EPAC) (3 year term), and 1 Vacancy Board (1 year term). Members of each entity are comprised of Borough residents. The Planning Commission is comprised of 7 member residents, who's powers and duties are set forth in the PA Municipalities Planning Code. The Planning Commission advises Council on matters appropriate (PA MPC Code). The Zoning Hearing Board is comprised of 3 member residents and conducts hearings to make decisions in accordance to zoning requirements per PA MPC. The ZHB is a separate board from Council and makes independent decisions. There are also 2 ZHB alternates in the chance a member is not able to meet for a hearing. EPAC is comprised of 5 member residents (including 1 Councilmember). The powers and duties of EPAC are listed in the Borough Code, but in general, they are to advise Council on natural resource protection and the improvement of the quality of the environment within Borough limits. The Vacancy Board is a single-member, one-year position who's purpose is to decide the replacement of a Councilmember should a position be vacated, in the event that the remaining Councilmembers are unable to reach a decision. All appointments are voluntary. If you are interested in becoming more involved in your community via an appointment (or reappointment) to a board, please email or mail a letter of interest and resume to the Borough office by December 1, 2019. If you have any questions regarding the various boards, please feel free to email or call the Borough office for more details.

## NETFLIX SERIES FILMED IN THE BOROUGH

*Article Written By: June McCartney and Ruthie Kananagh: Bradford Woods Women's Club and Heritage Committee*

Lincoln Road was transformed from a relatively quiet Borough street to one bustling with activity during the June filming of "I'm Not Okay with This", a Netflix series of eight, thirty-minute episodes scheduled to premiere in 2020.

The film's story was taken from a graphic novel and has been described as a dark, coming-of-age comedy with supernatural undertones. It is directed by Englishman, Jonathan Entwistle. One of the executive producers is Shawn Levy of the Netflix mega-hit "Stranger Things". In the starring role is Sophia Lillis, a petite, seventeen-year-old actress who appeared as Beverly Marsh in the 2017 remake of Stephen King's "It". She can also be seen in HBO's "Sharp Objects". Sophia is scheduled to play Nancy Drew in "Nancy Drew and the Hidden Staircase" and also will appear in "It II".

As we approached the set, we found local Officers Olszewski and Chiaramonte stationed at the BW Elementary School side of Lincoln. Further on we talked with Tom Bonello, a set security guard from Las Vegas. He has worked on many film sets throughout the United States including the set of "Mr. Rogers". Tom was happy to talk about being "shoulder to shoulder" with Tom Hanks on that set. The Pittsburgh area, according to Tom, is popular with producers because of our many 50's style buildings and homes. The Pennsylvania Film Production Tax Credit also draws production companies to our state.

The location of the set was at the top of Coolidge, land previously owned by Dahl Ritchey, a well-known architect famous for his work on the Civic Arena, Mellon Square and other projects.

As we approached Coolidge, we were directed to a golf cart and driver who drove up the steep and narrow driveway to the set. Overseeing everything associated with the set was Joshua Jenks, Project Location Manager. He said this very private, wooded property was selected for the film because of an article published about the home when it was for sale many years ago. He said the greatest challenge with this project has been transporting the eighty crew members, fifty teenage extras, and truckloads of equipment up to this "tip of a pin" location. Josh is a local guy as are the majority of the crew members who were hired from Pittsburgh area unions.

Filming inside the home was about to begin and we were taken to the home's back entrance, past two white tents sheltering the teen extras. We also passed by two green, 7' high poles. They will be used by chroma key compositing to create a computer-generated fire tower on the property.

The expansive windows of this mid-century dwelling were coated with a black gel to produce a nighttime scene inside the home. Looking out from the dining room, the patio and gardens appeared to be flooded in moonlight because of the window gel.

After being instructed to put our cell phones on silence, we were moved closer to the filming and caught a glimpse of Ms. Lillis along with her co-star, Sophia Bryant known for her role in "The Good Wife".

The home's interior decorations had been changed out and replaced with furnishings, paintings, and decorations appropriate for the film. Many crew members were standing around as the shot was being filmed including a prop man whose job had been to place empty beer cans around the set. Josh said he and his crew will be responsible for putting everything back in order, including the landscaping, after the filming is completed.

As we walked to the golf cart and driver who would take us back down Coolidge, we were invited to enjoy something from the "Cafe Tent". It was stocked with comfort food and fragrant with the aroma of freshly brewed coffee.

Our thanks to this very accommodating crew, especially Josh, who showed us around the set and answered our questions so this event could be recorded in Bradford Woods history.

Everyone we spoke with seemed to appreciate the friendly residents of Bradford Woods along with the borough's unique setting. We feel they may be back!



## MESSAGE FROM BRADFORD WOODS VOLUNTEER

### FIRE COMPANY:

## BRADFORD WOODS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

We are members of the community who have made a commitment to help our neighbors when misfortune occurs. The Fire Company along with the Northern Regional Police and the McCandless Ambulance Service are the first responders: when you call 911, we are the ones who come to help.

We are a non-profit organization staffed by volunteers. Our funding comes in part from the voluntary contributions made by the residents of Bradford Woods. Our members are nearby residents who volunteer their time not only to respond to emergencies, but also to train on equipment and procedures so we can be effective when you dial 911. In addition to our role as first responders, we also organize community activities: the annual Halloween parade, spaghetti dinners, pancake breakfasts. We also rent out the firehall to residents for events.

Pennsylvania relies on volunteers for firefighting. Sadly, individuals willing to volunteer and assist their neighbors have decreased drastically. We need your support to remain effective. We'd like to encourage you to consider volunteering with us.

We appreciate active volunteers; you don't have to do the physical work of fighting fires. You could assist with road crew at traffic incidents, maintaining the building and grounds, or rolling hoses and assisting with equipment after an emergency. We have a junior firefighter program for teens age 14-18. Teens can receive training on firefighting skills but aren't allowed to go inside burning buildings. They are also eligible for college scholarships through the FIREVEST program at the community college.

You can also assist with planning and running community events. Right now, the few emergency responders that we have are also organizing community events. If you want to help but not in firefighting, how about signing up to assist with a community event and give the responders a break?

If you are interested in emergency response, training is conducted on Tuesday nights from 7-9pm. We have our membership meeting on the first Tuesday of the month, training on the second Tuesday, maintenance on the third Tuesday of the month, and our officer meeting on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Please feel free to stop by and meet your borough volunteers and learn more about what we do. If you would like to learn more about how you can help out, contact us at [bradfordwoodsffc@gmail.com](mailto:bradfordwoodsffc@gmail.com) or go to our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/BWVFC](http://www.facebook.com/BWVFC)

Our Fire Chief, Vince Cannella, is also the emergency coordinator for the Borough. He maintains a list of residents who have special needs or who have skills or tools that could be used to help in the event of a weather emergency (a backhoe, a salvage pump, chain saw, winch, etc).

### WINTER STORMWATER TIPS

Winter is certainly here, and with it comes road salts, piles of snow and uninvited house guests (the furry kind). These seasonal sights may impact water quality, and our goal is to keep winter wonderful by preventing pollution from reaching our waterways. Just like rain, snow-melt can carry pollutants into storm drains and streams.

By making smart decisions while battling the cold, ice and snow this season, we can prevent additional stormwater pollution. For example, salt used to prevent ice on driveways, roads and sidewalks can easily wash into freshwater streams and destroy aquatic ecosystems. And we all know that pests like rodents and insects love to hide out in our homes for warmth over the winter, but using pesticides or insecticides can harm the watershed. If used outdoors or disposed of improperly, these chemicals can be washed into our streams by stormwater. In our waterways, these chemicals have the same effects on aquatic organisms that they do on the pests in our homes. These pesticides and excess salts also reduce the quality of the water we use for drinking and recreation.

Following these tips can help keep our water clean and protect the environment:

Dispose of shoveled snow in vegetated areas; never dump it into streets or streams. The more water can be absorbed by plants or sink into the ground, the less water will run off, carrying pollutants into streams. A rain garden or other planted area is the perfect place for shoveled snow. Use safe and effective alternatives to salt for ice, and follow the application rate on the label. Safety is of utmost importance, but salt is damaging to plants, animals, concrete and water quality. Instead of focusing on melting the snow on your driveway or sidewalks, use sand to help gain traction. Or, use a salt-free de-icer like SafePaw. Remember, the sooner you shovel, the better, as less ice will form and less de-icer can be used. Use natural and non-toxic alternatives to chemical pesticides, and reduce indoor and outdoor chemical use. Boric acid is a low-toxicity mineral that is highly effective over time, and bait boxes are another great alternative. There are also many herbal pest deterrents; for example, mint deters mice.

**ORDINANCE/NEIGHORLY REMINDERS**

The complete Borough Code can be found at [www.bradfordwoodspa.org](http://www.bradfordwoodspa.org) or directly at [www.ecode360.com/BR1973](http://www.ecode360.com/BR1973)  
 If residents have any questions regarding the Borough Code, contact the Borough office at 724-935-2990 or [bradfordwoods@zoominternet.net](mailto:bradfordwoods@zoominternet.net).

- Fence Permitting- It is required to obtain a zoning and building permit before the installation of a fence. §225-19(E)
- Homeowners are responsible for the removal of hazardous trees on their property. Please take note of dead/hazardous trees on your property as they are a danger to life and property. §210-4
- Remember to properly store your garbage cans in a timely fashion before and after pick-up days. *Remember there are fines associated with not bringing your refuse cans away from the curb.* Full ordinance: §183-4.
- Driveway permits are required when installing a driveway (surfacing or resurfacing). If over 400 square feet, a stormwater plan is required. §110
- Residents must obey 3 P.S. § 495-302 of the Pennsylvania Dog Law, including the regulation or prohibition of dogs running at large. **YOUR DOG MUST BE ON A LEASH.** Also, *please clean up after your pet! Pet waste washes into our storm drains and pollutes our streams!* Keep it clean—we all live downstream!

**STAY INFORMED WITH BRADFORD WOODS NEWS FLASH!**

1. Go to [www.bradfordwoodspa.org](http://www.bradfordwoodspa.org)
  2. Click “Notify Me” on the left-hand side. You will find instructions on the page.
  3. Choose Borough News for current information and choose Main Calendar for events. You have the option for email and/or SMS (text).
  4. You will now be updated with current Borough information and news!
- \*All emails are treated confidentially by the Borough.  
 Call the Borough if you need help or have questions with signing up.

**NO OVERNIGHT STREET PARKING  
 NO STREET PARKING WHEN IT SNOWS**

As winter is fast approaching, it’s important to remember to not park in the street when it snows, regardless of time of day.



**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE: WASTE MANAGEMENT**

Residents of Bradford Woods have access to Waste Management’s Household Hazardous Waste Program. Typical household materials that are accepted for collection include: *Paint Products, Automotive Products, Garden Chemicals, Household Chemicals, Swimming Pool Chemicals, Electronics, and Universal Materials* There three easy ways to participate: Schedule a collection online; Call 1-800-449-7587 (Mon.-Fri., 5:00am- 5:00pm, PST); E-mail: [AtYourDoor@WM.com](mailto:AtYourDoor@WM.com) (with your list of items and your contact information

If you have any issues with scheduling a pick-up, please contact the Borough office.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**  
 MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

OCT 15	7 PM	CONSERVANCY SPEAKER: LYME DISEASE	BOROUGH HALL
OCT 25	6 PM	HALLOWEEN PARADE	CHURCH
OCT 31	6-8 PM	HALLOWEEN	NEIGHBORHOOD
NOV 7	7 PM	PUBLIC FORUM	BOROUGH HALL
DEC 1	5 PM	LIGHT UP NIGHT	RESERVE

BE SURE TO VISIT [NORTHLANDLIBRARY.ORG](http://NORTHLANDLIBRARY.ORG) TO SEE A LIST OF LIBRARY EVENTS! THERE’S SO MUCH TO DO AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY!

Bradford Woods Borough  
 PO Box 163  
 4908 Wexford Run Road  
 Bradford Woods, PA 15015

**2019 YARD WASTE DATES**

March 16	August 17
April 20	September 21
May 18	October 19
June 15	November 16
July 20	December 7

**Borough Address:** (Mailing) P.O. Box 163  
 4908 Wexford Run Road  
 Bradford Woods, PA 15015  
 Physical location: behind the Fire Hall

**Borough office:** 724-935-2990  
**Website:** [www.bradfordwoodspa.org](http://www.bradfordwoodspa.org)  
**Borough Code:** [www.ecode360.com/BR1973](http://www.ecode360.com/BR1973)  
**Email:** [bradfordwoods@zoominternet.net](mailto:bradfordwoods@zoominternet.net)

**Northern Regional Police:**  
 (Non-Emergency) 724-625-3157 · [www.nrpolicy.com](http://www.nrpolicy.com)  
 (Emergency): 911

**2019 BOROUGH COUNCIL**

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Committee Chairman</u>
Public Safety	Victoria Pongrace
Personnel	Chuck Coltharp
Roads	David Baldonieri
Finance	Todd Hipwell
Environment	Kevin Rhule
Planning/Zoning	Paula Hinston
COG Rep/Library	Thomas Kosmala
Public Relations	

**2019 APPOINTMENTS**

Zoning Officer/Code Enforcement	Albert Kohan
Emergency Mgmt. Coordinator	Vince Cannella
Earned Income Tax Collector	Keystone Collections
Tax Collector	Jordan Tax Services
Del. Real Estate Tax Collector	Goehring Rutter Boehm
Case Sabatini/CPA Firm	Auditor
Borough Manager	Natalie Thiess
Borough Solicitor	Goehring Rutter Boehm
Borough Mayor	Doug Marsico

**BOROUGH REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE HELD THE SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 4908 Wexford Run Road (unless otherwise advertised)**