

THE BRANDYWINE DISPATCH



News & New Beginnings — Kathleen Goodier, BBPA Board President

As we continue to commemorate the approaching 250th anniversary of our nation, there is such excitement surrounding the important role the Brandywine Battlefield and our community will play in these historic celebrations. Our “Amazing Race to Brandywine” road rally was a great success, bringing together participants from across the region for a fun and engaging experience that highlighted the rich history and beautiful landscapes of the Brandywine Valley.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our incredible volunteers. Their time, energy, and passion are the foundation of the Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates, and we are deeply grateful for all they do to support our mission and programs throughout the year.

We also look forward to our next 250th event, “Voices of Brandywine” program on August 1, which promises to be another memorable opportunity to connect with the stories, people, and history that make this place so special. We hope to see you there!



Field Report — Troy Grubb, Site Administrator



Summer is almost here and the site is buzzing with activity. We had our first 250th event, the Amazing Race to Brandywine; we have our summer intern researching the Gilpin family and their indentured servant and enslaved person; and we're continuing to progress on our ADA pathway project. More details about the Gilpin Family will be for a future issue.

First, I want to inform everyone that work at the Gilpin house has progressed to a point where we should be able to open that side of the park soon. The pathway to the parking lot is paved and landings outside the buildings are nearly complete. Once the landings are completed, we will once again offer tours of the house. After Gilpin reopens, we will close Ring to begin the paving and bluestone landing. This should take approximately three weeks to complete. The final step in the process is applying an oil and reddish chip layer to the top of the asphalt pathway, giving the appearance of a dirt path. Since there's still quite a bit of work to complete, I'll refrain from putting a firm deadline on the project. I will continue to ask for everyone's patience as we continue to work through the process.

Please follow us on social media and continue to check the website for updates on our events and projects. I'd also like to ask for your continued support. Our events and programs could not take place without your contributions.

In this newsletter you can expect:

News & New
Beginnings

Field Report

The 250th In
Motion

Historic Fun
Fact- by Jamie
McGrail, PHMC
Intern

Our People,
Our Mission



BATTLE FOR INDEPENDENCE: AMAZING RACE TO BRANDYWINE

We loved meeting everyone who joined us for the Amazing Race to Brandywine. You turned the day into a celebration of community, history, and the spirit of the Battle of Brandywine. It was a joy to see teams exploring the sites, taking on challenges, and sharing moments of discovery.

Thank you for helping us create a day we are proud of. We are grateful to our staff and volunteers for their care and steady enthusiasm, to the historical interpreters and special guests for bringing history to life, to our sponsors for supporting public programs, and to our location partners and prize donors for making the day possible. We hope you will join us again; sign up for updates to hear about upcoming programs.



Special Guests: [PA Military Museum](#), [America250PA Delco](#)



Sponsors: [Visit Delco](#), [America250PADelco](#), [America250PA](#), [Visit Philly](#), [Judge Mobile Wash](#), [NALT/Brinton Run Preserve](#), [ShopRite](#), & [Wawa](#)

Location Partners: [Natural Lands Stroud Preserve](#), [Brandywine Conservancy](#) at [Birmingham Hill Preserve](#), [Birmingham Township](#) at [Sandy Hollow Heritage Park](#), & [NALT/Brinton Run Preserve](#)

Prize Donors: [Chadds Ford Tavern](#), [Paradocx Vineyard](#), [Penns Woods Winery](#), [NALT/Brinton Run Preserve](#), [Delaware Museum of Nature & Science](#), [Delaware Art Museum](#), [Museum of the American Revolution](#), [American Helicopter Museum & Education Center](#), [Harvest Ridge Winery](#), and [Longwood Gardens](#).

Station Participants:

[9th Pennsylvania](#), [Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead](#), [Ned Hector](#) (portrayed by [Noah Lewis](#)), [Joseph Seymour & Jennifer Anne Nichols](#), and [Alexander Hamilton](#) ([Gene Pisasale](#)).



Gene Pisasale
from our board member: Kris Barone



Thank you to all of our generous reenactors who helped bring the story of Brandywine to life. Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead shared daily life through women's work and farming demonstrations. The 9th Pennsylvania brought the experience of Revolutionary War soldiers to life. Noah Lewis portrayed Edward "Ned" Hector and honored the legacy of a Black Revolutionary War hero. Joseph Seymour and Jennifer Anne Nichols brought depth and authenticity to their portrayals of a soldier and a camp follower.

Gene Pisasale greeted participants in the Brandywine Amazing Race at Battlefield Park, delighting adults and children alike with his portrayal of Colonel Alexander Hamilton in full military uniform. Later in the day, Gene joined several others at the Barns-Brinton House, ca. 1714, where he participated in the reading of the Declaration of Independence.

Thank you, Gene, for helping bring history to life for our community!



Click The Image
Here To Go To
Ticket Site:



BREWS AT THE BATTLEFIELD

— JUNE 13, 2026 — 5 - 8 PM

At Brews at the Battlefield, you'll have the opportunity to sample a wide selection of craft beers from local breweries. Whether you're an enthusiast or simply enjoy trying new flavors, this event promises to satisfy your taste buds.

- General Admission begins at 5 p.m.
- You must be at least age 21 to attend. No infants, toddlers, or children will be admitted.
- A current photo ID is required for entry.
- All ticket sales are final. No refunds or exchanges.
- This is a sampling event only.
- General Admission tickets are \$45
- Designated Driver tickets are \$16. A very limited number of DD tickets will be sold.
- No outside alcohol is permitted on the event grounds.
- Food is not included in ticket sales.
- Parking is first-come, first-serve.
- We recommend bringing lawn chairs and blankets.
- No pets; service animals only
- We reserve the right, at our discretion, to remove any individual(s) from the event for inappropriate behavior. You will be escorted out by security and not be allowed back in.
- Don't drink and drive! Designate a driver or arrange a rideshare, there will be a pick-up/drop-off spot.
- All exits are final. Once you leave the event grounds, you may not re-enter.
- Attendees being picked up or dropped off by friends or a ride-sharing service should do so only at the designated pick-up points on site. Please follow the posted signs.

Event
Sponsors:

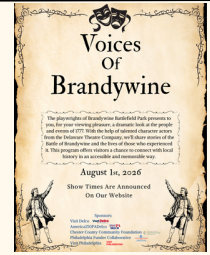


Orders from Headquarters

VOICES OF BRANDYWINE

— **August 1, 2026**

- Show Times:
 - Washington HQ: 10:00, 10:30, 12:30, 2:30
 - Gideon Gilpin House: 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:00
- Characters: see our website



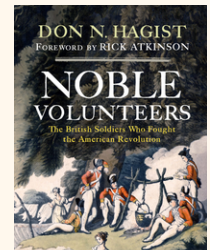
250TH REVOLUTIONARY SPEAKER SERIES FT. DON N. HAGIST

— **November 14, 2026**

— **12 - 1:30 PM**

Don Hagist, managing editor of the *Journal of the American Revolution*, uncovers the real lives of the British soldiers who fought in America.

Drawing on extensive primary research from archives across North America and Europe, his book *Noble Volunteers* brings their stories into sharp focus.



CAMPING WITH CONTINENTALS

— **May 15 & 16, 2027**

An exciting weekend at Brandywine Battlefield Park, where guests can experience life like 1777 soldiers. For example, you could take part in musket drills, learn about cooking over open fires from camp followers, and sleep in tents. There will be an opportunity to buy a additional ticket to an colonial-style dinner with General Washington, Marquis de Lafayette, and other officers.

HISTORIC FUN FACT — Jamie McGrail, PHMC Intern

In the 18th century, taverns were popular places for communities to gather and spread knowledge! Beer is high in calories and affordable for any working man trying to get some energy for work, but anyone could come together to socialize and be merry in the diversity of colonial Philadelphia. Taverns were also places where people might have read newspapers aloud for everyone to hear, so any man could be up to date on major events and politics no matter class or literacy! These exchanges were popular forms of political engagement during the struggles over the Revolutionary War and the development of the new nation.

“In colonial Philadelphia, a city with an ethnically and culturally diverse population and a relatively fluid social hierarchy, taverns drew together customers from a wide variety of backgrounds in conditions of enforced intimacy” (Thompson 3).

“Newspapers were often read aloud in taverns and at home to those who could not read for themselves, which extended their reach to many Americans who were not technically literate but who could access printed material via literate neighbors and family members” (Godbeer 162).

Works Cited:

Thompson, Peter. *Rum, Punch, and Revolution: Taverngoing and Public Life in Eighteenth-Century Philadelphia*. University of Pennsylvania Press, 1999.

Godbeer, Richard. *The Overflowing of Friendship: The Love Between Men and the Creation of the American Republic*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009.

Past and Current Sponsors:

Click on the images to learn more.



Our People, Our Purpose

<p>Our Mission:</p> <p><i>To preserve, interpret, and share the impact of the enduring story of the Battle of the Brandywine, the largest and longest single-day land battle of the American Revolution.</i></p> <p>Our Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To present educational programs, exhibits, tours, events and publications that broaden public understanding and appreciation of the significance of the Battle of Brandywine within the larger social, political, economic, technological and military context of the American Revolution period. • To be a leader in interpretation, participate in efforts to preserve, the Battlefield National Historic Landmark, of which Brandywine Battlefield Park is only a small part, and recognizing the significance of the ten square miles where approximately 30,000 men fought. • To sustain a strong partnership between PHMC, the Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates and other groups whose valued guidance and support enhance the mission and goals of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. 	<p>Board of Directors:</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Board President</td><td>- Kathleen Goodier</td></tr> <tr><td>Vice President</td><td>- Eric Downs</td></tr> <tr><td>Treasurer</td><td>- George Thorpe</td></tr> <tr><td>Secretary</td><td>- Elizabeth Miner</td></tr> <tr><td>Director</td><td>- Linnell Trimbell</td></tr> <tr><td>Director</td><td>- Andrew Outten</td></tr> <tr><td>Director</td><td>- Steve Carter</td></tr> <tr><td>Director</td><td>- Kris Barone</td></tr> <tr><td>Director</td><td>- Patrick Hart</td></tr> </table> <p>Brandywine Battlefield Park Associate Staff:</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Marketing & Events Manager</td><td>- Robin Baker</td></tr> <tr><td>Museum Shop Manager</td><td>- Nancy Heitzenrater</td></tr> <tr><td>Controller</td><td>- Brett Patterson</td></tr> <tr><td>250 Strategic Events Coordinator</td><td>- Sarah Mash</td></tr> <tr><td>Museum Shop Clerk</td><td>- Rita Razze</td></tr> <tr><td>Technical Services</td><td>- Jesse Wolfe</td></tr> </table> <p>Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission Staff:</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Site Administrator</td><td>- Troy Grubb</td></tr> <tr><td>Museum Educator</td><td>- Ben Olex</td></tr> <tr><td>Maintenance</td><td>- Ken Levin</td></tr> </table>	Board President	- Kathleen Goodier	Vice President	- Eric Downs	Treasurer	- George Thorpe	Secretary	- Elizabeth Miner	Director	- Linnell Trimbell	Director	- Andrew Outten	Director	- Steve Carter	Director	- Kris Barone	Director	- Patrick Hart	Marketing & Events Manager	- Robin Baker	Museum Shop Manager	- Nancy Heitzenrater	Controller	- Brett Patterson	250 Strategic Events Coordinator	- Sarah Mash	Museum Shop Clerk	- Rita Razze	Technical Services	- Jesse Wolfe	Site Administrator	- Troy Grubb	Museum Educator	- Ben Olex	Maintenance	- Ken Levin
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<p>Memberships</p> 	<p>Sponsorships</p> 	<p>BRANDYWINE BATTLEFIELD PARK ASSOCIATES</p> <p>https://www.brandywinebattlefield.org/</p>	<p> 610-459-3342</p> <p>Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates PO Box 202 – (Mailing Address) 1491 Baltimore Pike – (Physical Address) Chadds Ford, PA 19317</p>
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Thank you for reading!