

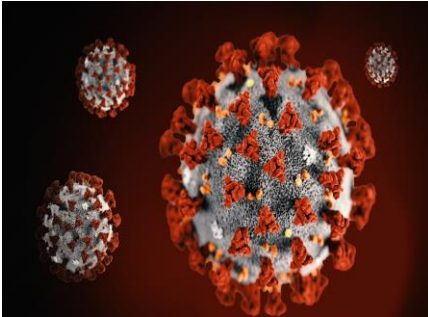


SANDY BRAE NEWSLETTER

HOT TOPICS!

COVID-19

The health and safety of the residents in Sandy Brae is always a concern for the HOA. As the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation evolves, the Board wants to assure you that we will take precautionary measures and adhere to the recommendations from public health officials as it pertains to our annual meeting on June 13th, at 10AM, in the Metropolitan Community Church on Plantation Road. As we get closer to the date, the Board will send out an e-blast and Facebook notices, as well as make phone calls to the residents without computers/emails on our final decision for holding that meeting. In the meantime, the Board encourages all residents to maintain good hygiene practices as recommended by the CDC. If you have elderly neighbors, please check on them to see if you can go to the grocery store to pick up supplies for them. As we move closer to monthly meetings dates, please check our website and Facebook for updates should the meetings be canceled. If you have any questions, you can reach out to the Board at sandybraehoa.lewes.de@gmail.com.



Please.... open your emails from the HOA

We are experiencing a very low open rate with our emails to the residents. The HOA's major form of communication with all the residents and renters is via email. We don't send unnecessary emails and we do not sell your email. If you want to know what is going on, read your emails. You can also like the HOA page on Facebook. Newsletters, local area updates, and any urgent notices come via email; we do mail to 65 residents that do not have computers. If you have any questions or issues you want to discuss with the Board, you can always reach out to us on the HOA email, sandybraehoa.lewes.de@gmail.com. And please.... open your emails from the HOA.

UPKEEP & MAINTENANCE OF HOMES

The aesthetic appearance of all homes affects the property value of all other homes; please make sure that you:

- Maintain your lawn & keep all your landscaping within the Covenant standards
- Keep your open spaces such as decks, porches, patios, front & sides of your house, free of clutter
- Replace torn screens
- Repair and/or paint any ancillary buildings such as sheds & garages
- Paint the exterior of your home as needed
- Power wash your home every 2 years
- Replace rotted exterior wood surfaces
- Perform necessary roof repairs
- All homes are obligated to have window treatments; no towels, sheets, cardboard, newspapers or painted windows are permitted

MORE HOT TOPICS!**POTITICAL SIGNS**

Just a reminder, Sussex County Code says political/election signs can go up 90 days prior to an election and can stay up 30 days after.

SANDY BRAE COVENANTS

It is every resident's responsibility to know and abide by the HOA rules and restrictions which are intended to make every owner's and renter's life in our community safe, peaceful, and predictable. Abiding by the HOA Covenants establishes a standard within the community, helps keep our community attractive, and keeps property values up. Don't have a copy of your HOA Covenants? They are available 25/7 on our website, sandybraehoa.com in the Documents tab. Want a hard-bound copy, reach out to the Board and we can drop one off or mail one.

HOA ANNUAL DUES

Per the Covenants, SBHOA annual dues are due into the HOA by January 1. There is a grace period of 30 days, but after that, your dues are considered late. Being late means there are fines plus a processing fee in addition to your dues. Get your dues into the HOA as soon as you get the bill in late November and avoid the fines.

AR FORM and WHEN ARE THEY NEEDED?

Check out the 2020 Architectural Review form on the HOA website in the Documents tab. **If you are planning any improvements whatsoever on the outside of your home** or using a dumpster while having work done on the inside of your home or putting up a fence or doing inside work where trucks and large vans block the road or getting a shed, and many more thingsmake sure you submit the AR form in a timely manner to the HOA Board. Too many residents are not properly using or submitting the AR Form and unfortunately ill will and fines have occurred. We do not have a lot of restrictions in our community, but the ones we have need to be upheld.

SPEED LIMIT & SAFETY

The speed limit within the community is 25 MPH; please observe and obey it. Please be mindful of the many people, including small children, traveling on foot, by bicycle, and walking their dogs.

VEHICLES & PARKING

No vehicles, except as may be reasonably classified as passenger cars, vans or pick-up trucks of one ton or less shall be regularly parked upon any lot where they may be seen from the street on a long-term and/or permanent basis. Vehicles must be kept on a paved driveway or within an enclosed garage, not on any property forward or to the sides of the front property line. Parking on grass adjacent to driveways or any other open space on your property is strictly prohibited. Non-compliance will lead to fines and towing. The operation of go-carts, un-muffled motor bikes and/or loud-engine recreational vehicles and all unlicensed vehicles are prohibited in all areas of the community including open lots. Trucks with over (2) axles, tractors, commercial and recreational vehicles and trailers are also prohibited.

BOATS & TRAILERS

All boats, boat trailers, horse trailers and other recreational trailers must be stored behind the property's front building line. No heavy-duty construction vehicles are allowed on the property or on the driveway.

MORE HOT TOPICS!**PARKING**

Due to our community insurance, “no parking” signs have been posted for years at the end of certain streets in the community that are designated common areas. Please do not park on that area or in front of it with any kind of vehicle. It puts the HOA in a liability situation we do not want.

SPRING CLEAN-UP / BACKYARDS

Spring is just around the corner and a perfect time to clean out yard waste and junk that has accumulated in your backyard over the winter. During our March community drive around, we noticed many many yards in need of attention. Unfortunately, our community does not have yard waste removal. We have tried to find a solution for this, but we haven’t been successful. The HOA cannot absorb the costs and not every resident wants this service. We will keep working on it.

PETS

There are State and Local leash and animal waste laws that all pet owners must adhere to. In addition, pets should not be left unattended in/on any outside area (decks, porches, garages, balconies, etc.) or inside (open doors and windows) where and when they can cause a noise nuisance to other residents and the community. And be a good neighbor.... pick up after your dog wherever you walk the animal; just because a lot is vacant, or tree lined does not mean you don’t pick up dog waste. If you see anyone not picking up after their dog, on your property, immediately go up to them and ask them to pick up after their animal. Do not be confrontational. This situation has now reached a critical health issue in our community and if habits aren’t changed, the Board will need to invest more money fighting it. Be part of the solution.... carry bags for dog waste be a responsible dog owner!



The Board has been informed of incidents of dog behavior in the community resulting in injuries to the dog their owner. The Board is urging all dog owners to make sure your dog is on a proper leash for their size and you, the owner, practice responsible neighborly behavior while walking your dog. If your dogs are in the backyard, please make sure every precaution is taken so they cannot escape and get injured, lost, etc.

We urge all owners, when walking your pet, to abide by Delaware Leash Law. And, if your pet is not dog, child, or adult friendly, to advise those that might be around you or walking toward you. Every resident, and dog, deserves a safe and happy walk around the community.

Pets are certainly welcome in Sandy Brae and are an important part of life in our community. The Board just wants everyone to be safe.

HOA WEBSITE

We made some changes to the HOA website in January, so check it out! Our website has a lot of information important to our community. You can find the AR Form, Covenants, and all Board meetings agendas and minutes. And if we need to change a Board meeting date, it is always noted on the Events Calendar.

HOT TOPICS CONTINUES!**BE RESPECTFUL OF YOUR NEIGHBORS**

While everyone is fond of the spring and summer weather for planning and partaking in outdoor activities, please be aware and cognizant of your neighbors. Keep noise levels to a reasonable level. Also, please be mindful of not starting activities very early in the morning or continuing on into the early hours of the night. If you are having a gathering at your home and there will be a lot of cars, remember to tell your neighbors and park cars half on the grass half on the street so the street is passable. Everyone is entitled to the personal “quiet” enjoyment of their home and the community. And per the covenants, no firecrackers or fireworks are permitted in the community.

Do I need a permit from DelDot if I am doing work on my driveway?

The streets in Sandy Brae are owned and maintained by the State of Delaware; the HOA does not own the streets. So, if you are putting in a new driveway, replacing an existing driveway, adding onto an existing driveway, you must apply to DelDot for an entrance permit. Step #1 is to contact Bill Kirsch, DelDot Southern Division Entrance Supervisor at William.kirsch@state.de.gov for more information. Step #2, you need to fill out an HOA Architectural Review Form. If the Board does not see a permit from DelDot, we cannot approve your driveway.

QUESTIONS OR ISSUES?

You can always reach out to the HOA Board by email at sandybraehoa.lewes.de@gmail.com or call 302-682-3986.

SBHOA Board Meetings are held the second Monday of every month at the Lewes Library from 6-8pm, and the meetings are open to all residents of Sandy Brae in good standing. These meetings are posted in the events calendar on our website in the event of a cancellation or date change. Also, all Board meeting agendas, treasurer reports, and minutes are always posted on our HOA website, which is sandybraehoa.com. And, if you haven't already done so, like our HOA page on Facebook.

Please note the annual meeting, which will be held on June 13, will be at MCC Church on Plantations Road.

Delaware/Primary Elections/Dates

Tuesday, April 28, 2020

2020 Delaware Democratic primary

2020 Delaware Republican primary

Tips for Getting the Most Out of Your Coupons

Coupons, whether they're old-school paper, store promotions, online or app-based, are designed to help make you a savvy consumer. From saving cents and dollars to getting two for the price of one, coupons can safeguard your shopping budget and afford a little wiggle room for more. Next time you hit the store, remember to bring the following tips so you can coupon like a pro and save big.

Hunt for coupons



In order to save with coupons, you need coupons, and luckily, there are plenty of sources. Start with your Sunday paper, which is filled with circulars from your most-visited retailers. Then go higher tech: ask Google for help by pairing “coupon” with your shopping destination, advises NerdWallet writer Courtney Jespersen.

Go directly to the source — retailers’ websites — which will often boast downloadable deals and coupons, adds The Balance writer Erin Huffstetler. Manufacturer coupons are also tucked into your favorite magazines, she adds. If you’re loyal to certain stores, i.e. have enrolled in their loyalty programs, you should be receiving targeted coupons and automatic savings on purchases. Websites, such as Coupons.com, is a savings-black hole with coupons ideal for your grocery runs, notes Huffstetler. You just have to select the ones that match your list or your preferred brands and print. The Balance writer Eric Rosenberg is a fan of CouponSherpa.com, which has been in the printable coupon game for quite some time. It offers deals from a range of retailers such as Amazon, Gap, Target and Old Navy.

Look at the packaging of products you already own to see if it includes a coupon, and review your receipts — sometimes a coupon for your next shopping trip is printed at the bottom or perhaps after completing a survey, you’ll earn some savings.

Target the competition

Even stores you don’t shop at can be a source of savings at the retailers you do frequent. Your favorite store might honor competitor’s coupons or match the discounted price, notes Huffstetler. And if your store doesn’t currently double coupons or allow you to stack coupons — using multiple coupons on one item — it might be time to find a retailer that does so that you can start saving more.

“When you have coupons that exceed the value of the items you’re buying, use them at Walmart. They’ll allow you to apply your coupon overage to other items, or will even give it back to you in cash,” according to Huffstetler.

Find the right app

Whether you’re shopping online or at a brick and mortar establishment, there’s an app designed to help you save. You just have to match the best app to your shopping experience. If you’re on grocery detail, check out the benefits the app Ibotta® offers in terms of organization, cost-savings and cash back, suggests Rosenberg.

Coupons are a great way to save, but you do have to do some work to make them work for your shopping lifestyle. Do a bit of coupon research before you start adding things to your cart, both in-person and online, and over time every dollar will add up and help you save.

April Fools' Day

Although April Fools' Day, also called All Fools' Day, has been celebrated for several centuries by different cultures, its exact origins remain a mystery. Some historians speculate that April Fools' Day dates back to 1582, when France switched from the Julian calendar to the [Gregorian calendar](#), as called for by the Council of Trent in 1563.

People who were slow to get the news or failed to recognize that the start of the new year had moved to January 1 and continued to celebrate it during the last week of March through April 1 became the butt of jokes and hoaxes. These pranks included having paper fish placed on their backs and being referred to as "poisson d'avril" (April fish), said to symbolize a young, easily caught fish and a gullible person.

Historians have also linked April Fools' Day to festivals such as Hilaria, which was celebrated in [ancient Rome](#) at the end of March and involved people dressing up in disguises. There's also speculation that April Fools' Day was tied to the [vernal equinox](#), or first day of spring in the Northern Hemisphere, when Mother Nature fooled people with changing, unpredictable weather.

April Fools' Day spread throughout Britain during the 18th century. In Scotland, the tradition became a two-day event, starting with "hunting the gowk," in which people were sent on phony errands (gowk is a word for cuckoo bird, a symbol for fool) and followed by Tailie Day, which involved pranks played on people's derrieres, such as pinning fake tails or "kick me" signs on them.

In modern times, people have gone to great lengths to create elaborate April Fools' Day hoaxes. Newspapers, radio and TV stations and Web sites have participated in the April 1 tradition of reporting outrageous fictional claims that have fooled their audiences.

In 1957, the BBC reported that Swiss farmers were experiencing a record spaghetti crop and showed footage of people harvesting noodles from trees; numerous viewers were fooled. In 1985, *Sports Illustrated* tricked many of its readers when it ran a made-up article about a rookie pitcher named Sidd Finch who could throw a fastball over 168 miles per hour. In 1996, Taco Bell, the fast-food restaurant chain, duped people when it announced it had agreed to purchase Philadelphia's Liberty Bell and intended to rename it the Taco Liberty Bell. In 1998, after Burger King advertised a "Left-Handed Whopper," scores of clueless customers requested the fake sandwich.

Courtesy of [HISTORY.COM](#)

APRIL

- 1 April Fool's Day
- 12 Easter Sunday
- 13 Sandy Brae Board Meeting @ 6PM*
Lewes Library
- 15 Tax Day
- 18 DE Beach Life Magazine Photo Exhibit @
Rehoboth Beach Museum
- 18 Merchant's Attic Indoor Garage Sale @ Cape
Henlopen HS (10:30AM – 2:30PM)
- 28 Election Primaries

MAY

- 10 Mother's Day
- 11 Sandy Brae Board Meeting @ 6PM*
Lewes Library
- 15 – 16 Spring Yard Sale (8AM – 1PM)
- 16 Merchant Attic Sale @ 1250 Kings HWY,
Lewes DE 10:30AM -2:30PM
- 20 Cher's Birthday
- 25 Memorial Day

JUNE

- 8 Sandy Brae Board Meeting @ 6PM*
Lewes Library
- 13 SBHOA Annual Meeting* @ 10:00 AM
[@ MCC Church on Plantations Road](#)
- 14 Flag Day
- 21 Father's Day

Check out, and sign up for newsletters and emails from <https://visitsoutherndelaware.com/de-events/month> and <https://www.beach-fun.com/events/chamber-events>

Also check website for any changes of Board meetings times or dates.

EDITORS CORNER – John Luzzi:

So, the Spring season is here, and it is usually my favorite time of the year. It was the time we start to spend more time outdoors, working in the yard, opening the pool, taking longer walks, cleaning out the house, and starting to keep the windows open.

In December, we lost our fur-baby Tula. She was one of the reasons I loved the Spring as well. She loved to roll in the grass, scout the street, and bark at other dogs. We had Tula for 11 years. She was adopted by my husband at a shelter in New Jersey. Tula was born blind and was clearly abused by her last owners. She had a noticeable cigarette burn that never healed on her mane. When I met her, 10 years ago, we became instant littermates. We rarely were apart and slept together almost every night. Al and I would joke sometimes about choosing between him or her. Thankfully he understood our relationship and had mostly the same with her as me. She kept me company while I worked at home and stood with me when my mother died in 2013, and my father who passed just a month before her in November of 2019. She was MY guardian.

Sadly, as *their* guardians, we know that the future we hold will be grim as we will need to say goodbye to them for their short time on earth. So, we enjoy every moment we can, and most of us cater to their every wish and needs. When they are gone, the void is so large, and the grief is so deep.

I guess I never *really* fully prepared myself or believed that the day would come I would need to say goodbye. See, she was diagnosed 2 years prior with kidney disease, and our plan was to assure to try any foods and preventive medications to treat and



sustain her. We did our best, and she always rallied. What a trooper and fighter, and heart. She had some great angels helping her and us along the way as well. Sadly, what took her most suddenly was neurological and she suffered severe seizures. We knew it was time. As I said above, we as guardians are blessed and cursed with these responsibilities. I wanted to pay tribute to this beautiful soul, and all your beautiful babies that leave their marks on our hearts. If there is a life after this one, I will be looking for this little girl who gave her daddies a lifetime of love. She is missed every moment of every day.

LOUIE'S CORNER:

Imagination. Dictionary meaning: The mental faculty permitting visionary and creative thoughts. A happily married couple, very much in love with each other, the year late 1920's. Ba-da-boom, ba-da-bing, I was born a depression baby. In the 20's, 30's and 40's, our major league baseball players were just kids who loved baseball. Money had nothing to do with it. Our baseball field were the streets of the east side of New York City. The bases were manhole covers, our bats were old broom handles, and our footballs were newspapers rolled up and tied with string or rubber bands. A million games could be written on the sidewalks with one piece of chalk. Don't forget the soda caps, too! Our skating rink was a frozen patch of water, with our skates were just our own shoes. I can go on, and on, and I bet you can too, just by using your imagination. Hey wait, just by using our imagination maybe tomorrow you will hit the lotto or that slot machine you have been supputing all these years. Wow, what a world.

To argue with a person who has renounced the use of reason is like administering medicine to the dead. – Thomas Paine

ORANGE-HANDED: Thieves usually go after things like jewelry, cash, or electronics, but a pack of robbers in the city of Seville Spain, seemed to be after a bit of Vitamin C. They stole a huge shipment of oranges from a nearby town. The five people involved loaded up a couple of cars with the fruit, some which were in bags, while the rest was loose. The police pulled over the vehicles over because they were traveling too close together but were surprised when they found the piles of oranges! The robbery had been reported, so the five thieves were caught red (or should we say "orange"?) handed.

The Board is always looking for new members to join. We welcome new faces and new ideas. Be an intrigue part of your community and join the Sandy Brae HOA today. If you wish to contribute an article or nominate someone to be highlighted in our newsletter, please contact us a noted below. Thank you.

Any questions, please contact us via our Facebook page or our website: www.SandyBraeHOA.com



Email: SandyBraeHOA.Lewes.DE@gmail.com

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