You are cordially invited to
The Next Town Assembly
of the Village of Arden.
Monday, June 24, 2002
at 7:30 p.m. in Gild Hall
2126 The Highway, Arden, Delaware

OUR AGENDA WILL INCLUDE:

1. Presentation by County Councilman Bob Weiner on his commendation of Peg Aumack.

2. Vote to renew the county's representation of Arden for Federal Housing Block Grants. This motion has the Advisory Committee's recommendation.

3. Vote to elect Bill Press to the office of Chairperson Emeritus. Chairpersons emeritus serve on the Advisory Committee, can represent the village at public occasions, and serve as a consultants to the village.


5. Trustees Report.

6. Committee Reports in reverse alphabetical order.

All are welcome at this public town meeting.

Please note: Those attending town meetings are eligible to vote if they have resided in Arden six consecutive months prior to the meeting and are 18 years old or older.
Town Assembly for the Village of Arden  
Monday, March 25, 2002  
Gild Hall - Arden, Delaware

Marguerite Archer  
Beverly Barnett  
Ruth Bean  
Samuel Bean  
Brooke Bovard  
Alan Burslem  
Maria Burslem  
Marianne Cinaglia  
Joann Colameco  
Thomas Colgan  
Alton Dahl  
John Demsey  
Carl Falco  
Joan Fitzgerald  
Rachel Grier-Reynolds  
Rick Grier-Reynolds  
Charlie Hahn  
Aaron Hamburger  
Sally Hamburger  
Stephen Harcourt  
Barbara Henry  
Don Holcomb  
Milton Isaacs  
Rodney Jester  
Deborah Kenney  
A. Barnes King  
Allan Kleban  
June Kleban  
Lynda Kolski  
Wayne Knotts  
Elliot Levin  
Mary Marconi  
Virginia Mann  
Ron Ozer  
Ruth Panella  
Jeffrey Politis  
Pete Renzetti  
Elizabeth Resko  
Josiane Rey  
Hugh Roberts  
Marjorie Roberts  
Sue Rothrock  
Danny Schweers  
Sadie Somerville  
Steve Tanzer  
Steven Threefoot  
Mark Taylor  
Elizabeth Varley  
Cecilia Vore  
Larry Walker  
Jan Westerhouse  
Tom Wheeler  
Mamie Wollery

1. Meeting called to order: Bill Press, Town Chair, called the meeting to order and commented on the large turnout for this evening's meeting. The Brandywine School District sent a letter in reference to the upcoming referendum to increase funding in the school district. At the Advisory Committee meeting, everyone thought it would be a fine idea for these people to give a presentation. Bill introduced:
   Wendy Lapham, Public Information Officer, Brandywine School District
   Frank Kolling, Vice President, Claymont Community Coalition.

   Wendy Lapham gave her report, which was a summary of her handout which is included in these minutes.

   Frank Kolling distributed Wendy's handout on Why the Brandywine School District is holding Operating Referendum along with Facts for Senior Citizens about Applying for the Senior School Property Tax Credit.

2. Correspondence: Prior to the meeting, Bill Press was given a 'Wanted Poster' prepared by the Delaware State Police. Wanted is William Kevin Hannig. The flyer will be posted on the bulletin board in the Gild Hall.

3. Minutes from the last meeting: Approved
4. Comments from the Chair: Bill Press commented it is an important night for us, with what we have already heard and the upcoming elections.

Alton Dahl read the following statement after our attorney was informed of the events of the notification of tonight’s meeting:
   Tonight’s meeting is being held pursuant to the notice in the March issue of the Arden Page giving date, time and location as well as the itemized agenda for the meeting. The Page was hand delivered to all residents of Arden on the weekend of March second. This notice is considered by the lawyers for the Trustees of Arden to make us in substantial compliance with the applicable provision of the Articles of Incorporation and allows us to proceed with our meeting.

Hugh Roberts asked when the Land Rent bill was sent out because he did not receive anything. Marianne apologized and would follow up.

Report Approved.

5. Introduction of new residents: none

6. Trustees’ Report:
   To: Village of Arden
   From: Marianne Cinaglia
   Re: Trustees’ Report
   Date: March 25, 2002

1. Arden Trustee Connee McKinney has been confirmed as an Arden Trustee by Village referendum. The Trustees would like to thank the Registration Committee for their conscientious effort in getting residents to participate in the referendum.

2. Land Rent: Land Rents are due March 25, 2002. We are in receipt of land rent from most Leaseholders

3. County Tax Rebates: There are two rebate programs for New Castle County residents: The School Tax rebate for which all property owners over 65 are eligible. The Property Tax rebate for seniors and persons with disabilities. This rebate is dependent on level of income. To get information and forms call Jim Fedenc in County Assessments at 395-5520.

4. Buckingham Greene: The arguments for inclusion of defendants in the Buckingham Greene suit have been concluded and have been on the Chancery Court judge’s desk since October. Our attorney was asked if the judge needed more information or clarification. We are waiting for movement by the Court.

Report Approved
**Village of Arden**

Receipts and Bank Balances March 25, 2001 to February 28, 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Balance in Bank March 25, 2001</th>
<th>14,814.00</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>receipts:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>23,825.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest &amp; Dividends</td>
<td>178.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land Rent:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Past Fiscal Year(s)</td>
<td>4,365.16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Present Fiscal Year</td>
<td>165,248.05</td>
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<td>Future Fiscal Year(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meadow Lane Access Rent</td>
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<td>Memorial Garden Donations</td>
<td>3,200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>3,517.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rights of Way:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cable TV</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Roads</td>
<td>5,436.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Water Antenna Agreement</td>
<td>4,368.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal receipts</strong></td>
<td>2,714.36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Redeemed Investments</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Investments</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>total receipts</strong></td>
<td>341,746.36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Receipts &amp; Starting Bank Balance</td>
<td>356,560.36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditures Against Budget</td>
<td>346,980.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance in Bank as of February 28, 2002</td>
<td>7,579.46</td>
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**note: investment position**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arden Building and Loan</td>
<td>112,747.45</td>
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<td>Vanguard Money Market</td>
<td>94,629.93</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total investment position</strong></td>
<td>207,277.38</td>
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Signatures:

Trusted: [Signature]

Admin. Assist.: [Signature]
## Village of Arden - Expenditures Against Budget March 25, 2001 to February 28, 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee/Item</th>
<th>Budgeted Amount</th>
<th>Expenditures F.Y. to Date</th>
<th>Expenditures Since Last Report</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archives</td>
<td>3,990.00</td>
<td>2,929.72</td>
<td>364.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buzz Way Village Center</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>864.57</td>
<td>135.43</td>
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<td>Buzz Way VC, Renovations</td>
<td>12,500.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td>Ceremonial Celebration</td>
<td>1,300.00</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
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<td>Choc Commons &amp; Forests</td>
<td>15,000.00</td>
<td>16,364.98</td>
<td>342.02</td>
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<td>Civic Events</td>
<td>16,000.00</td>
<td>14,300.00</td>
<td>5,300.00</td>
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<td>Civic Special Clean-Up</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
<td>959.27</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td>Civic Trash Collection</td>
<td>38,000.00</td>
<td>34,621.26</td>
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<td>Community Planning</td>
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<td>603.40</td>
<td>896.60</td>
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<td>Legislative Reference</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<td>Progress</td>
<td>1,750.00</td>
<td>300.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td>Playground Equipment</td>
<td>2,300.00</td>
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<td>Registration</td>
<td>3,500.00</td>
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<td>Safety: General</td>
<td>1,003.00</td>
<td>877.55</td>
<td>125.45</td>
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<td>Safety: Town Water Coordinator</td>
<td>2,268.00</td>
<td>1,134.00</td>
<td>1,134.00</td>
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<td>Salaries:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assembly Secretary</td>
<td>5,750.00</td>
<td>4,825.37</td>
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<td>Bookkeeping Services</td>
<td>2,320.00</td>
<td>1,946.69</td>
<td>373.31</td>
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<td>Other Line Items</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board of Assessors</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conferences: ACA</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
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<td>Conferences: Art Library</td>
<td>400.00</td>
<td>400.00</td>
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<td>Conferences: Art Club Page</td>
<td>1,293.00</td>
<td>1,293.00</td>
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<td>Conferences: Fire Companies</td>
<td>950.00</td>
<td>950.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>City Hall Rental</td>
<td>800.00</td>
<td>800.00</td>
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<td>Telephone</td>
<td>275.00</td>
<td>174.45</td>
<td>100.55</td>
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<td>Contingencies</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
<td>253.56</td>
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<td>Item No: Subject to Reference</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial Garden Fund</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2,759.47</td>
<td>1,115.52</td>
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<td>EMYC Grants</td>
<td>1,301.36</td>
<td>1,261.36</td>
<td>40.00</td>
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<td>Civic Grants</td>
<td>2,895.00</td>
<td>12,188.00</td>
<td>12,750.00</td>
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<td>Cons. Pats: Grants</td>
<td>1,669.56</td>
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<td>NCC Pass-Through Grant</td>
<td>7,272.86</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taxes: New Castle Co. Property</td>
<td>60,000.00</td>
<td>56,963.47</td>
<td>116.53</td>
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<td>Tassa: School</td>
<td>164,000.00</td>
<td>153,629.01</td>
<td>1,370.22</td>
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<td>Administrative Auditing</td>
<td>4,100.00</td>
<td>4,479.00</td>
<td>379.00</td>
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<td>Administrative: Insurance</td>
<td>6,500.00</td>
<td>5,629.00</td>
<td>871.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative: Legal</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
<td>4,886.30</td>
<td>5,113.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative: Office Rent</td>
<td>2,100.00</td>
<td>1,825.00</td>
<td>275.00</td>
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<td>Administrative: Operational Fee</td>
<td>6,500.00</td>
<td>5,270.62</td>
<td>1,229.38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative: Payroll Taxes</td>
<td>1,630.00</td>
<td>926.20</td>
<td>703.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative: Salary Admin. Asst.</td>
<td>9,084.00</td>
<td>8,337.00</td>
<td>747.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less Acctd. Taxes</td>
<td>(1,647.51)</td>
<td>(200.00)</td>
<td>(1,447.51)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>396,804.25</strong></td>
<td><strong>348,960.90</strong></td>
<td><strong>35,843.35</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
- (a) Deferred Revenue (Audit '00-01): 1998 Bond Bill One-Time Aid to Local Governments $2,665.00
- (b) Deferred Revenue (Audit '00-01): Traffic Calming 577-F-Prop-117 $393.29
- (c) Deferred Revenue (Audit '00-01): Urban Forestry to $86.27
- (d) Expenditures against Revenue from: Del DOT 03-P-Prop-32 $12,125.00
- (e) Funds: Trails Renewal $1,200.00

Report Approved
7. Advisory: no report

8. Archives:

TOWN ASSEMBLY of ARDEN 3/25/02

ARDEN ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

The exciting news at the Arden Archives this month is that the new museum software is up and running, thanks to Danny Schweers. This means we are starting on the enormous and necessary task of cataloging every item in the collection. Every photograph, every file, every piece of art. This is a necessary step to making our archives accessible. It's an easy program, even I can do it.

Our committee is enjoying working with the extended committee which includes 3 representatives from Ardentown and 2 from Ardencroft - the representatives bring us new insights and fresh energy. Earlier today we toured our future home at the Red House and were excited by the vision of what we will become.

Sally Hamburger

Report Approved

Election of Town Officers & Committee Members

Cecilia Vore advised the election poll opened earlier this evening and confirmed that everyone present had received a ballot. Nominations for the various committees are still open and can be taken from the floor. There were no other nominations received.

Motion: Alton Dahl moved to close the acceptance of nominations.
Seconded.
Approved.

Time was given for voting and during that time Cecilia introduced the candidates by committee.

Ballots were collected.

The counting of the votes will be done tomorrow morning (Tuesday, March 26). The results will be posted on the bulletin boards on The Green and Gild Hall.
9. Arden Craft Shop: Tom Wheeler reported the committee is still meeting with the architect. He is also happy the report the apartment is now ready to be rented. Report Approved

10. Assessors: Alton Dahl advised their meetings have been posted in The Page. In addition, what we heard tonight will increase our costs. Report Approved

11. Audit: no report

12. Budget: Mary Marconi reported that every March the Budget Committee presents a forecast for three years and they are presenting the 2005-2006 forecast tonight.

"Arden Town Assembly
Notes: Three-Year Forecast
March 25, 2002

1) Property Taxes:
   (a) County Taxes: Represents a 1% yearly increase.
   (b) School Taxes: Represents a 28% increase for capital expenses over a 4-year period which was approved in the Brandywine School District’s referendum on May 31, 2001. Also includes potential increase (if the April 2002 referendum passes) in the District’s operating budget.

2) Trustees Administration Increase due to increase in Legal & Audit lines.

3) Archives Committee: Reason for decrease: end of rent ($2,200) paid to Buzz Ware Village Center when Archives moves to the Craft Shop & support for Archives is taken over by Arden Museum Inc.

4) Buzz Ware Village Center Committee: Other- requested because BWVC will be losing rental income ($2,200) from Archives. BWVC is requesting that this amount be included in their general operating budget in subsequent years.

5) Community Planning Committee-Avery Task Force - The task force is requesting $2,000 for expenses to explore Arden’s options regarding the 5-acre property that borders Sherwood Forest & is slated for development by owner Marcia Avery.

6) Safety Committee-Harvey Rd. Speed Enforcement Harvey Rd. Speed Enforcement Patrols: cooperative project with Ardentown & Ardencroft to hire off-duty police officers to enforce Drive 25" on Harvey Rd.
Arden Town Assembly – March 25, 2002

Budget continued:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Property Taxes:</strong></td>
<td>146,220</td>
<td>148,540</td>
<td>150,800</td>
<td>153,080</td>
<td>155,380</td>
<td>157,700</td>
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<td><strong>Sub-Total Property Taxes:</strong></td>
<td>353,700</td>
<td>366,040</td>
<td>378,300</td>
<td>390,580</td>
<td>402,880</td>
<td>415,100</td>
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<td><strong>Insurance:</strong></td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Legal:</strong></td>
<td>1,788</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>1,812</td>
<td>1,824</td>
<td>1,836</td>
<td>1,848</td>
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<td><strong>Hall Maintenance/Operations &amp; Fees:</strong></td>
<td>5,478</td>
<td>5,500</td>
<td>5,525</td>
<td>5,550</td>
<td>5,575</td>
<td>5,600</td>
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<td><strong>Office Rent:</strong></td>
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<td>2,100</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>2,100</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fire Fees:</strong></td>
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<td>1,257</td>
<td>1,257</td>
<td>1,257</td>
<td>1,257</td>
<td>1,257</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sales &amp; Administration:</strong></td>
<td>20,758</td>
<td>20,900</td>
<td>21,050</td>
<td>21,200</td>
<td>21,350</td>
<td>21,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other Non-Budget Expenses:</strong></td>
<td>50,750</td>
<td>51,000</td>
<td>51,250</td>
<td>51,500</td>
<td>51,750</td>
<td>52,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td>559,788</td>
<td>568,040</td>
<td>576,300</td>
<td>584,580</td>
<td>592,880</td>
<td>601,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL EXPENSES:**

**BUDGET EXPENSES:**

| Acquisitions/Construction | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Architectural/Engineering | 3 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Board of Assessors | 5 | 60 | 65 | 70 | 75 | 80 |
| Board of Commissioners | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 |
| Other | 4 | 55,000 | 55,000 | 55,000 | 55,000 | 55,000 |
| **Total:** | 57,650 | 57,650 | 57,650 | 57,650 | 57,650 | 57,650 |

**Other Activities:**

| Acquisitions/Construction | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Architectural/Engineering | 3 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Board of Assessors | 5 | 60 | 65 | 70 | 75 | 80 |
| Board of Commissioners | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 |
| Other | 4 | 55,000 | 55,000 | 55,000 | 55,000 | 55,000 |
| **Total:** | 57,650 | 57,650 | 57,650 | 57,650 | 57,650 | 57,650 |

| Accounts Receivable | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Prepayment | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 |
| Prepayment | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Registration | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Emergency | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| **Total:** | 57,650 | 57,650 | 57,650 | 57,650 | 57,650 | 57,650 |

**Total:**

**Total Budget:**

$117,275 | $121,882 | $117,305 | $112,889 | $121,179 | $128,886

**TOTAL EXPENSES:**

$459,491 | $400,007 | $424,312 | $448,689 | $493,719 | $530,000
13. Buzz Ware:

**BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER**

2119 THE HIGHWAY
ARDEN, DE 19810

Arden Town Meeting
March 25, 2002

**BWVC COMMITTEE REPORT**

1. **Day of Relaxation:** Our February Day of Relaxation turned into a pleasant afternoon of sitting in the Tea Room conversing with friends and neighbors, nibbling on an assortment of fruits and sweets and piecing together puzzles. Our therapists from Massage & Body Works and from Sandy Hollow were kept busy the entire afternoon providing chair and table massages, foot reflexology and energy work while others had sessions of insightful readings performed. Sandy Hollow graciously provided door prizes of T-shirts and body oil samples, along with a drawing for two gift certificates good for free massage sessions. The general consensus was that this will definitely be another annual event for the BWVC.

2. **The Coffee House** continues to be a popular venue at the BWVC. The past couple months have been packed with attentive audiences come to listen to the assortment of performers on our Open Mike stage. Additional treats this past month were the special performance by Judith Kay and the exhibition of artwork by Debbie Hegedus and Mary Morrison. The Art Exhibit continued into the weekend. A reception by the artists was held Saturday afternoon and a number of pieces were sold, bringing in a commission to the Buzz Ware of $308.75.

3. **Renovation plans continue** – repairs to the masonry and painting of the building and trim will most likely begin mid April. The windows will be addressed separately at a later date and as finances permit. Mary Marconi is currently assisting us with a small grant proposal and we will be looking into other available grants to assist us with the window renovations.

4. **The YMCA continues to be a valued tenant**. The current Child Development Director, Ivy Sheehan, met with the BWVC committee to discuss proposed plans for adding a preschool program at their BWVC site. We are currently in the process of ironing out some of the terms of the contract. One of the benefits to the community will be that the children of the Ardens will be eligible for enrollment, regardless of whether they are members of the YMCA.

5. **Spring Cleaning:** April 20th was originally scheduled for our Spring Cleaning event. We have however, postponed that until May. Look for the dates in the May Page or check your e-mail. I'll be sending out further information when we firm up the May date.
Arden Town Assembly – March 25, 2002

Buzz Ware continued:

6. Upcoming events:
   a. Coffee Houses – 2nd Friday of the month. These will run through June with a
      hiatus from July through September. The next one is April 12th. The Coffee
      Houses continue to evolve with their own unique, creative, magical energies. So,
      come on over and add yours to it!
   b. Art exhibitis:
          is a senior at the Rhode Island School of Design & studied in Italy for one
          year. Please see the table for flyers.
      iv. One of the June exhibits will be of works created during the Saturday Art
          classes held over the past year. So keep an eye out for the dates and
          come check out what the kids of the Ardena and others have been doing
          in Jessie Roy's class this year.
   c. Committee meetings – as always, are the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M.
      All are welcome to come sit in on any of our meetings.

Respectfully submitted,
Marguerite Archer
BWVC Committee Chair

Report Approved

14. Civic:

The Civic Committee has had complaints about abuse of our woodlands. There have been
complaints of smoldering fires, broken bottles and four inch diameter trees being chopped
down with a hatchet at Indian Circle. There have been complaints of motorbikes and trash such
as paintball residue in Sherwood Forest. The Civic Committee will be placing signs at the path
entrances to the woods stating the ordinances that pertain to the woodlands. These are:
woodlands closed dusk till dawn, no littering, motor vehicles prohibited, and fires prohibited.
There will be a sign at Indian Circle stating that campfires are by permit only. These signs are
there to inform and also to enable police to enforce our ordinances. There will also be a sign
installed at the basketball court stating that parking is in front of the village center. If someone
is in violation of these ordinances you can call the New Castle Police at their non-emergency
number which is 573-2800. This also pertains to noise at the basketball court that is in violation
of the New Castle County Code.
civic continued:

If there is no response to your call, please let the safety committee know so they can contact the police about the problem. We had a fire in the Sherwood Forest yesterday. A neighbor noticed the smoke and called the fire company. Talleyville Fire Company responded with their water truck and the fire was put out. We do not know what started the fire, however it was probably careless smoking. Approximately 1000 square feet of surface area was burned. Our Avery neighbor has put up no trespassing signs in the woods. We will be marking the Arden border in that area perhaps with more bird houses that delineate the boundary line. The survey of the flora and fauna in the Sherwood forest has begun. So far 85 species of plants have been indentified including one rare specimen. The special trash pick-up will be April 20th. A flyer will be sent out with the information.

Respectfully submitted...............Sue Rothrock, civic committee, chair
Approved

15. Community Planning:

Community Planning Report
March 25, 2002

Memorial Garden

Chris Benarck has been contracted to help with planning landscaping and maintenance. A new plaque has been installed at the Grubb family plot listing family members who are buried there. The plaque was installed by the Grubb family. Saturday, April 27, from 9 a.m. to noon is the Spring clean-up for the Memorial Garden. Raindate is Sunday, April 28, from 10-1. If you can stop by and help pull some weeds or tidy up a bit even for a short period of time, it would be greatly appreciated.

Remembrance Day will be held May 26 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Gild Hall. This year we are remembering the Holcomb family and Mannie and Rae Gerstine. This is a wonderful opportunity for people who have moved to the Ardens in recent years to learn about some of the people who spent many years in Arden and played various roles in the community. Everyone is welcome to attend and reminisce with old and new residents and friends about the Holcombs and Gerstines. There are always plenty of interesting and funny stories that bring these people to life even for those who did not have the opportunity to personally know them. It’s a great way to get a little insight into some of the history and people of Arden.

Harvey Road Traffic Claming

After a number of meetings with DelDot, the traffic calming committee asked DelDot to come up with a creative solution to slowing traffic on Harvey Road. DelDot presented a plan that consisted of a series of five arches across Harvey Road at various places. These arches would be somewhat like the arch on Lincoln Street for Little Italy. The placement of the arches was determined by a number of factors, including access to a pedestrian crosswalk, and the contour of the road, such as hills and curves. The committee had a mixed reaction to the plan with some feeling the arches created a sense of place and others feeling that they were out of place. However, everyone agreed that the arches would do nothing to slow traffic, which is our main goal. We decided that as a trial run, we would present the plan to the three villages and get a sense of the community.
Community planning continued:

It was presented at the Ardentown town meeting in February, which was the first of the village meetings to occur, and at the meeting was meet with a mixed response that pretty much mirrored the HRTCC’s response. When the committee reported to the DelDot that the plan was not wholeheartedly endorsed and praised, DelDot withdrew the plan from consideration, which is why it is not being presented here tonight. In response to DelDot’s withdraw of the plan, the HRTCC has put together suggestions for an alternative plan and has sent them to DelDot for their consideration. The committee’s suggestions include:

1. Between Veale and Sconset where the shoulder is wide, make it appear green, by using a material such as geo-grid that can be planted with grass, but still be driven on.
2. Add a traffic light at the Veale Road intersection to create a green wave.
3. Add a turn lane into the Montessori school is blocked in some way at the top to allow turns into the school, but not allow traffic right through to the 1-95 ramp.
4. Create bulbouts at certain points in Arden, particularly where there are heavily used pedestrian crosswalks.
5. Create a gateway at the entrances to Arden, including an island at the entrance by Sconset Road.

At this point we are back to the discussion stage with DelDot, so there is no real timeline or deadline in place, and no plan under consideration.

Avery Task Force

A letter was sent to the Army Corps of Engineers in early March asking that additional information about specific wet areas on the property be considered and that those areas be re-evaluated in their jurisdictional determination. In order to evaluate that information and determine whether or not it is valid, the corps forwarded the letter to Marsha Avery and asked her to meet them on the property to look at the areas in question. Because it is private property, the Corps needs her permission to go on it. Mrs. Avery responded by posting her property with no trespassing signs. To date, she has not yet responded to the Corps request. If she does not allow the Corps to re-evaluate additional information, it may jeopardize the Corp’s original jurisdictional determination, which said impact from development on the area would be minimal. This would further impede her ability to develop the property as fully as planned. She still has nine months left before her grandfathered plan expires.

Landmark Status

The nomination of the Ardens Historic District was returned by the federal government with challenges based on these issues:

1. Period of significance cannot extend to the present.
2. What makes a resource contribute must be specified.
3. Provide additional information about the design and construction of the architecture, including a date of construction for all buildings.

Robin Bode of the State Historic Preservation Office is working on the bureaucratic issues. The probable solution is to move the leasehold inventory from the body of the nomination to an appendix. The committee feels that collectively buildings on leaseholds reflect the community, even if individually they do not meet the federal definition of an historic building.

Senators Biden and Carper sent a joint letter of support on March 6, but no response yet. Rep. Castle’s staff is up-to-date and ready to help when needed.
17. Registration:

During this referendum, several questions arose concerning the rules introduced in 1992. The registration Committee is currently reviewing the requirements for conducting a referendum and the records kept of eligible voters. If needed, the committee will present a rule change at the next Town Meeting to keep our referendum procedure in full compliance with the Deed of Trust and Act to Reincorporate, but the full committee will meet before any such changes.

Report Approved

18. Playground:

Since the last Town Meeting, one playground inspection has been held and the other inspection will be completed later this week. We have received a shipment of playground chips which will be spread when the weather is warmer and the labor is more willing. All the equipment is in safe condition.

Submitted by
Larry Walker, Chairperson

Report Approved

19. Safety Committee: no report

Hugh Roberts asked for an update on the Harvey Road Police Action. It is on hold at this time.

20. Old Business: none

21. Good and Welfare:

Ruth Bean mentioned that a long time friend of Arden, Theo Andrews died last month. Even though he was not a resident, he worked closely with the Civic Committee. A card will be sent to his wife, Ann Andrews.

23. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

[Signature]
John Fitzgerald
Town Secretary
Why the Brandywine School District is holding an Operating Referendum

- The Financial Review Task Force, a group of citizens with broad-based expertise in business operations, finances, and facilities, recommended that the District hold an Operating Referendum during the 2001-2002 school year.
- On January 17, 2002, the School Board authorized an Operating Referendum to be held Tuesday, April 23, 2002, from noon to 9:00 p.m.

What the Operating Referendum asks for

- **Support for the Strategic Plan.** The Strategic Plan is a five-year action plan for the District. It was developed cooperatively with input from teachers, administrators, and over 300 members of our community. The Plan's highest priority is teaching and learning. The four areas requiring additional funding are: early recruitment of high-quality teachers, expansion of effective early education programs, increased student participation in academically challenging programs, and development of alternative education programs.
- **A One-time restoration of the reserve fund.** Since 1998, the reserve has decreased from $9.5 million to $1.3 million. Replenishment of the reserve fund in 2002-03 to $3.0 million will ensure that our financial commitments can be met between July and October, 2002, when state funds become available. The District needs to replenish this reserve fund or face cuts in programs and services.
- **A 2% increase in the cost of basic operations over a 5-year period.** This is less than the expected rate of inflation.
- **A preventive maintenance fund.** The state pays for only 60% of minor building improvements. Preventive maintenance, such as roof repair, will slow the need for future costly repairs.

What the Operating Referendum will cost taxpayers

- The Referendum will ask voters to approve a current expense tax rate adjustment from 32.6 cents to a maximum of 51.4 cents per $100 of assessed property value over a 5-year period.
- Homes in the Brandywine Hundred area are assessed at much less than their market value.
- This tax increase is projected to carry the District for the next 5 years.
- In past referenda, the maximum rate was implemented in year one and remained at that level; in this referendum, taxes will be increased only as needed.
- The District Finance Committee, made up of community members, will recommend the minimum necessary tax rate each year.
- 91 cents of every dollar goes to students and schools.
- The District has made reductions of over $1 million as part of its cost containment strategy.
- The District has made a commitment to reduce costs by an additional $100,000 each year.
- District-level administrative staff has been reduced by 28% since 1994.
- Major cuts have been made in staff travel, overtime, supplies, and District vehicle usage.

(Over, please)
• To find out exact increases based on individual home assessments, residents may call the Referendum Hotline, 793-5053 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, or may access the District website: www.bsd.k12.de.us/referendum

• Citizens who are 65 or older may be eligible for the Senior School Property Tax Credit. Call the New Castle County Assessment Division for more information: 395-5520 or 395-5540.

Find out More

Contact the Brandywine School District:
Referendum Hotline: 793-5053
General Information: 793-5009
Fax: 792-3853
Email: referendum@bsd.k12.de.us
Website: www.bsd.k12.de.us/referendum

To arrange for a speaker to make a presentation about the Operating Referendum, please contact: Tom Ramsay: 475-8520
If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact:
Steve Lehman, Co-Chair: (W) 764-7635; (H) 654-1908
Chuck Landry, Co-Chair: (H) 429-8664

Inspire and Challenge Every Child Every Day

Tax dollars should pay for education,
not for the referendum campaign.
Please help by making a contribution to the
Friends of the Brandywine Referendum.

If you are interested in underwriting some of the costs of the referendum campaign, please send this completed form to:
Friends of the Brandywine Referendum, c/o John Pinker, 2404 Kingman Drive,
Wilmington, DE 19810.
Please make checks payable to Friends of the Brandywine Referendum.
Contributions are not tax deductible.

Enclosed is my contribution to Friends of the Brandywine Referendum

Name ________________________________

Address ____________________________________________
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________

Friends of the Brandywine Referendum
For more information please contact Brandywine School District, 1000 Pennsylvania Avenue, Claymont, DE 19703. Phone: 302-793-5009; Fax: 792-3853;
Email: referendum@bsd.k12.de.us
Facts for Senior Citizens about Applying for the Senior School Property Tax Credit

- You must be 65 or older as of July 1, 2002 to be eligible for the tax credit in Fiscal Year 2002-2003.
- The property for which you are applying must be your principal residence.
- There are no income restrictions for the Senior School Property Tax Credit.
- Eligible applicants receive a 50% reduction of school taxes, up to a maximum of $500.
- If you are married and jointly own your home with your spouse, but only one spouse is 65 or older, the spouse who qualifies for the credit may apply without prorating the credit amount, even if one spouse is not yet 65.
- If you are married and jointly own your home with your spouse, and both spouses are 65 or older, you may apply for the credit, but only one credit may be awarded per household in any one year.
- If co-owners of a property are not married, a separate application form must be used for each individual claiming this credit. Applicants must meet all established criteria.
- The County Assessment Division strongly urges residents 65 and older to submit applications as soon as possible so they can be processed before tax bills are sent in July.
- You only need to submit an application once. However, if you sell your home and purchase a new home, you must reapply.

For more information and to request an application, please contact:
New Castle County Department of Land Use
Assessment Division
87 Reads Way
New Castle, DE 19720-1648

Phone: (302)-395-5520 or (302) 395-5400
Fax: (302) 395-5544