



## *Volunteers Help Implement Nature Preserve's Strategic Plan*



In 2015, the Borough's Nature Preserve Committee wrote a Strategic Plan for the management of the Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve, which is located on Mathews Avenue and is open to the public for passive recreation. This plan outlined our stewardship goals and priorities for the Preserve and was based on the recommendations outlined in the Stewardship Plan created by Natural Lands Trust in 2007. The Strategic Plan was adopted by Borough Council and can be found on the Borough website.

Much progress has been made over the past two years in carrying out our stewardship goals – and much still needs to be done. Many of the tasks are ongoing and will never be “completed.” These tasks include the control and removal of invasive plant species and the restoration of native habitat. We have removed hundreds of non-native and invasive shrubs, for example, and have begun to replant parts of the Preserve with native shrubs instead. Other areas of the Preserve are being reforested with native trees and our meadows are being replanted with native grasses and wildflowers. All these projects will improve biodiversity in the Preserve and create valuable habitat for wildlife, including birds, butterflies, and pollinators.

In addition to the ongoing tasks mentioned above, we have completed numerous other projects and improvements

since 2015 intended to enhance the experience of visitors to the Preserve. These improvements include the creation of a new entrance with parking on Landis Mill Road, new trail signs, additional benches, and other trail improvements. Other such projects are in the works, including a new message board for the main entrance and a trail map of the Preserve.

None of these achievements would be possible without the dedication, time, and energy of numerous borough volunteers. Most importantly, credit should be given to the members of the Nature Preserve Committee, who have given countless hours to meetings and to work at the Preserve. In 2016 there were 5 work days. Other volunteers have also helped on our work days. Most notably, these work day volunteers have included scores of National Honor Society members from C.B. South and C.B. West. We are extremely grateful to these students for their continued and enthusiastic support!

So please visit the Preserve. Walk its peaceful trails and think about how lucky we are to live in a community with this type of natural open space – and with the committed volunteers to maintain it. Then come out and help us on a work day and experience for yourself the satisfaction that comes from getting involved in this kind of community service. Our next work day is on Saturday, May 20, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. until noon and additional work days will be scheduled for the fall. We can always use and will always appreciate your help!



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# Catching Up with Council

Robyne Kelemen, Council President



This column discusses notable items from our recent Borough Council meetings. I thought it would be good to highlight a few of the items covered and decisions made that may be of particular interest to residents and local businesses. Want to learn more? Join us for the council meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month, or contact the Borough Administration office with any questions.

## December

December saw approval of the Borough budget for 2017. A balanced budget of approximately \$1.5 million was approved. Although the Borough has had budget shortfalls in recent years, the projected budget for 2017 does not use savings to balance the budget, nor does it include any tax increases. This improvement in financial condition is due to sound financial management and increased revenues from economic development in the Borough.

Culminating a multi-year grant-supported effort, Council adopted the Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) "Main Street Plan" for Butler Avenue development. Authored by the Bucks County Planning Commission after significant study, the detailed report discusses resources in the Borough, and how to make use of them in future walkable, transportation-friendly development. The TCDI program helps communities such as ours focus on redevelopment to create compact, mixed-use, livable communities. Also in December, Council voted to apply for a PECO Green Region Open Space Program Grant (\$10,000). The PECO grant program helps local communities address public needs. The grant would be used for Orchard Park ADA improvements to allow easier access to the park from Covered Bridge Park. We still await a decision from PECO on this grant application.

## January

Mike Italia was appointed as the Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and Fire Marshal, in addition to his ongoing responsibility as Building Inspector and Zoning Officer. As EMC, Mike helps the Borough with its emergency planning and serves in the case of a crisis. As Fire Marshal, his role is to investigate fires in the Borough and review land development plans for fire and public safety issues. It is a cost savings to the Borough to hire Mike

rather than the previous firm we used, Keystone Services. In addition, we are very satisfied with the services from Mike to date.

A municipal tax rate of 27.375 mills (total), the same rate as 2016, 2015, and 2014, was formally approved by Council this month. Key reasons we were able to keep taxes in check are due to higher permitting fee income, including new building permits, and increased tax revenue as a result of development in the Borough. Also our administration is actively working to reduce expenses.

## February

A Memorandum of Understanding was approved by Council supporting Borough involvement with Delaware Valley University for the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Center housed on the first floor of Burkart Hall. The purpose of this program is to get students involved in small business. The initiative kicked off was in early April with significant press attention. We also named our two advisors to the program, Mr. Sam Bryant, Borough Manager, and consultant Mr. Stephen Barth.

## Where in the Borough is It?

Sometimes you see things where you least expect them. This tree swing is about 30 feet high, and when you push somebody on it, they travel about forty feet out and back, but never get more than 5 feet off the ground. Your only clue: If you haven't seen it, you haven't enjoyed the biggest 'park' in New Britain Borough.



## Moments with the Mayor

David Holewinski, Mayor



Summer is an exciting time of year when we look forward to summer getaways “down the shore,” up to the mountains, or travel to new and adventurous places. This time of year, new plants are blooming, gardens are beginning to produce vegetables for us, and nature is in full bloom. Yes, summer brings us together with family, friends, new acquaintances, and nature.

Now in the Borough, we have new development on the horizon: The Knoell property will begin their building process soon, the former cemetery monument store is being refurbished by Steve Giesler, and Carlton Pools should finish their remodeling project and open for business soon. A lot of new activity is about to unfold along Butler Avenue, rendering our Borough more of a destination, rather than a pass-through community. Sidewalks are now available from Chalfont to Tamenend Avenue and soon people will be able to get to the Train Station and beyond to the 202 Scenic Parkway via the Bike and Hike Trails.

Our Borough has wonderful opportunities for entertainment. A visit to the Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve can be informative as well as a means of exercise. Children will be attending the Summer Recreation Program at Covered Bridge Park, the public will also be enjoying the Bike and Hike trails alongside the Park, and families can enjoy the pavilion and picnic area at the park as well. Nature abounds in Orchard Park and along the trail through the reservoir area and beyond. Don't forget the 4th of July Parade!

I know that we have a beautiful Borough, and everyone should take advantage of what we have to offer and enjoy this summer. I wish you a wonderful summer and I hope to see many of you around our Borough during this summer season.



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President

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## 4th of July Parade



The 2017 parade will be held on Tuesday, July 4, beginning at 9:30 a.m. It will start at the Town Center on Butler Avenue and end at North Branch Park, 207 Park Avenue. The Tri-Municipal July 4th Parade is hosted by New Britain Township, New Britain Borough and Chalfont Borough.

### **Be part of the fun!**

Floats from neighborhoods, organizations and businesses are welcome. Floats will be judged for Most Patriotic, Most Original and Most Humorous. Also needed are marching bands, Scout Troops, dancers, etc. Prizes are awarded and complimentary refreshments are provided to participants. The parade will also feature antique cars and fire trucks. You're encouraged to decorate your bikes and baby strollers in a patriotic theme. Local businesses are encouraged to get involved with this family-oriented community event. Please consider becoming a sponsor. Call the New Britain Township office (215-822-1391).

## **Registered Borough Trash Haulers & 2017 Rates**

Borough Ordinance #252 requires any company hauling waste in the borough to complete an annual certification. The certification lists the qualifications of the haulers as well as their rates for the current year. The registration does not set recycling fees. Please remember residents and businesses in the Borough are required to have recycling service. Below is the list of currently approved trash haulers for New Britain Borough and their 2017 rates for residential trash hauling. Per ordinance, the haulers should not be increasing rates during the calendar year.

- **Advanced Disposal** – 1x per week - \$32.44 per month
- **Republic** – 1x per week - \$29 per month, 2x per week - \$43 per month (Senior Rate - \$36.33 per month)
- **Waste Management** – 1x per week - \$24.90 per month

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## Getting to Know Our Council Members



The Council of New Britain Borough is a body of seven elected officials who serve without compensation. The role of Council is to oversee all activities of the Borough, including the management of Borough employees. Council is responsible for making policy, passing ordinances, approving contracts and agreements, voting appropriations, approving all personnel decisions, and establishing and maintaining the Borough's budget.

In this and future articles, we will interview our Borough Council members so that our residents and businesses can get to know them. In this issue we will meet Lori Kesilman.

### *How long have you been on Council?*

I have been on council for 3.5 years.

### *Why did you decide to run for Council?*

I decided to run for council after some neighbors complained about the way they were treated when they attended a meeting. This surprised me. I attended a meeting to see for myself. I shocked at the way public concerns were addressed in the meetings. Questions and complaints appeared to be unwanted. I was also surprised that agendas for the meeting could not be obtained unless you visited the borough office during office hours. Agendas and minutes were not posted online at all. Minutes from previous meetings could only be obtained by going to the office during office hours. The public was not allowed to see them in draft form - only after they have been approved (at the following month's council meeting). That meant the public had to wait a whole month to see what was talked about at a meeting - even if it involved their street or property. I was upset that the information was not easily assessable and that people felt alienated from their own local government.

### *How long have you lived in the Borough?*

16 years.

### *A little about you personally.*

I have an awesome husband and two wonderful daughters, and I LOVE my community and my neighbors.

### *What is your profession?*

I am a middle school teacher in Palisades School District

### *Any other volunteer activities other than Council?*

· I help a group of friends organize and run a silent auction

and fashion show that benefits local CF patients. Our organization is called Rose Petals and our next fashion show is November 12 at the Cock-N-Bull.

· My husband and I have been involved with the Mid-Atlantic Burn camp for more than 16 years. This camp is a week of outdoor fun for children who have been severely burned. It is a wonderful week of camp for the children and volunteers alike.

· I volunteer at Theatre Arts Center doing computer work and sets.

· I serve on New Britain Borough's

· Bird Town Committee

· Public Safety Committee

· Summer Camp Committee

### *Do you have any hobbies?*

In my free time, I love working in my yard, reading or crocheting.

### *What would you like people to know about you?*

When I came onto council, it was difficult to get information about what happened at the meetings and some people felt that they were not heard or welcomed. I have tried hard to change that. I fought to get email addresses for council members, so they could be reached by community members. I pushed to make council meetings available through live streaming. Those meetings are then archived on the website for anyone to view. If you have been to recent meetings, I hope you have felt respected and valued. I will continue to work to listen to the community that I serve. Please feel free to email me anytime with questions or concerns. Kesilmanl@newbritainboro.com

## Thanks for your help, Elaine Crooks!

If you notice a difference in the look of the newsletter, there is a good reason. Elaine Crooks, who has been handling the layout, printing, and mailing of the borough newsletter since its inception in 1992, retired as of last month. Borough Council thanked Elaine at the April Council meeting with applause, good wishes, and flowers. Best of luck and good health to you Elaine! Thank you for working with us for 25 years.



### Melissa Ceresi, DMD PC

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## Spotlight on Borough Businesses

### Eiseman Construction

110 South Sand Road  
New Britain  
215-345-9159  
www.Eiseman.biz

Eiseman Construction is committed to the belief that “just as a good roof lasts for decades, a good company builds a strong reputation by investing in its community’s future.” Eiseman Construction is driven by core values of integrity, respect, family, and community.

In 1968, Phil Eiseman founded Eiseman Construction Co., Inc. in Doylestown and moved to New Britain about 20 years ago. They now are a team of 15 dedicated employees. Melissa Eiseman took over the business in 2015; she ensured that Phil’s legacy and spirit remain the cornerstone of Eiseman Construction.

Eiseman Construction is proud to be a certified installer of many types of roofing materials as well as other exterior renovation needs:

**Asphalt Roofing:** Eiseman Construction is a GAF Master Elite Contractor and a CertainTeed Master Shingle Applicator. They offer product and workmanship lifetime warranties with most of their installations. Asphalt roof shingles are the most popular choice of roofing material in the Bucks County area due to ease of installation, clean look, reasonable cost, and low maintenance.

**Slate Roofing:** Slate roofs require experienced installers and excellent slate. With 48 years’ experience, Eiseman Construction has developed relationships with the best North American slate quarries, buying direct to obtain the best slate for your project. They also install custom flashings and decorative copper work. Their work can be seen at the Michener Museum as well as other historic homes in the Bucks County area.

**Cedar Roofing:** Eiseman Construction is a recognized cedar expert and Cedar Shake and Shingle Bureau (CSSB) approved installer. They provide CSSB Lifetime transferrable warranties on their CSSB cedar installations. With excellent insulation, a low shrinkage rate, and natural preservatives that resist UV rays, moisture, and insects, cedar is one of the most stylish roof choices. Visually, cedar has a classic honey and cinnamon hue, and is available in several styles including hand-split shakes, tapersawn shakes, and shingles. Cedar is also a renewable resource and long lasting. These advantages might explain why homes with a new cedar roof tend to sell relatively easily.

**Metal Roofing:** Metal is a traditional roofing material which includes tin, copper, and lead-coated copper. These methods have been used for centuries to preserve some of the oldest structures in the country. More recently, pre-finished metal roof materials have become popular, in part due to the lack of maintenance required as well as the numerous color choices and designs available. A new metal roof may be the best choice for lasting beauty, durability, and longevity.

**Siding, Decks & Windows:** Eiseman works with homeowners to decide whether vinyl, fiber cement, or cedar siding will fit your budget and be appropriate for your project. Regardless of choice, each of these options will be beautiful and provide the makeover you are looking for while adding value to your home

As well as adding value through extra summer living space, well-designed decks, porches, and enclosures can also enhance the beauty and comfort of a home.

Eiseman Construction works with customers to find the best solution for adding value, efficiency, and beauty to your project. New windows are one of the easiest ways to add value to your home. They have many window solutions—from traditional and modern to dormers and unusual shapes.

As you can see, Eiseman Construction has the expertise to help New Britain Borough and all of Bucks County with their exterior construction needs. Whether it’s roofing, siding, doors or more, they take pride in transforming homes.



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## *Calendar of Community Events*

**Sunday, June 11 - 11 am to 4 pm** Chalfont Fire Co., Chicken Bar-B-Que take out - 301 N. Main St., Chalfont  
**Friday, June 16 - 8 pm** "Trial by Jury"-Bucks County Gilbert & Sullivan Society-DelVal Life Sciences Bldg  
**Saturday, June 17 - 1 pm** Bucks County Covered Bridge Society - Covered Bridge Park  
**Saturday, June 17 - 2 pm & 8 pm** "Trial by Jury"-Bucks County Gilbert & Sullivan Society-DelVal Life Sciences Bldg  
**Sunday, June 18 - 2 pm** "Trial by Jury"-Bucks County Gilbert & Sullivan Society-DelVal Life Sciences Bldg  
**Saturday, June 24 - 8:30 am to 1:30 pm** Chalfont Fire Co., Flea Market -301 N. Main St., Chalfont  
**Tuesday, July 4 - 9:30 am** Tri-Municipal 4th of July Parade - Begins in Town Center Shopping Center  
**Friday, July 14 - 7:30 pm** Doylestown Symphonic Winds Concert - DelVal Life Sciences Bldg  
**Saturday, September 9 - 9 am** Chalfont Fire Co., Turkey Hoagies - 301 N. Main St., Chalfont

### ***New Britain Welcome New Businesses***

#### **Carlton Pools**

401 West Butler Avenue  
New Britain  
215-822-1301  
Carltonpools.com

You probably have noticed major construction and renovation going on at the former Fretz Pool property on West Butler Avenue. New Britain Borough is fortunate to have Carlton Pools establishing one of their many Customer Support Centers right here in the borough!

Carlton Pools has been a family-owned business for over forty years. They offer Design and Installation of Residential Custom Pools as well as Commercial Custom Pools. Carlton Pools take great pride in being able to offer experienced veterans in the industry to perform the installation of their pools. They invite you to visit their website at [www.carltonpools.com](http://www.carltonpools.com) for more information on their services.

Carlton Pools also offers Renovation Enhancements to existing swimming pools. They offer services from providing equipment to remodeling and upgrading decks and patios. They are able to offer traditional refinishes as well as their aquaBRIGHT™ (ecoFINISH's revolutionary polythermal coating) finish which is now well known.

Carlton Pools has nine Customer Service Support Centers which are staffed with experienced personnel to guide you through your chemical instructions as well as filter and equipment operation. Each location also offers free water testing. They also have a service department with full valet service to take care of routine pool care and each territory has their own service department manager.

In addition to providing our residents with all their pool, decking, and patio needs, the Carlton Pools Support Center will be an attractive asset to our town. They expect to open sometime in late May so please stop in and see what they have to offer.

### ***Central Bucks Regional Police Department***

**OPERATION I.D. CBRPD** invites you to participate in the property identification program developed to aid in the prevention of crime and identification of personal property in the event a loss occurs. To participate, come to the station to borrow an engraver (free of charge) so you may engrave your personal items and create an inventory list for your files. This list, should it be needed, will aid an investigating officer in their attempts to recover victims' property. An Operation ID window decal to display on a front window discouraging burglary and theft will be provided.

**CRIMEWATCH** Download the app! CBRPD now participates in CrimeWatch. Know what's happening and sign up today for breaking news.

**VACATION HOUSE CHECK** With summer approaching, CBRPD is pleased to continue its vacation house check program. Call us at 215-345-4143 before you leave on vacation, and police will periodically check on your home while you are away.

"Like" us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/cbrpd>, follow us on Twitter [@cbrpd](https://twitter.com/cbrpd), download CrimeWatch or visit our website at <http://cbrpd.net/> to keep up-to-date on Police news!

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## What's All the Buzz.....

### Byrne Sewing Connection is hosting a "BEE" Challenge!

Byrne Sewing Connection is having a contest called a Bee Challenge whereby people use their creativity by having something with a Bee theme sewn onto an item in the following categories:

1. Accessory/small non-wearable items: Pocketbooks, bags, pincushions, pillows, eyeglass holders, cosmetic bags, etc.
2. All wearable clothing items: Shorts, shirts, jackets, pants, skirts vests, etc.
3. Any large item: Such as quilts, bed throws, wall hangings, etc.

Everyone is invited to participate with entries accepted through July 4th. Any of these categories can be completely made by participants or items can "bee" purchased and subsequently embellished. Prizes will "bee" awarded in all three categories. The winners will be chosen by customer votes and the staff will tally up the results on August 30th.

Debbie Byrne, owner of Byrne Sewing Connection, said "we consider any of these items part of our 'creative sewing art.' What is so exciting is that with the creativity our customers possess, their entries will be very interesting and worth a visit to the shop. We wanted our challenge 'Bee Inspired' to draw attention to the decline of our honey bees and how to help them in our everyday life. Bees are responsible for pollinating our food sources among other things. I will be getting different and assorted information on bee keeping, pollination, how to be Bee friendly, etc. throughout the summer and distribute them when people visit our shop."

Please visit Byrne Sewing Connection located at 422 East Butler Ave, on the corner of Butler & Beulah, to vote for your favorite entries and also to see all of the wonderful items the store has to offer.

## Volunteer Opportunities

The following volunteer opportunities are currently available in the Borough. Put your talents to work to help your community!

Parks and Recreation Committee – 2 vacancies – This committee works to oversee the management of Orchard Park and oversees other committees such as Bird Town and Open Space.

Nature Preserve – 1 vacancy - The Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve is a 30+ acre natural area located along the Neshaminy Creek that is owned by the borough and maintained by borough volunteers. The woods and fields of the Preserve are set aside for habitat preservation and passive recreation. The Preserve's numerous trails are

intended for nature study, wildlife observation, and birding. The Preserve includes "Miriam's Meadow", which is a 2.7 acre wildflower meadow.

Facilities Committee – 2 vacancies - The purpose and duties include responsibility for all borough buildings and facilities including developing and recommending a maintenance and repair schedule, inspecting, planning major renovations or major improvements, reviewing and recommending changes to the technological infrastructure of buildings/facilities and preparing cost estimates. They will also maintain an inventory of all Borough-owned furniture and fixtures within these buildings/facilities.

Historic Preservation Committee – open to interested persons. The New Britain Borough Historic Preservation Committee was formed to create a framework for a positive coexistence between the past and future.

One of the best ways to find out if a committee is right for you is to attend a regular meeting or two. All committee meetings are open to the public. Please contact the Borough office at 215-348-4586 for more information, and to submit your volunteer information form. Vacancies are ultimately filled by Council appointment.



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## Where in the Borough is It?

**Answer.** It's in the 28 acre Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve on Mathews Avenue. To get there from Town Center Shopping Center, go down Sand Road a quarter mile. The road makes a left 'elbow' turn and becomes Mathews Ave. There's a parking area and Kiosk for the preserve on the right. Follow the paths downhill until you reach Neshaminy Creek. You'll be walking on well-maintained foot paths through woods and meadows. When you reach the river trail, turn left, walking down stream. The swing is hanging in the middle of the trail. Be sure to read the historical marker about Landis Mill, the first saw mill in Bucks County, and enjoy a stunning view of the river and woods.

*There's currently an opening on the Nature Preserve Committee if you'd like to help out.*

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## ***Protect Our Streams and Waterways***

Any water or chemicals that flow into the storm sewer go right into the Neshaminy. Please help prevent pollution by doing the following:

1. Minimize lawn fertilizer use as this is one of the largest contributors to stream pollution.
2. Dispose of hazardous materials properly. New Britain Borough, Bucks County and other municipalities hold regular electronics and hazardous waste disposal events. Dispose of hazardous materials before they leak or get knocked over.
3. Direct your mower discharge back onto your yards, not into the streets where it is quickly washed into streams. Dispose of leaves, grass clippings, and yard waste properly (outside of floodplains and waterways so they don't get washed downstream causing pollution and possibly blocking pipes, inlets and restrictions in streams). If you notice an inlet clogged, either call the Borough or safely clear the grate and dispose of the debris properly.
4. Sediment is a major stream pollutant and the State is implementing major constraints on limiting these contaminants which affect stream quality, fish and micro-organisms. Please ensure any yard disturbances due to construction, gardening, and/or unstable areas are provided with sediment controls so as to not adversely affect stream/waterway quality.
5. Pool owners are required to discharge water responsibly as per Borough and PADEP rules and regulations. The Clean Stream Law prohibits the discharge of chemically contaminated water into streams or storm sewers. Contaminated pool water quickly makes its way to streams where aquatic life can be harmed or killed.

6. Rain barrels are a great way to conserve water and save on your water bill during the dry summer months ahead. Simply place a 55 gallon drum under one or more of your downspouts with a valve and a hose bib at the bottom, then use to water your garden/yard. The rain barrels act as little detention basins that help decrease stream flooding. Decorative wooden wine/rain barrels are a great way to spruce up a porch. 'Rain gardens' are also a popular method of decreasing runoff and beautifying your property with landscaping and/or water features.

If you notice illegal dumping or drainage activities, please report it immediately to New Britain Borough at 215-348-4586.

## ***Sidewalk Safety***

Sidewalks are provided for your safety and to promote pedestrian activity. Enjoy the new sidewalk along West Butler Avenue. The Borough is working on a grant to provide sidewalks along East Butler Avenue and Keeley Avenue. It important to properly maintain your sidewalk; please be considerate and trim branches that extend over sidewalks and into the street. Also, check your sidewalks to ensure there are no uneven joints that could potentially cause injury.

## ***Small Business Development Center in Burkart Hall***



New Britain Borough and Delaware Valley University have partnered in opening a small business development center in the first floor of Burkart Hall. The purpose is to support small businesses, entrepreneurs, and students and help revitalize the borough.

In order to join the center, an applicant must apply and present in person a business concept to an evaluation committee. The business concept must have a connection to one of DelVal's dozens of programs. The center will offer work space for four or five people developing startups and will have the hands-on support of DelVal faculty members and students who are studying in the field of the plan.

A special Thank You to members of our Facilities Committee, particularly Bob Binkley (Council Member), Dan O'Leary, and Halsey White for their hard work, including cleaning, repairing, and painting to spruce up the first floor office.

 <p><b>PULTRO</b> FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT Michael Pultro Registered Financial Consultant 926 Town Center New Britain, PA 18901 215.489.3876 michael.puldro@lpl.com www.pulprofinancialmanagement.com <small>Securities and Financial Planning offered through LPL Financial, a Registered Investment Advisor, Member FINRA/SIPC</small></p>	<p><b>Creating Value For Life.</b> Helping You Plan Your Financial Future</p> 
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## Summer Camp

The Covered Bridge Camp at New Britain Borough is accepting registrations for the 2017 camp season (June 26th to August 4th, 9 am to 3 pm, Mondays through Fridays) for children 6 to 12 years old. The cost is \$265 for residents and \$325 for non-residents per child. Space is limited, so sign up early and don't be disappointed! You can register online and find more information at <http://newbritainboro.com/community-information/camp/>. You are also welcome to contact the Borough office with questions or to register.

## Community Garden

The New Britain Community Garden has started our 4th season of growing produce and flowers in a local and sustainable fashion. The garden is a 70' x 70' fenced area located in Orchard Park, adjacent to Covered Bridge Park. We encourage you to visit the site and the gardeners during your visits to the park. There is a waiting list for an open plot because the garden is filled for 2017. If interested, contact the borough office for more details including fees and responsibilities. Lastly, the garden accepts donations of tools and gardening items from those that are doing spring housecleaning. Please keep us in mind.

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## Honey Bees at Orchard Park

Last year, Derek MacMillan (Chair of the Parks and Recreation Committee) invited me to place two hives of honey bees at Orchard Park. Why add honey bees to the park? Honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) are excellent pollinators of fruit trees and many garden vegetables.

You have probably seen news reports concerning the decline in the populations of honey bees and other pollinators (bumble bees, mason bees, orchard bees and butterflies). Pollinators are declining for several reasons. One factor is the increased use of insecticides and herbicides. Insecticides are designed to kill unwanted insects. Unfortunately honey bees and other pollinators are also killed by insecticides. Herbicides kill plants (we call them weeds), but many weeds, including dandelions and white clover, are important sources of food for pollinators. Additionally, we have pests that have been imported into the US, which are killing pollinators.

Placing honey bees in Orchard Park benefits the orchard trees, the community garden plants, and the wild plants in the Park. Furthermore, honey bees can fly a considerable distance so that they will contribute to the pollination of plants in the adjacent Covered Bridge Park, the Pine Run Reservoir, and the rest of the Open Space. Local residents will also benefit from the Park's honey bees, as they will pollinate nearby fruit trees and garden plants.

I am an Eastern Apiculture Society certified Master Beekeeper and have been managing honey bees for over 50 years. Over the years I have kept bees in a number of states (NY, TN, KY, MD and PA) as well as in the Netherlands. For the past several years, I have taught beekeeping at the college level at Delaware Valley University and Temple University, Ambler. Additionally, I teach non-credit courses at both of these Universities. I am a frequent lecturer at regional beekeeping clubs and give presentations concerning honey bees to a variety of civic groups.

Vincent Aloyo, PhD

Master Beekeeper

[www.vincemasterbeekeeper.com](http://www.vincemasterbeekeeper.com)

**The Borough thanks Dr. Aloyo for his contribution of hives and expertise to Orchard Park.**

### Bucks County Covered Bridge Society Event

Saturday, June 17 at 1:00 pm

Covered Bridge Park

Bring your lunch and learn about the covered bridges in Bucks County including our own Pine Valley Covered Bridge!

