



New Britain Borough
45 Keeley Avenue
New Britain, PA 18901

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**IMPORTANT:
Update to Borough
Trash Hauling -
see cover page.**

New Britain Borough Officials

Mayor: David Holewinski

Borough Council: Robyne Kelemen - *President*
(Meets 2nd Tues. of the Month at Burkart Hall 7:30 PM)
Peter LaMontagne - *Vice-President*
Robert Binkley
Jeffrey Gilmore
Mary Pat Holewinski
Lori Kesilman
Thomas Price

Planning Commission: Michael Stanislaw - *Chairman*
(Meets 3rd Tues. of the Month at Burkart Hall 7:30 PM)
Loren Frasco - *Vice-Chairwoman*
Robert Binkley - *Council Liaison*
Karl Dieterichs
Richard Eggleston
David Holewinski
Michael Parke
Margaret Remyey

Planning Consultant: Kent Baird - *Gilmore & Associates*

Zoning Hearing Board: Robert Bair - *Chairman*
Anthony Coia - *Vice-Chairman*
Andrea Antell
David Siegfried
John Wolff
Matthew Bencoter, William Schaefer - *Alternates*
(Meets 2nd Wed. of the Month at Burkart Hall 7:30 pm)

Borough Staff: Sam Bryant - *Borough Manager/Treasurer/Secretary*
Mark Hintenlang - *Borough Engineer/Roadmaster*
Dawn Tremmel - *Office Manager/Assistant Treasurer*
Evan Cornell - *Borough Intern*
Michael Italia - *Building Inspector/Zoning Officer*

Emergency Mgmt. & Fire Marshal: Michael Italia
Borough Solicitor: Michael Peters - *Eastburn & Gray PC*
Tax Collector: Nicole Percetti - 215-822-2930
Central Bucks Regional Police Dept: Police Chief Karl Knott
Office: 215-345-4143 **Dispatch:** 215-348-3524

Newsletter Editor: Dawn Tremmel



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www.newbritainboro.com

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NEWS OF NEW BRITAIN BOROUGH

"A Friendly Place to Live"

Volume 28 • Number 1

Spring 2019

Single Hauler Trash Service in New Britain Borough

Samantha Bryant • *Borough Manager*

Last year, after noticing the increased amount of trash haulers registered to do work in the Borough, as well as news stories regarding substantial price increases for trash and recycling service, Council instructed Borough staff to do additional research on single hauler contracted trash and recycling service. This follows a similar effort and survey in 2016.

As a result of this research, Borough Council agreed to put a bid out to review the possible rates for such service. In December 2018, Borough Council approved moving forward with the bid from Advanced Disposal to help Borough residents save money on their trash and recycling service, to save Borough taxpayer money on road maintenance and repairs (due to road damage caused by multiple trash haulers' heavy trash trucks and their frequency on Borough roads), and to reduce traffic, noise, and pollution from these vehicles.

This bid is for residential properties, except those in the Unami Trail Mews, Forest Park, and Carousel Circle Home Owner Associations (HOAs). Commercial properties will be unaffected. For an all-inclusive 2019 quarterly rate of \$62.43, Advanced Disposal will provide once weekly pickup of 96 gallons of trash, 96 gallons of recycling, 90 gallons of yard waste (approximately 3 bags), and one bulk item. Residents who need an additional 96 gallon trash container can request one from Advanced Disposal at no extra cost.

Residents will be billed for their service directly by Advanced Disposal. This rate will increase to \$64.49 per quarter in 2020 and to \$66.62 per quarter in 2021. After 2021, the Borough would have the option to bid again for competitive rates or to return to a private collection system.

Borough staff are working with Advanced Disposal to finalize the details of the contract and to provide an Ordinance to Borough Council to advertise in February and approve in March. With this timeline, our current projected service schedule will be once weekly, every Wednesday, starting on April 3, 2019. If you need trash service in the interim, please call Advanced Disposal at 610-440-3700 and choose the "Norristown" option to begin the process of setting up new service. When signing up, please mention you are a New Britain Borough resident and would like them to honor the 2019 contracted rate mentioned above, \$62.43.

Advanced Disposal has been given a list of the residential addresses in the Borough and will be automatically dropping off trash and recycling containers to your residence sometime within the week or two before the April 3rd start date so **you do not need to call to set up the newly contracted service, this process is going to take place automatically.** The only action you should need to take is, if you currently have trash service with another hauler, and are going to keep their service up and until April 3, 2019, you should contact them prior to the end of March to let them know you will be terminating their service on March 31, 2019. If you have prepaid with your current hauler for multiple months, you should request a refund from them for any unused portion.

We strongly encourage you to check out the comprehensive **FAQ** section on single hauler trash service found on the Borough's website, which you can find at www.tinyurl.com/NBBTrash for more detailed information. Upon review, if you have any additional questions or comments, please contact me directly at sam@newbritainboro.com or 267-406-4442. 🚛



Advanced Disposal



Catching Up With Council

Robyne Kelemen ❖ Council President



This column discusses notable items from recent Borough Council meetings. I thought it would be beneficial to highlight a few of the items covered and decisions made that may be of particular interest to residents and local businesses. Would you like to learn more? Join us for the Borough Council meetings at 7:30 PM on the second Tuesday of each month, or contact the Borough Administration office for more information.

August: At the council meeting in August, there was discussion and approval to advertise an ordinance to make limited modifications to the Borough's mixed use overlay zoning. The Borough's Planning Commission had previously considered and unanimously recommended the modifications. The changes included a greater height allowance for interior buildings away from Butler Avenue for properties of six acres or more, and a lessened requirement for the portion of non-residential (e.g., business) square footage as compared to that for residential uses. The ordinance (#391) was subsequently approved in November. The Borough has been hopeful that the modifications to the ordinance will move us closer to initiation of some of the development projects that have been in the planning stages in the University Village area of the Borough. Subsequently, County Builders has held its groundbreaking on the mixed use development including apartments and commercial space in the former Knoell property at the corner of Butler Avenue and Shady Retreat Road.

September: In September, at the council meeting, a PECO representative presented the Borough with its Green Region grant award of \$10,000, which will be used to improve the Butler Avenue service islands.

Discussion was held this month on traffic concerns at the Covered Bridge, including the public's ideas for possible traffic improvements. It was noted that the Covered Bridge traffic topic would be addressed at the October Public Safety Committee meeting. Subsequently, at its meeting, the Public Safety committee supported performing a study to consider what traffic improvements could be made at the bridge. In December, Borough Council voted to fund a traffic study, up to \$4,000, for this purpose. A study would be required for any traffic signal or sign change at the bridge.

In September, Council voted to solicit bids for a single trash hauler for Borough residential properties.

At the close of the September council meeting, Borough Council approved both an agreement of sale and a lease agreement for the Miller property, adjacent to the Nature Preserve. As noted in the previous newsletter, negotiations concerning the proposed land acquisition of two properties adjacent to the Nature Preserve (Miller properties) have been ongoing for a number of months. The Borough received a Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) grant for \$210,000 toward these acquisitions. The effort toward acquisition of these properties, which would expand the Borough's Nature Preserve by about 4 acres, is nearing completion at this time. We will be pleased for this opportunity to expand the Nature Preserve, providing long term protection of these properties for the benefit of the public.

October: The month of October brings with it the Borough's annual focus on development of the municipal budget for the next year. A budget work session was held with staff, elected officials, and Finance Committee members during the month to discuss and finalize the 2019 budget recommendations for the Borough. Related to the budget effort, Borough Manager, Samantha Bryant, reviewed a slide presentation covering the good service and value to the public, as well as the substantial cost impact to our budget of Central Bucks Regional Police. The police costs amount to almost \$950,000 (based on 2017 figures) or 62% of our general fund budget. The purpose of the presentation was to explain the challenges that the police costs present to the Borough's budget and the efforts to keep the Borough's tax rates in check.

November: After discussion, Council requested that the Solicitor draft a resolution in favor of the "traditional" Bristol Road Extension plan in view of PennDOT's ongoing study of designs for the project. Subsequently, in December, Resolution #2018-15 was approved, supporting the original "straight-through" extension design.

Also at November's meeting, our Borough's first Junior Councilperson, Alivia Tremmel, was sworn in to her role. The Junior Councilperson program is an initiative endorsed by the PA Association of Boroughs as a way to involve and educate young persons in the activities of borough government.

December: As mentioned in the previous newsletter, a 509(c)(3) organization, "Friends of New Britain Parks" was created to allow individuals to make donations to support capital improvement projects in the Borough. Resolution 2018-11 was approved in December, appointing Borough Manager, Samantha Bryant, to the board and confirming the

- continued on page 5, second column

Getting To Know Members of Council

Mary Pat Holewinski ❖ Councilmember



Q: Mary Pat, how long have you been a Borough resident?

A: I have been a resident for almost 37 years. My family and I moved here in July of 1982.

Q: Are you married? Do you have any children and/or pets?

A: My husband, David, and I are parents to five children and grandparents to 10 beautiful young adults whose ages range from 12 to 26.



Q: What is your profession?

A: I am a retired teacher, but I continue to substitute teach part-time.

Q: How long have you been on Borough Council and why did you decide to run?

A: I have proudly served on Borough Council for 25 years. When my current term is up I will have served for 28 years. I decided to run for Council to become more involved in my community.

Q: Do you volunteer with any other organization(s) in addition to your Borough Council duties?

A: In addition to serving on Council, the Historic Preservation Committee, and the Bike and Hike Committee for Doylestown Township, I also serve on the board of the New Britain Civic Association, which owns and maintains the Covered Bridge Park. I am on the Board of Directors for Habitat for Humanity and have been a regular volunteer for that organization for over 12 years, including going to the build-sites and doing construction. I also volunteer at the Pearl S. Buck House, helping with special events and working in the gardens.

Q: What Borough projects are you passionate about?

A: I am passionate about projects that will revitalize our community and make it a prime location for people to choose to live. They would include the construction of sidewalk/bike trails to make our entire community walkable and the development of the "University Village" area.

Q: What is your vision for the Borough five years from now?

A: My vision for the Borough in five years is that the Borough becomes a destination area. The University Village area will be complete with shops and restaurants and our shopping center stores will all be filled. The Borough will be walkable and people will be coming to enjoy our parks and trails, shop in our stores, and eat in our restaurants. All of that will help secure the financial stability of the Borough.

Q: What would you like people to know about you? Do you have any special hobbies, talents, or skills?

A: I would like people to know that in addition to all of my volunteer work, I love spending time with my family, including my numerous siblings and their families. I love to read, and another passion of mine is photographing trips and family events then scrapbooking the pictures, although I'm about 12 years behind.

Q: Who has inspired you in your life and why?

A: My parents were my biggest inspiration in life. I was blessed to be one of seven children and our parents always encouraged us to work hard and to be the best person you could be. They praised us and made each of us feel special. We never wanted to disappoint them. Even though they have passed away, I still don't want to disappoint them.

Q: If you could have dinner with anyone alive today, who would it be and why?

A: Jane Fonda. I am not a fan of hers and I especially did not like her politics during the Vietnam War, but I think it would be interesting to sit down with her and ask her about her life – if she has regrets and if she would do things differently.

Q: If you could trade places with any other person for a week, famous or not, living or dead, real or fictional, with whom would it be and why?

A: I don't have any one person that I would like to trade places with, but I think it would be very interesting to be able to go back in time and experience life in different time periods, as long as I knew I could get back to the present.

Q: If you were stranded on a deserted island, what three personal things would you have to have with you?

A: I would want to have my camera, of course, to photograph the experience, my journal to document my time there, and shoes – I can't stand to go barefoot.

Q: You're a new addition to the crayon box, what color would you be (be creative with the name) and why?

A: If I were a new color to the crayon box, I would be "Fresh-green". Color my world with the freshness of spring and new growth. No matter how bad things seem or how old we get, there is always the opportunity for new things and a fresh start. Just keep on living and enjoying life!



Borough History

Bruce Burkart ❖ *Borough Historian*



New Britain Baptist Church, exact date not known, possibly early 1900's

Session School

Resource: Bruce Burkart based on writings by Mrs. Louise Parmalee Burkart

Most likely in the year 1856, a "Session School" was built where the current New Britain Baptist Church sits today. It was a two-story stone structure, the first floor was a public school for the residents of Doylestown Township and the second floor was used for prayer meetings, singing classes, temperance lectures (lectures urging the reduction of alcohol consumption), and magic lantern shows such as, "Ten Nights in a Barroom."

Signor Blitz, a ventriloquist, came to the school often to entertain the people of the community, and tales told are still remembered of someone asleep, with mice running down his open mouth. Someone else noted a story about an egg in the mouth of the entertainer, and then a bird flying from his mouth out to the road.

The first teacher at the Session School was Louisa Bitting, and her descendants remember hearing descriptions of the aprons or hunting shirts the pupils wore to school. The Session School was a pay school and the fee charged was three cents per day.

A story is told of one little eight year old girl having a near accident one day. Below the school, a natural spring was located (where the WWI memorial honoring Walter Harvey now stands) with steps leading to it. The little girl wanted a drink of water, so when she got to the bottom step, she was pushed in by a mischievous classmate. When her classmate saw the plight of her friend, she ran for assistance and beyond being wet to the waist, nothing serious happened except "distress of the mind lest a whipping would follow."

The original school building was torn down in 1885. William Van Toor helped to pull it down. He found a number of three-cent pieces, possibly given to the children to spend for candy at the nearby store located on the corner, or more likely, it was the three cents that was supposed to pay for their school day.

For more historical points of interest, please visit the Borough's website at www.newbritainboro.com ❖

Community & Business Committee Borough Committee Update

Steve Ascher ❖ *Community & Business Committee*

The Community and Business Committee (CBC) is a New Britain Borough (NBB) volunteer committee comprised of business professionals, residents, and Borough officials working together to create an environment that targets and attracts new businesses, promotes our current businesses, and enhances the quality of life for residents and visitors. The CBC is staffed entirely by volunteers consisting of five NBB residents and five NBB business owners.

The CBC has been instrumental in helping to create a Main Street Plan for New Britain Borough. This plan includes new commercial and residential properties, such as the University Village section of Butler Avenue. Recent accomplishments of the CBC include a new information packet of the Borough with points of interest highlighted, the approval of new lighting and benches, and new gateway signage to welcome people to the Borough. CBC also participates in A-Day where members host a NBB booth promoting the Borough. We look forward to 2019 where we anticipate construction of the gateway signs, proposal of way finding signs for Borough attractions, exploration of a farmers' market, and interaction with the developers of University Village.

CBC was formed in 2012 and has been chaired for the past two years by Jackie D'Agostino who has done a fantastic job. She hands over the reins for 2019 to Steve Ascher, who is a NBB resident and has served as the CBC Secretary. In addition to Steve, current committee members include residents: Andrea Antell, Loren Frasco, and Tess LaMontagne, and business owners: Debbie Byrne (Byrne Sewing), Dave Fermier (Bucks-Mont Party Rental), Chris Fleming (Federal Realty), and Steve Gieseler (Gieseler Insurance Agency, Inc.). The committee meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM in the NBB administrative office on Keeley Avenue. The CBC currently has one business and one resident opening. If you are interested, please contact Steve Ascher (stelbon@comcast.net) or the Borough Manager, Samantha Bryant (sam@newbritainboro.com). ❖



Summer Camp NEWS



In 2018, the Covered Bridge Summer Camp program was taken over by the New Britain Civic Association which is the same association that owns, operates, and maintains the Covered Bridge Park. **The Borough administration office @ 45 Keeley Avenue no longer deals with anything related to the summer camp program and this includes any questions related to camp and any camp registration.**

Please direct any and all 2019 Covered Bridge Summer Camp registrations and related questions to: New Britain Borough Civic Association @ 215-345-8750 and leave a message. You can also visit Civic Association's website for more information, www.newbritaincivic.org ❖



When Do I Need a Permit?

Please see the **FAQ** section along the top of the home page of the Borough's website for questions related to what types of projects on your property require permits. www.newbritainboro.com You can also get more information regarding code specifications for your project on the eCode section of the Borough's website. Under the *Government* tab, choose *Borough Code*, and type your keyword into the search bar in the upper right hand corner. ❖



Steven W. Gieseler
President



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Moments with the Mayor

David Holewinski ❖ *Mayor*



We saw a lot of Borough activity in 2018. The trails to the train station and beyond to the Parkway were completed. Removal of diseased trees on the two islands along Butler Avenue was completed with plans to plant replacements in the spring. The revisions to the Borough office parking lot and the safe walkway between the Borough office and Burkart Hall were started, and the Knoell property development, "The Gatherings at University Village," began.

A new year is upon us and the future of New Britain is looking bright. We anticipate a number of project submissions from other developers along Butler Avenue in the next couple of months. We have secured funding to continue with our walkability plan along Butler Avenue, connecting Chalfont, New Britain, and Doylestown through a series of walkways, as well as bike and hike paths. Investigative measures are afoot looking for grants and financial assistance to bury electric, phone, and other utility lines along Butler Avenue, creating a more pleasing landscape in our Borough.

Now would be a good time for residents to become more involved in the activities of our committees and commissions, which need fresh ideas in order to move forward in planning for the future of the Borough. As we approach a totally walkable community, and offer new and exciting eateries and commercial properties, we welcome your thoughts and your participation in our future. If you are interested in becoming a part of molding the future of New Britain, just call the Borough office and let us know of your interest.

The Borough is also looking for junior & senior high school students interested in becoming Junior Council members; contact us if you have a student interested. This is an opportunity for youth to be involved in the activities of a government institution and gain insight into how government works.

That's all for now. Here's hoping that you and your families have a healthy, happy year that brings you prosperity, peace, and a deep feeling of belonging here in New Britain Borough. Please stay tuned to our website, www.newbritainboro.com, and our facebook page for updates on activities and information concerning our Borough and the surrounding area. ❖

SOLICITATION IN THE BOROUGH:

Solicitors are required to obtain a permit from Central Bucks Regional Police Department before they can go door-to-door (religious groups are exempt). If you are bothered by a solicitor, please immediately call CBRPD's non-emergency line to report the incident and they can tell you if the solicitor has a valid permit, and if not, they will dispatch an officer. CBRPD's non-emergency number is: **215-345-4143**. ❖

“The Doan Gang”

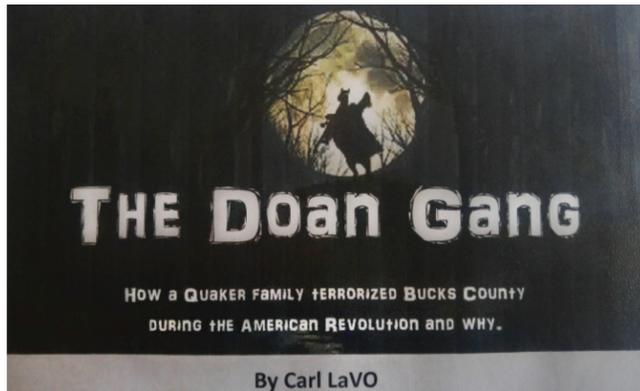
Event Sponsored by the Historic Preservation Committee

Please join the New Britain Borough Historic Preservation Committee to hear author Carl LaVO speak about:

The Doan Gang

How a Quaker Family Terrorized Bucks County During the American Revolution and Why

Monday, April 8th @ 7:00 PM
Lenape Valley Presbyterian Church
321 W. Butler Avenue



Registration is required due to limited seating. Please register at <https://tinyurl.com/carllavo> or by calling 215-348-4586.

The Doan Outlaws, also known as the “Doan Boys” and “Plumstead Cowboys,” were a notorious gang of brothers from a Quaker family most renowned for being British spies during the American Revolutionary War.

The Doans were Loyalists from a Quaker family of good standing. The “Doan Boys” reached manhood at the time of the American Revolutionary War. Growing up in Plumstead, Pennsylvania, the Doans excelled athletically. The Doan gang’s principal occupation was robbing Whig tax collectors and horse theft. The gang stole over 200 horses from their neighbors in Bucks County that they sold to the Red Coats in Philadelphia and Baltimore.

The Friends Meeting House’s cemetery in Plumsteadville is protected by a field stone wall that runs around its perimeter. Levi and Abraham Doan were buried just outside this wall because the pacifist Quakers refused to bury militants within their graveyard (a veteran of the Civil War is likewise buried outside the graveyard perimeter). The graves are adorned with their original native brownstone headstones which bear no inscriptions, following the Quaker practice at the time of their death, as well as newer headstones that identify them as outlaws. Resource, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Doan_Outlaws

Guest speaker, Carl LaVO, a retired news editor and author of five books, is a weekly local history columnist for the Bucks County Courier Times and The Intelligencer newspapers and the author of his newest book, *Bucks County Adventures*. His books will be available for purchase and signing at the event.



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Investment Advisor, Member FINRA/SIPC



Creating Value For Life.
Helping You Plan Your Financial Future

Turning Our Thoughts to Spring

Mike Italia ❖ Building Inspector/Zoning Officer

Despite the lingering cold, spring time is near and brings with it many things to look forward to. While we will be enjoying the flowers pushing up out of the ground and the trees budding in the near future, please remember when clearing yard-waste, that you handle it in the most possible environmentally friendly manner. When disposing of yard waste in the trash, please utilize the brown paper yard-waste bags available at a variety of local stores, or bundle branches together with a string. The burning of yard waste should be the last resort for homeowners because it adds to environmental concerns and can be a safety hazard, especially when there are dry and/or windy conditions.

Another topic for spring is mulching and mulch clearance from the house. Mulch, along with careless smoking, cause numerous fires in the United States annually. Please make sure that if you do smoke outside, that any cigarette waste is discarded in an appropriate container like you would safely discard ashes from a wood stove. Smoldering fires become larger problems during March and April as the winds tend to be stronger and more frequent during that time.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Borough’s Code Enforcement Department by calling 215-348-4586.

Have a great rest of your winter and enjoy nature’s beauty of spring! 🌻



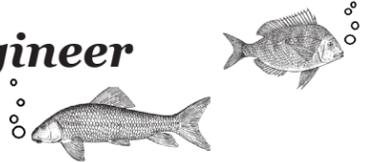


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A Message From Our Borough Engineer

Mark Hintenlang ❖ Borough Engineer & Roadmaster



CLEAN STREAMS:

As part of an annual permit process New Britain Borough is required to reduce pollution to the streams which pass through the Borough. The following pollutants/stream locations have been identified by the State:

- Pine Run Creek – Excessive algae.
- Cooks Run – Nutrients.
- Neshaminy Creek – Pathogens, nutrients, organics, low dissolved oxygen, siltation and suspended solids.

We need everyone’s help in reducing these pollutants by limiting/eliminating lawn fertilizers. Fertilizers contain nitrogen, nutrients and phosphorus, etc. which is the main source of pollution which causes other ill affects such as algae, organics, etc. especially in slow moving water and ponds. Please consider eliminating the use fertilizers on your property and if you have a lawn care service, please let them know our concerns and also ask them for the reduction/elimination of fertilizing wherever possible.

Sediment is also 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 to avoid adversely affecting streams/waterway quality.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: Always dispose of hazardous materials properly. Dispose of hazardous materials before they leak or are knocked over. Additional stormwater information is available at: www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/water-mgt/wc/npdsm4/ms4cd/Education/RainDrainBrochure.pdf and also at: www.newbritainboro.com

For more information on hazardous waste disposal, please visit Bucks County’s website at: www.buckscounty.org

YARD WASTE: Help us keep our streams and ponds free of fertilizer and debris by directing lawn mower discharge back onto your yards, not into the streets where it is quickly washed into the storm collection system and then goes untreated directly into streams and local waterways. 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 please call the Borough @ 215-348-4586.

SWIMMING POOLS: 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 via storm inlets on Borough streets where aquatic life can be harmed or killed because that water passes untreated directly into our streams. Please call Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority @ 215-343-2538 if you have contaminated water that needs to be removed.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT: Stormwater control/reduction is an important method to reduce erosion, sediment and suspended solids in our streams. While the Borough’s ordinances require developers to provide methods to reduce runoff, existing residential lots and businesses can do their part to prevent excessive runoff by providing their own source of stormwater management such as the following:

1. ‘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 also a great way to spruce up a porch.
2. ‘Rain gardens’ are also a popular method of decreasing runoff and beautifying your property with landscaping and/or water features.
3. Planting trees and vegetation effectively benefits sediment reduction by reducing runoff quantity and velocity. Please consider planting native species trees, especially if trees are removed from your property. Additional information can be obtained by contacting New Britain Borough.
4. If you notice illegal dumping or drainage activities, please report it immediately to New Britain Borough @ 215-348-4586.

SIDEWALK SAFETY:

Sidewalks are provided for your safety and to promote pedestrian activity. We are working on a plan to provide sidewalk/trail along Keeley Avenue. It important to properly maintain your sidewalk; please be considerate and trim branches that extend over sidewalk and into the street. Also, check your sidewalks that there are no uneven joints that could cause injury. 🚲

Mark Hintenlang, New Britain Borough Engineer
215-348-4586 (office) 267-254-2782 (cell) or email: mark@newbritainboro.com





Bird Town Educational Classes

Tom Price ❖ Bird Town Committee

Bird Town Educational Programs Offered this Winter
The Bird Town Committees of New Britain and Chalfont Boroughs are offering several educational programs on three Sunday afternoons this winter. All three programs are meant to introduce residents to the Bird Town program and provide information about local birds and ways to enjoy them. The programs are geared towards novice and aspiring birders and suitable for families and kids. No pre-registration for these programs is required and admission is free.

“Backyard Birding” on January 27 at 1:00 p.m. at Chalfont Borough Hall on Main Street in Chalfont. This program will focus on birds that are commonly found in our area. It will also explain how to take part in the annual **Great Backyard Bird Count** (to be held this year on **Feb. 16-19**) and how to use eBird, an online checklist program that is used to report and access information about bird sightings.

“Winter Bird Feeding” on February 24 at 1:00 p.m. at Burkart Hall on Keeley Ave. in New Britain Borough. This program will focus on the “how-tos” of winter bird feeding and the common birds we can expect to see at our feeders during the winter months.

“Landscaping for Birds” on March 31 at 1:00 p.m. at Burkart Hall on Keeley Ave. in New Britain Borough. As spring planting time gets underway, this program will focus on the use of native plants to create bird-friendly habitat in our own backyards.

NOTE: The “snow dates” for all three programs will be the next Sunday on the calendar – Feb. 3, Mar. 3, and Apr. 7.



New Grassland Bird Habitat Sign Installed at Pine Run Reservoir

If you have walked or biked on the trail at the Pine Run Reservoir recently, you may have noticed a new educational sign about the importance of protecting grassland bird habitat. In recent decades, the population of grassland birds has declined more steeply than any other group of birds in North

America, mostly because of habitat loss. The sign highlights ten grassland species of birds that may breed, or be seen, at Pine Run, and stresses the importance of keeping all dogs on leashes when they are walked at Pine Run to protect birds that may be nesting there. The sign was designed by members of the New Britain Borough Bird Town Committee and the Doylestown Township Environmental Advisory Council. It was funded through contributions from the Bucks County Audubon Society, the Pennsylvania Audubon Society, Bucks County Birders, the Bucks County Conservation District, and Doylestown Township.

For more specific information on the Bird Town Committee, please visit the Borough website, www.newbritainboro.com

McCabe and Brady
Physical Therapy

Frank McCabe, MSPT, Cert., MDT
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The Nature Preserve Could Use Your Help!

Tom Price ❖ Nature Preserve Committee

The Borough’s Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve is managed and maintained by a small Borough committee of volunteers. Committee members, as well as other volunteers, have spent countless hours in recent years working to improve the Preserve. They have installed hundreds of native plants, removed hundreds of invasive species and have mulched, weeded, and watered. They have constructed, installed, and maintained nesting boxes, signage, benches, and trails and we greatly appreciate all their efforts and their valuable time!

Now, we are asking for your help. Upcoming spring work days will be on the following Saturday mornings from 9:00AM to 12:00PM: April 6th, April 20th, and May 11th (reserved rain date of May 18th). Please bring work gloves and tools for planting, mulching, and removing invasive plants.

If you can’t come to any of these prescheduled work days, but would like to be notified of additional opportunities to do service work in the Preserve throughout the year, please send your name and email address to the Nature Preserve Committee’s chairperson, Tom Price, at pricet@newbritainboro.com. We would like to build a list of residents (“Friends of the Nature Preserve”) who might be available for this purpose. Thank you in advance!

Spring Calendar of Community Events

- Mar. 16.....9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.....Soup, Chili, Used Book & Rummage Sale @ Chalfont Fire Co. ♦ 301 N. Main St., Chalfont
- April 6.....9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.....Nature Preserve Work Day • Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve ♦ Mathews Ave., New Britain
Parking for Preserve available on Landis Mill Road and/or Mathews Avenue, New Britain
- April 8.....7:00 PM.....The Doan Gang @ Lenape Valley Presbyterian Church ♦ 321 W. Butler Ave., New Britain
- April 20.....9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.....Nature Preserve Work Day • Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve ♦ Mathews Ave., New Britain
Parking for Preserve available on Landis Mill Road and/or Mathews Avenue, New Britain
- April 26-28...various start/end times.....A-Day Weekend @ Delaware Valley University ♦ 700 E. Butler Avenue, New Britain
- April 28.....8:00 AM to 12:00 PM.....Buffet Breakfast @ Chalfont Fire Co. ♦ 301 N. Main St., Chalfont (ends before noon if sold out)
- May 11.....9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.....Nature Preserve Work Day • Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve ♦ Mathews Ave., New Britain
Parking for Preserve available on Landis Mill Road and/or Mathews Avenue, New Britain
- May 11..... 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM.....Turkey Hoagies @ Chalfont Fire Co. ♦ 301 N. Main St., Chalfont (ends before 12:30 PM if sold out)

Parks & Recreation Committee Borough Committee Update

Andrea Antell ❖ Parks & Recreation Committee

The Parks & Recreation Committee is a Borough Committee responsible for overseeing New Britain Borough’s Orchard Park as well as creating and coordinating events and ideas involving spending time outdoors and enjoying “recreation” time. The Committee was officially formed after the purchase of approximately 4.5 acres of open space in a key area next to Covered Bridge Park and the site of one of the Borough’s original farmsteads and apple orchard. Orchard Park is also home to New Britain Borough’s Community Garden.



The committee is comprised of seven volunteers and a council liaison. The committee meets for an hour the first Monday of every month at the Borough’s administration building to review current projects and the use of a council-approved budget, as well as brainstorming and planning new events and offerings for Borough residents. Meetings are open to the public and all ideas are welcome.

Some of the projects for Orchard Park in 2019 will be the construction of an ADA-approved access trail and bridge, the removal of diseased ash trees, new landscaping, and the installation of a wood pergola designed and built by a talented group of local volunteers.

The Parks & Recreation Committee has a vacancy this year. If you have a little bit of time to contribute to the health and future of our Borough we would love the help - please reach out to the Borough Office @ **215-348-4586** for more information.

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other appointments and terms of the board members.

In December, after discussion, a motion passed to move forward with the low bid from Advanced Disposal for a single trash & recycling hauler for residential properties in the borough (excluding condominium & town-home HOAs). Further council deliberation to be undertaken in 2019 will address the necessary contract and ordinance to implement use of a single hauler in the Borough. The 2019 budget and tax rate (Ordinance #393) for 2019 were also approved, as legally required, in December. We are pleased to note that the overall tax rate is again (six years in a row) held the same as last year. This includes a decrease in recreation tax millage to create millage supporting streetlight improvements. It is with thanks to the fiscally-responsible management by the Borough’s treasurer (Ms. Bryant) and assistant treasurer (Ms. Dawn Tremmel), elected and volunteer staff that we are able to continue to hold the line on Borough taxes.

Recently adopted Borough laws including the ordinances described in this column may be found at the Borough website at the following address: <http://www.ecode360.com/laws/NE3059>. All current Borough ordinances may also be found by navigating from that page.

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