

Volume 22, Number 3

Please join the New Britain Borough Historic Preservation Committee Saturday, September 21, 2013 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For the 100th Anniversary Celebration of our Borough Hall

When is a Borough Hall a Literary Society? Conceived by twelve New Britain residents, the Library and Literary Society was organized in December 1908 with the objective: "To secure mutual improvement and advancement along literary lines and for the cultivation of the amenities of social life." On September 13, 1913, the cornerstone of the Literary Society building was laid at 56 Keeley Avenue. One hundred years later the Historic Preservation Committee will present a program that highlights the remarkable role the unremarkable looking building we call our Borough Hall played in the history and life of the Borough. Be present when the cornerstone is opened and reveals items placed inside by the founders, see vintage memorabilia and learn more about the activities that took place in the library.

A noontime ceremony will be held at Borough Hall to open the cornerstone with the Unami Middle School Band marching on Keeley Avenue from Butler Avenue. There will be exhibitions at both Borough Hall and the New Britain Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.

More about the rich history of the Library and Literary Society and Borough Hall is presented in the adjoining article. We hope it will whet your appetite to learn more and to experience what it was like to live in New Britain while the Literary Society was the vibrant center of the Borough.

Borough Treasures

New Britain Borough Hall 56 Keeley Avenue

Our Borough Hall building was originally constructed for the New Britain Literary Society on land purchased from C. J. Conard and dedicated at a ceremony on September 13, 1913. The Doylestown Band travelled by train to provide music and according to an article in *The Daily Intelligencer* "greatly enlivened the occasion".. The event was attended by a crowd of 300 persons. A list of Honorary Members made such by contributing to the building fund contains some familiar names: W. Atlee Burpee, Fannie Chapman



Summer 2013

and Henry Mercer. The building was only half completed at the time of dedication and contained a gymnasium and library on the main floor and an upper room serving as the main auditorium.

According to the *Intelligencer* article "The city with its appliances of concentration and advanced civilization has pushed forward rapidly along these lines but not so in the country and it is an attempt to overcome a backwardness that the New Britain Literary Society decided to erect a building in which to hold its meetings, to hold classes of instruction, social gatherings and in which eventually to install a library and reading tables." In 1913 there was no TV and radio was not common in households until 1920. The Literary Society building became the hub of the community. Programs included concerts, plays, travelogues, dances and holiday bazaars. At the dedication of the library in 1913, the Literary Society possessed 65 books, and in 1926 there were 3200 books. At the ground breaking, there was a mortgage burning ceremony.

In the December 1956 *New Britain News*, precursor of our Borough newsletter, an announcement was made that tryouts were being held on December 14 in the Village Library for production the melodrama, "Gold in the Hills, or The Dead Sister's Secret."

By 1969 the "backward countryside" had given way to suburbia, and not only radio but TV had become ubiquitous, the Literary Society disbanded and the property was deeded to the Borough. The lower level of the building became the Police Department and Borough Council continues to meet upstairs as they have since the borough incorporated in 1928.

Around Town

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AROUND TOWN is a regular column in our newsletter. It is a section about residents and businesses in the borough who have special events, and we'd like to acknowledge good deeds. If there is a birth, marriage, milestone anniversary, special birthday, someone in the family graduating college, getting special honors for academic and/or business achievement, someone that performs a good deed or gets special recognition, please let us know by calling Marie Esher Coia at 215-348-1043 or email mecoia@verizon.net.

Bucks Mont Party Rental announces online ordering

Bucks Mont Party Rental (BMPR) on 238 West Butler Avenue announces that you can now order their merchandise on-line at Parties2order.com. You can purchase all items online that the store sells including all kinds of party supplies like plates, napkins, cups, cutlery, etc. as well as premium tableware. They have a lot of high-end patterned party supplies for themes like luau and sports and for special events like baby showers, bachelorette parties, graduations, etc. In addition, they have balloons, balloon weights, beautiful country gifts and all kinds of candles including Yankee candles on line. Parties2order has its own phone number, 215-230-6976, and email address: parties2orderpa@gmail.com if you have questions.

Thanks again, Paul Tiers

Yet another thank you goes to **Paul Tiers** of P**aul Tiers Landscaping** located in New Britain for not only planting flowers at our War Memorial on Tamenend Avenue but for weeding it and keeping it lovely. It is the fourth time Paul has planted flowers and cared for the memorial garden without being asked and at no charge. Thank you again, Paul!

Congratulations Margie Belchic

Margie Belchic, a long-time Borough resident, is one of only four nurses who won this year's Nursing Excellence Award. This award was presented on May 2 to nurses in the tristate area by the Allegrezze family. Margie was nominated for her work in the Health Center of Gwynedd Mercy College, a primary care provider for those who do not have insurance. Margie also precepts Nurse Practitioner students at the Health Center.



Bucks County Wellness Center hosts 3rd Annual Community Wellness Day

The 3rd Annual Community Wellness Day, hosted by **Dr. Michael Brady** of the **Bucks County Wellness Centre**, 352 East Butler Avenue, was a great success with community members of all ages participating. The event, held on April 27, focused on providing resources for components vital to the community's total well being. Community Wellness Day raised \$550 for the Bucks County Housing Group. For more information on this annual event or the Bucks County Wellness Center, contact Sarah at 215-345-1445.



Dr. Michael Brady of the Bucks County Wellness Centre and Melissa Mantz of the Bucks County Housing Group.

Hair Cafe sponsors fund raiser

Linda Rasmussen, owner of the Hair Cafe in the Town Center Shopping Center hosted a fund-raiser in her salon to benefit Alex's Lemonade Stand for child cancer research. It was the idea of friends of Dwayne Schwarz, who was recently diagnosed with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia. Before his hair fell out from treatment, his friends wanted to hold a fundraising "Shave-a-thon" to benefit Alex's Lemonade Stand. Team Dwayne collected \$3,500 worth of gift cards and local products to be used for a raffle. The Shave-a-thon, held on June 2, was a major success with 104 "shavees" and over \$16,000 raised! Great job to all involved.

BINPR BUCks-Mont Party Rental	Byrne Sewing Connection LLC 215-230-9411 www.byrnesewing.com 422 East Butler Avenue, New Britain,
 38 West Butler Avenue • Route 202 New Britain PA 18901 215.345.4556 • Fax 215.345.7230 www.bucksmontparty.com 1.800.61.Party Tents • Tables • Chairs China • Linen • Glassware • Staging ghting • Catering Equipment & More! 	A Place That Makes You Feel Sew Special! A full service sewing shop right in your own back yard! We feature an assortment of wonderful sewing and embroidery machines and everything you need to create as far as your imagination will take you! Sales & Service -all makes & models

Spotlight on Borough Businesses

We will be highlighting a different Borough business in each newsletter to help promote them so they can continue to be viable and prosperouswhich benefits us all. We will also inform you of new businesses in the borough. Small business provides goods, services, and employment to the community. Please shop and frequent our borough businesses.

> EZ/PC Computer Services 554 East Butler Avenue New Britain (215) 348-5958 EZPCfixit.com

Computer frustrating you? Do you need someone who is knowledgeable and reliable to help you? EZ/PC Computer Services is the place for you. EZ/PC Computer Services have been at their current location for over nine years and has served New Britain Borough and the surrounding Bucks County area since 1993.

Allison Donnelly, owner and founder of EZ/PC Computer Services first started working with computers in the early 1980's. It quickly became an all-consuming passion of hers and still today that passion is evident in the care and concern she shows to each and every patron. Her wealth of knowledge and years of experience along with her dedication to superior service make her a highly prized asset to our community.

Allison and her staff of computer technicians take pride in providing EXCELLENT service every time. Stop in anytime during their normal operating hours and they will diagnose your computer problems for you, while you wait. **Diagnostics in shop are always FREE**.

The technicians at EZ/PC Computer Services repair all brands and types of technology devices including Mac or Windows computers. No other computer service provider offers anything like their unparalleled service when it comes to computer maintenance or identifying and removing malicious software and infections. Whether you need help for a small business or your home computers they offer full service computer and technology repairs to meet all your needs. They have the skills to keep your technology running smoothly so that you can get back to what you do best. EZ/PC Computer Services makes technology work for you.

Many of their services can be completed same day if necessary. They work closely with clients to personalize services to best meet your specific needs. Expect their staff to work diligently to preserve your data and get your computer back to you promptly. Options for service include onsite at your home or business, remote support or in-shop.

Stop by any time during their regular business hours and see how Allison and her staff can help you with all of your computer needs.

Shop Hours

Monday - Thursday - 10am - 5pm Saturday - 12pm - 4pm Friday & Evening Hours by Appointment

New Britain Welcomes New Businesses to the Borough

McCabe and Brady Physical Therapy 100 Town Center Shopping Center New Britain 267-247-5049 mccabebradypt.com

At McCabe and Brady Physical Therapy they take great pride in providing individualized care that combines superior clinical and diagnostic reasoning with manual therapy techniques to successfully evaluate and treat all neuromuscular and orthopedic conditions. Utilizing this problem-solving approach to guide their patients treatment allows them to achieve results even where other physical therapy treatments may have previously failed.

Their specialties include treating the spine and joints using the McKenzie method, Manual Physical Therapy, Joint replacement/post-surgical rehab, shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, hip, knee, ankle and foot injuries, repetitive use injuries such as tennis elbow, golfer's elbow & plantar faciitis, Geriatric Conditioning and Balance Training, Vestibular Rehabilitation including canalith repositioning for vertigo/dizziness.

They continually reassess their patients needs and progress so the treatment plan will evolve and change with the patients' progress. Patient education and self-treatment techniques are an integral aspect to all of their treatment plans. As a result, their patients are better prepared to treat themselves and prevent recurrence.



Can You Help?

The New Britain Borough Council recently established a committee, the Appointment Advisory Committee, to identify and recommend individuals to Borough Council for consideration for appointments to the various boards, commissions and committees. The committee will keep a database of interested individuals who will be contacted when vacancies occur. Some of the positions the committee will consider applicants for are, but not limited to, Borough Council, Planning Commission, Zoning Hearing Board, Nature Preserve Committee, Community and Business Committee, and the Historic Preservation Committee. We will highlight one of the boards, commissions, and committees in future newsletters. This newsletter will highlight the

Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve Committee

The Borough owns the Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve, originally 26 acres and now over 30 acres, along the Neshaminy Creek and the wildflower meadow (now called Miriam's Meadow) and home donated by Miriam Groner. This committee serves as a caretaker for the Preserve. Funding for the Nature Preserve involves some taxpayer funds, but most is from rental of the Mathews-Groner house and from Miriam Groner's bequest for the Preserve. The Nature Preserve Committee consists of eight volunteers who oversee the Preserve, do the planning and some of the maintenance. This committee meets monthly, as well as doing some work from home, or in the Preserve. The Nature Preserve Committee meets in the Borough office conference room at 7:30 p.m. on the Monday evening before the Borough Council meeting.

There are two other related groups: a Meadow subcommittee that focuses on the plants in the meadow, and the greater Preserve. New members are welcome; an interest in plants the only requirement. The Friends of the Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve is a much larger group, that helps out on projects, work days and such events. For example, we are adding quite a number of signs to the preserve, and we need people who are moderately handy with ordinary garden tools. Members range from amateur gardeners to persons with a general appreciation of the outdoors. The time commitment varies with the interest of the individual. The committee is opened to unlimited volunteers.

The woodworking folks have become an informal group interested in woodworking projects for the public good. Examples of completed projects are the Kiosk for the Nature Preserve and numerous bat, bird, owl, and duck boxes, with more and bigger projects planned. Persons with basic woodworking skills are welcome.

One of the secrets of the Borough is Miriam's wildflower meadow on the Mathews/Aarons Avenue Loop, part of our 30-acre Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve. The Meadow is over an acre of wildflowers, native grasses and plants. Every week or two some plants fall dormant and others come into bloom, so you will see changes every time you visit.

Notes from the Borough Police

POLICE MERGER NEWS

New Britain Borough and Doylestown Borough Police Departments have created a Police Commission to oversee the new merged department, "Central Bucks Regional Police Department." The commission meets every fourth Monday of the month at Doylestown Borough Hall and meetings are open to the public. The merger is scheduled to take place in January 2014.

HOME PROTECTION

Light up your residence, lock your doors....Make your home look occupied, and make it difficult to break in! Keep your garage door closed and locked. Don't allow mail or newspapers to build up while you are away. Install deadbolts on all outside doors. Sliding glass doors are vulnerable, special locks can be purchased for better security.

SOLICITORS

If a solicitor comes to your residence, please request to see their soliciting permit that was issued by NBBPD. If they refuse or do not have a permit, call the police immediately and provide a description of the solicitor. If the solicitor has a vehicle, provide a description and, if possible, obtain the license plate number. Soliciting in New Britain Borough is allowed by PERMIT ONLY. The solicitor's permit must be displayed and visible at all times while soliciting in the Borough.

Important Numbers

Bucks County District Attorney's Office 215-343-6344
Network of Victim Assistance 1-800-675-6900
A Women's Place 1-800-220-8116
Crimes Against Older Adults 1-800-490-8505
Bucks County Office of Consumer Protection 215-348-6060

Visit us on FACEBOOK

"Like" us to keep up to date on Police news!



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 deci-



Craig Sturza Borough's budg

sions, 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 Craig Sturza.

How long have you been on Council? Five years.

Why did you decide to run for Council? I was concerned about what was happening in our community and wanted to become more involved through our local government.

How long have you lived in the Borough? 11 years.

Are you married? Yes, my wife's name is Kerry.

Do you have children? Yes, my son Connor.

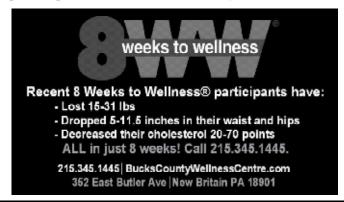
What is your profession? I am an Insurance Sales Producer and currently work with an Allstate Agency in North Wales.

Any other volunteer activities other than Council? Yes, the Doylestown Rotary Club and my son's Cub Scout Pack.

Do you have any hobbies? I enjoy working out, playing basketball, reading, spending time with my family, and following pro & college sports.

What goals do you have for the Borough? To see the Borough become more of a destination point, not just a place you drive through to get somewhere else. Improving the gateway into the Borough from Doylestown. Preserving our history and open space. To continue to make New Britain a *Great Place to Live*!!

What would you like people to know about you? I strive to do my best in everything that I do, and enjoy helping others solve the problems that we face in our community. I am also a very competitive person and want to be the very best that I can be.



Moments with the Mayor

Summer is upon us and the Community Garden is taking shape, anyone interested in becoming a member of the garden should contact Andrea Antell at 215 896-7554 or via email aantell1@verizon.net. I'm sure she will be able to answer any questions you may have.



The Borough Community and Business Committee, as well as the Borough officials, continue to work with the people who are looking to develop the Knoell Property. The old Bitzer Cleaners Property is again up for sale and we hope to have its new owners on board to help achieve the goals of the Butler Avenue Corridor development.

Our Borough Engineer and our Traffic Consultant continue to work diligently to improve the operation of the traffic signals at Butler Avenue and Tamenend Avenue as well as the signal on Butler Avenue at the shopping center. It has been a challenge, however I'm sure their persistence will pay off in the end.

The new Borough website is about to become a reality and may be up and running by the time you read this message. If there is something you feel needs the attention of our Borough Officials, I encourage you to contact the Borough Office or please attend our monthly Borough Council Meeting held at Borough Hall on the second Tuesday of every month beginning at 7:30 p.m.





Frank McCabe, MSPT, Cert. MDT Douglas Brady, DPT, JD, MBA Kady Showmaker, DPT Warminster Office: 607 Louis Drive, Suite H Warminster, PA 18974 (215) 675-2330

New Britain Office: 100 Town Center New Britain, PA 18901 (267) 247-5049

www.mccabebradypt.com

Calendar of Community Events		
Friday, August 9 - 7:30 p.m.	Doylestown Symphonic Winds Concert, Lenape Valley Presbyterian Church, 321 West Butler Ave., New Britain	
Sunday, August 18 - 3 p.m.	Doylestown Heat Big Band Concert (doylestownheat.org) Tabora Farm, 1104 Upper Stump Rd, NB Twsp	
Saturday, September 7 - 9 a.m 12:30 p.r	n. Turkey Hoagies, Chalfont Fire Company	
Tuesday, September 17 - 1 p.m.	JULIET meeting, Underground Railroad & The Stratton Legacy, New Britain Baptist Church Fellowship Hall	
Friday, September 20 - 6-9 p.m.	"Handbags for Habitat" Wine & Cheese event hosted by The Women Build Group of Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County, 31 Oak Ave. Chalfont.	
Saturday, September 21 - 11 a.m3 p.m.	100 th Anniversary Celebration of our Borough Hall, Historic Preservation Committee Borough Hall	
Saturday, September 28 - 11 a.m3 p.m.	4 th Annual Duck Derby, New Britain Civic Association, Covered Bridge Park, Keeley Ave.	
Sunday, September 29 - 8 a.m12 noon	Buffet Breakfast, Chalfont Fire Company	
Friday, October 4	Autumn Cabaret, Bucks County Gilbert & Sullivan Society (bucksgilbertandsullivan.org) Trinity Episcopal Church, 2631 Durham Rd., Buckingham	
Saturday, October 5	Autumn Cabaret, Bucks County Gilbert & Sullivan Society (bucksgilbertandsullivan.org) St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 84 E. Oakland Ave., Doylestown	
Saturday, October 5 - 11 a.m3 p.m.	Chal-Brit Community Day, Chalfont-New Britain Business Alliance New Britain's Town Center Shopping Center	
Thursday, October 10 - 7-9 p.m.	Fire Prevention Open House, Chalfont Fire Company	
Saturday, October 19 - 8 p.m.	Fall Concert, Bucks County Symphony (buckscountysymphony.org)	
Saturday, October 26 - 9:30 a.m3 p.m.	Craft Show, Chalfont Fire Company	

Please plan to attend

The 4th Annual Duck Derby Sponsored by The New Britain Civic Association Saturday, September 28, 2013

11:00 a.m.to 3:00 p.m. at the Covered Bridge Park on Keeley Avenue

Fun for the whole family with food, games, a moon bounce, raffles!

The event will benefit the Chal-Brit Fire Department

Please join the

Chalfont New Britain Business Alliance

For the 3rd annual

Chal-Brit Community Day

New Britain Town Center Shopping Center Saturday, October 5, 2013

11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Rain or Shine!

Please consider becoming Sponsor and/or Vendor. By becoming a vendor you can showcase your business and sell your merchandise & services to the community.

For information/reservations contact: Dr. Gail Walker, 215.997.8786; drgail@walkerwellness.net Sue Gelb, 215.913.8702; suegelb@comcast.net

Deadline for participation: September 21, 2013 Limited Spaces Available — Set-up starts at 10:00 a.m.

A portion of the funds raised by the CNBBA at this event will be donated to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bucks County.

Protect our Streams and Waterways

It's outdoor time — time to do our part to maintain our environment for future years and generations. Summer is a critical time for our streams and waterways due to low flows that can create higher concentrations of pollutants in our streams. On the other hand, thunderstorms and flash floods create high flows and contribute to washing pollutants such as grass clippings and chemicals into the streams. Grass clippings (especially from treated and/or fertilized lawns) carry a high dosage of pollutants such as nitrates and phosphorus, which can cause severe damage to downstream water quality along with the fish and invertebrates that live there.

As part of your outdoor activities this year try to be more eco-friendly. The pollutants in our streams have created a huge and expensive turn of events in finding ways to treat stormwater and how to pay for it. Many areas (Philadelphia) have created a 'stormwater' fee (tax) in order to help pay for the required treatment. Builders and developers have been paying portions of this expense for years in developing runoff treatment devices and paying for engineering and review of these systems.

Some of the things you can DO are as follows: don't fertilize your lawn unless necessary, fertilize only 'as needed;' don't direct your grass clippings into the street (the grass clogs inlets and pipes, and you're throwing you fertilizer down the drain (literally)), dispose of branches, leaf litter and biodegradable trash by starting a compost pile (not near a stream that may flood), make sure any chemicals or hazardous substances are outside of the floodplain and areas that may wash chemicals into streams, dispose of pool backwash and water properly (and be sure chemical concentrations are below the legal limits), dispose of hazardous substances properly, add a rain garden or rain barrel to direct concentrated flows to (these relieve down-

stream flooding, provide increased water quality, provide a water source for irrigation during dry periods and reduce your water bill.

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

Additional stormwater information is available at: http:// www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/ npdsms4/ms4cd/Education/RainDrainBrochure.pdf

For additional information, please refer to the New Britain Borough's website:: www.newbritainboro.com.

The Women Build Group of Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County

is looking for new and gently used handbags to be sold or auctioned at their

6thAnnual "Handbags for Habitat"

Wine & Cheese event to be held on **Friday, September 20, 2013** 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. At the Habitat offices at 31 Oak Ave., Chalfont

If you have any handbags that you would like to donate you can drop them off at the Borough office or contact Mary Pat Holewinski at mpholewinski@hotmail.com to arrange for pick-up.

Please support the New Britain Civic Association

Annual Membership Dues

Family \$15 (all members of othe same household)

Business \$25

Larger Donations - It is important to acknowledge your support. In addition to our appreciation, expressed in a letter suitable for framing, prominent donations will be reported in the New Britain Borough Newsletter. Support for capital improvements to the Park can be recognized with signage at the Park or a plaque on the capital item and may also receive newspaper coverage.

> David Holewinski, President MalcolmRolllins, Treasurer

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

New Britain Civic Association PO Box 5124 New Britain, PA 18901 215-345-8750

Rich Sabol, Vice President Peg Havner, Secretary New Britain Borough 45 Keeley Avenue New Britain, PA 18901

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	New Britain Bo	rough Officia	als	
Mayor:	David Holewinski			
Council:	Meets 2 nd Tuesday of each month in Borough Hall, 7:30 PM Robert Belchic, <i>President</i> ; Margaret Remmey, <i>Vice-President;</i> Mary Pat Holewinski; Peter LaMontagne; Joseph Cangelosi; Jeffrey Gilmore; Craig Sturza			
Planning Commission:	Meets 3 rd Tuesday of each month in the Borough Office, 7:30 PM David Holewinski, <i>Chairman</i> ; Karl Dieterichs, <i>Vice Chair</i> ; Denise Spence, <i>Secretary</i> ; Jack Brady; Joseph Cangelosi; Paul Land; Michael T. Parke; John Remmey			
Zoning Hearing Board:	Meets, as needed, 3 rd Thursday of the month in Borough Hall, 7:30 PM Robert Bair, <i>Chairman</i> ; Anthony Coia, <i>Vice Chair</i> ; Andrea Antell; John Wolff, Jr.; David Ziegfried; <i>Alternates</i> : William Schaefer and Jackie D'Agostino; <i>Solicitor</i> , Christen Pionzio			
Tax Collector:	Richard Sabol, 215-489-8658 (Hours: Tuesday, 6 - 9 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m noon)			
Solicitor:	Michael Goodwin	Police Chief: James Donnelly, Office 215-345-1080		
Newsletter Contril	outor & Coordinator: Marie Esher Coia			
	The following Borough personnel are located Phone 215-348-4586. The office is open M Website: www.newbritainboro.com		to 3 p.m.	
Freasurer: Roadmaster Building Inspector :	Robin E. Trymbiski Marie Esher Coia Mark Hintenlang and Fire Marshal: Dan Jenkins, Keystone	Borough Secretary: Zoning Officer: Municipal Services	Thomas Yatsky	
Assistant	Austin C. Brown	EMEF	RGENCIES: DIAL 91	