

New Britain Borough



NEWS

Volume 23, Number 3

Summer 2014

Planning for the Future

For the past two and a half years the Borough's Community and Business Committee (CBC), has been working on ways to improve and revitalize the Borough. We've engaged in community visioning and outreach to the residents and businesses through town hall meetings and a business survey. Land use and market assessments have led to the development of strategic themes and the foundation for a vision. Community partners, such as local businesses, residents, Delaware Valley College, and the Bucks County Planning Commission have been engaged in setting a positive direction for future planning and improvements. Delaware Valley College students, through a class in landscape architecture, with the assistance of their professors, have worked with the Borough on design concepts for Butler Avenue.

The Borough's Planning Commission has been working to update the Comprehensive Plan and is studying possible zoning changes along the Butler Avenue corridor to encourage the types of development desired by the community.

The project is part of comprehensive planning for the Borough and is part of Bucks County's Municipal Economic Development Initiative, which New Britain Borough was among the first to sign up with Bucks County.

In the beginning of this year the Borough hired Stephen Barth, an economic development consultant, to assist in revitalizing the community. He has actively been working with developers, investors and business owners. Some accomplishments thus far have been the formation of a Regional Joint Planning Commission that includes New Britain Borough, Doylestown Township, Bucks County and Delaware Valley College. The purpose of this group is to work collaboratively for the benefit of the communities and the College. The College is finalizing its Master Plan and anticipates achieving university status this year, which will positively impact the surrounding communities.

Mr. Barth has been meeting with the Borough's largest employers to help assist them and create a unified relationship within New Britain that benefits residents and businesses. The Borough's companies pay a large part of the Borough's tax base

and benefit the community by providing jobs and revenue.

Other strategic projects have looked at the Shady Retreat Road and Butler Avenue intersection to propose the development of a small mixed-use village complex to support the community and the College. Additional ideas include improving the corridor along Butler Avenue on both sides of the College to make it look and feel like a college community by way of creating pathways, lighting and branded signage.

These are just a few of the things the Community and Business Committee, Bucks County, and Borough officials are doing to improve our community. We are very excited about the future of New Britain Borough.



Summer in Our Nature Preserve

If you haven't been to the New Britain Nature Preserve, you have no excuse. The Borough has preserved nearly 30-acres along Neshaminy Creek and Miriam's Meadow; a 1.5-acre cultivated wild flower meadow on Landis Mill Road. The main Preserve is a lovely walk in the woods and fields, but in the summer Miriam's meadow is a gem. It's planted with over 100 different flowering plants surrounded by native flowering shrubs. Every week during July and August you will see another set of flowers blooming. It includes two shaded benches near the street. Please visit! The main entrance is at the end of Sand Road opposite the Town Center Shopping Center. You can view the meadow by following Aarons Avenue around to Landis Mill Road. There are destination signs on Butler and South Tamenend. If you would like a tour of the preserve and/or Miriam's meadow, call 215 348 7879.

Around Town

The AROUND TOWN column will be a regular column in our newsletter. We'd like to make it a column 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 215-348-4586 or email nbbtreasurer@newbritain.boro.com.

Business Card Exchange held at Bill Vandegrift's

The Chalfont New Britain Business Alliance held a business card exchange event at **Bill Vandegrift Appliance Sales & Service and Culinary Center** at 450 East Butler Avenue, New Britain. All had a great time with a gourmet chef making finger foods, provided by the Vandergrifts, and the alliance supplied wine. The atmosphere was very friendly with about 35 people attending. The Vandegrift's were great hosts to the alliance and everyone had a good time enjoying their new facilities and awesome food!

Duck Deli is now Forlano's Italian Restaurant

The Forlano family has said goodbye to the Duck and hello to its heritage. On May 3, 2014 they closed the doors to **Duck Deli**, a business they held for 13 years, and then reopened it four days later as **Forlano's Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria**. Their menu has changed, but they still offer great food and the same great service in a family friendly environment. They have been cooking Italian food for a long time and many of the new dishes are cherished family favorites. Their focus is simply fresh inspired daily cooking. They still offer the famous Duck Deli Breakfast on Sunday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thanks again Paul Tiers Landscaping!

We sound like a broken record thanking **Paul Tiers of Paul Tiers Landscaping** located in New Britain Borough but he continually maintains our War Memorial on South Tamenend by planting flowers, weeding and mulching without being asked. We really appreciate all you do Paul!

Borough Newsletter Receives State-Wide Recognition

The Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, at their annual spring conference, awarded **New Britain Borough** for the "Outstanding Newsletter for 2013" in PSAB's municipal newsletter contest.

Borough Treasures

This will be my last contribution to the newsletter as Karl and I moved to Maryland's Eastern Shore at the end of June.

It is with mixed feelings that we leave the Borough. New Britain is a great community and I have made many friends through participation on the Historic Preservation Committee and the Community and Business Committee.

I have enjoyed writing about our Borough treasures, which have all been buildings of historic interest and value. What make historic properties interesting, in addition to architecture, is the stories of the people who have occupied them. Often, they are people who provided services to their fellow citizens and who participated in civic affairs.

This is as true today. The real Borough treasures are the people who create community both residents and those who have a business in the borough. Although I would love to name names to recognize all of these special people, I know that I would inadvertently miss deserving residents and business owners. If you enjoy Covered Bridge Park, the Nature Preserve, the restored Walter Harvey war memorial, attending the Duck Derby, or an event sponsored by the Historic Committee, if your children enjoy summer camp and if you enjoy reading this newsletter, then you probably know some of the people I am talking about. If you are aware of the many contributions in cash and in-kind by our business owners, I hope it also follows that you patronize their businesses at every opportunity. If you appreciate the unpaid work done on our behalf by our borough council and mayor (and you should), you may have some sense of the countless (again, unpaid) hours spent by these public servants on our behalf. Whether you agree or disagree with decisions made, they give careful consideration to issues and act in what they believe to be the best interest of all of us. All of the volunteers are our Borough Treasures, each and every one of them.

Please consider becoming a Borough Treasure yourself. You will not regret participating in this great community!

Donna von Lipsey

Editors note: Donna is/was a *Borough Treasure*. Her knowledge, enthusiasm, sense of humor, leadership skills, and willingness to work for the betterment of our community will be missed. Best of Luck to Donna & Karl on their new adventure!

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Spotlight on Borough Businesses

We are highlighting a different Borough business in each newsletter to help promote them so they can continue to be viable and prosperous-which 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.

Chant Engineering Co., Inc.
59 Industrial Drive
New Britain, PA 18901
www.chantengineering.com

In 1959 a young British engineer, James Chant (now an 18-year Borough resident), immigrated to the United States with his wife and three sons to work in the then nascent space industry. In 1970 Jim started an engineering design and consulting business in the basement of his home. The business grew and in 1984 Jim's youngest son Philip (now President) joined the company as a full time employee.

In 1995 Chant Engineering moved into a 7000 square foot custom built industrial building in the Borough. With continuing growth the company now occupies a 50,000 sq. ft. "green design" energy efficient manufacturing facility, and has launched company-wide "green" initiatives to lower energy costs and eliminate harmful toxins from their work environment. The exterior walls and roof are highly insulated for energy conservation and a large solar panel array on the roof, together with high efficiency lighting, minimizes electricity consumption. Rainwater is captured for use in cleaning operations and landscape irrigation, and storm water is captured in rain gardens to minimize run-off.

Chant Engineering is a global, diversified engineering company that designs, manufactures, services and calibrates heavy duty testing machines and related equipment for worldwide industrial and military customers. The machinery uses hydraulics for generating very high forces, and uses electronics to provide precision control. One specialty is load testing ropes made of steel wire or synthetic materials to verify their strength, from a small machine pulling with a few pounds of force up to very large machines hundreds of feet long, able to pull up to 2,000 tons of force.

Another area of work is machines for testing hydraulic components to ensure they meet their specifications. These components are either newly made at a manufacturer's facility, or have been refurbished from repair shops, mostly on military bases. The company also designs and builds machinery for the plastics molding industry.

With 50 employees and still growing, Chant Engineering offers local employment opportunities.

For more information on their products or employment visit their website **www.chantengineering.com**.

Protect our Streams and Waterways:

Summer is a critical time for our streams and waterways due to low flows which can create higher concentrations of pollutants in our streams. Thunderstorms and flash floods create high flows and contribute to washing pollutants such as grass clippings and chemicals into the streams. Grass clippings (especially for treated and / or fertilized yards) 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.

Please be more eco-friendly this year to protect our environment. 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 yard 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 downstream flooding, provide increased water quality as well as 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/npdsm4/ms4cd/Education/RainDrainBrochure.pdf>. Also visit the Borough's website: www.newbritainboro.com.

What Not to Put Down Your Sewer Drain

Fats, Oil, Grease...FOG

Approximately 80% of grease-related sewer blockages and overflows occur in residential areas. FOG coats pipelines similar to the way fatty foods clog human arteries. The grease clings to the inside of the pipe, eventually building up and causing a complete blockage.

Grease Blockage Prevention

Preventing grease-related sewer blockages and overflows benefits your home, your pocketbook and the environment.

- Fat's, Oil's & Grease (FOG) should NEVER be poured down the sink. Sink drains and garbage disposals are not designed to properly handle these materials.
- Use sink strainers to catch food item, then empty the strainer into the trash.
- Before washing, scrape and dry wipe pots, pans and dishes with paper towels and dispose of materials in the trash.
- Pour FOG after it has cooled into a container, such as an empty milk carton or coffee can. Once the container is full, secure the lid and place it into the trash.
- Don't empty waste from a deep fryer down the drain. Allow the used oil to cool to room temperature and pour it into an empty bottle and put into the trash.

FATS

Fats typically come from meat and dairy sources but can also come from plant sources, such as nut butters. It is usually in a solid form at room temperature and can be thrown directly into the trash. Placing these foods in the garbage disposal only reduces the size of the food, not the likelihood of creating a clog. If you're not sure if something has fat in it, check the nutrition label. Examples are meat trimmings, uncooked poultry skin, cheeses, ice cream, peanut butter, butter, and shortening/lard.

OILS

Oil comes from plant sources such as vegetable oil, canola oil, olive oil, corn oil, etc. It may be used as a topping on food, such as salads or sandwiches or used to cook food, such as deep-frying. It remains liquid at room temperature. Used oil should be poured into a can or jar before disposal. If it is poured down the drain, oil can coat pipes and get into any nooks and crannies, creating a slick surface that makes it easier for fats and grease to stick to.

GREASE

Grease occurs when fats from food melt under heat such as frying, boiling and baking, etc. Grease is deceptive because it is a liquid after cooking, but eventually cools into a solid. Pouring it down the drain means that at some point it will cool on the pipes in the collection system, harden, and then start a clog. Examples are cooked and melted fat from meat, bacon, sausage, duck, etc., skin from boiled poultry, gravy and mayonnaise.

Moments with the Mayor

Summer is upon us and there are a lot of new things going on in our Borough. First, the Summer Camp program, which is held at Covered Bridge Park, is a sellout this year. I've spoken with a number of residents who remember attending Camp years ago as well as those who have children attending now or in the recent past. Everyone remembers "Camp" as great experience. A big thanks to the Camp Staff and the office staff for all that they do to make our "Summer Camp" program a success.



Next, we have been working to update the Comprehensive Plan for the Borough and progress is being made, we expect to have a totally revised plan by the end of the year which will include "your" vision for the Butler Avenue corridor, it looks exciting.

Our Planning Commission is working with the Doylestown Township Planning Commission to make sure that both municipalities benefit from the development plans that are being reviewed for the area surrounding Delaware Valley College. This joint effort should bring good results in any development that occurs from current interests in that area of the Borough and Township.

If you haven't heard, the "Town Center" shopping center is up for sale. Federal Realty has put the property on the market and the Borough is very interested in working with developers interested in the center. We all know that the center looks "tired" and is in need of revitalization, we feel that by working together with potential new owners a New Town Center will emerge with good results for all involved.

Last but not least, I hope that everyone has a safe, enjoyable summer and that when it's over, you will remember the summer of 2014 as a great personal and family season.

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 **Nancy Schuyler**.

How long and when were you previously on Council?

I served on Council for 16 years from 1992 – 2008.

You were recently appointed to Council. Why did you decide to rejoin Council?

I enjoy knowing what is happening in my community and I enjoy public service. Getting involved and seeing what can help to accomplished within your community is very rewarding.

How long have you lived in the Borough?

I have lived in the Borough 54 years, my entire life.

Are you married?

I am married to a wonderful person, Gary. We will celebrate our 30th wedding anniversary this year on June 30th.

Do you have children?

Gary and I have a terrific daughter, Jessica. She lives in Dublin, Pa.



What is your profession?

I am the Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees at Delaware Valley College.

Any other volunteer activities other than Council?

Served as secretary and board member of the New Britain Civic Association, and I serve on the American Heritage Federal Credit Union Advisory Committee. At DelVal I am the advisor to the Ski and Outdoors Club, and I volunteer on the Annual Events Committee. I also work with Gary on his many volunteer activities with the Freemasons.

Do you have any hobbies?

Besides reading, gardening, painting and crafting, Gary and I enjoy motorcycling.

What goals do you have for the Borough?

Improve our financial position by reviewing the sustainability of the current financial model. Focus on developing alternative revenue generating ideas. Develop the Butler Avenue corridor

What would you like people to know about you?

I feel New Britain Borough is "home." Living in this wonderful community gives me a warm fuzzy feeling, and I hope we can keep it this way for future generations.





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Calendar of Community Events

Saturday, September 6 – 9 a.m. to 12:30	Chalfont Fire Co. Turkey Hoagie Sale, 301 N. Main, Chalfont
Saturday, September 27– 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.	New Britain Civic Annual Duck Derby - Covered Bridge Park
Sunday, September 28 – 8 a.m.	Trail Awareness Day - Doylestown Community Bike & Hike
Sunday, September 28 – 8 a.m. to noon	Chalfont Fire Co. Buffet Breakfast, 301 N. Main, Chalfont
Thursday, October 9 – 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	Chalfont Fire Co. Fire Prevention Open House, 301 N. Main, Chalfont

Trail Awareness Day

Explore Your Neighborhood Trails

Sunday, September 28, 2014

Doylestown Community Bike & Hike Committee has spent 30+ years creating 22 miles of trails for use by bicyclists and pedestrians in our community. Bikers, runners, and walkers are invited to join them on Sunday, September 28. This free event will start at Doylestown Hospital and has been designed for all levels of outdoor sports enthusiast. Join them at 8am for a 10K run following the scenic trail from Doylestown Hospital through Central Park and back. Four bike rides are also planned; a 6-mile or 9-mile ride around and through town; a 13-mile ride to Peace Valley Park or a family ice cream ride to the Market at DelVal College.

Please check the Borough website periodically, newbritainboro.com, because details are evolving.



Buy Ducks for the Duck Derby

Ducks are on sale now. Contact any New Britain Civic Association member or call 215 345-8750 and leave a phone number. We'll get back to you. The event is on Saturday, September 27 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The actual Duck Race is at 2:00 p.m.

What's new on our website?

Check it out at

www.newbritainboro.com

Sign up to receive email blasts of Borough events, road work, emergencies and more!

*See the **NEW**
Changes!*

- Fresh Summer Menu
- Homemade Pub Fare
- Covered Deck
- 24 Beers on Tap
- Updated Décor

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Message from the Central Bucks Regional Police Department

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.

Important Numbers

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

"Like" us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/cbrpd> or visit our website at <http://cbrpd.net/> to keep up to date on Police news!



Melissa Ceresi, DMD PC

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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.mccabebrazypt.com

Please support the New Britain Civic Association

Annual Membership Dues

- ☐ Family \$15 (all members of the 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.

Volunteers are needed for projects throughout the year. If interested, please contact David Holewinski:
davidholewinski@hotmail.com; 215-407-7104.

David Holewinski, President
Derek MacMillan Vice President
Malcolm Rolllins, Treasurer
Peg Havner, Secretary

Joseph Cangelosi
Gwen Yamamoto
Mary Pat Holewinski
Vicky Cangelosi

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

Check website for changing information.
www.newbritaincivic.org

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

New Britain Borough
45 Keeley Avenue
New Britain, PA 18901

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New Britain Borough Officials

Mayor: David Holewinski

Council: **Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month in Burkart Hall, 7:30 PM**
Jeffrey Gilmore, *President*; Mary Pat Holewinski, *Vice-President*; Robyne Kelemen;
Lori Kesilman; Peter LaMontagne; Margaret Remmey; Nancy Schuyler

Planning Commission: **Meets 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Borough Hall, 7:30 PM**
David Holewinski, *Chairman*; Karl Dieterichs, *Vice Chair*; Denise Spence, *Secretary*;
Jeffrey Gilmore; Paul Land; Michael T. Parke; Rick Eggleston; William Macklem; Tom Price;
Michael Stanislaw

Zoning Hearing Board: **Meets, as needed, 3rd Thursday of the month in Burkart Hall, 7:30 PM**
Robert Bair, *Chairman*; Anthony Coia, *Vice Chair*; Andrea Antell; John Wolff, Jr.; David Siegfried;
Alternates: William Schaefer and Jackie D'Agostino; *Solicitor*, 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 215-345-4143

Newsletter Contributor & Coordinator: Marie Esher Coia

The following Borough personnel are located at the Borough Building, 45 Keeley Avenue.
Phone 215-348-4586. The office is open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Website: www.newbritainboro.com Email: NBBORO@comcast.net

Borough Manager: Robin E. Trymbiski

Borough Secretary: Jane Kinyon

Treasurer: Marie Esher Coia

Zoning Officer: Thomas Yatsky

Roadmaster Mark Hintenlang

Building Inspector and Fire Marshal: Dan Jenkins, Keystone Municipal Services

EMERGENCIES: DIAL 911