



NEWS OF NEW BRITAIN BOROUGH

"A Friendly Place to Live"

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Winter 2018

"The Knoell Property"

~ John & Gretchen Knoell ~

Carrie Gamble ~ Borough Secretary/Newsletter Editor



The John Knoell & Sons New Britain Borough factory was originally the Victor Silk Hosiery Company factory. The above photo of Victor factory employees dates back to 1931. The company closed in 1971.

The quiet 7-acre open lot at East Butler Avenue & Shady Retreat Road will soon become a very active construction site. County Builders of Warminster has big plans for development there which is slated to begin this spring!

In the past several years, New Britain Borough's Community and Business Committee as well as Borough officials and staff have been working closely with the Bucks County Planning Commission to create a "Main Street Plan." The plan is to transform New Britain into a "destination" and not just a "drive through" community. The "University Village" section of town, with a Mixed Use Zoning Overlay allowing for combined commercial and residential space in individual structures, will all begin with "The Knoell Property."

Before this transformation happens, I wanted to share a little bit about the previous owners of the property, John and Gretchen Knoell. The company "John Knoell & Sons" originated in Philadelphia in 1880. John Knoell, who was also

a skilled mason, became a third generation sole owner of the family business and relocated it to the former Victor Silk Hosiery factory building in New Britain Borough in 1972. The company was primarily a wood product manufacturing company producing products such as custom wood cabinets for fluorescent ceiling lights, large volume custom wholesale picture frames and government contract work for the U.S. Department of Defense. They also had long term contracts with Lithonia and the Franklin Mint, where they would design and manufacture custom wooden boxes for special coin collections.

John's determination, enthusiasm and strong work ethic made him an extremely successful businessman! In its prime in the 1990s, John Knoell and Sons employed 60-70 employees with annual sales averaging \$6 million dollars.

Gretchen Knoell owned a small frame shop in Doylestown, which was located on the property currently occupied by McCaffrey's Simply Fresh market. In the mid 1990s John built a large warehouse behind his factory. Gretchen's business moved to the warehouse enabling her to increase production and stock more frame moldings and matt boards. In 1993 expert frame maker, Alberto Poblano, joined the company. The frame shop produced top quality custom frames at a reasonable price with a quick turnaround time. Satisfied customers spread the word and the business maintained success for many years. John and Gretchen Knoell both passed away in the early 2000s. Alberto then opened A & J Picture Framing in the Borough's Town Center, utilizing his 20+ years of experience, expertise and artistry to create high quality framing. 100% Satisfaction guaranteed!

John and Gretchen Knoell were civic-minded business owners who gave back to their community by donating a great deal of time and money to local non-profits and charities. They will be fondly remembered by all who knew them for their kindness and generosity.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Catching Up With Council	2
Moments With the Mayor	3
Borough Finishes 2017 With First Surplus in Six Years	3
2017 Volunteer Appreciation Celebration	4
Borough Awarded \$1.7 Million in Grants	4
Spotted Lantern Fly Quarantine in Borough	4

Spotlight on Borough Business: McElhaney Signs	5
Town Hall Meeting	5
Winter-Spring Community Events	6
Wreaths Across America Ceremony	6
Borough's New Tax Collector	6
Congratulations on Your Retirement Chief Donnelly!	6
Emergency Management: Important Safety Tips	7

Around Town-Professional Massage Therapy	7
From Borough Engineer & Roadmaster	7
Social Security Phone Scam	7
Bird Town News	8
Participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count	8
Banner Year for Habitat Restoration Efforts in Our Nature Preserve	8
Introducing CBRPDs Chief Karl Knott	9

Catching Up With Council

Robyne Kelemen ~ *Council President*



This column discusses notable items from our 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 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month, or contact the Borough Administration office for more information.

AUGUST: Council approved Ordinance #383, Inter-governmental Agreement for Recycling Reporting. The ordinance authorizes Hough Associates, an environmental consulting firm, to collect residential and commercial recycling data and prepare PA Department of Environmental Protection grant applications for each of the Central Bucks municipalities participating in the agreement. An efficient and accurate mechanism to accurately calculate the Borough's recycling volume is important as recycling grant income for New Britain Borough totals about \$13,000 per year.

Council voted to hire Ms. Dawn Tremmel for Administrative Support to the Borough Administration office. Ms. Tremmel assists our Treasurer, Sam Bryant, and works with Mike Italia on building & zoning permits. We welcome Ms. Tremmel.

Borough Manager, Sam Bryant reported that the Borough had submitted an application for a \$600,000 State Grant through the Department of Community and Economic Development's (DCED) Multimodal Transportation Fund Program. The highly competitive program is designed to fund projects which can bolster economic development by improving bike and hike trails and sidewalks. The funding, which would require an estimated Borough contribution of \$120,000 over a 3 year period, would be used to continue borough trails from the eastern side of Keeley Avenue, extending along Butler Avenue to Evergreen Drive. In late November, the State announced that New Britain Borough was chosen to receive the DCED Grant, making it the largest grant the Borough has ever received!

SEPTEMBER: Council voted to approve and advertise an Intermunicipal Agreement with Doylestown Township Municipal Authority to permit the extension of a public water system into certain areas of New Britain Borough. All new commercial development in the Borough and all new residential developments of more than 5 units are required to install public water.

To further clarify, this agreement does not require any changes to be made to existing residential properties.

OCTOBER: Councilwoman Ms. Lori Kesilman provided a recap of our successful Pop-Up Park Event held September 15-17 at Town Center. She thanked the members of the Bird Town Committee and many volunteers for their efforts in helping to put this event together. She thanked our talented and dedicated volunteers who created the centerpiece of the park: a beautiful pergola and honeycomb trellis. She stated there were many interactive activities such as a butterfly release, bird, birdhouse and beekeeping education.

With the recommendation of the Borough's Planning Commission, Council voted to appoint Mr. Kent Baird of Gilmore and Associates as the Borough's new Planning Consultant. Council also approved Mr. Alex Nagy, a Borough resident, as Borough Intern. Mr. Nagy will work directly with Sam Bryant on special projects. We welcome both Mr. Baird & Mr. Nagy!

NOVEMBER: Council approved the 2018 Budget for the Central Bucks Regional Police Commission. The Borough's portion totals about 65% of the 2018 Budget and therefore is a key component of the Borough's budget planning. Council approved advertisement of the 2018 Budget, and the \$2.2 million budget was subsequently approved in December. The budget did not necessitate an increase in tax rates. The 2018 tax rate remains the same as 2017.

There were no candidates for the New Britain Borough Tax Collector position in the 2017 election. For this reason, Council voted to advertise "Resolution 2017-15, Forming a Joint Tax Collection District with New Britain Township." New Britain Borough's taxes will be collected by the Township's Tax Collector, Ms. Nicole Percetti.

Recently adopted Borough Laws (Ordinances) including those described in this column may be found at the Borough Code of Ordinances website at: <https://www.ecode360.com/NE3059>.



Moments with the Mayor

David Holewinski ~ Mayor



January brought some of the coldest weather we have seen in years. It also brought us a new year and a new beginning for the Borough. We saw a lot of activity in 2017. The trails to the New Britain Train Station and beyond to the Route 202 Parkway were almost completed, developers have been knocking on the door of our Borough office throughout 2017, and we expect to see construction begin on the Knoell property site this Spring.

There is excitement about the Town Hall meeting which was held at the end of 2017. The involvement of our residents shows we are a Borough on the move. Yes, we listened to the residents when they spoke before, and I would expect that we will be listening and moving forward on the wishes of our residents in the future.

As of February 9, 2018 Captain Karl Knott will become the new Police Chief of our Central Bucks Regional Police Dept. He is replacing Chief Donnelly who is retiring after 50 year of police service. CBRPD is a leader in the County and in the State, notably for the number of cases resolved. We expect to see great policing continue under the leadership of Chief Knott.

I'm excited about the prospects of further development in the "University Village" area as well as continued growth in other sections of our Borough. You can see the improvement in occupancy at the Town Center Shopping Center and the development at the West end of the Borough. Having spoken to many residents prior to the November election, I'm convinced that the people, for the most part, are pleased with what has been happening and that they are aware their voices and wishes are being heard.

Cooperation and a desire to do what is best for the entire Borough should be the goal and quest of our Borough Council. I've suggested that we do more in keeping in contact with our residents by door to door visits from Council members and your Mayor on a more regular basis, not just at election time. I've suggested to our police department that they get to know the businesses and residents on a more personal level by holding special events such as coffee with a cop, school visits and other programs. These are great opportunities to bring the police and residents closer to each other.

Here's hoping that you and your families have a healthy New Year and that 2018 brings you prosperity, peace and a deep feeling of belonging here in New Britain Borough. That's all for now! Stay tuned to our website at www.newbritainboro.com for updates on events, activities and information concerning our Borough.



Borough Finishes 2017 With First Surplus in Six Years

Sam Bryant ~ Borough Manager/Treasurer

The Borough finished 2017 with a surplus of \$26,497.15, which is the first time in six years the Borough has finished in the black. 2018 will mark the fourth year in a row with no tax increases. In the past, in order to accomplish projects without a tax increase, the Borough dipped into savings to fund projects. While such projects have been critical and important, savings are now at a point where such practice could not continue.

A joint effort from Borough Council, staff and volunteers worked to balance Borough expenses and revenues in 2017 and 2018 so that the Borough could move forward in its goals to improve the lives of residents without dipping into savings or increasing taxes. Excluding grant projects, the Borough spent almost \$30,000 less in 2017 than it did in 2018. It was the lowest level of expenditures in the Borough since 2012 at \$1.53 million.

Revenues were up nearly \$25,000 in 2017 from 2016, with increases in every revenue category without raising fees thanks to economic investment and development. The only category with noticeably less revenue was permit fees, due to greatly lowering them in 2017. In addition, the Borough has aggressively worked to secure outside grant funding to improve our parks, upgrade our facilities and build sidewalk/trails. We have been awarded more than \$1.7 million in funding since 2013!

Going forward, the Borough is committed to following recommended financial practices by the Government Finance Officers Association to ensure that money is available to provide important services to our residents.



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President



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2017 Volunteer Appreciation Celebration



In 1683 William Penn entered into a "Peace Treaty" better known as "Penn's Treaty" with local Indian tribes who were represented by Chief Tamanend.

Many thanks to our dozens of volunteers and all they do throughout the year! Our 2nd Annual Volunteer Appreciation Celebration was held on December 9, 2017 at Burkart Hall. This year's theme was "Chief Tamanend and the Lenni Lenape Indians." Guests enjoyed

delicious appetizers and a beautifully decorated chocolate/vanilla cake, all prepared by Parkhurst Catering at Delaware Valley University. Everyone enjoyed laughter, visiting with friends, a plant giveaway and having fun while learning a little bit about Chief Tamanend and the local Lenni Lenape Tribe! We're looking forward to another fun celebration in 2018!

Borough Awarded \$1.7 Million in Grants

Alex Nagy ~ *Borough Intern*

As many residents may have noticed, New Britain Borough has been enjoying some much needed updates including local park improvements, new sidewalks and landscaping. Most of these projects are being partially funded by state and federal grant programs. Borough staff and resident, Tess LaMontagne, have invested a lot of time working on grant applications. Tess utilizes her knowledge and writing skills by writing our grant applications. As a result, New Britain Borough has been awarded \$1.7 million through nearly a dozen grants since 2013! That is a significant amount of money that has been invested back into our community!

In 2014, the Borough received a grant to improve the sidewalk near the New Britain Train Station. In late 2017, the Borough received a \$600,000 grant to extend sidewalks from the New Britain Train Station, up Tamanend across Sioux Road, over Keeley Avenue back to Butler Avenue, to Evergreen Drive across from Delaware Valley University. Most recently, the Borough was awarded a \$90,000 grant to create a safe crosswalk on Keeley Avenue between the Borough's administration office and Burkart Hall. The Borough continues to apply for these types of grants with the ultimate goal that one day soon it will be possible to safely bike or hike on sidewalks and trails from one end of town to the other, and beyond!

A 2013 grant for \$10,000 allowed us to create an entrance to Orchard Park and a 2017 grant for \$30,000 will add more improvements there focused on accessibility. In 2017, we received a \$210,000 grant to expand the Nature Preserve.

In 2015 a \$110,000 grant for Burkart Hall was used for accessibility upgrades which included a handicap accessible elevator and bathroom, and a rear entrance stairway.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer to help us apply for future grants, please feel free to contact us at secretary@newbritainboro.com. We hope you continue to enjoy the beautiful new features in and around our friendly Borough!



Spotted Lantern Fly Quarantine in Our Borough

Andrea Antell ~ *Parks & Recreation Committee*

Buck County, including New Britain Borough, is in the quarantine area for the Spotted Lanternfly. The Spotted Lanternfly is an invasive pest with potential for extensive crop damage. It is native to South Asian countries and feeds on high sap vegetation including the Tree of Heaven, oaks, willow, and maple trees as well as stone fruits such as: apple, peach, pear and grapes.

What "Quarantine" means: Items that could carry the invasive pest should not leave the area without proper certification. Such items include: yard and construction waste, firewood, plants or plant parts, outdoor items such as RVs, lawn mowers, chairs, grills and tarps. The quarantine has specific guidelines with recommendations for inspection of affected materials.

It is believed the Spotted Lanternfly hitched a ride via imported goods in 2014 to the eastern Berks County area and has been spreading ever since. With no natural predators here, they have been multiplying exponentially. Although there is hope that the extremely cold weather in January helped population control, only spring will tell how they fared.

There are measures that can be taken to eradicate this potential problem. The adult Spotted Lanternfly is about 1" long and is very distinct with a striking red back and grey spotted wings. If seen you should kill and dispose of them. Pest specific sticky tape used in early spring can trap the nymph stage of the insect as it hatches. Their egg masses are at first gooey, then are mud hard and tan-grey. You can scrape to remove and discard them in the trash. For more information, go online or stop by the Borough office to obtain helpful information provided by the PA Dept. of Agriculture.



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Spotlight on Borough Business

McElhaney Signs

"Bringing Beauty to Bucks & Surrounding Counties"

558 East Butler Avenue
215-345-8680 ~ jamsigns1@gmail.com
mcelhaneysigns.com

Marie Esher Coia ~ *Borough Volunteer*

Jeff and Charlene McElhaney have been creating quality signs for more than 30 years. They design and install just about any type of sign imaginable and are committed to developing strong relationships with their customers. It is important to them to design and build custom signs with quality craftsmanship which will fit the specific needs of their customers.



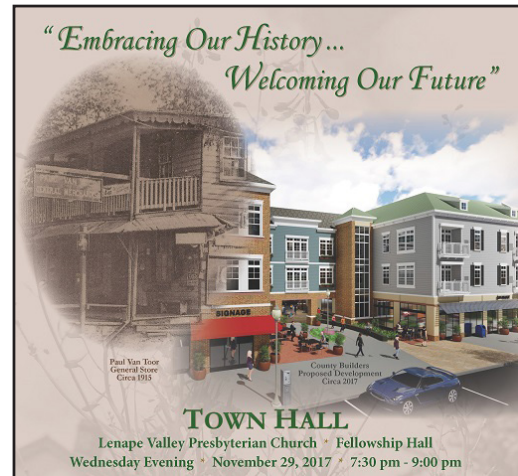
Charlene McElhaney is a talented artist who can draw, sculpt, hand carve, and paint. She worked in Ray Halacy's sign shop in New Hope for three years before opening McElhaney Signs with Jeff in 1985. Previously she worked in the art department for Spadea Design. In 1969 Charlene began working on creating the published comic "Chateau & Briand." Charlene grew up in Bucks County and attended Central Bucks West High

School. Jeff McElhaney is a talented carpenter who builds, manufactures and installs the signs. Jeff grew up in Abington where he attended Abington High School.

Thirty-two years ago, the McElhaney's moved into their East Butler Avenue home which is also where their sign business is located. They are proud parents of three children. Their daughter, Mitzi is married with four children and is a computer teacher in Philadelphia, their son Rudy is married with two children and is a USA Swim Coach in Princeton, NJ and their son Jeffrey is married and works as a Financial Advisor and Broker for Edward Jones in Emmaus, PA.

McElhaney Signs has produced signs for the Borough for the New Britain Borough Administration Building, Burkart Hall, the Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve, Covered Bridge Park, Orchard Park and the Walter Harvey Memorial. They have also created signs for such establishments as National Penn Bank, Lisa James Otto Country Properties, Duck Deli, Gilmore & Associates, Gieseler Insurance, Trinity Episcopal Church in Solebury, First Baptist Church in Doylestown, Delaware Valley University and Tamenend Junior High School. Please visit their website to view their beautiful custom made signs. Jeff and Charlene enjoy working with the community and appreciate the support they have received throughout the years.

Town Hall Meeting



Thank you...

to all of our residents who attended the Borough's successful Town Hall event on November 29, 2017 at Lenape Valley Presbyterian Church! We hope you enjoyed the event as much as we did. There were over 150 residents in attendance! As Planning Consultant Kent Baird noted, resident participation and ideas are vital to the development of our community with changes to improve our health, well being and quality of life.

If you did not have the opportunity to attend, here is your opportunity to learn all of the details of the exciting topics presented at the event. Use the below link to our Town Hall page to view the slideshow presentation and video of the event.

newbritainboro.com/2017-town-hall/

We would like to thank Lenape Valley Presbyterian Church for allowing us to hold our Town Hall in Fellowship Hall, and for generously providing coffee and tea to compliment the tasty refreshments provided by the Borough. It was a great venue! For comments or questions feel free to contact the Borough office at 215-348-4586 or manager@newbritainboro.com.



Historic Preservation Committee Looking for Pieces of History

Do you have a piece of New Britain Borough history that you would like to donate to our committee and the Borough? Perhaps you have an interesting artifact, story to tell, mystery to solve, or photographs of our Borough and its residents and businesses. How about an antique dress form? We would love to hear from you! Any donated keepsakes will be cataloged and preserved for future generations. If you have something you would like to donate please contact the Borough Administration office at 215-348-4586 or secretary@newbritainboro.com.

2018 Winter ~ Spring Community Events

February 21	6 pm to 8 pm	Bird Town Educational Program - Burkart Hall, 56 Keeley Avenue
February 25	3 pm to 5 pm	Bucks County Symphony - CB East High School, 2804 Holicong Road, Buckingham
March 3	7 pm to 10 pm	Urban Archeology Art Exhibit & University Symphonic Band & Jazz Band Concert - Delaware Valley University, Life Sciences Building Auditorium, 700 East Butler Avenue
March 11	5 pm to 7 pm	FREE Pasta Dinner! - Lenape Valley Presbyterian Church, 321 West Butler Avenue
March 17	10 am to 1 pm	Bird Town Summit - Burkart Hall, 56 Keeley Avenue
March 17	9 am to 12 pm	Soup, Used Book & Rummage Sale - Chalfont Fire Company, 301 North Main Street
March 21	6 pm to 8 pm	Bird Town Educational Program - Burkart Hall, 56 Keeley Avenue
April 18	6 pm to 8 pm	Bird Town Educational Program - Burkart Hall, 56 Keeley Avenue
April 22	8 am to 12 pm	Buffet Breakfast - Chalfont Fire Company, 301 North Main Street (open until sold out)
April 27-29	(Varied Hours)	A-Day ("Activity Day") Weekend Event - Delaware Valley University, 700 East Butler Ave. (A-Day Hours: Friday 12 pm-8 pm, Saturday 10 am-7 pm, Sunday 10 am-6 pm)
May 5	9 am to 12:30 pm	Turkey Hoagie Sale - Chalfont Fire Company, 301 North Main Street (open until sold out)
June 4-15	(Varied Hours)	36th Annual Bucks County Senior Games - Check Website for Details: www.buckscounty.org
June 10	11 am to 4 pm	Chicken Bar-B-Que - Chalfont Fire Company, 301 North Main Street (Take Out Only)
June 23	8:30 am to 1 pm	Flea Market - Chalfont Fire Company, 301 North Main Street



Wreaths Across America

This impressive event was a beautiful tribute honoring our war veterans. It began at the Walter Harvey War Memorial with a full color guard and taps. Mayor David Holewinski introduced the representatives from each sector of the military as they layed a wreath in the memorial. Mr. Bruce Burkart read the names of veterans buried in the cemetery. Residents had the honor of laying wreaths on the 72 graves in the New Britain Baptist Church Cemetery.

Meet Our New Tax Collector Nicole Percetti

Residents of New Britain Borough, I am honored to be your new tax collector! Since graduating with a degree in accounting from La Salle University, I have been in the accounting/tax collection field for 10 years. I am currently creating an account with Gov-Pay which will enable you to pay your taxes online with a credit card (with a 2.5% fee). For helpful tax information please visit my website at: newbritaintax.webs.com where you will find my contact information, office hours, helpful information and links for applications such as the **PA Rent and Property Rebate** and **Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion**.

Chief Donnelly Retires after 50 Years of Service!



After 50 years in law enforcement "The Chief" is officially retired from CBRPD. Thank you for your years of service and dedication Chief Donnelly. We wish you many years of good health, happiness, and peace in your retirement!

PULTRO
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www.mccabebrazypt.com



Emergency Management: Important Safety Tips

Michael Italia

Fire Marshal & Emergency Management Coordinator

**Happy New Year from all of us
in Emergency Management!**

After a rather warm fall we have embraced old man winter. With winter comes snowfall. With snowfall comes snowball fights, building snowmen, and of course shoveling! Please be considerate to your neighbors and public safety personnel by having the sidewalks cleared within 12 hours of the end of snowfall. If you are unable to clear your sidewalks, please ask a neighbor or find a service to assist you. If ice accumulates on the sidewalks, please have it removed and salt treated as well.

If you have a gas or propane furnace, please ensure that the vent is free from snow. When this vent is blocked by snow it will shut your furnace down and it could cause carbon monoxide to back up into your residence. Now is a good time to check your carbon monoxide detectors. They need to be replaced every 10 years along with your smoke detectors or if it's indicated that they are not functioning properly. Make sure to check your propane and oil fuel levels before it gets too cold. Emergency deliveries can cost be costly!

Around Town

Professional Massage Therapy Welcomes New Therapists

Marie Esher Coia ~ *Borough Volunteer*

Located in the office complex behind Town Center at 912 Town Center, Professional Massage Therapy is happy to announce the addition of therapists Annie Sharp, LMT and Jeanne M. Kane. Annie specializes in general massage therapy and lymphatic work. Lymphatic drainage massage is a profound technique to help increase lymph flow which increases immune function and is useful with sports injuries. Jeanne is a Reflexologist and Reiki Practitioner. Reflexology is a holistic discipline where pressure is applied to the feet in order to stimulate physiological changes in the body through reflexes and the nervous system. Other staff includes:

~ **Kandi Coleman, LMT, NCBTMB** specializing in Active Isolated Stretching (AIS) and orthopedic massage therapy.

- ~ **Cheryl Davis, LMT** specializing in deep tissue and therapeutic massage.
- ~ **Dana Nase, LMT** specializing in relaxation massage and Reiki.
- ~ **Christine Passarelli, BSN, RN, CBP, HN-BC** is a Certified BodyTalk Practitioner. BodyTalk is a complimentary and integrative energy medicine that supports the body, mind, and spirit to heal naturally.

Benefits from massage includes: reducing stress, minimizing pain, improving circulation and healing. Professional Massage Therapy utilizes their wide range of skills to provide the best therapy for your specific needs. Hours by appointment only. Call 215-489-2670 to schedule your appointment.

*~ Gift Certificates Available ~
A massage makes a great gift!*

A Message From Our Borough Engineer & Roadmaster

Mark Hintenlang ~ *Borough Engineer & Roadmaster*

WINTER IS HERE:

It's that time of year so please keep your sidewalks clear and do not blow snow into the roadways as the plow trucks will most likely relocate it back into your driveway! Ensure that your mailboxes are secure and located 6"-8" behind the curb/edge of road line. Please be safe and aware of traffic while working on snow removal near the roadway.

PROTECT OUR STREAMS:

Any illegal dumping, drainage activities or stream pollution should be reported immediately to New Britain Borough.

BUILDING & DRIVEWAY CONSTRUCTION:

If you are planning a Spring or Summer project, please remember that stormwater control is required for most additions and driveways due to impervious surfaces. Check with the Borough office to determine if permits are required.



Social Security Phone SCAM Alert

Be aware the Central Bucks Regional Police Department has released the following notice:

If you receive a phone call stating it is from the Social Security Administration office or are directed to a website (**other than ssa.gov**) that claims to be associated with the Social Security Administration office, **it may be a SCAM! DON'T** give the caller any information and **DON'T** trust a name or ID number. **DO check with the Social Security Administration office by calling 1-800-772-1213 or visit their website:**

<https://blog.ssa.gov/is-that-phone-call-from-us/>

Bird Town News: Educational Programs Offered this Winter

Thomas Price ~ *Bird Town Committee Chairman*

The New Britain Borough Bird Town Committee is offering educational programs this winter and spring. On February 2, 2018 Bird Town held a "Find Out How You Can Help the Great Backyard Bird Count" workshop. Three additional programs are scheduled for:

February 21 ~ March 21 ~ April 18

~Admission is Free~

No pre-registration required

The programs are designed to introduce residents to the Bird Town program and provide information about local birds and ways to enjoy them. The February program will focus on winter bird feeding, common feeder birds in our area, and Project Feeder Watch. The March program will highlight common backyard birds in our area. In April, as spring planting time gets underway, the program will be about using native plants to create bird-friendly habitats in our own backyards. All three of these Wednesday evening programs will be presented at **7:00 p.m. in Burkart Hall at 56 Keeley Avenue.**



Participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count February 16-19, 2018

The Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) is a free, fun, and easy event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Participants are asked to count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days of the four day event and report their sightings online at birdcount.org. Anyone can take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count, from beginning bird watchers to experts, and you can participate from your backyard, or anywhere in the world.

Each checklist submitted during the GBBC helps researchers at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society learn more about how birds are doing, and how to protect them and the environment we share. Last year, more than 160,000 participants submitted their bird observations online, creating the largest instantaneous snapshot of global bird populations ever recorded.

The 21th Annual GBBC will be held Friday, February 16, through Monday, February 19, 2018. Please visit the official website at birdcount.org for more information and instructions on how to participate.

Banner Year for Habitat Restoration Efforts in Our Nature Preserve

Thomas Price ~ *Nature Preserve Committee Chairman*



Cleared sections of the Preserve were reforested this year with seedlings sheltered in tree tubes. These plastic tubes both protect the young trees from deer and help to facilitate their growth.

The Nature Preserve Committee, along with scores of additional work day volunteers, made considerable progress last year in our on-going efforts to carry out our Stewardship Plan and restore lost habitat in the Borough's Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve.

Here are the highlights of what we accomplished in 2017:

- Thirty additional native trees and shrubs were planted around the borders of Miriam's Meadow, our native wildflower meadow located on Landis Mill Road.
- Hundreds of native grass and wildflower plugs were planted in the East Meadow, as we work to convert that meadow to a better habitat for butterflies and other pollinators.
- Large sections of the Preserve were cleared of invasive plants and brush and replanted with native trees and shrubs. Almost 200 trees and over 90 shrubs were planted in the Preserve last year!
- The planting bed around our sign at the main Preserve entrance on Mathews Avenue was redesigned and replanted with native ferns and shrubs.
- Almost forty Eastern Red Cedar trees were rescued from the mower at a nearby retention basin and transplanted into the Preserve, with the remaining forty trees scheduled to be moved in the coming weeks.

Banner Year for Habitat Restoration Efforts in Our Nature Preserve - Continued From Page 8

Our stewardship efforts will continue this year and for years to come. If you would like to join the many volunteers who help us with this important and rewarding work, please join us...



This photo is of volunteers unloading wood chips to be used for reinforcing and defining trails.

Our Fall 2017 Nature Preserve Work Days were very productive! Many committee members, residents & student volunteers from CB West & CB South worked hard to get the job done!

Spring 2018 Nature Preserve Work Days

Saturdays - March 10, April 7, & May 19
9:00 am - Noon

We greatly appreciate & can always use your help!

PROFESSIONAL MASSAGE THERAPY

912 Town Center New Britain

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Neuromuscular*

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*Gift Certificates Available * By Appointment Only

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Introducing Central Bucks Regional Police Department's Chief Karl Knott



Upon the retirement of Chief James Donnelly, Captain Karl Knott has been appointed Chief of Police of the Central Bucks Regional Police Department serving Chalfont Borough, New Britain Borough and Doylestown Borough.

Effective February 9, 2018 Chief Knott will begin his new position. The Police

Commission unanimously chose Knott from 23 candidates. Congratulations Chief Knott! We wish you the best!

Chief Knott has a 34 year career in law enforcement beginning in 1984 with the Abington Township Police Department as a Patrol Officer. In 2014 he became the Chief of Police of the Chalfont Borough Police Department. When Chalfont joined the CBRPD in 2016, Knott became Captain of Patrol.

Chief Knott's extensive training and leadership abilities have prepared him for this position. He has successfully completed an executive education program for leadership at Harvard Kennedy School of Government, training at the FBI, Department of Homeland Security, Brookings Institute, the Naval Post Graduate School and executive programs at the University of Virginia and Penn State University. Chief Knott holds two Master of Science degrees, one from St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, PA and one from Southwestern University in Kenner, LA.



For more information: www.buckscounty.org/SeniorGames or 267-880-5700



New Britain Borough
45 Keeley Avenue
New Britain, PA 18901

2018 New Britain Borough Officials

Mayor: David Holewinski

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

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

Planning Consultant: Margaret Remmey
Kent Baird - *Gilmore & Associates*

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

Borough Staff: Samuel Bryant: *Borough Manager/Treasurer*
Mark Hintenlang: *Borough Engineer/Roadmaster*
Carrie Gamble: *Borough Secretary*
Michael Italia: *Building Inspector/Zoning Officer*
Dawn Tremmel: *Administrative Support*

Emergency Management & Fire Marshal: Michael Italia

Borough Solicitor: Michael Peters - *Eastburn & Gray PC*

Tax Collector: Nicole Percetti - 215-822-2930

Police Chief: Chief Karl Knott **Office:** 215-345-4143

Central Bucks Regional Police Dept: **Dispatch:** 215-348-3524

Newsletter Editor: Carrie Gamble



New Britain Borough Administration Building

45 Keeley Avenue ~ New Britain, PA 18901

Phone: 215-348-4586 ~ **General Email:** secretary@newbritainboro.com

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www.newbritainboro.com

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