

# New Britain Borough



# NEWS

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March 1994

## New Britain Borough Welcomes New Council Members

The New Britain Borough Council is made up of seven members of our community who volunteer their time and expertise to keeping the Borough a pleasant and safe place to live.

Re-elected to Council is David Donahue. David has been a valuable member of Council since 1986 and has been involved with the Route 202 Task Force since its inception. Previous to becoming a Council member, he served on the Borough Planning Commission. David is Director of Fixed Operations for R & S Imports, a Mercedes Benz dealership in Huntingdon Valley.

The following three new members have begun their 4-year term:

**Denise Steskal** is a life-long resident of New Britain Borough. She is married and has six children. Professionally she assists her husband,



*Newly elected Council members: (left to right) Mary Pat Holewinski, David Donahue, Denise Steskal, Jack Schneck*

Chris, with the operations of Pine Run Lawn and Landscaping as well as being a part-time realtor for Caldwell Banker Hearthside and lunch server at B. Maxwells in Doylestown. Denise enjoys the outdoors and gardening. She is looking forward to the opportunity to serve her community.

**Jack Schneck** has been a resident of New Britain Borough for 32 years. He is employed by Sears Roebuck & Co. at the Norristown Service Center. Jack and his wife Katie enjoy going to the theatre and weekends at the shore. Jack considers it a privilege and an honor to serve his community as a member of Council.

**Mary Pat Holewinski** has been a Borough resident since 1982. Mary is a Special Education teacher at Indian Crest Middle School in Souderton School District. She has served on the New Britain Civic Association Board since 1982. Mary hopes to help preserve the small-town atmosphere of the borough. She and her husband David have five children — all are grown and out of the house. They like to travel, run, bike and spend time at the shore.

## Attention Borough Residents . . .

Have you ever driven down a Borough street and noticed a street sign or stop sign is missing or damaged? Over the years this has occurred on a number of occasions. The signs must be replaced — which costs taxpayers' money. The average cost of replacing one sign is \$100 for a street sign and \$65 for most other signs. A few of our signs have ended up in bedrooms and rec rooms of residents' homes. If police find one of these items in a home, the owner could be charged with theft and related charges. In an effort to save your tax dollars and possible problems with the police, we are requesting that these signs be returned — no questions asked. Just drop them off at the Borough Building or Police Station.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Civic Assn. Calendar of Events
- Historic Borough House
- 1994 Borough Budget
- Contractors Required to Provide Workers' Comp
- Hazardous Waste Disposal
- Representative Druce






## Come Join Us . . .

Now more than ever, the New Britain Civic Association needs your involvement. Help us preserve and maintain YOUR community park. As development overtakes more and more of our rural land, the importance of preserving the Covered Bridge Park grows greater and greater. The New Britain Civic Association has owned and maintained the Park since 1959. The Civic Association meets regularly on the third Monday of every month at 7:30 PM in the Boro Hall on Keeley Ave. (above the police station). All interested area residents are welcome to join us and participate.

Together we can preserve this important community treasure. Membership dues are only \$5.00 per family and all are encouraged to join. Discussion at upcoming meetings will include plans for our annual Easter Egg Hunt at Town Center and possibly another "New Britain Day" this fall. Call Jerry Zoog, President (345-7322), Peg Havener, Secretary (348-5281) or our Civic Association Hot Line, 345-8750.

## New Britain Civic Association 1994 Calendar of Events

February 21	Civic Meeting	7:30 PM, Boro Hall	
March 15	Civic Meeting	7:30 PM, Boro Hall	
April 2 (raindate April 9)	Easter Egg Hunt	Town Center 11 AM	
April 19	Civic Meeting	7:30 PM, Boro Hall	
April 23	Park Work Day	9-noon, Covered Bridge Park	
May 1	Annual Membership Drive Kickoff		
May 7 (raindate May 14)	Flea Market	Town Center Set up 6:30 AM	
May 16	Civic Meeting	7:30 PM, Boro Hall	
June 10 (Friday)	Annual Membership Meeting & Citizen of the Year Presentation	7:30 PM, Boro Hall	
June - July	Summer Recreation	Covered Bridge Park	
September 10 (raindate September 17)	Fall Flea Market	Town Center	
September 19	Civic Meeting	7:30 PM, Boro Hall	
October 17	Civic Meeting	7:30 PM, Boro Hall	
October 29	Halloween Parade	Town Center	
November 21	Civic Meeting	7:30 PM, Boro Hall	
December 1	Christmas Tree Lighting	Town Center	

## Contractors Required to Provide Proof of Workers' Compensation

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania enacted Act 44 on August 31, 1993, which requires that a certificate of Workers' Compensation Insurance be submitted along with all building permit applications submitted by municipalities.

Contractors applying for a building permit in New Britain Borough must, along with all other permit requirements, provide a copy of their Workers' Compensation Insurance Certificate naming New Britain Borough as a certificate holder.

### EXEMPTIONS:

1. Contractor has no employees and all work performed under the building permit will be performed by the contractor.
2. Contractor has a religious exemption under the Workers' Compensation Law.

If the applicant is the property owner and all work under the permit is to be performed by the property owner, proof of Workers' Compensation is not needed. However, if any contractor is subsequently hired to perform work under the building permit, that contractor must immediately furnish proof of Workers' Compensation Insurance to the Borough. If a certificate is not provided, a Stop Work Order will be issued by the Borough Zoning Officer as this would be a clear violation of state law.

A copy of the portion of Act 44 pertaining to building permit applications is available at the Borough office, 45 Keeley Avenue.



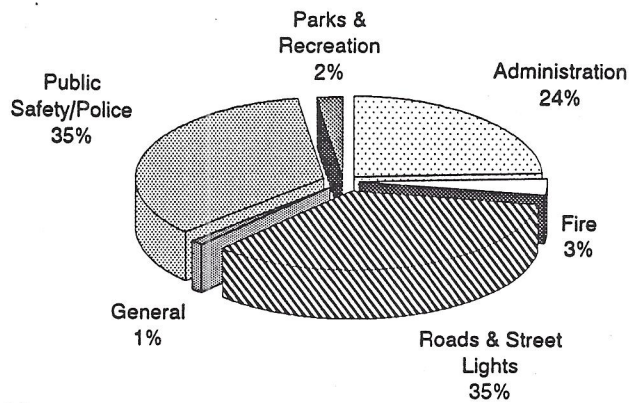
# 1994 Budget

The 1994 New Britain Borough budget has been approved and calls for expenditures totaling \$658,000.

The General Real Estate tax remains at 12 mills. In addition, there is a special 3-mill Road Tax. The Road Tax was necessary in order to build up funds for much needed road resurfacing.

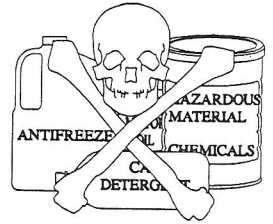
A separate 3-mill Fire Protection Tax provides operating funds for the two fire companies which service the Borough, Chalfont and Doylestown.

Borough income is derived from property taxes, the earned income tax, and real estate transfer taxes.



## Hazardous Waste Disposal

New Britain Borough will again participate in the county's Hazardous Waste



Collection Program. Residents of participating communities in the Central Bucks area can plan to dispose of household hazardous waste on Saturday, May 14, at the Middle Bucks Vocational-Technical School on Route 263 in Jamison, from 10 AM to 2 PM.

The program provides the opportunity to safely dispose of:

### Batteries -

- Non-rechargeable alkaline
- Rechargeable nickel cadmium
- Lithium & Button
- Lead Acid (vehicle)

### Toxics -

- Pool chemicals
- Weed killers/Pesticides
- Rust/paint removers
- Photo chemicals
- Acid

### Flammables -

- Spot remover
- Paint thinner
- Oil-based paint

### Caustics -

- Oven cleaner
- Ammonia-based cleaners

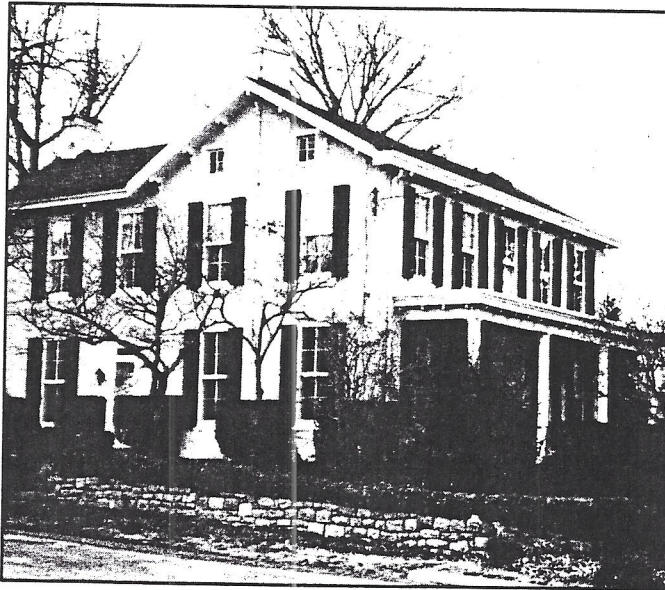
## State Representative Seeks Input

State Representative Thomas W. Druce encourages his constituents to express their opinions on issues pending before the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

For this purpose, his office has established a new toll-free phone number: 1-800-57-DRUCE (1-800-573-7823).

## The Hendricks-Fisher House

The Hendricks-Fisher House, located on the corner of Route 202 and Tamenend Avenue, was recently added to the Bucks County Conservancy Register of Historic Places. This handsome town dwelling was built in 1848 by Albert G. Hendricks, a blacksmith.



The structure is an early eclectic Victorian and is distinctive in its combination of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. Of particular note is the bracketed porch with its eight-sided columns. The gabled roof is trimmed with a bracketed box cornice, and the windows contain original glass throughout.

During the last three ownerships of the house, strange things have occurred which begot rumors that the house is haunted by a mischievous spirit. Stories include windows and doors opening and closing by themselves and organ music heard coming from below a trap door in the den. A sudden aroma of ham and cabbage in the house was experienced by both the current owners, Douglas and Donna Fisher, and a previous owner. The Fisher's say the strange occurrences seemed to stop a few months after they moved in.

For more information on how to research the history of your house, contact the Heritage Conservancy (formerly the Bucks County Conservancy) at 345-7020.



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## New Britain Borough Officials

**Mayor:** Robert Snavelly

**Council:** Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month in Borough Hall, 7:30 PM  
David Donahue, *President*; Robert Belchic, *Vice-President*; Mary Pat Holewinski; Denise Steskal; Nancy Schuyler; Kermit Weitzel; John Schneck

**Planning Commission:** Meets 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Borough Office, 7:30 PM  
William Buchanan, *President*; David Holewinski, *Vice President*; Allan Scheckler, *Secretary*; Karl Dieterichs; Robert Leavy; Paul Land; Bill Macklem; David Donahue  
Lynn Froehlich, *Consultant*

### Zoning

**Hearing Board:** Meets, as needed, 3rd Wednesday of the month in Borough Hall, 7:30 PM  
Warren Nace, *Chairman*; Joe Johnson; James Davis; Robert Bair; Peter LaMontague; Tony Coia; Joseph Wagner, *Solicitor*

**Tax Collector:** Ann Teschner ..... 348-1638      **EMERGENCIES:**      **DIAL 911**

**Solicitor:** ..... George M. Bush      **Police Chief,** David Sempowski, Office . . 345-1080

The following Borough personnel are located at the new Borough Building at 45 Keeley Avenue. Phone 348-4586. The office is open Monday through Friday, from 9am to 12 noon.

**Borough Manager/Zoning Officer:** ..... John K. Wolff  
**Treasurer:** ..... Lloyd J. Vansant  
**Building Inspector:** ..... Austin C. Brown (Hours 9-11, Mon, Wed. & Fri.)  
**Roads Superintendent:** ..... Edward Deschamps  
**Borough Engineer:** ..... Robert A. Schaffer  
**Borough Secretary:** ..... Robin E. Trymbiski

New Britain Borough  
45 Keeley Avenue  
New Britain, PA 18901

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
New Britain, PA  
Permit #118