

New Britain Borough



NEWS

Volume 6, Number 2

November 1997

New Britain & Chalfont Boroughs

present

Jeffrey Marshall

Director of Historic Preservation

Heritage Conservancy

Slide Show and Talk on

Central Bucks Victorian Homes

November 20, 1997, 7:30 p.m.

New Britain Borough Hall

56 Keeley Avenue



All area residents are invited to attend this special presentation to learn about the rich history of the New Britain/Chalfont area. Jeff Marshall is a gifted historian and speaker.

Bruce Burkart, Chairman of the New Britain Borough Historic Commission, hopes that this presentation will bring together people with an interest in historic homes in the area.

A series of programs highlighting the history of our area is planned. Future programs will include Bucks County covered bridges and a Spruance Library tour. Keep the 3rd Thursday night of the month open for future presentations.

Youth Program Forming— Teen Dance Planned

In a multi-municipal effort to provide our young people with after-school activities, New Britain Borough is joining with neighboring communities to develop activities for youth.

A *Teen Dance* is planned for Friday, November 21, from 8 to 11 p.m. to be held at the Highpoint Racquet Club. The chaperoned dance will be open to youth ages 13 to 17. Music will be provided by a D.J. and/or live band and refreshments will be available. Tickets available at the door are \$2 per person, or a can of food for the Food Bank. For more details call the Borough Office at 348-4586.

A committee, headed by Borough Council member Bob Belchic, is finalizing plans to provide a place where teens can meet and socialize on weekdays after school and on weekends. Additional special activities will be planned throughout the year. The extent of these activities is dependent upon budget considerations by the Borough and surrounding municipalities.



You Are Invited
to the
New Britain Borough
Open House

December 11, 1997, 5-7 p.m.

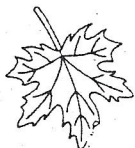
Borough Office Building, 45 Keeley Avenue

The Council and staff of New Britain Borough cordially invite all residents and local business owners to a Holiday Open House. This is a chance to share the holiday spirit with your neighbors and meet informally with Borough officials. Snacks and beverages provided.

News from your Police Department

The New Britain Borough Police Department is pleased to announce the hiring of Wayne Pursell of Riegelsville as a new part time police officer. Officer Pursell graduated from the Montgomery Police Academy.

The Department also wishes to announce the promotion of Officer Darryl Allen to the position of Sergeant. Sgt. Allen is a full time officer and a five-year veteran with the Department as well as several years of experience with other departments. Sgt. Allen is currently the Detective and Accident Supervisor for New Britain Borough.



Disposing of Leaves



Waste haulers licensed in the Borough must pick up leaf/garden waste at least once a month. BFI collects yard wastes, which can include leaves, each Monday. Waste Management will collect leaves on regular pick-up days (their maximum of 5 containers, bags and cans, applies). Leaves can be placed in the regular yard waste containers or biodegradable paper bags — NO PLASTIC BAGS PLEASE. In addition, Waste Management will likely have 2 collections in the Fall specifically for leaves. Contact your hauler for more specific instructions.

Some environmentally sound ways to dispose of leaves are:

- ✓ Compost the leaves to create a valuable soil additive
- ✓ Spread leaves in wooded areas of your property.

Water Problems? We need to know!

If you have had problems with either water contamination or flow, please call the Borough Office (345-4586) and let us know. We want to make sure that all Borough residents have a consistent flow of good quality water, and we can only help if we know of potential problems.

Route 202 ByPass Update

Construction of the 202 bypass between Montgomeryville and Buckingham has been approved by the state. The Environmental Impact Study is being reviewed, and the final decision whether to proceed with construction is the responsibility of the Federal Highway Administration.

When Do You Need a Permit?

Some residents may not be aware of the various types of permits required by the Borough. Following is a list of some of the items for which permits are required by Borough Ordinance:

1. Building alterations and repairs
2. New plumbing installation
3. Decks, patios and hot tubs
4. Fireplaces and wood-burning stoves
5. Storage sheds
6. Temporary structures
7. Swimming pools
8. Signs
9. Home occupation
10. Commercial occupancy

If work is begun or completed without proper permits, the property owner can be charged twice the normal permit fee as a penalty. Permit costs vary. For specific information on when a permit is required and the cost, please call the borough Office, 348-4586, Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Residents who have erected decks, patios or swimming pools without obtaining a permit are encouraged to call the office as soon as possible. If not, you will likely receive a notice from the Borough to comply.

The permit ordinances have been effect for many years, and the fact that your shed, patio pool or deck has existed for some time does not preclude the Borough from requiring the proper permits after the fact.

Can You Help?

New Britain Borough is looking for an Auditor for the Borough books. This job is done once a year in late winter. Please call the Borough Office (345-4586) if you wish to perform such a service, or to suggest someone with such capabilities.

- ✓ Shred leaves on your lawn by running over them with your mower, leaving remnants to break down into useful mulch which will benefit your grass.
- ✓ Leaves are "recycled" and used by William Hirst of Highland Hill Farm. Residents can drop off leaves at the farm located at 520 Dublin Pike or call for pick up at 345-0946.

If you plan to burn leaves, the Borough Ordinance sets forth the following rules:

- ✓ Public roads cannot be used for burning leaves.
- ✓ Leaves should not be burned when atmospheric conditions make fires hazardous. Choose a cool day with low atmospheric pressure (the smoke will dissipate more rapidly). Burn when the wind is calm.
- ✓ Fires must be continuously monitored until extinguished. Extinguishing equipment (hose, buckets of water, etc.) should be available.
- ✓ No fires are permitted after sunset.

New Britain Civic Association

The Civic Association would like to thank all of our friends and neighbors who have volunteered their time and talents to improve Covered Bridge Park.

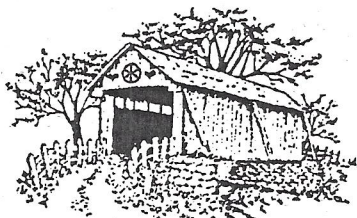
The Boy Scouts built a very handsome picnic table that sits down by Pine Run Creek. You get a great view of the covered bridge when you sit there. They also built steps that lead from the driveway down to a path which winds along the creek.

Peter LaMontagne received a lot of help when it came time to erect the gazebo for the Park. We are very grateful to all who helped.

A special thanks to McElhaney Signs of New Britain for making the beautiful sign for the entrance to Covered Bridge Park.

We at Civic are very proud to be part of a community who's government has been so helpful to us. Without the support of Borough Council and Borough Manager Robert Schaffer, we would not have been able to complete many of the improvements at the Park.

Thank you all! With this kind of support, Covered Bridge Park has a bright future.



Discounts for You Equals Funds for Your Park

The New Britain Civic Association is once again offering Entertainment books that contain hundreds of "two-for-one" and discount coupons on dining, shopping, movies, special events, sports, travel and more.

The books are just \$25.00 each. Sales of the book will help fund the Covered Bridge Park. To order your book, contact any Civic Association member or call Jackie Dieterichs at 348-5578.

Become of Member and Display with pride your beautiful New Britain License Plate

With a \$15 membership, you will receive a license plate which advertises New Britain Borough as a "friendly place to live." License plates are available at the Borough office. For information on membership and volunteer opportunities, leave a message at 345-8750.



Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

The annual Borough Christmas Tree lighting will be held on Wednesday, December 3, at 7 p.m. at Town Center. Rain date is Thursday, December 4.

Songs of the season will be performed by the Central Bucks Elementary School Band led by Marie Springer. Many of the band members are from Pine Run Elementary School. Santa and Mrs. Clause will be there too. So join us for a festive start to the holiday season.

Youth Aid Panel Needs Volunteers

The Youth Aid Panel, initiated several years ago by the New Britain Borough Police Department, provides an alternative for first-time, nonviolent youth offenders to prevent them from going through the County Juvenile Court system. The program allows young people who make a mistake to make up for it within our community. It also provides an opportunity for conscientious citizens to help neighborhood youth.

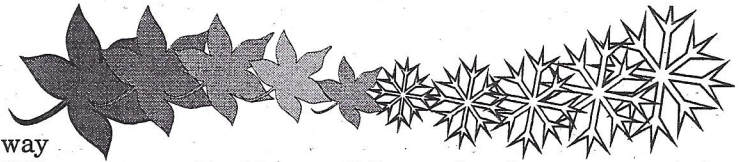
If you are interested in volunteering for the Youth Aid Panel, please contact Bob Schaffer, Borough Manager, at 345-4586, or Chief Sempowski at 345-1080.

Road Improvements Completed

A number of road improvement projects have been completed this summer:

- Route 202 (Butler Avenue) was paved by PennDOT through the Borough.
- Handicapped ramps were placed at all curbed locations in the Borough in accordance with federal and state mandates.
- The traffic signal at Town Center Shopping complex was relocated to the intersection of Route 202 and Sand Road to relieve serious traffic problems that had existed at the crossing.
- Ute Road and a portion of Lenape Drive were resurfaced with a ralumac bituminous application to seal the road surface.
- Cherokee Road was patched following the installation of a new water main by North Penn Water Co. The roadway was scheduled for base replacement and resurfacing, however, due to a summer-long impasse between the Department of Labor and Industry and the unions concerning wages, this project could not be bid out in time to complete construction this year. Paving of Cherokee Road is now scheduled for spring 1998.

Changing Seasons



As this beautiful autumn weather inevitably gives way to winter, we will once again face the prospect of **SNOW**. Here is a review of the Borough's ordinance relative to snow and ice: [

* Sidewalks should be cleared of ice and snow by at least 12 hours after the snow stops falling.

* Parking on all Borough streets is prohibited during and after snow falls until the roads have been cleared. If snow is predicted, do not park your car on the road.

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; William Macklem

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; Patrick Digangi; Paul Land; Stephan Laurie; William Macklem; Lynn Froehlich, *Consultant*

Zoning

Hearing Board: **Meets, as needed, 3rd Wednesday of the month in Borough Hall, 7:30 PM**
Robert Bair, *Chairman*; Tony Coia; Peter LaMontague; John Sullivan; John Wolff, Jr. Bernie Peak; Michael Goodwin, *Solicitor*

Tax Collector: Ann Teschner 348-1638

Solicitor: George M. Bush

EMERGENCIES: DIAL 911

Police Chief, David Sempowski, Office . 345-1080

The following Borough personnel are located at the Borough Building, 45 Keeley Avenue.
Phone 348-4586. The office is open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Borough Manager/Zoning Officer: Robert A. Schaffer
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

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