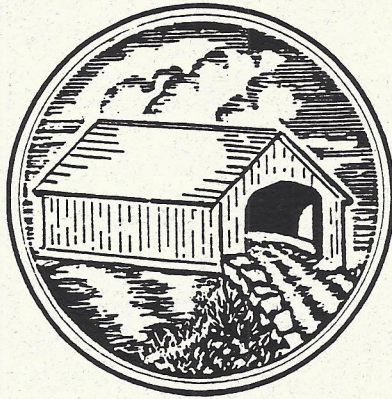


New Britain Borough



NEWS

Volume 7, Number 2

November 1998

New Britain Borough Historic Commission
presents

Jean Dawson

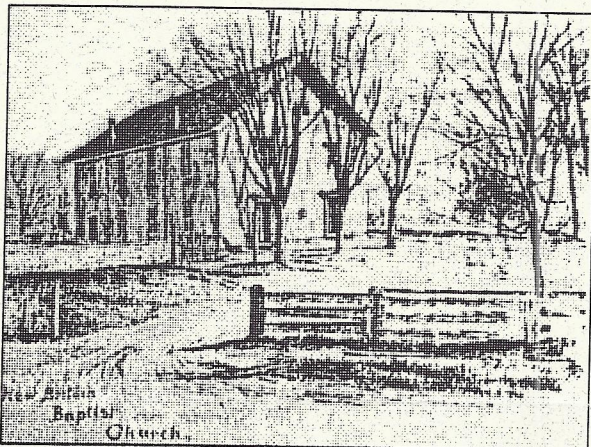
speaking on the

"Early History of New Britain"

(includes what are now New Britain Borough, Chalfont
Borough and New Britain Township)

November 19, 7:30 p.m.

*New Britain Borough Hall
56 Keeley Avenue*



All residents are invited to attend this special presentation to learn about the rich history of the New Britain/Chalfont area.

Jean Dawson has done considerable historic research and has worked with Doylestown historian and author Wilma Rezer. She will speak about the fascinating history of the New Britain area beginning in the 1600s. We will hear about the early Welsh settlers including Simon Butler.

Youth Center becomes a Reality

After more than a year of planning, the Youth Center is now offering regular activities for teens. Our young people can meet and socialize at St. James Lutheran Church after school on Thursday and Friday, and on Saturday afternoon and evening.

More adult volunteers are needed, however, so we can make the Center available more often and provide a variety of activities for our young people. You can volunteer for as little as 2 hours a month, or as often as you like. Call Mary Sosinski, 997-2108, to join the fun.

Another Teen Dance is planned for Friday night, November 13, at Delaware Valley College.

So come out and help and encourage the young folks in your home to take advantage of our Youth Center.

*You Are
Invited*

to the

New Britain Borough Open House

Wednesday, December 9, 1998, 6-8 p.m.

Borough Office, 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.



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**. Contact your hauler for more specific instructions.

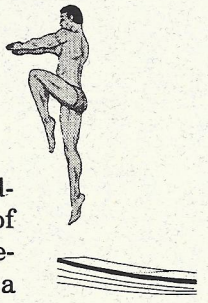
Some environmentally sound ways to dispose of leaves are:

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

Does Your Pool Conform to Borough Ordinance?



During the fall and winter, New Britain Borough plans to make a survey of all in-ground and above-ground swimming pools in the Borough.

We are already aware that many pools do not conform to the Borough Ordinance, which sets forth requirements for all pools, regardless of when they were installed.

First, a permit is necessary for all existing pools. This can be obtained at the Borough Administration Building.

The most important feature of our ordinance is the **fencing regulations**. All in-ground pools must have a free-

standing fence surrounding the pool of a height of at least four feet. Above-ground pools must have a free-standing 4' fence or a fence placed on top of the pool itself.

Residents who are in violation of the ordinance will receive a written notification.

If you are aware that your pool is not in conformance with the ordinance, we urge you to contact the Borough Office at 348-4586 to discuss the issue.

A copy of the complete ordinance is available at the Borough Office.

Road Improvements Completed

Work has been completed on the reconstruction of South Shady Retreat Road, though the final top coat will be applied next spring.

Cherokee Road and Maple Lane have been resurfaced.

Water Authority Extends Lines

The Doylestown Township Municipal Water Authority has run water lines into the east side of the Borough in the Iron Hill Road, Evergreen Drive vicinity.

Residents in that area who are interested in pursuing the possibility of hooking up to that system should contact Dick Jons at the Municipal Water Authority, 348-9915.



An early photograph of Pine Run Covered Bridge

New Britain Civic Association Update

The Civic Association would like to thank all of our friends and neighbors who have volunteered their time and talents to complete renovations at Covered Bridge Park. This year's additions include a beautiful hand-crafted Victorian gazebo located near the pond, new playground equipment and new infant swings. Furthermore, the parking lot has been expanded and resurfaced thanks to funding from the Lenape Valley Soccer Club and New Britain Borough. Special thanks to Jackie and Karl Dieterichs who are this year's exceptional volunteers.

The Civic Association needs two more board members. If you're interested, please call Amy Crasto, 340-0633.

For information on membership and volunteer opportunities, leave a message at 345-8750.

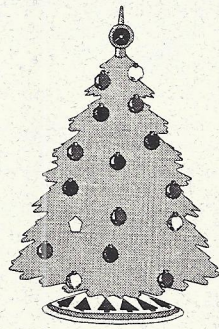
New Britain Borough License plates are available at the Borough office.



Discounts for You Equals Funds for Your Park

The New Britain Civic Association is once again offering **Entertainment Books** for \$25.00 each for Philadelphia and Bux-Mont editions. Tremendous values including \$15 cash savings at Clemens Markets. Sales of the book will help fund the Covered Bridge Park.

To get your Books, call (215) 348-7083 or pick one up at Clemens Market at the New Britain Town Center.



Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

The annual Borough Christmas Tree lighting will be held on Wednesday, December 2, at 7 p.m. at the Clemens' parking lot. The rain date is December 9. There will be live music, a guest appearance by Santa Claus and refreshments. So join us for a festive start to the holiday season.



Police Initiate Bike Patrol

This Halloween was not only an exciting time for the youth of New Britain, but also a time of great expectations for the Borough Police Department.

October 30 marked the beginning of the Department's Bike Patrol unit. On October 30, Mischief Night, two officers rode through the community on bicycles keeping the neighborhood safe. Halloween marked the second night for the Bike Patrol and showed its benefits. Being quite a small vehicle, an officer was able to catch up with two youthful offenders without being detected. The bike was also able to get through snarled traffic on Route 202 at the scene of a traffic accident, and the

officer also stopped a motorist for running a stop sign.

The Bike Patrol consists of three officers, Sgt. Darryl Allen, Officer Robert Lawn, and Officer Jeffrey Mallozzi. The Bike Patrol was the idea of Officer Lawn, and Sergeant Darryl Allen assisted in the organization.

The bike being used is one recovered by the Police Department over a year ago, which was never claimed by an owner. The bike was reconditioned and outfitted with special equipment and proper lighting.

We plan to use the bike again in the coming year to keep the neighborhoods of New Britain Borough safe.

Look for the Bike Patrol in your neighborhood.

Drive Smart — Change with the Weather

Rain, sleet, snow or ice all make a big difference in how your vehicle handles. You have to make adjustments in your driving to compensate. The problem is that too many drivers simply don't. They don't slow down, don't leave more following room, don't change the way they steer, hit the brakes, or go through a turn. So accidents go up about 40% when roads are wet. Here are some ways to "drive smart."

- **Hydroplaning and skidding** can happen anytime roads get wet. It doesn't have to be a downpour. And you don't even have to be going fast. Then your tire treads fail to wipe the water from the road surface and begin literally floating on a thin film of water, you're hydroplaning. When this happens, quickly take your foot off the accelerator and don't hit the brake. Steer into the direction of the skid until you've regained traction.

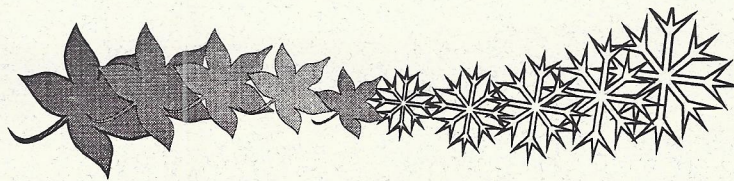
- **Drive smoothly:** avoid making sudden moves; no fast turns; no quick acceleration; no hard braking.
- **Don't slam the brakes** on slippery roads. Hard braking can lock your wheels and cause loss of steering. Apply them gently and ease off if you start to skid. Then reapply until you regain control.
- **Look for trouble spots** like lanes shaded by trees or buildings that can hide patches of ice. Watch for wet leaves on rainy days; they can be almost as slick as ice. Take extra caution at the start of rain. It can bring oil to the road surface and make conditions slick.
- If you find yourself **skidding**, take your foot off the gas and *don't* hit the brake! Quickly turn the steering wheel in the direction your car is skidding.

(excerpt from PennDOT brochure)

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.



ATTENTION YOUNG PEOPLE— Want to earn money this winter shoveling snow for residents and the Borough? Call the office at 348-4586.

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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