

# New Britain Borough



# NEWS

Volume 11, Number 2

October 2002

## Learn about our History

New Britain/Chalfont Historical Group is pleased to offer two very interesting programs this fall. All are invited and there is no cost to attend.

**Monday, October 21, 7:30 p.m.**

New Britain Borough Hall  
56 Keeley Avenue, New Britain

### **"Simon Butler and Friends"**

*Presented by Robert Showalter, Chalfont businessman and owner of the Simon Butler Homestead.*

Simon Butler was the first settler in our area.

**Monday, November 11, 7:30 p.m.**

New Britain Borough Hall  
56 Keeley Avenue, New Britain

### **"History of Pocket Match Safes"**

*Presented by Mrs. Sandy Ghering of Doylestown.*

She will have many examples along with a very interesting talk.

## Drought emergency continues

Residents are reminded that a drought emergency is in affect throughout Bucks County and surrounding areas, following a brief downgrade to warning status this summer. Precipitation amounts are about 8 inches below normal. There are restrictions on landscape watering, washing vehicles and more. For details call the drought hotline at 1-888-457-6653 or log on to [www.state.pa.us](http://www.state.pa.us), keyword "Drought". Fact sheets are available at the Borough office.

## History Lesson

### **The Cabbage Hill School**

The Cabbage Hill School, now a private home, is located on Route 202, just west of the old General Store and Post Office at Tamanend Road.

The school was built in 1870 on land owned by Charles Mathews. The name "Cabbage Hill" was given to the school because cabbages were grown on the land.

In the early history of the school, the scholars carried water from the nearby home of "Sammy" Haldeman and later from Mrs. Nellie Royahn's residence. The latter reported that the children came for their daily supply of "nature's wine."



The first teacher of record was Annie Hibbs; another early teacher was Lizzie Miller, daughter of Colonel Miller of Doylestown.

Paul Van Toor attended this school, later serving as Postmaster of New Britain for 43 years.

The school term was only six months. One teacher, Carrie Kephard, was allowed to solicit summer scholars who paid a tuition.

The Board of Directors, which teacher Helen Royahn remembers as "being kind and always willing to cooperate" included John Lapp, Adam Martin, John Landis, Charles Worthington, Harvey Hockman, Alfred Mathews, Levi Moyer, William Swartley, John Moyer, Ervin Myers, Silas Myers and Matthew Cogan.

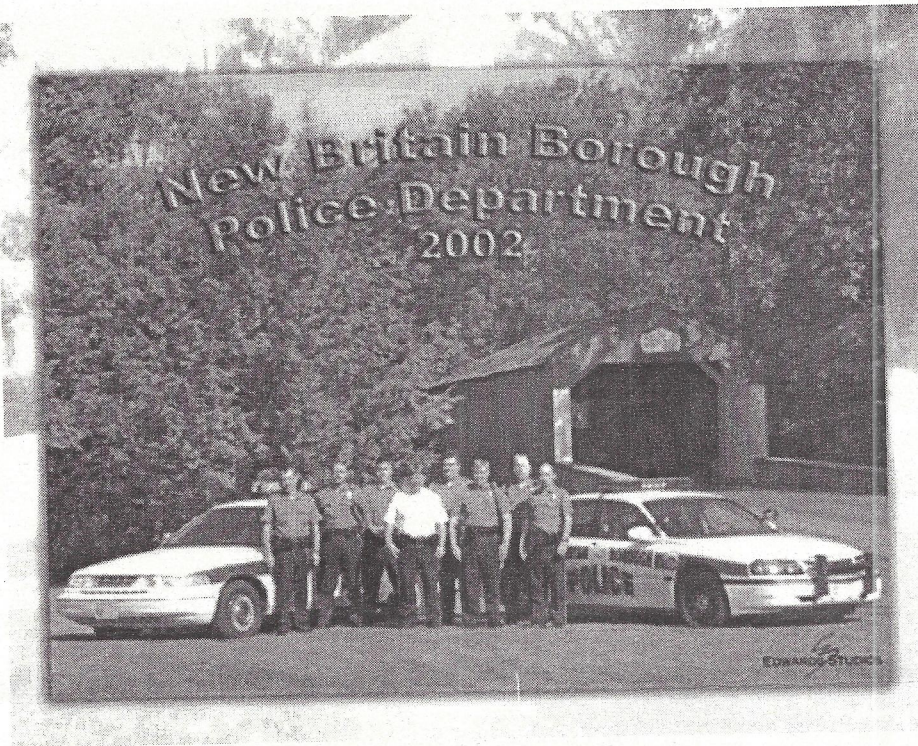
When New Britain became a borough in 1928 and a larger school was built in 1931, Cabbage Hill was no longer used as a school and became a private residence.





## SAFETY TIPS

- Go Trick-or-Treating with a grownup
- Don't eat treats until you show them to your parents or a trusted adult
- Visit only people you know
- Make sure your costume lets you see and hear clearly
- Wear brightly-colored clothing: use "glow in the dark" patches
- Make sure your costume fits



(from left) Officer Charles Semet, Sgt. Darryl Alen, Officer Robert Milligan, Chief David Sempowski, Officer Mitch Davis, Officer Robert Hinde, Officer Gregory Asterito, Officer Richard Tomlinson.

## BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS

School is now open, and with it comes situations that may be dangerous for both our children and the motoring public. If you are driving in New Britain Borough during the times children are at their bus stops or walking or riding their bikes to school, please be mindful of their presence. Drive safely, defensively and remember to obey the posted speed limit.

The following is a list of safety tips for children while at the bus stops:

- Remember to allow enough time in the morning to get to the bus stop
- Stay off the road while waiting for your bus.
- Do not try and board the bus until it comes to a full stop.

If you are late, never run after a moving bus.

- If you must cross in front of the bus, do it where the bus driver can see you.

### IF YOU WALK TO SCHOOL:

- Do not talk to or accept gift or rides from a stranger. Tell your parents and teacher immediately.
- Use the sidewalks
- Cross at stop signs and use crosswalks.
- Walk on the left, facing traffic
- Watch for cars backing out of drive-ways
- Watch for bike riders

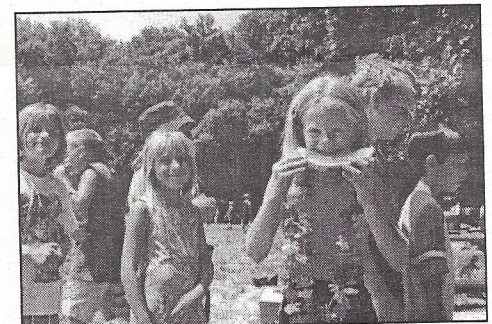
If you ride a bike, wear a helmet and ride with traffic.



## Summer Camp a huge success!



A record number of children took advantage of New Britain Borough's popular Summer Camp program this year. Looking ahead to next summer, remember that space is limited and pre-registration is required. Make plans to register early!



Children enjoy New Britain's Summer Camp.





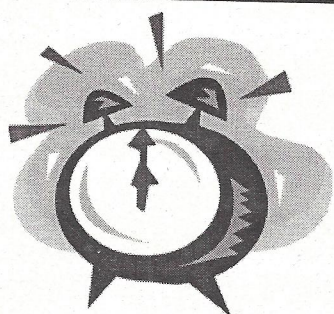
You are invited  
to the  
**New Britain Borough  
Holiday Open House**

Thursday, December 12, 2002

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Borough Office, 45 Keeley Avenue

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



**Standard Time  
begins Sunday,  
October 27th**

**Don't forget to turn your  
clocks back one hour**

**Begin the Holidays at the  
Borough's Christmas  
Tree Lighting**

**Wednesday, December 4, 7 p.m.**

Town Center  
(rain date December 5)

Songs of the season will be  
performed by the Central Bucks  
Elementary School Band directed by  
Marie Springer.

**Santa and Mrs. Claus will be  
there too!**

**A Message from the  
New Britain Civic Association . . .**

**Discounts for you = Funds for your park.**

The New Britain Civic Association continues to offer Entertainment Books for \$25 each. The 2003 edition offers discounts on dining, movies, airlines, hotels and other entertainment. Books can be purchased at Clemens or by calling 215-348-7083.

To join the Association or to volunteer, call Jackie Dieterichs, 215-348-5578.

**Dispose of  
Leaves  
Properly**

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.

**BURNING ORDINANCE**

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.



# Winter Approaches . . .



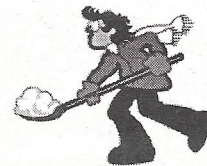
As our beautiful autumn weather inevitably gives way to winter, we want to remind residents of their responsibilities during snow events:

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

If there is a **fire hydrant** on or near your property, please make sure it is cleared of snow and ice.

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

**Mailboxes** must be 6" behind the curb or edge of pavement to allow for plowing.



Young people can earn extra money by **shoveling snow** for residents. Call the Borough at 215-348-4586.

## New Britain Borough Officials

<b>Mayor:</b>	Robert Snively
<b>Council:</b>	<b>Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month in Borough Hall, 7:30 PM</b> David Donahue, <i>President</i> ; William Macklem, <i>Vice-President</i> ; Robert Belchic, Mary Pat Holewinski; Bernie Peak; Nancy Schuyler; Kermit Weitzel
<b>Planning Commission:</b>	<b>Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month in the Borough Office, 7:30 PM</b> William Buchanan, <i>President</i> ; David Holewinski, <i>Vice President</i> ; Jane Kinyon, <i>Secretary</i> ; Karl Dieterichs; Paul Land; Stephen Hazzard; William Macklem; William Schaefer; Scott Fischer
<b>Zoning Hearing Board:</b>	<b>Meets, as needed, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month in Borough Hall, 7:30 PM</b> Robert Bair, <i>Chairman</i> ; Tony Coia; Peter LaMontague; John Sullivan; John Wolff, Jr.; Jeffrey Gilmore. Joseph Wagner, <i>Solicitor</i>
<b>Tax Collector:</b>	Ann Teschner, 215-348-1638 (Tues. 12.-7 p.m.)
<b>Solicitor:</b>	Michael Goodwin
	<b>Police Chief:</b> David Sempowski <b>Police Secretary:</b> Carol Hunt, 215-345-1080

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

**Borough Manager:** ..... Robin E. Trymbiski  
**Treasurer:** ..... Lloyd J. Vansant  
**Building Inspector:** ..... Austin C. Brown (9-11 a.m., Mon, Wed. & Fri.)  
**Zoning Officer:** ..... Thomas Yatsky (9-12 a.m., Mon, Wed. & Fri.)

**Borough Engineer** ..... Mark Hintenlang  
**Roads Superintendent:** ..... Edward Deschamps  
**Borough Secretary:** ..... Jane Kinyon  
**EMERGENCIES: DIAL 911**

New Britain Borough  
45 Keeley Avenue  
New Britain, PA 18901

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