

New Britain Borough



NEWS

Volume 15, Number 2

October 2006

Learn about our History

New Britain Historical Group
presents

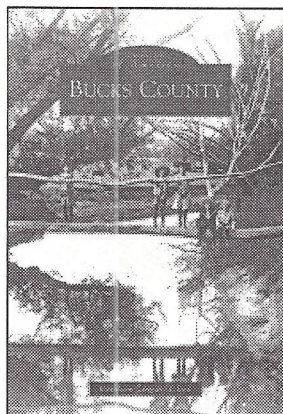
"Capturing the Spirit of Historic Bucks"

Monday, November 13, 2006

7:30 p.m. in the
New Britain Borough Hall
56 Keeley Avenue

The guest speaker will be Kathleen Zingaro Clark, author of *Images of America – Bucks County*. She will discuss her recently released book and her experience in compiling this newest addition to the historical record of Bucks County.

(The photo on cover of the book was taken near our covered bridge and features family members of our imminent local historian Bruce Burkart – his father, uncles and cousins.)



"The History of New Britain Borough"

Monday, December 11, 2006

7:30 p.m. in the
New Britain Borough Hall
56 Keeley Avenue

Local historian Bruce Burkart will talk about the Borough's history and the people who helped make it a great place to live.

County approves grant for easement

A grant in the amount of \$152,346 was recently authorized to place a conservation easement on the Covered Bridge Park. The easement will protect the 14-acre park from future subdivision and building. The New Britain Civic Association, which owns the park, will use the funds for park maintenance and improvements. This is the first grant that has been awarded the Borough by the county's Municipal Open Space Program.

Sidewalk Repairs

The Borough would like to thank all the homeowners who have made the necessary repairs to their sidewalks. Second notices will be sent to those homeowners who have not yet complied with our request.

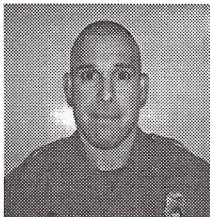
Stop the "Choking Game"

Parents, students, teachers — the Choking Game (a.k.a. Space Monkey, Pass Out Game, Gasp) is a *game* children play by compressing a friend's chest or squeezing their neck to cut off the flow of oxygen. The person being choked will feel light-headed causing a "high". From the very young in elementary school to middle and high school students, this risky behavior happens very quickly and before help can arrive, a youth can become unconscious and die. This activity has been around for years but has recently reached epidemic proportions among our youth. The police want to teach youth and adults about the dangers of this activity. Education and knowledge are the keys to stopping this activity. A Choking Game program will be held on **October 25, 7:30 p.m.** at the New Britain Township Building, 207 Park Avenue. Please spread the word and plan to attend this educational meeting to protect our children.

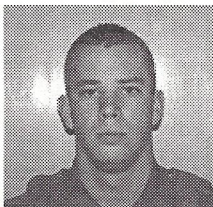
News from the New Britain Borough Police

Along with Chief Bowers, the New Britain Borough Police Department now employs four full time and five part time officers. Meet our three newest members:

Officer **Ed Kraft** joined the New Britain Borough Police Department in May. He was previously employed as a Police Officer in Bristol Borough. Ed is a graduate of Thomas Jefferson University Hospital Emergency Medical Services, and a 2003 graduate of Temple University's Police Academy. He is a Paramedic with Newtown Township, and is one of our bike patrol Officers, certified through the International Police Mountain Bike Association.



Officer **Joseph Fallon** joined the Department in June. He attended Bucks County Community College, and is a 2005 graduate of the Montgomery County College Police Academy. Joe was previously employed as a Corrections Officer at the Bucks County Correctional Facility.



Officer **Jim Bishop** came aboard in September. He is a veteran of the San Diego Police Department where he served as acting Sergeant, Field Training Officer and a member of the Arrest & Control team. He's also worked for the Chesterfield, Va and University of Richmond Police Depts. Officer Bishop and his family recently relocated to Bucks County.

In other Police Department news...

The Department recently acquired a 2006 Dodge Charger. The Charger replaces the Chevy Impala. We also received a new patrol bicycle. The bike, a Cannondale 12 speed Mountain Bike, was financed by a grant from the Bucks County Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependence, and is very effective in patrolling areas not accessible by a motor vehicle.

As in past years, we are participating in both the Underage Drinking Enforcement and Tobacco Enforcement programs. Both of these programs are funded through grants obtained for us by Jim Wall of the Bucks County Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependence. We also continue to be a member of the Central Bucks Motor Carrier Enforcement Team, a consortium of law enforcement officers from the Central Bucks community. They set up checkpoints to inspect commercial trucks traveling through our community to ensure that they meet Pennsylvania Vehicle Code mechanical and operational standards.

In response to the high volume of accidents in the Borough, the Department has increased overall enforcement of traffic laws in an attempt to reduce the number of accidents.

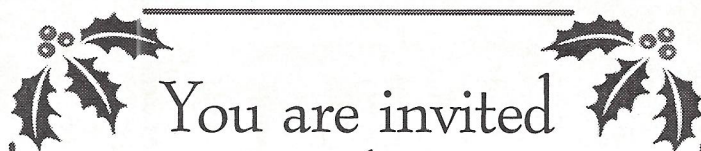
The Borough has approved the Department joining the Central Bucks Special Response Team. The CBSRT is made up of law enforcement officers representing 19 agencies in Bucks County. The team is designed to handle high-risk emergency situations that occur within the boundaries of the member agencies. As part of the CBSRT, a forensic team is also being developed, to process major crime scenes as needed or requested.



HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

It's that time again when children enjoy dressing in costumes and roaming the neighborhoods in search of some of their favorite treats. Here are some tips to make this Halloween safer for everyone:

- 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 properly



You are invited to the New Britain Borough Holiday Open House

Thursday, December 7, 2006

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.



Attention Contractors

Before performing any work in the Borough, all contractors must register with the Borough. Forms are available at the New Britain Borough office.

Are you interested in renting a historic house in the Borough?

As you may have read in our last newsletter, Dr. Miriam Groner, a long-time resident of New Britain Borough, left her house and three acres to the Borough to be included as part of the Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve. According to Dr. Groner's will, the Borough should rent the house with the rental income being used for maintenance of the property and the Nature Preserve.

The house was built in 1812 by Joseph and Benjamin Mathews and is located at 171 Aarons Avenue. The main house is stone and stucco, 2-1/2 stories and boasts a large living room with original pumpkin pine floors, a winding staircase to the second floor that has two bedrooms and a bathroom. An addition was built in 1946 onto the first floor that includes a kitchen, bathroom and bedroom/ office. There is also an unfinished attic, basement and detached garage.

The Borough has undertaken extensive renovations to the property, using funds from Dr. Groner's estate, including a new cedar shake roof, attic insulation, new electrical service, replastered many of the interior ceiling and walls, additional custom kitchen cabinets, new kitchen appliances, central air conditioning, refinished wooden floors, new flooring in the kitchen, downstairs bathroom and downstairs bedroom/office. The interior should be substantially completed some-

time in the autumn and work will begin on the exterior of the building and gardens in mid- to late October.

In her will, Dr. Groner suggested persons living in the house respect her intentions to preserve the historic house and appreciate the gardens and the rest of the nature preserve. Consequently the Borough would prefer a tenant who has a demonstrable interest in one or more of the following; horticulture, gardening, nature and historic preservation.

We don't have an exact date when the property will be ready for occupancy, but we are anticipating sometime during the winter. An exact rental amount has not yet been established, but it looks like it will be approximately \$1,500. The tenant will be responsible for all utilities.

If you are interested in renting this property, please submit a letter of interest including your background/interest in the areas listed above, your name, address, phone number, email address, occupation, number of people in your household, employer information and two references. Send to: New Britain Borough - Groner Property, 45 Keeley Avenue, New Britain, PA 18901.

RECYCLE

It's the law!

**Plastics, aluminum,
glass, newspaper,
office paper**

**Contact your waste hauler for
specific details**

Fall back . . .

**Daylight savings
ends on October 29**



Move your clock back one hour
before you go to bed on the 28th.

Dispose of Leaves Properly

Waste haulers licensed in the Borough must pick up leaf and garden waste at least once a month. Allied Waste 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 in 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.

NOTE: You are not permitted to blow or rake leaves or grass clippings into the street. That practice can clog stormdrains.

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.

Save on Entertainment

The New Britain Civic Association is once again offering the Entertainment Book New for \$25. This 2007 book provides discounts on movies, restaurants, museums and more. Books are available at Clemens Market in Town Center or by calling 215-348-7083. Proceeds benefit the Covered Bridge Park in New Britain.

New Britain Borough
45 Keeley Avenue
New Britain, PA 18901

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. Postage
PAID
PERMIT #280
Pittston, PA

Visit our new website
www.newbritainboro.com

New Britain Borough Officials

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Mayor: | Robert Snavely |
| Council: | Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month in Borough Hall, 7:30 PM David Donahue, <i>President</i> ; William Macklem, <i>Vice-President</i> ; Robert Belchic, Mary Pat Holewinski; Bernie Peak; Nancy Schuyler; Kermit Weitzel; |
| Planning Commission: | Meets 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Borough Office, 7:30 PM William Buchanan, <i>President</i> ; David Holewinski, <i>Vice President</i> ; Jane Kinyon, <i>Secretary</i> ; Karl Dieterichs; Wayne Kenton; Paul Land; William Macklem; John Remy; William Schaefer |
| Zoning Hearing Board: | Meets, as needed, 3rd Thursday of the month in Borough Hall, 7:30 PM Robert Bair, <i>Chairman</i> ; Tony Coia; Peter LaMontague; John Sullivan; John Wolff, Jr.; Jeffrey Gilmore and Margaret Remy, <i>Alternates</i> . Joseph Wagner, <i>Solicitor</i> . |
| Tax Collector: | Richard Sabol 215-489-8658 (<i>Hours: Wednesday, 6 - 9 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.</i>) |
| Solicitor: | Michael Goodwin |
| | Police Chief: Donald Bowers, Office..215-345-1080 |

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

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