

New Britain Borough



NEWS

Volume 14, Number 2

September 2005

Learn about our History

*Presented by the New Britain/
Chalfont Historical Group*

Monday, October 10, 7:30 p.m.
New Britain Borough Hall
56 Keeley Avenue

Haunted Bucks County
presented by Beth Lander
includes slide presentation

Monday, November 14, 7:30 p.m.
Chalfont Borough Hall
Main Street, Chalfont

Maps and photos of early families of
New Britain and Doylestown
presented by Linda Dyke
Linda will show how the extensive
Chapman and Mercer estates were
established and who lived where.

Monday, December 12, 7:30 p.m.
New Britain Borough Hall
56 Keeley Avenue

"Fries Rebellion of 1799"
presented by Richard B. Helm

Planning underway for House Tours

The New Britain Civic Association is considering conducting tours of homes in New Britain Borough. Under consideration is a "Garden House Tour" in the summer of 2006 and a "Holiday House Tour" during the 2006 holiday season.

If you have a historic home, a lovely garden, and/or love to decorate for the holidays and would like to participate, please call Marie Esher Coia, 215-348-1043, or email mec422@voicenet.com.



Road work planned

This fall several Borough streets will be resurfaced with oil and chipping. They include:

Oak Drive (between Rt. 202 and Vine Street)

Vine Street (between Cedar and Maple lanes)

Aarons Avenue (between S.Tamanend and Landis Mill roads)

In addition, the Iroquois Road cul-de-sac will be reconstructed.




It's that time again when children enjoy dressing up and roaming the neighborhoods in search of some of their favorite candy. 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

Can you help?

The Borough needs an auditor to perform a once-a-year audit of its financial records. If you are interested, please call the Borough office, 215-348-4586.



You are invited to the New Britain Borough Holiday Open House

Thursday, December 8, 2005

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.

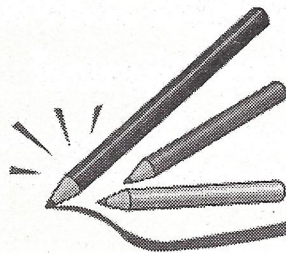
New Police Officer

Officer Lance Carlen joined the New Britain Borough Police Department as a part-time officer in April.

Officer Carlen served the Borough Police Department from 1996 to 2000, and is currently a full-time officer with Doylestown Borough. He is a certified accident reconstructionist and a member and organizer of the Bucks County Motor Carrier Safety Team, which enforces truck safety regulations. Officer Carlen is a certified DARE instructor and a dispatcher for the Bucks County Radio Room. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his wife and two sons and coaching baseball and football.

Gun Locks available

The New Britain Borough Police, in conjunction with Project Childsafe, are offering free gun locks to residents. You may pick them up Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Police headquarters, or call 215-345-1080.



School is open – Drive carefully

When driving, please be especially watchful for children walking to and from school, crossing residential roads, and standing at bus stops.

As Winter approaches...



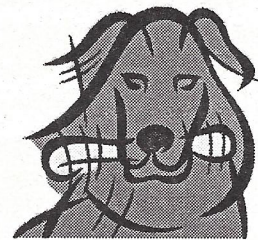
Please remember:

Clear sidewalks of ice and snow within 24 hours of a snowfall.

Make sure the **fire hydrant** near your property is cleared of snow and ice.

All vehicles must be off the street within one hour of beginning of snowfall and until the roads have been cleared.

Make sure your **mail box** is at least 6" behind the curb or edge of pavement to allow for plowing.



Have a dog?

Please be considerate

Man's best friend can bring owners lots of enjoyment and companionship. However, with dog ownership comes responsibility. Dog owners are reminded that they need to clean up after their pet in public areas and parks and on other people's properties. Also remember that your dog must be on a leash in our parks.

Summer Camp a Success

New Britain Borough's popular Summer Camp was enjoyed by 180 children this year. Looking ahead to next summer, remember that space is limited and pre-registration is required. Make plans to register early!

A view of the past . . .

Iron Hill Tavern

In 1798 Lewis Biting bought 17 acres of land on Ferry Road between what is now known as Callowhill Road and Old Iron Hill Road. Biting built the Iron Hill Tavern and operated it for twenty years. In 1824 Sheriff Stephen Brock sold the tavern and land to Samuel McCordle of New York. The tavern was again sold in 1829, 1832 and 1840.

The tavern had a large assembly room or hall in which occasional balls were held. Such events became the fashion and drew many guests who arrived on horseback or in coaches with finery in saddle-bags or in small leather trunks stored on the coach tops. An imposing balcony and staircase opening directly into the ball room gave a vantage point from which to watch the dancers.

In those days Ferry Road, so named because it led to an important ferry crossing on the Delaware River, was a main artery of travel, so a portion of the tavern served as a general store. The tavern also served for a time as a voting place.

On cleared and slopping land across the road from the tavern was the drill ground of Captain Gray's company and militia. After their drills they would relax at the tavern. Those Continentals trained so well that they distinguished themselves during the Battle of Germantown and became known as "Gray's Invincibles".

In 1845 the license ceased to be granted. The tavern building no longer exists.

Fall back . . .

Daylight savings ends on October 30



Move your clock back one hour before you go to bed on the 29th.

Sidewalk repairs to begin

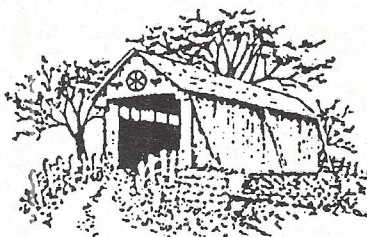
A number of sidewalks in the Borough have been identified as in need of repair. The responsible property owners have been notified that these repairs should be completed this fall. If you have a question, please call the Borough office, 215-348-4586.

Begin the Holidays at our Christmas Tree Lighting

Wednesday, December 7, 7 p.m.
Town Center
(rain date December 8)

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!



Entertainment Books offered

The New Britain Civic Association is pleased to offer 2006 Entertainment Books for only \$25.00. The books offer money-savings coupons for restaurants, movies, golf, shopping, and other entertainment outlets. Books are available at Clemens Market, Town Center, or by calling 215-345-7083. Proceeds benefit the Covered Bridge Park in New Britain.

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.

New Britain Borough
45 Keeley Avenue
New Britain, PA 18901

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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, <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 Remmey; 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 Shute, <i>Alternates</i> . Joseph Wagner, <i>Solicitor</i> .
Tax Collector:	Ann Teschner, 215-348-1638 (Tues. 11 a.m.-7 p.m.)
Solicitor:	Michael Goodwin
	Police Chief: David Sempowski, Office..215-345-1080

The following Borough personnel are located at the Borough Building, 45 Keeley Avenue.
Phone 215-348-4586.; email: NBBORO@comcast.net. 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