

New Britain Borough



NEWS

Volume 1, Number 1

Summer 1992



Come to the Parade!

The big event -- the 4th of July Parade, will begin at Town Center at 9 AM and travel south on Route 202, then north on Route 152 in Chalfont. It will then turn right on Park Avenue and march toward New Britain Township park. Come join the festivities.



New Drainage Pipes on North Shady Retreat Road

In late March and early April the Borough installed new sub-surface drainage on North Shady Retreat Road near Cook's Run, just beyond the first curve off Route 202. A total of 831 feet of 6" perforated polyethylene pipe was placed in a stone trench on each side of the roadway. An extension to the existing 24" concrete pipe under the roadway was also included. Soil erosion between the roadway and creek had occurred in this vicinity over a period of time. This corrective work should eliminate any further stormwater problem at this location.

New Trash/Recycling Ordinance

Effective June 1, a new ordinance governing collection of trash and recyclables will take effect in New Britain Borough. It was enacted because our present recycling program has been too limited in its effect and too costly for the county and local municipalities to continue underwriting.

Under the new ordinance trash haulers serving New Britain Borough residents will be licensed by the Borough. Residents will be able to select any licensed hauler who must offer, at a minimum, the following services:

1. Recycling



✓ Pickup of at least five classes of recyclables:

- clear and colored glass;
- aluminum;
- steel and bimetallic cans;
- #1 and #2 plastics (number now appears in a recycling logo on each plastic item);
- newspapers

✓ One or two days a week pickup

✓ Offer recycling pickup to residents whose regular trash they do not pick up.

While not required, it is likely that residents will be able to "comingle" their recyclables rather than sorting them into separate containers.

2. Leaf Waste

Once a month pick up of leaf waste which includes leaves, shrubbery and tree trimmings, and garden residues, Leaf waste does NOT include grass clippings which may be disposed of with your regular trash.



3. Large item pickup

Service to be provided on an as-needed basis.

4. Flat fee or "per bag"

All residents will be offered the option of paying a flat fee for trash pickup or paying "per bag." Residents who choose to buy bags will have both environmental and economic incentives to recycle, compost, and purchase thoughtfully with an eye to reducing the number of bags they use.

In order to monitor the flow of trash and recyclables and conform to state law, haulers will be required to submit semi-annual reports on the volume of trash picked up, disposal sites, and related information.

The Borough will make available information about services offered by licensed haulers to the local newspapers. Haulers will also be asked to prepare information sheets for distribution at the Borough Office so that residents can compare their services and fees.

Police Survey

Dear Residents:

During my time as Chief of Police, I have tried to let it be known that my door is always open for residents who have questions and comments regarding our department. I will again extend an invitation to anyone who wishes to speak to me on any police matters. You may call me at 345-1080 or stop by the Police Station at 56 Keeley Avenue to speak with me or any one of the Officers who are on call, as we have 24-hour service.

For those of you who are unable to meet with me but have information you would like to share, we are including a short questionnaire with this newsletter. I would appreciate your comments -- both positive and negative. We like to know when we do well, and we cannot correct situations that we don't know about. So please take a few minutes to answer the questions. You may mail it or drop it off at the above address. We want to serve you well.

Thank you,

Chief David R. Sempowski

New Britain Borough Police Survey

1. Do you receive prompt service? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Are the Officers courteous and professional? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Have you been satisfied with the service you have received?
☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Are the needs of the community being met? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Suggestions: _____

Comments: _____

Questions: _____

Optional - Name and Address: _____

Police Notes

Renovations Complete

The Police Department has just completed renovations of the first floor of the Old Borough Library. We are sure that these changes will better suit the needs of our Police and the community they serve. You are invited to stop in for a visit.

Town Watch

Police Chief Sempowski would like to hear from residents who are interested in forming a town watch program in the various neighborhoods of the Borough. Call 345-1080.

Alert

There has been a recent increase in thefts from unlocked vehicles not only in our community but also in surrounding areas. Please take the time to lock your car doors.

Remember . . .

9-1-1 emergency phone service is now available throughout Bucks County.

Summer Vacations

Please let your police know when you will be away so they can watch your house.

Also, remember to always wear your seatbelt, even on short trips -- most accidents happen within 5 minutes of your home. And don't forget to buckle up your children!



Police Chief Receives Award

We wish to congratulate Chief Sempowski for being honored by the Bucks County Drug and Alcohol Commission with the Prevention Educator award in the Law Enforcement category.

"Chief Dave" Sempowski has recently presented a second set of D.A.R.E. classes which he conducted at the Pine Run Elementary School. D.A.R.E., Drug Abuse Resistance Education, is a 16-week program that not only teaches the 6th graders about the dangers of drug abuse, but gives them life learning skills as well.

In addition, the Chief presented a course entitled "Beginning Alcohol and Addiction Basic Education Starters" (BABES). This seven-week program is geared toward pre-schoolers to third grade. It uses puppets to teach the youngsters about the dangers of drugs, good touch - bad touch, and life skills. It has been found that the earlier our youth are taught about these issues, the better prepared they will be to make important life decisions.

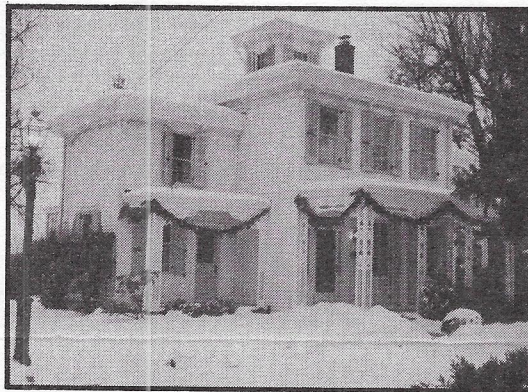
Chief Sempowski's concern for the problem of under-age drinking has lead to the implementation of a prevention program on the campus of Delaware Valley College, in cooperation with campus police.

The Chief is always available to speak to community groups on a variety of topics including drug abuse and crime prevention. Contact him at 345-1080.

Take Pride in our History

The **James D. Scott Villa**, located at 50 West Butler Avenue in New Britain Borough, is named after the builder of the home who was a prominent map maker in Bucks County. The house dates to 1856 and was recently placed on the Bucks County Conservancy Historic Properties registry primarily because it is an excellent example of Italianate architecture.

The house is a three bay, two story stone filled frame structure with two wings. The interior walls consist of plaster, horsehair, and lathe. Its first-floor ceilings are capped with plaster crown mouldings. There are "walk through" windows in the dining room and library, and full-length windows on both elevations. It has a belvedere or "widow's walk" adorning the roof. Ornate gingerbread livens up each of the four separate porches. Behind the house are the stone remains of a large bank barn. The current owners have constructed a studio on a portion of the stone foundations.



Originally this was a tract of eleven acres until 1855 when portions of acreage were sold off. Presently the lot is about 1 1/4 acres.

Residents besides James D. Scott and family included Joseph and Martha Mathews, William Hawkins (who kept the store nearby) and former Mayor, Charles Moberg, with wife Evelyn and family. The current residents are Kevin and Diane Amadio (with Grace).

Ordinance Review

Grass & Weed Ordinance

This ordinance states that grass and weeds must be cut or trimmed so that they do not exceed 8" in height. This ordinance was passed not only to keep the community aesthetically pleasing but for health reasons which are jeopardized by overgrowth.

Pet Owners

There is a Borough Ordinance that requires an animal owner to be responsible for their animal not becoming a private or public nuisance. If you own an animal please be considerate of public property and your neighbors.

Summer Recreation Program at Covered Bridge Park

The Borough of New Britain will once again sponsor a five-week children's summer recreation program at the Covered Bridge Park. The program will run each day, Monday to Friday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There will be a supervised daily program that includes arts, crafts, sports, and special events for all age groups. Children from day-care or babysitting groups are not eligible to attend.

The charge will be \$40.00 for the first child and \$35.00 for each additional child in the family, which covers the entire five weeks. In addition, each family must pay \$5.00 as a membership fee to the New Britain Civic Association and will receive an official membership card.

Registration will be on the first day of camp, Monday, June 22, 9 AM, at the park. A large turnout is expected and a fun-filled camp is anticipated, so don't hesitate to sign up.

Tax Reminder

Ann M. Teschner, Borough Tax Collector, would like to remind any homeowner escrowing their taxes with a mortgage company to immediately forward their tax bill to them for prompt payment. All tax bills are sent to the property owner only. This is done in light of the frequent selling of mortgages. Some Savings and Loan institutions have transferred mortgages up to four times a year.

In some cases tax bills sent to the financial institutions never got paid because the homeowner was never sent the bill.

First time homeowners unfamiliar with the tax structure are encouraged to contact Mrs. Teschner near the time that a bill is due to ensure that their mortgage company has sent a remittance. Office hours are on Tuesday, noon to 8 PM.

New Britain Borough Officials

Council: David Donahue, President; Robert Belchic, Vice-President; Tara Gladysz; Don Noll; Nancy Schuyler; Kermit Weitzel; James Williams

Mayor: Robert Snavelly

Planning Commission: William Buchanan, President; Jan Conover, Vice President; Allan Scheckler, Secretary; Robert Leavy; Paul Land; Bill Macklem; Dave Donahue

Zoning Hearing Board: Warren Nace, Chairman; Joe Johnson; James Davis; Robert Bair; Karl Dieterichs; Tony Coia; Joseph Wagner, Solicitor; Susan Eggleston, Secretary

Tax Collector: Ann Teschner 348-1638 **Solicitor:** George M. Bush

EMERGENCIES: CALL 911

Police Chief David Sempowski (other than emergencies) 345-1080

The following Borough personnel are located at the new Borough Building at 45 Keeley Avenue. Phone 348-4586. The office is open Monday through Friday, from 9am to 12 noon.

Borough Manager/Zoning Officer: John K. Wolff
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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