

New Britain Borough



NEWS

Volume 20, Number 1

April 2011

New Britain Borough Historic Preservation Committee presents

Forest Park

Monday, May 23

7 to 8:30 p.m.

New Britain Baptist Church
Fellowship Hall



From "Chalfont & New Britain" by
Robert L. Showalter, 2010

Some of you already know the significance of the names of two communities along Butler Avenue: Forest Park and Carousel Pointe. Beginning with a dining and dancing pavilion in 1885, Forest Park grew to accommodate 10,000 people in the picnic grove and included amusement rides and a swimming pool.

Please join our presenters Robert L. Showalter and John Malack, along with the members of the Borough Historic Preservation Committee, for an interactive program that will bring Forest Park alive again in the minds of those young and old and everywhere in between.

Protect our Streams

Managing our own yards and disposing of yard waste responsibly is the first step in protecting our streams. After the long snowy winter, it's time for some yard work. Let's do our best to protect our streams this summer by considering the following:

1. Dispose of leaves, grass clippings, and yard waste properly (outside of flood and waterways where they can be washed downstream causing pollution and possibly blocking pipes, inlets and restrictions in streams). If you notice an inlet clogged, either call the Borough or clear the grate and dispose of the debris properly.
2. Direct your mower discharge back onto your yards, not into the streets where it is quickly washed into streams.
3. Minimize lawn fertilizer use as this is one of the largest contributors to stream pollution. Remember, the less you fertilize the less you have to cut the grass. It's best to only spot fertilize where necessary, this will save money also.
4. Pool owners are required to discharge water responsibly as per Borough and PADEP rules and regulations. The Clean Stream Law prohibits the discharge of chemically contaminated water into streams or storm sewers. Contaminated pool water quickly makes its way to streams where aquatic life is damaged or killed.
5. Dispose of hazardous materials properly at hazardous waste drop offs, before the containers begin to leak, no one wants to be responsible for a toxic spill clean-up. Be sure to store any hazardous materials (paint, oil, anti-freeze, etc.) in safe places outside of the floodplain. Unexpected stream high water levels and stormwater pick up pollutants and cause catastrophic pollution issues. Additional stormwater information is available at: <http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/npdsms4/ms4cd/Education/RainDrainBrochure.pdf>.
6. Rain barrels are a great way to conserve water and save on your water bill during the dry summer months ahead. Simply place a 55 gallon drum under one or more of your downspouts with a valve and a hose bib at the bottom, then use to water your garden/yard. The rain barrels act as little detention basins that help decrease stream flooding.
7. If you notice illegal dumping or drainage activities, please report it immediately to New Britain Borough at 215-348-4586.

Earned Income Tax

Earned income tax recording will no longer be administered by Berkheimer. The new tax collector is

Keystone Collections Group
546 Wendel Rd., Irwin, PA 15642
Phone: 724-978-0300

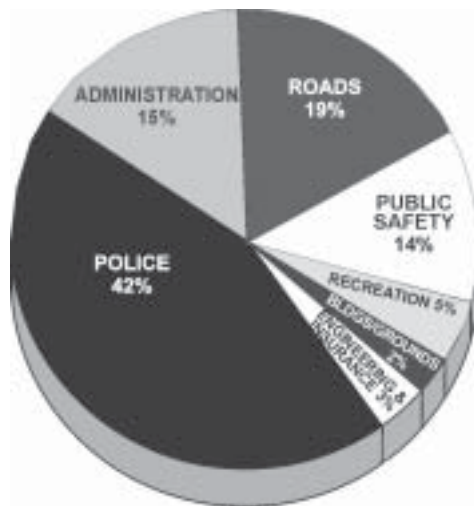
2011 Borough Budget

Borough Council has passed a balanced budget that requires no tax increase. The pie charts below provide an overview of the Borough's projected income and expenses.

INCOME



EXPENSES



New FEMA Flood Plain Mapping

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) has developed revised DFIRMs (Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps). These maps are currently available for inspection at the New Britain Borough Administration Building (along with the current maps for comparison). The maps have been updated to be more accurate, and it should be noted that several flood plain boundaries have shifted. The new maps may require you to purchase flood insurance or to modify your current policy. The Borough has reviewed the maps and is currently in the process of adopting the new maps (as required). Resident corrections or comments are required as soon as possible.

For additional information, please refer to the New Britain Borough's website: <http://www.newbritainboro.com>.

Covered Bridge Repair

The New Britain covered bridge will be closed for about 60 days this spring while the County replaces the wooden running boards and hardware.

Safely dispose of household hazardous waste & old computers

Household products containing toxic chemicals, like pesticides, oil-based paints, solvents, cleaning products, weed killers and automotive batteries can be a threat to people and the environment if improperly discarded. Never throw these materials into the trash, as the toxic chemicals may harm sanitation workers, or result in fires in collection vehicles. It is also not safe to pour them into a sink or storm drain as they can end up polluting the environment.

Bucks County's Hazardous Waste Collection program provides an opportunity for residents to safely dispose of household hazardous waste.

There are six drop off locations; the three closest to the Borough are:

June 18, 2011, Upper Bucks County Area Vo-Tech School,
3115 Ridge Road – Bedminster

July 23, 2011, CB South High School, 1100 Folly Road, Warrington

August 6, 2011, Quakertown Community High School,
600 Park Avenue, Quakertown

What can you bring?

As many as three old computers and up to 25 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous products. Hazardous products will have cautionary words on the label; for example: Danger, Warning, or Caution. Other words that can signal hazardous products include: poisonous, hazardous, combustible, flammable, corrosive, volatile, caustic, irritant, explosive, toxic, use with adequate ventilation, or avoid inhaling.

Common household items being collected include **caustics** such as oven cleaner and ammonia-based cleaners; **batteries** including rechargeable and button type as well as automotive; **pesticides**; **toxics** such as weed killer, pool and photographic chemicals, rust remover and wood preservatives; **flammables** such as oil-based paints, varnishes, gasoline. **DO NOT BRING** latex paint, appliances, asbestos, explosives or tires.

For additional information on disposal options, contact the Bucks County Planning Commission at 215-345-3400 or visit buckscounty.org.

Summer Camp

June 20 to August 5, 2011 (7 weeks)

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays (fair weather only)

An exciting array of supervised programs are planned at this year's summer camp including arts and crafts, sports and special event days.

Ages: Children ages six through 12.

Location: Covered Bridge Community Park, Keeley Avenue

Pre-registration is required at New Britain Borough Administration Building, 45 Keeley Avenue. **No on-site registration.**

Registration forms are available at the Borough office or on the Borough website: www.newbritainboro.com.

Fee for 7-week program:

Residents - \$220 for the first child and \$215 for each additional child in the family.

Non-residents - \$270 for the first child and \$265 for each additional child in the family.



Plan now for the Annual Independence Day Parade

The annual parade will be held on **Monday, July 4th**, beginning at 9:30 a.m. It will start at Town Center on Route 202 and end at 207 Park Avenue. This tri-municipal parade is hosted by New Britain Township, New Britain Borough and Chalfont Borough.

Be part of the fun!

Floats from neighborhoods, organizations and businesses are welcome. Floats will be judged for Most Patriotic, Most Original and Most Humorous. Also needed are marching bands, Scout Troops, dancers, etc. Prizes are awarded and complimentary refreshments provided to participants.

The parade will also feature antique cars, and fire trucks. You're invited to decorate your bikes and baby strollers in a patriotic theme and join the fun.

Local businesses are encouraged to get involved with this family-oriented community event. Please consider becoming a sponsor. Call the New Britain Township office, 215-822-1391.

Police Notes

T.E.A.M.

The NBBPD has kicked off its fifth year of T.E.A.M. for six graders at Pine Run Elementary School. The TEAM project, led by Officer Ed Kraft and Officer Dave Interrante, is a pro-active effort to make schools and communities safer. The lessons focus on safety, drug/alcohol/tobacco use, violence and traffic safety. Students learn to take responsibility for their individual actions while working together as a TEAM to pursue solutions to problems facing their schools and community.

Police Merger

NBBPD is continuing participation to merge police departments in New Britain Borough, Doylestown Borough, Doylestown Township and Warwick Township. All four police unions are in support of the merger.

Identify Theft

It is especially important to take preventative measures. The first step is to photocopy all of the information in your wallet, both fronts and backs. If you lose your credit card, report it to the financing institution immediately. The second step is to request credit reports from each of the three major companies. By federal law, a person can request a free report once a year from Equifax, Experian and TransUnion. Review your credit report and look for any unauthorized activity. Other precautions include keeping important information in a safe, updating computer virus protection software, using secure Internet browsers, being cautious when responding to promotional offers, picking up new checks from the bank instead of ordering them through the mail, and deleting all personal information before disposing of a computer. Victims should file a report with the police to document the theft.

Solicitors

NBBPD enforces its Solicitation Ordinance. If a salesperson comes to your door, ask to see their Solicitation Permit issued by NBBPD. If they are unable to produce one, please contact us at 215-345-1080.

Skateboard Ordinance

Skateboarding in parking lots and on Borough streets is prohibited. Please encourage your youngsters to adhere to this ordinance. Citations can be issued for violations, and fines of up to \$300 can be levied.

Vacation House Checks

Before going away on vacation, call the NBBPD at 215-345-1080 and request a vacation house check while you are away. An officer will check the exterior of your home at various times during your absence.

Planning for Trails

The Feasibility Study for the *Destination Peace Valley Trail* is available for viewing at the Borough Hall. Also available is the Tri-Municipal Master Plan for trails.

New Britain Borough
45 Keeley Avenue
New Britain, PA 18901

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New Britain Borough Officials

Mayor: David Holewinski

Council: **Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month in Borough Hall, 7:30 p.m.**
David Donahue, *President*; Robert Belchic, *Vice-President*; Mary Pat Holewinski; Peter LaMontagne;
Margaret Remmey; Craig Sturza; Kermit Weitzel

Planning Commission: **Meets 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Borough Office, 7:30 p.m.**
David Holewinski, *Chairman*; Karl Dieterichs, *Vice Chair*; Denise Spence, *Secretary*;
Jack Brady; David Donahue; Rick Eggleston; Paul Land; John Remmey

Zoning Hearing Board: **Meets, as needed, 3rd Thursday of the month in Borough Hall, 7:30 p.m.**
Robert Bair, *Chairman*; Tony Coia; John Wolff, Jr.; David Ziegfried; Jeffrey Gilmore
Alternates: William Schaefer and Andrea Antell. *Solicitor,* Joseph Wagner

Tax Collector: Richard Sabol, 215-489-8658 (*Hours: Wednesday, 6 - 9 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.*)

Solicitor: Michael Goodwin

Police Chief: James Donnelly, 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

Zoning Officer: Thomas Yatsky

Building Inspector and Fire Marshal: Dan Jenkins, Keystone Municipal Service

Assistant Austin C. Brown

EMERGENCIES: DIAL 911