

New Britain Borough



NEWS

Volume 18, Number 2

October 2009

The New Britain Borough Historic Preservation Committee presents two Fall programs

Researching Historic Homes

**Monday, November 2, 7:30 PM
Borough Hall**

Jeffrey L. Marshall, VP of Resource Protection for Heritage Conservancy, will present a workshop; "Researching Our Historic Homes." Jeff is an acclaimed and popular speaker and his workshop will provide practical advice and tips for researching the history of your house. You will not want to miss this opportunity whether you live in a vintage home or have an interest in helping the Committee to research historic properties in New Britain Borough. Samples of research already completed on Borough homes will be on display and available for your perusal.

Where We've Been and Where We're Going

**Monday, November 30, 7:30 PM
New Britain Baptist Church**

Members of the New Britain Borough Historic Preservation Committee will share with the community our work to date and invite you to participate in a dialogue that will help shape the future role and opportunities of the Committee. You don't have to live in a historic house to appreciate the need to protect and preserve historic properties, artifacts and history in the Borough. Come out and meet your neighbors. Artifacts, pictures and documentation will be on display.

Light refreshments will be provided on both evenings.

Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve

The Nature Preserve is interested in donations of trees and plants for the house and meadow on Landis Mill Road. The deer ate the younger azaleas and other trees and shrubs, so if you have some fair sized plants and trees, we may be interested in them. If they are too big for our volunteers, we can arrange to have them moved professionally.

On a slightly different matter, we are planning to place several benches in the nature preserve. You may have seen the heavy duty memorial benches in Doylestown, with a brass plate dedicating it to significant events or loved ones. They are bolted to poured concrete pads to raise them above the ground and ensure stability.

While more expensive than ordinary benches, they look exceptionally well, and being of commercial grade, last much longer than the wooden ones. If you are interested in sponsoring one, please call the Borough office for details.



A True American Hero
1st Lt. Travis E. Manion, USMC
November 19, 1980 - April 29, 2003
1st Recon Bn, 1st Mar Div - Operation Iraqi Freedom
Warrior, Spartan, "Leader of Marines"
Loved his family, friends, God, and country

News from the New Britain Borough Police Department

“Are You OK?” – The New Britain Borough Police Department, as a community oriented organization, is pleased to announce a FREE public service to the residents of New Britain Borough. “Are You OK” is a telephone reassurance program for seniors or others who may need contacting on a regular basis due to health or mobility concerns. To participate in the program, please stop by the Police Department for enrollment forms or visit our website at nbbpd.org to download the forms. If you have any questions about the program, feel free to call us at 215-345-1080.

School’s Open: Pine Run Elementary School is monitored by police during the opening and closing of school each day. Please be cautious and adhere to the 15mph speed limit in order to keep our children safe.

Halloween Safety – Halloween is a lot of fun for the entire family; however, some precautions should be taken to ensure a happy and safe day of festivities.

- 🎃 Teach children to stop only at well-lit houses and to never enter a stranger’s home.
- 🎃 Instruct children not to eat any treat until they return home and treats are inspected.
- 🎃 Provide a flashlight to help children see better and be seen more clearly.
- 🎃 Only fire-retardant materials in costumes should be used.
- 🎃 Costumes and treat bags should have some reflective qualities to be seen by motorists.
- 🎃 Costume length should not be so long that it is a tripping hazard.
- 🎃 Accessories such as swords or knives should be made from cardboard or flexible materials and made so as not to resemble a real weapon.

Contact Us: Visit the Police Department's website often for updates, upcoming events, useful phone numbers and links. We welcome your feedback, suggestions and comments.

**Keep up to date —Visit
the Borough website
www.newbritainboro.com**



Bike and Hike Committee News

The Bike and Hike plan is now posted on the Borough’s website (www.newbritainboro.com). The committee is looking for public comments, questions, and suggestion prior to Council voting on the plan. The plan is the result of Council sponsoring a group of residents who wished to connect the Borough to the trails built or proposed by Doylestown and New Britain Township. We are looking for grant money to build the first leg, connecting Bristol Road/Rt. 202 to the Doylestown trail at the other end of the Borough. We are also looking for volunteers to help push the program towards implementation. Contact the Borough at 215-348-4586, nbboro@comcast.net, for more information.

Walk to School Day

Pine Run Elementary School students are invited to take part in the International Walk to School Day on Wednesday, October 7. The International Walk to School program gives children, parents, school teachers and community leaders an opportunity to be part of a global event to celebrate the many benefits of walking.

Students who wish to participate in the Walk are asked to meet at one of the locations and times listed below. Students will be accompanied and supervised by adult volunteers including police officers and elected officials. Times are set to allow students to arrive at the school between 8:20 and 8:30 a.m.

Chestnut Street Park - 7:45 a.m.

Distance to walk: 1.5 miles

Group Leaders: Chalfont Borough Mayor Marilyn Becker, Council- member Eileen McDonald, and Police Chief Frank Campbell.

New Britain Township Building - 8 a.m.

Distance to walk: 1 mile

Group Leaders: New Britain Township Supervisor Helen Haun and Police Chief Robert Scafidi

Sioux Road and Tamenend Avenue: 8:10 a.m.

Distance to walk: 1/2 mile

Group Leaders: New Britain Borough Mayor Dave Holewinski, Police Chief Don Bowers and Pine Run Elementary School nurse Val Wendell-Wesolowich

Police officers will be actively patrolling the walk routes and assisting with street crossings. Residents and businesses located along the routes have been notified of the event, and many will have “Walk to School” signs posted in their yards.

Please note that this event is only to walk TO school. Students will take their regular means of transportation to go home at the end of the day. Pine Run students will receive a flyer with additional information and a map. If you’re interested in volunteering for this event, please call New Britain Borough manager Robin Trymbiski at 215-348-4586.



New Britain Borough Holiday Open House

Thursday, December 3

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Borough Office
45 Keeley Avenue

Council and staff of New Britain Borough invites all residents and local business owners to our annual Holiday Open House. Share the holiday spirit with your neighbors and meet informally with Borough officials. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Leaf Burning Regulations

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 fire 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.) is required.
- ✓ No fires are permitted after sunset.



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

This Winter...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.

Protect our Water Quality

It's fall already and a time to keep in mind our streams and water quality.

Please 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.

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.

You can protect our streams. Stormwater picks up debris and pollutants as it travels toward streams. Limiting use of herbicides and fertilizers, and disposing of hazardous materials properly to hazardous waste drop offs, protects our streams. Store any hazardous materials (paint, oil, anti-freeze, etc.) in safe places, and dispose of old materials properly. Additional stormwater information is available at:

www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/npdms4/ms4cd/Education/RainDrainBrochure.pdf

If you notice illegal dumping or drainage activities, please report it immediately to New Britain Borough, 215-348-4586.

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

Mark Hintenlang, New Britain Borough Engineer

Needed: Old photos of New Britain

Do you have any old photos of people and places in the New Britain/Chalfont area? We are looking for historic photos to be included in a new publication that will cover all three municipalities.

Arcadia Publishing has published a series of books entitled *Images of America*, and have already published books on neighboring communities including Plumstead, New Hope, Doylestown, Warrington and Tincum. They plan to publish a book on New Britain Borough and Township and Chalfont Borough in the fall of 2010. You may have seen these in bookstores. Bob Showalter will be the organizer/author of this book. A substantial number of photos will come out of his own collection, but he would like to find new and unpublished pictures. Bob can be reached at R.L. Showalter and Assoc., Butler Mill House, 116 East Butler Ave., Chalfont, PA 18914, 215-822-2990.

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, <i>President</i> ; Robert Belchic, <i>Vice-President</i> ; 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, <i>Chairman</i> ; Karl Dieterichs, <i>Vice Chair</i> ; Jane Kinyon, <i>Secretary</i> ; 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, <i>Chairman</i> ; Tony Coia; John Wolff, Jr.; David Ziegfried; Jeffrey Gilmore <i>Alternates</i> : William Schaefer and Andrea Antell. <i>Solicitor</i> , Joseph Wagner
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
Fire Marshal: Austin C. Brown
Zoning Officer: Thomas Yatsky
Building Inspector: Dan Jenkins, Keystone Municipal Service

Borough Engineer Mark Hintenlang
Roads Superintendent: Edward Deschamps
Borough Secretary: Jane Kinyon

EMERGENCIES: DIAL 911