

The **Borough Broadcaster**

Winter Newsletter

Malvern, PA

January 2012

News from Borough Council

At the Reorganizational Meeting of Borough Council on January 3rd, The Hon. Chester F. Darlington conducted the swearing-in ceremony of the newly elected member of Council, Joe Giandonato, and the re-elected members Cathy Raymond, Dick Sponenbergh and Woody Van Sciver. Council voted, once again, to elect Woody Van Sciver to the position of President of Council and Catherine Raymond to the position of Vice-President. Congratulations to all!!

At the Regular Meeting of Council held on December 20th, Council adopted the 2012 Budget with no increase in taxes or sewer rates.

Capital projects include streetscape improvements on Powelton Avenue and traffic calming on King Street at Powelton Avenue. In addition, the Borough was awarded a Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) grant from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) for a Transit-Oriented Development study around the Malvern Train Station. We were very fortunate to obtain this grant as the grant process was very competitive. The DVRPC received 41 applications from communities in Pennsylvania but only 24 were selected for funding. We would be remiss if we didn't acknowledge the invaluable assistance of the Chester County Planning Commission in obtaining this grant award.

We are still working with the Chester County Planning Commission to complete the update of our Comprehensive Plan. It has been a long, painful process but we are sure the end is near. Once the Task Force receives the Final Draft, a copy will be posted to our website at www.malvern.org and public hearings will be scheduled.

Believe it or not, after a long construction phase, the SEPTA pedestrian tunnel and stairs are now open! There are still some punch list items to complete and the parking lot on the north side has not yet been completed. If you've been down to the station recently, you'll find that it's been well worth the wait! It looks fantastic!!

A Fond Farewell to Council Member Sean Lynch

After twelve years of service to his community, Sean Lynch did not return to Council in 2012. Sean served on all Committees during his tenure on Council and provided a valuable service to the community with his "institutional memory". Sean brought his own area of expertise to the table and we will surely miss his input. We wish him well and know that he will enjoy his two extra "work-free" Tuesday nights each month! Thanks, Sean, for all you've done for the residents of Malvern!!

In the Event of a Heavy Snowfall, Public Works Reminds You...

If you want the street cleared in front of your property during a heavy snowfall, please be sure to park your vehicles in your driveway. If cars are parked on the street, the plows are unable to clear the roadway. Parking in driveways is especially critical on the snow emergency routes. For your safety and the safety of your neighbors, in order to clear the streets, cars must be removed from the street and parked in driveways. You must allow room for emergency vehicles to get through. After all, they might be coming to you.....

Once Again, a BIG Thank You to the Little Garden Club of Malvern

For the holiday season, the ladies of the Little Garden Club of Malvern once again planted the flower pots outside the Borough Hall entrance with beautiful greens. The festive look of the plants added their own holiday cheer for those who visited the building. Thank you, ladies, for all your hard work and for adding "cheer" to our entranceway.

Sidewalk Responsibilities - Reminder

When snow arrives and there is an accumulation of greater than one-half inch, the snow and/or ice must be removed from public sidewalks within twenty-four hours "after significant precipitation" stops. The sidewalk pathways must be a minimum of three feet wide and be maintained for safe travel.

Snow removal is labor intensive and should be removed in several steps or stages with plenty of rest breaks. Better to be safe.....than sorry!

The Public Works Department asks that you NOT throw snow into the streets when you are shoveling or snow blowing your sidewalks and driveways. Throw the snow into your yards. When snow is thrown into the streets, when the plows come by again, they will only plow the snow back onto your sidewalk. They can't help it. The snow must be removed from the roadways. You might consider shoveling AFTER the plows have come down your road and the roadway is fairly clean from curb to curb. This will considerably decrease the chance of more snow being plowed back onto your sidewalks or driveways.

Vacancies

Vacancies currently exist on the following Boards and Commissions:

Planning Commission

Historical Commission

Civil Service Commission

Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund

The Planning Commission meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of each month. This is a seven-member Commission with four-year terms. The Planning Commission is active and welcomes your participation if you have an interest in planning for your community and are available to attend the monthly meetings.

The Historical Commission meets at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month. This is a seven-member Commission with five-year terms. The Historical Commission records the history of Malvern Borough and its significant architectural, historic and natural sites. If you have an interest in history, this Commission may be for you.

The Civil Service Commission is a three-member Board with six-year terms. The Commission hears appeals pertaining to suspension, dismissal or reduction in rank of any police officer; conduct all hearings demanded by any police officer who has been suspended, dismissed or reduced in rank and issues decisions pertaining to all hearings. A basic training course is required.

The Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund is charged with educating the public about the atrocities that occurred on these grounds during the Revolutionary War and the significance of the battle that occurred at the Paoli Battlefield grounds. The Fund meets from 5:30-7:30 on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. If you have an interest in local history, this is the volunteer position for you.

If you are interested in serving on any of the above Committees, or wish to know more about one of the committees, please call 610-644-2602, send a letter of interest with some background information to Sandra Kelley, Borough Manager, Borough of Malvern, 1 E. First Avenue, Suite 3, Malvern, PA 19355 or e-mail to malvern@malvern.org.

We'd like to hear from you.....

****Change of Address****

As a result of recent changes made by the U. S. Postal System, the Borough has decided to relinquish our Post Office Box and have mail delivered directly to our building. Therefore, our mailing address will change to **Borough of Malvern, 1 E. First Ave., Suite 3, Malvern, PA 19355**. Be sure to change the address with any on-line banking services that you might have! Thank you!

******SEWER BILLS ARE ENCLOSED AND WILL BECOME PAST DUE ON FEBRUARY 21ST!!****
PAY ON TIME TO AVOID THE PENALTY!**

MALVERN PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

What's 175 pounds, likes biscuits and loves to listen to stories? BRUNO! Malvern's Tail Waggin' Tutor. Bruno is an 8 year old Great Dane who has been certified by Therapy Dogs International to participate in the Tail Waggin' Tutor program. He will listen to children practice their reading skills. He offers a relaxed and "dog friendly" atmosphere for readers. He will be available for reading sessions on Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoons. Call the library to sign up (610-644-7259) and get to know our newest staff member!

Check out our Book Club selection (www.malvernpubliclibrary.org) for the coming months. The Book Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 10 am. No registration is required...just an interest in the book being discussed.

We will be conducting our annual Phonathon in late March. This is our major fundraiser for the Library and we are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help make the phone calls or write the follow up notes. Call the Library (610-644-7259) for more information.

Speaking of Dogs.....

Several citizens have expressed concerns about dogs running loose, especially in borough-owned parks and in areas where children play. Not all children have become familiar with dogs and may become frightened and startled when confronted by a dog. Borough Ordinance 2002-9 requires that owners accompany their dogs in public and that the dog be kept on a leash. Residents who have complaints in reference to dogs running at large should contact the Police Department (610-647-1440) with the location, description of the owner and dog and any vehicle information, especially a license plate number. The Police Department will then contact the dog owner and advise them of the ordinance. Ordinance 2002-9, Section 5-4006, requires all dog owners to clean up after their pets. The purpose of this ordinance is to protect the dog as well as the public. Your cooperation is appreciated!!

Recycling..

Who said that recycling doesn't pay? Just so you don't think it isn't worth your time and effort, think about this.....in 2011 we received a recycling grant in the amount of \$23,387!! AND, it was all because you spent that extra minute and effort tossing that can, newspaper, or bottle into the recycling bin instead of the trash can. In addition, we are now receiving an additional (though small) amount of money from the recycler from recyclables that they sell. So keep up the good work! Remember....we have single stream recycling so ALL recycling material can be placed in the same recycling container. If you don't remember what is or is not recyclable, check out our website at www.malvern.org and click on Trash and Recycling. There is lots of information available!

Recycling pays!!

The Police Chief Advises..

There are approximately 1,500 accidental firearms related deaths each year in the U.S. Many of these could be prevented by practicing proper gun safety. If you own a firearm, the most important thing you can do to protect your family is to make sure that your firearm is properly secured. There are several ways of securing your firearms including firearm safes and lockable cabinets, as well as, gun locks.

Project Childsafe is an organization that provides gun locks free of charge. You can obtain a free gun lock at the Malvern Borough Police station. These locks are designed to prevent the firearm from being discharged accidentally. Even with a gun lock, you should guard against potential tampering or theft of your firearm by securing it in a gun safe or locked cabinet. Most firearms used in the commission of crimes ended up on the street after being stolen from someone's home.

If you enjoy hunting or target shooting, we recommend taking a gun safety class. Many public firing ranges hold classes to teach you how to handle your firearm safely.