

# The Borough Broadcaster



**Malvern Borough**

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## News from Borough Council

Malvern Borough continues to work to address the on-going situation created by the COVID-19/Coronavirus outbreak. The Borough took measures to help control the likelihood of the spread of this illness and sought guidance from outside organizations, specifically the Chester County Health Department and the Chester County Department of Emergency Services. Some of the measures the Borough took include closing Borough Hall to the public, closing the Borough's park and recreation areas, and cancelling public meetings and community events. We would also like to thank the residents of the Borough for adhering to social distancing guidelines and understanding the steps that we have had to take to address this situation. Additionally, we would also like to thank all Borough employees in the Administrative, Police, and Public Works departments who have continued to provide essential services during this situation.

Borough Council recently appointed a new Emergency Management Coordinator, Corinne Badman. Ms. Badman was hired full-time as the Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police in January upon the retirement of Anne Novelli. She brings with her 20 years of emergency management experience. Ms. Badman has been

working diligently during the COVID-19/Coronavirus outbreak and we commend her for her efforts. Additionally, we would like to thank Nora LoGiudice for all her work as our previous Emergency Management Coordinator.

We also recently had a departure in our administration. Neil Lovekin, our former Assistant Borough Manager/Zoning Officer, recently accepted a position as the Township Manager of East Marlborough Township. Neil served the community for six (6) years and we thank him for all his work and wish him nothing but the best in his new position.

With that, we are pleased to welcome Tiffany Loomis as the new Assistant Borough Manager/Zoning Officer. Tiffany brings with her over a decade of municipal zoning and administrative experience and previously served in Worcester and East Norriton Townships. She officially began on April 6, 2020. Please join us in welcoming Tiffany to the Borough.

On April 8, 2020, the Borough learned that we have been awarded a \$31,890 Vision Partnership Program grant from the Chester County Planning Commission. These funds will be used to complete an update to the Borough's Comprehensive Plan. Thank you to the Chester County Planning Commis-

sion for awarding the Borough these funds and to the Borough staff for their work in preparing the application.

There are several projects scheduled to be completed in the Borough this spring and summer. The N. Warren Avenue Transit Project will be under construction and we are very eager to complete this project, which is being substantially funded by a \$560,000 grant that the Borough received. Scheduled paving projects for E. King Street and N. Warren Avenue are currently out for bid and we hope to complete those projects soon. Please watch the Borough website for information on the start of this project.

Borough Council consists of Amy Finkbiner, Ph.D. (Council President), Jamie Grossman (Vice-President), Joe Bones, Marty Laney, John Meisel, Brendan Phillips, and Julie Raynor. Meetings of Borough Council are held at 7:30 pm on the first and third Tuesday of each month at Borough Hall. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. As always, if you have any questions about anything going on in town, contact any member of Borough Council, the Mayor, or the Borough Manager. Information is on the Borough website at [www.malvern.org](http://www.malvern.org) through the ReadyNotify system.

## Board & Commission Vacancies

Below is a list of vacancies on the Borough's boards and committees.

- **Zoning Hearing Board:** There is currently one (1) vacancy on this Board for an alternate member of the Zoning Hearing Board. This position carries a three (3) year term. The individual appointed will complete a term that expires on January 1, 2021. Alternate members attend all meetings of the Zoning Hearing Board; however, they do not vote unless a voting member is absent or can otherwise not participate in the hearing.
- **Planning Commission:** There are currently two (2) vacancies on

the Malvern Borough Planning Commission.

- ⇒ **Regular Voting Member:** This vacancy is for a full, regular voting member. This position carries a four (4) year term. The individual appointed to this position will complete a term that expires on January 1, 2021.
- ⇒ **Alternate Member:** This vacancy is for an alternate member and the position carries a four (4) year term. As an alternate member to the Planning Commission, this individual appointed will be permitted to participate in all meetings and discussion, but would not vote unless designated to do so by the Chair. This would in-

clude instances where a member is either absent, has recused themselves from a topic of discussion, or is disqualified by the governing body.

Malvern residents who are interested in serving the Community on these committees may apply by sending a letter of interest and resume to the Borough Manager at:

**Borough of Malvern**  
**1 E. First Avenue, Suite 3**  
**Malvern, Pa. 19355**

**Voice: 610-644-2602**

**Fax: 610-644-4504**

**E-mail: [malvern@malvern.org](mailto:malvern@malvern.org)**

## A Friendly Reminder to Pet Owners

Just a friendly reminder to be courteous and respectful of your neighbors by picking up after your pets. Dog waste is more than just a smelly and unsightly mess. It's also a breeding ground for bacteria and parasites, all of which are commonly found in dog feces and are easily transferable upon contact.

Borough Code, Chapter 68-6 specifically sites that dog owners



are to clean up after this pets on any sidewalk, pathway, play area, park or any place where people congregate, or on any private property. Any one observed violating this section of the Code could face fines and associated court fees if found guilty. Although this may not be a pleasant chore, it is the responsibility of a pet owner.

## Storm Water Management

### What You Can Do To Prevent Stormwater Pollution

We all have a responsibility in maintaining the health of the area's waterways. This includes the streams and rivers in our local watershed. Below are a few steps we can all take in order to ensure that our area waterways remain clean:

- Keep litter, pet wastes, leaves and debris out of street gutters and storm drains—these outlets drain directly to lake, streams, rivers and wetlands.
- Apply lawn and garden chemicals sparingly and according to direc-

tions.

- Dispose of used oil, antifreeze, paints and other household chemicals properly—not in storm sewers or drains.
- Cleanup spilled brake fluid, oil, grease and antifreeze. Do not hose them into the street where they can eventually reach local streams and lakes.
- Control soil erosion on your property by planting ground cover and stabilizing erosion-prone areas.
- Wash your car on the grass or gravel driveway to minimize runoff.
- Have your septic system inspected and pumped, at a minimum every

one to three years, so that it operates properly.

- Purchase household detergents and cleaners that are low in phosphorous to reduce the amount of nutrients discharged into our lakes, streams and coastal waters.
- Limit paved surfaces. Impervious surfaces such as sidewalks, parking lots, roads, and driveways prevent water from percolating down into the ground, cause runoff to accumulate, and funnel into storm drains at high speeds. Use alternative surfaces such as gravel and porous pavement for improvement projects.

## Environmental Advisory Council

### How we came to be:

On November 19, 2019, Borough Council adopted Ordinance No. 2019 – 10, which establishes an Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) for the Borough of Malvern.

### Committee Members:

Helise Bichesky, DO - Chair  
 Brian Walker - Vice Chair  
 John Butow - Secretary  
 John Meisel  
 Brendan Phillips  
 Zoe Warner, PhD

### The Committee responsibilities include:

- Advising the Malvern Borough Council, commissions, boards, committees and other Borough agencies on, and promoting education about, issues relating to the management, promotion, use, protection and conservation of Malvern's natural resources.
- Working to maintain and develop the natural resources in the Borough in a way that will attract and retain residents, visitors and businesses without compromising ecological integrity.
- Identifying environmental problems and recommending plans to the Borough Council.
- Providing technical expertise on environmental aspects of subdivi-

sions and land developments and providing environmental advice on specific projects upon request of the Borough Council or the Planning Commission.

- Recommending plans and programs for the promotion and conservation of the natural resources of the Borough

February 27 was the inaugural meeting and meetings will be subsequently held on the 2nd Thursday of every month.

At our initial meeting, topics discussed included recycling guidelines, opportunities for composting, watershed management and conservation, and reducing single-use plastics. We were also joined by Sidne Bagline who discussed her native gardening practices and shared her experiences as part of an environmental committee in another municipality. She provided the EAC with documents on native plants and invasive species that residents are welcome to explore at Borough Hall.

- As we adjust to the new demands of safety and quarantine due to COVID-19, the following suggestions will allow you to stay safe and follow protective practices more

sustainably.

- When washing hands, remember to turn off the water during scrubbing. 20 seconds is a long time to let the tap run, especially when washing multiple times a day!
- When picking up take-out food orders or doing curbside shopping, turn off your car while waiting. This helps maintain local air quality for those fulfilling orders and reduces harmful emissions.
- Don't litter or spread contamination—properly dispose of single use gloves and masks in a trash can.

Finally - stay healthy and safe during the COVID-19 pandemic, enjoy social distancing in Malvern's natural areas on the walking trails of Randolph Woods and the Paoli Battlefield Historical Park.

We would like to know what issues our residents are most passionate about. Therefore, we encourage public participation at our meetings and offer the opportunity for our Borough residences to get involved in EAC initiatives. Remember, we live in a big world but addressing environmental initiatives begins locally and collectively we can all have a huge impact!

## Randolph Woods Master Plan

On May 21, 2019, Borough Council adopted Resolution No. 790, establishing the Randolph Woods Nature Preserve Master Plan Committee to oversee this process. This Committee is charged with the following:

Reviewing proposals from qualified firms to develop the Master Plan and recommend a firm to be appointed by Borough Council.

Oversee the development of the Master Plan for the Randolph Woods Nature Preserve and deliver the plan for adoption by Borough Council.

The public survey for the master plan being developed for the

Randolph Woods Nature Preserve is open until **May 1, 2020**. We encourage all residents to complete this important survey. Obtaining feedback from the community is vital to the planning process and we want to know your opinions. A link to the survey is provided below:

[https://  
www.surveymonkey.com/r/  
randolphwoods](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/randolphwoods)

### Members:

Helise Bichesky-Reilly, DO  
 Joe Bones  
 John Butow  
 Brian Hamilton

John Meisel  
 Mark Niemiec (Chair)  
 Brendan Phillips  
 Barbara Rutz  
 Brian Walker (Vice-Chair)  
 Zoe Warner, Ph.D.



## Planning Commission

The Malvern Planning Commission (MPC) is a 'review and recommend' body of seven Borough residents who process Subdivision and Land Use (SALDO) applications, Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) applications, monitor Zoning Ordinances, undertake Planning Initiatives, and provide comments on other Community Planning matters referred by Borough Council. The MPC's planning efforts are supported by the Assistant Borough Manager, Borough Engineers, and Borough Solicitors. We are also pleased to announce the appointment of a dedicated solicitor to the Planning Commission. Borough Council appointed Kenneth Kynett, Esq. of the firm Petrikin Wellman Damico Brown & Petrosa to serve as the Planning Commission Solicitor.

In the winter quarter of 2020, the MPC completed review and recommendations on the following subdivision and land development projects:

- A newly designed Malvern Veterinary Hospital at 545 South Warren Avenue in the R-1 zoning district, which previously included a review

of variance relief requested from the Zoning Hearing Board.

- A two-lot subdivision in the R-2 zoning district at 523 Monument Avenue.

The MPC also continued its review of updates to the Malvern Borough Zoning Ordinance based on work completed with the Brandywine Conservancy. These ordinance amendments were sent to Borough Council and then forwarded to the Chester County Planning Commission for review.

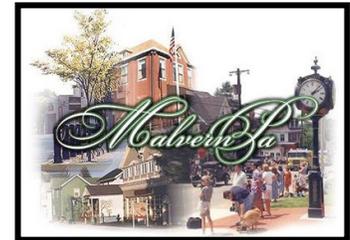
On March 5, 2020, the MPC and Borough Council held a joint meeting to review a concept for the property at 128 – 142 King Street. Members of both bodies and the public heard a conceptual presentation and will continue discussions when a formal application is received.

Recently, our Planning Commission Secretary, Neil Lovekin, who was also the Assistant Borough Manager/Zoning Officer, departed for another career opportunity. We are very thankful for all his efforts for the MPC over his time with the Borough and wish him luck in his new position. With that, we

are pleased to welcome the new Assistant Borough Manager/Zoning Officer, Tiffany Loomis, who we are looking forward to working with.

Current MPC members include Dave Knies, Chris Mongeau, Mark Niemiec, Geoff Rubino, Carroll Siquett III (Chairperson), and Zoe Warner (Vice-Chairperson). We continue to seek two additional Commissioners: a regular voting and an alternate member.

The Malvern Planning Commission meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month, 7:30 PM at Borough Hall. Public participation is welcomed and encouraged! The status of various SALDO applications and initiatives can be viewed on the Borough website under Boards and Commissions/Planning Commission/Case Log.



## Malvern Historical Commission

At our Lyceum Night on Tuesday, May 26th, we will host Bart VanValkenburg from the Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society. The topic of the evening is Greentree: The Main Line Town that Never Was. At press time, this event was still scheduled to take place at 7:30pm on the second floor of Borough Hall at 1 E First Avenue. Please keep an eye on [www.facebook.com/malvernborohistory](https://www.facebook.com/malvernborohistory) in case there are updates, or email us at [malvernborohistory@malvern.org](mailto:malvernborohistory@malvern.org) with questions.

Remember that all of our meetings held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month are open to the public. Please feel welcome to stop by while we conduct our regular business. Topics of discussion this year include revising

our Historic Ordinance, culling through our archives of information and artifacts, and making plans to share our knowledge with all of you such as organizing mini walking tours.

As you walk about town with your family, take along a digital copy of our most recent walking tour brochure, which can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/MalvernWTB2017> There are four mini walks in this brochure that take you throughout town. If you notice a striking building that belongs on one of our walking tours, please let us know! We would love your input for our annual Preservation Awards. These round plaques honor properties that add to the fabric of our historic culture in Malvern Borough. Current Preservation Awardees with their plaques displayed include

JulieAnne's Place (22 S. Warren), The National Bank of Malvern (2 W. King), and Borough Hall (1 E. First).

Homeowners who have maintained or restored their houses that are 50 years old or older are eligible for these sought-after plaques. While there are no requirements or restrictions on our preservation winning buildings, we do request that our awardees display their plaques proudly. No need to be as creative as Restaurant Alba (1 W King) or Hoffman House (22 W King), but we love seeing their awards!

In addition to our Facebook, we are also present on Instagram at [@malvernborohistory](https://www.instagram.com/malvernborohistory). Follow us on both sites to learn more about Malvern's past. See you around town and be well!

## Codes Enforcement Officer

### Address Numbers

#### Make Sure You Can Be Found

The Borough's Property Maintenance Code requires that all residential and commercial buildings in the Borough display the address number for each property. The numbers must be 4 inches high for residences and 6

inches high for commercial buildings. They must be located on the side of the building facing the road which the address number applies to and should be mounted on a contrasting color surface, so that the numbers can be easily seen from the road. The numbers should not be located on the front door, if

this door can be propped open, and make sure that any vegetation growing near the numbers is kept trimmed back and that they aren't blocked by front porch roof posts.

-Provided by William T. Wilfong IV,  
BCO, Code Official

## Malvern Police Department

Spring has sprung here in Malvern Borough. The birds are singing, the weather is getting nicer, and the flowers are blooming. Spring has also brought with it many changes in the way we have learned to live our lives. COVID-19 seems to have taken over. This new normal we are now living has taken a toll on some, been frustrating and difficult, but with it, we have also seen amazing examples of community, kindness, and resilience. Being confined to your home and not being able to do the normal things we do on a day to day basis is difficult. The Malvern Borough Police Department would like to thank everyone for their cooperation during the "Stay at Home Order". We have been assigned the task of ensuring that everyone follows the orders from Governor Wolf, both with non-essential businesses and

with our residents. We are grateful to the Malvern community in complying with these orders so we can focus on keeping everyone safe and our officers healthy. The Police Department would also like to



thank members of the community for their generous donations of everything from cleaning products, to protective gear, and gift cards. In

times of trial it is the kindness of others that help us realize why we all chose this career of public servitude. As Chief of Police, I would like to remind the community that we are here 24/7 should you need us. Our procedures have changed slightly, Officers must practice social distancing, handling your questions over the phone, taking extra precautions, but I assure you we will continue to serve the community of Malvern Borough. I hope you will join me in thanking all of those who continue to serve the community during this time; Fire, Ambulance and Medic personnel, all hospital personnel, our Borough Road Crew and all the Police Officers for their continued dedication.

I wish you all good health, quality time with your family, and peace of mind during the coming weeks. We will get through this together.

## Malvern Park & Civic Association

During these trying times with Covid-19, we are so appreciative of everyone using the park on Monument Avenue and maintaining their "social distancing." All the gyms in the area are closed so the park is being used more for walking and exercising and everyone is cooperating. We don't know when this will end but even when it does we may still need to keep an appropriate distance from each other. Time and testing will tell.

Concerning the playground area, pavilion and tennis courts, they are currently closed and will remain closed until the Borough opens up their playground areas as well. We do have swings that were placed in the same area as they were before but still cannot be used until the rest of the playground is open. We appreciate everyone's willingness to stay away from the area until it all opens up.

The picnic tables have not been closed but again, please keep

in mind the "social distancing" requirements when they are used as the weather is beginning to warm up. If we find that people are not cooperating in their use, we will have to close them also.

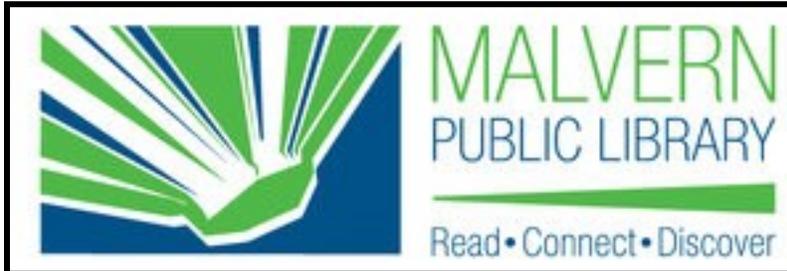
Again, thank you for your wonderful cooperation in using the park responsibly and let us all hope and pray for an end to this virus so we can get back to our routines.

## Malvern Public Library

While we might not have our doors open, we are still providing programs and access online! We are ordering more items for our e-materials app Libby. With Libby you have access to both e-books and e-audio books. The best part, no late fees! Prefer magazines? We got you covered. Did you know you can use Flipster to read magazines, including back issues? It can be found on our website [www.malvern-library.org](http://www.malvern-library.org) under E-Resources. All you need is your library card.

We have weekly virtual kids programs too. Join us every Wednesday at 10am for a live Kids Yoga with Miss Kelly on Facebook @MalvernPublicLibraryPA. There

you will also find weekly storytimes with Miss Meghan on Tuesdays at 10:30am. If you miss it, the video will remain up for 24 hours to view later. We will also be having a Big Kids Read Aloud on Instagram @malvernchildrenslibrary, Tues-



days and Thursdays at 3:30pm for kids 9 and up.

Don't worry we didn't forget about adults. Coming soon will be a virtual Book Club. This will be done

over Zoom and give us a chance to discuss what you are currently reading and help others pick their next titles.

We know this is hard and we can't wait to reopen, but we want to keep our patrons and staff safe and healthy. We promise to be there for you as soon as we can. Please remember, if you have any of our items in your care, the due dates will be extended until we are able to reopen. No fines or fees. We are in this together while apart. And we plan to bring you tips, lists, and activities to help you get through this.

Stay calm. Stay home. Stay safe and we will see each other again.

## Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund

During the current COVID-19 pandemic Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund (PBPF) president James Christ, and the Board have affirmed that the safety of our visitors, volunteers and communities is our top priority. Malvern Borough acted promptly and has closed the Historical Park and the Paoli Memorial Parade Grounds.

However, the walking path through the woods is open to **pedestrian traffic only** – NO BICYCLES! Please follow all the governmental orders and guidelines. There are many spots that could potentially be contaminated, including interpretive panels, bulletin boards, signs, cannons, rail fences, and even the monuments themselves. Protect yourself and your neighbors while walking in the Park area by using self-distancing, face-masks and gloves.

PBPF is following the guidelines and continuously monitoring the situation. We have updated our policy and **cancelled all meetings and events** until further notice. This includes our monthly Board Meetings usually held on the

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays at Malvern Borough Hall.

Our popular *Revolutionary Lecture* series at the General Warren (featuring special 18<sup>th</sup> Century dinners and friendly interaction with noted historians and writers held on 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of most months), our Park Clean Up Day, Paranormal Tours, Bus Tours and our public lectures about the Battle are **cancelled**. We will try to reschedule them when and where possible.

**For any updates and other information check our website ([RememberPaoli.org](http://RememberPaoli.org)), sign up for our digital newsletter, Twitter (@PaoliBattle), and Facebook (Paoli Battlefield Historical Park) where you can still get a daily fix of Revolutionary War history!**

This pandemic is something that we haven't faced before in our lifetimes; however, **our nation was founded and our War of Independence was fought in the midst of a terrible epidemic - the Small Pox Plague of 1775-1782**. It was even more deadly and its consequences more dire. Small Pox spread through the world, af-

fecting Europe in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Survivors of this virus became immune to later infection. When it arrived in the Colonies there were only two choices to fight it: Quarantine and/or Inoculation! European experience established that strict quarantines were effective. Inoculations were new to North America and also feared as to start new outbreaks if patients were not quarantined. General Washington knew that his crowded camps were hotbeds for the disease and that many of Britain's forces were already immune or inoculated before arriving in America. If the British found out that many of the Continental Army forces were sick or recovering from inoculations, they might attack even during the usually peaceful winter encampments. So Washington ordered inoculations for his troops to be done secretly. When the Battle of Paoli was fought, many of Washington's troops were still vulnerable to the disease. Washington continued his secret inoculations at Valley Forge.