

News from Borough Council

At the Borough Council meeting held on December 19, 2017, Council adopted the 2018 budget at a millage rate of 4.6700 mills. This represents a 0.25 mill increase in the property tax rate for 2018. Council carefully considered the need for a tax increase in 2018. In reviewing information related to the budget, the need for a tax increase was based on a variety of factors, including continued allocation of resources in the Borough's Capital Reserve Fund, maintaining a strong reserve balance, hiring an additional full-time police officer in the Malvern Police Department, and projected increased costs in standard services. The 2018 budget includes several major projects, including paving of Borough roads, completion of the sidewalk and traffic signal project on N. Warren Avenue, and traffic calming projects. Borough Council is intending to review and update the Borough's five-year capital improvement plan to assist in guiding future projects.

The Randolph Woods Ad Hoc Committee presented their final report to Borough Council on December 19, 2017. Randolph Woods is a 43 acre parcel in the southeastern portion of the Borough that exists in its natural state. The property is under a Conservation Easement Agreement with the Willistown Conservation Trust. This Committee met for approximately one (1) year and reviewed all aspects of the property, including its existing uses, issues currently occurring with encroachment, and environmental impacts on the property. The resulting document will assist Borough Council in future projects on this property. We are very appreciative of the Committee's work, commend their dedication, and thank them for their effort in preparing the report. In addition to the Committee, we would also like to thank the Willistown Conservation Trust for their assistance in this process.

The Borough is continuing to pursue grants to help offset the costs of projects. At the December 19, 2017 meeting, Borough Council authorized the submission of a Green Region Open Space Grant Program application to PECO. This application is seeking \$10,000 to assist in the cost of the development of a master plan for Randolph Woods. The development of a master plan will assist in guiding the future passive recreational activities on the property. We are hopeful that this project will be funded.

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 updated regularly on the Borough website at www.malvern.org. If you have not yet signed up for e-mail notifications, please visit our website and click on "Join our Email List."

Board & Commission Vacancies

Malvern Borough currently has vacancies on our various boards and commissions and are seeking volunteers to serve. Current vacancies are as follows:

- **Planning Commission – There is currently one (1) vacancy on this Commission.** This vacancy carries a four (4) year term. The individual appointed will complete a term that expires on January 1, 2022.
- **Zoning Hearing Board – There are currently two (2) vacancies on this Board.** This position carries a three (3) year term. The individuals appointed will complete terms that expire on January 1, 2020 and January 1, 2021, respectively. The current vacancies are for alternate members of the Zoning Hearing Board.
- **Parks & Recreation Committee – There are currently two (2) vacancies on this Committee.** This position carries a five (5) year term. The individuals appointed will complete terms that expire on January 1, 2020 and January 1, 2021, respectively.

More information is available on the Borough website at www.malvern.org. Malvern residents who are interested in serving the community on these committees may apply by sending a letter of interest and résumé to the Borough Manager, Christopher Bashore, at malvern@malvern.org.

News from the Malvern Police Department - Chief Louis Marcellí

While this winter has not witnessed a large accumulation of snow, it has provided colder than average temperatures that are just as dangerous. Please be sure to keep an eye on your neighbors to ensure they are not in need during the frigid weather. If you notice someone in need, please call 911. With several more weeks of winter remaining we may still experience heavy snow. The PA Vehicle code requires you to clear snow and ice from your vehicles. Vehicles must be completely clear of snow and ice. The department has documented a noticeable amount of vehicles covered with snow and ice, which can cause hazards. When heavy snow is forecasted, please be sure to visit www.malvern.org for any SNOW EMERGENCY declarations. If a SNOW EMERGENCY is declared a specific date and time will be posted with the declaration. A SNOW EMERGENCY declaration in part means you are not permitted to park on specific roads in the Borough and you shall not operate any vehicles unless your vehicle is equipped with adequate equipment to provide sufficient traction to keep the vehicle in motion. Please visit our website for full details of a SNOW EMERGENCY.

Malvern Borough takes great pride in its ability to keep our roadways clear of snow and ice. The residents play a key role in snow removal. Never throw snow from your sidewalks or driveways into the roads. If you have your property

plowed, be sure not to plow the snow into or across the road. This is illegal and interferes with the clearing of the roads. When possible, please park your vehicles off the road to assist the Public Works Department with clearing your streets.

Malvern Police has noted an increase in "SCAM" crime in the area. These scams vary. One example is a phone call made to you requesting you to wire money. Another example is someone may knock on your door attempting to gain entry to your home or distracting you while other actors gain entry to your home. Never permit anyone into your home you're not expecting. Never leave your home unattended to help someone locate your property or utility lines. While outside, other actors may enter your home. If ever in doubt contact the Police.

Malvern Borough Police Department is a full service police organization that provides police protection on a 24/7 basis. If you are in need of a Police Officer you need to call 911. Our administrative offices are open Monday thru Friday 8:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 4:30pm. We are happy to assist you with administration questions, however, we cannot dispatch from the administrative office.

Malvern Winter Farmers Market

We're nestled in our winter location at the first Baptist Church of Malvern, 146 Channing Avenue, and with the temperatures so far this winter, we are so happy to have our warm winter home! Winter market is held the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 10 am - noon. What's available at a winter farmers market - produce! Yes, our farmers are farming all winter long with the help of greenhouses and high tunnel farming. And in addition to what they are growing at this time of year, they also have crops which winter over - squash, potatoes, root veggies and apples. We also have an incredible selection of local, pasture raised meats, and farm fresh eggs. Our bakers continue to offer their amazing selection of breads and sweet treats, including gluten free. Talk about sweets - the best local honey and pure PA maple syrup. Not to mention, we have an impressive group of food producers featuring a wide variety of options crafted from local ingredients including: homemade soups, empanadas, quiche, mac and cheese, egg cups, taco kits, guacamole, salsa, chips, chocolates, brittles, mustards, locally roasted coffee, and much more. Come April, we'll be moving back to Burke Park as long as the weather allows. We're super excited for our 2018 spring/summer/fall season. We'll be welcoming some new producers this year so stay tuned to our Instagram and Facebook page for more details.

Planning Commission News

The Malvern Planning Commission (MPC) is a 'review and recommend' body of seven Borough residents which processes Subdivision and Land Use (SALDO) applications, monitors Zoning Ordinances, undertakes Planning Initiatives, and provides comments on other Community Planning matters referred to us by Borough Council. The winter of 2018 finds the MPC reviewing several SALDO applications, primarily in the King Street corridor, including:

- A garage and parking expansion at 124 - 128 East King Street,
- A two-lot subdivision at 11 Griffith Avenue, and
- A residential expansion at 156 West King Street.

We continue to pursue several planning initiatives. These include revising the MPC Bylaws documents to reflect current application processes, and to make the bylaws conform to the Home Rule Charter and the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Act and revising definitions and processes for important Zoning Ordinance sections that have been deemed ambiguous or open to interpretation.

Current MPC members include Dave Knies (Chair), Mark Niemiec (Vice Chair), Lynne Frederick, Geoff Rubino, Chris Mongeau, and Carroll Sinquett III. Neil Lovekin - the Assistant Borough Manager - doubles as the MPC Secretary. We are in the process of interviewing applicants for one vacancy, and expect to make a recommendation to Borough Council in February in regards to that vacancy. The Malvern Planning Commission meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month, 7:30 PM at Borough Hall. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

News from the Parks & Recreation Committee

Malvern Borough's Parks and Recreation Committee will hold their 8th annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 25, 2018 at 2:00pm at the Paoli Battlefield. The hunt is for children ages 10 and under. Please see the Borough's website (www.malvern.org) for additional information. Be sure to mark your calendars and remember your baskets!

Malvern Borough's Parks and Recreation Committee will hold their annual Yard Sale in Burke Park on Saturday, May 19- 2018 from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Set-up will begin at 8:00am. To reserve a table, or for more information, please contact Alicia Marziani at amarziani@malvern.org or 610-644-2602.

The Club of Little Gardens of Malvern

The Club of Little Gardens of Malvern invites you to join them for the following terrific programs at the Malvern Borough Hall:

- **February 1, 2018** – Elizabeth DiTullio will present a program on antique vases.
- **March 1, 2018** – Ami Trost from Blue Moon Florist will provide a floral presentation.
- **April 5, 2018** – "Peony – King of Flowers" presented by Thom Mrazik, Master Gardener

All meetings are held at 11:00 am at Malvern Borough Hall. For more information, please contact the Club of Little Gardens of Malvern at littlegardensmalvern@gmail.com.

Malvern Historical Commission News

Malvern Blooms will be upon us very quickly! We hope to have our usual booth (in front of Alba) at our bi-annual street festival, where we will have some artifacts on display and our wares for sale. In addition to our 3 books still in print, our t-shirts, and our postcards, we still have 1989 Centennial posters, 2014 125th street banners, anniversary coins, and more. The date is Sunday, May 6. By the way, we are SOLD OUT of 1881 train maps! We are looking into making a new reprint of a different map. We hope to have those available by Malvern Blooms.

We are planning on hosting two more Malvern Lyceum nights this spring. Keep an eye on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MalvernHC for more details on those educational and fun events coming soon. Our wares will be available on those nights, too, but if that's still too far away, email us at MalvernBoroHistory@malvern.org and we'll arrange for you to pick up what you need. Remember that our books are only available through us if you are looking for something unique to gift.

2018 is the 150th Malvern Memorial Parade. Our Facebook page is going through each year from 1868 to the present day, ending on the 2018 parade date of June 3rd for this year's edition. Facebook is also a great way to learn about past Malvernites (on Mondays) and the way things used to be (on Thursdays). Did you know that Malvern didn't exist in 1868? We were merely the northern part of Willistown Township, and our train station was named West Chester Intersection. The Pennsylvania Railroad renamed the station "Malvern" (and by default named our village) on November 26, 1873.

Malvern Public Library News

Did you know that you can borrow hotspots from several libraries in the Chester County Library System? Malvern Public Library is the newest library to offer this service. For \$14 a week, or \$28 for two weeks, you can now take the internet with you on the go. Call us before you drop by to borrow one, as hotspots tend to go quickly!

Malvern Public Library is now offering a marketing and business meet up group for entrepreneurs on the mainline. The Mainline Business Workshop meets every third Tuesday of the month at 5:00PM. This meet up gives business-minded individuals the opportunity to network and discuss various topics. Visit our website for more information and registration.

There's still room in our winter storytime session for most age groups from ages 0 to 6 years. The winter session runs until March 15. There are storytimes for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and kindergarteners. Call the library or email Miss Kelly at kshea@ccls.org for more information, or visit our website to register online.

Have you downloaded Libby by Overdrive yet? Libby is the latest app for borrowing eBooks and eAudiobooks. You can borrow materials to your phone, tablet, or eReader without leaving your home! We offer one-on-one instruction at the library for those needing help getting started. Call the library to find out more. Need more information? Call us at 610-644-7259, visit our website at <http://www.malvern-library.org/>, and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Codes Enforcement Officer - Bill Wilfong, BCO

The winter weather that has already occurred means another season of snow and snow covered sidewalks and walkways. Please remember that after the snow has stopped falling, the **Malvern Borough Code** requires that sidewalks must be cleared 36 inches wide within 24 hours. In addition, where icy patches result on sidewalks, please be sure to put down salt or some other material that will minimize the chance of someone slipping or falling until the sidewalk is clear and dry. If you have a neighbor who is elderly or unable to clear their sidewalk, perhaps several neighbors could help them out by clearing their sidewalk for them. This will help to ensure that all of the sidewalks in Malvern are passable this winter season. Remember also, it is unlawful to place the snow from sidewalks into the street.

Switching gears to inside your home, smoke detectors have been required in homes for more than 10 years! They must be located in specific areas; one on each level, including attics and basements, and one in each sleeping room. During use and occupancy inspections, I continue to find residences with no smoke detectors in sleeping rooms. As they've been required in all of the mentioned locations for so long, the time to make sure that they're installed in the proper areas is now, not after it's called out on a U&O inspection. When installing them in sleeping rooms, they should be located on the ceiling, somewhere near the bedroom door, at least a foot away from the wall. If the room has a ceiling fan, make sure that the detector is located several feet from the edge of the fan blades, otherwise the air movement from the fan may keep smoke from getting to the detector. If you must install smoke detectors on the wall, make sure you mount them at least six inches down from the ceiling.

2018 Malvern Festivals

The Malvern Business and Professional Association is busy planning the 2018 Malvern Blooms and Malvern Oktoberfest. Save the date:

- **Malvern Blooms:** Sunday, May 6, 2018 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm
- **Malvern Oktoberfest:** Sunday, September 9, 2018 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

Bark in the Park will be included at both festivals this year! As usual we'll have multiple music acts, tons of activities for the kids, lots of art and craft, incredible food, and something for everyone!

If you are interested in becoming a vendor at the festivals you can apply online at www.Malvern-Festivals.com, but hurry because space is filling up fast. Want to be a sponsor of the events - we have great incentives for businesses who sponsor the events with lots of incredible marketing opportunities. Please email lisa@growingrootspartners.com if you are interested in sponsorship.

News from the Malvern Fire Company

While Fire Prevention Week may be over, the Malvern Fire Company wants you to think fire safety all year long. Fire safety equipment such as carbon monoxide alarms, smoke detectors, and fire extinguishers have a significant impact in saving lives and reducing property damage in the event of a fire incident. Portable fire extinguishers can extinguish or contain a small fire until the fire department arrives. Portable fire extinguishers are designed to be used when a fire is contained to a small area such as a wastebasket and is not growing. When attempting to extinguish a small fire with a fire extinguisher, everyone should have exited the building, the fire department should be called, and the room should not be filled with smoke. To operate a fire extinguisher, remember the acronym **PASS**: **P**ull the pin – hold the extinguisher with the nozzle pointing away from you and release the locking mechanism; **A**im – point the extinguisher at the base of the fire; **S**queeze the lever slowly and evenly; **S**weep the nozzle from side-to-side.

When selecting a fire extinguisher for the home, choose one that can be used on all types of home fires and that is not difficult to handle. Become familiar with the fire extinguisher and how to use it. Fire extinguishers should be installed close to an exit with the user keeping his or her back to the exit at all times to allow for a clear escape route in case the fire cannot be controlled. If the room fills with smoke, leave immediately. In case of a fire event, occupants should escape and the fire department should be called before an attempt is made to extinguish the fire with a fire extinguisher. Fire extinguishers are only one part of a fire response plan - every home should have a home fire escape plan and working smoke detectors.

The Malvern Fire Company would like to thank the community for their support of this year's Fund Drive. Through the Fund Drive we are able to provide fire and emergency medical services for the Malvern Borough and portions of Willistown, East Whiteland, and East Goshen Townships. These municipalities provide for 15% of our annual budget. The remaining 85% of the money comes from fundraisers such as our fair, boot days, the Pig Roast, and the Annual Fund Drive. Looking for an opportunity to serve your community? The Malvern Fire Company wants you to join us in carrying on a tradition of excellence in volunteer service. Are you ready to ignite your life? Whether behind the hose line or behind the desk, Station Four has a place for you. Our doors are always open – we would love to give you a tour of the station and our trucks. Want to join in the action? Fill out our online application or stop by Tuesday nights at 7pm for drill night to meet our active crew. We look forward to meeting you! For more information and ways to serve, visit www.malvernfireco.com or call us at 610-647-0693.

News from the Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund

Snow across the Battlefield failed to stop hardy participants and observers from braving the frozen and wind-swept observance of the first annual **Wreaths Across America** celebration on Saturday, December 16th, 2017. The PBPF, PM Association and the Borough partnered with the Chester County Chapter of the Daughter of the American Revolution to lay wreaths at the nation's second oldest Revolutionary War Monument and the mass grave of American patriots killed at the ninth bloodiest battle of the Revolutionary War.

Wreaths Across America coordinates wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and over 1,400 cemeteries to **Remember** our fallen heroes, **Honor** those who serve and **Teach** our children about the sacrifices made by veterans to preserve our freedoms. Just three days short of the 240th anniversary of George Washington's troops marching to Valley Forge, special wreaths were laid by veterans representing America's Military Service branches, the Coast Guard, Merchant Marines and American POWs & MIAs.

Wreaths honoring 53 Continental Soldiers, under the command of General Anthony Wayne, who are buried here, were emblazoned with **Remember Paoli**, America's first battle cry, renown throughout the 18th and 19th centuries and the template for future national battle cries up to *Remember 9-11*. They were placed by Glen Acres Girls Scout Troop 4920, St. Elizabeth Cub Scout Pack 61, American Legion Post 668, Bradbury Camp #149 Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, West Chester Christian School Guardsmen, Revolutionary War reenactors and volunteers. State Representative Duane Milne (R-167) spoke of the importance of honoring those who won and protected our freedom and liberty. Surprise guest, James Madison (portrayed by Kyle Jenks), America's fourth president reminded all about times of trial and the need to keep America vigilant and strong. Madison, known as the "Father of the Constitution" was president during the War of 1812. The event closed with "Amazing Grace" played by the Chester County Emerald Society, a 21-gun salute by the American Legion and "Taps" played by a lone bugler.

2018 WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA WILL BE ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15TH! PBPF would like to thank Karen Christen and all the members of the Daughters of the American Revolution Chester County Chapter for their support and patriotism.

A REVOLUTIONARY LECTURE Series is adding two events!

- **Monday, February 12, 2018 – Give Me a Fast Ship** presented by *Tim McGrath* – In 1775 King George sent hundreds of ships westward to bottle up American harbors and how John Adams proposed a solution.
- **Monday, March 12, 2018 – Results of the 2017 Paranormal Tours of the Paoli Battlefield** presented by *Tri County Paranormal* – The team will reveal the results from our paranormal tours of the Paoli Battlefield which took place in May and October of 2017.
- **Monday, April 9, 2018 – British Army Wives** presented by *Don N. Hagist* – The roles of women in the armies of the American Revolution, although not unknown, are not fully appreciated.

For further information go to www.RememberPaoli.org.