

The Borough Broadcaster



Malvern Borough

1 E First Avenue
Suite 3
Malvern PA 19355

Phone: 610-644-2602
Fax: 610-644-4504
malvern@malvern.org

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News From Borough Council

Borough Council welcomes its newest elected and re-elected members, Amy Finkbiner, Ph.D., Marty Laney, Angela Riccetti and Mayor Zeyn B. Uzman, who were sworn in on Monday, January 3, 2022 by Magisterial District Judge, Mackenzie Smith. Borough Council also completed their search for a new Manager, to replace Christopher Bashore who resigned as of September 17, 2021. The new Manager, Tiffany M. Loomis, was appointed at the Borough Council meeting on December 21, 2021 and will assume her duties effective immediately. Tiffany has served as the Malvern Borough Assistant Manager and previously worked in Montgomery County bringing 14 years of municipal experience to the table. She is excited to take a larger role supporting our beautiful town of Malvern. Borough Council thanks all of the Borough Employees for their hard work and dedication through this transition period.

The 2022 Budget includes Randolph Woods Nature Preserve Grant monies to improve and preserve the 43 acre site. As of December 2021 a \$250,000 DCNR grant was awarded to the Malvern

open space facilities for physical and psychological benefits. This became especially accelerated in the last year during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Long-owned by the Borough, the 43 acre Randolph



Woods Nature Preserve was permanently conserved via conservation easement in 2001. Mostly wooded and containing the headwaters of the Crum Creek, the Borough began planning for restoration of the Preserve's natural systems in 2015. These planning efforts

culminated with the 2020 Master Site Plan that includes much improved ADA compliant access and an Ecological Assessment and Forest Management Plan. The plan notes the highly deteriorated condition of the forest, rampant invasives and many deer-created problems on the site.

Borough for the Randolph Woods Nature Preserve. Malvern Borough will be applying for an additional \$250,000 through DCED in the Spring to make upwards of half a million dollars' worth of improvements and preservation efforts for the Community to enjoy this park for years to come. Malvern Borough's population has grown by nearly 15% in the last few years. Fueled by this dramatic village resurgence, new and old residents are increasingly seeking close-to-home

culminated with the 2020 Master Site Plan that includes much improved ADA compliant access and an Ecological Assessment and Forest Management Plan. The plan notes the highly deteriorated condition of the forest, rampant invasives and many deer-created problems on the site.

(Picture Left to Right:)
Angela Riccetti, Jamie Grossman, Joe Bones: Vice-Chair, Tiffany Loomis: Manager, Amy Finkbiner: President, Marty Laney, Zeyn B. Uzman: Mayor, Brendan Phillips, and Mark Niemiec

News From Borough Council

Phase 1 improvements were selected to allow a diverse cross-section of Borough residents to use and enjoy the site and to create additional support for later phases of the restoration plan. The \$500,000.00 phase 1 budget is approximately 29% of the total estimated site restoration costs.

Additionally, the Public Works Sub-Committee has initiated and budgeted the following roads

to be paved during the year of 2022:

- A portion of King Street
- Quaker Lane
- S. Warren Avenue
- Raspberry Lane, and
- Crest Avenue

Council has also obtained grant funding to upgrade Quann Park in Spring including construction of a sidewalk between First Avenue and North Warren Avenue 4' feet in width, replacement of the old wood steps to the basketball court area is planned, and replacement of the entire fence located in the outfield area. There is going to be a retaining wall built where the sidewalk is located and this area can be used for additional seating. Six (6) new trees will be replacing the trees that have to be removed on First Avenue due to the sidewalk installation. Additionally, the Environmental Advisory Council will be part of a public planting project for the rain garden that is being installed. The rain garden is located in the first base field area and ties into the pump station pipe.

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 and notifications are sent through Constant Contact. If you have not yet signed up for e-mail notifications, please visit our website and click sign up for updates by providing your email address.



**Malvern Borough
Council**

Capital Projects Completed in Year 2021

The following Capital Projects were in completed in Year 2021:

*Audio and Video Equipment was purchased for Main Meeting Room to hold meeting virtually

*Comprehensive Plan Revision was initiated and will be completed by no later than August 2022

*Handicapped Accessible Door was installed at Borough Hall

*Malvern and Karen Drive(s) were repaved

*King Street Shade Tree Plan was initiated and approved for 20 shade trees to be planted along King Street in Spring 2022

Shade Tree Commission

GREAT TREES FOR WINTER INTEREST

American Holly (*Ilex opaca*)

Mature Size: 15 – 30' high and 18 – 40' wide

USDA Hardiness Zone: 5 – 9



Light Requirements: Full Sun to Part Shade

There are more than a thousand varieties of American holly out there, including some with orange or yellow berries!

Not only are these berries highly ornamental, but they are readily consumed by birds and other wildlife. Interestingly, though, not all American hollies produce fruits. They are a dioecious species, meaning their male and female flowers are borne on separate plants. You must have the two growing near enough to each other for the females to set fruit — with a little help from pollinator insects like bees, of course!

As a star of the winter garden — and winter décor — the American holly has more than earned its spot on this list of Great Trees.

Paperbark Maple (*Acer griseum*)

Mature Size: 20 – 30' high and 15 – 20' wide

USDA Hardiness Zone: 5 – 7

Light Requirements: Full Sun to Part Shade



The Paperbark Maple's distinctive, cinnamon-colored bark exfoliates in beautiful curls that can cling to the tree for some time, catching the light in a way that instantly draws your eye from across the garden in the wintertime — or any time of year, for that matter! In the growing season, its bluish-green trifoliate leaves may not look particularly maple-like to the casual observer, but once you get to know this handsome specimen tree, there's no mistaking it for anything else.

In the fall, its leaves transform into variable hues of orange and red that can be quite brilliant, offering a lovely autumnal prelude to its stunning wintery bark display.

Shade Tree Commission

Green Hawthorn (*Crataegus viridis*)

Mature Size: 20 – 35' high and wide

USDA Hardiness Zone: 4 – 7

Light Requirements: Full Sun to Part Shade



The tree's bright red fruits — or pomes — can persist on its bare branches well into the winter months, providing a striking pop of red that really shines in the landscape. But this is by no means a one-season plant!

In the late spring, fragrant white flowers appear in small clus-

ters across the tree's spreading crown. And although you might not immediately notice the similarity in its flowers, the green hawthorn is actually in the rose family — the Rosaceae. Perhaps the fruits' similarity to rose hips is a better indicator of this botanical relationship, but so too is the occasional, inch-long thorn that can appear along its branches! Unlike other hawthorns, however, *Crataegus viridis* is largely spineless.

River Birch (*Betula nigra*)

Mature Size: 70' high and 60' wide

USDA Hardiness Zone: 3 – 9

Light Requirements: Full Sun to Part Shade



The river birch has beautiful, flaky birch bark that peels away from the tree in sheets resembling pinkish-cream to gray-brown paper. Leathery, toothed, diamond-shaped leaves complete the package and provide a spot of yellow in the autumn landscape. This native can grow upwards of two feet in a year — especially in moist areas. It often develops as a multi-trunked specimen with a unique habit and provides an early food source for pollinators. Coupled with its handsome bark, these features make the river birch a welcome feature in the winter garden and certainly earn it a place on this list.

All information was sourced from the following article. Please see: <https://www.ncarboretum.org/2020/11/18/great-trees-for-winter-interest>

Malvern Borough Library

What's Happening at the Malvern Library?

We hope you'll join the library in our new programming this year. To sign up for any of the events mentioned, please see our [online calendar of events](#).

Online yoga classes will remain available on Zoom every Tuesday at 7pm. All levels are welcome, registration is required.

Talk with a financial planner about your [budgeting goals for the New Year](#), January 31st at 7pm. This online event will help you reduce debt and set goals for your financial future.

During the month of March we encourage you to ["Round Up" at the register](#) while

shopping at Kimberton Whole foods in Malvern. All proceeds from rounding up your purchase go directly to the benefit of the library.

We now have a few teen events for those of you with teens or tweens at home.

Teen Advisory board meets once a month. Participants will chat about ways they can volunteer their time at the library, help us manage our YA collection, and earn community hours while doing so. Please see our [online calendar of events](#) to register for each board meeting separately. We also encourage teens to check out our art club, book club, and [teen zone](#) section of our website.

Our regular Children's Story Times resume the week of Jan. 18th and will continue to proceed through March. There's a perfect Story Time fit for any age and interested. Please register for open slots individually.

Finally, be sure to check out the [Kids Zone](#) for even more children's programming. Our children's librarian is always adding fun and exciting new events from kid friendly cooking to a brand new guessing game in the library.



Malvern Historical Commission

Happy New Year! The Historical Commission wishes everyone in Malvern a healthy, peaceful, and prosperous New Year.

Since one of the Commission's members recently resigned due to his election to the office of Mayor, the Commission once again has a vacancy. The individual appointed to fill this vacancy will complete a term that expires on January 1, 2024. Any Borough resident who is interested in serving the community on the Historical Commission may apply by sending a letter of interest and résumé to the Borough Manager at malvern@malvern.org. Additional information concerning the functions of the Commission is available on the Borough website, www.malvern.org.

For anyone who wanted the Commission to do another walking tour, your wish will be granted this summer! We are planning a walking tour, centering on the Malvern Baptist Church cemetery, this August. Keep an eye out, here and on the Commission's Facebook page, for further details, as well as opportunities to help make the Tour happen by volunteering to help.

The Commission meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month on the second floor of Borough Hall at 7:30 p.m. (Check www.malvern.org or the front door of Borough Hall for notices about possible meeting cancellations.) Feel free to attend our meetings, to volunteer to help out with the Commission's activities, to ask questions about the history of your property or about Borough histo-

ry, or just to find out

more about what's going on with regard to historical preservation in the Borough.

As always, you can reach us e-mail at malvernborohistory@malvern.org or message us through our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/malvernborohistory/>. In addition, we can also be found on Instagram at [@malvernborohistory](https://www.instagram.com/malvernborohistory). Like and follow us on both Facebook and Instagram to learn more about Malvern's past. See you around town!



**Malvern Borough
Historical Commission**

Malvern Farmers Market



The Malvern Farmers Market is open outdoors, YEAR ROUND and highlights the very best in locally grown food. **During the winter season (Jan-Apr 2022), markets are held on the 1st/3rd/5th Saturdays from 10am -12 noon in Burke Park.** Our producer-only market features locally

grown fruits and vegetables, grass-fed meats, pasture raised poultry and farm fresh eggs, artisan baked goods and breads, local beer & spirits, kombucha, hand-made pasta, local honey, and value added products made with locally sourced ingredients. We are

committed to supporting and promoting the rich agricultural history of Chester County and beyond! Visit www.GrowingRootsPartners.com/Malvern for up to date information, including a weekly line-up of producers or to subscribe to the market newsletter.

MALVERN
WINTER MARKET SEASON 2022

BIWEEKLY MARKETS
3rd/5th Saturdays (Jan)
1st/3rd Saturdays (Feb-Apr)
10am-12 noon • Burke Park

January 15	March 5
January 29	March 19
February 5	April 2
February 19	April 16

Malvern Parks & Recreation Committee

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR PARKS RECENTLY?

Who has noticed the newest addition to Rubino Park? It has a spanking new Message Board!! Compliments of our very own borough resident, **Benjamin Lang**. Ben was working toward his goal of Eagle Scout when he contacted me to do his service project. Ben opted to create a space for the community to be informed about our borough and to become aware of our various activities. Ben is a senior at GVHS and has been in the Boy Scouts since the 1st grade. Eagle Scout is the highest achievement or rank attainable by the Boy Scouts. The service project is a task that the Scout plans, organizes, leads, and manages. In addition to that, Ben's responsibilities included fundraising, purchasing, and building his project. Ben made an in-person presentation to the Borough Council to present his idea. After he completed the work, he made another presentation with a slideshow to describe what he created, get approval from the Borough Council that the project was completed appropriately, and "hand over the keys".

Thank you, Ben, for adding this permanent structure to our park and taking such care to pay attention to the details. From choosing the park to

picking the location of placement, investigating the design and materials, and taking the time to study and scrutinize that the board was built for eternity. Ben also kept the historic look and design of the board in keeping with the other boards in the borough for continuity.

Malvern Borough is home to over 100 acres of parkland and preserved open space. These areas provide for both passive and active recreation. The Parks and Rec Committee along with the EAC is actively working on providing educational information about the benefits of these ecological spaces. For instance, our new Rubino Park Message Board has information regarding common backyard birds in our area.

Our Borough Parks:

Burke Park, in the heart of downtown. Burke Park is home to our gazebo, Borough clock (aka: Back to the Future!), children's playground, Little Free Library. It hosts Saturday Farmers Market, Movie in the Park, Malvern on Ice, and many other events.

Rubino Park is at the intersections of East Broad and Old Lincoln Hwy. It hosts our new Message Board, a fenced-in playground, gazebo, and picnic tables.

Quann Park, located off Warren on 1st Ave, supports a softball field, basketball court, and a large open space for other recreational activities. It abuts against the Paoli Memorial Grounds and Paoli Battlefield with a wonderful hidden trail in the woods.

Herzak Park is our newest park, hosting a fenced-in basketball court.

Randolph Woods is the borough's 40-acre hidden gem. It is located at the bottom of Ruthland Ave and can be reached by the Willistown Duffryn Trail. It boasts a stream (young Andrew and I love to splash and walk in it), bridges, trails, birdhouses, picnic tables, and large open spaces. Events such as the Campout and Stories 'n S'mores are hosted here.

I hope each of you is able to take some time, even in this cold winter weather (17 degrees as I write this article today) to visit one of our many parks and open spaces.

-Helise Bichefsky, DO



Environmental Advisory Council

WHAT'S THE HARM OF LEAVING MY DOG POO OR THE BAG BEHIND??

Whether it is due to the pandemic or a simple desire to be healthier, there are significantly more walkers, joggers, and dogs on Malvern's many trails and walkways. Unfortunately, there has also been a significant increase in dog poo bags and un-scooped piles of poo, and this problem only intensifies when it snows.

Dog feces (poo) contain excessive levels of bacteria and nitrates and can carry E. coli, Salmonella, and other parasites. These bacteria and parasites are harmful to humans, especially small children who may be closest to it, and other dogs. Poo left to decompose becomes a pollutant, creating ecological imbalances when nutrients and pathogens leach into the soil and contaminate water resources. Therefore, this poo must be removed and securely deposited in trash containers.

Some folks bag their poo with plans to "pick it up later" (though they frequently forget it on their return). Colorful as they might be, these dog poo bags are a public nuisance and do a lot more harm to our trails, walkways, and wildlife than you

might think. Ugliness aside, these abandoned bags are actually little poop bombs with far-ranging impacts.

For example, a colorful bag may look like fancy treats to another dog. But if Fido eats the contents, he can become quite sick. Or—if the bag of poo is left along the sidewalk or in the woods, a heavy rain can carry the bag to the nearest storm

For those that use biodegradable bags, thank you for considering of our environment. But that is not enough. We must complete the job by disposing of poo properly. The final resting place for these bags must be a controlled environment (i.e., a landfill). Otherwise, in an uncontrolled environment, such as on King Street, at Burke Park, or along a trail in Randolph Woods, these bags will eventually re-

locate or degrade, exposing the poo and impacting our environment.

Let's keep the poo from polluting. Just remember, whether it's on a walk or in a fenced yard, the poo must be removed and it doesn't disappear with the snow. *It must be bagged and placed in a secure trash receptacle.* Fortunately, there are loads of trash cans throughout our

borough. With common courtesy and a little respect, we can show a little love to our Malvern home.

-Helise Bichesky, DO
-Zoe Warner PhD



**Malvern Borough
Environmental
Advisory
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drain or directly into a local stream, clogging the waterways and harming sensitive aquatic life.

In addition, these bags, along with other plastic waste, threaten wildlife. Colorful plastic trash can be mistaken as a food source. When ingested, plastic waste can get lodged in an animal's digestive system. Over time, this can lead to malnutrition and starvation.