

Chalfont Borough Lamplighter



FALL 2021 VOLUME 21 No. 2

HISTORIC CHALFONT NEWS

DAWN TREMMEL ❖ ASST. TO MANAGER/BOROUGH SECRETARY

The Borough has received a wonderful gift, a piece of history donated by longtime Chalfont resident and former Council Member, Everett Wick. Mr. Wick donated an original edition of the *Chalfont News* printed on April 1, 1931. It is an amazing document that gives a glimpse into the lives and interests of Chalfont residents from over 90 years ago!

Mr. Wick was born at home, 30 E. Butler Avenue, in Chalfont Borough on November 30, 1930. He resided in the Borough for 74 years before moving to the Lutheran Community at Telford. He served on Chalfont Borough Council from December 2001 until June 2003. Mr. Wick also served on the former Water Advisory Committee and stated that he also served as Borough Treasurer at one point. To his credit, he was also a member of the original Chalfont Planning Commission, and a member of the Committee that wrote the Borough Charter.

Because two members of the Wick family are mentioned on the front page, it is assumed that Everett's family chose to save this newspaper for posterity. Everett was only about four months old at the time of the publication, but had an older brother, Albert, who scored a "100" on a spelling test and had the good fortune of having his name listed on the front page of the publication in an article entitled, "Best Spellers." Everett's father, Alexander Albert Wick, was also mentioned in

a different article on the front page having to do with a meeting of the Chalfont Board of Trade, of which he was a member. Everett explained that the Board of Trade was similar to our modern day Chamber of Commerce.

Everett came across the newspaper at his father's house a few times throughout his life. When it came time to clean out his father's home for the last time, he decided to continue to save it. He came across it again recently while cleaning

out his own house, and when he did, he immediately thought of John Abbott. Mr. Abbott is another Chalfont Borough resident who happens to be doing a documentary series on the history of Chalfont and had contacted Everett in search of some historical knowledge. Mr. Abbott put Everett in touch with Chalfont Borough staff to discuss donation of the newspaper to the Borough with the intention of displaying it for the public's enjoyment. A generous donor agreed to pay for the newspaper to be archivally framed, and copies were also made for safe keeping.



Mayor Brian Wallace and Mr. Everett Wick

Mr. Wick was invited to attend the August 9, 2021 council meeting to formally present his framed gift to elected officials and the residents of Chalfont Borough. It was accepted by Chalfont Borough Council through Resolution #2021-04. This gift is an amazing document that gives insight into what life was like in Chalfont Borough and the surrounding area over 90 years ago.

(story continued on page 4)

CHALFONT BOROUGH

Administration office is located at:
40 N. Main Street, Chalfont, PA 18914

Office Hours: Monday - Friday
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Phone: 215-822-7295
Fax: 215-822-5528

Email:
info@chalfontborough.com

BOROUGH OFFICIALS

Mayor: Brian D. Wallace

Council President: John R. Engel

Council Vice President: Tracey Bowen

Council Members: Michael Beebie

Mark Glidden

Marilyn H. Jacobson

Michael Kelly

Mitchell Meyerson

Borough Manager:
Shawn Curran

Asst to Manager/Borough Secretary:
Dawn Tremmel

MONTHLY MEETINGS

HARB meets the first Monday of each month, as needed.

Council meets the second Monday of each month.

Planning Commission meets the fourth Monday of each month, as needed.

All meetings are held at 7:00 PM.

Meetings take place at Borough Hall, but may be subject to change due to evolving pandemic conditions.

Check the Borough's website:
www.chalfontborough.com

Twitter: twitter.com/ChalfontBoro

Facebook: facebook.com/chalfontborough
for up-to-date meeting information.

TAX INFORMATION

Chalfont property owners receive two different property tax bills each year; one municipal and one school.

COUNTY & BOROUGH MUNICIPAL TAX

The first is a County & Municipal Real Estate Tax Bill, which is mailed out to property owners by the end of February. This particular tax is collected by Chalfont Borough. If you do not receive your bill, or you have recently moved, please contact Chalfont Borough's office at 215-822-7295 to update your mailing address.

If your property taxes are escrowed, forward one portion of your bill to your mortgage company and keep a portion for your own records. The discount period ends April 30th. The base amount is due by June 30th.

County & Municipal Real Estate Tax Bill payments are made out to "Chalfont Borough." Payment can be sent by mail or dropped off in person to Chalfont Borough, 40 North Main Street in Chalfont. The Borough's administration office is open from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday (closed on holidays). Please use the **side entrance** to the building (parking lot side). If you pay by mail and would like a stamped receipt, you will need to enclose a SASE with your payment along with the whole tax bill (do not separate).


SCHOOL TAX INFORMATION

The second tax bill residents receive each year is the School Real Estate Tax bill, which is mailed to property owners on July 1st. If you did not receive your bill or have questions, please contact the School Tax Collector, Nicole Percetti, who works out of New Britain Township's office. Nicole can be reached by phone at 215-822-2930, or by email at newbritaintax@gmail.com. Nicole accepts school property tax payments in three ways:

1. By mail. Send to: Nicole Percetti, Tax Collector
P.O. Box 476
Chalfont, PA 18914

2. Online through Nicole's website:
www.newbritaintax.webs.com

3. Or you can drop off your payment in person at the 24-hour lockbox outside of Nicole's main office located at 207 Park Avenue in Chalfont (New Britain Township's administration office adjacent to North Branch Park). If you'd like a stamped receipt, include a SASE and the full copy of your bill. Please make school tax checks payable to: "Central Bucks School District," or just simply "CBSD."

To have taken advantage of the discount, payments must have been postmarked by August 31st. Otherwise the base payment amount is due by October 31st. 

GETTING TO KNOW COUNCIL

MARK GLIDDEN ❖ COUNCIL MEMBER



Q: *Mark, how long have you lived in Chalfont Borough and what brought you here?*

A: My family came to Chalfont Borough in 1991. We lived in Lansdale before moving here and we wanted to be closer to Doylestown (where my folks lived) and also wanted to be closer to New York where my wife works.

Q: *Are you married? Do you have any children and/or any pets?*

A: I've been married to my wife, Christine, for 32 years. Our daughter, Amanda, is a trauma nurse, and our son, Garrett, works in high tech. Garrett was actually born in our home. I'm not sure there are many kids born in the Borough these days, so I think that is pretty special.



Q: *What is your profession?*

A: I am the Managing Director for a nonprofit organization that offers strategic planning, fundraising and executive searches.

Q: *Why did you decide to run for Borough Council?*

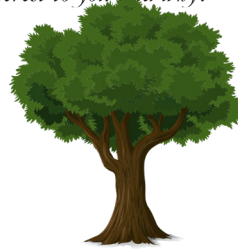
A: My family has always been involved in every community we grew up in. I was taught that we have an obligation to participate in the communities we live in. Prior to serving on Chalfont Borough Council, I was on the Planning Commission and the Zoning Hearing Board.

Q: *What would you like to preserve or change about Chalfont?*

A: I would like to have more folks who live here really understand the issues in the Borough and attend Council meetings or meetings of the Planning Commission, Zoning Hearing Board, or HARB. The number of folks who volunteer their time to make this a livable community is significant, but we could always use more. I'm not sure that most of the citizens realize how many hours are volunteered by people who just want to make our community strong.



Q: *Are there any Borough projects or initiatives that are of special interest to you and why?*



A: The parks and trail systems in Chalfont are something the Borough should be proud of. Each time I walk or ride on them, I see more and more people who are discovering how great it is to be able to be close to nature right here in the heart of the Borough.

Q: *Do you volunteer with any other organizations in addition to your Borough Council duties?*

A: I am a Board Member at The Washington Memorial Heritage. We are responsible for the preservation of the Washington Memorial Chapel in Valley Forge, as well as the long range planning for the property.

Q: *What is your favorite thing about living in Chalfont Borough?*

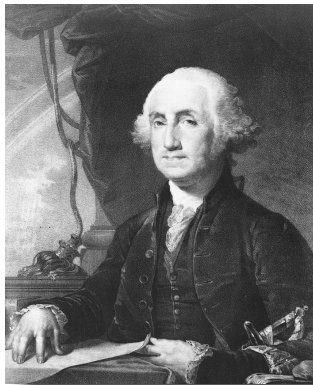
A: The people. There is a certain texture to the people who live here that is not like any of the other towns around us. We tend to know who we are, go quietly about our business and are willing to help others, and are overall just good folks.

Q: *What do you enjoy doing in your free time?*

A: I play golf and ride my bike whenever possible. I also enjoy traveling. My wife is a flight attendant for Delta Airlines. She does a great job of finding fascinating and interesting places to visit all over the world, and is great at doing this in a budget-responsible way.



Q: *If you could trade places with any other person for a week, famous or not, living or dead, real or fictional, with whom would it be, and why?*



George Washington
Image Credit: Library of Congress

A: I would trade places with George Washington in the week leading up to his crossing of the Delaware River. The pressure he was under must have been incredible. He was losing support and had not won a single battle, but still pressed forward. It is one of the most significant examples of leadership and perseverance in history. ✎

(continued from front page)

This wonderful piece of history is filled with not only facts about local events and happenings, but it also features ads for new and exciting things for that time. There are ads for things like hot water heaters that were now available to purchase for your home, Easter outfits for kids, and homemade candies.

If you'd like to view the paper in person, it is framed and resides currently in Borough Hall, 40 N. Main Street. Copies were made so that it can be viewed as seen below, and electronic copies are posted on the Borough's website, www.chalfontborough.com, where you can zoom in on the text and clearly read about Borough news and events of that time in Chalfont's history. Please contact the Borough for more information.

A special thanks to Mr. Everett Wick and his family members for saving and donating this newspaper. It provides a wonderful glimpse into the history, lives, and interests of the residents of Chalfont Borough. ❧

BOROUGH STAFF NEWS



Chalfont Borough's Secretary/Assistant to the Manager, Dawn Tremmel, has earned the designation of Certified Borough Official (CBO). The Certified Borough Officials Program, is a voluntary educational achievement program for borough officials. It is designed to promote continuing education for borough officials and excellence in local government service. The CBO designation signifies a commitment to education,

leadership, and staying informed on important issues that affect borough communities. Dawn Tremmel received this award in September 2021 after earning 107 continuing education credits in municipal studies. Congratulations on your achievement, Dawn. ❧

STAY INFORMED

Chalfont Borough invites you to stay informed about important local news and events by visiting its website, liking the Borough on Facebook, or joining the Borough on Twitter.

- www.chalfontborough.com
- facebook.com/chalfontborough
- twitter.com/ChalfontBoro



SNOW SEASON

Winter will be here before we know it, and with that in mind, here are few reminders:

- All Borough streets are designated as snow emergency routes. Move cars off of streets during snowfall and keep them off streets until after snow clean up has been completed and the snow emergency has been lifted.
- Residents are asked to keep fire hydrants on or near their property clear and accessible at all times.
- Snow and ice must be removed from sidewalks within 12 hours of the cessation (end) of such event. Shovel snow the full width of the sidewalk and all the way down to the pavement surface. Excessive ice must be treated with sand or other abrasive material for safe pedestrian travel.
- **Do not throw or plow snow onto Borough streets.** Pile the snow that you clear into your own yard.
- Keep all portable basketball hoops and trash & recycling cans out of the street so they don't interfere with plowing or spring/fall street sweeping.
- Please place warning markers where snow plows might damage your yard or curb.
- Don't allow children to build snow forts in the street. The results could be tragic.

Call PennDOT's Bucks County road maintenance department at 215-345-6060 with any issues concerning state-owned roads within the Borough: Bristol Road, Butler Avenue, N. Main Street (Rt. 152), Park Avenue, South Limekiln Pike, and Sunset Avenue.

Please be patient and courteous to the plow crews. They work long hours doing a difficult job with the goal of getting you back onto the roads as soon as possible.

Borough staff is aware that some residents get frustrated with "windrows," which are the long piles of snow on each side of the road that plows leave behind. Windrows often unintentionally bury freshly shoveled sidewalk sections and driveway aprons. Windrows are unavoidable, but you can try to reduce the amount of snow that ends up in a windrow in front of your driveway by first clearing a portion of the roadway in the area prior to your driveway which will allow the plow to unload snow in that cleared area before it has the chance to unload it onto your driveway apron. Windrows are frustrating, but they are an unavoidable result of plowing. ❧



Central Bucks Regional Police Department Update

For those who are unaware, Chalfont Borough's police department joined the Central Bucks Regional Police Department (CBRPD) in 2016. Police services in the Borough since that time have been provided through CBRPD, whose current office is located at 57 W. Court Street in Doylestown Borough. There is no longer a police department office operating out of Chalfont Borough Hall at 40 N. Main Street that the public can utilize. All police business in Chalfont Borough should be directed to CBRPD at their current Doylestown location. All emergencies should be reported by dialing 9-1-1. Any **non-emergency** issues requiring an officer's attention (during or after normal business hours) should be directed to CBRPD dispatch by calling 215-328-8511. CBRPD's office number for administrative matters is 215-345-4143 and staff is in their office Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

Before the end of this year, CBRPD's new police building headquarters at the corner of N. Broad and Doyle Streets in Doylestown Borough should be completed. This new location will become CBRPD's new permanent headquarters. Stay tuned to CBRPD's website for updates on their big move by visiting, <https://bucks.crimewatchpa.com/centralbucksregionalpd/home> You can also follow CBRPD on Twitter, <https://twitter.com/cbrpdpolice> and on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/CBRPD28/>



Chal-Brit Regional EMS Update

Chal-Brit Regional EMS provides our area with life saving services and is an important part of the Chalfont-New Britain community. Chalfont Borough appoints a member to the EMS Board to help with oversight and management of the inner workings of the organization, as well as to assist with financial oversight. Chalfont is in need of new representation on the EMS Board. Their meetings take place on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 5:00 PM at the Squad building located at 201 Park Avenue. If you are interested in serving your community in a very impactful way, please contact the Borough office at 215-822-7295, or stop by in person at 40 N. Main Street. If you'd like to find out more about Chal-Brit Regional EMS you can visit their website, www.chalfontems.org, and you can also follow them on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/Chal-Brit-Regional-EMS-254223841716798>

2021 FALL YARD CLEAN UP

Fall Yard Clean-up Dumpster

A 30-yard dumpster will be available to residents for **YARD WASTE DISPOSAL ONLY**. Acceptable materials include biodegradable-bagged grass clippings, brush, and tree limbs not exceeding 4-feet in length.

The dumpster will be located in the parking lot behind Borough Hall, 40 North Main St., on Tuesday, 11/9/21 until filled (~ week).

Dumpster Rules

PLEASE NOTE

- No plastic bags allowed in the dumpster.
- Do not fill over top of dumpster.
- Do not leave anything around the outside of the dumpster.
- **NOTHING OTHER THAN YARD WASTE IS ALLOWED INSIDE THE DUMPSTER**
- ***NO OLD SWING SETS!***
- If your amount of yard waste does not fit, you must take it with you.

Curbside Leaf Collection Dates

October 30, 2021
November 13, 2021
December 11, 2021

Leaves should be placed in biodegradable leaf bags and placed curbside the night before pickup. No twigs or twig bundles allowed in bags with leaves. This curbside pick-up is for **LEAVES ONLY**.

IN REMEMBRANCE

COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY A. CODDINGTON



Chalfont Borough is mourning the loss of Council Member Jeffrey A. Coddington. Jeff passed away Thursday, August 19, 2021, peacefully with his wife, Beth, of 36 years by his side. He was 62.

He was the son of Lila Coddington and the late Alan Coddington. He is survived by his wife Beth; daughter Jessica; son Jake; brother Mark Coddington (Amy); nephews Ryan, Max and Nick; niece Bella. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Heather.

Jeff took pride in many things. He was a branch manager for 17 years with Heiland Electronics. He served on Chalfont Borough Council for two terms (eight years) and was recently appointed Vice President. He enjoyed taking care of his lawn and making sure it was golf course green, but most of all, he cherished spending time with his family. Jeff had a vision of becoming a Mason, but unfortunately his path was cut short.

Jeff was a positive contributor to the Borough and cared a great deal about the residents of Chalfont. He always had the community's best interest at heart in the decisions he

made and he worked to improve the everyday lives of Borough residents. Jeff's passing will leave a void and he will be greatly missed by Borough staff and council members. Our deepest condolences to the Coddington family. 🙏

A MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT JUDGE REGINA ARMITAGE

HOW COVID-19 AFFECTED LOCAL COURT FILINGS

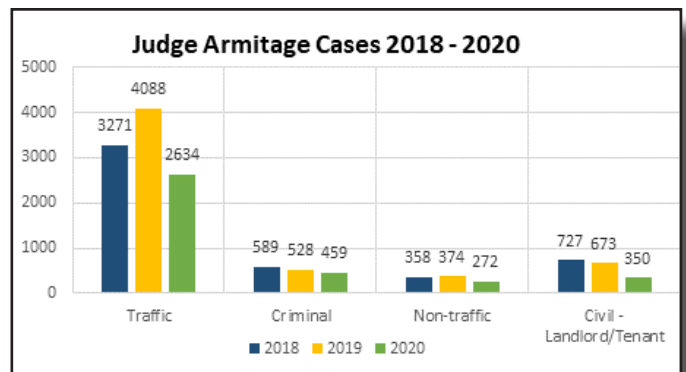
Looking back on what an interesting year 2020 was, it's safe to say that just about everyone and everything was somehow affected by Covid-19. As shutdowns and safety precautions were exercised across the state, adjustments here at the District Court were also implemented to minimize the pandemic spread. I wanted to see if (and how much) Covid-19 affected court filings in 2020, so I ran data to see how it compared to 2018 and 2019, and this is what the system reflected.

It appears motorists caught a huge break as there were 1,427 fewer (35% less) traffic violations issued in 2020. With limited contact becoming commonplace, there is no doubt this decrease was a direct impact of Covid-19. However, even with the drop in numbers, police departments in this district were still some of the busiest in Bucks County and filed 2,634 citations for the year. Overall, the court ranked 6th in the county (out of 18) for traffic tickets issued in 2020.

The biggest change last year was the Civil & Landlord/Tenant filings. Although they comprise only a small portion of our cases, the court saw about half the filings when compared to prior years. We attribute this 48% decrease to the Emergency Order which stayed all Landlord/Tenant matters and evictions across the state, however, we anticipate a surge in this docket when the stay is lifted.

Unfortunately, the areas that were minimally affected were the Criminal and Non-Traffic filings. In prior years, Criminal case

dockets closed out at 589 in the year 2018, and 528 in the year 2019 respectively, yet 2020's total of 459 showed just a slight decline of 12%. Likewise, Non-Traffic cases such as disorderly conduct, public intoxication, harassment, etc. also reflected a marginal drop with only a 20% decrease of total citations issued.



Concluding on a more positive note, I've had the honor of performing 23 wedding ceremonies throughout last year for couples who wouldn't let Covid-19 get in the way of their love and commitment to each another. With an annual average of 24 weddings per year, it seems as though 2020 remained right on track for that category and it was wonderful to see love prevail! 🙏



It's Scarecrow Time Again!

Chalfont Borough will provide the frames and straw, you provide the creativity! Pick up your supplies outside along the side of the Borough's administration building located at 40 N. Main Street starting on **October 8th-10th** until supplies run out. This year, supplies will be on a first come, first served basis, there will be no reservations or orders placed.

Please return your completed scarecrows any time between **October 15th-17th**. They can be left propped up against the side of the Borough Hall building. The Borough's Public Works crew will install the scarecrows on the street light poles along N. Main Street and Butler Avenue in time for Halloween.

If you have any questions, please call the Borough office at 215-822-7295. ☎



2021 RECYCLING NEWS

Upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Collection Rain or Shine Event

Check Bucks County's website for any pandemic-related restrictions & notifications.

The final collection date for 2021 is October 30, 2021 in Upper Bucks at Strayer Middle School, 1200 Ronald Reagan Dr., Quakertown

****REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.**** Register at buckshhw.eventbrite.com

For a list of accepted/unaccepted items for collection:

<https://recycling-bucksgis.opendata.arcgis.com/pages/hhw-events>



PUBLIC WORKS

- **Butler Avenue Update:** The water main replacement is now complete along Butler Avenue. Repaving will commence between Bristol Road and Rt. 152. Road closures and delays are possible until work is completed. Butler Avenue is a state-owned road.
- **Bristol Road Update:** The water main replacement project on Bristol Road will continue until November according to AQUA PA and PennDOT. Please continue to use alternate routes while road restrictions are in place. Bristol Road is a state-owned road.
- **Upcoming Paving Projects on Borough-owned roads:** No more paving projects will take place in 2021. In 2022, the following paving projects are expected to take place; Jasen Dr., Renee Cir., Jana Cir., Lilac Ln., Church St., Chestnut St., Wisler St., Maple Ave. and a section of Sunset Ave.
- There will be a yard waste dumpster scheduled for delivery to 40 N. Main St. on Tuesday, November 9, 2021. **Yard waste only.** Leaves must be in biodegradable bags only. Branches bundled, please.
- Fall curb-side leaf collection days will be on the following Saturdays, Oct. 30th, Nov. 13th and Dec. 11th. Please use biodegradable leaf bags only. Do not put any twigs or tree trimmings in the leaf bags. This collection is for leaves only. ☎

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Chalfont Borough has resumed in-person meetings for Council and Committees. Borough Council meetings take place on the 2nd Monday of each month at Borough Hall, 40 N. Main Street at 7:00 PM.

Up-to-date meeting notifications and cancellations can be found by visiting the Borough's website:

www.chalfontborough.com

Twitter: twitter.com/chalfontboro

Facebook: facebook.com/chalfontborough

Meeting agendas are posted on the Borough's website and on the front door of Borough Hall in advance of each meeting. If you would like to participate or make a public comment, please attend a meeting in-person.

Past meeting minutes are archived online on the Borough's website through ECode. Go to www.chalfontborough.com, then go to *Online Services* at the top of the page, then select *Borough Code*. On the left hand side you will see a menu of public documents to choose from, including meeting minutes. You can also navigate through the Borough Code from this page using the search bar at the top or the index on the upper left side.

Call the Borough's administration office at 215-822-7295 Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM with any questions. ☎



CHALFONT BOROUGH
40 N. MAIN ST.
CHALFONT, PA 18914

PRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Doylestown PA
Permit No. #640

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

- **AQUA PA (water service):** 1-877-987-2782
- **Borough (Municipal) & County Tax Collector:** Barbara Klingerman for Chalfont Borough, 215-822-7295
 - **School Tax Collector (CBSD):** Nicole Percetti for Central Bucks School District, 215-822-2930
- **Central Bucks Regional Police Department (CBRPD) administrative office:** 215-345-4143
- **CBRPD Dispatch:** 215-328-8511, call to report **non-emergency** situations requiring an officer during or after normal business hours
- **Central Bucks School District:** 267-893-2000
- **Chal-Brit Emergency Medical Services:** 215-822-1308 (non-emergency)
- **Chalfont Fire Company:** 215-822-9685 (non-emergency)
- **Chalfont New Britain Joint Sewer Authority:** 215-345-1225
- **Chalfont Post Office:** 215-822-0659
- **Emergencies: 9-1-1**
- **Keystone Collections Group:** Earned Income Tax and E-File, 888-328-0565; All other inquiries, 724-978-0300
- **PECO Emergency:** 800-841-4141
- **PennDOT pothole reporting for State-owned roads:** 800-349-7623; Bristol Road, Butler Avenue, Limekiln Pike South, N. Main St., Park Avenue, Sunset Avenue (are all State-owned roads & Borough has no control over maintenance.)
- **PennDOT Highway Maintenance District 6-1 (urgent local issues):** 215-345-6060
- **Waste Management (contracted residential trash & recycling service):** 484-679-4825 or 1-800-869-5566

Bucks County Recycling Program: www.buckscounty.org/government/communityservices/planningcommission/recycling
or go to www.chalfontborough.com/forms and look for the "Hazardous Waste Schedule"



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