

Bridgeport News

OCTOBER 2011

MAYOR

Thaddeus "Ted" Pruskowski

**BOROUGH COUNCIL
President**

Kenneth Frymoyer—Ward 1

Vice-President

JoAnn H. Gadzicki—Ward 2

Juanita Coover—Ward 1

Robert Courtney—Ward 1

Michael Gallagher —Ward 2

Joseph L. Galleo—Ward 3

Peter Kohut—Ward 3

Jack Kowal—Ward 2

John Pizza—Ward 3

Council Meetings are held at the Borough Hall on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the Month at 7:30 p.m. *The public is welcome.*

ADMINISTRATION

610.272.1811

Borough Manager

William Martin

Public Works Director

Joseph Battisto

**Code Enforcement/
Building Inspector**

Steve Wanczyk

POLICE 610.272.5660

Chief of Police

Zenny E. Martyniuk

COUNCIL ANNOUNCES NEW BOROUGH MANAGER

At the September 27th public meeting, Bridgeport Borough Council appointed a new Borough Manager to replace Mr. Anthony DiSanto who is retiring.

Mr. William Martin will take the reigns on October 3rd. DiSanto will remain in a consulting role.

Faced with the pending retirement of Anthony DiSanto, Council appointed a committee to launch the search for a new Borough Manager. The members of the Search Committee were John Pizza, JoAnn Gadzicki and Juanita Coover, who served as Chair. In all, the Search Committee attracted some of the best and most qualified candidates, receiving 32 applications, of which 2 withdrew. The candidates were evaluated based on specific criteria including: accounting/budget, local government experience, employee management, project management, grants and personality (to make sure it was a good "fit" for the borough). After several months of meetings, reviewing resumes and extensive interviewing, the Search Committee presented its recommendations to Council. Martin's experience is extensive, so early on in the process, he was a top candidate.

Mr. Martin started his career in the Nassau County (New York) Legislature as a Legislative Assistant. He then focused his career in local government with Radnor Township (1st Class Home Rule Municipality) in 2001 as Assistant Finance Director. Mr. Martin has served in many different capacities at Radnor Township, from Acting Finance Director, Right to Know Officer, Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator, Director of Administrative Services, Interim Director of Community Development, Assistant Township Manager to Acting Township Manager.

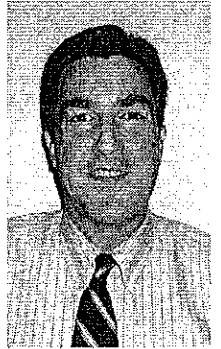
Search Committee member, JoAnn Gadzicki commented, "Mr. Martin is the perfect fit – he is not only qualified and experienced, but also has the personality that compliments our borough".

Mr. Martin grew up in a small town on Long Island Bayville, New York and received his BA and MBA from Villanova University. He and his wife, Marie have two young children and reside in Tredyffrin.

Martin said, "I am excited to begin a new chapter in my life and career and I am looking forward to working alongside Council, the mayor, and my staff, while serving the residents of Bridgeport Borough."

Anyone interested in meeting our new Borough Manager will have the opportunity on Tuesday, November 15th, at the Mayor's Town Meeting. It is suggested that you come to meet and welcome Mr. Martin as he settles in to lead the day-to-day operations of our borough.

A HEARTFELT WELCOME TO MR. WILLIAM "BILL" MARTIN



Mayor's Town Meeting

Mayor Ted Pruskowski will host the Fall Town Meeting with all residents and business people of our town on

Tuesday, November 15th beginning at 6 PM at the Borough Hall, 2nd Floor. *(Handicapped Accessible)*

Come meet our new Borough Manager, Bill Martin

ELECTION DAY - NOVEMBER 8TH

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!



**VETERAN'S DAY is Friday, NOVEMBER 11th -
To all who have served in our Armed Forces -
THANK YOU!**



Pennsylvania Farmers' Markets Face Challenges as Popularity Grows

By: Salvatore F. Bello, Jr., Esquire and Carly J. Fenske, Esquire, *Borough Solicitors*

If you can't get to the farm, they'll bring the farm to you – including the fresh flowers and herbs, hand picked corn on the cob, home-made desserts, colorful fruits and local, organic meats, just to name a few. As today's generation becomes more conscious of the benefits of locally grown foods and mindful of the growing concerns regarding our environment, the popularity of the local farmers markets has soared in Pennsylvania. Of course, with growing popularity also come ever-growing challenges.

A new Pennsylvania law, Act 106 of 2010, went into effect in January, which imposes new restrictions on more than 1,200 farmers' market vendors across the state in an effort to standardize food safety statewide. The new restrictions include licenses, inspections, detailed package labels and portable hot-water sinks.

The new law has received mixed reactions from the lawmakers, market organizers, vendors and local officials. For the vendors, they are most concerned with the economic impact, since they are forced to individually absorb the expenses associated with obtaining state and local licenses as well as the high cost of purchasing cleaning and sanitizing equipment. For local officials, they are forced to deal with challenges associated with enforcing the requisites imposed by the new state law.

Borough Council Vice-president, JoAnn Gadzicki along with many individuals in the Borough community have expressed an interest in establishing a local farmers market similar to those in our neighboring communities. The Solicitor's office is addressing the legal guidelines necessary for the establishment and hopes that together we can bring that small town, home-grown feeling to the Borough community in a safe and healthy way. Please keep an eye out for more information on how to volunteer!



Council Chambers

By: Councilman Jack Kowal

This is the time of the year when Municipal Government begins preparing next year's budget. As always, tough decisions will be required and should be made. While we have received a good bond rating, that rating includes a message that says "no more debt". As you must do in your home, so should Council do in preparing the 2012 budget, and that is to "live within our means". Council must not touch any surplus funds that may accrue as they are for emergency use only. Approximately \$300,00 in delinquent sewer and trash fees are not emergencies, but are the result of the lack of enforcement in collecting same. To continue to survive during this difficult time, Council must continue the hiring freeze (full time), incur no new additional debt and make no unnecessary major purchases. Council must live within its means, as you are required to in your home. Borough Council must continue the fight to keep taxes down, make the difficult decisions to do so, and be responsible, effective, open and honest. Budget hearings are open to the public and all are invited to attend. The schedule for budget hearings is available by calling 610.272.1811.



10th Annual Holiday Lights Ceremony

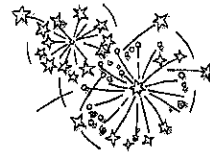
Bridgeport Festive Lights Ceremony will take place on Saturday, November 26, 2011

Santa tours the Borough on fire truck beginning at 4:30 PM. The Holiday Light Ceremonies will begin at 5:30 PM at Borough Hall, Mill Street, followed by the lighting of the Borough Tree and the fireworks display at 6:15 PM

Santa Claus will be available for the children to visit at the Borough Garage. Pictures may be taken sitting on Santa's lap.

CLOWNS - FACE PAINTING - REFRESHMENTS

Rain Date: Sunday November 27, 2011



Mayor's Town Meeting

Mayor Ted Pruskowski will host the Fall Town Meeting with all residents and business people of our town. This meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 15th beginning at 6 PM at the Borough Hall, 2nd Floor.**

(Handicapped Accessible)

Mayor Ted encourages **ALL** to attend and bring your questions and concerns and to

**COME AND MEET OUR
NEW BOROUGH MANAGER, BILL MARTIN**

MAKING US PROUD

This year the 2011 Carl Rosiello Award was shared by two winners: Linda Scott and Paul Dougherty. Good job!

Congratulations to the Times Herald 2011 "BEST OF MONTCO" Award winners:

Bowman Dance Company & School - Best Dance Studio

Bridgeport Rib House - Best Barbeque

Chick's Bar & Restaurant - Best Mussels

J Pro Pools - Best Pool Service

Lynda Desimone - Best Waitress

Salvi's & Friends Pub - Best Neighborhood Pub

Salvi's & Friends Pub - Best Hot Dogs

Tri-County Builders - Best Builders

Plus our Borough Solicitor -

Pizonka, Reilly, Bello & McGrory - #1 Best Law Firm

SAFETY REMINDER

Residents are reminded to keep their vehicles locked and to report any suspicious activity to Police.



Historic Earthquake and Hurricane in the Same Week!

The week of August 21, 2011 was a historic week for many. We together with several states along the eastern corridor experienced an earthquake and hurricane within the same week. Resources are available at <http://www.readypa.org/> for disaster planning. Please visit the Red Cross web page for Hurricane or Earthquake Safety checklists. <http://www.redcross.org/www-files/Documents/pdf/Preparedness/checklists/Hurricane.pdf> <http://www.redcross.org/www-files/Documents/pdf/Preparedness/checklists/Earthquake.pdf>



OPERATION FOOT PATROL

On August 11, 2011, Mayor Ted Pruskowski issued "Operation Foot Patrol". All officers are directed to walk the streets of the Borough as part of **Operation Foot Patrol** for a period of time during their assigned shift.



Engineering and Planning

Ed Woyden
Gannett Fleming, Inc. – Borough Engineer



As noted in the last issue of the Borough Newsletter, one of the ongoing projects Council is currently working on involves flooding issues. Obviously a very relevant issue with what has happened in August and September. Record rainfalls have swelled the Schuylkill River and Crow Creeks out of their banks on a couple occasions. FEMA has issued new floodplain mapping to communities along the Schuylkill River. As required, the Borough is now in the process of revising their Floodplain regulations to be consistent with these new guidelines. Once this work is complete, effected parties will be notified.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Region III office, recently released updated digital flood hazard maps that show the extent to which areas throughout the county are at risk for flooding. The new flood maps mark the first time in 14 years that a comprehensive re-examination of Montgomery County flood zones has been conducted. Residents and businesses will now have up-to-date, reliable, Internet-accessible information about their flood risk on a property-by-property basis. The revised maps will also allow community planners, engineers, builders and others to make important determinations about where and how new structures and developments should be built.

To ensure that all residents and business owners understand the map change process and are aware of their options, map information will be available at Borough Hall so that residents can view the new maps, understand how their properties may be affected and learn more about financial steps that they may need to take to protect their investment.

The updated flood hazard maps are still preliminary and have not yet been officially adopted. To learn more about the flood map modernization project, visit www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/index.shtm.

To view the new digital flood maps, residents are encouraged to visit www.ramp-team.com/public.htm. When mapping is finalized it will be available at Borough Hall. We will have ongoing updates in future additions of the newsletter to keep all affected parties up to date.



The Mayor's Minutes

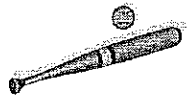
A state of emergency due to Hurricane Irene was declared for the Borough of Bridgeport beginning 5PM, August 27th and lasting until 6PM, August 29th. Thankfully, no injuries were reported and minimal property damage was incurred. The Borough experienced extensive flooding along the Schuylkill River and Crow Creek. The river crested at 12ft causing the DeKalb Bridge to be closed for a period of time until the water level subsided. During this outage 50 homes along Front street had their gas & electric turned off by PECO as a preventative measure. Staff worked to ensure that all outages resulting loss of gas & electric were restored. We like to recognize the Fire, Police and Public Works personnel which reviewed, planned, and executed the Borough's Emergency Management Plan. An EMM post was setup at Bridgeport Fire Company and was staffed 24 hours until the conclusion of the storm. We give special thanks to all businesses who donated food and drink for the workers and volunteers.

REMINDER: Friday, November 11th is Veteran's Day. Please show your respect by displaying the American Flag in honor of all Veterans. Call someone you know who served in the Armed Forces, just to say thanks!

MAYOR TED PRUSKOWSKI

Little League Baseball 60th Anniversary

The Bridgeport Little League is beginning their 60th year of affiliated baseball. The Fall Baseball season is currently in swing and preparations are taking place for the official start of the 60th season beginning in the spring. A capital campaign project is currently taking place for purpose of improving the ball field and facilities at the home of Bridgeport Memorial Park. The Little League seeks the help of volunteers to help the program. Those willing to lend their time to help or make a contribution are encouraged to visit the web page <http://www.bridgeportlittleleague.org> or contact Rebecca Wheeler at 610-275-5816.



Wheeler at 610-275-5816.

REMINDERS:

It is against the law for the owner or person in custody or control of any animal to allow the animal to run at large – the animal must be on a leash.

CURFEW – FOR ALL RESIDENTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE

It is unlawful to remain in or upon any public place or establishment between the hours of 10:00 pm to 6:30 am Sunday through Thursday and 11:00 pm to 6:00 am Friday and Saturday.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR & CRAFT SHOW

by ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARISH

Friday, November 4th - 5 to 9 PM

Saturday, November 5th - 9 AM to 6 PM

Our Mother of Sorrows Hall, Hurst Street



CHIEF'S CORNER



This summer's record heat has passed and soon we will be dealing with the Fall and Winter storm conditions. Tropical storms and hurricanes are a major threat to property and lives along with flash flooding to low line areas. When driving, extra care must be used on our roads. Drive only as fast as road conditions permit and avoid flooded roads.

Winter conditions require that motorists prepare their vehicles. Commonsense dictates being aware of the conditions you are driving in. Stopping distances are increased dramatically on wet roads and you have less control of your vehicle then you have on dry roads. Motorists should compensate by driving slower.

Always be aware of the vehicles around you and be prepared for the other driver's acts. We should all practice "Defensive Driving" and always use seatbelts.

We are seeing more and more cell phone usage while driving. Using a cell phone while driving by talking and texting is extremely distracting and dangerous. This type of driving is not worth dying for or killing someone. So until our lawmakers move to ban cell phone usages while driving you do have a choice. Don't use your cell phone when driving.

With the new school year upon us motorists are reminded of the School Zone hours which are from 8:00 to 9:00 AM, 11:30 AM to 12:50 PM, and from 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM. These are the required times motorists are to obey the 15 mph speed limit in our school zone.



**SCHOOLS ARE OPEN
DRIVE CAREFULLY
WATCH OUT
FOR CHILDREN**

MAYOR'S MEETING
Tuesday, November 15th-6 pm—
Borough Hall

Around the Capitol..... by Senator Daylin Leach

This fall, Senator Leach will host his 3rd Annual Senior Expo at the Greater Plymouth Community Center. The event will be held November 4, 2011 from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.



The event will feature 30 state and local agencies that will provide seniors with information about their services. Additionally, David Shallcross, Public Protection Community Liaison with the Attorney General's Office, will present an informational seminar on senior crime prevention and how to avoid scams and fraud. Light refreshments will be provided to all who attend.

RSVP is required; please call Senator Leach's King of Prussia office at 610.768.4200.

Senator Leach's King of Prussia office is now collecting items to donate to **Finding Shelter**, an animal shelter located in Norristown. Accepted items include blankets, towels, pet toys, pet food, food and water bowls and other pet necessities.

Senator Leach and his staff, all animal lovers, have held donation drives for **Finding Shelter** for the past few years, and this year is no exception. Leach urged residents of the 17th District to donate any goods that they feel the shelter can use.



Finding Shelter is a no-kill safe haven for adoptable dogs and cats whose mission is to commit to the saving, rehabilitation, training and permanent placement of dogs and cats in need. For other ways to donate or to view the shelter's wish list, please visit www.findingshelter.org.



The Bridgeport Bocce 2011 Summer League came to a close with the "Zeps" taking First Place standing in the Championship Playoffs.

The 2011 Fall league began September 12th and will run for 7 weeks followed by playoffs and the Championship games being played November 4th.

Personalized Pavers are available - remember loved ones, birthdays, events - they make a great holiday gift. \$50. per paver
Visit us at: www.bridgeportbocceleague.com

PARK AND REC

- Denise Kavanagh, *Director of Recreation*

Now that vacation time has finished and the children have returned to school, those households with children experience a change in focus from recreation to development mode. However, some recreation and relaxation time is still needed. The park remains open until dusk for fun activities on the playground, tennis and basketball court, and walking path. Some fresh air can help ease the adjustment to sitting back in a classroom all day. Rest is vital for the brain to benefit from the knowledge provided at school, so trying to keep a regular schedule of sleep and wake times is important. Healthy snacks provide additional sources of energy and brain power. Limiting TV and video games also allows additional time for homework and family bonding. Before you know it, the school year will be ending and recreation will again be the focus.

Enjoy the change of season. The colors are beautiful from the "Top of Bridgeport".

**SPECIAL THANKS TO DOUGHERTY PRINTING FOR THE
COMPLIMENTARY PRINTING OF THIS NEWSLETTER.**