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The Gazette



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Sponsoring Historic Bristol Day - Third Saturday of Each October
BCHF is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, all volunteer organization.

MARCH 2015

Samuel Clift Helped To Start Our Town

On March 4, 1681, Samuel Clift from Burlington, NJ, crossed the Delaware River with a Charter for 262 acres for the site that we now call Bristol, PA.

There is a street named in his honor (Samuel Clift Street) behind the King George II Inn at the corner of Radcliffe and Mill Streets. It is from this date, March 4, 1681 that Bristol claims its founding.

March 4, 2015 marks the 334th anniversary of the founding of the town.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BRISTOL!



Come Out of the House and Come To Our Headquarters At 321 Cedar Street on March 22 - - It Will Be the Third Day of Spring

Following a winter of severe low temperatures, snow and ice, it would be a great idea to come out and begin to “celebrate” the new season of SPRING, which hopefully will have much warmer weather. Perhaps by that time the ice in the Delaware River will have traveled to the Atlantic Ocean.

B.C.H.F. has a very special program at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 22 that involves food. The title of the program is “Julia Says: ‘Bon Appetit.’” Actress Linda Kenyon will present a one-woman show. See details in the following paragraphs.

SAVE THE DATE

As announced in the February GAZETTE, on Sunday, March 22, actress Linda Kenyon will grace BCHF’s stage with her one-woman show entitled “Julia Says: ‘Bon Appetit!’”

Ms. Kenyon’s 50-minute presentation will begin at 2 p.m., and be followed by light refreshment supplied by members of our Ways & Means Committee.

A donation of \$4 per attendee is requested, payable at the door.

The Holidays At Newport

Helen Younglove (215-788-9408) reports that, as of this writing, 23 people are booked on our 3-day/4-night bus trip to Newport, RI, December 2-4. Highlight of the trip will be visiting three magnificent mansions bedecked in holiday splendor.

The Breakers, The Elms and Marble House - three National Historic Landmarks and icons of the Gilded Age in American will be filled with thousands of poinsettias, fresh flowers, evergreens, wreaths and, of course, beautifully decorated Christmas trees. Dining tables will be set with period silver and china to complete the elegant setting.

Displayed in the kitchen of The Breakers will be ginger-

bread replicas of many of the Newport mansions, created by local pastry chefs.

New this year is a working garden scale model of the Vanderbilt Family’s New York Central Railroad, displayed on the second floor loggia of The Breakers.

More information about the Newport Mansions will be provided in future issues of The Gazette.

The all-inclusive cost of this trip is \$370 pp based on double occupancy, \$360 pp triple, and \$445 single. For a detailed flyer/reservation form, contact Helen at the phone number given above.

Don’t delay; we expect this trip to fill up fast!

BCHF Calendar of Events for 2015

MARCH - Sun., 3/22, 2 PM. 1st person presentation by Linda Kenyon, entitled “Julia Says, ‘Bon Appetit!’” Light refreshment. \$4 pp. BCHF headquarters. Call 215 788-9408 for info.

APRIL - Wed., 4/22. “Philadelphia Culture & Culinary” bus trip. Tour and lunch at Culinary of Arts, followed by self-guided tour of the Barnes Museum with digital audio guide. \$87 for BCHF members; \$90 for non-members, Reservation deadline has been extended to March 19. Call 215 788-4138 for info/reservations

AUGUST - Sun. 8/2 Annual Peach Social. Angel food cake topped with fresh peaches and ice cream, plus beverage. Takeouts available with own container. Baked goods table. \$5/adult, \$3 under age 12. BCHF air-conditioned headquarters. **BENEFITS BCHF AWARDS TO BRISTOL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES.**

SEPTEMBER - Fri., 9/18. Bus trip to National September 11 Memorial and Museum, followed by free time and lunch-on-your-own at the annual San Gennaro Festival in “Little Italy.”

\$71 for BCHF members; \$76 for non-members. Reservation info will be announced in April 2015.

OCTOBER - Sat., 10/17, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 39th Historic Bristol Day, Fee for House Tour & Tea. For details, visit the BCHF website given below.

NOVEMBER - Wed., 11/18, 7:30 p.m. BCHF’s annual business meeting, incl. election of Board members. Program and refreshments follow. Free. BCHF headquarters. Call 215 781-9895 for info.

DECEMBER - Wed. - Fri., 12/2-4. “Newport Mansions at the Holidays” bus trip, featuring The Breakers, Marble House and The Elms. 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners. Stop at Olde Mistick Village, guided tour of Newport, tours of the three-stated decorated mansions. All taxes & meal gratuities, driver & Newport guide gratuities. \$370 pp double, \$360 pp triple, \$445 single. Call 215 788-9408 for info/reservations.

- BCHF Headquarters are at 321 Cedar Street, Bristol
- For current information about activities and events, check out our web site at www.bristolhistory.org.

Bristol Riverside Theater - 2015 Season

“Ragtime” - March 17 - April 12 / “An Enemy of the People” - May 12 - 31
Phone 215 785-0100 for tickets, dates and additional information.

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Photography by Robin Simmers-Butrey

Confirmation Coming Soon

Confirmation from the staff of the 9/11 Museum in New York City, regarding our requested September 18 visit, is expected on March 18. Hopefully, in the April GAZETTE we will be able to provide all the details of that planned trip and the procedure we’ll be following for taking reservations. Stay tuned!

A Note from Ways & Means . . .

THANK YOU to all who contributed toward making our annual tea such a success - from the bakers, to the sandwich makers and volunteers that day. We realized over a thousand dollars! As always, Carol Mitchener organized a wonderful Sunday event for us. So many volunteered to make sandwiches that it was completed in record time on Saturday. We were overwhelmed with the quantity and quality of the delicious baked goods for our dessert treats. And what can we say about the scones baked traditionally for 20 years now by our own Regina Vassey?

Cathy Serveri came dressed for the theme, "Tea at Sea at Three" AND was lucky enough to win our special door prize that day of a wine basket put together by member Robin Simmers-Butrey. Of course, our usual door prizes added to the festivities with names called by the Vice President of BCHF, Jan Ruano, acted as our emcee for the day. All in all - a great day.

It seems we're "all about food" here at the headquarters! BCHF volunteers will provide light refreshments after the Sunday, March 22nd program. Come at 2PM to see Linda Kenyon's first person presentation, "Julia Says, 'Bon Appetit'." If you can bake, provide fruit, cheese, or a salty snack like pretzels for us that day, please call Kathy Barniskis at 215 943-0258.

All are welcome to attend the next Ways & Means meeting on March 16th at 7:30 at our headquarters on Cedar Street. Ways & Means Chairperson - Kathy Barniskis (215 943-0258)

The Underground Railroad in Quilts? Quilts as Markers

Were quilts used as signals by freedom-seeking slaves to navigate safe passage along the Underground Railroad?

Commonwealth speaker Dr. Cassandra Stancil Gunkel addresses that very question in her presentation, ***The Underground Railroad in Quilts***; on Saturday, March 14, 2015 at the Margaret R. Grundy Memorial Library, 680 Radcliffe Street, at 2 pm. This hands-on talk and demonstration engages in the ongoing debate between historians and the public, "Did quilts guide escapes?" Dr. Gunkel will use authentic 19th century quilts and modern reproductions to explore some of the ways in which women may have stitched their politics, history and mythology into quilt designs. This event is a program of the Pennsylvania

Humanities Council supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Reserve your seat for this free, limited engagement online at www.grundylibrary.org or by calling 215 788-7891 ext. 5 or ext. 6.

This program is offered by Margaret R. Grundy Memorial Library in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Humanities Council in support of the *PA Forward/Pennsylvania Libraries* initiative. Libraries are key to powering progress and elevating the quality of life in PA by fueling the types of knowledge essential to success: Basic Literacy, Information Literacy, Civic and Social Literacy, Health Literacy, and Financial Literacy.

Could You Please Deliver Two Large Pizzas for 6:30; My Address Is . . .

One of the favorite foods in the U.S. is "Pizza"; it is not only a favorite with children but also with adults. Where did the idea of pizza come from? Presently it is a food used as a snack and also a food that is used in many households as a main meal. Some families have a night set aside for a pizza meal.

In the school cafeterias, pizza is one of the favorite lunches for everyone. Supermarket freezers have boxed frozen pizza. It can be heated in a conventional oven or a microwave.

Towns throughout the U.S., from Hawaii to Maine and from Alaska to Florida, have pizza restaurants. One of the favorites in Bristol since 1947 has been "Caesars". This is only one of many restaurants in Lower Bucks County serving a baked dough, topped with various additions such as tomato sauce and cheese. In the U.S. an addition of pepperoni is popular along with the tomato sauce and cheese.

In the mid-twentieth century "Tomato Pie" was very popular in Bristol. This has a thicker dough, topped with a tomato topping and very little cheese. Tomato Pies are still available in some supermarkets and local grocery stores.



Our featured speaker in January was none other than Sherlock Holmes. Make sure you save the date - - March 22 at 2pm to see another famous guest . . . Julia Childs

Humanities Council supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Reserve your seat for this free, limited engagement online at www.grundylibrary.org or by calling 215 788-7891 ext. 5 or ext. 6.

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Presently in Bristol, Mazzanti's store on Lincoln Ave. sells Tomato Pies. "Three T's" located at the corner of Pond and Dorrance Streets was a special Tomato Pie shop where patrons could order Tomato Pie and a beverage. (It was a great place to stop for a snack after a football or basketball game at the high school). Can any of our readers remember the Mancuso Bakery delivering donuts, cakes and cupcakes on metal trays that also included Tomato Pies?

Looking back at the word "Pizza", we find that "pizza" means "pie or tart". Modern pizza is nothing more than a circle of dough spread with sauce and sprinkled with cheese. These simple ingredients made pizza a worldwide favorite.

The ancient Greeks made circular dough "plates" that they called "plankuntos". One of the earliest recorded ancestors of pizza is the dough that the Persian soldiers of Darius the Great baked on their shields. Using what they could find locally, their dough toppings were often cheese and dates and later olive oil, herbs, honey, pine nuts and goat cheese.

In A.D. 79 when a volcanic eruption buried the City of Pompeii, a bakery run by pizzaioli became the forerunner of the present day pizzeria.

Continued on Page 4

Out Of The Past

The following items were excerpted from **MARCH 1965** issues of THE BRISTOL DAILY COURIER.

3/2 - - BILLIARDS '5' CLAIMS FLAG IN BRISTOL. Bristol Billiards captured the overall championship in the Senior Division of the Bristol Borough Youth Basketball League with an easy 60-39 victory over DeLuca Oilers last night in the final game of the season. Playing for the winning team were: Marino, Kervick, Deegan, Padilla, Lucas, Tungst, Atkinson, Pollack, Hatcher, Walker and Weiks.

"Attention, Spring and Summer Brides! Every Saturday, one lucky bride-to-be will win her wedding crown and veil. Free; no obligation. THE BRIDAL CENTER, 700 Pond Street."

3/5 - - COUNTY OUTLINES PLANS TO BRING NEW HOUSING, GROWTH TO BORO. Plans to bring new growth and vigor to Bristol Borough through the cooperation of borough, county, state and federal agencies, businessmen, bankers and - above all - public spirited citizens, were outlined to the Bucks County Planning Commission this week. Bristol Borough is one of ten municipalities the commission is assisting in studies for which the federal government pays two-thirds of the cost under Section 701 of the Housing Act. The purpose of the Bristol program is to maintain and improve living conditions and business conditions in Bristol, while keeping the unique attractiveness of the community and its historic buildings. A feature of the plan is the development of a revitalized Mill Street shopping area, simultaneously with the establishment of a marina on the Delaware River north of Mill Street.

"Come to Howard Johnson's Neighborhood Fish Fry! \$1.00 per person; children 75¢. All the Flounder, French Fries and Cole Slaw You Can Eat! All day Wednesday and Friday. Route 1, Langhorne, and Rt. 13 & Edgely Ave., Levittown."

3/10 - - ARCHITECT PICKED BY BRISTOL BOARD. The Bristol Borough School Board last night appointed the firm of Sabatino and Fishman as architect for the hurry-up \$500,000 program of additions to two borough schools. Eight classrooms will be added to Bristol High School and three to Warren Snyder Elementary School.

L.B. CAGERS ON STATE COLLEGE 5'S. Bristol has a brother combination which played at different colleges. Joe Pascale is a senior at Lock Haven State College, while Bob Pascale is a sophomore at Juniata College. Both boys saw a lot of action for their respective schools. Ex-Bishop Egan Catholic passer Bill Coyle played at St. Francis College of Loretto

3/15 - - FIVE FROM BUCKS ARRIVE IN SELMA. Ben Ezra, executive director of the Bucks County Conference on Community Relations, is one of the five Bucks Countians in Selma to take part in a memorial march for the late Rev. James J. Reeb. Among the more than 550 ministers who marched toward the Dallas County Courthouse today was Rev. R.L. Carlson of Bristol's Harriman Methodist Church.

NEW AUXILIARY SLATES SESSION IN BRISTOL. The newly-formed Ladies Auxiliary of Bristol Local 88, United Glass and Ceramic Workers of North America, will conduct a meeting tomorrow at 8 p.m. at the union's hall, 1014 Wood Street, at which time the by-laws will be read for the first time.

3/17 - - FLATCH WITHDRAWS FROM BOROUGH CONTEST. Bristol Democrat Frank F. Flatch has withdrawn from the Democratic race for mayor. The remaining mayoralty candidates who will oppose each other in the Democratic primary are Fidel

Deadline Extended

We're pleased to announce that we've been able to extend the reservation deadline for our April 22 "Philadelphia Culinary and Culture" bus trip to **March 19**. The itinerary includes a brief tour of the Culinary of Arts, a four-course luncheon in their "Petite Passion" restaurant, and a self-guided tour of the Barnes Museum using digital audio guides. The all-inclusive cost is \$87 for BCHF members and \$90 for non-members. Contact Ellanna Delaney at 215 788-4138 for a detailed flyer and reservations

Esposito and John M. Rodgers. Esposito is currently Bristol's tax collector and Rodgers is president of Bristol Borough Council. The Bristol Republicans have already made their choice in placing a single candidate, James S. Douglass, on their ballot.

BRISTOL PRODUCER HAS BROADWAY HIT. Michael Iannucci's "This Was Burlesque" had its full-dress Broadway opening at the Hudson Theatre at 141 W. 44th Street, last night.

3/18 - - ST. ANN'S TO REALIZE 25-YEAR DREAM. The dreams of a quarter-century will begin to be realized on Sunday afternoon when ground is broken for a new convent at St. Ann's Parish in Bristol. When the Rev. John DiMatteo, pastor, and Mother Charles, mother superior of the convent, turn the first dirt on the Jefferson Avenue site, it will also signal the unofficial start of the parish's \$300,000 fund-raising drive for the construction of the new convent and an addition to St. Ann's School.

"Win Your Weight in Money! Customers are worth their weight in "gold" on friendly, courteous Mill Street, Bristol!! Come down for a free weigh-in March 19 & 20 and see how much you might win. Toledo scale will be on Mill Street. Purchases not necessary. Winner will receive \$1.00 per pound."

3/19 - - "LEN'S MEN'S & BOYS' STORE, 317 Mill Street . . . Sports Coats from \$14.95 to \$35. Men's Suits from \$29.95 to \$89.95 - 2 button, Ivy, and Continental."

"PAROLY'S, 304 Mill Street . . . Girls' Coats, sizes 12 mos. to size 14 - \$7.98 to \$19.98. Boys' Suits, sizes 2 to 7 - \$2.98 to \$13.98."

"RICHMANS OF BRISTOL PRESENTS - Kelvinator Fully Automatic Washer, installed price, \$147.88 - lowest price ever offered. The **new** Kelvinator Refrigerator, \$147.88; free delivery, 315 Mill Street."

"NICHOLS, 325 Mill Street . . . Kodak 8 Movie Camera - \$13.88 up."

3/24 - THIKOL'S ROCKETS BRING THEM DOWN. News of the successful recovery yesterday of the two-man Gemini spacecraft was greeted with special enthusiasm by executives and employees at the Thiokol Chemical Corp. plant in Bristol Twp. The reason: The Elkton Division of Thiokol was the supplier of the retrograde rockets for today's epic flight.

ELECT MARINO TO HEAD LOOP. A slate of officers for the coming season was elected on Monday night at a meeting of the Bristol Borough Adult Softball League. Nick Marino was voted into the position of president, with Joe Genco as vice president and Joe Tunis as secretary/treasurer, official scorekeeper and statistician.

3/30 - - BORO CHURCH ONE OF OLDEST. The First Methodist Church of Bristol has recently received recognition as one of Methodism's oldest churches. The recognition took the form of a citation presented by The Methodist Publishing House, with headquarters in Nashville, Tenn., on the occasion of its 175th year of service in the Methodist Church.

"ACME, 452 Pond Street . . . Kellogg's Variety Pack - 10 indiv. pkgs., 41¢. Pillsbury Cake Mix - three 19 oz. pkgs., 89¢. Sirloin, T-bone, Porterhouse or Rib Steaks - 79¢ lb. Loin Veal Chops - 99¢ lb. Burk's Franks - 1 lb. pkg., 59¢. Swordfish Steaks - 59¢ lb. Medium Size Shrimp - 40 to 50 per lb., 83¢ lb."

"STARR BUS TOURS, RT. 13 & Bath Rd., Bristol . . . Latin Casino, featuring Jane Morgan and Nipsy Russell, March 26, 28, 30 and April 2 & 4. \$8.50 daily; \$9.50 Sunday. Coming soon: Johnny Mathis and the Young Americans."

Pizza . . . Continued From Page 2

Following the "Discovery of the New World" in 1492, Italians started to experiment with New World tomatoes and eventually "pizza marinara" was born. The word marinara means "of the sea": however pizza marinara did not involve the use of fish.

Naples, Italy is given credit for being the home of the first truly modern pizzeria called Antica Pizzeria Port'Alba. It opened for business in 1830. (Andrew Jackson was the U.S. President at that time and this writer doubts that President Jackson had ever tasted pizza.)

The tomato, mozzarella, and basil pie, "echoed" the colors of the newly created Italian flag. By the early 1900's Italian immigrants were sailing to the U.S. to find work in various mills, such as Grundy, Steele and Leedom and with them they brought their best idea of "pizza". This pizza was believed by Americans to be the way pizza should taste.

In 1905 Gennaro Lombardi opened the first U.S. pizzeria on Spring Street in Manhattan section of New York City.

In New York City there is a small section called "Little Italy". In this small neighborhood, there are only a few thousand of the original Italian immigrants presently living

there. This location is cramped between Chinatown and Nolita.

Owners of various shops and restaurants in the area can recall the time when Neapolitians lived on Mulberry Street and Sicilians lived on Elizabeth Street.

In Bristol, Saint Ann Church was opened in 1906 to help serve the spiritual needs of the town's Italian immigrants. There was also somewhat of a division of Italian immigrants in Bristol. Those living on or near the section where Beaver Street crosses U.S. Route 13 were considered people who lived in "Pondon" and were thought of as people of a lower class Italian. People who lived near Saint Ann Church (Penn, Dorrance, Washington and Lafayette Streets) were thought of as "higher class" and they often did not want to be bothered with Italians from the Pondon neighborhood. There were even separate sports teams.

Italian foods are served in restaurants (including pizza) in most countries of the world. Prices vary greatly; however, the food remains the same. (This writer in 2014 paid \$25.00 for an individual pizza in a restaurant in Norway. Hopefully that will not become the price of pizza in the U.S.).

The Wallace Damp Wash Laundry - Bristol Damp and Finish Laundry

"Good morning Anna; I am late sweeping my sidewalk and gutter but I was baking several apple pies. Even the milkman delivered my usual quart of milk and the Dugan bread man stopped."

"Did you read in the newspaper that Bill Wallace is using a new name for his Damp Wash Laundry? It is now called Bristol Damp and Finish Laundry. I read it in the 'independent' newspaper yesterday."

"I've always done my own washing and I always hang the wash on the clothes line in the back yard; however I sometimes get behind in my work. Monday is the normal washday and Tuesday is the day I iron the clothes. This week on Tuesday, I have to take the Neibauer Bus to Trenton for an eye doctor's appointment. I think I am going to call the Wallace laundry for some help."

"The newspaper states that they charge 80¢. for clothes that weigh 6-20 pounds and they are returned 'damp, clean, sweet smelling and snowy white'."

"The telephone number for the Wallace Laundry is 654. I am going to call them. I can use Tom's wagon, the one Santa brought him for Christmas, and pull the clothing the few blocks to the laundry. I'll tell you if I am satisfied with their service when they are returned."

"It is almost time to take the pies from the oven. I had better go into the kitchen before I ruin both apple pies."

Here is a newspaper advertisement that appeared on April 10, 1931. Printed are the four options; Family Finish Service, Thrifty Service, Rough Dry or Flat Service, and Damp Wash Service.

The readers of the newspaper were asked to compare the four services and the readers of this article in the BCHF GAZETTE are asked to do the same.

The Wallace Damp Wash Laundry
WILL NOW TRADE UNDER THE NAME OF THE
Bristol Damp and Finish Laundry

AND ANNOUNCES TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS VICINITY THAT THEY HAVE INSTALLED A FULLY-EQUIPPED STEAM LAUNDRY WHERE THE FOLLOWING SERVICES WILL BE GIVEN:

FAMILY FINISH SERVICE		THRIFTY SERVICE	
Everything is beautifully washed, neatly ironed and pressed ready for use. Flat work machine ironed; wearing apparel finished on presses and "touched up" by hand.			
Minimum, 10 lbs	..... \$1.20	Minimum, 16 lbs	..... \$1.00
each Additional lb	..... .12	Each Additional lb	..... .06
Men's Shirts, Starched and Ironed, each extra	..... .05	Men's Shirts, Starched and Ironed, each extra	..... .12
ROUGH DRY OR FLAT		DAMP WASH SERVICE	
A service for the housewife who wishes to finish her own wearing apparel. All flat pieces are carefully ironed and pressed; wearing apparel returned fluffed dry.			
Minimum, 12 lbs	..... \$1.00	Minimum, up to 15 lbs	..... \$ .60
each Additional lb	..... .08	Minimum, 16 to 20 lbs	..... .80
Men's Shirts, Starched and Ironed, each extra	..... .10	Minimum, 17 to 25 lbs	..... 1.00
		Each Additional lb	..... .04
		Men's Shirts, Starched and Ironed	..... .15

WE DO NOT MARK YOUR LAUNDRY WITH UGLY MARKS

Bristol's Only Steam Laundry Phone 654

Tea At Sea At Three



A delightful time was had by all at the BCHF Annual Tea. Thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers and to those who attended for making this event a success.



Top: A welcoming entry
Below: Our Cruise Directors for the afternoon



Board Member Tony Russo graciously poured tea



While Jan Ruano (left) and Carol Mitchener (right) made sure that all was ship-shape.



Cathy Severi got into the spirit of the day and also won the Wine Basket Raffle



Even Barbie and Ken made an appearance at the Tea

