

# Winter Activities Bulletin

Dear Residents,

On behalf of Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo, Council and the Parks and Recreation Department would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who came in support of this year's "Family Fall Festival".

In addition to the Fall Festival, the Parks and Recreation Department hosted our very first "Family Fun Fright Night" which replaced our Community Sleepover, "Family Affair Under the Stars". It is our hope that all those who participated in this first-time event had a "frightfully fun evening". We would like to give a BIG THANK YOU to our business community, in particular Shoprite of Bensalem, Giant Markets, Ken Buckalew from the Lions Club of Bensalem, Metro Beverages and White Trophies for the donation of trophies for our scarecrow contest winners. Our scarecrow contest had some amazing and innovative entries most worthy of the gift certificates provided by our own Bensalem Fire Rescue, we also wish to thank our own Bensalem Police Department for treating everyone to "copsicle's" during the evening's festivities, as well as the patrol officers who checked on our safety and security throughout the evening. The support of all those mentioned and the participation of our community residents is truly what made this change over event a successful and "frightfully fun" evening. It is the hope of our new Parks and Recreation Director Kyle Pennypacker and the entire Parks and Recreation staff that all who attended enjoyed this time together as a "family unit" and we look forward to seeing you all at our up and coming Township Annual Tree Lighting. Please take a minute to review this activity flyer as well as the website for programming information for the 2024 season and do enjoy the amenities offered at our beautiful parks while the weather still permits you to enjoy the great outdoors!

In closing, Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo and Council, as well as our Parks and Recreation Department would like to wish everyone a most joyous upcoming holiday season! It is our hope that you will find something within the flyer, or on our website which peaks your interest.



Guess who is coming back to town? You guessed it! Santa Claus is heading back to Bensalem and he can't wait to see all of you! This year's Annual Township Tree Lighting will be held on Saturday **December 9th**, beginning at 5:00 pm. Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo, Council and the Parks and Recreation Department invites everyone to join us at the Municipal Complex so we can show Santa how much we are looking forward to his visit this holiday season! After all, he needs to know just how many boys and girls are expecting him to visit on Christmas Eve! Santa and his helpers can't wait to see you, so come on out and give a great big Bensalem Wave to Santa and his Elves!

**PLEASE remember, admittance is simply a non-perishable food items which will be distributed to those less fortunate!**

We look forward to you helping us spread a little Holiday Cheer! **Remember, in keeping with the new tradition of our tree lighting festivities, all those attending will remain in their car and drive through the holiday display, to ensure everyone remains safe.** Have your food items ready to hand to us as you drive through! Hope to see you Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup>!

## LETTERS TO SANTA

Bensalem Township's Parks & Recreation Department is gathering children of **Bensalem Residents** Santa Letters to send off to the North Pole. Drop off your letter to our special mailbox- located in the front lobby or mail them to:



**SANTA CLAUS, NORTH POLE**  
**Bensalem Parks & Recreation Department**  
**2400 Byberry Road**  
**Bensalem, PA 19020**



**Be sure your child's name, age & address are included in your letter** and send them in by **December 11<sup>th</sup>** so Santa has time to answer you before his big trip around the world.



### Girls Junior Field Hockey

YES! We are offering a field hockey program during 2024. Stay tuned for program updates and registration information. Keep those sticks ready, we are coming back! Please call 215-633-3616 for additional information.



### **BCTA: Bucks County Tennis Association**

2023 TENNIS: Bensalem Township is part of BCTA's county wide tennis network. Check out [www.buckscountytennis.usta.com](http://www.buckscountytennis.usta.com) for more information about tennis opportunities available to Bensalem Residents for the 2024 season, or visit our website for updates on the 2024 Tennis schedule and season.



### **COMING IN THE SPRING OF 2024 PICKLEBALL COURTS**

Get ready to explore the game of pickleball or enhance your already developed pickleball skills this spring. A conversion of the current Millcreek Tennis courts to Pickleball courts is set to take place and be completed in the spring of 2024 to accommodate the needs of all the up and coming pickleball enthusiast. Until then, feel free to utilize the tennis courts at Gilbert Drive to keep up with your game.



**Young Rembrandts**

[www.youngrembrandts.com/buxmont-pa](http://www.youngrembrandts.com/buxmont-pa)

**Pre-School Drawing Classes (ages 4 to 7)** Saturday's - 9:00 am - 9:45 am.

Your preschooler's mind is hard at work building the knowledge and skills it will use for a lifetime. Now, more than ever, it's important to challenge their curious minds with activities that will keep them engaged and eager to learn! The Young Rembrandts pre-school program is specifically designed with the needs of our youngest learners in mind. We use subjects they're familiar with such as animals and toys, as well as their favorite learning tools - pictures, stories, touching, and doing - to enhance social and conflict resolution skills while improving listening, fine-motor skills, and time-on-task. Give your preschooler the information they're hungry for and be amazed by what they'll create! Classes are 45 minutes, with a minimum of 5 students allowed

**SESSION 1 PRICE** \$75.00 February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>

**SESSION 2 PRICE** \$75.00 March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>

**LOCATION** Bensalem Community Park 4301 Richlieu Road, Bensalem Township

Register at [www.youngrembrandts.com/buxmont-pa](http://www.youngrembrandts.com/buxmont-pa)

**Cartoon Drawing Classes (ages 8 – 14) Saturday's** - 10:00 am - 11:00 am

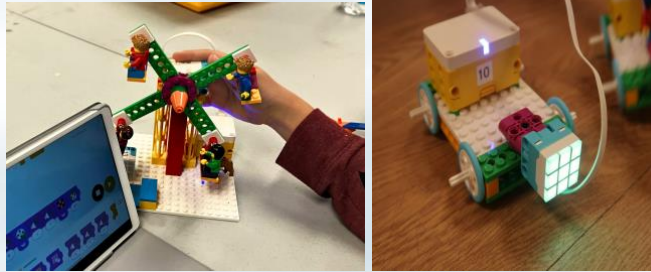
For all kids who need to stay engaged and laughing, our cartooning classes are surely the most fun you can have while learning! This entertaining program combines Young Rembrandts' innovative, hands-on teaching method with light-hearted subject matter that engages children, their sense of humor and their vivid imaginations. Maintaining a quick pace and drawings that tell a story also help kids to stay on-task, learn from their mistakes, find new solutions to a problem and communicate ideas and concepts through pictures - skills with lifetime benefits! Classes last up to 55 minutes, with a minimum of 5 students allowed.

**SESSION 1 PRICE** \$75.00 February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>

**SESSION 2 PRICE** \$75.00 March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>

**LOCATION** Bensalem Community Park, 4301 Richlieu Road, Bensalem Township

Register at [www.youngrembrandts.com/buxmont-pa](http://www.youngrembrandts.com/buxmont-pa)



## STEM PROGRAMS - FALL 2024 - Limited space 8 Students Maximum

### **LEGO® Robotics and Coding - Adventures**

**Sessions: February 3<sup>rd</sup>-March 9<sup>th</sup>**

Grades 1 to 3

Saturday, 11:00am-12:00 noon

Dates- 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24, 3/2 and 3/9

Location: 4301 Richlieu Road -Bensalem Community Park

Cost: \$170.00-Make checks payable to Built by Me

This fun, interactive program will introduce students to coding and robotics using the LEGO® Education Robotics Construction Sets. Children will learn basic programming skills, simple engineering concepts, and the names of the robotic components. They will work in pairs on guided projects building models, attaching sensors and motors, and using a computer to program the model's behavior. Children will gain confidence and understanding as they build and code their robots.

### **LEGO® Robotics and Coding with Scratch MIT - On the Go**

**Sessions: February 3<sup>rd</sup>-March 9<sup>th</sup>**

Grades 3 to 5

Saturday, 12:15-1:1

Dates—2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24, 3/2 and 3/9

Location 4301 Richlieu Road Bensalem Community Park

Cost \$170.00—Make checks payable to Built by Me

This fun and interactive program explores many aspects of STEM using LEGO® Essential Education Robotics Construction Sets. Focusing on means of transportation, students will work in pairs to build prototypes as they learn the engineering design process. They will then code their designs with Scratch MIT, a block-based code, to perform various tasks and functions. Young engineers will construct ships and helicopters as they learn and refine their observation, problem-solving, and team-building skills.

**Make all checks payable to: Built by Me**



## **SUMMER REC PLAYGROUND EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM IS RETURNING FOR 2024!**

Limited enrollment!

Bensalem Township Parks and Recreation Department is pleased to say that the 2023 full day playground camp program held at the Bensalem Community Park was a season full of excitement and an enjoyable fun time was had by all! If you missed out last season, be sure to register early so you don't miss out on our 2024 season as registration for this program is limited. Enrollment is on a first come first serve basis. This program is open to those entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. (ages of participation 6yrs-11 years and may not have completed 7<sup>th</sup> grade)

Early registration for our full day Playground Camp will begin Thursday February 1<sup>st</sup>. This is a 9-5 program with no drop offs prior to 8:30 am. All children must be picked up by 5:00 pm. No transportation will be provided for this program.

Please be advised this program will have strict guidelines on registrations and enrollment limits, which will be followed! Keep your eyes and ears open for 2024 updates on registration details.

## **2024 YOUTH SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The Parks and Recreation Department will accept applications for employment with our 2024 summer recreation programs beginning Thursday, February 1st. No applications will be given prior to this date! Applications must be obtained in-person from the Parks and Recreation Department, and applicants must be a Bensalem Resident and 16 years of age at the time the application is acquired. Please be advised that completing an application does not guarantee you a position as programming needs may change for the 2024 season making positions un-available!

Should you decide to complete an application be advised all applications must be returned directly to the Parks and Recreation Department no later than 4 p.m. on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. If you have additional questions or need further clarification regarding obtaining an application for possible employment, please feel free to contact Parks and Recreation at 215-633-3724 or 215-633-3614.