



Bensalem Township Pennsylvania

Bensalem Township Municipal Building - 2400 Byberry Road, Bensalem, PA 19020 | 215-633-3600

January 18, 2019

Dear Residents,

For the past 25 years, I have had the honor of serving as your Mayor. Each day is varied and exciting, whether it's celebrating the opening of a new business, or honoring our veterans and / or residents for a worthwhile civic achievement.



Then there is the hard work that is challenging for myself and our council, but important for the community. Discussions at our bi-monthly council meetings are often extremely detailed and, due to our tremendous growth, I don't foresee this likely to change in the near future.

If you would like to know about a particular project or have general questions about anything at all, you never need to wait until a council meeting to get an answer. I have always stated that I have an "open door" policy, and I try my best to meet with residents as time permits. I'm usually working with a two week window, however, please contact my Assistant, Dawn Davis, via phone (215-633-3631) or email (ddavis@bensalempa.gov) in an emergency situation. Dawn will either provide you with the assistance you need, guide you to someone who can address your specific inquiry, or simply schedule an appointment for you to meet with me.

Our Community Affairs Department has a great concert schedule planned for the Penn Community Bank Amphitheater and plans to release it on April 1st, so stay tuned! While The Parks and Recreation Department is currently accepting registrations for their winter programs, they are also simultaneously planning another action-packed summer program for the youth of our community. If you have participated in any of these events, you know and appreciate all the work that goes into the planning and execution of them. These activities offer something for everyone, and they bring us all just a little bit closer and exemplify our community spirit.

We have created a number of ways to keep you informed and help you understand how the Township of Bensalem operates. This newsletter is a wealth of information, along with our social media platforms, website, and television productions. If you're ever in need of something further, please do not hesitate to call us at (215) 633-3600.

Happy New Year and God Bless.

Your Friend ,

Joseph DiGirolamo, Mayor
Bensalem Township



Bensalem Community Affairs

2019 Sponsorships Now Available

Sponsorships for the 2019 Penn Community Bank Amphitheater summer concert series, "We Love Wednesdays at the PCBA!" are now open. The support of our small & local businesses is invaluable and provides us with the means to continue to bring the top-notch entertainment our audience has come to expect. We truly value this support!



2019 Sponsorship packages are available [here](#). With a capacity of 3000+ and 1500 season pass holders, your business will receive quality awareness and exposure for supporting a progressive event in the local community in which you operate. For deadline or more information please contact Amanda McDonald, Penn Community Bank Amphitheater General Manager, at (215) 633-3630 or amcdonald@bensalempa.gov.



Building a Better Bensalem Together Coalition

UNITY WEEK

January 21 - 25



Martin Luther King Day is a great time to reinforce the strength of diversity and unity within our Bensalem community. To celebrate, the Building a Better Bensalem Together (B3T) Coalition will kick off Unity Week 2019 with a breakfast celebration at Parx East from 8am - 9am on Monday, January 21st (RSVP necessary by January 17th). Events will continue all week at area churches, temples, synagogues and other religious organizations throughout the days and evenings. A full schedule can be found [here](#).

If you plan to attend any of these events, the B3T is asking that you please bring non-perishable food items, baby care products or toiletries. All items collected throughout the week will go to local food pantries. If you have any questions please contact Toby Kahn, B3T Diversity Committee Chair, at (267) 334-2804 or b3tcoalition@gmail.com.

*Protecting Those New Gifts & Your Kids!**

The holidays just flew by and new electronic devices have made their way into your home. When it comes to raising children, the struggle of keeping them safe is a top priority. The added responsibility of monitoring complex technology can certainly add to this struggle, especially with the constant release of new devices.



It's important to introduce your children to technology. The digital advancements of society have made it our responsibility as parents to learn about technology and teach our children about how to stay safe while using it. Check out [these tips](#) to help keep your kids safe in our ever-advancing digital world!

**Thank you to David Smalley for sharing this information with us. David is a Manager of Forensic Technology and Consulting for a leading worldwide electronic discovery organization with over 90 offices throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. Prior to his current role, David was affiliated with local law enforcement and also a member of the Department of Justice Internet Crimes Against Children task force. More information about David can be found at www.davidsmalley.com.*



Summer Recreation & Extended Play Programs

Can't get enough of our Summer Camp stuff? Register beginning February 1st and take advantage of the convenient payment plans offered for our 2019 Play Area, Little Rec Crew, Teen, Musical, Dance and Extended Day programs. Help your child(ren) create lasting memories and friendships with a summer full of fun activities!



To request any of these forms, please call (215) 633-3616 with your name, address, phone number and program of interest. Please remember that all of our programs have limited enrollment, so make sure you get your registrations in early! For additional summer program information, or if you have any questions, please call (215) 633-3724 or (215) 633-3614.



2019 Polar Plunge at Neshaminy State Park

The Bensalem Police Department is proud to partner with the Special Olympics to bring you the 2019 Polar Plunge! On Saturday, January 26th, the Eastern Plunge will be celebrating 11 Years of "Freezin' for a Reason" and we want you to join in on the FUN! Now is the time to cross something off your bucket list that has a direct impact on the community you live in. Funds from the Eastern Polar Plunge help to enrich the lives of nearly 20,000 athletes, allowing them to train and compete- free of charge- as well as enjoy the many benefits that our programs have to offer.



This year's plunge will welcome Philadelphia Eagles Safety & Super Bowl Champion Rodney McLeod as the Honorary Polar Plunge Captain! Rodney will be on site to host the costume contest, sign autographs (in the small tent to the left of the main registration tent), take photos and cheer on participants as they exit the icy cold water! Here's your chance to support INCLUSION in a unique and exciting way! More information and details about the event can be found [here](#), or you can register for the plunge by going to www.PlungePA.org. We hope to see you on the 26th!

Stay Warm and Safe This Winter



There is something about the winter months and curling up with a good book by the fireplace. But did you know that heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths? With a few simple precautions you can prevent most heating fires from happening. [Here are some tips](#) to help keep you and your family safe this winter.

2018 Public Safety Toy Drive Success!

The annual Bensalem Township Public Safety Toy Drive was once again a huge success! This holiday season we assisted 37 local families and over 100 children, thanks to the help of our community. We'd also like to extend a very special thank you to Walmart for their generous donation and, of course, to Mary McGrath and her staff at Carrabba's for hosting the luncheon.



Employee Spotlight

Bensalem Township is made up of many departments and divisions, each with fantastic employees, who all work together to make this town the best it can be! New for 2019, we are introducing the "Employee Spotlight" to help you get to know us better and celebrate the quality staff that makes B-Town work. Each month we will feature a different employee and ask them a few questions about themselves, their job and their interest(s).

John Chaykowski, Finance Manager

Aside from being a resident for over 25 years, John Chaykowski is



also our Finance Manager and has worked for Bensalem Township for almost 22 of those 25+ years. John's role with the Township began as a part time Co-Op student with Mayor DiGirolamo in 1997, and he was fortunate to be promoted to the position of Finance Manager in 2014.

John is responsible for the day-to-day oversight & operation of the Township's budget in conjunction with the department heads and the administration. He is a Bensalem High School graduate who went on to obtain his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Gwynedd Mercy University, where he is currently pursuing his MBA with an expected graduation date of May 2019.

John currently resides in Bensalem with his wife, Mary, and their two children, Makenna and Bryan. When asked where his favorite place to eat in Bensalem is, John emphatically replied "A&S Bagels, without a doubt!"

Buzzin' Around B-Town



Generation Next
14U National Youth Rankings
TOP 20
★ 4TH WEEK OF DECEMBER ★

1. INLAND EMPIRE DUCKS CA	11. OPA LOCKA HURRICANES FL
2. MARYLAND HEAT MD	12. MELBOURNE HURRICANES FL
3. ATLANTA DUCKS ELITE GA	13. METRO TIGERS HI
4. VEGAS STRONG BLUE NV	14. FULTON FALCONS TN
5. DETROIT SPARTANS MI	15. PREMIER KNIGHTS CA
6. SOUTH BAY GAUCHOS CA	16. TAMPA BAY AREA JAGUARS FL
7. MISSISSIPPI WOLFPACK MS	17. LA RAMS CA
8. LARGO JIB PACKERS FL	18. HAMILTON TIGERS MD
9. SOUTHFIELD FALCONS MI	19. BROOKWOOD TIGERS FL
10. BENSALEM RAMBLERS PA	20. EASTLAKE PANTHERS CA

THE ROAD TO THE TRUE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS STARTS HERE!

Congratulations to the Bensalem Ramblers for being ranked #10 in the *Generation Next 14U National Youth Rankings* for the 4th week of December!



Pondeli Hajioannou, Founder / President of the Bensalem Business Directory, bestows upon Mayor DiGirolamo the title of "Honorary Member" at the BBD's annual "Meeting With Our Mayor" on January 3rd.



From Left to Right: Representative Gene DiGirolamo, Senator Tommy Tomlinson, Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo, and Representative Frank Farry (Bristol Township) helped to kick off the beginning of sports betting at Parx Casino on January 10th.

