



Bensalem Township Pennsylvania

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

Dear Residents,

My family and I trust you enjoyed your holiday season. As we turn the page on 2017, we have much to be thankful for as we anticipate 2018.

January 15th marks the birthday of Civil Rights Leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In honor and support of Dr. King's legacy, Bensalem Township hosts a weeklong event known as "Unity Week." This is a celebration of many faiths and a great time to reinforce the strength of diversity and unity within our community. We look forward to sharing this experience with you while we continue to learn about our diversity!



The schedule for this event is accessible from this newsletter. It is my hope you find the new electronic format useful. Remember, you can visit our website at www.bensalempa.gov 365 days a year, 24/7 to gain access to all sorts of important and useful information concerning events throughout our community.

In closing, I wish you and yours health, happiness & prosperity!

Sincerely,

Joseph DiGirolamo, Mayor
Bensalem Township



Building A Better Bensalem Together Coalition

UNITY WEEK



January 15 - 19

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 2018 with a breakfast celebration at Parx East from 8:30 - 9:00 am on Monday, January 15 (RSVP necessary). Events 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 you to 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 B3T Diversity at b3tcoalition@gmail.com or visit www.BensalemB3T.org.



BENSALEM FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



PUT A THERMOMETER ON **FREEZE** WINTER FIRES

Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter season, **be fire smart!**

Half of all home heating fires occur in the months of



Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and **as far away as possible from your home.**

Install and test carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.



Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year.**

Heating equipment is involved in **1** in every **7** reported **home fires** and **1** in every **5** home fire deaths.



Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it outside at least **10** feet from your home and any nearby buildings.



Keep anything that can burn at least

3 feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, or space heaters.



Plug only **1** heat-producing appliance (such as a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.



For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/winter and www.nfpa.org/winter.



Click Image to Enlarge

BTFR Swears in New Firefighter

On December 18, Mike Sekulski was sworn in as a career firefighter for Bensalem Township Fire Rescue - Department of Public Safety. Firefighter Sekulski formerly worked

as a fulltime EMT at Bensalem EMS. Please join us in welcoming him to the team!



2017 Toy Drive

The 2017 Bensalem Township Public Safety Toy Drive assisted 30 families and approximately 100 children during the holiday season. We would like to thank everyone who donated toys, gift cards and time to help make the Toy Drive a success. We would also like to thank Carrabba's Italian Grill for their support for the past seven years!



The Rec Room



*Summer Recreation Play Area and
Extended Day Programs*



Take advantage of the convenient payment plans for our 2018 summer recreation play area, Little Tikes, Teen, Musical and Dance programs by registering early.

Registrations will begin February 1st for all those who wish to be ahead of the game. Remember, waiting until the last minute to register may cause your child(ren) to miss out on a summer full of fun activities. **Call for registration payment plan form.**

Interested in returning for the 2018 Extended Day program? If so call 215-633-3616 and leave your name, address and telephone number to have an application mailed to you. The Extended Day camp has limited enrollment. Register early to reserve your spot and take advantage of the payment plan. For additional program information call 215-633-3724 or 215-633-3614.

Soccer Shots

SOCCER SHOTS is the children's soccer experience for kids ages 2-7. Soccer Shots focuses on the skills and lessons of the game by offering non-competitive classes. Each child learns the fundamentals of the sport through principled high-energy instruction, creative and age appropriate games, scrimmaging, and soccer fun! We are changing the lives of young people forever by teaching principles and life skills like confidence, respect, honesty, and teamwork. Classes are 30-40 minutes per age group for 8 weeks and registration begins January 2018. To register online [CLICK HERE](#). If you have any questions call 215-633-3724.



Location: Firefighters Field

Dates: Saturdays, March 24 – May 12th

Start Times: Ages 5-7 3:00 pm | Ages 3-4 3:45 pm | Age 2 4:30 pm

Cost: \$100.00 Make check payable to Soccer Shots

Spring Field Hockey

Bensalem Township Parks and Recreation invites all girls (both residents and non-residents) in grades 1-8 to sign up to play Junior Field Hockey. Those who register for the first time will receive an official field hockey stick, ball, mouth guard and shin guards to keep as their own. Practice will be held one night a week for one hour on Tuesday or Thursday evenings and all games will be held on Saturday mornings. Both practices and games will be held at the Bensalem Community Park. This program will begin in April and run through June.



Cost is **\$80.00** for all new participants or those who need equipment and **\$50.00** for all returning participants or those not requiring equipment. NO equipment will be ordered after March 2nd, so please make sure you register on time. All registrations received after March 2nd will have to supply their own equipment. For an application call 215-633-3616 with your name and complete mailing address.

[DOWNLOAD REGISTRATION FORM](#)

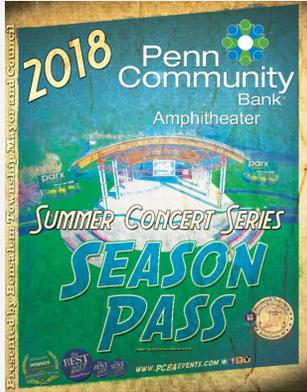
Important 2018 Season Pass Notice

If you have purchased your season pass(es) online- or plan to- please note that you will still need to pick up your actual season pass(es) in advance of the concert season. YOUR ONLINE



TICKET WILL NOT WORK!

Please come by the Bensalem Township Municipal Building (2400 Byberry Road) between 8am and 4pm Monday – Friday with your ID to get your pass(es). You will also have the option to pick up your pass at one of the first 3 concerts, but if you choose to pick up on concert night you will most likely have to wait in line. So be prepared!



Additionally... Each person for whom either a Bensalem Resident OR Senior Pass (both resident & non-resident) is purchased must come pick up their pass and show their ID. One person may not purchase & pick up multiple senior or resident passes.

If anyone has any questions please feel free to contact Amanda McDonald, Penn Community Bank Amphitheater General Manager, at 215-633-3630 or amcdonald@BensalemPA.gov.

Rush Rocks!

An event celebrating the diversity of the Benjamin Rush Elementary School community was recently held to introduce the book titled "Only One You" by Linda Franz. This book highlights each student as a unique individual. Afterwards, the Rush students and staff each painted a rock depicting their own uniqueness to be placed in a memorial garden in front of the school. On Thursday, December 14, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held to dedicate the rock garden to the Rush community.



Stop by and see how these kids (and teachers!) view diversity in our community. Great job, Rush family!



Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day-Flag

On December 8, 1941, Petty Officer Second Class James F. O'Rourke was commissioned to Pearl Harbor on the US Harris. He arrived on Christmas Eve and worked in ship salvage for his first 2 years. He spent the remainder of the war in ship repair and then went on to serve 26 years with the Philadelphia Police Department.



O'Rourke's son, Joseph, offered to raise a flag brought back from Pearl Harbor by his father. So on December 7, 2017 we were honored to take him up on that offer and fly this flag in honor of all service men and women who lost their lives during the attack on this date in 1941.

Thank you, Joseph, for sharing this piece of history with us. We are honored and we thank your father, and all those who have served and are currently serving, for their sacrifices.



Buzzin' Around B-Town





www.BensalemPA.gov

