



# Bensalem Township

## Pennsylvania

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

March 15, 2019

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Dear Residents,

Although it is still quite cold, spring will officially arrive in just a few short weeks! This time of year brings a sense of renewal and excitement for the summer months and all the activities that warmer weather permits.

In this month's newsletter you will find information regarding our Parks and Recreation Department's summer programs, including how to register. This annual offering is the envy of surrounding municipalities, and has been one of the county's most successful and affordable activities for your family. These programs broaden youngsters' minds in so many ways! Space is limited due to the popularity of the program, so early registration is encouraged.



The Joseph V. DiGirolamo Scholarship Foundation is accepting applications right now. Simply download it [here](#) from our website or pick one up at the Municipal Building. The application is self-explanatory and must be returned to the Mayor's Office, addressed to "Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo Scholarship Review Committee," by April 17th.

As a retired farmer, I personally cannot wait to get my hands back into the soil and plant my flowers, herbs and vegetables. Farming was my family's way of life in the early years so, as you can imagine, my passion for gardening is beyond measure. Would you like to garden but don't know where? Consider Bensalem's Community Garden! There is more information in the pages that follow.

Finally, with warmer weather comes road repair and other maintenance items that cannot be completed during the winter months. Please be patient as our employees address local "potholes" and other items. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Public Works Department for the excellent job performed during the few storms that we have encountered!

Service is the hallmark of my administration and, as always, it's an honor and a privilege to serve as Bensalem's Mayor. Talk to you next month and, in the meantime, I wish you all the best.

God Bless ,

A blue ink signature of Joseph DiGirolamo, Mayor of Bensalem Township.

Joseph DiGirolamo, Mayor  
Bensalem Township

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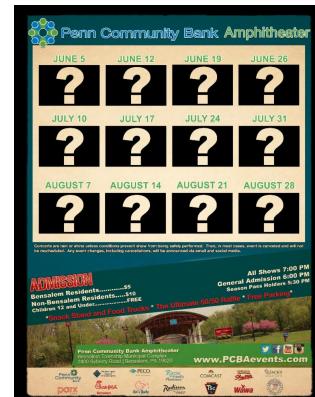


# Bensalem Community Affairs

## 2019 PCBA Season Schedule

Are you ready for another amazing summer of music at the Penn Community Bank Amphitheater? It took months of searching, listening, and planning to bring together the 12 acts that will entertain you every Wednesday night, and we think we did a darn good job!

One thing this past year has made me realize, since being diagnosed with breast cancer at just 40 years old, is that there are some really amazing and supportive human beings in this community... Starting with all of the loyal PCBA Season Pass holders and weekly concert-goers. This year, I am especially thankful to be celebrating another birthday on March 28th, and I'll be giving out presents to celebrate! Make sure you follow us on social media and are subscribed to our email alerts, because on this date we will announce our summer lineup, and anyone who purchases a Season Pass that day will receive a free gift. For more information on anything and everything PCBA, please check out our [website](#).



I'm looking forward to another rockin' summer with all of you starting on June 5th! Until then... Stay warm, and be kind to one another.

Regards,

Amanda McDonald, General Manager  
Penn Community Bank Amphitheater

## Bensalem Community Garden



In 2017, Bensalem Township proudly opened the gates of our first community garden. Located next to the Bensalem Community Park at 4301 Richlieu Road (across from Thunder Hollow Apartments), the garden gives residents a better appreciation of nature, an opportunity to grow their own healthy food, promotes recreation, provides a social outlet, and transforms our local landscape in a positive way. What started as 30 plots has now expanded to 60. Initially, when we launched the program, we received over 200 entries. Plot winners were selected at random and all plots were then assigned.

Applications for a plot in the 2019 Community Garden, found [here](#), are now being accepted. Please return completed forms, along with payments, by either mailing them to the attention of Amanda McDonald, C/O Bensalem Community Garden, 2400 Byberry Road, Bensalem, PA 19020 OR hand-delivering to the same address and attention. The deadline is April 15th, with winners to be selected at random and notified shortly thereafter.

The cost for a first year plot is \$50 and \$25 each year thereafter. Payment can be made by cash (in-person only), check, or money order made payable to Bensalem Township. The Community Garden will officially open Saturday, May 11th at 9am. Good Luck!

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## Scratch\*

Get your child involved in how computers work. By doing so you're teaching them to become more respectful of the computing process and how to properly use technology.



Massachusetts Institute of Technology offers *Scratch*, a free programming interface for ages 8 to 16, used to teach problem solving, project design, and the ability to communicate ideas. More information can be found at <https://scratch.mit.edu/about>

*\*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.davidpsmalley.com](http://www.davidpsmalley.com).*

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## Know Your Medicare Options



Steven Bobrin, a planning specialist with DelVal Senior Advisors, is offering a FREE seminar titled "Know Your Medicare Options" on Thursday, June 6th from 6:30pm – 8pm at Bensalem Township Community Park (4301 Richlieu Road). You'll learn how Medicare

works and what it covers, how Part "D" prescription cards work & how to pick the right one for you, the difference between Medicare supplements and Medicare Advantage plans, and more.

This seminar is suitable whether you have decisions to make during your next open enrollment period, or just want to be prepared for when the time comes. To register for this event, call 215-659-7600 or email [info@delvalseniors.com](mailto:info@delvalseniors.com).

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## 2019 Summer Recreation

Warm weather, sunshine, and longer days are ideal for spending more time outdoors and taking advantage of our summertime lineup. Bensalem Township Parks &

Recreation offers affordable, fun, and safe summer offerings for children ages 5 and up. Our programs also provide breakfast and lunch for all participants through the "Summer Feed Program."

Click [here](#) to view our complete summer program. Registration- either in-person or via mail- is open now, but anything received after June 7th will be assessed a \$25 late fee. If you have any questions, please call Bensalem Parks & Recreation at 215-633-3616.



## Veterans Golf Program



PGA HOPE- Helping our Patriots Everywhere- is a free 3-5 week instructional golf program being offered to our military veterans at golf facilities in our area. Locally, PGA HOPE will take place at Bensalem Township Country Club (2000 Brown Avenue) on Wednesday evenings from 5pm – 7pm beginning May 15th and will run through June 12th.

All clinics are taught by Philadelphia PGA Professionals and cater to each individual's skill and ability level. Clinics are free for any military veteran looking to learn the game or sharpen existing golf skills. Clubs will be provided for those in need, or you may bring your own. To register, or for additional program information, please call 215-639-5556, ext. 1.



## Bensalem Police Now Wearing Body-Worn Cameras

In mid-February, members of the Bensalem Township Police Department's Patrol Division became equipped with body-worn cameras. Bensalem Police have teamed up with Axon, a global leader in law enforcement technologies, to implement the body-worn camera system. Bensalem Police will start the program with only a select number of patrol officers initially, and plans are to equip the entire uniformed patrol division over the next few months.

The Bensalem Police Department is committed to a partnership with the community, and body-worn cameras are another way to build trust and be transparent. Bensalem Police have utilized an in-car camera system for over a decade, and will enhance that system to operate in compliance with the body-



worn cameras.



## ***Safe Medication Storage***



More than 60,000 young children end up in emergency departments every year because they got into medicines while their parent or caregiver, such as a grandparent, was not looking. Since kids can often confuse many medications for candy, always put every medicine and vitamin up and away every time you use it, and make sure you have the Poison Control Help number (800-222-1222) stored in all of your phones for easy access in an emergency. To learn more, check out [these resources](#) or visit [UpandAway.org](http://UpandAway.org).

## ***Public Works***

### ***2019 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events***

Many household products- like pesticides, cleaning agents, weed killers and paints- unfortunately contain toxic chemicals that can be extremely harmful to the environment if not disposed of properly. These materials should never be discarded in the trash or into our streams, creeks and other waterways.



Bucks County is making it easy for you to dispose of your household hazardous waste at one of five upcoming events. The first one is scheduled for Saturday, May 11th at Bucks County Community College's Main Campus (275 Swamp Road, Newtown) from 9am – 3pm. All events are rain or shine and electronics are NOT accepted. Complete information, restrictions, and a schedule of all five events can be found [here](#).

## ***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).\*\*\**

***Amanda McDonald  
Manager: Community Affairs & The  
Penn Community Bank Amphitheater***



Amanda McDonald began her position with the Township 2 years ago, serving a dual role as Community Affairs Manager & General Manager of The Penn Community Bank Amphitheater. As the Community Affairs Manager, Amanda's primary function is public relations and communications, ensuring that pertinent information is disseminated to the residents in a timely manner via multiple channels such as email, social media, local TV, and others.

As the GM of the amphitheater, Amanda is responsible for planning and promoting the summer concert series, "We Love Wednesdays at the PCBA," as well general amphitheater oversight.

A lifelong resident of Bensalem, Amanda came to us with an extensive background in marketing, advertising & communications- all which strongly support both of her roles here. A proud alumna of St. Ephrem School here in Bensalem, Amanda went on to receive her HS diploma from Villa Joseph Marie and her BS in Business Management, with a Minor in Marketing, from York College of PA.

Amanda settled her roots in Bensalem with her husband, Mike, where they are currently raising two young girls- Michaela (age 7) and Avery (almost 2). When she's not making her usual Giant or Target runs, you might find her grabbing a bite to eat with family or friends at the E-House, or with her husband chasing their girls around one of our beautiful parks & playgrounds!

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## **Buzzin' Around B-Town**



The winners of the 2019 Unity Week essay contest recognized at a recent Council meeting.

Bensalem Together (B3T) introduces the winners of this year's Unity Week essay contest at a recent Council Meeting.



Thank you to TAG for keeping Bensalem clean! Great job here on the retaining wall at Target!

[www.BensalemPA.gov](http://www.BensalemPA.gov)

