

Bethel Park CHRONICLES

The Official Bethel Park Municipal & School District Newsletter

IMAGES OF
2021!
SEE MORE ON THE
OUTSIDE BACK!



Have a
Wonderful Holiday
Season!



www.bethelpark.net



www.bpsd.org

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John,
Colorectal
Surgery Patient

So you can tend to what matters most.

Expert colorectal surgery

Retirement gave John more time to spend gardening and restoring his home—until unexplained bleeding put his life on pause. Based on a colonoscopy screening, experts at St. Clair Health identified a tumor and diagnosed rectal cancer. John's treatment team at St. Clair utilized the newest technology by performing robotic-assisted rectal resection surgery to remove the cancerous tumor and get him on the road to recovery.

Now John is back tending to the garden he loves, thanks to one of the most advanced colorectal surgical teams in western Pennsylvania.

Learn more about our services at stclair.org/colorectal.

Watson Health
100 Top
Hospitals*

 MAYO CLINIC
CARE NETWORK
Member

 St. Clair
Health

stclair.org

Expert care from people who care.



Bethel Park Highest Ranked Western PA City in America!

We know how wonderful our community is, but now everyone knows from a recently released report by WalletHub.

In its "Best Small Cities in America" listing, WalletHub not only ranked Bethel Park as one of the best cities in America, but also as the highest ranked Western Pennsylvania city on the list!

Affordability, economic health, education, and quality of life were among the factors contributing to the ranking.



Tri-Community South EMS Director Nora Helfrich Retires



Nora (center) at her retirement luncheon on Oct. 28.

Tri-Community South EMS Director **Nora Helfrich** retired after serving the communities of Bethel Park, South Park and Upper St. Clair for 41 years.

The Municipalities of Bethel Park, South Park and Upper St. Clair thanked Nora for her service at a luncheon at the Upper St. Clair Community and Recreation Center on Oct. 28. Helfrich can be proud of the enduring legacy she has built for Tri-Community South EMS!

She came to Tri-Community South as a volunteer EMT in 1980, was hired as a part-time employee in 1982, and became full time in 1983. She went on to paramedic training, becoming a supervisor, and later, supervisor of support services. While serving as supervisor, she went to nursing school and became a registered nurse.

In October of 2000, founding Director **Mary Ann Scott** retired from the System, and Helfrich was named as the new director. She inherited a System that faced declining income because of a significant

("Nora" cont. pg. 10)

Third Annual Halloween Decorating Contest Winners

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------------|---|
| Ward 1 | <i>Henson Residence</i>
1073 Sarah Street | Ward 5 Winner | <i>Hughes Residence</i>
4319 Anna Street |
| Ward 2 Winner | <i>Villella Residence</i>
5900 Kings School | Ward 6 Winner | <i>Counihan Residence</i>
5798 Wilson Drive |
| Ward 3 Winner | <i>Glinski Residence</i>
366 Middlegate | Ward 7 Winner | <i>Thomas Residence</i>
3373 Crestview Drive |
| Ward 4 Winner | <i>Berry Residence</i>
494 N. Street | Ward 8 Winner | <i>Peck Residence</i>
174 Meadowbrook Drive |
| Ward 4 Honorable Mention | <i>Anstey Residence</i>
7088 Lawrence Drive | Ward 9 Winner | <i>Saunders Residence</i>
144 Iron Run Road |



Holiday Light Decorating Contest

We're ready for some decorating fun in Bethel Park! Judging for the Holiday Light Decorating Contest will be held **Monday, Dec. 18 – Sunday, Dec. 31** with winners announced at the Jan. 10, 2022 Council Meeting.

Nominations can be sent to jdavin@bethelpark.net or called in to **412-831-6800, x211**.



MANAGER'S CORNER



Laurence Christian

What An Incredible Year We've Had!

In spite of a two-year worldwide pandemic and all that's come with it, our residents have focused on what's good in our community and continue to help one another. Almost every week, I hear about another individual or group in Bethel Park helping those who are struggling. This truly inspires me and the Municipal team to strive to do our best each day serving the needs of our residents.

And not only do I think Bethel Park is incredible, but recently we were the highest-ranked Western Pennsylvania city on WalletHub's list of "Best Small Cities in America!" This ranking was based on affordability, economic health, education, and quality of life among other factors.

To keep improving, we do a lot of critical thinking behind the scenes that's reflected in our Strategic Plan (available at www.bethelpark.net, *Community, Connect with Us, Bethel Park Strategic Plan*). This is our guide that directs our planning for the upcoming year. Our 2022 budget (available at www.bethelpark.net, *Departments, Finance, scroll down to Municipal Budgets*), provides the funding for these plans. And, I'm happy to say that no new taxes are expected! Some of our funding is going to critical infrastructure and networking updates internally so that our employees are better able to perform their jobs providing for resident needs.

Finally, looking at this past year, we were extremely happy to bring back so many community traditions such as Community Day, the Summer Spectacular and the 90+ Luncheon! Our Farmers' Market made the top three in two local contests, we renovated many of our neighborhood parks with new equipment and amenities (see below and on pg. 19), made numerous storm water improvements, BPTV won three awards (pg. 8), and we hosted a wonderful afternoon for local realtors to help them better showcase our community

to potential residents! These are just some of the many accomplishments from 2021. An Annual Report is in the works for the upcoming year so that you'll be able to easily see the all the work that's being done in the community.

I'd like to wish you and yours the happiest of holidays and encourage you to think about shopping local this holiday season! I'm looking forward to an outstanding 2022...*it's a great time to be in Bethel Park!*

Update: Local Park Projects and Stream Stabilization

Over the past several months, special events were held for work being done on Saw Mill Run as well as Birch Tree, Oak Tree and Millennium Parks. Details follow; full information can be found at www.bethelpark.net, **Community, Bethel Blog**.

Saw Mill Run Stream Stabilization Groundbreaking Sept. 9

The project will stabilize about 350 ft. of stream bank to Saw Mill Run off of Milford Drive.

"Over the years, this section of the stream has really changed, and this project will help stabilize the stream banks along with improving our storm water management of the area," said Bethel Park Municipal Council President **Tim Moury**.

According to Municipal Engineering Director **Stacey Graf**, the project will mitigate the erosion problem within the headwaters of the stream.

"Many streams in Western Pennsylvania have highly eroded banks, property being lost, fallen trees, exposed sewers, and vegetation being swept away," she said. "As the severity of the rainfall events are changing, this scenario is playing out all over the Municipality."

The project is being funded in part by a Growing Greener Grant through the Department of Environmental Protection.

Birch Tree Park Playground Installation Groundbreaking Sept. 24

"Neighborhood Parks are a very important part of our community," said Moury. "The

new playground equipment at Birch Tree Park will provide a place for the neighborhood children to play within walking distance of a number of their homes."

The new playground equipment was

selected by area residents and will be in compliance with current playground safety standards.

Another large part of the project was extensive storm sewer work that's already been completed.

The storm sewer project cost \$265,000 and was completed by Morgan Excavating in 2020.



(l-r) Gateway Engineering Consultant Scott Baker and Municipal Engineering Director Stacey Graf.



(l-r) Councilwoman Lorrie Gibbons, Council President Tim Moury, Recreation Board Member Daryl Walezak and Councilman Dr. Tim Campbell.

("Groundbreaking" cont. pg. 10)

www.bethelparklibrary.org
412-835-2207



MOST PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE

ADULT PROGRAMS

TECHNOLOGY CLASSES

Make an appointment to learn more about your laptop, e-reader, smart phone, or common software programs. Appointments are 45-minutes long. Bring your charged device and all relevant cords/cables. Don't have a device? Learn on one of our computers! These free classes include (*but not limited to*): Basic Internet, Email, Microsoft Word, 3D Printing & Windows. Days and times vary. Call for more information or to schedule an appointment.

MYSTERY BOOK CLUBS

2nd Wednesday of each month 10 a.m.
3rd Wednesday of each month 7 p.m.

MONDAY EVENING BOOK CLUB

Last Monday of each month 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY EVENING BOOK CLUB

3rd Thursday of each month 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY MORNING BOOK CLUB

Last Thursday of each month 10 a.m.



CONVERSATION SALON: DISCUSSION GROUP

1st and 3rd Friday of each month at 10 a.m.

Those seeking a refreshing break from the daily grind, uninspired television shows and surfing the web will find like-minded individuals at the BP Library Conversation Salon. This group seeks the satisfaction and inspiration of face-to-face conversations about topics that are enlightening and relevant. The only requirement for attendance is an interest in expressing your views and insights while remaining appreciative of those of others.

KNITTING AT THE LIBRARY

Every Wednesday! 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Knitters of all levels welcome. Bring your yarn and needles to knit, stitch, learn, teach, and share!

SCRABBLE CLUB

Fun, friendly games every Tuesday at 1 p.m. New members welcome!

PINOCHLE CLUB

2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at 12 p.m.

Play some Pinochle! *Not a class, experienced players preferred.*

PITTSBURGH SOUTH WRITERS GROUP

2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Attention Writers! Pittsburgh South Writers Group offers writers of all genres the inspiration and constructive criticism needed to improve their work.

GENEALOGY GROUP

Meets the 4th Monday of the month at 1 p.m.

Exchange information and research ideas. Call or check the Library's Event Calendar webpage for next meeting's date.

MEMORY CAFÉ

3rd Wednesday of every month from 10:30 a.m.

Are you caring for someone with dementia? If you are, who is caring for you? Join us for an informal Dementia support group especially designed for families and caregivers. This informational, supportive group will help you learn more about the disease and support your feelings. *No registration needed.*

BETHEL PARK LIBRARY BUTTON CLUB

4th Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m.

Are you looking for a new hobby? Buttons are beautiful, historical, inexpensive, and fun to collect. For more information, call the library at 412-835-2207.



To register or for more information call 412-835-2207.



UNREAL ENGINE 4 MEET UP - PITTSBURGH

The Unreal Engine is now FREE. Meet-ups are also FREE. Join us to talk with others interested in creating and learning about the virtual realms that involve the engine locally. Join and RSVP at communities.unrealengine.com. *Space is limited. Meetings at Bethel Park Library.*

NEW MOVIE RELEASE TUESDAYS

Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

We will be showing the new blockbuster DVD release of the week on Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. in the Fireplace Room. Why wait to see what everyone is talking about now! Call for schedule.

3D PRINTING

Wednesday, Dec. 15th at 6 p.m.

Use the Library's 3D Printer to make personalized gifts, replacements parts, or your own artistic item or creative invention.

Take this free class to learn how to use

this innovation of industry! If you cannot make the date above, please call for other times.

PHOTOSHOP WHO? FIREALPACA NEWBIES

Presented by **Cheneal Relazez Hilton**

Wednesday, Dec. 29th at 6:30 p.m.

FireAlpaca is the free Digital Software that is available in 10 different languages and compatible with both Mac and Windows. This class will teach you how to paint, draw, airbrush or create custom graphics.

NEW YEAR, NEW YOU: LIFELONG LEARNING CLASS!

Tuesday, Jan. 11th at 12:30 p.m.

This class will guide you through the numerous online learning resources offered free with your Library Card. Whether you are learning a new language, practicing for a standardized test, or you want to brush up on Microsoft Office, the Library has help for you. Hundreds of online courses await! If you cannot make the date above, please call for other times or a 1 on 1 session.

HOW TO EAT: BECOME A COMPETENT EATER

Presented by **Kellie Smith, RD, LDN, DTR**

Wednesday, Jan. 12th at 6:30 p.m.

In this training, we will take a step back from the trends of dieting and focus on how to be a competent eater and enjoy all foods again. So, if you are tired of confusion and ready to focus on simply how to eat, this training is for you.



HOW TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

Presented by PHEAA

Wednesday, Jan. 19th at 6:30 p.m.

Please join PHEAA's Higher Education Access Partner for Allegheny County **Amy Sawdey** as she presents information on the financial aid application process, what types of aid are available for students, and strategies to start thinking about affordability before getting ready to apply for post-secondary school admission. Time will be built into the presentation to allow you to ask any questions you may have regarding the financial aid process.

PORCHTRAITS – PHOTOGRAPHY

Presented by **Anita Buzzy-Prentiss**

Wednesday, Jan. 26th at 6:30 p.m.

During the first two months of the COVID-19 pandemic quarantine, Anita traveled all around Pittsburgh and photographed almost 200 "porchraits"- pictures of people on or near their porches. This collection of images and thoughts is inspiring, insightful, delightful, and wise - guidance and grace to help all of us navigate the uncharted waters of the COVID-19 pandemic. **Anita Buzzy Prentiss** is a portrait photographer and owner of Buzzy Photography.

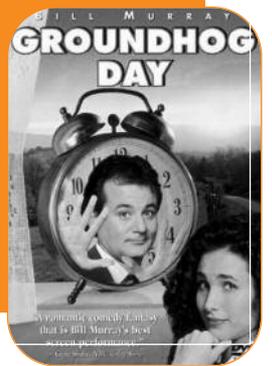
ADULT WINTER READING CLUB

Annual reading raffle - read books and win prizes! Stop in, register and check out books! *Begins Monday, Jan. 31st.*

GROUNDHOG DAY MOVIE SCREENING

Wednesday, Feb. 2nd starting at 1 p.m. and running until 7:30 p.m.

Déjà vu all over again! Celebrate the season and enjoy the existential cult classic "Groundhog Day" (starring **Bill Murray**) on the big screen!



5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT WRITING AND PUBLISHING NONFICTION

Presented by **Cori Wamsley**, CEO of Aurora Corialis Publishing

Thursday, Feb. 3rd at 6:30 p.m.

With this talk, you'll walk away knowing:

- 1) The first thing you need to consider when you want to write a book.
- 2) The key ingredient to hooking your audience and leading them to more work with you.
- 3) The biggest mistake nonfiction authors make in their publishing plan.

And more!

SHOULDER PAIN

Presented by **Martine Marino, MPT, COMT**

Wed. Feb. 16th at 2 p.m.

This lecture will cover common causes of shoulder pain and tips to treat and prevent pain.

To register or for more information call 412-835-2207.

MOST PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE

The Library is having

SNOW MUCH FUN!



Come Visit Us and Discover Why!

- ❁ Winter Reading Club
- ❁ Classes
- ❁ Storytimes

- ❁ Special Events
- ❁ New Books
- ❁ Play Space

- ❁ Teen Lounge
- ❁ And, much more!



Register for new programs beginning
Dec. 1st.



www.bethelparklibrary.org

5100 West Library Ave, Bethel Park, PA 15102 • 412-835-2207, x267



Bethel Park Public Access TV Receives Three Media Awards at Oct. 20 Ceremony



Amy Taylor

On **Wednesday, Oct. 20**, Bethel Park Public Access TV (*BPTV*) received three awards out of seven nominations during the Fifth Annual Greater Pittsburgh Community Media Awards hosted by Pittsburgh Community Television (*PCTV*) and WTAE-TV personality **Andrew Stockey**.

The event was a celebration of community media producers at PCTV, Bethel Park Public Access (*BPTV*), Moon Community Access (*MCA*), City Channel Pittsburgh (*CCP*), and Monroeville Municipal Television (*MMT*). It was held virtually and simulcast on TV, the web and Apple TV, ROKU and Fire TV.

"I'm really proud of all of our nominees for the Greater Pittsburgh Community Media Awards," said BPTV Director **Dave Cable**. "Our producers work very hard to find compelling worthwhile content to share with the residents of Bethel Park, and it's nice to see some of them get recognized for their efforts."

BPTV's nominees and award winners follow:

- **Amy Taylor, Community**, "Healthy, Fit & Strong" bee rescue at Honey Rose Ranch -**WINNER**
- **Jack Allen, Series**, "Jack of All Trades" -**WINNER**
- **Andy Amrhein, Arts and Entertainment**, for his "Around Town" episode featuring the work of artist Johno Prascak -**WINNER**
- **Diane Ford, Public Affairs**, "Deep Roots" -**NOMINEE**
- **Amy Taylor, Faith & spiritual**, "Healthy, Fit & Strong" interview with Max Shrager -**NOMINEE**
- **Al Levine, Sports, Health and Lifestyle**, special edition of "Pittsburgh Sportsline" - highlighting Bethel Park High School's championship baseball and softball teams -**NOMINEE**
- **Government Content** - Bethel Park Memorial Day Ceremony -**NOMINEE**

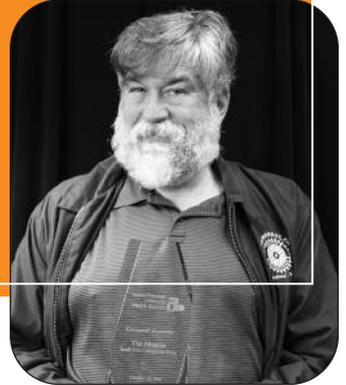
BPTV also recognized Production Volunteer **Anthony Veltri** for his dedicated service to the station over the past year.

"Anthony is an integral part of our volunteer staff and has distinguished himself through his dedication to helping residents with programs as well as producing his own Bethel Park Gamer series," said Cable. "We're very happy to recognize one of our own for their hard work behind the scenes."

For the first ever local journalism award, The Greater Pittsburgh Community Media Awards chose *The Almanac* to be recognized. The award was presented to **Harry Funk** at BPTV Studio by Cable.

For more information on BPTV or to volunteer, call 412-831-3304 or email dcable@bethelpark.net.

Harry Funk



Mayor,
Jack
Allen



Andy Amrhein

Anthony Veltri



BPTV Congratulates Al Levine "The Talking Machine" on 10 Years of Pittsburgh Sportsline

On Tuesday, Oct. 12, **Al Levine** and his co-hosts celebrated their 10-year anniversary of producing Pittsburgh Sportsline LIVE every week on BPTV. With the exception of a few overlapping holidays, Levine has produced a Pittsburgh Sportsline episode every Tuesday at 7 p.m. without fail. "This would not be possible without the dedication of everyone involved in the program including long-time co-host **Jim Frazier**, **Chip Haynor** and recent addition **Nicholas Callas**," said BPTV Director **Dave Cable**. BPTV's volunteer production staff has also worked behind the scenes to ensure that this program was taped and aired live every week.

Beyond his weekly Pittsburgh Sportsline live program Levine also produces several other programs on a regular basis including:

The Talking Machine Show - Levine sits down for a half hour and features one special guest to introduce to the community.

The Speedy Gourmet - He puts together a great meal in under 30-minutes taped and presented non-stop with a timer.

By Request with Jessica Lee - Here Levine features local Jazz Vocalist Jessica Lee as she shares song request performances and interviews local individuals who help with great causes.

Cable noted that Levine has also volunteered to conduct interviews for BPTV at many special events around Bethel Park including Community Day, The Joey Fabus 5K, Bethel Park Historical Society Open House and more.

"We'd like to thank Al and all of the dedicated volunteers behind the scenes for their many contributions to BPTV over the past ten years!" said Cable. "If you'd like to help Al out behind the scenes or have a program idea yourself, please contact BPTV at 412-831-3304 or dcable@bethelpark.net."



A MESSAGE FROM JUDGE ARNONI...

"Outstanding Citizen" Award Nominations Due by Dec. 20!



It's easy to be cynical today; all we have to do is watch the news. I see crime, disputes, negativity, and despair in my courtroom every day. I think we could all use a little positivity! That's why I want to reward those who demonstrate the good in our society and honor people who strive to make our communities better.

Therefore, I'll be presenting two Outstanding Citizen Awards this winter - one from Bethel Park and the other from Upper St. Clair. **I need your help in identifying individuals who possess the qualities that best exemplify an Outstanding Citizen!** Please take the opportunity to nominate someone who you think meets the criteria on the Nomination Form listed below. **Forms must be received in my office by Monday, Dec. 20.** I will read all submissions and choose the honorees who will be presented with a commemorative medal and certificate in my office. We'll also pay tribute to the recipients with a photo and an article about their accomplishments in a future issue of local publications, as well as on local television broadcasts. *Thank you for your help!*



Nomination Form Outstanding Citizen Award

This award will be presented to the individuals who have consistently:

- Demonstrated excellent community leadership.
- Made significant contributions to our communities.
- Positively impacted the residents of our communities.
- Shown their generosity and unselfishness through their actions.

Nominees should meet the above criteria, have resided in Bethel Park or Upper St. Clair, respectively for at least two years, and be age 18 or older. No self-nominations please.

Nominee Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone #: _____

Please describe the attributes and qualifications of the nominee and the reason why you feel this individual should be honored *(please use a separate sheet of paper, if necessary)*:

I hope this inspires you to participate in the nomination process. Again, thank you!

Please return this application by **Monday, Dec. 20, 2021** via mail to:

Judge Ron Arnoni
District Court 05-2-20
Hiras Professional Building
2414 Lytle Road, Suite 200
Bethel Park, PA 15102

- OR -

Fax your application to: **412-835-4060**
or email it to Heather.petronio@mdjs.pacourts.us



NORA

(cont. from pg. 3)



(l-r) Medical Director Dr. Owen Traynor, Nora and Supervisor Tim Hall.

“Pennsylvania’s Ambulance Service of the Year” in 2007 by the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council. Tri-Community South earned accreditation by the Commission for the Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) in April of 2006 and was only the second EMS system in Pennsylvania to achieve this. TCS has maintained its accreditation ever since, with re-accreditations in 2009, 2012, 2015, 2018, and 2021. The receipt of each of these awards owes much to her leadership.

Helfrich has received individual honors as well. In 2008, she was honored by the Emergency Medical Service Institute, now known as EMS West, for her outstanding contributions to EMS in Southwestern Pennsylvania. In 2011, she was named among the “Pennsylvania Stars of Life” by the Ambulance Association of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania EMS Provider Foundation. In 2021, on the eve of her retirement, Nora was awarded the 2021 “Dr. George Moerkirk Memorial Contribution to EMS Award.” The award is given annually by the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council (PEHSC) to an individual who, “provides a significant contribution to the Pennsylvania’s EMS system.”

To find out more, or for any other questions on Emergency Medical Services, call Tri-Community South at 412-831-3710, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., or visit the TCS website at tcsEMS.org.



GROUNDBREAKING

(cont. from pg. 4)

Oak Tree Park Playground Installation Groundbreaking Oct. 1

“Incorporated into the renovation of Oak Tree Park we were able to accomplish two goals,” said Moury. “We’re upgrading the playground equipment and pavilion and including storm water management. Each of our parks will have its own identity, and Oak Tree Park will be known as the only park with ‘Gaga Ball!’”



(l-r) Councilman Tim Campbell, Mayor Jack Allen, Council President Tim Moury, and Recreation Board Members Daryl Walezak, Joseph Nagel, Joelle Salerno and Vince Galloni.

Not only is the playground being upgraded, but it was also moved from its old site due to the location of the new underground tanks installed to collect stream water drainage. The old pavilion was also removed to make room for a larger overall playground space.

According to Graf, the new playground featuring equipment selected by local area residents will accommodate both younger and older children (ages 2-5 and 5-12). Other amenities will include swings in the upper area, a sunshade for patrons using the playground as well as baseball spectators, and Bethel Park’s first Gaga Ball pit! Gaga ball is a dodgeball type game where players roll the ball with their hand to tag other players.

After the playground is complete, work will be done on sidewalks near the park.

Millennium Park Groundbreaking Ceremony Oct. 15

Upgrades to the Park include a new playground, new walking trail, updated ADA compliant restrooms with the addition of a concession stand, and the Municipality’s first synthetic turf baseball field. Over 76 new trees were also planted with the help of Tree Pittsburgh and a generous donation by the Bethel Park/Upper St. Clair Breakfast Rotary.

The new .32 mile ADA compliant walking trail outlines the new ball field and runs behind the existing baseball field now offering guests a .5 mile loop trail to enjoy.

Other improvements will include multiple pitching and base distances allowing for a variety of age groups involved in softball and baseball to play, and underground tanks adjacent to the new field area to hold about 49,000 gallons of stormwater. The lower parking area is also being reconstructed to meet current ADA guidelines along with the associated walking trail.

The total project cost is \$975,000 with part of it funded by a grant from the Land & Water Conservation Fund through Pennsylvania DCNR for \$268,300.



(l-r) Joseph Nagel, Dr. Tim Campbell, Jim Gastgeb, Tim Moury, Mark O’Brien, Vince Galloni, Natalie Mihalek and Devlin Robinson.

Meet Tri-Community South’s new EMS Chief

Christopher Matek has recently taken over the helm of Tri-Community South EMS after the retirement of Director Nora Helfrich.

Matek has been in emergency services for over 35 years as both a paramedic and fire fighter.

“I started in Harlem and worked in New York City for over 16 years before moving West to the Chicago Fire Department and later to Minnesota,” said Matek. “Throughout my career, I have been involved in several areas of public safety including municipal, hospital and fire-based EMS services to local and federal service with the Department of Natural Resources.”

Along with teaching both EMS and Fire programs, Matek was in Minnesota’s inaugural class of Community Paramedics (CP) and has been involved as a CP at the local and state level for over a decade.

And, Matek is now excited about working at Tri-Community South EMS.

“I’m very much looking forward to getting to know the communities we serve and learning how things work in Pennsylvania!” said Matek.



Join Us for these upcoming "Live Well" Speaker Series Programs!

Mark your calendars and be sure to join us for our 2022 "Live Well" Series! All programs run for approximately an hour and are held via Facebook Live on the Municipality of Bethel Park Facebook page at 7 p.m.



Dec. 22 – "Living Well in Your Home"
We all want to feel safe in our homes, so be sure to attend this program where you'll learn from three safety experts about what you need to know to keep you and your family safe and secure throughout the year. Panelists include Bethel Park Volunteer Fire Company Chief **Dave Gerber**, Bethel Park Police Detective **Sean Gorman** and a representative from Tri-Community South EMS.

Jan. 19 – "Simplify Healthy Eating & Exercise for the New Year!"
It's the New Year and many of us are looking to start new healthy habits...especially after possibly overindulging during the holiday season. In this informative program, learn about the most beneficial foods for your body and how following a whole food, plant-based diet can enhance your health! Our presenter, **Sarah Spak** from St. Clair Health, will also touch on simple methods of bringing exercise into your daily routine.

Feb. 16 – "Improving Your Financial Picture for 2022"
Managing your finances can be extremely stressful, especially in today's environment. So join **Michael Fertig**, senior vice president & financial advisor at Fragasso Financial Advisors, as he guides us through methods of planning for our future, managing our day-to-day finances and much more in this informative event!



**Speaker bios are available on the Bethel Blog found at www.bethelpark.net, Community, Bethel Blog.*

We Need Your Help!

The Municipality of Bethel Park is seeking interested residents to serve on the Municipality's various Boards & Commissions (*Planning & Zoning Commission, Shade Tree Commission, Zoning Hearing Board, Parks & Recreation Board, and Municipal Authority*). If you're interested in serving on any of these Boards or Commissions, please send a letter of interest along with your qualifications to the Municipal Manager, Municipality of Bethel Park, 5100 West Library Avenue, Bethel Park, PA 15102 or email to christian@bethelpark.net indicating on which Board you are interested in serving.

Be Storm Water Smart

Understanding How Storm Water Affects Your Wallet, Safety, Health, and Environment in Pennsylvania

What is Storm Water?

Storm water is water from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains or when snow and ice melt. The water seeps into the ground or drains into what we call storm sewers. These are the drains you see at street corners or at low points on the sides of streets. Collectively, the draining water is called storm water runoff.

Good Rain Gone Wrong

Storm water becomes a problem when it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants as it flows or when it causes flooding and erosion of stream banks. Storm water travels through a system of pipes and roadside ditches that make up storm sewer systems. It eventually flows directly to a lake, river, stream, wetland, or coastal water. All of the pollutants storm water carries along the way empty into our waters, too, because storm water does not get treated!



Pet wastes left on the ground get carried away by storm water, contributing harmful bacteria, parasites and viruses to our water.

Vehicles drip fluids (oil, grease, gasoline, antifreeze, brake fluids, etc.) onto paved areas where storm water runoff carries them through our storm drains and into our water.



Chemicals used to grow and maintain beautiful lawns and gardens, if not used properly, can run off into the storm drains when it rains or when we water our lawns and gardens.

Waste from chemicals and materials used in construction can wash into the storm sewer system when it rains. Soil that erodes from construction sites causes environmental degradation, including harming fish and shellfish populations that are important for recreation and our economy.



What Happens When It Rains?

Rain is an important part of nature's water cycle, but there are times it can do more damage than good. Problems related to storm water runoff can include:



Flooding caused by too much storm water flowing over hardened surfaces such as roads and parking lots, instead of soaking into the ground.

Increases in spending on maintaining storm drains and the storm sewer system that become clogged with excessive amounts of dirt and debris.



Decreases in sportfish populations because storm water carries sediment and pollutants that degrade important fish habitat.

More expensive treatment technologies to remove harmful pollutants carried by storm water into our drinking water supplies.



Closed beaches due to high levels of bacteria carried by storm water that make swimming unsafe.

We can help rain restore its good reputation while protecting our health and environment while saving money for ourselves and our community.



BP VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

A Message From the Fire Chief: Dave Gerber



Last year we did not experience many snowstorms, but I would like to thank the residents who took it upon themselves to shovel out their neighborhood fire hydrants. I would also like to ask that other residents do the same this year as it will save firefighters drastic time searching for hydrants that may be needed if your house is on fire.

In November, everyone changed their clocks, so you should have also changed the batteries in your smoke and CO detectors as well. If you haven't changed your batteries, be sure to take the time to do so now! As you are changing the batteries, check to see if there is a sticker on your detector stating the date of manufacture. Smoke detectors are typically good for 10 years, and CO detectors are usually good for seven years. A detector older than that may not be reliable.

Below I've also included several safety tips to help keep you safe this winter. Many of these are issues that we encounter in this community every year.

Get To Know Your Fire Fighters!

Below is some information about a few of our members. We would like to point out that many did not have any experience in public safety before joining. Many joined at different ages and from different backgrounds.

These are your neighbors who volunteer their time to serve and safeguard the community of Bethel Park. The BPVFC takes great pride in the fact that we remain 100% volunteer and we strive to remain that way in the future. If you or someone you know is interested or has questions about joining, please email us at join@bethelparkvfc.com.

Russ Beeson

Russ has now been with the Bethel Park Vol. Fire Co. for 8 years and currently holds the rank of Deputy Chief. He began his firefighting career at the age of 18 in 1991 with the Upper St. Clair Vol. Fire Dept. He also volunteered in two different states while he was in the military and has a total of 30 years of experience. Russ proudly served in the United States Air Force from 1994-2001.

His fire education includes training in a Master Fire Fighter Program, Fire Inspector, Fire Instructor, Fire Officer, Vehicle Rescue Technician, Confined Space Rescue, Haz Mat Operations, and Incident Command. Russ currently works as a Video Account Executive for Bearcom. Russ decided to join the BPVFC after moving back from Texas. He grew up in the BPVFC as his dad Jim was a life member and past president.

He said, "Being around the firehouse was always something I wanted to do. I can remember as a kid racing to the truck with my dad and going on calls. I was always there when they would come back and I would help wash the hose, roll it, and clean up."

Russ's favorite part of being a fire fighter is knowing that you are there to help someone in their time of need, darkest moment, or most fearful moment. He always enjoys the feeling of the team, camaraderie, and family that the fire company has. In his spare time, Russ enjoys staying in shape, training, and mountain biking. He is supported by his fiancé and high school sweetheart **Kristi McGartland**. He also has several kids, **Hannah (23)**, **Hallie (21)**, **Braden (18)**, **Landon (10)**, **Kayleigh (20)**, and **Maddie (15)**. His kids enjoy getting to ride in the fire trucks for parades and the friendships they have made at the family events. They also have a great sense of pride when they know Dad was able to help someone.

("Members" cont. pg. 13)



Candles

Candles cause an estimated 15,600 fires in residential structures, 150 deaths, 1,270 injuries, and \$539 million in estimated direct property damage each year. *On average, a candle fire in the home is reported to a fire department in the US every 40 minutes!* Over half of home candle fires start because the candle is too close to something that will burn.

More than 1/3 of candle fires begin in the bedroom. Avoid using candles in the bedroom or other areas where people may fall asleep. December is the peak month for candle fires with Christmas being the peak day. Young children and older adults have the highest death risk from candle fires. The majority of candle fires result from human error and negligence. **Following these simple tips could help save your life.**

- If you do use candles, ensure they are in a sturdy holder and placed where they cannot be easily knocked down.
- Put candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface.
- Keep candles out of the reach of children and pets.
- Don't burn a candle all the way down – put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.
- Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
- Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.
- Set a good example by using matches, lighters and fire carefully.
- Never put candles on a Christmas tree.
- Never leave the house with candles burning.
- Extinguish candles after use.
- And NEVER leave burning candles unattended!

Carbon Monoxide

Often called the silent killer, carbon monoxide (CO) is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time. Fire departments in the U.S. respond to an estimated seven calls every hour in which carbon monoxide was found. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide. CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.

Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions. If the CO alarm sounds, immediately go outside to fresh air and keep your windows and doors in the house closed. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for, call the fire department and wait outside for them to arrive.

During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow build-up. If you need to warm a vehicle, be sure to remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open.

Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO also so they can only be used outside. Other ways to prevent CO conditions from occurring is to have your heating equipment and chimneys inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in.

Holiday Decorating

Each year, hospital emergency rooms treat about 8,100 people for injuries, such as falls, cuts, and shocks related to holiday lights, decorations, and Christmas trees. In addition, Christmas trees are involved in more than 400 fires annually, resulting in 30 deaths, 90 injuries, and an average of more than \$17 million in property loss and damage. Have a safe and happy holiday season by following these safety tips.

("Chief Message" cont. pg. 13)

HOW TO REACH US

None of our three fire stations are regularly staffed with members. If you need us to respond to your emergency, you must call the Police Dispatch at 412-833-2000 or call 911. If you have a non-emergency question or concern, the best and fastest way to reach us is through our "Contact Us" page on the website at www.bethelparkvfc.com. You may also call us at 412-835-1127 and leave a message on the answering machine.

BPVFC MEMBERS

(cont. from pg. 12)

As Russ starts his 31st year in the volunteer fire service, he said, "It has been a true honor to serve the communities in which I have lived, to be able to experience numerous different departments and experience how things are done in different states. It allows me the ability to take different parts from each one and bring them back to the fire company I was raised in."

Russ would like to encourage anyone that ever had the dream of being a firefighter to look into volunteering in your local fire company. The relationships you make, the training you receive, and the experience is truly life changing!

Joe Heyl

Joe joined the fire company at age 21 in 1980 and has primarily responded out of Station 1 on Brightwood Road. He has served in various rolls including Chief Engineer, Vice President and President. Joe had no previous experience before joining and obtained various trainings over the years to become one of our most experienced drivers and pump operators. Joe is currently retired but enjoys serving as Treasurer of the South Hills Fireman's Association. Joe joined as a way to help the community he lives in and enjoys spending time around the fire stations with the friends he has made. He's supported at home by his wife **Joyce**, sons **Josh (37)**, **Joey (26)**, and **Jimmy (23)**. Josh is also a fireman for Finleyville VFC.



Eva Parker

Eva joined the fire company at age 28 with no previous experience. She joined to keep her community and family safe during their worst day. She also was looking for a way to expand her knowledge of the changing world while finding ways to help others. Eva has proudly served with us for over 11 years now and has served in previous positions as Lieutenant and Captain. She holds an associate's degree in Child and Family Studies and obtained her associate's degree in Fire Science Administration.

Since joining, she's earned many certifications including Firefighter 1 and 2, Basic Vehicle Rescue Technician, Hazmat Awareness, Fire Instructor 1 and 2, and PA Department of Health Emergency Medical Technician.

Eva currently works for the Port Authority in the maintenance department. Eva's favorite part of being a firefighter is going to schools and doing stations tours for kids. "The joy and excitement the children get when they see a fire engine is enough to make anyone smile," she said.

In her free time Eva enjoys kayaking, walking, and riding her bike while spending time with her family and friends. Eva said, "If you are looking for a fun and rewarding hobby, consider joining the fire company. We are always looking for new members and enjoy growing our family!"



CHIEF MESSAGE

(cont. from pg. 12)

Trees

- When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant." Although this label does not mean the tree won't catch fire, it does indicate the tree will resist burning and should extinguish quickly.
- When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness. A fresh tree is green; needles are hard to pull from branches and when bent between your fingers, needles do not break. The trunk butt of a fresh tree is sticky with resin, and when tapped on the ground, the tree should not lose many needles.
- When setting up a tree at home, place it away from fireplaces and radiators. Because heated rooms dry live trees out rapidly, be sure to check the stand daily to ensure it is filled with water. Place the tree out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways.

Lights

- Indoors or outside, use only lights that have been tested for safety by a recognized testing laboratory, which indicates conformance with safety standards.
- Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections, and throw out damaged sets.
- Always follow manufacturer's recommendations as to how many sets can be plugged in together. Most light sets have a maximum of three.
- Fasten outdoor lights securely to trees, house walls, or other firm supports to protect the lights from wind damage. Use only insulated staples, not nails or tacks, to hold strings in place. Or, run strings of lights through hooks or clips (available at hardware stores).
- Turn off all lights when you go to bed or leave the house. The lights could short out and start a fire.
- For added electric-shock protection, plug outdoor electric lights and decorations into circuits protected by ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs). Portable outdoor GFCIs can be purchased where electrical supplies are sold. GFCIs can be installed permanently to household circuits by a qualified electrician.

Decorations

- Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials to trim a tree. Choose tinsel or artificial icicles of plastic or nonleaded metals. Leaded materials are hazardous if ingested by children.
- Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens. Always use non-flammable holders, and place candles where they will not be knocked down.
- In homes with small children, take special care to avoid decorations that are sharp or breakable, keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children to avoid the child swallowing or inhaling small pieces, and avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food that may tempt a child to eat them.

Heating

Did you know that heating equipment is a leading cause of home fire deaths? With a few simple safety tips and precautions, you can prevent most heating fires from happening.

Chimneys and vents should be cleaned and inspected by a qualified professional every year. Keep anything that can burn at least 3' away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater. Never use your oven to heat your home! Portable space heaters should be plugged directly into an outlet and not an extension cord. Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed. Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.

And finally, **TEST YOUR SMOKE ALARMS MONTHLY!!!**

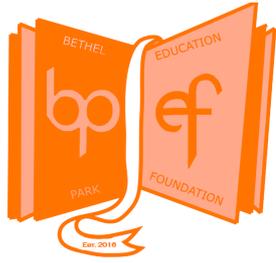
HELP US HELP YOU!

While the tax money we are receiving is a great help to our operation, it's not enough and was never intended to be enough to pay all of our expenses every year. The tax was set at a level adequate to cover certain expenses. The tax support we receive is paying the bills and upkeep associated with our three stations located here in Bethel Park. This, along with fuel for our vehicles and insurance costs associated with these facilities, make up the entire sum of our fire tax. The fire company still has vehicle payments, equipment costs, and other insurance costs not covered by the tax support.

Just to give you an idea, right now we have a **monthly** vehicle payment of over \$14,000. If the fire tax were designed to cover all expenses, the tax would have been set at a much higher level. We still rely on support from donations and other fund raising activities. As volunteers, we do our job with no remuneration, and are proud to serve the residents and businesses of Bethel Park. Thank you for your support in our efforts.

To donate please visit our website at www.bethelparkvfc.com/donate or check your mailbox for the flyer you should have received.

*The Bethel Park Volunteer Fire Company only requests your financial support through written communication. If you are solicited by telephone by someone using the "Bethel Park Volunteer Fire Company" name, be advised they **DO NOT** represent our organization.*



BETHEL PARK EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Bethel Park Education Foundation (BPEF) is a community-based, non-profit organization whose goal is to support programs that promote quality education. The Foundation works to facilitate communication and involvement among students, parents, school staff, business leaders and community citizens.



Public schools face a variety of new challenges as state and federal funding sources have been reduced or eliminated. BPEF hopes to find alternate ways of funding important initiatives within our schools. The Foundation does not receive any public funding – our programs are supported by individual, community, corporate partners. Our partners donate knowing their gifts are creating opportunities for students to have exceptional educational opportunities. They know that providing a quality education favorably impacts the entire community.

The Bethel Park Education Foundation is independent of the school district but works closely with the school board, administration, teachers and students. All programs that benefit Bethel Park students are considered for financial support. The program list grows and evolves to reflect the needs of the student, teacher, school and district as they are identified.

BOARD

- Andy Amrhein, President
- William Brucker, Vice President
- Tom Bailey, Treasurer
- Deb Luckasevic, Secretary
- Vic DiPrampiero
- Dr. Roger Zelt
- Caitlin Metzler
- Jim Knapp
- Patty Campbell
- Lindsay Crowley
- Dr. James Walsh

Please direct any questions to:
bpeffoundation@gmail.com

STEAM Grants

STEAM grants are awarded to students, teachers, and schools to foster creativity, innovation, and imagination. Grant initiatives will be evaluated for their ability to:

- engage collaborative interactions
- develop interdependence and independence skills
- encourage resiliency by being task focused & disciplined
- promote self-awareness and mindfulness
- develop critical and creative thinking skills

Individual Teacher Grant

The Individual Teacher Grant funds initiatives that are innovative and stimulate student learning and creativity.

Teacher initiated projects that are funded will be evaluated to:

- encourage, uplift, edify, and challenge the student
- provide unique educational opportunities
- augment existing curriculum
- evaluate the successful achievement of the stated objectives
- consider the possibility of replication in other schools.

Individual School Grants

The Individual School Grants program seeks to provide funding to an individual school. Grants may be awarded in three categories – elementary, middle school and high school.

The purpose of the Individual School Grant is to:

- provide financial assistance for schools to substantially improve student achievement.
- implement comprehensive school improvement programs that are based on reliable research and effective program practices.
- place emphasis on basic academics and parental/care-giver involvement.
- determine the successful achievement of the stated objectives.
- consider the possibility of replication for other schools.

Individual Student Grants

Enhancing and encouraging excellence in education for the student is the absolute focal point of the BPEF. There is no ceiling to the creativity and innovation of the student mind. In that spirit, the grant program needs to remain flexible and adaptable to student proposals.. As such, grants may be awarded to any student at any grade level in any discipline of study. Additionally, grants will be considered for all physical activity endeavors and all forms of the arts.

No grant shall be administered as a direct monetary payment to the awardee. No grant will be awarded for food, beverages, parties, recreational activities nor field trips.

Dear Fellow Bethel Park Alumnus/Alumna:

We need your help! As a Bethel Park graduate, you know that providing quality education requires investment during and after school hours. Please consider making a donation to support the BPEF ensuring that all Bethel Park students can continue to enjoy the same opportunities for engagement and success.

Your tax deductible contribution can be made via any of the following methods:

- Directly from the BPEF website – www.bethelparkfoundation.com.
- Via United Way of Southwestern PA by entering code#12998472 on your contribution form through your employer
- By mailing a check to: Bethel Park Education Foundation, 301 Church Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102

You may also wish to consider making a contribution to the BPEF through your business and receive a PA tax credit.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Bethel Park Education Foundation

Mission

To enhance educational opportunities for our students by increasing community involvement with our schools.



You can now donate
via the United Way:

YOU MAY DESIGNATE THE BPEF AS THE RECIPIENT OF YOUR UNITED WAY DONATION. ENTER YOUR CONTRIBUTOR'S CHOICE AGENCY CODE AS: #12998472

301 Church Rd. • Bethel Park, PA 15102 • 412-760-9614 • bethelparkfoundation.com



WHAT IS THE BPCF?

The Bethel Park Community Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization that embraces a philosophy of local philanthropy. Tax-deductible contributions made to the Bethel Park Community Foundation are applied to fund local initiative and community programs in these 5 areas:

- COMMUNITY FACILITIES • EDUCATION • RECREATION • THE FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS • COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY.



Funds are made available through a grant application - visit www.bpcf.org for more information or contact us at: PO Box 811, Bethel Park, PA 15102

Trustees Giving Back

The BPCF is comprised of a Board of Trustees, who are residents and business owners in our community. These members not only review and approve grant distribution, but they also volunteer many hours each year attending community events to raise awareness of our organization.

This fall, our Trustees handed out well over 1,000 treats during Community Day and South Park Shops' Trick-or-Treat.

Please contact us if you're interested in becoming a part of this great organization.



Did You Know that the Bethel Park Community Foundation is a Tax Deductible Non-Profit Organization?

A great way to support the BP Police, the BP Volunteer Fire Company, Tri-Community South EMS, and a wide range of community-focused activities is to contribute a tax-deductible check to the Bethel Park Community Foundation.

Or would your family or group like to start a scholarship where you and others can make tax-deductible contributions? The Bethel Park Community Foundation as a 501 (c)(3) organization can help with that too!

You can also make a tax-deductible donation to Jeez our Bethel Park Police K-9 or to help with furnishing the Bethel Park Community Center. Both of these have special fund with the BP Community Foundation.

Please also remember the Bethel Park Community Foundation in your estate planning.

If you have any questions, or would like to speak personally with a member of the Bethel Park Community Foundation, please email us at info@bpcf.org or call 412-831-6800, x740.

Since 1999, the Bethel Park Community Foundation has granted nearly \$750,000 back into the Community of Bethel Park!

Your tax-deductible contributions at work in our community.

BPCF Grant helps Pathfinder School



Congratulation to Girl Scout Gold Award recipient **Lanie Kauric**! Lanie's project included creating a clothing closet space with organization at The Pathfinder School. Currently, The Pathfinder School is working to fill up the clothing bins with a clothing drive as well.

If you're looking to support Lanie's project along with the school, please consider making a donation!

Foundation Grant Areas of Enrichment

Community Facilities



Opportunities in Education for Citizens of all Ages



Expanded Recreational and Leisure Time Activities

Increased Exposure to the Fine and Performing Arts



Community Health and Safety



You can now donate via the United Way:

UNITED WAY SUPPORT YOU MAY DESIGNATE THE BPCF AS THE RECIPIENT OF YOUR UNITED WAY DONATION. ENTER YOUR



CONTRIBUTOR'S CHOICE AGENCY CODE AS: #892191

Find Us On Facebook

The Bethel Park Community Foundation is now on Facebook: Bethel Park Community Foundation. Please visit and "Like" our page for updated information from the foundation.





Support for the Bethel Park Business Community

Local businesses are vital to our community! To provide support, the Municipality has established numerous initiatives geared towards raising awareness of all that the Bethel Park business community has to offer. We've also partnered with the Bethel Park Chamber to coordinate our efforts. As part of this, a section of Chronicles will be devoted to these efforts each issue.

Municipal Small Business Initiatives

At the start of the pandemic, the Municipality quickly diverted resources to support the local business community. Efforts include:

- A "Dine, Shop, Support" website page listing businesses that expressed an interest in participating with their contact information and business descriptions.
- A **Business Blog** featuring profiles of local business owners.
- **Mayor Jack Allen's BPTV show, "Jack of All Trades,"** found on YouTube featuring local business people.
- **Special events** geared towards supporting local businesses.

Are You a Local Business Owner?

If you're a local business owner and would like to be listed on the Municipality's 'Dine Shop Support' webpage or would like to be featured for a future local business profile, please email: kindness@bethelpark.net.

Bethel Park Chamber Will be Hosting a Series of Webinars for 2022

Beginning in January 2022, The Chamber will host a "Telelearn" session the 4th Tuesday of every month from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. If you are thinking of starting a business or have been in business at least three years, this is for you!

The following sessions will be available:

- January - *What Should I Know About Filing My Taxes for 2022?*
- February - *Working a Room - Networking*
- March - *Stressful Times Call for Personal Time Management*
- March - *Recruitment and Hiring Options for 2022*
- April - *Retention Strategies*
- May - *Small Business Funding*
- June - *Marketing in a new Workplace*
- August - *Reflecting on Your Business*
- September - *How to Reinvent Your Business*
- October - *Employing a Part-time workforce*
- November - *Do Incentives Work?*

Entrepreneurship for Dummies will be run all year starting in January.

For information on dates/times and other details, go to the Chamber website at www.bpchamber.org.

Bethel Park Chamber Launches 2022 with Workplace Strategies

The Bethel Park Chamber's 2022 calendar will include a number of methods for local businesses to jump start the new year with resources and information on overcoming 2021 challenges.



workforce needs," said Chamber Director **Connie Ruhl**. "Change is difficult, especially when it has been thrust upon you. It's now time to move forward and to rethink how our businesses will thrive in 2022."

Join our roundtable discussion and talk with other business leaders about what other options are now available for 2022. For information on the "Lunch & Learn," go to the Chamber website at www.bpchamber.org for more details.

Starting in January, The Chamber will host a "Lunch & Learn" workshop on "Preparing for the 2022 Workforce and Business Challenges." The Chamber will host a roundtable with business leaders discussing new workforce strategies, business redirection and snapshot of our local tri-community status.

"With all of the pandemic challenges from the past two years imposed upon us, it's now time to embrace new ways and options to move forward with new strategies and plans for new

New Chamber Services

We've partnered with a health insurance provider, Health Market Place, located on South Park Road. **Michelle McCorkle** is a broker and can provide you with options that fit your need and budget.

Mobile Notary Services are available through the Chamber as well. If you need a mobile notary, contact **Sallie Pagano** directly at 412-225-7765.

BETHEL PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

BPPD Members Recognized at Law Enforcement Award Ceremony

At the 20th Annual Amen Corner Senator John Heinz Law Enforcement Awards, several members of BPPD were recognized for their investigation into the kidnapping and murder of **Jaime Feden**.

These officers devoted countless hours into the investigation, apprehension and confession of the defendant, and continue to assist state and federal authorities in Nevada in their pursuit of justice for Jaime.

Although this case ultimately had a tragic ending, BPPD members worked relentlessly to bring it to a conclusion. Recipients of the "Sherlock Holmes" Award are **Lt. Blake Babin, Sgt. Michael Dunn, Det. Joelle Dixon, Det. Sean Gorman, Det. Frank Marks (Ret.), Det. Giles Wright, and Det. Lance Mattes**.



(l-r) LT. Babin, Det. Dixon, Det. Gorman, Det. Wright and Det. Mattes.

"Shop with a Cop"

(l-r) Ofc. Meussner, Ofc. Beer and Sgt. Grubich sporting backpacks for the kids.



In August, we had the privilege of joining several local police departments for "Shop With A Cop." Each department invited two young residents to go back-to-school shopping with us.

Macy's provided a light breakfast (with donuts of course!) and gave each child a gift card to spend before the store opened. PA State Rep. Natalie Mihalek donated backpacks full of school supplies to each one as well.

We're not sure who had a better time, us or the kids, but it was great to help some local families and send the kids back to school with new outfits!

DON'T LET THE GRINCH STEAL CHRISTMAS!

Over the past few months, we've taken numerous reports of thefts from vehicles, including vehicles stolen with the keys inside. As the holiday shopping season is upon us, this is a reminder to keep your car locked at ALL times and remove gifts and valuables. **Please report suspicious activity IMMEDIATELY to 412-833-2000.**

National Night Out

We had a tremendous turnout from our residents this year at "National Night Out" in Miner's Memorial Park. We wanted to thank **Olive Oils Pizzeria** and **Kona Ice Pittsburgh** for the food, **PGH Party Creations** for the face painting and Chase visit and, as always, Bethel Park Volunteer Fire Company, Tri-Community South EMS and SHACOG CIRT for joining us.

We're proud to serve such a great community!



("Police" cont. pg. 18)

Timothy C. O'Connor,
Chief of Police
Sean Gorman,
Crime Prevention Officer

412-833-2000 OR 911
ANONYMOUS TIP LINE
412-851-BPPD (2773)

CONTACT/SOCIAL MEDIA:

Anonymous Tips can be called into the hotline – 412-851-BPPD (or 2773) or emailed to crimewatch@bethelpark.net.

You can follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for updates:

Facebook Page:
Bethel Park Police Department
Twitter:
[@bethelparkpd](https://twitter.com/bethelparkpd)
Instagram:
[bethelparkpolice](https://www.instagram.com/bethelparkpolice)



MUNICIPAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Bethel Park Municipality has full-time staff members who perform various tasks within the Municipality. Several staff members attend Council meetings to assist in the conduct of the meeting and to answer questions from Council. Those usually in attendance are listed below: *(All numbers listed are in the 412 area code.)*

- Laurence Christian**
Manager831-6800 X137
- Lisa Lapaglia**
Finance Director831-6800 X210
- Stacey Graf**
Director of Engineering.....831-6800 X208
- Jeff Winkle**
Municipal Planner831-6800 X382
- David Rudolph**
Code Enforcement Officer831-6800 X240
- Charles H. Stover**
Recreation Director.....831-6800 X230
- Timothy O'Connor**
Chief of Police.....831-6800 X100

Other Important Municipal Numbers Include:

- Emergency (fire, police, EMS).....833-2000
- Main Municipal Office Number831-6800
- Receptionist831-6800 X0
- Bethel Park Community Center851-2910
- Bethel Park Public Library835-2207
- EMS (non-emergency).....831-3710
- Fire Department (non-emergency)
- Brightwood Station835-1127
- Fire Prevention Unit.....835-3473
- Recreation & Leisure Services831-1328
- Public Access TV.....831-3304
- Jordan Tax Service835-5243

Visit Us Online at www.bethelpark.net

POLICE

(cont. from pg. 17)

Protect Yourself from Fraud

Millions of people are defrauded every year. Keep these tips in mind to prevent yourself from becoming a victim:

- **Identify imposters:** Scammers often pretend to be a family member, charity or someone you trust. Don't send money or give out personal information in response to an unexpected request.
- **Do your research:** Conduct online reviews of any companies before hiring to ensure their legitimacy.
- **Verify Caller ID:** Caller ID's can be spoofed. If someone calls asking for money or personal information, hang up. If you think the caller might be telling the truth, call back to a number you know is genuine.
- **Don't pre-pay:** Don't believe the promise of a prize or item if they request you make a payment beforehand for taxes, fees or delivery.
- **Payment Methods:** Legitimate companies won't require you to pay by money wiring services or by purchasing and relaying gift card numbers.
- **Talk to someone:** Before you give up your money or personal information, talk to someone you trust. Scammers want you to make decisions in a hurry. Don't be rushed, talk to a friend.
- **Hang up on robocalls:** These calls are illegal, and often the products are bogus. Don't press 1 to speak to a person or to be taken off the list. That could lead to more calls.

Sign up for free scam alerts from the FTC at ftc.gov/scams.

Winter Safety Tips

To help you stay safe on the roads this winter, we've put together some tips for you to consider. We appreciate your efforts in keeping our community safe for drivers and pedestrians!

- Avoid driving on ice-covered roads if possible.
- Inform friends/family of your travel plans and allow for sufficient time to arrive safely.
- Dress warmly, even when driving, in the event of a vehicle breakdown.
- All sidewalks must be clear of snow and ice within 24-hours of accumulation and keep in mind that snow/ice cannot be deposited on roads (*BP Ordinance 59.50*).
- Avoid parking on the street when snow is predicted to enable Municipal salt trucks to clear the roads completely.

JOIN CRIME WATCH!

Be a part of the Bethel Park Crime Watch program that includes community meetings, communication via email alerts, and special events. Monthly Crime Watch meetings are held 7 p.m. the first Monday of each month at the Community Center.

What can Crime Watch members do to help keep Bethel Park safe?

- Be alert.
- Know your neighborhoods and watch out for one another.
- Report suspicious activities and crime to the police.
- Stay up-to-date on crime and crime prevention strategies.

These meetings are hosted by the Chief of Police and Crime Prevention Officer to highlight current crime trends in Bethel Park and the surrounding communities. In addition, guest speakers are invited to provide information on crime prevention and community resources.

If you would like to be added to the Crime Watch email list, please forward your information to the Crime Prevention Office at crimewatch@bethelpark.net.

Update on the DEA Prescription Medication Disposal Program

Designated drop off days for the disposal of prescription medication are no longer held. Instead, there's a box at the Bethel Park Police Department accessible 24/7 for the disposal of prescription medication (*no needles or liquids*).

Please place the medication into a zip lock bag without the prescription bottle. The Bethel Park Police Dispatcher will direct you to the disposal box secured inside the Police Station.

If you have any questions, call Bethel Park Police at **412-833-2000**.

BETHEL PARK MUNICIPAL COUNCIL & MAYOR



Jack T. Allen
Mayor
831-9923



Timothy J. Moury
President
WARD 8
833-4615

Joseph A. Consolmagno
WARD 1
833-7993



Dr. Timothy Campbell
WARD 2
418-9197

James P. Hannan
Vice President
WARD 3
831-1053



Todd Genci
WARD 4
357-0045

Donald L. Harrison
WARD 5
833-0449



Mark J. O'Brien
WARD 6
831-0774

James McLean
WARD 7
831-3985



Lorrie Gibbons
WARD 9
835-2515

WINTER 2021



PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



Learn more about Miner's Memorial Park!

Located in Ward 1 at 5440 Main. St. – 8.08 acres

In September/October 2020, the playground at Miner's Memorial Park received a complete makeover resulting in a variety of new, exciting equipment for children to enjoy! The best part is that local children made the final vendor selection.

The \$175,000 project cost included removing all existing equipment and replacing it with new items for children of all ages.

"We've received very positive feedback on the new equipment. The fact that the kids in the community actually voted on their favorite equipment between the two final vendors really made this project special," said Bethel Park Recreation Director **Charles Stover**. "We had a town hall meeting where we presented two options asking the community to decide between them; someone suggested we let the kids pick since they'll be using the equipment, so we did!"

The Park includes a number of amenities for the community's enjoyment!

Three Softball Fields

Two fields are located in the upper portion of Miners with a conveniently located concession stand with restrooms adjacent to the front upper field. Two batting cages are also on site. An ADA walkway, with an observation space, enables everyone to enjoy watching games on either field! A 40-space parking lot accessible from Main Street with two additional handicapped parking spaces is available for guests.



The third field is located on the bottom portion of Miners Memorial Park with a parking lot accessible from Cherry St. also with 40 parking spaces.

The three softball fields at Miners Park are home to Bethel Park Girls Softball Association.

Playground Equipment

Children of all ages will find plenty of things to do on the playground equipment at Miners Memorial Park! The site includes an ADA compliant sidewalk from Cherry Street, ensuring that everyone can enjoy the playground. Amenities include:

- An Arch swing set with three swings, two infant swings and one inclusive swing.
- A Synergy play structure for little ones ages 2 - 5.
- The "Nucleus," exclusive to Miners Memorial Park, for those ages 5 - 12 featuring a 10 ft. high enclosed Evolution Tower providing thrills for the older children!
- Additional free standing play equipment including an Orb Rocker, Standing Rocker, Spinetic Rotating Climber, and the Volta Inclusive Spinner.

BETHEL PARK RECREATION AND LEISURE SERVICES

Bethel Park Community Center
5151 Park Avenue, Bethel Park, PA 15102
Phone: 412-831-1328
Fax: 412-851-2915

Register online at: www.bethelpark.net
Contact us at: recreation@bethelpark.net
Office hours: Monday through Friday
9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

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PLEASE SAVE THIS INFORMATION.
PROGRAMS WILL CONTINUE THROUGH DECEMBER 2021.

www.bethelpark.net



WINTER 2021

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Department of Recreation and Leisure Services reserves the right to cancel, combine or divide classes, or to make other changes that become necessary and to do so without incurring obligations. Adjustments of fees will be made when classes are cancelled by the Department.

WHEN PROGRAMS BEGIN

In almost all instances, each activity will have a schedule with a beginning date. In those cases where time or day is not available, interested individuals should call the Recreation Office.

WHEN FEES ARE DUE

All fees must be paid at the time of registration unless special arrangements have been made at the Recreation Office. If registration is made by mail, be sure to include the activity fee and all information as required.

INSURANCE INFORMATION

The Recreation Board does not carry health insurance to cover injuries incurred while participating in any activity. In most cases, hospitalization carried through your employer will cover these types of injuries. Participants are also responsible for their personal property. Valuables should never be left unattended.

RETURNED CHECKS

Any check that is returned to the Recreation Office as "NSF" will be subject to a **\$30.00 replacement fee**. All "NSF" checks MUST be replaced within ten (10) working days or the person will be withdrawn from the roster.

RESIDENCY INFORMATION

All Bethel Park residents are given preference in registering for programs offered in this leaflet. Classes that have a limited enrollment will be open to non-residents only if space permits. The Recreation Board reserves the right to refuse admission to any person who misrepresents residency, and will not give refunds to those individuals. Non-resident fees are set for each activity and should be paid accordingly upon registration.

REFUNDS: Please read...

Refunds will only be given upon written request, received in the Recreation Office, prior to the beginning of the second class or practice session. Phone requests will not be accepted, nor does failure to attend a class constitute notification of intent to withdraw from a class. **Send your request and a SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE to:**
Bethel Park Recreation
5151 Park Avenue
Bethel Park, PA 15102

All refunds are subject to a **service fee of \$5.00**. The Department will issue a credit letter to be applied to any non-contractual Recreation program for a six-month period in place of the refund, if the individual so desires. Exceptions for use of credit letters include contracted activities such as dog obedience, ski trips or special ticket sales.

CANCELLATION OF CLASS

Participants should check with the Recreation Office for updated program information. **Individual phone calls will not be made to verify mail registrations.** Calls will be made ONLY for classes that have been cancelled due to lack of registrations.

HOW TO REGISTER

Register at least one week prior to the start of the activity, unless otherwise stated.

It is important to pre-register for any activity found in this leaflet because sometimes an activity may be cancelled when there is not sufficient registration. **Never plan to attend the first class without pre-registering.**

You may register online for many activities! Check our website at www.bethelpark.net for details! When you get to the main page, please click on Departments and then Recreation. There is a link to register online. **A nominal fee will be added for each online registration.**

You may register by mail for most of the activities in this leaflet. A mail registration form is provided. The participant's name, address (including zip code) and telephone numbers should be listed. When there is choice of session, day or time, make sure to list your class preference and **put the appropriate activity code number on the registration form.** Most youth swim lessons DO NOT list activity numbers.

Please include the name of the person who is paying the fee for the activity, "**Payment From:**", and make check payable to: "**Bethel Park Recreation**", unless otherwise indicated. **SIGNATURE** of the participant or parent/guardian is **REQUIRED**.

Some activities will have a sign-up day, such as youth swimming lessons. For your convenience, registrations may also be dropped off at the Bethel Park Community Center front desk or mailed to Bethel Park Recreation, 5151 Park Avenue, Bethel Park PA 15102. **Individual telephone calls will not be made confirming registration.** The only time you will be notified is if there is a change or cancellation of the class or activity.

USE OF PHOTOS

Bethel Park Recreation provides opportunities for positive publicity by photographing / videotaping patrons at programs for use in local publications, newspapers or television.

If you prefer that you and / or your child **not be** photographed for publicity purposes, please notify Bethel Park Recreation in writing upon registration.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Attendance at class offerings is not mandatory. The Recreation Department recommends that an attempt be made to attend as many classes as possible. Generally, the only skill testing takes place in swimming and basketball programs. All advanced classes in any area are based upon successful completion of primary or beginning level instruction. Entrance at an advanced level is up to the discretion of the instructor. Placement is always made with the best interests of the participant in mind.

CONDUCT

Participants are reminded that undesirable behavior or destruction of any property are reasons to expel the offender from a class or program. Parents are asked to remind children that they should not be in other areas

of any building and to respect School District and Municipal property.

NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS

When you register for any of our terrific classes, don't wait by your phone or camp out by your mailbox.

The only time you will hear from us is:

- * If there is a change in the time or day for your class
- * If the class is moved, full or cancelled

So, if it is almost time for your class and you haven't heard from our friendly staff, that's **GOOD NEWS**. It means **YOU ARE IN!** You may call us at 412-831-1328 if you wish to confirm that we received your registration.

Board of Parks and Recreation

James Gastgeb, Chairperson
James Miller, Vice Chairperson
Bill Bonaccorsi - Bob McCall
Joelle Salerno - Daryl Walezak
Joseph Nagel - Vince Galloni
Christina Murtaugh

Monthly Meetings

The Board meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM

in the Community Center unless otherwise advertised.

Please contact the Recreation Office for specific meeting dates.

Department Administration

Charles H. Stover, Director
Cathy Muscato, Assistant Director
Mary Anne Kelton,
Administrative Secretary
& Program Brochure Editor
Amber Armstrong,
Office Assistant

Laurence Christian,
Municipal Manager

Dr. James Walsh,
School Superintendent

Tim Moury, Municipal Council Liaison

Lorrie Gibbons,
Municipal Council Liaison

Pamela Dobos, School District Liaison



AQUATIC PROGRAMS



SWIM LESSON REGISTRATION AND SKILL TESTING

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 2022

10:00 AM - 10:45 AM

Bethel Park High School Pool

There will be ONE six (6) week session of Saturday lessons in the winter.

January 29, 2022 - March 12, 2022

No lessons on March 5.

45-minute group lessons for only \$55!!!!

CHILDREN up to age 7 who have never had formal lessons need to be skill tested and must register at SKILL TESTING at the pool. They will be entered in a class at their ability level after they are skill tested.

PREREQUISITE: Swimmer MUST be able to submerge head completely under water and be potty trained before registering for the Beginner class.

CHILDREN ages 5 to 7 who have had lessons with this department before must register at SKILL TESTING, but THEY DO NOT NEED TO BE SKILL TESTED.

CHILDREN ages 8 and older, first time swimmers, will be in STEP 1, and must register at SKILL TESTING at the pool. There is no need for the child to be skill tested.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR SWIM LESSONS ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 22:

Please bring a check or exact cash to pay for lessons at registration. A spot will only be held with payment.

BEGINNERS and STEP 1: Registration and SKILL TESTING is on a first-come basis. You may also register at the Recreation Office in the Community Center beginning January 24.

TODDLER TADPOLES (6 months - 4 years old): Registration is on a first-come basis. You may also register at the Recreation Office in the Community Center beginning January 24.

STEPS 2, 3, 4, and 5: You may mail-in or drop-off registrations at the Recreation Office at the Community Center OR register online at www.bethelpark.net. A nominal fee will be added for each online registration.

Private Swim Lessons: Register at Skill testing or at the Recreation Office in the Community Center to schedule your specific time.



SATURDAY LESSON SCHEDULE:

SKILL LEVEL	TIME
Beginner* and Step 5	10:00 AM - 10:45 AM
Step 1* and 3	10:55 AM - 11:40 AM
Step 2 and 4	11:50 AM - 12:35 PM
Beginner*	12:45 PM - 1:30 PM
Toddler Tadpoles*	1:40 PM - 2:10 PM

* MUST register at BPHS pool during SKILL TESTING on Saturday, January 22 from 10:00 - 10:45 AM.

Registration for other lessons should be mailed in or dropped off at the Community Center, or register online at www.bethelpark.net. A nominal fee will be added for each online registration.

WHEN: 6 Saturdays
1/29/2022 - 3/12/2022
No class on March 5.

FEE: \$55.00 (non-resident \$60)
45 MINUTE GROUP LESSONS FOR ONLY \$55!!!

NOTE: Goggles are available for purchase at the pool for \$5.00.

SATURDAY CLASSES ARE HIGHLIGHTED

TODDLER TADPOLES

This is an introductory swimming class for babies and toddlers, 6 months to 4 years old, with a parent/caregiver in the water with them.

This class, led by an instructor, will help your baby develop a confidence in the water which will last a lifetime through rhyme, songs, and movement. Introducing your toddler to the water in his early years helps to develop strength, motor development and coordination. Your baby will learn how to jump into the water, float on his back, kick and learn basic swimming strokes, all while having a splashing good time!

Register at 10:00am at BPHS Pool on Saturday, January 22, during skill testing. You may also register at the Community Center beginning January 24.

Ages: 6 months - 4
Resident Fee: \$55.00 Non-Res Fee: \$60.00
6 session dates

3413.460
Dates: 01/29/2022 - 03/12/2022 Sat
Time: 1:40PM - 2:10PM

Location: BPHS Pool
No class Mar 5

PRIVATE SWIM LESSONS

One on One Swim Lessons! An instructor will give your child individual swim lessons tailored to what your child needs. Our experienced and patient instructors will be in the water with your child while he or she learns at their own pace, whether it is getting accustomed to the water for the first time, learning basic water skills, or getting enough individual help to advance to the next level. These 1/2 hour private lessons will be scheduled during swim lessons. Register at the Recreation Office in the Community Center to schedule your specific time.

Ages: 5 - 18
Resident Fee: \$100.00 Non-Res Fee: \$110.00
6 session dates

3413.403
Dates: 01/29/2022 - 03/12/2022 Sat
Time: 10:00AM - 2:00PM

Location: BPHS Pool
No class Mar 5

ADULT PRIVATE SWIM LESSONS

One on One Swim Lessons for those over 18 years of age. An instructor will give you individual swim lessons tailored to what you need. Our experienced and patient instructors will be in the water with you while you learn at your own pace, whether it is learning basic water skills or getting enough individual help to advance your skills to the next level. These 1/2-hour private lessons will be scheduled during swim lessons. Register at the Recreation Office in the Community Center to schedule your specific time.

Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$100.00 Non-Res Fee: \$110.00
6 session dates

3401.401
Dates: 01/29/2022 - 03/12/2022 Sat
Time: 10:00AM - 2:00PM

Location: BPHS Pool
No class Mar 5



PITTSBURGH ARTISTIC SWIMMING

Artistic Swimming combines the grace of dance, the agility of gymnastics and the athleticism of swimming all in one sport. Swimmers will perform a variety of individual figures and team routines which include performances of coordinated movements (*similar to dance*) in time to music. This exciting sport encourages confidence, creativity, strength, flexibility, and teamwork. Instructors have competed in National/International Age Group, Intercollegiate and/or master's Competitions. As the team progresses, swimmers will have the opportunity to compete or participate in a swim show for friends and family. USA Artistic Swimming safety protocols will be used. Swimmers do not need prior experience but should be able to swim 25 yards freestyle and backstroke (pool length). Swimmers will need a swimsuit, cap and nose clips. Email pghartisticswim@gmail.com for more details. Twice a week discount rate is not available with online registration.

Ages: 8 - 18
Resident Fee: \$40.00 Non-Res Fee: \$45.00
Twice a week: \$60.00 Non-Res Fee: \$65.00
 6 session dates

3413.470
 Dates: 01/04/2022 - 02/08/2022 Tue
 Time: 7:30PM - 9:00PM

3413.471
 Dates: 01/06/2022 - 02/10/2022 Thu
 Time: 7:30PM - 9:00PM

3413.472
 Dates: 01/16/2022 - 02/20/2022 Sun
 Time: 3:30PM - 5:00PM

3413.170
 Dates: 02/22/2022 - 03/29/2022 Tue
 Time: 7:30PM - 9:00PM

3413.171
 Dates: 02/24/2022 - 03/31/2022 Thu
 Time: 7:30PM - 9:00PM

Location: **BPHS Pool**

MASTERS ARTISTIC (SYNCHRONIZED) SWIMMING

For swimmers over the age of 18. No prior synchronized swimming experience is necessary. Learn new aquatic skills such as eggbeater kick and sculling and get a great workout! Synchro promotes flexibility & teamwork and increases physical activity. Our instructors will teach correct techniques and FINA figures. There will be an opportunity to learn synchronized swimming routines, perform in seasonal exhibitions, and compete in master's level competitions. Participants must be comfortable in deep water, able to swim 100 yards (*4 laps*) and swim freestyle, backstroke, and breaststroke. Instructor is available to help improve strokes and/or kicks. Synchro instructors have prior competitive experience in master's and/or age group competition. Email pghartisticswim@gmail.com for more details. Twice a week discount rate is not available with online registration.

Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$40.00 Non-Res Fee: \$45.00
Twice a week: \$60.00 Non-Res Fee: \$65.00
 6 session dates

3413.475
 Dates: 01/04/2022 - 02/08/2022 Tue
 Time: 7:30PM - 9:00PM

3413.476
 Dates: 01/06/2022 - 02/10/2022 Thu
 Time: 7:30PM - 9:00PM

3413.477
 Dates: 01/16/2022 - 02/20/2022 Sun
 Time: 3:30PM - 5:00PM

3413.175
 Dates: 02/22/2022 - 03/29/2022 Tue
 Time: 7:30PM - 9:00PM

3413.176
 Dates: 02/24/2022 - 03/31/2022 Thu
 Time: 7:30PM - 9:00PM

Location: **BPHS Pool**

NEW LOCATION!

AQUACISE

Any adult (*21 years of age and over*) is welcome to come. You do not have to be able to swim to participate. Classes feature water exercises. Aquacise is held throughout the year on Monday and Wednesday evenings at Pathfinder School Pool. The fee for nightly attendance is \$5.00 for a resident or \$6.00 for a non-resident. Sign in and pay at the pool each evening you attend.

Ages: 21 and over
Resident Fee: \$5.00 Non-Res Fee: \$6.00
 Dates: 01/03/2022 - 03/09/2022 Mon, Wed
 Time: 7:30PM - 8:30PM

Location: **Pathfinder School Pool**
No class Jan 17, Feb 21

LAP SWIMMING

Swim without the crowd and do laps on your own on Monday and Wednesday evenings! Sign in and pay at the pool each evening you attend. The fee for nightly attendance is \$5.00 (*non-res \$6.00*). Locker rooms are closed due to Covid restrictions. Restrooms are available.

Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$5.00 Non-Res Fee: \$6.00
 Dates: 01/03/2022 - 03/09/2022 Mon, Wed
 Time: 7:30PM - 8:30PM

Location: **BPHS Pool**
No class Jan 17

BETHEL PARK MASTERS SWIMMING

For swimmers over the age of 18. Did you swim at high school or college? Would you like to take the sport up again, but feel you are too out of shape? Or would you like to improve your swimming technique in the high school eight-lane pool? Our Masters Swimming program caters to all adults, whatever your age, for swimmers of all levels. Whether you are a Masters swim champion, would like to swim a few meets, or if you are a triathlete who would like to increase your endurance, or if you would like instruction from our experienced coaches to help you swim with better technique, this program is for you. You will need to register with USMS if you decide to join. Please just drop in at the pool one morning and see if this is for you! Register at the pool.

Ages: 18 years and over
Fee: Full season: \$400
 School year: \$325
 Monthly: \$45
 Daily drop-in: \$5
 Dates: 08/30/2021 - 07/23/2022
 Times: Mon and Wed 5:30am - 6:45am
 Saturday 6:00am - 7:30am

Email coachkbpswim@gmail.com with any questions.

Location: **BPHS Pool**



COMMUNITY SWIM

The pool is open for you, your family, and friends to swim! Pay at the pool each time you swim.

Swim Dates: 01/14/2022 - 05/22/2022
 Fridays 6:30 - 8:30 PM
 Saturdays 2:30 - 4:30 PM
 Sundays 2:30 - 4:30 PM

NO SWIMMING ON SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AND POSTED SWIM MEET DAYS.
Daily Fee: \$5.00 Non-Res: \$7.00
 Daily Family Pass - \$10 for up to 5 immediate family members. (*Non-resident \$13*)

SPECIAL NOTE: DO NOT BRING VALUABLES TO THE POOL. Check in with the guard when entering the pool. **Children under 14 years of age MUST be accompanied by at least one parent who is dressed to enter the water.**

Location: **BPHS Pool**
NO COMMUNITY SWIM Jan 22, Mar 4, Mar 5, Mar 6, Mar 18, Mar 19, Mar 20, Mar 25, Mar 26, Mar 27, Apr 15, Apr 16, Apr 17.

SCOUT SWIMMING

Bethel Park Recreation will sponsor a program at the Bethel Park High School pool on Sunday evenings for Boy Scout or Girl Scout groups to work on earning their water-related badges. LEADERS, email the recreation office: recreation@bethelpark.net for exact dates, fees and to make arrangements for scouts to earn their badges.

Location: **BPHS Pool**

Pittsburgh Artistic Swimming News

CONGRATULATIONS to **Katie Stutz**, Pittsburgh's Master Artistic Swimmer!

Katie recently won GOLD at the 2021 Masters

Championship in Henderson, Nevada in Figures! She also represented PAS in the Tech Solo and Free Solo events. 2022 Master's Nationals will be held at SPIRE Institute in Cleveland.



High Fives to **Ava Arnold** and **Rachel Xu** for participation in a recent weekend USA Artistic Swimming Rising Star Camp at Ohio State University!

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/8xv954ycjlx9xy8/328.mov?dl=0>

We are very proud of ALL Pittsburgh Artistic Swimmers for their hard work and progress! Looking forward to more!



YOUTH PROGRAMS



PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE!

Register at least 24-hours in advance of program start! Programs not meeting the minimum number of students will be canceled. Online registrations are highly encouraged at www.bethelpark.net.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

PUPPY OBEDIENCE

This class is taught at a slower pace than our Basic Obedience class, but still will give your puppy the steppingstones they need to learn at a young age. The puppies will also be in an environment with others their own age! They will learn the beginning of sit, down, stand, walking by your side and introducing them to new fun obstacles. An adult must accompany handlers under age 18. Your dog must be 3 to 6 months old and should have its 2nd set of shots before starting. Please bring vaccination records, six-foot leash, and soft small treats to the first class. **You must register with Bethel Park Recreation at least one week before the first class.** Register online, by mail to Bethel Park Recreation with the registration form in the Chronicles, or in person at the Community Center. Classes are held at Xcel Canine Training, Inc., 5400 Progress Boulevard, 412-833-2504, www.xcelcaninetraining.com. You MUST provide an email address with registration so the instructor can contact you about necessary paperwork. There will be no refunds after the first class, for any reason.

Ages: 12 and over
Resident Fee: \$100.00 Non-Res Fee: \$110.00
 6 session dates

3309.402
 Dates: 01/08/2022 - 02/12/2022 Sat
 Time: 9:00AM - 10:00AM

3309.403
 Dates: 01/08/2022 - 02/12/2022 Sat
 Time: 12:00PM - 1:00PM

Location: Xcel Canine Training, Inc.

BASIC DOG OBEDIENCE

Teaching your dog basic commands can be building blocks to a rewarding relationship with your pet. Our professional instructors will teach you how to teach your dog the basic commands of sit, down, stay, come when called, controlled walking exercises and much more! The dog must be at least 6 months old. Please bring vaccination records, six-foot leash, and soft small treats to the first class. An adult must accompany handlers under age 18. **You must register with Bethel Park Recreation at least one week before the first class.** Register online, by mail to Bethel Park Recreation with the registration form in the Chronicles, or in person at the Community Center. Classes are held at Xcel Canine Training, Inc., 5400 Progress Boulevard, 412-833-2504, www.xcelcaninetraining.com. You MUST provide an email address with registration so the instructor can contact you about necessary paperwork. There will be no refunds after the first class, for any reason.

Ages: 12 and over
Resident Fee: \$100.00 Non-Res Fee: \$110.00
 6 session dates

3309.401
 Dates: 01/08/2022 - 02/12/2022 Sat
 Time: 10:00AM - 11:00AM

Location: Xcel Canine Training, Inc.

DRIVER EDUCATION

Details on the next Driver Education class will be in the February issue of *Chronicles*.

★ NEW! NEW! NEW! ★

CLUB INVENTION - FLIGHT SIGHT™

Club Invention is an exciting STEM program inspired by inductees of the National Hall of Fame where children learn through hands-on fun. Flight Sight™ offers children insight and inspiration from inventors who have made human flight possible, from the first attempts at manned flight through space exploration. Students work collaboratively and independently to discover new ways to see the world. They engage in kinesthetic activities, explore art concepts and practice real-world problem solving to defy gravity, create topographical maps and travel beyond Earth's atmosphere. In this program, the Club Invention team create Gravity-Defying Device • Jet Pilot Flight Simulator • Topographical Map • Astronaut Suits • Model Airplanes • Flight Craft of the Future. Questions? Contact the instructor at huth.laura@bphawks.org.

REGISTRATION: Participants must register online at INVENT.ORG/CLUB or by phone at 800-968-4332. Spaces are limited, so register early!

Registration is not accepted at the Bethel Park Community Center.

Instructor: Laura Huth
 Grades: K - 3
Resident Fee: \$69.00 Non-Res Fee: \$74.00
 5 session dates

Dates: 01/08/2022 - 02/05/2022 Sat
 Time: 10:00AM - 11:30AM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

★ NEW! NEW! NEW! ★

ECO EXPLORERS

Join Eco Explorers for another awesome hands-on session of after school STEM fun in a series designed especially for the builder! Can you design a mega launcher than can destroy a model city? Can you help us find a creative way to build the best roller coaster on earth? Come ready to put your imagination to work designing all kinds of new machines and inventions. We'll think about futuristic ways to travel, consider the cities of the future and much more!

Instructor: Holly Bomba
 Grades: 1 - 5
Resident Fee: \$65.00 Non-Res Fee: \$70.00
 5 session dates

3860.402
 Dates: 02/03/2022 - 03/03/2022 Thu
 Time: 5:30PM - 6:30PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

Masks are required to enter and exit the Community Center and in all common areas.

SATURDAY CLASSES ARE HIGHLIGHTED

YOUTH THEATER

Students/actors will enjoy playing creative drama games to improve character development and improvisation skills, voice projection and enunciation skills. Theater terms and staging will also be a part of this class. Students will focus on performing in skits/a short play to perfect their new skills. A performance will be held on the last class for family and friends.

Instructor: Adam Winter
 Ages: 6 - 12
Resident Fee: \$40.00 Non-Res Fee: \$45.00
 6 session dates

3875.401
 Dates: 01/12/2022 - 02/16/2022 Wed
 Time: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

ARTS & CRAFTS

ART EXPLOSION - ENJOY WINTER WITH ART

Come join us for a fun four-week class as we capture the winter season beauty in art. Students will learn about artists who were inspired by this amazing season like Camille Pissarro and Claude Monet. Monet's famous picture, "The Magpie," will inspire our snowy scene. We'll have fun exploring pictures of animal prints in the snow and incorporate them into our seasonal artwork. We will work with a variety of materials like paint, markers, colored pencils, scissors, model magic to name a few. All materials are included, and children bring their masterpiece after each class. Join us as we have fun creating and learning about the wonderful world of art.

Instructor: Sue Ralston
 Ages: 4 - 7
Resident Fee: \$45.00 Non-Res Fee: \$50.00
 4 session dates

3805.401
 Dates: 01/24/2022 - 02/14/2022 Mon
 Time: 5:15PM - 6:15PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

ART EXPLOSION - CAPTURING BEAUTIFUL WINTER IN ART

Join us for a fun four-week art session exploring the beauty of the winter season and letting it inspire our artwork. Students will learn about artists who were inspired by this amazing season like Camille Pissarro, Claude Monet, and Alfred Sisley, letting their amazing artwork, love of nature and designs inspire our artwork. Pissarro's famous picture, "Piette's House of Mont Foucault," will inspire our snowy house painting. Monet's "The Magpie" will inspire our owl sculpture. Students will use a variety of materials, tempera paints, watercolors, markers, colored pencils, model magic to name a few. All materials are included, and children will take home their masterpiece after each class. Come join us as we have fun creating and learning about the wonderful world of art.

Instructor: Sue Ralston
 Ages: 7 - 12
Resident Fee: \$45.00 Non-Res Fee: \$50.00
 4 session dates

3805.402
 Dates: 01/24/2022 - 02/14/2022 Mon
 Time: 6:30PM - 7:30PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center



CARTOONING WORKSHOP

Cartooning/drawing classes with a new fun theme for each class! Students will learn the foundation of cartooning in this very fun, relaxed class atmosphere. Students and instructor tell jokes, stories and share their creations. Students end class with 4 fun drawings/cartoons complete with speech bubbles. Bring your imagination for lots of fun! All supplies included. **Must register at least 24 hours prior to class.**

Instructor: Karen Hartman
 Ages: 6 - 14
Resident Fee: \$18.00 Non-Res Fee: \$23.00
 1 session date

3805.403 **Crazy Winter Cartoons**
 Date: 01/20/2022 Thu
 Time: 6:15PM - 7:30PM

3805.404 **Unique Unicorns/Happy Horses**
 Date: 02/03/2022 Thu
 Time: 6:15PM - 7:30PM

3805.405 **Villains and Sidekicks**
 Date: 02/17/2022 Thu
 Time: 6:15PM - 7:30PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center



CANVAS CRAZINESS

Each canvas class will let loose your inner artist/painter! A new holiday theme painting will be explored in every session so attend one or all 3 for some fun and colorful art experiences and canvases. All supplies included. ****Must register at least 24 hours prior to class****

Instructor: Karen Hartman
 Ages: 6 - 14
Resident Fee: \$25.00 Non-Res Fee: \$30.00
 1 session date

3805.406 **Playful Penguins**
 Date: 01/13/2022 Thu
 Time: 6:15PM - 7:45PM

3805.407 **Love Bugs**
 Date: 02/10/2022 Thu
 Time: 6:15PM - 7:45PM

3805.408 **Winter Forest Animals**
 Date: 02/24/2022 Thu
 Time: 6:15PM - 7:45PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

PRIVATE/SEMI-PRIVATE DRAWING CLASS

Register at the Community Center for individual 1 hour lessons between 2:00pm and 5:00pm. Instructor Karen Hartman will hold 60 minute private or semi-private drawing instruction for youth or adult students from beginner to advanced level. Lesson can be customized to the participant's likes and needs while exploring foundation. Portfolio customization offered for High School Students. Student may bring supplies and instructor will have additional supplies at each lesson. Please bring a 5x7 or larger sketch book.

Instructor: Karen Hartman
 Ages: 6 and over
Resident Fee: \$25.00 Non-Res Fee: \$30.00
 1 session date

3805.410
 Date: 01/20/2022 Thu
 Time: TBD 2:00PM - 5:00PM

3805.411
 Date: 01/27/2022 Thu

3805.412
 Date: 02/03/2022 Thu

3805.413
 Dates: 02/17/2022 Thu

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

DANCE

BALLET/DANCE COMBO

This class will serve as an intro to ballet, while incorporating other fun dance/movement techniques that will enhance balance, body control and the natural sense of rhythm. Simple jazz-type and tap movements will be introduced and proper stretching (*set to song and nursery rhymes*) will be taught. This is a very informal & fun approach to beginning dance. Participants should dress in standard dance attire, leotard or tank top with tights or stretchy, tight fitness/dance shorts worn over tights. Jazz or ballet shoes are preferred.

Instructor: Tammy Lentz
 Ages: 3 - 5
Resident Fee: \$35.00 Non-Res Fee: \$40.00
 6 session dates

3818.400
 Dates: 01/11/2022 - 02/15/2022 Tue
 Time: 4:30PM - 5:15PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

MOVE AND GROOVE WITH 2'S

Help your child discover movement and expression while networking with other parents through a structure that blends dance, music, and imagination. Parent and child will follow along with the instructor who will guide the parent/tot team in a way that makes discovering movement, balance, and listening skills easy and fun. This class is an excellent first group activity. Please wear comfortable clothing.

Instructor: Tammy Lentz
 Ages: 16 months - 3
Resident Fee: \$21.00 Non-Res Fee: \$26.00
 6 session dates

3818.401
 Dates: 01/11/2022 - 02/15/2022 Tue
 Time: 10:45AM - 11:15AM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

PRESCHOOL TAP

This is a fun early introductory class for tap and creative movement. While learning basic tap steps, students will develop coordination, balance, musicality, timing, and flexibility. Shuffles, skipping, singing, and rhyming are all part of this exciting class. Please wear comfortable clothing. Students must provide their own tap shoes. Please contact the instructor, Tammy Lentz, at 412-851-9142 if you have any questions about the class or where to purchase shoes.



Ages: 3 - 5
Resident Fee: \$30.00 Non-Res Fee: \$35.00
 6 session dates

3818.402
 Dates: 01/11/2022 - 02/15/2022 Tue
 Time: 9:30AM - 10:15AM

3818.403
 Dates: 01/13/2022 - 02/17/2022 Thu
 Time: 5:15PM - 6:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

BEGINNER JAZZ/HIP HOP COMBO

This class allows students to learn and enjoy fundamental dance styles. Class allows students to explore leaping and turning with jazz and learn some street funk with hip hop. The high energy class is a solid foundation of dance and sure to be a favorite. Jazz shoes are preferred but not required. Please wear comfortable clothing. Please contact the instructor, Tammy Lentz, at 412-851-9142 if you have any questions about the class or where to purchase shoes.

Ages: 5 - 12
Resident Fee: \$35.00 Non-Res Fee: \$40.00
 6 session dates

3818.404
 Dates: 01/13/2022 - 02/17/2022 Thu
 Time: 6:00PM - 6:45PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

BEGINNER BATON TWIRLING

Join our fun-filled class for the beginner twirler! This is a low cost, no pressure introduction for the first-time twirlers who want to get their first taste of baton. Students will learn basic twirls and tosses and will also have fun learning how to march and twirl to music. Twirling also promotes development of good hand/eye coordination. This class is a great start for any future little majorette. Students should wear comfortable clothing and must have their own baton. Please contact the instructor, Tammy Lentz, at 412-851-9142 if you have questions about the class or where to purchase a baton. Tammy is a former Upper St. Clair Majorette with over 29 years of teaching experience training girls to be majorettes throughout the many high schools in the South Hills area and is currently the majorette/auxiliary instructor at Upper St. Clair High School.

Ages: 5 and over
Resident Fee: \$30.00 Non-Res Fee: \$35.00
 6 session dates

3818.410
 Dates: 01/11/2022 - 02/15/2022 Tue
 Time: 6:00PM - 6:45PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

Masks are required to enter and exit the Community Center and in all common areas.



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 Search Bethel Park Recreation & Community Center

SATURDAY CLASSES ARE HIGHLIGHTED



INTERMEDIATE BATON TWIRLING

Class will continue to build your knowledge and baton twirling skills. Students will learn more difficult tricks and tosses while building on the skills learned in beginner baton class. Students should wear comfortable clothing and must have their own baton. Class prerequisite: Recommendation from instructor, Tammy Lentz, or at least 1 year experience with another instructor.

Ages: 5 and over
Resident Fee: \$30.00 Non-Res Fee: \$35.00
 6 session dates

3818.411
 Dates: 01/11/2022 - 02/15/2022 Tue
 Time: 6:45PM - 7:30PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

ADVANCED BATON

This class is for the twirlers who have had beginner and/or intermediate instruction or by instructor recommendation. Students will focus on 2 baton tricks, exchanges, and ribbon instruction. This class is for girls who are headed in the direction of becoming a High School Majorette. Students do not need to purchase a second baton or ribbon. The instructor will provide additional batons and ribbons.



Tammy is a former Upper St. Clair Majorette with over 29 years of teaching experience training girls to be majorettes throughout the many high schools in the South Hills area and is currently the majorette/auxiliary instructor at Upper St. Clair High School.

Instructor: Tammy Lentz
 Ages: 8 and over
Resident Fee: \$30.00 Non-Res Fee: \$35.00
 6 session dates

3818.412
 Dates: 01/11/2022 - 02/15/2022 Tue
 Time: 5:15PM - 6:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

PASSION COMBO COMPETITIVE TWIRL AND POM TINY TEAM

Skill- based baton twirling techniques taught to form a creative, unpredictable routine that exemplifies both the sport and art of twirling. Combined with a non-cheer, team pom performance with instruction on how to use poms with precision and grace. Using dance steps, changing floor patterns, and group design to bring everything together. Instructors, Tina Tomlins and LeAnn Chamberlin, were both former solo/strut National Champions and members of the World Champion Modernettes and are currently the directors of The 2019 PA State Beginner Tiny Tot Dance Twirl Champions and The 2019 PA State Junior Halftime Team Champions! Advancement into competitive Twirl and Pom Teams is by instructor selection. Please dress comfortably, in tennis shoes, and bring your own baton. Poms will be provided. Contact us for more information and questions as to where to purchase a baton at tomlinst1@hotmail.com or annietwirl@gmail.com.

Ages: 4 - 10
Resident Fee: \$60.00 Non-Res Fee: \$65.00
 7 session dates

3101.401
 Dates: 01/06/2022 - 02/17/2022 Thu
 Time: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Location: Ben Franklin Elementary

PASSION COMBO COMPETITIVE TWIRL & POM TEAM

Instructor selected competition team, by invitation only. Participant's skill level must be reviewed by our instructors to determine eligibility for Competitive Teams. Additional fees are charged for competition participation. Online registration is not available for the teams.

Ages: 4 - 18
Resident Fee: \$84.00 Non-Res Fee: \$89.00
 7 session dates

3101.400
 Dates: 01/06/2022 - 02/17/2022 Thu
 Time: 7:00PM - 9:00PM

Location: Ben Franklin Elementary

PASSION RECREATION COMBO TWIRL AND POMS

Poms~Non cheer team performance with instruction on how to use poms with precision and grace, combining the changing of floor patterns, group design, and dance steps. Poms will be provided. Twirl~Beginner/Intermediate skill-based instruction combining the sport and art of standard body moves and baton handling techniques. Please dress comfortably, in tennis shoes, and bring your own baton. Contact us for more information and questions at tomlinst1@hotmail.com or annietwirl@gmail.com.

Ages: 4 - 9
Resident Fee: \$47.00 Non-Res Fee: \$52.00
 7 session dates

3101.402
 Dates: 01/05/2022 - 02/16/2022 Wed
 Time: 6:15PM - 7:00PM

Location: Ben Franklin Elementary

PASSION RECREATION TWIRL

Twirling instruction combining the sport and art of standard body moves and baton handling techniques to create a routine that exemplifies the best of both. Twirlers should be ages 10-18 for this class with some baton experience. Join instructors Tina Tomlins and LeAnn Chamberlin (*both former solo/strut National Champions and members of the World Champion Modernettes*) for training in the latest baton-handling techniques, routines, and twirling. Advancement onto PASSION Twirl and Poms Competitive Team is by instructor selection. Please dress comfortably, in tennis shoes, and bring your own baton. Contact us for more information and questions as to where to purchase a baton at tomlinst1@hotmail.com or annietwirl@gmail.com.

Ages: 10 - 18
Resident Fee: \$47.00 Non-Res Fee: \$52.00
 7 session dates

3101.403
 Dates: 01/05/2022 - 02/16/2022 Wed
 Time: 7:15PM - 8:00PM

Location: Ben Franklin Elementary

PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE!

Register at least 24-hours in advance of program start! Programs not meeting the minimum number of students will be canceled. Online registrations are highly encouraged at www.bethelpark.net

SATURDAY CLASSES ARE HIGHLIGHTED

FITNESS & EXERCISE

FITNESS FUN FOR TODDLERS WITH JUMP BUNCH

JumpBunch encourages physical activity through play, exploration, and movement. Children will develop their fine and gross motor skills while building coordination, balance, and confidence. A perfect introduction to fitness using bright, colorful equipment that is age appropriate. So much fun kids won't even realize they are getting exercise!

Instructor: Jump Bunch
 Ages: 2 - 3
Resident Fee: \$65.00 Non-Res Fee: \$70.00
 6 session dates

3815.402
 Dates: 01/20/2022 - 02/24/2022 Thu
 Time: 9:15AM - 9:45AM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center



PRE-K FITNESS EXPLORATION WITH JUMP BUNCH

JumpBunch encourages physical fitness in every child. Classes include games and activities that help develop a foundation of skills used in a wide range of sports by building coordination, balance, and confidence. Equipment is age-appropriate and helps every child to perform their best. So much fun, they won't even know they're getting exercise!

Instructor: Jump Bunch
 Ages: 3 - 5
Resident Fee: \$65.00 Non-Res Fee: \$70.00
 6 session dates

3815.403
 Dates: 01/20/2022 - 02/24/2022 Thu
 Time: 10:00AM - 10:45AM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

FIT KIDS

New Year & New Fun! Start your year off right by having fun on Monday nights. Ignore the cold weather outside and come inside to play! Make new friends while playing fun games, running races, bouncing, skipping, hopping, and jumping away. Play and laugh your way to being a fit kid! Bring a friend or 2 and get ready for lots of fun!

Instructor: Cortney Sweeney
 Ages: 5 - 8
Resident Fee: \$25.00 Non-Res Fee: \$30.00
 6 session dates

3815.401
 Dates: 01/10/2022 - 02/14/2022 Mon
 Time: 6:00PM - 6:45PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

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and exit the Community Center
and in all common areas.**



SPORTS

BEGINNER / INTERMEDIATE FENCING

Experience and enjoy the fun and challenging Olympic sport of foil fencing. The introductory and intermediate level instruction progressively establishes fundamental skills needed for successful fencing and great fitness. Sessions include instruction and practice bouts. Note: All essential equipment will be provided by the instructors, but students will be required to wear comfortable pants and non-marking athletic shoes. Shorts or jeans are not permitted.

Ages: 7 and over
Resident Fee: \$52.00 Non-Res Fee: \$57.00
 6 session dates

3140.401
 Dates: 01/13/2022 - 02/17/2022 Thu
 Time: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

ADVANCED* FENCING

Take your fencing to a new level! This instructional class focuses on techniques, fitness, and a winning strategy to help the dedicated fencer succeed at an advanced competitive level in this martial art. Sessions include instruction and practice bouts. ***Prerequisites include a minimum of 1 year of fencing experience and approval of the instructors.** Note: All essential equipment will be provided by the instructors, but students will be required to wear comfortable pants and non-marking athletic shoes.

Ages: 11 and over
Resident Fee: \$75.00 Non-Res Fee: \$80.00
 6 session dates

3140.402
 Dates: 01/13/2022 - 02/17/2022 Thu
 Time: 7:00PM - 9:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center



KARATE FOR KIDS - TAEKWONDO

Students will be taught by instructors from No Limits Martial Arts. Instructors will teach students the basics of martial arts & personal safety, while incorporating the life skills of confidence, discipline, focus and fun! Students will work on key leadership skills such as eye contact and using their confident voice, while having a "YES I CAN" attitude! Uniform included in class fee (\$50 value). No experience required.

Instructor: No Limits Martial Arts
 Ages: 4 - 16
Resident Fee: \$79.00 Non-Res Fee: \$84.00
 6 session dates

3825.401
 Dates: 01/10/2022 - 02/14/2022 Mon
 Time: 6:00PM - 6:30PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

KRAV MAGA

Krav Maga will help improve your physical fitness while teaching you awareness and self-defense skills you can use in the real world. Krav Maga is not a traditional martial art. No Katas, no rituals. Based on simple principles and instinctive movements, this reality-based system is designed to teach real self-defense in the shortest time possible. Uniform included in class fee (\$50 value). No experience required.

Instructor: No Limits Martial Arts
 Ages: 14 and over
Resident Fee: \$79.00 Non-Res Fee: \$84.00
 6 session dates

3912.401
 Dates: 01/10/2022 - 02/14/2022 Mon
 Time: 6:45PM - 7:30PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

MIGHTY KICKS SOCCER

Children will learn the skills, moves, and joy of playing America's most popular youth sport! Mighty Kicks is designed to encourage young children to build a healthy lifestyle, and offers a high-energy, fun program helping children develop coordination and confidence and utilize their physical energy in a positive way. This program emphasizes motor skills, social and listening skills, as well as body awareness. No equipment of any kind is required. Just sign up and play! Coach Sam Bellin is a former standout college soccer player at the University of Georgia and currently highly successful Head Coach of Allderdice High School Boys' Soccer Team with 20+ years of experience coaching youth sports.

Ages: 3 - 6
Resident Fee: \$55.00 Non-Res Fee: \$60.00
 6 session dates

3815.406
 Dates: 01/07/2022 - 02/11/2022 Fri
 Time: 10:00AM - 10:30AM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

MIGHTY KICKS SOCCER - PM

Children will learn the skills, moves, rules, and joy of playing America's most popular youth sport! Mighty Kicks is designed to encourage young children to build a healthy lifestyle, and offers a high-energy, fun program helping children develop coordination and confidence and utilize their physical energy in a positive way. No equipment of any kind is required. Just sign up and play Here are some highlights of the program:

Curriculum – Mighty Kicks serves over 4000 children yearly using an age-appropriate methodology including games, drills, exercises, stories with pictures and more!
Coaching – All classes will be led by Coach Sam, highly successful Head Coach of Allderdice High School Boys' Soccer Team with 20+ years of experience coaching youth sports. Coach Sam is well known for combining top notch sports instruction with a fun program that helps children develop character and confidence on and off the field.

Ages: 5 - 9
Resident Fee: \$65.00 Non-Res Fee: \$70.00
 6 session dates

3815.408
 Dates: 01/11/2022 - 02/15/2022 Tue
 Time: 5:00PM - 6:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

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 and exit the Community Center
 and in all common areas.**

★ NEW! NEW! NEW! ★ INTRODUCTORY YOUTH VOLLEYBALL - CO-ED

An instructional and recreational program for girls and boys in grades 1-6. Explore the fundamentals of volleyball through action-packed sessions designed to teach basic skills to beginner and intermediate players. Participants learn passing, setting, hitting, blocking, and serving as well as basic offense, defense, court positions and team strategy. Knee pads are recommended but not required. Whether your child is an experienced player or a complete novice, they will have a blast learning about the sport in this fun and innovative program!

Instructor: Jump Start Sports
Resident Fee: \$95.00 Non-Res Fee: \$100.00
 6 session dates

3815.421
 Dates: 01/19/2022 - 02/23/2022 Wed
 Time: 5:45PM - 6:45PM

3815.424
 Dates: 01/19/2022 - 02/23/2022 Wed
 Time: 6:45PM - 7:45PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center



ARE YOU A YOUTH SPORT VOLUNTEER COACH?

The National Youth Sports Coaches Association (NYSCA) is a membership organization and the most widely used volunteer coach training program in the nation, having trained more than 3 million coaches since 1981.

The NYSCA volunteer coach training program is designed to sensitize volunteer coaches to their responsibilities and hold them accountable to a strict Code of Conduct defined by the NYSCA Coaches' Code of Ethics Pledge.

The NYSCA Introduction to Coaching Youth Sports website is one of the most comprehensive resources for volunteer coaches, no matter what sport you're coaching. The website is designed to improve your understanding in all the important areas of youth coaching. Coaches who are trained and educated on the many different aspects involved with coaching kids are best prepared to provide participants with a fun-filled, safe, and rewarding experience. Please consider completing this valuable online training at www.nays.org.

Ties and



Tiaras

Saturday, Feb. 5
Daddy/Daughter Evening
7 - 9 p.m.

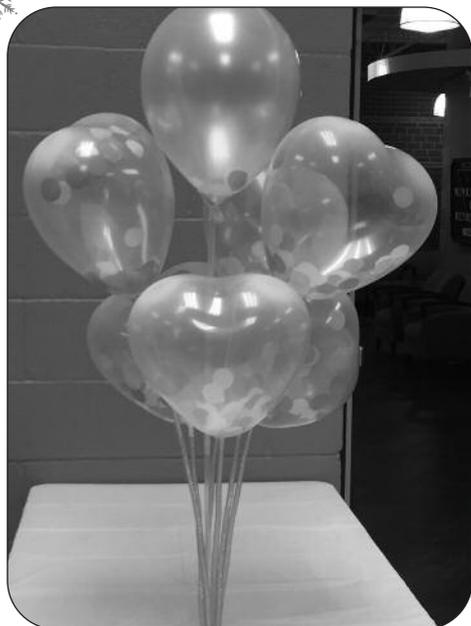
\$25 per couple (\$10 for each additional daughter)

Bethel Park Community Center

Princesses should be escorted by "Fathers or Father Figures."

All ages welcome. This is a dress up event.

You Must register before Monday, Jan. 31!



Create a beautiful memory for your family by attending this memorable evening at our annual Daddy Daughter Event! Dads can whisk their little princesses off to an enchanted evening where they will be the "Belle of the Ball!"

This exciting evening will include a DJ featuring special dances for dads and their daughters. We'll also have light refreshments/desserts, activities, and so much more! And, as a special bonus, we'll have a photo booth area set up for taking keepsake photos to commemorate this special evening.

Be sure to get your tickets early so you don't miss out on all the fun!

If you have any questions regarding the event, please call Michele at 412-851-2910.



Summer Camps

Plan Ahead! Register Now!

DAY CAMP 2022 (AGES 6 - 10)

The Recreation Summer Day Camp Program for children ages 6-10 will provide interesting experiences to spice up your child's summer! Day Camp is divided into week-long sessions with activities developed around a different central theme each week.

The all-day program is from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. The morning program is from 9 a.m. - noon, with an optional early drop-off of 7 a.m. The afternoon program is from 12:30 - 3:30 p.m., with an optional late pick-up time of no later than 6 p.m. You have the choice of attending morning only, afternoon only, or all day.

There will be many activities in the areas of arts, crafts, sports, combined camp activities like the camp carnival, and weekly field trips.

8 Weekly Sessions

Dates: 06/13/2022* - 08/5/2022

Ages: 6yrs to 10yrs

Register for one week at a time now and space out your payments! Find the registration forms, along with the parent packet containing additional required forms, on our website or at the Community Center.

*Starting dates are subject to change based upon the school calendar.

SUMMER FUN CAMP 2022 (AGES 11 - 14)

Don't be bored this summer! Have some Summer Fun at the Bethel Park Community Center! Activities include sports, arts & crafts, swimming, and field trips. Themes and activities will vary weekly.

The all-day program is from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. The afternoon program is from 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. There is an optional early drop-off of 7 a.m. for the all-day program and an optional late pick-up time of no later than 6 p.m.

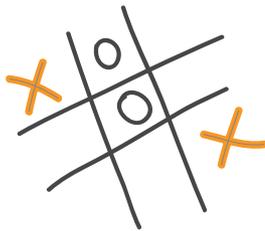
8 Weekly Sessions

Dates: 06/13/2022* - 08/5/2022

Ages: 11yrs to 14yrs

Register for one week at a time now and space out your payments! Find the registration forms, along with the parent packet containing additional required forms, on our website or at the Community Center.

*Starting dates are subject to change based upon the school calendar.



Register for a week at a time now and space out your payments!

YOUTH SUMMER DAY CAMP 2022
 Ages 6-10 Location: Independence Middle School Cafeteria
 Activities include sports, arts & crafts, swimming, and field trips. Themes and activities will vary weekly.
 The all-day program is from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. The morning program is from 9 a.m. - noon, with an optional early drop-off of 7 a.m. The afternoon program is from 12:30 - 3:30 p.m., with an optional late pick-up time of no later than 6 p.m.
 8 Weekly Sessions
 Dates: 06/13/2022* - 08/5/2022
 Ages: 6yrs to 10yrs
 Register for one week at a time now and space out your payments! Find the registration forms, along with the parent packet containing additional required forms, on our website or at the Community Center.
 *Starting dates are subject to change based upon the school calendar.

SUMMER FUN CAMP 2022
 Ages 11-14 Location: Bethel Park Community Center
 Activities include sports, arts & crafts, swimming, and field trips. Themes and activities will vary weekly.
 The all-day program is from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. The afternoon program is from 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. There is an optional early drop-off of 7 a.m. for the all-day program and an optional late pick-up time of no later than 6 p.m.
 8 Weekly Sessions
 Dates: 06/13/2022* - 08/5/2022
 Ages: 11yrs to 14yrs
 Register for one week at a time now and space out your payments! Find the registration forms, along with the parent packet containing additional required forms, on our website or at the Community Center.
 *Starting dates are subject to change based upon the school calendar.



OTHER YOUTH PROGRAMS

BETHEL CHURCH LEAGUE BASEBALL (BCL)

The BCL is a youth baseball league located in Bethel Park, PA dedicated to developing baseball players from 4 years of age to 14 years of age through faith, hard work, and fun.

'Where Faith and Fun Hit a Home Run!'

2022 BCL registration for clinics and the spring season will open in December 2021!

A player's 'baseball' age will be based on their **age as of April 30, 2022.**

- February Skills Clinic (ages 6-12), four weekend afternoons in February or March
- February Junior Skills Day (ages 4-5), one weekend afternoon in March or early April
- Spring In-House Season (ages 4-14)
- Summer Travel Tournament Teams (U8, U9, U11, U12)
- Fall In-House Season (ages 4-14)

The BCL spring season typically runs from April through June. Practices will be held before the season begins.

Please visit www.BCLBASEBALL.org or email BCLBASEBALLINFO@GMAIL.COM for more information.

BETHEL BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (BBA)

Online Registration is NOW OPEN for 2022 Winter Training and Spring Recreation Baseball.

The BBA's Winter Training will take place at the Bianco School of Baseball .

Sunday evenings – DATE/TIMES ARE TBD. This is for ages 6-12. Follow our weekly email blasts for updates.

Spring Rec Registration is open for ages 4-19 (T-Ball to American Legion).

Register in December and receive a \$10 Early Bird Discount. Legion players (Ages 14-19) reserve your spot now for the Spring Tryout.

Visit us at www.bethelbaseball.org to find out more and register today!

Questions? Contact us at infobethelbaseball@gmail.com.

BETHEL PARK GIRLS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION (BPGSA)



Online Registration for the 2022 Spring Season will run from Jan. 1 - Feb. 13, 2022. Registration information will be posted at www.bpgsa.org. On-site registration will be held Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022

from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Bethel Park Community Center. For more information, go to our website or email registration@bpgsa.org.

BP HAWKLINGS GIRLS LACROSSE

Registration for spring 2022 girls 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U Will open in Early-February.

Our spring season opens in March of 2022 and continues until May 2022. Our program is designed to promote the growth of girls' lacrosse in the Bethel Park area. The club will strive to introduce fundamental lacrosse skills and game knowledge to **Hawkings in 1st through 8th grade**. Our priority is to encourage responsible decision-making, teamwork, and good sportsmanship. While the BP Hawkings will participate in the Western Pennsylvania Scholastic Lacrosse Association for Girls, our emphasis on respect for the ROOTS (*Rules, Officials, Opponents, Team, Self*) of the game is primary.

For more program information and registration for the 2022 Season – visit <https://sports.bluesombrero.com/bplax> or Follow us on Social media at Facebook and Instagram @ BP Hawkings Lax.

Required Equipment (*not included in fees*): stick, mouth guard, and goggles. Players are also required to join US Lacrosse, a \$30 annual fee (visit <http://www.uslacrosse.org> for more information).

BOYS' YOUTH LACROSSE - SPRING 2022

BPYLA is dedicated to developing travel lacrosse teams for boys in grades K-8 by actively engaging them in everything from basic fundamentals to more advanced skills thru practices 2-3 times per week and competitive games. We encourage respect, teamwork, and fun both on and off the field.



The season will begin in early March and end with playoffs in early June. Registration opens Oct. 31 and will remain open through January 2022.

Visit www.bethelparkyouthlacrosse.com for more information and to register for the upcoming spring season.

BETHEL PARK SOCCER ASSOCIATION Established ~ 1966

Soccer Registration is NOW OPEN

To register for **SPRING 2022 In-house (Flight) Soccer**, please go to: www.bpsoccer.org.

FLIGHT Soccer is for girls and boys born between 2012-2016 who wish to experience soccer in the recreational setting. Flight games run for eight consecutive Saturdays beginning in early April 2022. Flight training runs for eight consecutive weeks (*day TBD*). Players will be contacted regarding specific times prior to the start of Flights. Teams will be co-ed.

For those interested in **TRAVEL Soccer**, registration will open in Spring 2022 for the upcoming 2022/2023 Travel Soccer Year. New Travel registrations for Spring 2022 will only be considered on a case-by-case basis with no guarantee of placement. Please inquire at registration@bpsoccer.org.

SPRING 2022 ONLY - Flight Fee: \$95 Non-residents Recreation Fee: \$5 In-house (Flights) Soccer registration deadline is March 20, 2022.

All registration questions should go to registration@bpsoccer.org.



TENNIS

Tennis is through the Upper St. Clair Tennis Development Program. Dates are as follows:

Junior clinics:

Level 3.0 and up- Jan. 17 - April 24, 2022 (13 weeks)
Level 1 & 2 - Feb. 14 - April 24, 2022 (8 weeks)

Adult clinics:

Level 1 - 4: Feb. 14 - April 24, 2022 (8 weeks)

Call to register and direct questions to 412-851-2630 or email: tennis@usctdp.com.

FARMERS' MARKET



THANKS SO VERY MUCH TO OUR FANTASTIC SHOPPERS AND VENDORS!



Bethel Park Farmers' Market was a finalist in two Best Farmers' Market contests in 2021!

Pittsburgh City Paper announced we were again voted in the TOP THREE FARMERS MARKETS IN PITTSBURGH – PLACING in 2nd Place!!! Bethel Park Farmers Market also made it into the top three for the Observer-Reporter Best of the Best contest.

A huge **THANK YOU** to our loyal customers for supporting the 2021 Bethel Park Farmer's Market

Forty-three vendors participated by selling fresh produce, ready to eat foods, honey, oil & vinegar, hummus, gluten free products, bread, cheese, wine, clothing, and too many other products to list.

Thank you to:

Simmons Farm	Threadbare Cider
Pitaland	LII Deby's Delights
Hello Hummus	La Vigneta Winery
Logan Family Farms	Cinco De Mayo Salsas
Jodikno's Farm	Cherish Creamery
Kim's K-9 Droolers	The Focha Store
Wood Stoked Oven	The Spring House
Wild River Kettle Korn	Nothing Bundt Cakes
Wu's Shaved Ice	Country Hammer Moonshine
Jose Quiroz Farms	Cinnaroast
Swope's Berries & Bees	Wine O'Clock Somewhere Winery
The Pie Place	Mitz's Meow Market
Tambellini Italian Express	Pure Rose Organics
The Olive Tap	La Casa Del Tacos
Pittsburgh Pierogi Truck	Smooth 'n Ice
Beatnik Sweet Eats	Fjord & Fable
Lemmon Bros Farms	My Dogz on the Run
Loafers Bread Company	Auntie Anne's Twist 'N Go Pretzels
Rowdy BBQ	Istanbul Grille
Graeter's Ice Cream	Pleasant Lane Creamery
Whimsical Wardrobe	
Gluten Free by Kassiani	
Wigle Whiskey	



Can't wait to see all of our loyal shoppers again in May 2022!



GOLD CARD CLUB

Dues: \$6.00
Ages: 60yrs and over

Gold Card Club meetings have resumed on the second Thursday of the month. The December meeting will be an off-site meeting with Jan. 13, Feb. 10 and Mar. 10 held at the Bethel Park Community Center.

Sign-in begins at 12:30 p.m. with the meeting starting at 1 p.m.

Current Covid guidelines at press time: Face coverings are required upon entry to the Community Center and in common areas such as hallways and restrooms.

If you have any questions, please contact **Cindy Carfagno** at 412-831-1913 or t2323@comcast.net

The Gold Card Club, a social and fellowship organization for seniors, was organized by the Department of Recreation and Leisure Services for the benefit of Bethel Park residents who are 60 years of age and over, or a resident on disability retirement and not less than 50 years of age. A spouse not less than 55 years of age may join with his/her spouse if he/she meets the 60-year age minimum. The title of the GOLD CARD CLUB came from the color of the membership card, not for playing card games.

Annual membership dues are \$6.00 per person per calendar year, Jan. 1 - Dec. 31. Annual dues shall be paid beginning at the January general meeting. Renewals paid after March 31 incur a late penalty. New members will be accepted at any time during the calendar year. You MUST be a current Bethel Park resident in order to join the Gold Card Club.

Questions? Call **Regina Bauer** at 412-833-2864.

Monthly meetings are normally held at the Bethel Park Community Center on the second Thursday of each month (*except July and August*) at 1 p.m. Sign-in begins at 12:30 p.m. After a brief meeting, enjoy excellent entertainment, light refreshments and several games of bingo. We also have an indoor summer picnic each year, and an Anniversary luncheon and a Christmas luncheon, both held at outside banquet facilities.

A monthly newsletter, prepared by the Corresponding Secretary, is sent to all members who are CURRENT on their membership dues.

Questions regarding membership should be directed to **Regina Bauer**, 412-833-2864.



ADULT PROGRAMS

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

BASIC DOG OBEDIENCE

Teaching your dog basic commands can be building blocks to a rewarding relationship with your pet. Our professional instructors will teach you how to teach your dog the basic commands of sit, down, stay, come when called, controlled walking exercises and much more! The dog must be at least 6 months old. Please bring vaccination records, six-foot leash, and soft small treats to the first class. An adult must accompany handlers under age 18. **You must register with Bethel Park Recreation at least one week before the first class.** Register online, by mail to Bethel Park Recreation with the registration form in the Chronicles, or in person at the Community Center. Classes are held at Xcel Canine Training, Inc., 5400 Progress Boulevard, 412-833-2504, www.xcelcaninetraining.com.

You MUST provide an email address with registration so the instructor can contact you about necessary paperwork. There will be no refunds after the first class, for any reason.

Ages: 12 and over
Resident Fee: \$100.00 Non-Res Fee: \$110.00
 6 session dates

3309.401
 Dates: 01/08/2022 - 02/12/2022 Sat
 Time: 10:00AM - 11:00AM

Location: Xcel Canine Training, Inc.

PUPPY OBEDIENCE

This class is taught at a slower pace than our Basic Obedience class, but still will give your puppy the steppingstones they need to learn at a young age. The puppies will also be in an environment with others their own age! They will learn the beginning of sit, down, stand, walking by your side and introducing them to new fun obstacles. An adult must accompany handlers under age 18. Your dog must be 3 to 6 months old and should have its 2nd set of shots before starting. Please bring vaccination records, six-foot leash, and soft small treats to the first class. **You must register with Bethel Park Recreation at least one week before the first class.** Register online, by mail to Bethel Park Recreation with the registration form in the Chronicles, or in person at the Community Center. Classes are held at Xcel Canine Training, Inc., 5400 Progress Boulevard, 412-833-2504, www.xcelcaninetraining.com.

You MUST provide an email address with registration so the instructor can contact you about necessary paperwork. There will be no refunds after the first class, for any reason.

Ages: 12 and over
Resident Fee: \$100.00 Non-Res Fee: \$110.00
 6 session dates

3309.402
 Dates: 01/08/2022 - 02/12/2022 Sat
 Time: 9:00AM - 10:00AM

3309.403
 Dates: 01/08/2022 - 02/12/2022 Sat
 Time: 12:00PM - 1:00PM

Location: Xcel Canine Training, Inc.

SATURDAY CLASSES ARE HIGHLIGHTED

PHOTO PRESERVATION & ORGANIZATION

Come and join us for an educational presentation on how to **Calm the Chaos** of your printed and digital photo collections! Do you have print photos in drawers, frames, albums and digital photos on phones, computer, memory sticks, etc.? Learn how to organize and clean up the mess as we cover topics on scanning, media conversion, phone photos, temporary solutions and permanent solutions, metadata, cloud services, and celebrating your memories. Lisa Webster of Grand Scale Video Productions has been helping families for over six years to organize, preserve, share, and celebrate their memories. She will give you the information needed to make informed decisions and will help you create a photo plan for generations.

Instructor: Lisa Webster
 Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$10.00 Non-Res Fee: \$15.00
 1 session date

3970.401
 Dates: 01/25/2022 Tue
 Time: 6:00PM - 8:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

FITNESS & EXERCISE

COUNTRY FIT

Country Fit is an easy-to-follow, completely exhilarating, country dance-inspired workout perfect for beginners! No complicated moves, students simply follow along with the instructor to enjoy the low impact/high-energy dance class set to the chart-topping hottest country hits. You'll have so much fun moving, stepping, clapping, stomping, and laughing, you'll forget you're burning mega calories and toning your body from head to toe! **No dance experience is necessary.** Whether you're a dance newbie or you've already got great moves, you will love stepping it up to the hottest country hits around! This country dance-inspired workout is unlike any other workout you've tried and perfect for all fitness levels. Take this class twice a week for a discount rate. Twice a week rate is not available with online registration.

Instructor: Kerri Lewis
 Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$35.00 Non-Res Fee: \$40.00
Twice a week: \$55.00 Non-Res Fee: \$60.00
 6 session dates

3918.401
 Dates: 01/10/2022 - 02/14/2022 Mon
 Time: 7:00PM - 8:00PM

3918.402
 Dates: 01/12/2022 - 02/16/2022 Wed
 Time: 7:00PM - 8:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE!

Register at least 24-hours in advance of program start! Programs not meeting the minimum number of students will be canceled. Online registrations are highly encouraged at www.bethelpark.net

POWER YOGA

This is a great class for students with no previous yoga experience. Power Yoga is designed for all levels in mind. You may go at whatever speed suits you! Challenge yourself with a blend of Pilates and Yoga, leaning more on the Yoga side. Stretching, energizing yoga poses and relaxation are the focus for this class. Instructor has over 15 years of Yoga and Pilates teaching experience. Students should bring mat, water, and small towel to class.

Instructor: Christi Fredrick
 Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$35.00 Non-Res Fee: \$40.00
 6 session dates

3990.401
 Dates: 01/19/2022 - 02/23/2022 Wed
 Time: 6:30PM - 7:30PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center



QIGONG

Qigong, an ancient practice originating in China, is comprised of simple, efficient, and effective movements to help manage and reduce stress, heal physical and emotional pain, and enhance quality of life. Qi means "energy" and Gong means "to work with" so simply put Qigong means working with the body's energy. Qigong has movements similar to tai chi movements, yet simpler. Anyone regardless of age, ability or fitness level can practice Qigong and become healthier and happier. Some benefits of practicing include increase in oxygen uptake for stronger muscles, soothes the nervous system, improves metabolism and digestion, helps clear the mind for greater mental clarity and promotes greater flexibility. No special equipment is required. Please wear loose, comfortable clothing. **It is recommended that you NOT wear earrings.**

Instructor Vince has been practicing Spring Forest Qigong (SFQ) for 10 years and is a certified SFQ professional. Twice a week discount rate is not available with online registration.

Instructor: Vince Galloni
 Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$35.00 Non-Res Fee: \$40.00
Twice a week: \$55.00 Non-Res Fee: \$60.00
 6 session dates

3990.405
 Dates: 01/10/2022 - 02/14/2022 Mon
 Time: 1:30PM - 2:15PM

3990.406
 Dates: 01/10/2022 - 02/14/2022 Mon
 Time: 7:00PM - 7:45PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

Masks are required to enter and exit the Community Center and in all common areas.



SILVERSNEAKERS® CLASSIC

Perform a variety of exercises designed to increase muscular strength, range of movement, and activity for daily living skills. Hand-held weights, elastic tubing with handles and SilverSneakers® ball are used. A chair may be used for seated and/or standing support.

Instructor: Mon & Thu - Renea Bishop
Tue - Anne Brucker
Fee: FREE with SilverSneakers' card

Dates: 12/06/2021 - 02/21/2022 Mon
Time: 10:45AM - 11:30AM

Dates: 12/07/2021 - 02/22/2022 Tue
Time: 12:35PM - 1:20PM

Dates: 12/02/2021 - 02/24/2022 Thu
Time: 1:00PM - 1:45PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

SILVERSNEAKERS® BOOM MOVE

Designed for the Active Senior
Gain stamina and strength as you break a sweat and HAVE FUN! A higher intensity dance workout class that improves cardio endurance and burns calories. The class focuses on cardio endurance by starting with simple dance moves then building into more complex sequences, bringing you a great cardio workout. **No dance experience is required.**

Instructor: Renea Bishop
Fee: FREE with SilverSneakers' card

Dates: 12/06/2021 - 02/21/2022 Mon
Time: 9:15AM - 10:00AM

Dates: 12/07/2021 - 02/22/2022 Tue
Time: 11:00AM - 11:45AM

Dates: 12/02/2021 - 02/24/2022 Thu
Time: 11:30AM - 12:15PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

SILVERSNEAKERS® BOOM MUSCLE

Designed for the Active Senior
Students will move through multiple "blocks", which are groups of exercise that focus on different muscle groups. Class incorporates athletic-based exercises that improve upper body conditioning, toning muscles and building overall strength.

Instructor: Renea Bishop
Fee: FREE with SilverSneakers' card

Dates: 12/02/2021 - 02/24/2022 Thu
Time: 12:15PM - 1:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

SILVERSNEAKERS® STRENGTH AND STABILITY

Designed for the Active Senior
Stability is the newest class designed to help you become stronger and improve balance. The movements taught in class focus on specific exercises to improve strength and power around the ankle, knee, and hip joints, while improving your reaction time. This class is designed for fall prevention and is suitable for nearly every fitness level. It can be adapted depending on the skill of individual participants.

Instructor: Renea Bishop
Fee: FREE with SilverSneakers' card

Dates: 12/06/2021 - 02/21/2022 Mon
Time: 10:00AM - 10:45AM

Dates: 12/07/2021 - 02/22/2022 Tue
Time: 10:15AM - 11:00AM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

SILVERSNEAKERS® YOGA

Yoga will move your whole body through a complete series of seated and standing yoga poses. Chair support is offered to safely perform a variety of postures designed to increase flexibility, balance, and range of movement. Restorative breathing exercises and final relaxation will promote stress reduction and mental clarity.

Instructors: Gerrie Delaney & Mary Anne Gerard
Fee: FREE with SilverSneakers' card

Dates: 12/01/2021 - 02/23/2022 Wed
Time: 12:00PM - 12:45PM

Dates: 12/02/2021 - 02/24/2022 Thu
Time: 9:10AM - 9:55AM

Dates: 12/03/2021 - 02/25/2022 Fri
Time: 9:15AM - 10:00AM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center
No class Dec 24, Dec 31

SILVERSNEAKERS® CIRCUIT

Designed for the Active Senior
This Circuit workout offers standing, low-impact choreography alternated with upper body strength work. Students use hand-held weights, elastic tubing w/handles & other equipment while utilizing all parts of the body without too much stress. Build muscle, flexibility, cardio & tone.

Instructor: Gerrie Delaney
Fee: FREE with SilverSneakers' card

Dates: 12/02/2021 - 02/24/2022 Thu
Time: 10:00AM - 10:45AM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

WALKING TRACK

SilverSneakers® members can take advantage of the climate controlled, elevated indoor walking track using their SilverSneakers® membership card. The 1/12-mile track features 3 lanes for fitness lap walking or running. Track is open for use:
Monday - Saturday 9:00AM - 9:00PM
Sunday 12:00PM - 6:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center
The Community Center is closed on Dec 24, Dec 25, Dec 31, Jan 1



Masks are required to enter and exit the Community Center and in all common areas.

T'AI-CHI BEGINNER

This traditional T'ai-Chi Chuan class is for the beginning student as well as the student that wants to work on the first 1/3 of the form. The difference between T'ai-Chi and other martial arts is "CHI". In this class you will develop better balance, coordination and posture which is "the way" to move more efficiently and beneficial for your health. T'ai-Chi is suitable for anyone looking to improve overall health. No prior experience required. Wear loose fitting clothes and slippers or socks. Twice a week rate is not available with online registration.

Instructor: Tamara Stark
Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$56.00 Non-Res Fee: \$61.00
Twice a week: \$86.00 Non-Res Fee: \$91.00
6 session dates

3932.401
Dates: 01/12/2022 - 02/16/2022 Wed
Time: 9:55AM - 10:55AM

3932.402
Dates: 01/13/2022 - 02/17/2022 Thu
Time: 7:00PM - 8:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

★ NEW! NEW! NEW! ★

T'AI-CHI - 14 POSTURES

This traditional T'ai-Chi Chuan class is suited for the student who has experience learning the 14 postures. It is corrections and working on principals of the first 1/3 of the yang family form. Wear loose fitting clothes and slippers or socks. Twice a week rate is not available with online registration.

Instructor: Tamara Stark
Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$56.00 Non-Res Fee: \$61.00
Twice a week: \$86.00 Non-Res Fee: \$91.00
6 session dates

3932.403
Dates: 01/12/2022 - 02/16/2022 Wed
Time: 10:55AM - 11:55AM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

T'AI-CHI INTERMEDIATE

This class is designed for students who have previous experience in a T'ai-Chi class and want to further their knowledge and experience. Instructor recommendation is required to enroll in this course. Twice a week rate is not available with online registration.

Instructor: Tamara Stark
Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$56.00 Non-Res Fee: \$61.00
Twice a week: \$86.00 Non-Res Fee: \$91.00
6 session dates

3932.405
Dates: 01/11/2022 - 02/15/2022 Tue
Time: 7:00PM - 7:45PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

TOTAL BODY BOOT CAMP

Total Body Boot Camp is an intense boot camp style class designed for men and women of all ages and all fitness levels. This class will work your entire body through resistance training, body weight exercises, balance and stability moves, core work, and cardio. Students just getting back to workouts will be shown appropriate modifications to make their workout safe but just as effective! Every class will be a new workout that will leave you feeling strong and energized! Get ready to work hard and sweat it out with Cortney!

Instructor: Cortney Sweeney
Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$35.00 Non-Res Fee: \$40.00
6 session dates

3920.401
Dates: 01/10/2022 - 02/14/2022 Mon
Time: 7:00PM - 8:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

SATURDAY CLASSES ARE HIGHLIGHTED

ZUMBA® GOLD

2022...If you haven't signed up for Zumba® yet, this is the year to give it a try! 2022 is the beginning of a 14-year anniversary for our ZUMBA® GOLD classes. We have been dancing our way to a happier healthier lifestyle for 14 years! Forget about working out and come lose yourself in the great music. Whatever your goal, this is one resolution you can stick with!! Whether you have been taking class since the beginning or are just getting started on this wonderful journey the time to sign up is now. There is a reason we have been going strong for 14 years. Time for you to sign up and find out why! All ages and skill levels welcome. Sign up for twice a week at a discounted rate! Twice a week rate is not available with online registration.

Instructor: Kathy Raeder
Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$35.00 Non-Res Fee: \$40.00
Twice a week: \$55.00 Non-Res Fee: \$60.00
6 session dates

3930.405
Dates: 01/11/2022 - 02/15/2022 Tue
Time: 9:15AM - 10:15AM

3930.406
Dates: 01/11/2022 - 02/15/2022 Tue
Time: 7:00PM - 8:00PM

3930.407
Dates: 01/13/2022 - 02/17/2022 Thu
Time: 9:15AM - 10:15AM

3930.408
Dates: 01/13/2022 - 02/17/2022 Thu
Time: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

ZUMBA® GOLD FOR ACTIVE SENIOR/BEGINNER

Men and women alike, of all ages, are enjoying this adapted program with the same great fun and music as a regular Zumba® class. An ideal class for the active senior or beginner just starting to exercise. This is a scaled back exercise program. No jumping, no skipping, just plenty of moving, fun and laughter. The design of the class introduces easy-to-follow Zumba® choreography that focuses on balance, range of motion, flexibility, and coordination. Come ready to sweat and prepare to leave feeling strong! Experience is not required. Sign up for twice a week at a discounted rate! Twice a week rate is not available with online registration.

Instructor: Kathy Raeder
Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$25.00 Non-Res Fee: \$30.00
Twice a week: \$45.00 Non-Res Fee: \$50.00
6 session dates

3930.410
Dates: 01/10/2022 - 02/14/2022 Mon
Time: 10:35AM - 11:15AM

3930.412
Dates: 01/12/2022 - 02/16/2022 Wed
Time: 10:35AM - 11:15AM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

SATURDAY CLASSES ARE HIGHLIGHTED

SPORTS**BASKETBALL**

Men play on Thursday evenings. Limited spots are available. Everyone MUST register and prepay to participate.

Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$48.00 Non-Res Fee: \$53.00
8 session dates

3207.420
Dates: 01/06/2022 - 02/24/2022 Thu
Time: 8:00PM - 10:00PM

Location: Neil Armstrong Middle School

KRAV MAGA

Krav Maga will help improve your physical fitness while teaching you awareness and self-defense skills you can use in the real world. Krav Maga is not a traditional martial art. No Katas, no rituals. Based on simple principles and instinctive movements, this reality-based system is designed to teach real self-defense in the shortest time possible. Uniform included in class fee (\$50 value). No experience required.

Instructor: No Limits Martial Arts
Ages: 14 and over
Resident Fee: \$79.00 Non-Res Fee: \$84.00
6 session dates

3912.401
Dates: 01/10/2022 - 02/14/2022 Mon
Time: 6:45PM - 7:30PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

**PICKLEBALL**

Men and women, boys and girls ages 13 and over REGISTER for our recreational Pickleball program at the Bethel Park Community Center gym. This is one of the fastest growing sports in the US combining elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong. Pickleball is a low-impact sport played on a court smaller than the size of a tennis court. General knowledge of game rules and beginner skill level is necessary as this is not an instructional class. Players must be able to bend to pick up balls and move forward and backward to play. Players of ALL SKILL LEVELS play together, rotating with different players each game. This is not an instructional class. You may choose to play once a week but NO MORE THAN TWICE A WEEK. Call 412-851-2910 for more information.

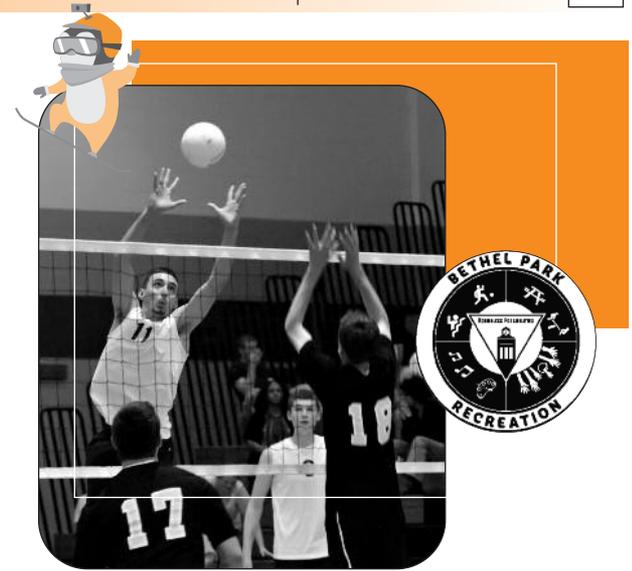
Ages: 13 and over
Resident Fee: \$28.00 Non-Res Fee: \$33.00
7 session dates

3901.401
Dates: 01/03/2022 - 02/14/2022 Mon
Time: 12:00PM - 2:10PM

3901.402
Dates: 01/05/2022 - 02/16/2022 Wed
Time: 12:00PM - 2:10PM

3901.403
Dates: 01/07/2022 - 02/18/2022 Fri
Time: 12:00PM - 2:10PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

**LADIES VOLLEYBALL**

This is a recreational program that plays according to PIAA high school rules. Players should have knowledge of volleyball rules and skills at either intermediate or advanced level. This is a fun ladies' night out to meet new people and enjoy some exercise. If you can only attend occasionally, there is a nightly drop-in fee.

Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$36.00 Non-Res Fee: \$41.00
8 session dates

3239.410
Dates: 01/03/2022 - 02/21/2022 Mon
Time: 8:00PM - 9:30PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Men play on Wednesday nights. Pick-up Men's Volleyball. Prior experience not necessary but players are expected to follow official USA indoor volleyball rules. Everyone must register and prepay to participate.

Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$60.00 Non-Res Fee: \$65.00
10 session dates

3239.420
Dates: 01/05/2022 - 03/09/2022 Wed
Time: 8:00PM - 10:00PM

Location: IMS Gym

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL

Looking for some fun, "backyard" style volleyball play? This is an informal program for co-ed volleyball play. Not designed as an instructional class, but an opportunity to have fun, socialize and meet new people.

Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$24.00 Non-Res Fee: \$29.00
6 session dates

3239.430
Dates: 01/16/2022 - 02/20/2022 Sun
Time: 4:00PM - 6:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

Masks are required to enter and exit the Community Center and in all common areas.



SilverSneakers® at the Bethel Park Community Center!



SilverSneakers® programs are offered at the Bethel Park Community Center. The **SilverSneakers®** Fitness Program is the nation's leading fitness program designed exclusively for older adults. Regular participation in the program has been proven to help older adults manage their health and increase strength, balance, and endurance.

SilverSneakers® is a benefit offered to members of many Medicare plans across the U.S. If you are part of a Medicare health plan or if you are a group retiree, you may already have the **SilverSneakers®** benefit. There are over 5.8 million Medicare-eligible members who qualify for **SilverSneakers®**. There is no

cost for **SilverSneakers®** eligible adults to become members and participate. You may already have **SilverSneakers®** available to you!

SilverSneakers® offers three easy ways to enroll. Simply choose one of the following options that best suits your lifestyle and begin enjoying your benefit today!

- Simply take your **SilverSneakers®** Member ID card to the Bethel Park Community Center.
- No **SilverSneakers®** card? Bring your health plan ID card with you to the Community Center. Our staff will check your eligibility.
- Visit the Community Center and our staff can check on your eligibility by using your name, address, phone number, and birth date.

The **SilverSneakers®** Fitness Program is an innovative and fun health/exercise program helping older adults live healthy, active lifestyles. Get fit, have fun, make new friends!

Unlock the door to greater independence and a healthier life with **SilverSneakers®**. Benefits will include: Customized **SilverSneakers®** classes designed exclusively for older adults who want to improve their strength, flexibility, balance, and endurance.

SilverSneakers® members can take advantage of the climate controlled, elevated indoor walking track just by swiping their **SilverSneakers®** membership card. The 1/12-mile track features three lanes for fitness lap walking or running.

Track is open for use:

- **Monday – Saturday** **9 a.m. - 9 p.m.**
- **Sunday** **12 - 6 p.m.**

What are **SilverSneakers®** classes?

SilverSneakers® classes are Total-Body Conditioning Classes designed to increase muscular strength, endurance, range of movement, flexibility, balance, agility, and coordination. The classes are anywhere from 45 to 60 minutes. Classes typically involve the use of hand-held weights, elastic tubing with handles, and a small exercise ball. A chair may be used for seating or additional support.

See page 32 for class schedule.

Who teaches the classes?

SilverSneakers® classes are taught by credentialed instructors who are specially trained in leading fitness programs for aging adults. All **SilverSneakers®** class instructors undergo an in-person training and evaluation process to become a **SilverSneakers®** instructor. Our instructors are **Anne Brucker, Renea Bishop, Mary Ann Gerard** and **Gerrie Delaney**. They are veteran instructors who have been teaching **SilverSneakers®** programs for years.



The Award Winning Bethel Park High School
"Black Hawk" Marching Band,
Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensemble,
Chamber Orchestra, String Orchestra,
Top 21 and Music Boosters would like to say
"THANK YOU"
to the Community for your continued support of
our hoagie sales.

The Music Department is planning to travel in the
Spring of 2022!

The dates for hoagie sales this year
are Saturdays:

Jan. 22

Feb. 19

April 2

Stay up to date and bookmark our Music
Department website – bpsdmusic.weebly.com
and the Music Booster website -
bpmusicboosters.com.



MUNICIPAL OFFICES will be
CLOSED
for the following holidays:

CHRISTMAS

Friday, Dec. 24, 2021

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Friday, Dec. 31, 2021

PRESIDENT'S DAY

Monday, Feb. 21, 2022

The Community Center will be OPEN.

The **COMMUNITY CENTER** will be
CLOSED
for the following holidays:

CHRISTMAS

Friday, Dec. 24, 2021

Saturday, Dec. 25, 2021

NEW YEAR

Friday Dec. 31, 2021

Saturday, Jan. 1, 2022



Dean Streator Holiday Concert

Sunday, December 12, 2021

Doors open at 2:00 p.m. • Performance starts at 2:30 p.m.

Bethel Park Community Center

Community Band South

Directed by Jim Bennett and Max Gonano

Bethel Park High School Top 21

Directed by Todd Kuczawa

Handbell ringers of Southminster Presbyterian

Directed by Richard Pinkerton



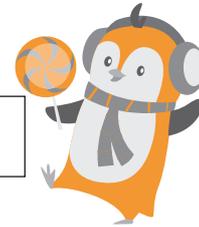
Admission is free but donations are accepted
to benefit the Bethel Park Community Foundation

Vaccination card and mask required. Seating is limited.
Performance is without intermission.

Call 412-851-2910 for more information

BETHEL PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

5151 PARK AVENUE



The Bethel Park Community Center continues to be the center of activity in the community. Frequently reserved for social and professional functions, the facility is well known throughout the South Hills. The Community Center, with 40,495 sq. ft. of space, includes areas for special events and meetings, a gymnasium and locker area, an exercise/dance studio, walking track and a separate classroom. The large multi-purpose room has seating to accommodate 245 and is capable of being divided into three separate rooms. The Community Center also includes a lounge, catering-style kitchen & stage. Walking trails, playground equipment, and a lighted multi-purpose field are situated on the center's grounds.

Call 412-851-2910 for room reservations or other information.

**IN ORDER TO ENSURE SAFETY FOR ALL
COMMUNITY CENTER USERS,
CHILDREN UNDER 13 MUST BE UNDER
DIRECT SUPERVISION OF AN ADULT AT ALL TIMES.**

**SEASONAL (NOVEMBER 1- APRIL 30) HOURS OF OPERATION ARE:
MONDAY - SATURDAY, 9 A.M. - 9 P.M.
SUNDAY, NOON - 6 P.M.**

**OPEN GYM SCHEDULE IS POSTED MONTHLY
AND IS AVAILABLE AT THE FRONT DESK.**



RENTAL PROCEDURES

Reserving a room at the Bethel Park Community Center for your next event is a simple, straightforward process and may be done up to a year in advance. However, it is recommended that you reserve your space early as dates fill up quickly!

- Requests for rentals must be submitted in writing and should include the following information:
Renters' name, address, phone numbers, date requested, time requested, specific room(s) requested (*if known*), purpose of rental and approximate number of guests expected. Requests may be returned to the Community Center in person or via email to communitycenter@bethelpark.net.
- Within a week, you'll receive written notification if your requested space is available or not.
- If available, we'll send you a Reservation Permit along with rental Terms & Conditions and additional rental information to complete.

Payment Schedule

- Fifty percent of total rental fees is due with the signed Rental Contract.
- The remaining 50% is due 30 days prior to your event.
- A refundable security deposit and room layout is due seven days prior to your event.

Please note that while we want your event to be a success, failure to meet any payment deadlines may result in rental cancellation. Fees paid will not be refunded.

Cancellation Policy/Fees

If you need to cancel your event, your request **MUST** be submitted in writing to the Community Center Director. Cancellation fees follow:

- Cancellations received in writing more than 60 days prior to the scheduled date will receive a refund of 50% of initial rental payment, less a \$5 processing fee.
- No refund will be issued if written cancellation is received less than 60 days prior to event.

Other Rental Notes

- Any use of the Community Center which requires Municipal staff to stay after the scheduled closing time shall be charged an additional \$40 per hour for any portion of an hour that may be needed.
- Rental rate includes the set-up of tables and chairs.
- Renters will be responsible to visit the Community Center one week in advance of their event to sign-off on all seating/room arrangements. The security/damage deposit should also be paid at this time. Rate: \$100 per area rented.

Membership Fees & Renewals

A membership card is required to use the Bethel Park Community Center *Gymnasium and Walking Track*. Both residents and non-residents can purchase 12-month memberships at the Community Center during normal business hours.

All that's needed to purchase a membership is completion of a simple membership application and photo identification (*such as a drivers license*) to prove residency; once payment is received, an identification photo will be kept on file for each member – a process expected to take less than 10 minutes. New members will receive both a wallet size member card as well as a small key tag card.

Individual memberships will include five complimentary guest passes, and Family memberships will include 15 complimentary guest passes.

Annual Membership/Renewal:	Resident	Nonresident
Youth (13 - 17 years old)	\$ 5.00	\$ 125.00
Adult (18 - 59 years old)	\$ 10.00	\$ 150.00
Family	\$ 25.00	\$ 250.00
Senior Adult (60+)	\$ 5.00	\$ 80.00
Additional Guest Passes – 5	\$ 4.00	\$ 45.00
Day pass: Individual	\$ 1.00	\$ 10.00

CHILDREN UNDER 13 MUST BE UNDER DIRECT SUPERVISION OF AN ADULT AT ALL TIMES

To purchase a day pass, you must provide photo ID to prove residency.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

All Gym memberships expire 12 months after they were issued. Please remember to renew your membership by stopping at the Community Center Desk to update your information and pay the renewal fee.

ROOM RENTAL FEES

RENTAL RATES LISTED ARE FOR BETHEL PARK RESIDENTS. NON-RESIDENTS OR ORGANIZATIONS NOT LOCATED IN BETHEL PARK MUST CALL CENTER AT 412-851-2910 FOR RENTAL RATES

AREA	RATE	CAPACITY
Area A	\$25 per hour	49
Area B	\$50 per hour	148
Area C	\$25 per hour	49
CLASSROOM	\$25 per hour	49
A, B, & C	\$75 per hour	245
Catering Kitchen	\$100 per event	
Stage	\$50 per event	(With Area B only)
Alcohol Permit	\$50 per room	

Room Rental fees listed are per hour. **Keep in mind that rental hours must include the entire time that you need access to the rental space beginning with set-up, including event time and through clean-up.**

All rentals require a minimum 4 hour reservation.

RENTAL INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

COMMUNITY CENTER ADULT AND YOUTH CLUBS

Please call the Community Center at 412-851-2910 to verify that club meetings have resumed following Covid-19 suspension.

Bethel Artist Guild - Membership is open to Bethel Park Artists of any medium. Club members' work is displayed at the Center throughout the year. Monthly meetings are held on the **first Thursday** of the month in February, March, April, May, September, October, and December at 12:30 pm. Call the Artist Guild at 412-835-7379 for additional information.

Call the Bethel Park Community Center at 412-851-2910 for information on all of our activities. If you have a special interest and would be interested in helping to form a new club or activity group, contact the Community Center Director, **Cathy Muscato**, at 412-851-2912.



Community Center Facilities

Multipurpose Room This exceptional room can be divided into three separate sections to accommodate small and medium groups. With dividers open, the room can accommodate large group functions. The Multipurpose Room is perfect for wedding receptions, showers, banquets, parties, meetings or other special events.

Catering Kitchen Add this room to your rental when meals will be served at your event. Kitchen includes commercial ovens, grill, refrigerator, freezer, coffee makers, microwave and dishwasher.

Theatrical Stage Does your event need a stage? The Stage may be rented in conjunction with the rental of Room B.

Lobby Bookshelves are located in the lobby, across from the main desk containing a lending library of puzzles and books available for residents of all ages to borrow.

Lounge Equipped with a kitchenette, chairs, TV, magazines and game tables, the lounge provides a comfortable atmosphere to relax, read, enjoy a card game with friends or watch television. An adult or guardian must accompany guests under age 13.

Classroom This room includes couches, TV, sink and counter area, restroom, along with tables and chairs. The Classroom may be used for small group rentals, youth and adult Recreation classes or meetings.

Gymnasium Includes one full-length and one ½ basketball court; can also be converted to three ½ sized courts. It has a total of eight basketball hoops. Also features three ½ size volleyball courts.

Exercise Studio A bright and open mirrored area to accommodate a variety of fitness and dance classes.

Elevated Walking Track Features a 1/12 mile cushioned walking track that overlooks the gymnasium.

Day Lockers May be used during your visit to the Community Center. No locks are permitted to remain overnight.



Slapsticks Productions presents

Bethel Park Historical Society & Bethel Park Recreation 5th Annual Funny Fundraiser



Saturday - January 29, 2022
Doors 6:00 • Dinner 6:45 • Show 8:00

Headliner



Tom Anzalone
International Musical
Comedy Superstar

Feature



Aaron Edwards Hall
Clean Cruise Line Comic!

Host



David Kaye
Dry Bar Comedy

Bethel Park Community Center

5151 Park Avenue
Bethel Park, PA 15102

Tickets Available at:

Bethel Park Community Center
412-851-2910

For More Info Contact
Chuck Stover

412-831-6800 x230

\$25.00 Donation

Includes

Pasta Too Dinner Buffet

Soft Drinks & Mixers

21 & Over / BYOB

Plus

Gift Basket Raffle

50/50 Raffle And More!

SPOTLIGHT

(cont. from pg. 17)

Other Amenities

If someone in your family loves music, the Percussion Play Outdoor Instruments will allow them to express their musicality! The setup includes a Cadenza, Badel Drum, and Soprano Pentatonic Freechimes. If the family enjoys basketball, then you're in for a treat! Both a full court and a half-court are available.



A pavilion located in the lower field includes two picnic tables and a charcoal grill providing a great place to have a snack or picnic meal!

According to Stover, all of the new equipment meets current safety regulations, and there's a bit more playground equipment now than there was before.

"It also makes the park even more aesthetically pleasing," added Stover.

We'll be featuring other neighborhood parks in future *Chronicles*' issues!



Happy Holidays from Bethel Park Recreation!



Bethel Park Recreation and Leisure Services ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Separate form REQUIRED for EACH participant. You may DUPLICATE this form.

(PARTICIPANT)
 FIRST NAME: _____ LAST NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ ZIP: _____ BP Resident? Yes / No
 PHONE: home () _____ cell () _____
 BIRTH DATE: m ____ / d ____ / y ____ Current Grade: _____ Male / Female (circle)
 Email address: _____
 Please include any special needs: _____
 Shirt size (where applicable): _____

1. Activity Name _____ Code no. _____
 Day _____ Start Date _____ Time _____
 Location _____ Fee Due \$ _____

2. Activity Name _____ Code no. _____
 Day _____ Start Date _____ Time _____
 Location _____ Fee Due \$ _____

PLEASE CONTINUE AND SIGN THE WAIVER BELOW:

Make check payable to: BETHEL PARK RECREATION Total amount enclosed \$ _____
 Payment is from (print name) _____ cash _____ check # _____
 Mail or drop off to: Bethel Park Community Center, 5151 Park Avenue, Bethel Park, PA 15102

I, _____ (Parent/guardian or participant - print name), understand the rules, regulations, and risks associated with the activity for which I have registered myself, or have registered my child. By my signature, I agree to release and hold harmless and blameless the Municipality of Bethel Park, Bethel Park School District, and any employee thereof as to and regarding any liability, claims, damages, or loss whatsoever resulting from any accident or injury to me or my child or any damage to our personal property which I or those under my supervision or care might receive while participating in the above Recreation program(s).

I understand that Bethel Park Recreation provides opportunities for positive publicity by photographing and/or videotaping patrons at programs for use in local publications, newspapers, television, websites, and social media accounts. By signing this Activity Waiver, I grant the Municipality of Bethel Park and the Bethel Park School District permission to use my image, name, and likeness (collectively, "Image"), or the Image of my child, in this manner without any further compensation to me.

I understand that if I do not agree to the use of my Image or the Image of my child, I must notify Bethel Park Recreation in writing upon registration.

SIGNATURE: _____
 (Participant, or parent/guardian, if participant is under 18 years of age)

Please call the Recreation Office at 412-831-1328 if you have any question regarding this registration.
The Recreation Office does not contact participant to confirm registration unless there is a conflict, a change in day/date or class is full or cancelled.

OFFICE USE ONLY _____

Amount Due \$ _____ Amount Paid \$ _____ Staff _____
 Cash _____ Check # _____ Credit Card _____

Account # _____ Activity Code # _____ Date received _____ Time _____



Bethel Park Recreation and Leisure Services ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Separate form REQUIRED for EACH participant. You may DUPLICATE this form.

(PARTICIPANT)
 FIRST NAME: _____ LAST NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ ZIP: _____ BP Resident? Yes / No
 PHONE: home () _____ cell () _____
 BIRTH DATE: m ____ / d ____ / y ____ Current Grade: _____ Male / Female (circle)
 Email address: _____
 Please include any special needs: _____
 Shirt size (where applicable): _____

1. Activity Name _____ Code no. _____
 Day _____ Start Date _____ Time _____
 Location _____ Fee Due \$ _____

2. Activity Name _____ Code no. _____
 Day _____ Start Date _____ Time _____
 Location _____ Fee Due \$ _____

PLEASE CONTINUE AND SIGN THE WAIVER BELOW:

Make check payable to: BETHEL PARK RECREATION Total amount enclosed \$ _____
 Payment is from (print name) _____ cash _____ check # _____
 Mail or drop off to: Bethel Park Community Center, 5151 Park Avenue, Bethel Park, PA 15102

I, _____ (Parent/guardian or participant - print name), understand the rules, regulations, and risks associated with the activity for which I have registered myself, or have registered my child. By my signature, I agree to release and hold harmless and blameless the Municipality of Bethel Park, Bethel Park School District, and any employee thereof as to and regarding any liability, claims, damages, or loss whatsoever resulting from any accident or injury to me or my child or any damage to our personal property which I or those under my supervision or care might receive while participating in the above Recreation program(s).

I understand that Bethel Park Recreation provides opportunities for positive publicity by photographing and/or videotaping patrons at programs for use in local publications, newspapers, television, websites, and social media accounts. By signing this Activity Waiver, I grant the Municipality of Bethel Park and the Bethel Park School District permission to use my image, name, and likeness (collectively, "Image"), or the Image of my child, in this manner without any further compensation to me.

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SIGNATURE: _____
 (Participant, or parent/guardian, if participant is under 18 years of age)

Please call the Recreation Office at 412-831-1328 if you have any question regarding this registration.
The Recreation Office does not contact participant to confirm registration unless there is a conflict, a change in day/date or class is full or cancelled.

OFFICE USE ONLY _____

Amount Due \$ _____ Amount Paid \$ _____ Staff _____
 Cash _____ Check # _____ Credit Card _____

Account # _____ Activity Code # _____ Date received _____ Time _____



SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION



INFORMATION833-5000

Call to hear important district news and school delay/cancellation information.

Central Administration

301 Church Road, Bethel Park 15102

- Dr. James Walsh**, Interim Superintendent854-8402
- Dr. Janet O'Rourke**, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Special Services854-8420
- Dr. Zeb Jansante**, Assistant Superintendent for Administration854-8420
- Elizabeth Wells**, Director of Curriculum & Instruction K-12 ..854-8420
- Mandi Figlioli**, Director of Curriculum & Instruction K-12854-8420
- L. Douglas McCausland**, Finance Director/Business Manager854-8425
- Sharon Kopy**, Assistant Director of Finance854-8445
- David Muench**, Director of Student Support Services854-8410
- Dr. Sarah Shue**, Supervisor of Special Education854-8410
- Administrators for Human Resource Services**854-8425
- Brett Slezak**, Director of Technology Services854-8418
- Scott Ziehler**, Transportation Director854-8414
- Nick Fierst**, Director of Facilities and Services854-8615
- Joe Consolmagno**, Director of Food Services854-8754
- Director of Public Relations/Information Specialist**854-8438
- Dan Sloan**, Athletic Director854-8548
- Laura Grimm**, Assistant Athletic Director854-8548

Bethel Park High School

309 Church Road, Bethel Park 15102

- Joseph Villani**, Principal854-8571
- Diana Fronczek**, Assistant Principal Student Academics & Affairs (A-G)854-8518
- Dr. Mark Korcinsky**, Assistant Principal Student Academics & Affairs (H-O)854-8516
- James Fodse**, Assistant Principal Student Academics & Affairs (P-Z)854-8580
- Counselors Office**854-8595
- Health Office**854-8550
- Attendance Office**854-8572
- Fax**854-8552
- Records Office**854-8595
- Activities Office**854-8514
- Athletic Office**854-8548

Independence 7-8 Middle School

2807 Bethel Church Road, Bethel Park 15102

- TBA**, Principal854-8677
- Dr. George Spalaris**, Assistant Principal854-8678

Neil Armstrong 5-6 Middle School

5800 Murray Avenue, Bethel Park 15102

- Kenneth Patterson**, Principal854-8751
- Sheryl Kremer**, Assistant Principal854-8756

Abraham Lincoln Elementary

1524 Hamilton Road, Pittsburgh 15234

- Jay Johnson**, Principal854-8618

Benjamin Franklin Elementary

5400 Florida Avenue, Bethel Park 15102

- Teresa Doumont**, Principal854-8741

Bethel Memorial Elementary

3301 South Park Road, Bethel Park 15102

- Eric Chalus**, Principal854-8506

George Washington Elementary

515 Clifton Road, Bethel Park 15102

- Fred Pearson**, Principal854-8546

William Penn Elementary

110 Woodlet Lane, Bethel Park 15102

- Brian Lenosky**, Principal/Director of Cyber/Alt. Learning Options854-8522

VISIT US ONLINE @ www.bpsd.org

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS



Barry Christenson
412-851-1032



Connie Ruhl
412-835-7845



Pam Dobos
President
412-833-3868



Vince Scalzo
878-600-1933



Darren McGregor
412-883-9359



Russ Spicuzza
412-835-9270



Jim Modrak
Vice President
412-833-9572



Kim Walsh Turner
412-855-4940



Ken Nagel
412-831-1814

Homeless Education Information for Parents/Guardians: 2021-2022

In compliance with the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, the Bethel Park School District is attempting to identify all children within the district that may be experiencing homelessness.

The term homeless children and youth is defined as individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. This includes individuals who are:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason.
- Living in a hotel, motel, trailer park, or campground due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations.
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters.
- Living in cars, parks, public places, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, or similar settings.
- Living in substandard housing (*no running water or working utilities, infestations, etc.*).
- Unaccompanied homeless youth meaning any child who is not in the physical custody of a parent/guardian.

Children who are experiencing homelessness may qualify for enrollment in free breakfast and lunch programs, access to appropriate instructional and social emotional learning supports, and transportation so they can remain in their school of origin.

If you believe your child/children may qualify for these services or if your living situation changes during the school year and your children become homeless, please contact **David Muench** via email at muench.david@bphawks.org. The district will work with any parent/guardian so that your child/children's education suffers as little disruption as possible.

David Muench, Homeless Education Liaison, Bethel Park School District Student Support Services Department, 412-854-8410.



ADMINISTRATION



A Message From... DR. JAMES WALSH Superintendent

In my previous contributions to the *Chronicles*, I told you about the work we were doing in the district to develop a new Strategic Plan. After a productive spring and summer, that work is now nearing

completion.

A strategic plan is the vehicle which asks an organization to look back, look around and look into the future. Through visioning, clarifying the mission, examining core values, and setting achievable goals, the strategic plan will guide the Bethel Park School District over the next five years in achieving our vision to be the best educational system possible.

The Board of School Directors initiated the development of a new strategic plan in March of 2021. There were two guiding principles: (1) to be stakeholder driven and (2) to establish the vision and the plans to make Bethel Park “best in class” in all areas. We believe these principles built a broad sense of ownership and built a shared vision for the best possible future of the Bethel Park School District. Moreover, when a plan is built based on these principles, the plan provides a consistent influence over time and can overcome any changes in system leadership.

The planning was driven by a Steering Committee, which was comprised of board members, administrators, professional and support staff, students, parents and community members. The Steering Committee was divided into six sub-committees, each with a specific area of focus. The sub-committees spent ample quality time looking back over our history, looking at what is happening in the education world, and looking ahead to anticipate our needs and opportunities for growth into the next best version of Bethel Park. This included careful analysis, discussion and evaluation of the relevant data for each sub-committee.

In the end, there was tremendous value in the planning process. 17 broad goals and numerous corresponding action plans were identified. The goals and action plans were grouped into six categories according to the sub-committees. You can see a draft copy of our plan by visiting our website at <https://www.bpsd.org/>. I will point out that the goals in each sub-committee have been listed in order of priority based to the findings of a stakeholder survey. Here again, the stakeholder voice mattered in our work.

We owe a debt of thanks to the committee members who volunteered hours of time, typically in the spring and summer evenings, to review data, discuss the implications of the data and envision the goals we should adopt to achieve our vision. You can see in the plan a complete list of the Steering Committee. We are most grateful for their service and advanced thinking.

The real work of the Strategic Plan happens after it is adopted. Through the commitment of resources, financial and human, we work every day for the next five years to fulfill the goals and action steps. It is also essential we establish a system of measurement for each goal, so the progress we envision can be tracked and reported regularly. We will call this our Balanced Scorecard. Each of the goals will be assigned to a district administrator or staff member, who will shepherd the goal to fruition and update the Balanced Scorecard. I look forward to sharing our progress on the Balanced Scorecard over the next five years.

A Message From... PAM DOBOS School Board President

This is my final article as Bethel Park School Board President since my term in office will conclude with the Board’s reorganization meeting on December 7. My eight years as a school director for the Bethel Park School District have been rewarding, educational, and challenging, and I am grateful to the citizens of Bethel Park for electing me. I am proud that, after a career as an English teacher in the district, I could use that background and knowledge to aid my decision making. During my two year tenure as Board President, I believe that we accomplished much by hiring our excellent superintendent, **Dr. Walsh**, by safely navigating the COVID crisis, and by completing a five year strategic plan which includes an educational and fiscally responsible facilities projection for the future. With educational excellence as the Board’s focal point, the Strategic Plan goals ensure that the Bethel Park School District reflects “Best in Class.” This process has also involved hiring several dynamic administrators during the last two years.

I would be remiss if I didn’t mention my gratitude to the three other Board members whose terms are also at an end. **Connie Ruhl** has been a faithful, dedicated Board member for many, many years. She has served this community and school district as a liaison with our vocational school, Steel Center, with the South Hills Area School District Association, as an elected representative with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, and as a representative for Pennsylvania School Board Association. Connie’s years of experience have been invaluable. **Russ Spicuzza** also has years of experience on the Board, serving the School District twice. His knowledge and expertise regarding Facilities guided us toward our future needs in the Strategic Plan. Russ’s volunteer efforts in our community through Rotary and the Bethel Park Community Foundation also provided students with beneficial opportunities to give back to the community through service. **Ken Nagel** brought a fresh and unique perspective to the Board. Never hesitant about asking the hard questions, I found his work on the Board to be personally motivating. As a parent, veteran, electrician, and advocate, Ken’s comments and concerns always had the best interests of the students and community foremost. His initiative in creating the Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity committee has sparked our district’s efforts to ensure that we are a welcoming and accepting school community.

I am also grateful for the support and friendship of the other Board members: **Jim Modrak**, **Barry Christenson**, **Darren McGregor**, **Vince Scalzo**, and **Kim Walsh-Turner**. I feel that the progress made over the last two years can be attributed to how well the nine of us worked together for a common vision. I wish the new Board members much success as they begin their journey: **Buffie Faes**, **Dan Grzybek**, **Gail Hoppe**, and **Sharon Janosik**.

I anticipate joyfully following this BPSD journey into the future since my husband **Mike** and I will continue to be lifelong residents of Bethel Park as we watch our grandchildren progress through the Bethel Park School District. I owe a special thanks to him for his support during the last eight years.

I believe in the strength of this community, in its goodwill, and in its desire to support educational excellence. Blessings for the future.





Andrejko Posthumously Honored

In August, the Bethel Park School District and Community Foundation honored the late **John J. Andrejko** by dedicating in his honor the newly refurbished bell that sits just outside of the high school.

Andrejko, a giant of a man with an even bigger heart, worked at Bethel Park for more than three decades in a variety of administrative roles, where he impacted thousands of students.

"It used to amaze me how many people would come up to my dad, no matter where we were – whether we were out to dinner or on vacation or wherever we were – and they would just pour their heart out to him just thanking him for all he did for them," said his son, John Andrejko.

"I think that shows what kind of a guy my father was and how he dealt with everyone," said a visibly emotional younger Andrejko.

The bell, like Andrejko, symbolizes an important institution at Bethel Park.

In the late '70's, the bell that once sat outside the old Bethel Township High School on Park Ave., was set to be destroyed before a group of preservation-minded students, guided by Andrejko, stepped in to first hide the bell and then pay for its refurbishment. That bell stood outside of Bethel Park High School until 2019, when it was donated to the Bethel Park Historical Society.



The Andrejko family was on-hand for the bell dedication ceremony.

The new bell isn't new at all and is actually of the same vintage as the bell that once sat outside the old schoolhouse. It even has an inscription that reads "Pittsburg," which was an accurate spelling of the city's name from 1891-1911, before the "h" at the end was permanently reinstated by the United States Board on Geographic Names.

School counselor, **Jim Knapp**, assistant superintendent, **Dr. Zeb Jansante**, and council president, **Tim Moury** located the bell after an exhaustive search for the exact right replacement.

"We searched high and low for the new bell and we finally found it all the way down in Houston...Pennsylvania," joked Dr. Jansante.

The bell was then sent to Michigan, where it was completely refurbished.

"That original bell represented Bethel Park's unique tradition and John well understood that," said **Andy Amrhein**, the director of the Bethel Park Community Foundation, which funded the

new bell's refurbishment.

"This new bell is an ideal way to honor that tradition and recognize someone who meant so much to so many people."

Figlioli Hired as Director of Curriculum & Instructions



Mandi Figlioli

In September, **Mandi Figlioli** joined Bethel Park as the district's Director of K-12 Curriculum & Instruction, specializing in STEAM-related programming. **Elizabeth Wells**, the district's other Director of Curriculum & Instruction, will continue to oversee literacy and the humanities.

Figlioli joined the district from the Burgettstown Area School District, where she held a variety of roles, including Assistant to the Superintendent, Supervisor of K-12 Curriculum & Instruction, Professional Development Coordinator, Director of that school's Cyber Academy, Federal Programs Coordinator, District Assessment Coordinator and Grant Writer.

Figlioli has also written a children's book called, *Miss Makey and the Magic Bin*. She also served as the Benedum Master Teacher at Washington & Jefferson College and designed and taught a course for EDU 321 called, "Diagnostic Teaching." She is also an active member of the Remake Learning Network.

A Weirton native, Figlioli earned her bachelors and master's degrees from West Virginia University.

Bethel Park Hosts 53rd Annual Marching Band Festival



In October, under the guidance of **Mr. Chad Thompson**, the Bethel Park Marching Band hosted its 53rd annual band festival. The visiting marching bands came from Avella, Belle Vernon Area, Blackhawk, South Fayette and Robert Morris University.

Bethel Park's Marching Band performed pre-game and halftime shows and "Hot Time/Bethel Victory," a song that has been played by Bethel Park bands for more than half a century.

The High School's Top 21 chorus, under the direction of **Mr. Todd Kuczawa**, opened the festivities by singing, "The Star-Spangled Banner." Following intermission, Bethel Park's drumline performed its remarkable cadence routine.

Raptor Visitor Screening System

Bethel Park recently transitioned to Raptor, a district-wide school visitor screening system. It provides schools with an effective way to help keep unwanted visitors out while keeping track of those admitted in.

The new system:

- Electronically signs in and signs out visitors
- Prints visitor badges
- Screens all visitors against the national sex offender database
- Provides real-time offender alerts

By scanning a visitor's driver's license, other ID, or in putting valid identification information, Raptor instantly screens for registered sex offenders in all 50 states. If a potential threat is identified, the Raptor system sends instant alerts to designated officials, including administrators and law enforcement, including our School Police Chief, via email and/or text messaging.

Bethel Park has also begun using a coronavirus screening tool for visitors during the school day.



Dot Day

In September, Bethel Park celebrated International Dot Day. Teachers throughout the district facilitated a series of collaborative projects.

International Dot Day, a global celebration of creativity, courage, and collaboration, began when teacher **Terry Shay** introduced his classroom to **Peter H. Reynolds'** book "The Dot" on Sept. 15, 2009. The Dot is the story of a caring teacher who dares a doubting student to trust in her own abilities by being brave enough to "make her mark."

Bethel Park School District Appoints New Directors of Technology and Student Support Services

The Bethel Park Board of School Directors recently approved the appointment of **Brett Slezak** as the new Director of Technology and **David Muench** as the new Director of Student Support Services. The school board also promoted **Dr. Sarah Shue** to the position of Supervisor of Special Education.

Brett Slezak comes to Bethel Park from Allegheny Valley School District where he served first as a Health and Physical Education teacher for grades 7-12 before becoming that school district's technology integrator. In 2020, the Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo and Conference (*PETE&C*), a statewide event that provides quality programs focused on technology in the educational field, named Slezak their Technology Administrator of the Year.

Slezak holds a master's degree in Exercise Physiology from the University of Pittsburgh and has spent most of his career finding ways to integrate technology & STEAM learning in unexpected ways. His achievements include co-creating Rachel's Neighborhood STEAM garden, a cross-curricular learning space that incorporates sustainability across all curriculums. Brett has also piloted a student wellness program that provides FitBits for every freshman and sophomore student to be active both in and out of school. Additionally, Brett taught middle and high school students to prototype wearable technology and build robots in Health and Physical education classes.

Slezak played an active role in the CREATE Lab's Arts & Bots program and has presented locally and nationally on the use of technology in Health and PE classes, including a 2015 presentation to the National Science Foundation. Additionally, Brett was a Hummingbird Robotics teacher advocate & trainer for the ABC CREATE Satellite Network that services over 15 school districts in the Alle-Kiski Valley. In January 2016, Slezak was selected as a Champions of Learning Award Finalist for technology integration.

David Muench has been with Bethel Park since 1999 in a variety of roles and has consistently demonstrated the qualities of an outstanding leader and has made a positive and lasting impact on the students, staff, parents and community members. His career began at Bethel Park as an emotional support teacher, coach and sponsor. In those capacities, Muench demonstrated excellent teaching skills, innovation, creativity, initiative and connections with students.

Muench was then promoted to Dean of Students at the high school, where he wrote and implemented new attendance policies and connected families to more support services and built strong workplace and community partnerships throughout the district. More recently, he has served in two key leadership positions at the district level. As the Bethel Park High School Assistant Principal, Muench oversaw teacher evaluation and student discipline and he oversaw scheduling. He fostered positive and collaborative relationships with students and their families and supported the teaching staff.

Since 2005, Muench has served as the Independence Middle School principal. During his 15-year reign, IMS developed personal electronic learning devices for every student and redesigned its support structure in Math, English and Reading.

Muench obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Slippery Rock University and his Master's degree in School Leadership from the University of Pittsburgh. He also earned his Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility from California University of Pennsylvania in 2011. Muench is currently enrolled in that university's doctoral program, with an intended completion in summer 2022.

Dr. Sarah Shue is the new Supervisor of Special Education. Dr. Shue has been with Bethel Park since 2018, where she has served as the Assistant Director of Special Education with a special focus on supporting the district's elementary schools.

Prior to Bethel Park, Dr. Shue was a special education teacher in the Canon McMillan School District.

A 2005 graduate of James Madison University, Shue earned a Master of Arts degree in Elementary and Special Education from Chatham University in 2008; and her Doctorate of Education with a focus on Emotional and Behavioral Disorders from the University of Pittsburgh in 2018.

"These are impressive and accomplished educational leaders who bring us valuable experiences and an unyielding commitment to excellence," said Bethel Park superintendent, **Dr. James Walsh**. "I feel most fortunate to have them on our Bethel Park team. We look forward to locking arms with them as we pursue our vision to be best in class in all areas."



Brett Slezak



David Muench



Dr. Sarah Shue

Three of a Kind

Multiple often share a unique bond and the **Kosanovic** triplets are certainly no exception. They are believed to be the oldest set of identical triplets currently living in Oregon.

Born just two minutes apart, on Nov. 28, 1948, the triplets' respective paths have continually crossed, converged and aligned ever since.

Throughout their childhood growing up in Bethel Park, the three have shared a room, wore identical clothes and sat in the same class in school. Upon their 1966 graduation from Bethel Park High School, they went their separate ways for military service during the Vietnam War. **Joe** enlisted in the Navy, **Gerry** joined the Air Force, and **Jim** served in the Army. Even then, however, they always found ways to stay close, such as a three-way phone call on a party line when they were all stationed in different states.

Their careers eventually took them in different directions, with Gerry eventually settling in Eugene, Oregon where he served as a school principal, while his brothers remained back in Pennsylvania.

"We all had different interests," Gerry said. "That's always been our hallmark, we were identical in some obvious ways but also very different in many other ways."

In 2003, Jim Kosanovic moved to Portland, Oregon and Joe followed the Kosanovic's Oregon trail when he moved to Redmond in 2011.

Now retired, the brothers speak frequently and get together a few times each month to play a round of golf or to just visit with each other.

Being identical triplets has been a big part of their identity from the beginning. "When we were younger it was an identity issue; you were a triplet, not an individual," Jim said. "Students and teachers on the high school campus didn't know if you were Jim, Gerry or Joe coming at them."

The boys quickly learned how to have fun with their situation. In the fourth grade at Logan Elementary, the brothers sat one behind the other, with Jim in the front row, Joe behind him and Gerry in the back. "If Jim was absent, Joe and I would just move up seats," laughed Gerry. Unfortunately, Gerry said his "brilliant plan" backfired as he ended up with all the absences that year.

Later, at Joe's wedding, he swapped ties with his brother, Jim in an attempt as a prank on his new wife. The trick did not fool Joe's new bride but it did confuse Joe's boss, an enormous ex-football player who hoisted Jim in the air — thinking he was Joe — for a congratulatory bear hug.

There have also been numerous unintended cases of mistaken identity. "I was in Paris, in front of Notre Dame Cathedral, and someone approached me and said, 'Gerry, how's it going?'" Jim recalled.

Joe had a similar experience on an airplane, when a man two rows behind him started smiling and gesticulating, trying to get his attention. "It was Gerry's dentist," he laughed.

Through it all, the triplets have always remained close, both emotionally and physically. According to family lore, as infants, the triplets would even scoot their cribs together in the nursery. They've clearly never lost that sense of closeness.

"We can tell the same jokes, off-color or not, and we just always get them," Joe said. "The three of us share something unique — that's the best thing about it," Jim said.

Gerry agreed, adding, "Having a twin or in our case triplets is just a lifetime of fun!"

Even though all three of the brothers Kosanovic are now firmly planted in Oregon, they insist that they are most proud of their Bethel Park roots.

If you are a Bethel Park alumnus and you'd like to share your story with the School District, please email us at alumni@bphawks.org.



The brothers Kosanovic (BPHS, 66).

BETHEL PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTICE — 2021-22

The Bethel Park School District uses the following procedures for locating, identifying, and evaluating specified needs of school-aged students requiring special programs or services. These procedures are described in this notice as required by law.

The District, as prescribed by Section 1402 of the School Code, routinely conducts screenings of a child's hearing acuity in grades Kindergarten, 1, 2, 3, 7, and 11. Visual acuity is screened in all grades annually. Speech and language skills are screened in Kindergarten and on a referral basis. New students are initially screened the year of admission. Gross motor and fine motor skills, academic skills, and social-emotional skills are assessed by classroom teachers on an on-going basis. Other screening activities include but are not limited to the review of cumulative group-based achievement and ability data; health and attendance records; grades; and information shared by the parents. Specified needs from all of these screening sources are noted within the child's official file.

School records are always open and available to parents, and only to school officials who have a legitimate "need to know" information about the student. Information from the records is released to other persons or agencies only with appropriate authorization that involves written signed permission by parents.

Parents with concerns regarding their child may contact building principals at any time to request a screening or evaluation of their child, or by contacting the Special Services Department. (Names and phone numbers of the appropriate contacts are listed at the end of this notice.) Communication with parents and eligible students shall be in English or the native language of the parents.

Screening information will be used by the Intervention Team or Student Assistance Team within the student's school to meet his or her specific needs, or to document the need for further evaluation. Student Assistance/Intervention Team services are provided to students in grades kindergarten through 12. The pre-referral process identifies those students at-risk for academic or behavioral needs and includes parental involvement in making determinations as to whether a student may benefit from intervention services. Individual student plans are developed and monitoring of specific goals with data to determine student progress and efficacy of interventions are put into place. If a student is not making sufficient progress, a referral for evaluation may be issued by the school district or a parent may request a multi-disciplinary evaluation at any time.

The Multidisciplinary Team consists of parents, teachers, a certified school psychologist, other related service personnel, and persons familiar with the student's educational experience and cultural background. The evaluations conducted by the Team must be sufficient in scope and depth to provide information about the student's academic functioning, adaptive and social behavior, learning problems, strengths, information obtained by the Intervention Team or Student Assistance Team, and information from the parents. After all evaluations are completed, an Evaluation Report (ER) will be compiled and include specific recommendations for the types of interventions necessary to meet the student's specific needs. This evaluation will be completed and a report sent to the parents within **60 calendar days**. Parents are then invited to participate in a meeting where the results of the evaluation will be discussed.

If the student meets criteria for the presence of a disability and need for specially designed instruction, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) will then be developed for specially designed instruction for the student within 30 calendar days. The IEP team must consist of: the student's parent(s), special education teacher, regular education teacher(s), and local education agency representative (LEA). Students of transition age, or younger if determined, must be invited to participate. The building principal, Director of Special Services, or Assistant Director of Special Services will serve as the chair/LEA, and a district psychologist, other specialists as needed, and other administrative staff when appropriate may attend.

Prior to the initiation of services, parents will be presented with a Notice of Recommended Educational Placement, which explains the services and educational placement recommendations. Parental consent must be obtained before providing initial special education and related services. The Procedural Safeguards Notice describes the parents' rights and options if they disagree with the individualized program presented.

Services for Students Who Are Mentally Gifted

When screening results suggest a student may be eligible for Gifted Education, the school district seeks parental consent to conduct a multidisciplinary evaluation. Additionally, a parent may request a multi-disciplinary evaluation at any time. The initial evaluation based on a multiple criteria approach is summarized in the Gifted Written Report (GWR) and used by the Gifted Individualized Education Program (GIEP) team to develop the GIEP. After the initial evaluation, students identified as mentally gifted are reevaluated before a change in educational placement is recommended or under recommendation of the GIEP team. The Notice of Recommended Assignment (NORA), signed by the parent, gives the school district permission to provide services. Parents can obtain further information by contacting their child's school principal or the District's Special Services Department at **412-854-8410**.

Services for Eligible School-Age Students

The Bethel Park School District provides a free, appropriate, public education to eligible students. To qualify as an eligible student, the child must be of school age, in need of specially-designed instruction, and meet eligibility criteria for one or more of the following physical or mental disabilities, as set forth in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act and Pennsylvania State Regulations: Autism, Deaf-Blindness, Deafness, Emotional Disturbance, Hearing Impairment, Intellectual Disability, Multiple Disabilities, Orthopedic Impairment, Other Health Impairment, Specific Learning Disability, Speech or Language Impairment, Traumatic Brain Injury, or Visual Impairment including Blindness.

The Bethel Park School District provides a full range of placement options and services to eligible students. Options in the district range from supportive intervention in the regular classroom to itinerant, supplemental, or full-time levels of intervention, depending on the student's individual needs. Inclusive intervention practices of the general education curriculum and classroom with supplementary aids and services are the first step in the continuum of placement options. Other placement options to meet the student's needs may include, but are not limited to services secured from the Intermediate Unit, another school district, an approved private school, or a private licensed academic school program. Placement options provide for a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) for all eligible students. The District also provides related services such as, but not limited to: transportation, speech and language therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, nursing services, psychological services, social worker services, paraeducator support, and personal care assistant services.

The following programs are currently provided within the District: Learning Support, Life Skills Support, Emotional Support, Autistic Support, Blind or Visually Impaired Support, Deaf and Hearing Impaired Support, Physical Support, Speech and Language Support, and Gifted Support. As evidence of the full continuum of services, educational placements outside of the District have included, but are not limited to: Emotional Support at Pace School, Wesley School Programs; Learning Support at ACLD Tillotson School; Life Skills Support at Mon Valley School, Pathfinder School, Education Center at the Watson Institute, and the Children's Institute; Blind or Visually Impaired Support at Western Pennsylvania School for the Blind; Deaf and Hearing Impaired Support at the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf and the DePaul School for Hearing and Speech; Autistic Support at Wesley School Programs, Pathfinder

School, Mon Valley School, Pressley Ridge Day School for Autism; and Multiple Disabilities Support at the Children's Institute and Pathfinder School.

Services for Students Who are English Learners

The education of students whose dominant language is not English is the responsibility of every school district/charter school in Pennsylvania. English learners must be enrolled upon presentation of a local address and proof of immunization. The Home Language Survey (HLS) is administered for all students and retained in the student's permanent record. For those students whose primary home language is other than English (PHLOTE), the district must also determine the student's English language proficiency and, if appropriate, English as a Second Language instruction will be provided following all regulations, policies, and procedures. Parents can obtain further information by contacting their child's school principal or the District's Special Services Department at **412-854-8410**.

Services for Students Identified as Homeless and/or Foster Care

The Bethel Park School District follows all protections outlined in the McKinney Vento Act related to ensuring that any child identified as homeless or in foster care has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children. The District implements child find activities for other students in addition to those identified as homeless or in foster care such as wards of the state, highly mobile children, and migrant children in order to provide equal access to evaluations and services. Further information may be obtained by contacting the District's Special Services Department at **412-854-8410**.

Services for Students in Nonpublic Schools

Parents of non-public school students who suspect that their child has a disability and is in need of special education may request a multidisciplinary evaluation through a written request to the District's Special Services Department. Parents can obtain further information by contacting their child's school principal or the District's Special Services Department at **412-854-8410**.

Services for Preschool Age Children

Act 212, the Early Intervention System Act, entitles all preschool age children with disabilities to appropriate early intervention services. Young children experiencing developmental delays or physical or mental disabilities are eligible for early intervention services including screening, evaluation, individualized education program planning, and provision of appropriate programs and services.

The Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare is responsible for providing services to infants and toddlers, defined as children from birth through two years of age. Contact the Alliance for Infants and Toddlers at 2801 Custer Avenue, 2nd Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15227, **412-885-6000**, or on the internet at <http://www.afil.org/>.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education is responsible for providing services to preschool age children from three to five years of age. Contact Project DART of the Allegheny Intermediate Unit at 475 E. Waterfront Drive, Homestead, PA 15120, **412-394-5736**, or on the internet at <http://www.aiu3.net/>.

Bethel Park School District ensures that all students transitioning from early intervention programs to kindergarten or first grade programs within the District are transitioned without disruption of services. Parents of children entering school age programs are notified of the District's transition activities, which occur before kindergarten registration of each year. The District follows the federal and state regulations pertaining to the evaluation process and based on identified needs, subsequent documentation and provision of special education and related services.

Information Regarding Signs of Developmental Delays and Other Risk Factors for Parents to Look for that May Indicate the Possibility of a Disability

If your child is less than the age of beginners (*age 5 before September 1*) and at least 3 years of age, your child may be considered to have a developmental delay when difficulties exist in the areas of cognitive, communicative, physical, social/emotional and self-help

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development where a delay in comparison to typical development is present. Parents who have questions about their child's development or possible presence of a disability may talk with their family physician or health care provider or contact the Allegheny County Health Department at **412-687-2243**.

If you have questions regarding difficulties your child may be experiencing, please contact the Special Services Department at **412-854-8410**.

Potential signs of developmental delay and other risk factors that could indicate the presence of a disability may include:

By the age of 3: Not saying many words; not using 2-3 word phrases and sentences; not walking; awkward gait (*walking*); excessive salivation; not answering “show” or “what” questions; and/or not using utensils to feed self.

By the age of 4 (*all of the above included*): Not toilet trained; difficulty with directional words (*in, on, under, out*); not playing with other children; not able to draw a circle, cross or imitate a vertical line; not able to understand the child's speech most of the time; and/or difficulty following simple two-step directions.

By the age of 5 (*all of the above included*): unable to answer “where” questions; unable to recall details from a story; not drawing a person with at least 6 parts; immature speech patterns (*“me” instead of “I”*); and not able to hop forward on one foot without support.

Other warning signs at any age: Little to no eye contact; over/under sensitivities to pain, light, noise; hand flapping; no awareness of space (*always bumping into other people or things*); awkward hand or foot positioning; won't touch or eat certain textures; child no longer can do things he/she used to do; developed normally, then stopped; echoes what is said; and/or plays with toys inappropriately (*watches wheels spin on a car toy, but does not play with the car*).

Additional information and fact sheets on child development from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities (*NICHCY*), and other resources may be found on the Special Services Department webpage located at www.bpsd.org/SpecialServices.aspx.

Protected Handicapped Students/Chapter 15

The Bethel Park School District, in compliance with state and federal law, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Chapter 15 of the Pennsylvania Public School Code, will provide to each protected handicapped student without discrimination or cost to the student or family, those related aids, services, or accommodations which are needed to provide the student equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and extracurricular activities to the maximum extent appropriate to the student's abilities. In order to qualify as a protected handicapped student, the child must be of school age with a physical or mental disability or diagnosis, which substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to an aspect of the school program. These services and protections for “protected handicapped students” are distinct from those applicable to all eligible or exceptional students enrolled (or seeking enrollment) in special education programs.

For further information on the evaluation procedures and provisions of services to protected handicapped students, contact the Special Services Department at **412-854-8410**.

Confidentiality of Student Records

Bethel Park School District and its employees are required by Federal Law and State and Federal Rules and Regulations to protect the rights of students including confidentiality of personally identifiable information for all students in accordance with state and federal law and the District's student records policy. The foundation of these rights comes from Federal legislation entitled, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (*also known as the Buckley Amendments*). There are State Rules and Regulations dealing with regular and special education students' rights and privacy. All students are covered by the State Regulations contained in Chapter 12 known as Students' Rights and Responsibilities.

The basic premise of the above-mentioned laws, rules, and regulations is that information about

students cannot be disclosed without written parental consent. There are different categories of information: Educational Records, Personally Identifiable Information, and Directory Information. Education Records consist of information directly related to students which are maintained by the educational agency. Personally Identifiable Information includes the student's name, the name of the parent or other family members, a personal identifier or a list of personal characteristics that would make the student's identity easily traceable.

Education Records and Personally Identifiable Information cannot be disclosed or released without written parent consent, or if a student is over 18, without student permission.

There is certain information that can be released without consent, which is called Directory Information. Directory Information means information contained in an educational record of a student which would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. The School District designates what information is labeled as Directory Information. It shall include the following: the student's name, address, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student.

Disclosure of information means to permit access to or the release, transfer, or other communication of education records, or the personally identifiable information contained in these records, to any party, by any means, including oral, written, or electronic means. This means that information about a student cannot even be shared in conversation without permission. This also applies to other Bethel Park personnel who do not have an educationally relevant reason to possess knowledge of a student.

Written parental consent is necessary for disclosure of Personally Identifiable Information and Educational Records. The consent must: (1) specify the records that may be disclosed; (2) state the purpose of the disclosure; (3) identify the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure may be made. Furthermore, the Bethel Park School District must maintain a written record of disclosure for the parents to inspect in case information has been released.

In accordance with 34 CFR §300.624, please be advised of the following retention/destruction schedule for the Pennsylvania Alternate System of Assessment (PASA), Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA), and Keystone Exam related materials:

- PSSA, Keystone Exam, and PASA test booklets will be destroyed one year after student reports are delivered for the administration associated with the test booklets.
- PSSA and Keystone Exam answer booklets and PASA media recordings will be destroyed three years after the completion of the assessment.

A parent may file a written complaint alleging that the rights described in this notice were not provided to: Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education, Division of Compliance, 333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333.

The Department of Education will investigate the matter and issue a report of findings and necessary corrective action within 60 days. The Department will take necessary action to ensure compliance is achieved. Complaints alleging failures of the school district with regard to confidentiality of personally identifiable information may also be filed with: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202-4605.

Non-Discrimination Policy

The Bethel Park School District will not discriminate in its education programs, activities, or employment practice, based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual preference, disability, age, religion, ancestry, union membership, or any other legally protected classification. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Employees and participants who have an inquiry or complaint of harassment or discrimination, or who need information about accommodations for persons with disabilities, should contact: Office of the Superintendent, 301 Church Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102, **412-854-8402**; or the Director of the Office of Civil Rights, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-1100.

Benjamin Franklin Elementary School (K-4)
5400 Florida Avenue
Teresa Doumont, Principal
412-854-8741

Bethel Memorial Elementary School (K-4)
3301 South Park Road
Eric Chalus, Principal
412-854-8506

William Penn Elementary School (K-4)
110 Woodlet Lane
Brian Lenosky, Principal & Director for Cyber Education
412-854-8522

Independence Middle School (7-8)
2807 Bethel Church Road
TBA, Principal
Dr. George Spalaris, Assistant Principal
412-854-8677

Abraham Lincoln Elementary School (K-4)
1524 Hamilton Road
Jay Johnson, Principal
412-854-8618

George Washington Elementary School (K-4)
515 Clifton Road
Fred Pearson, Principal
412-854-8546

Neil Armstrong Middle School (5-6)
5800 Murray Avenue
Kenneth Patterson, Principal
Sheryl Kremer, Assistant Principal
412-854-8751

Bethel Park High School (9-12)
309 Church Road
Joe Villani, Principal
Diana Fronczek, Assistant Principal
412-854-8518
Dr. Mark Korcinsky, Assistant Principal
412-854-8516
Jim Fodse, Assistant Principal
412-854-8581

Special Services Department
Bethel Park School District
301 Church Road
David Muench, Director of Student Support Services
Dr. Sarah Shue, Supervisor of Special Education
412-854-8410



Bethel Park's Johnson Receives 6th Annual Hilda M. Sundermann Award from NSTOY-PA

In September, **Mrs. Katie Johnson**, a music teacher at Benjamin Franklin and William Penn Elementary Schools became the sixth recipient of the Hilda M. Sundermann Award presented by the National State Teachers of the Year ~ PA Chapter. (NSTOY-PA).

Mrs. K.D. Meucci, a Benjamin Franklin fourth grade teacher and an NSTOY-PA Class of 2017 member, nominated Mrs. Johnson during the Fall semester of the 2020-2021 school year for the NSTOY-PA Apple Award recognition. The NSTOY-PA Apple Award recognizes other exemplary educators in PA who are making a difference in their schools. A separate committee next considers all Elementary Certified teachers honored with the NSTOY-PA Apple Award during the year for the Hilda M. Sundermann Award. Hilda M. Sundermann, a member of NSTOY-PA, was an impactful elementary teacher in the Pittsburgh city schools for a number of years. NSTOY-PA colleagues partnered with her husband, Hank to honor her education legacy by founding this award in her name. Thoughtful consideration goes in to selecting an annual recipient, for the teacher named must embody the same spirit and love of teaching elementary students that characterized Hilda's remarkable career. The committee determined that Mrs. Johnson reflects Hilda's commitment and passion for children and is very deserving to receive the sixth annual recognition.

K.D. Meucci wrote in the Apple Award nomination: "I am continually inspired by Mrs. Johnson's passion for music education. She strives to create a welcoming classroom where students are excited and engaged in meaningful learning. The energy in her classroom is contagious. Her ability



Katie Johnson and her family.

to connect with her students and her talent for teaching cross-curricular concepts and igniting students' love for music are both truly superior.

As a special area teacher, Mrs. Johnson is a master at incorporating science and social studies instruction into her music lessons. She collaborates with grade level teachers to meet standards in other subject areas. For example, she uses music to teach vibrations and sound science with rubber bands and water filled glasses. She encourages students to build their own instruments using their knowledge of how sound travels. She chooses historical songs, specifically about the Underground Railroad and the War of 1812. She teaches with

music ranging from Native Americans to the instrumentals of Star Wars to reach all learners and build connections." Not only does she foster positive and trusting relationships with each student, she goes beyond to include the families in this relationship. She clearly communicates the expectation of her classroom, but more so communicates the expectations of how students are supposed to treat each other. She truly is an example of a teacher who strives to build well-rounded people, who happen to have a love and appreciation for music."

Katie Johnson received a certificate, and a check for \$500 to use for her classroom or as start-up money for an educational project. Congratulations Mrs. Katie Johnson! Thank you for becoming a teacher!

Franklin's Meucci Dedication to Her Students

Teachers have an extremely demanding job and Bethel Park teachers' dedication to their students has been well-documented over the years. Still, one Bethel Park teacher's dedication to her students was so extraordinary that it has gained national media attention.

Mrs. K.D. Meucci, a fourth grade teacher at Benjamin Franklin Elementary School, surprised everyone when she decided to read to her students via livestream just one day after undergoing brain surgery for a non-cancerous meningioma tumor that had grown to the size of a racquetball. The reading took place from her hospital bed in the Intensive Care Unit at Allegheny General Hospital.

"I just wanted my students to know that I was all right and that we were going to try to keep things as normal as possible no matter what," she said.

Meucci said she began streaming bedtime story readings to her students via Facebook Live back in 2019 in an effort to maintain a classroom connection. Soon, it expanded to include other guest readers including fellow teachers and administrators, parents and local elected officials and celebrities.

According to Meucci, that connectedness took on an added importance during the height of the pandemic. "We weren't in school and I just wanted to make sure that my students knew that though we weren't together physically, we were still a class and we were still learning together," she said.

Her story was featured on WTAE-TV and soon thereafter, news organizations from all over the world were reaching out to Meucci wanting to know more about her story. Media organizations from all over the world soon contacted Meucci to gain her interest in appearing on their programs or stories. However, at press time, the teacher hadn't decided whether or not to share her story with a larger audience.

Meucci said she has been touched by the outpouring of love she has received from the Bethel Park community. "I have received gift cards that will last me for months and I've even had parents come to my house to help with my family's laundry and other household chores," she said. "It really has been unbelievably touching."

She concedes that the attention she has received for doing her job has been both flattering and a little bizarre, but she chalks it up to this unique period in our collective history.

"Is it common for a teacher to livestream a bedtime story to her students immediately following brain surgery? In retrospect, no, it's probably not terribly common," she laughed. "However, what has happened over the past few years that has been 'normal?'"

"I just think literacy is so important and I wanted to impress upon my students that no matter what you have going on in your life, you always have time to read because reading is that important," she said.



NOW HIRING!

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Homecoming 2021 - A Wonderful Evening

Homecoming at Bethel Park fell a little earlier than usual this year as the annual high school tradition was held during the third full week of school.

The weekend brought hundreds of alumni and friends of Bethel Park back home. The weekend began with a parade from St. Valentine Catholic Church to the high school campus. The parade was followed by Bethel Park's football game versus Canon-McMillan (34-27, L); and an outdoor dance in the athletics parking lot on Saturday night.

This year's Homecoming Queen was **Brooke Veith**. **Alecko Fekos** was crowned King. **Frank Visnikar** and **Anna Rosemeier** were the Prince and Princess respectively.

Other members of this year's court included **Jack Kirchner**, **Riley Miller**, **Kessid Wicker**, **Victoria Hoffman**, **Willow Hernishin** and **Jack Hruby**.



Brooke Veith, Alecko Fekos, Frank Visnikar and Anna Rosemeier.

Bethel Park Hosts Gold Star Football Game

In October, an obviously inspired Bethel Park football team beat West Allegheny, 26-10. However, the game will be remembered by anyone who was there more for what it represented than anything that happened on the scoreboard.

The teams were honored to have been chosen to participate in the Western Pennsylvania (WPA) Gold Star Games, a series of high school football games that serve to honor fallen military members from Western Pennsylvania. Ten seniors each from Bethel Park and West Allegheny represented 20 fallen soldiers from the area. Many of the families of the deceased were on hand for the honor.



The games began at Avonworth in 2018, when **Dana Tabay** wanted to honor her brother, **Robert Gilberston**, an Avonworth alum who unfortunately passed away while actively serving his country as a member of the Navy.

"When my brother died, someone said to me, 'You die twice,'" Tabay recalled. "When you die, your soul leaves your body. But you're truly gone when your name is forgotten."

"I was determined not to allow that to happen to my brother or any of these other families who have sacrificed so much," she said.

Tabay organized four Western Pennsylvania (WPA) Gold Star Games this fall, including Bethel Park's matchup with West Allegheny.

"I just think it brings patriotism to each and everybody in the community," Tabay said. "It's a perfect opportunity to be able to educate people. There are Gold Star (families) all around — you just don't ever know who it is."

The other WPA Gold Star Games played this fall were Rochester at New Brighton (Sept. 3), Our Lady of Sacred Heart at Burgettstown (Sept. 17), and South Side Beaver at Avonworth (Sept. 24).

Eight BPHS Student-Musicians Named Recognized

Violinists **Clara McGough** and **Samantha Wolf** have each earned recognition on the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) District 1 Honors Orchestra. They are under the tutelage of Orchestra teacher, **Mrs. Stephanie Glover**.

Six other instrumentalists, under the direction of **Mr. Chad Thompson**, have been selected to the PMEA District 1 East/West Honors Band,

including **Anastasia Bogachenko** (flute), **Willow Hernishin** (clarinet), **Braden Lloyd** (percussion), **Becky Mack** (oboe), **Brady McKiernan** (horn alternate) and **Bekah Tupper** (horn).

The students, who each submitted their performances virtually due to pandemic-related restrictions, were selected for the highly competitive ensemble among high school students who auditioned from across Southwestern Pennsylvania.

The selected students will perform alongside other elite student-musicians and before guest conductors on Sunday, Nov. 21, with the Honors Orchestra performing at 3 p.m., at Fox Chapel High School and the Honors Band's program beginning at 4 p.m., at North Hills Middle School.

The top performing student-musicians from this ensemble will advance to the PMEA's District Band performance later this school year.





NOVA Chemicals Virtual Mentoring Day

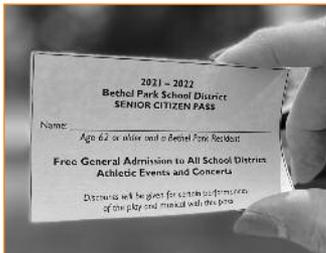
In October, some Bethel Park High School students had the opportunity to participate in a Virtual Mentoring Day with NOVA Chemicals. The career readiness activity, which was arranged through Bender Consulting, taught students about the products

NOVA Chemicals makes as well as the company's manufacturing supply chain and the measures they take to consistently meet their customers' needs.

Students also had the opportunity to ask questions of company representatives to learn more about their organization and were treated to surprise gift bags and free pizza!



Senior Citizen Pass



Bethel Park School District is once again offering FREE general admission to community senior citizens with the Senior Citizen Pass.

The pass grants Bethel Park residents, age 62 and older, entry into nearly all school-sponsored events, including all regular-season home athletic events as well as all choral and band concerts. You are also eligible for discounted tickets to select school plays and musicals.

To obtain your senior citizen pass, go to the Administration Building [301 Church Street, Bethel Park, PA 15102] during normal business hours and show your identification. We'll provide you with your Senior Citizen Pass, which you'll be able to present at the gate of nearly any school-sponsored event for your FREE entry during the 2021-2022 school year.

Six Former Hawk Student-Athletes Inducted into the Bethel Park Athletic Hall of Fame

It took longer than anyone could've possibly guessed, but on Sept. 17, the Bethel Park Athletic Hall of Fame inducted the Class of 2020 prior to the Hawks' home football game versus Gateway. A reception for the newest honorees was held in the High School Cafeteria before the game.

This year's Honorees were:

- Alan Smith (Class of 1969--Swimming)
- Doug Michalke (Class of 1971--Swimming)
- Van Richardson (Class of 1982--Football)
- Wes Richardson (Class of 1989--Football)
- Danielle Gratton (Class of 2005--Basketball and Volleyball)
- Adam Lazenga (Class of 2010--Football and Wrestling)

The annual induction ceremony is typically held during basketball season. Unfortunately, the pandemic forced the postponement of last year's ceremony. The Bethel Park Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2021 is expected to be inducted during this year's basketball season.

A belated congratulations to our 2020 Inductees!

More about this year's inductees:

1) Alan Smith (Class of 1969) – A High School All-American Swimmer, who lettered on the Boy's Varsity Swim team from 1966-1969. He was a member of the 1969 PIAA Gold Medal 400 YD

Freestyle Relay Team, as well as capturing three PIAA silver medals in the 200 YD & 400 YD Freestyle events. He was also a 3X-WPIAL Champion in those same events. He set the school and pool record in three freestyle events, and two relay events, including setting the WPIAL Record in the 400 YD Freestyle Relay. He helped guide Bethel Park to four consecutive WPIAL titles (1966-1969). He swam collegiately at Kent State University, helping the Golden Flash capture its first MAC championship. As a prep coach, he guided St. Martin's to 24 Louisiana State Championships.

2) Doug Michalke (Class of 1971) – A four-year letter winner on the Boys Swim Team, he helped guide the Black Hawks to consecutive WPIAL titles in 1968 & 1969. A 4X All-State and All-WPIAL selection, he captured a pair of PIAA Gold Medals in the 200 YD Individual Medley and the 400 YD Freestyle Relay. He set school records in six different events, and set the WPIAL Record in the 400 YD Freestyle Relay (*with his teammate standing next to him*). He went on to swim collegiately at the United States Naval Academy, where he was an NCAA Qualifier in both the 400 & 800 YD Freestyle Relays. He has coached high school swimming in Atlanta for 30 years.

3) Van Richardson (Class of 1982) – A varsity football player (1979-1981), he helped guide Bethel Park to the WPIAL finals in 1980, a game in which he had a pick 6 for the Hawks. He was a 2X All-Conference selection at linebacker. He was an All-WPIAL honoree by being named to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's prestigious Fabulous 22. He was also a 1981 2nd Team All-State selection. He played collegiately at WVU, serving as team captain in 1985, and guiding the Mountaineers to a pair of bowl wins.

4) Wes Richardson (Class of 1989) – Another force on the gridiron (1986-1988), he was a 2X All-Conference Linebacker, as well as earning All-South Area accolades in 1988. He played collegiately at WVU, where he finished his career 13th on the All-Time Tackles list. In 1993, he guided the Mountaineers to their first ever Big East Championship, and earned a trip to the Sugar Bowl, while being named 2nd team All-Big East.

5) Danielle Gratton (Class of 2005) – She collected 7 varsity letters, three in volleyball and four in basketball. An All-WPIAL 2nd Team selection in volleyball, where she guided the team to a Section championship in 2004. It was on the hardwood where she carved out her legacy in Lady Hawks folklore. She tallied 1,122 career points, earning 2005 first team All-State accolades, as well as being selected as a member of the Post-Gazette All-WPIAL Fab 5, and the *Tribune-Review's* All-WPIAL Terrific 10. She led the Lady Hawks to the 2005 WPIAL title game, as well as back-to-back section titles. She played collegiately at both the University of IL and Ball State, helping the Lady Cardinals win their first ever MAC championship.

6) Adam Lazenga (Class of 2010) – A four-year starter in both varsity football and wrestling (2006-2010), he became one of the most decorated two-sport athletes in school history. In football he was a 3X All-Conference selection, earned All-WPIAL accolades as a member of the Post-Gazette Fabulous 22 and the *Tribune-Review* Terrific 25, was the 2009 Almanac Football MVP, and was selected as a member of the 2009 All-State Team. He helped lead the Black Hawks to back-to-back conference titles, a trip to Hershey for the 2008 PIAA championship game, and capture the school's only WPIAL football championship. In wrestling, he earned 135 career wins, setting records for wins a season (45) and pins in a season with (30). He captured three individual section titles, a WPIAL silver medal, and was the 2010 WPIAL Heavyweight Champion. He twice placed at the state tournament including capturing a bronze medal in his senior campaign. He guided the wrestling team to its only WPIAL championship in 2009. He went on to play football at the University of Pittsburgh, where he twice was named to the All-Big East Academic Team.



2020 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

Three BPHS Students Named the Steel Center for Career & Technical Education Students of the Month

In October, three Bethel Park High School students were recognized as the September Students of the Month in their respective programs by the Steel Center for Career and Technical Education.



Anabel Franzmann, Abigail Winterhalter and Max Helmich

The honorees included senior, **Anabel Franzmann** (*Advertising & Design*); and juniors, **Abigail Winterhalter** (*Health Assistant*) and **Max Helmich** (*Culinary Arts*).

Each month, Steel Center's very best students are recognized for their consistently high achievement and outstanding overall performance. The recognition is meant to acknowledge the students' unwavering commitment to their career and technical education as demonstrated by their outstanding achievement.

Franzmann loves the Advertising & Design program because it allows her to be creative. "I love photography and graphic design and my program allows me develop my skills in both areas," she said. The senior, who plans to attend Point Park University where she will double-major in Graphic Design and Marketing & Professional Sales, says she is very grateful to Steel Center for all of the opportunities it has provided her.

Winterhalter hopes the Health Assistant program eventually leads her to become a NICU nurse. She has always been interested in the medical field and that interest was heightened when her cousin was born with a serious medical condition that caused him to be in the hospital for the first six months of his life.

Helmich is really excelling in the Culinary Arts program. Max, who learned to cook from his mother and grandmother, says he just loves making food, especially seafood. Helmich says the best part of the Culinary Arts program at Steel Center is that he is constantly experimenting and learning new techniques.

Egbebi Honored as Bethel Park Rotary's September Student of the Month

Oluwatoyosi Egbebi, a senior at Bethel Park High School, was named Student of the Month for September by the Bethel Park Rotary Club.

An exceptional student, Egbebi earned national recognition from the College Board as a National African-American Program Scholar because of her remarkable academic achievements and outstanding performance on the PSAT and/or AP. She has also earned the title of "AP Scholar with Distinction," after scoring a 3 or higher on at least five AP exams, as well as having a minimum AP average of 3.5.

As a junior, Oluwatoyosi also earned both the Princeton and Brown Universities' Book Awards, which each honor academic excellence, exemplary service and clarity in written and spoken expression. Egbebi is also a two-time medalist in the National French Exam, including a 2019 Gold Medal, which means she scored in at least the 95th percentile of all participating students.

Outside the classroom, Oluwatoyosi is a member of the Black Hawks girls tennis team and she is an entrepreneur, having begun a t-shirt business with her mom on Etsy.

Additionally, Egbebi volunteers as a tutor in multiple subject areas and has served as a mentor at various academic-related camps. Oluwatoyosi is also a member of the school district's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee, whose aim is to foster diversity in Bethel Park School District through policy changes, curriculum adjustment and other measures.

Students are nominated for Bethel Park Rotary Student of the Month by administrators, teachers, students or community members and are chosen on the basis of academics, as well as scholastic, extracurricular and civic honors and awards, and organization membership and leadership.

At a luncheon held each month, honorees receive a certificate acknowledging their contribution to their community. For more information on Rotary and its mission, please ask any Rotary member about it or visit bethelparkrotary.org. You can also visit their Facebook page.



Oluwatoyosi Egbebi

Gaston Honored as the Bethel Park Rotary Club's October Student of the Month

Lily Gaston, a senior at Bethel Park High School, was named Student of the Month for October by the Bethel Park Rotary Club.

Gaston is the team captain for the Black Hawks' girls soccer team, scoring 15 goals so far this season in leading Bethel Park to its second consecutive WPIAL Class 4A playoff appearance after a long postseason drought. The talented forward also captains the Pittsburgh Riverhounds Development Academy of the ECNL, a national developmental league for elite girls soccer prospects.

Lily is also an exceptional student who currently carries a 4.574 GPA and was recently recognized as a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist, placing her in the top one percent of all American high school students. She has also earned the title of AP Scholar with Distinction, after scoring a 3 or higher on at least five AP exams, as well as having a minimum AP average of at least 3.5.

A cellist in the chamber orchestra, Gaston insists that playing in an ensemble is lot like being on a team. "You quickly realize that you are part of something much larger than yourself and you try your best to contribute in any way you can," said Gaston.

Lily also serves as the vice president of the National Honor Society (*NHS*) and as the presidential advisor of the Student Government Association (*SGA*).

Outside of the school setting, Gaston is passionate about advocacy, volunteerism and social justice issues. She is part of the leadership council of an organization called GirlGov, a subsidiary of the Women & Girls Foundation of Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Gaston is verbally committed to play college soccer at Johns Hopkins University where she plans to double major in International Studies and Public Health Studies. She is the daughter of **Megan** and **Matt Gaston** and she has three younger siblings: **Henry**, 15, **Charlotte**, 13, and **Annabelle**, 11.

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Lily Gaston

Thirty-Four Students Named AP Scholars

Thirty-four Bethel Park High School students were named Advanced Placement Scholars by the College Board in recognition of those students who have demonstrated college level achievement through Advanced Placement Courses and Exams.

Students who take AP Exams can earn college credit, advanced placement or both for successful performance on the AP Exams. Approximately 22 percent of the 2.8 million students world-wide who took AP Exams in 2021 performed at a sufficiently high level to earn an AP Scholar Award.

Sixteen students were named *AP Scholars with Distinction* for receiving an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, with scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. Bethel Park's AP Scholars with Distinction are 2021 graduates **John Alacce** (*Carnegie Mellon University*), **Tanush Bahl** (*University of Southern California*), **Jake Cook** (*Ohio State University*), **Harrison Cwiklinski** (*Penn State University*), **Ethan Donovan** (*Boston College*), **Sierra Kuzak** (*Washington & Jefferson College*), **Christian McClaine** (*University of Notre Dame*), **Demetrios Patrinos** (*Washington & Lee University*), **Sarah Plotz** (*University of Wyoming*), **Tobias Roule** (*Georgia Institute of Technology*), **Liam Tena** (*University of Pittsburgh*), and **Evan Zelt** (*Wake Forest University*); and seniors **Keelan Donovan**, **Oluwatoyosi Egbebi**, **Lily Gaston** and **David Jakel**.

Six students were named AP Scholars with Honor for receiving an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, with scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. They are 2021 graduates **Declan Bruskoski** (*Penn State University*), **Johnatan Ivanov** (*University of Pittsburgh*), **Katelyn Sams** (*University of Pittsburgh*), **Rachel Toth** (*Auburn University*) and **Elise Turka** (*Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University*); as well as seniors **Sara Ackerman** and **Victoria Hoffman**.

Twelve students were named AP Scholars for receiving scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams. They are 2021 alumni **Zachary Rectenwald** (*Penn State University*), **Benjamin Sommer** (*University of Pittsburgh*), **Henry Veltum** (*University of Pittsburgh*), **Michael Walsh** (*John Carroll University*) and **Lillian Williams**; as well as Class of 2022 members, **Michael Bruni**, **Isabel Burke**, **Kristie Faber**, **Klaudia Menko**, **John Robert**, **Max Smith** and **Frank Visnikar**.

Bethel Park High School currently offers 19 Advanced Placement classes.

Two Bethel Park High School Students Named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

Bethel Park High School seniors **Lily Gaston** and **Oluwatoyosi Egbebi** have each been selected as semifinalists in the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program through the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. They represent less than one percent of the U.S. high school seniors and qualify to continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$30 million to be offered next spring.

These students were among the highest-scoring participants in Pennsylvania, and out of more than 1.5 million juniors in more than 21,000 high schools nationwide, who entered the program by taking the 2020 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, which is the initial screening for program entrants. The nationwide pool of semifinalists includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state.

To become a National Merit finalist, each semifinalist and his or her high school are required to complete a detailed application that provides information about the candidate's academic record; participation in school and community activities; leadership abilities; employment; and honors and awards received. Merit Scholar designees will be selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies. A semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and have good SAT scores on the qualifying test.

Keelan Donovan, **Davis Jakel** and **Macy Mathias** also earned recognition from the program.



Lily Gaston and Oluwatoyosi Egbebi



IMS Students Meet Virtually with Chinese Counterparts

In October, seventh grade students in **Mrs. Tracy Schuster's** class had the opportunity to meet virtually with a classroom of seventh grade students from Deyang, China, a prefecture-level city of Sichuan province.

The zoom meeting, which was facilitated by student-teacher, **Robyn Caron**, allowed the students to discuss their interests, favorite foods, what a typical day was like for each and they even compared homework loads.



The Independence Middle School students were surprised and dismayed to learn that their Chinese counterparts are still in school at 8:30 p.m., and typically have up to four hours of homework every day!

The classes are preparing FlipGrid videos that will be exchanged with classes in four other Chinese cities where the students can compare and contrast their different cultures and educational experiences.

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Bethel Park Alum, Dixon Named a Semifinalist for Prestigious Academic Award

Duquesne offensive lineman **Jake Dixon** (BPHS, '16) was named a semifinalist for the 2021 William V. Campbell Trophy, college football's premier scholar-athlete award which recognizes an individual as the absolute best football scholar-athlete in the nation for his combined academic success, football performance and exemplary leadership.

Dixon, a 2020-21 CoSIDA Academic Second Team All-American, posted a 3.96 cumulative undergraduate grade point average as an accounting major before earning his master's degree in accounting from Duquesne, recording a 4.0 GPA. He was one of 176 semifinalists and one of 36 nominees from the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (FCS).

Past winners of the Campbell Trophy include **Justin Herbert**, **Tim Tebow** and **Peyton Manning**.



Jake Dixon (BPHS, '16)

Bethel Park Welcomes Laura Grimm as its New Assistant Athletic Director

Laura Grimm is the new assistant athletic director at Bethel Park. Grimm comes to Bethel Park from Ringgold, where she had been athletic director since 2015.

Grimm was actually hired in August but began the school year at Ringgold to help the Rams kick off their fall sports season.

"Ringgold gave me my start in this business, so of course I felt a sense of loyalty to that school and it was very important for me to leave the right way," said Grimm, who volunteered to stay through the first few weeks of school before making her way to Bethel Park this week.

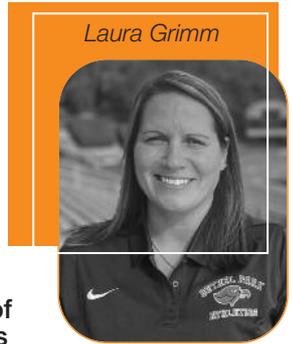
"The first few weeks of school are such an important time of the year with things like physicals and eligibility lists and scheduling," she said. "I didn't want anyone there to feel like I was leaving them short-handed."

Grimm, a Bethel Park resident, said the opportunity to work close to home played a big part in her decision, as did the opportunity to work with athletic director, **Dan Sloan**. "I've known Dan for years and I know how committed he is to the Bethel Park program, especially the student-athletes," said Grimm. "When the opportunity arose to be a part of this culture and to work side-by-side with someone for whom I have so much respect, I knew it was an opportunity that I needed to explore."

Ringgold saw several major accomplishments in Grimm's tenure including the 2018 Class 3A state baseball championship, WPIAL and PIAA diving championships and several other runners-up for WPIAL championships.

Prior to serving as Ringgold's athletic director, Grimm was the school's girls basketball coach.

Grimm is a 2010 graduate of Colgate University, where she also played basketball. A Pittsburgh native and Serra Catholic alum, Grimm holds the Eagles' career records for points (1,940), three-point field goals (283), steals (391), and assists (497). She also led Serra Catholic to the 2005 Class 1A girls basketball state championship. Grimm was named first-team all-state honors in 2005 and 2006 and was named the 2005 Associated Press Pennsylvania State Player of the Year.



Laura Grimm

Get Up-To-Date Black Hawks Athletic Schedules

Stay up to date with all of the latest information and changes to the Bethel Park High School sports schedules by visiting the Team Schedules page on the Athletics section of the website.

Get information on all Bethel Park sports teams, or just the ones you're interested in. Sign up on the site to have updates and schedule changes emailed to you so you will know if something is canceled due to inclement weather. It's a great way to stay in touch with all of our athletic teams, especially when we have unpredictable weather that necessitates postponements and rescheduling.



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Gorman Repeats as WPIAL Singles Tennis Champion



Mia Gorman

In September, in a match played at North Allegheny, Bethel Park's **Mia Gorman** repeated as the WPIAL Class 3A champion with a 6-1, 6-2 straight sets victory over Peters Township junior **Kat Wang**.

"It's a different feeling than last year," said Gorman. "Last year was more excitement and relief because of how close it got at the end. This one, I just kind of plugged away."

Gorman and Wang were familiar foes, playing each other multiple times this season. Gorman topped Wang, 7-5, 6-3, in the Section 4 finals. Gorman also defeated Wang, 6-2, 6-3, in last year's WPIAL semifinals.

"Kat and I have had some really good matches. We've known each other for a really, really long time. It's always a good match," said Gorman.

Gorman advanced to the state tennis tournament at the Hershey Racquet Club for the fourth time in her career. She was eliminated by the eventual state champion her first three years there, including last year's runner-up finish to Council Rock North's **Amelia Honer**. She hopes that the fourth time is the charm.

Bethel Park Announces its Strategic Plan, 2021-2026



In October, Bethel Park Superintendent, **Dr. James Walsh** unveiled the district's five-year strategic plan to the board.

More than 80 Bethel Park residents, including school board members, administrators, staff, faculty, community members, parents, local business owners, and students contributed to the plan via their participation on the strategic plan steering committee, which began last spring and continued throughout the summer.

The larger group was divided into six subcommittees, each focusing on one topic to come up with a series of goals for the district. The subcommittees were: curriculum and instruction; the student experience; budget and finance; human resources; diversity, equity and inclusion; and facilities and infrastructure.

The groups spent a lot of time sharing their thoughts and ideas with each other and monitoring the best practices and emerging educational trends both locally and nationally.

The curriculum and instruction subcommittee has made improving student performance on state and national achievement tests one of their top priorities, including increasing the number of Bethel Park students taking and excelling in the Advanced Placement tests.

The student experience subcommittee to a universal approach to improving the learning outcomes for all students and to improve the school atmosphere through a series of measures. The student experience group also seeks to increase student and community engagement in the district to make sure students feel more connected, respected and valued.

As you can imagine, the budget and finance subcommittee's goals were more tangible. They sought to develop a metric to determine the return on investment for district spending and to develop a long-range budget plan for the district.

The strategic plan is available online under the Quick Links section of the district's website: www.bpsd.org.

IMS' Persi Presents Haitian-Inspired Metal Art Lesson at Prestigious Global Makers Day Virtual Conference

Ms. Nina Persi, an art teacher at Independence Middle School, recently presented at Global Maker Day, a worldwide celebration of learning in which makers from around the world discussed different projects, learning spaces, creations, art lessons, coding, 3D designs, etc. The virtual event was live streamed via YouTube Live.

Persi's presentation, *Haitian-Inspired Metal Art*, was decades in the making and was reflective of a deeply personal journey for the veteran art teacher that began in the Creole-speaking nation a little more than 20 years ago.

"Haiti is the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere and whenever it is discussed in the news, it's never for positive reasons," she said. "It is always about natural disasters, scandals and other terrible tragedies."

Still, the Haiti Persi discovered was much more nuanced and complex than that. "I was blown away by the vibrancy of their arts scene, their music, the incredible people and their amazing culture," she said. "I have always felt an obligation as a teacher to share that unique perspective with my students."

Since that time, Persi has taught her students about Haitian arts and the rudimentary tools used to create such beautiful pieces. She has also revisited the tiny island nation and would love to return again.

"Everything in Haiti is handmade because electricity is so sporadic," she said. "The quality of the metal art, which is made from old steel drums, is incredible when you consider that they are doing it while using hand held tools like a ball-pein hammer, an awl, and chisels of various sizes."

Persi's students don't use those tools when creating their own Haitian-inspired art pieces. Instead they use tooling metal, which is like a heavy-duty aluminum foil. Then, to create designs and texture on the front and back of the metal, her students typically use items like bamboo skewers, plastic popsicle stick-like items, X-acto knives, and light sculpting tools used mostly for clay.

Still, to Persi, who said she intends to teach this lesson until she retires, the *Haitian-Inspired Metal Art* lesson provides students with valuable insight into what beauty human beings are capable of creating with even the most basic of tools. "Everything I share with my students can be picked up at the dollar store," she said. "And the creations they are able to make with those tools are just incredible. I just thought others should know about it as well."



Nina Persi

Welcome to Bethel Park Schools Signs

This year, Bethel Park School District, in partnership with the Bethel Park Public Library, began a new tradition by welcoming its incoming Kindergarteners and other new students to the district by placing Welcome Signs on their property unless otherwise directed. The Bethel Park Education Foundation also sponsored signs which were doled out to Bethel Park High School seniors.

The signs came about as a result of a recommendation of the Student Experience subcommittee of the Strategic Plan committee. School board member, **Kimberly Walsh-Turner**, who chaired the subcommittee, explained that the signs were just another way to further connect the school district with the community at-large. "We were just excited to be going to back to five days per week of in-person instruction and we saw this project as a great opportunity to show Bethel Park's spirit throughout the community," she said.

Many different members of the existing school district community – including school board members, administrators, teachers and the schools' PTO/PTA organizations joined in the effort.



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The Pawlos families.

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Assistant Superintendent O'Rourke to Retire

Bethel Park School District has announced that assistant superintendent **Dr. Janet O'Rourke**, is retiring effective Jan. 1, 2022.

"Throughout my two plus decades in the Bethel Park School District I had the opportunity to work with many extraordinary people," said Dr. O'Rourke. "I was always proud to be a part of this community striving to do the best we can for the children of Bethel Park."

After graduating from South Fayette High School in 1985, O'Rourke earned her bachelor's degree in Elementary Early Childhood Education from California University of Pennsylvania. She also earned her master's degree (*Elementary School Counseling*) from CalU. O'Rourke earned her doctorate of education in Administration and Policy Studies from the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. O'Rourke began her teaching career in Bethlehem-Center Middle School in Fredericktown, Pa., where she served as a middle school counselor. That allowed her to teach career readiness programs for students in sixth, seventh and eighth grades.

After five years at Beth-Center, O'Rourke earned her first administrative appointment as the assistant principal at South Butler School District's Knoch Middle School where she spearheaded that school's student advisory program.

In fall of 1999, O'Rourke joined Bethel Park School District first as an assistant principal and later as the principal. O'Rourke worked with parents and staff on building an excellent transitional school that married the best practices of an elementary program with the best attributes of a middle school program.

In 2012, Dr. O'Rourke was elevated to Director of Secondary Education. Four years later, she was again promoted, given the title of Assistant to the Superintendent for Human Resources, Evaluation and Assessment. During her tenure as a central office administrator, Dr. O'Rourke was able to collaborate with staff on a number of key initiatives that include STEAM principles, one-to-one technology initiative and she worked diligently to increase the number of mental health interventions available to students. Throughout O'Rourke's time in the district, she also collaborated with others to write a number of grants that brought in more than \$350,000 in educational funding.

"It has been a true honor and pleasure to serve the Bethel Park community for the past 22 years," she said. "Though I am looking forward to my retirement and my next chapter, Bethel Park will always occupy a major part of my heart."



Student Support Services Director, Sutton Retires

In September, **Lori Sutton** retired as the Director of Special Services. Sutton began her career with the District as the Assistant Director of Special Education. She was promoted to the position of Director of Special Education in January of 2013 and held that position until her retirement earlier this fall.

Over the years, Lori was instrumental in the writing of the SRO, SPO and Safe Schools Initiatives Competitive Targeted Grants and the more recent ESSERS grants.

She was a key player in Crisis Management and has supported students in the early college enrollment program. Annually, Lori coordinated and participated in the process of the Miranda Awards. She has been involved with numerous events at Pathfinder, Auberle and Watson and countless others.



Bethel Park School District's Facilities Planning

In a series of public meetings held both in-person and virtually, Bethel Park School District Superintendent **Dr. James Walsh** and Assistant Superintendent, **Dr. Zeb Jansante**, recently presented Bethel Park's kindergarten through eighth grade facilities feasibility study. The year-long study conducted by Hayes Design Group Architects outlined four options for how to best move forward, all of which included a reconfiguration that will eventually return sixth grade students to Independence Middle School.

"The one message we need to make abundantly clear to everyone and which we keep repeating over and over again is that we must do something," said Dr. James Walsh. "Doing nothing is not an option."

Dr. Walsh explained that Bethel Park School District is well aware of the role modern facilities play in providing excellent learning spaces for the children of the community. As with owning a home, however, sooner or later, items need to be maintained, repaired, or replaced and for several Bethel Park facilities, that time has long since come.

According to Dr. Walsh, the School District has a number of high-priority facility needs that will require maintenance, repair, or replacement in the near future. Therefore, as part of the district's Strategic Plan, a comprehensive evaluation of its facilities was commissioned by the district to proactively plan for the future.

To help identify its needs, Bethel Park School District assembled a team of community volunteers who served on the Facilities Subcommittee. Due to the nature of the committee's work, these volunteers included people with diverse backgrounds in various areas and different ideas for how to address these imperatives.

The volunteers on the Facilities Subcommittee spent several months reviewing and discussing the state of Bethel Park School District's facilities and offered their input that is being used as part of the district's Master Facilities Plan. This included some of the facility-related capital projects that were identified in the Hayes Design Group Architects K-8 feasibility study.

The completed feasibility study, which can be found on the school district's website under the Facilities Planning tab on the left-hand side of the landing page, conclusively demonstrated the district's seven kindergarten through eighth grade buildings are all aging and in need of major investments for things like accessibility, heating and cooling modernization, electrical and sewage upgrades, fire safety and security improvements. Estimates to renovate all of the buildings varied from between \$70 million and \$100 million.

Other options being considered also include an elementary school redistricting plan as well as the potential creation of a modern elementary center. It is also important to note that more options could emerge as the process moves forward and more information becomes available.

"We have to address these issues now so that our buildings are not falling apart around the staff and students," Dr. Walsh said at one of the public meetings.

"We need to make sure that no matter what the board ultimately decides, we are giving our students their best chance to succeed as 21st Century learners while at the same time remaining faithful to our fiduciary responsibilities to our taxpayers and property owners," he said.

Dr. Walsh estimated that the loose timeline for any sort of reconfiguration would be at least 30 and 36 months and would involve lots of planning and a series of public meetings.





Two Bethel Park Alums Selected in the MLB Draft



Mason
Miller



Justin
Meis

Over the summer, Bethel Park grads, and former teammates, **Mason Miller** (BPHS, '16) and **Justin Meis** (BPHS, '18) were each drafted by Major League Baseball teams. Miller went to Oakland in the third round (97th overall) while Meis was drafted by the hometown Pirates in the 10th round (283rd overall).

According to MLB.com, Miller's fastball can hit 99 mph and averages 95 mph. He also throws a slider and changeup. The 6-foot-5 right-handed pitcher had 24 strikeouts in 14 innings in winning both of his starts for Division III Waynesburg in the pandemic-shortened 2020 season. In 2021, as a graduate transfer, Miller led Division I Gardner-Webb in innings (92 2/3) and had a 3.30 ERA and 121 strikeouts with 30 walks over 14 starts.

The right-handed Meis, who pitched collegiately at Eastern Michigan, became the first graduate of a WPIAL school taken by the Pirates in the first 10 rounds of the draft since **Neil Walker** was selected in the first round in 2014.

In 10 games this season for the Bradenton Marauders, the Pirates' Low-A affiliate, Meis went 1-1 and posted an excellent 2.04 ERA. Miller posted a 1.50 ERA in three appearances for the Athletics' rookie affiliate in the Arizona Complex League.

The two Bethel Park products were part of a larger story regarding the strength of WPIAL baseball as a total of seven former WPIAL players taken in the 20-round draft that stretched over three days and was televised on MLB Network.

Miller noted that having two players drafted on the heels of a state baseball championship capped off a special year for Bethel Park baseball. "It's been a pretty notable year for Bethel Park," Miller said. "They have always had a competitive team, but haven't gotten the credit they've deserved. Winning the state championship was great."

Fourteen Bethel Park High School Student-Athletes Sign Their College Letters



Sydney Kosko, Riley Miller, Victoria Krapp and Caitlyn Shultz.

Fourteen Bethel Park High School student-athletes signed their letters of intent to compete in their respective sports at the collegiate level on National Signing Day's Early Period, Nov. 10, 2021.

Six Black Hawk student-athletes, representing four

different sports, have committed to play at Division I schools; while the other eight signees are Division II recruits.

Congratulations to the following Black Hawks student-athletes who participated in National Signing Day:

Boys Baseball:

David Kessler, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Boys Basketball:

Dolan Waldo, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Boys Lacrosse:

Owen Peters, Mount St. Mary's University

Boys Swimming:

Dominic Cortopassi, Clarion University of Pennsylvania

Girls Basketball:

Emma Dziezgowski, Wheeling University

Girls Lacrosse:

Riley Miller, St. Joseph's University

Sydney Kosko, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Caitlyn Schultz, University of Virginia-Wise

Victoria Krapp, Seton Hill University

Girls Softball:

Sandra Soltes, University of Pittsburgh

Alexandra Sniegocki, College of the Holy Cross

Delaney Sierka, Pennsylvania State University-New Kensington

Abby Quickel, Robert Morris University

Girls Tennis:

Mia Gorman, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville

Other scheduled signing dates include:

- Division I Football (*Early Period*), Dec 15, 2021
- Division I and II Football (*Regular Period*), Feb. 2, 2022
- Division I Basketball (*Regular Period*), April 13, 2022



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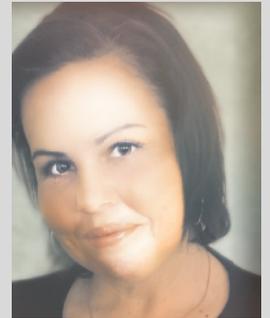
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