

Bethel Park CHRONICLES

The Official Bethel Park Municipal & School District Newsletter

Vol. 27, No. 3 • FEBRUARY 2026



www.bpsd.org



www.bethelparkpa.gov

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This is Home to Total Heart Care.

Whether you want to prevent heart disease, or access the latest in cardiovascular care. Whether the problem is with a valve, or an irregular heart beat. Whether you need help managing a chronic heart condition or surviving a heart emergency. St. Clair is where you come to find the help you need.



St. Clair
Health

Healing Lives Here.

stclair.org/heart

Annual Council Reorganization Meeting Sets Leadership and Welcomes New Members



New Council President and Vice President selected as five members take the oath of office

On Monday, Jan. 5, 2026, Bethel Park Council held its annual reorganization meeting as newly elected Council members officially took office. During the meeting, Council selected its leadership for the new term. **Joe Janosik** (Ward 5) will serve as Council President, and **Kim Kamenicky** (Ward 2) as Vice President. Each received 9 – 0 votes.

The following newly elected members were sworn in:

- **Diane Ford** (Ward 1)
- **John Oakes** (Ward 3)
- President **Joe Janosik** (Ward 5)
- **Jillian Kautzman** (Ward 7)
- **Alison Piccolino** (Ward 9)

They join returning Council members:

- Vice President **Kim Kamenicky** (Ward 2)
- **Todd Cenci** (Ward 4)
- **Jim Jenkins** (Ward 6)
- **Viola Garis** (Ward 8)



Pictured (l-r): John Oakes, Kim Kamenicky, Jim Jenkins, Todd Cenci, Diane Ford, Jillian Kautzman, Joe Janosik, Alison Piccolino, and Viola Garis.

To view the reorganization meeting, visit the BPTV YouTube channel (@bethelparktelevision); to see Council member contact information, visit www.bethelparkpa.gov - About - Municipal Council and Mayor.

Regular Council meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 5100 W. Library Avenue, Bethel Park.

Message from the Bethel Park Police Department

The Bethel Park Police Department recently investigated several vehicle thefts at a local business where the vehicles were left running and unattended.

With colder weather, it can be tempting to leave your vehicle running while you step into a store or while it's defrosting in your driveway. Unfortunately, this creates an easy opportunity for thieves who may be watching for exactly that moment.

Please remember:

- Always turn off your vehicle and lock it if you walk away — even briefly.
- Taking your key fob with you is not always enough. Depending on the make and model, a vehicle that is already running can sometimes be driven without the fob.
- In these recent incidents, it appears the suspects were watching for an opportunity and acted very quickly once vehicles were left unattended.

A few extra seconds can make the difference between keeping your vehicle and becoming a victim of theft.

Thank you for staying alert and helping us keep Bethel Park safe!



We're excited to welcome **new neighbors** to Bethel Park!

Our new resident webpage makes it easy to find **KEY INFO**, **LOCAL SERVICES**, and **HELPFUL RESOURCES**.



Scan for more info!

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S CORNER



Jahnd Burns

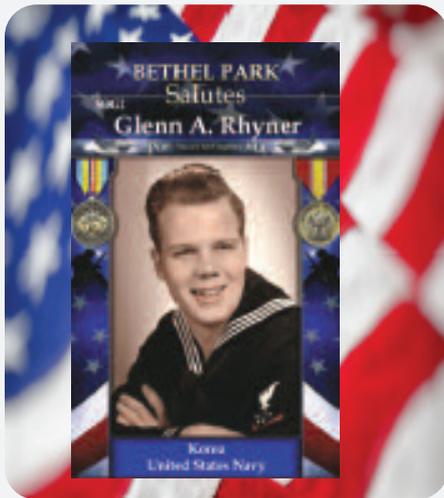
Your Military Banner May Need Replaced!

If you or a family member ordered a military banner between 2012 - 2020, it probably is in need of replacement!

To have it replaced for the 2026 display season, contact **Christie Belback** at 412-831-6800, x205 or cbelback@bethelparkpa.gov.

Please note that the deadline is March 31, 2026.

The cost of replacement is \$60.



Happy New Year!

With the new year, we have some new additions to the Bethel Park family. I would like to give a warm welcome to our newly elected Council members, **Diane Ford, Jillian Kautzman, and Alison Piccolino**. I look forward to working with each of you and the rest of Council in continuing to make Bethel Park a great place to live.

I would also like to thank our Public Works team for their hard work throughout the winter keeping our roads safe and clear. Their crew works around the clock to make sure we are able to safely navigate throughout our community every day, regardless of the weather outside.

I would also like to thank **YOU**, our Bethel Park residents, for your continued assistance with parking your cars off the street during winter snow events, so that our plows can get through every road.

New Sewage Utility Collector

Keep a look out in your mail for a bill from your new sewage utility collector, **Keystone Collections**. You will be able to pay your sewage bills online, via mail with a check or money order, or by using the drop-off box at the Municipal Building located in front of the Police Department entrance.

Keystone is actively working to transition Bethel Park residents to their electronic billing and automatic

payment platform.

Have a question? Visit KeystoneCollects.com for answers to your most frequently asked questions or to get help online.

You can also call to speak with one of their representatives at **724-978-0300**, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Keystone Collections will also be the Municipality's new real estate and local services tax collector this year, so please keep an eye out for mail correspondence from them as tax season approaches.

Spring Cleanup Day & Farmers' Market!

As we transition from winter to spring, don't forget to join your neighbors for the **Bethel Park Spring Cleanup Day on April 25th** to help keep our neighborhood beautiful. And don't forget to mark your calendars for **Tuesday, May 5th** to attend the season opening of our award-winning **Bethel Park Farmers' Market**.

At the time of this writing, I don't know what Punxsutawney Phil's prediction will be for the rest of winter, but I am hoping that winter is nearing its close.

Until then, may you and your family stay safe and warm through the rest of the season!

Spring Cleanup Day!

The Municipality, in conjunction with Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (*PennDOT*), will sponsor "Spring Cleanup Day" on Saturday, April 25.

As in the past, PennDOT will supply the trash bags, safety vests and gloves, and the Municipality will provide Zipper Pulls for the young participants. This is an opportunity for willing volunteers to help clean the parks and roadways of Bethel Park and spruce up our community for Spring.

Those interested in participating should contact **Haya Eason** for details at 412-831-6800, x204 or email heason@bethelparkpa.gov.

Join us!

Bethel Park's Spring Cleanup Day

Volunteer to help spruce up your community! A list of areas in need of clean up will be provided as well as supplies.

Saturday, April 25

Individuals, groups or community organizations that would like to participate should RSVP to: **HAYA EASON** at 412-831-6800, x204 or via email at HEASON@BETHELPARKPA.GOV.

Bethel Park Farmers' Market Named #1!



The Bethel Park Farmers Market, in its 20th year (*in 2026*), has been named the region's top farmers market in the "**ObserverReporter's Best of the Best Awards**," earning the #1 spot after two rounds of community voting and a gala announcement at the Hilton Garden Inn Southpointe in Canonsburg last month.

The award program, organized annually by the *Observer-Reporter*, celebrates the businesses, organizations, and people the local community believes deserve recognition. The top three votegetters in each category are honored at an inviteonly gala, where winners are announced live.

"This recognition reflects years of dedication from our staff and volunteers," said Recreation Director **Jason Mentel**.

"The staff have dedicated considerable effort toward earning this award over the past several years. Sarah's contribution was instrumental in elevating Bethel Park Farmers Market to achieve this recognition."

Farmers Market Coordinator **Sarah Komatsu** attended the gala and said, "I was fully shocked and thrilled. It's been such an honor to steward the Market as it enters its 20th year. I'm grateful to the community who has shown up for two decades, to our incredible vendors, and to all the Market managers before me."

The Bethel Park Farmers Market, sponsored by the Bethel Park Community Foundation and St. Clair Health, continues to grow in accessibility and community impact.

This past season featured:

- Fifty-two vendors, including nearly 20 rotating vendors for variety and six new vendors.

- Weekly attendance averaging 1,000–1,500 visitors, with peak weeks exceeding 2,000.
- Record sales reported by multiple vendors throughout the summer.
- Expanded accessibility through the Food Assistance Match (*FAM*) program, which doubled SNAP benefits up to \$100 weekly, and senior vouchers that increased purchasing power for fresh produce and farm goods.
- Onsite doctors from St. Clair Health offering blood pressure checks and health conversations, elevating the Bethel Park Farmers' Market experience.

Highlights from the 2025 season also included a new food court area, themed events such as National Bee Day and Cow Appreciation Day, musical entertainment, a special cooling tent complete with fun activities such as hula hoops and bubble machines, Market scavenger hunts for children, and partnerships with local organizations for a school supply drive. Assistance for those needing support in transporting their Market goods to their vehicles was also available.

Looking ahead, Komatsu plans to expand vendor variety - including food items for those with specialized diets (*such as gluten free*) and continue building a welcoming, familyfriendly atmosphere.

The 2026 season will open Tuesday, May 5, 2026, and run weekly through September, from 3–7 p.m. at the same location (South Park VIP parking lot off of Corrigan Dr. near the ice-skating rink).

Any new vendors interested in participating during the 2026 season can add their name to the waitlist by visiting <https://www.bethelparkpa.gov> – "Recreation" – "Farmers Market." 2025 vendor fees were \$400 for a full season, \$250 for half season, and \$150 for once a month vendors; food truck fees were \$500 for a full season and \$250 for half season.

Komatsu also credited her summer assistant, local Bethel Park High School student **Bane Stalder**, for his support with the Market and also in managing FAM and troubleshooting. "I couldn't do it without him," she said. "He's already looking forward to returning next season."

For more information, vendor applications, or volunteer opportunities, contact the Bethel Park Farmers Market at farmersmarket@bethelparkpa.gov.

"This recognition reflects years of dedication from our staff and volunteers," said Recreation Director Jason Mentel. "The staff have dedicated considerable effort toward earning this award over the past several years. Sarah's contribution was instrumental in elevating Bethel Park Farmers Market to achieve this recognition."



2026 SEASON

Opens May 5 - September

Tuesdays * 3-7 p.m.

South Park VIP Parking Lot off of
Corrigan Dr. near the ice-skating
rink

Rain or shine

www.bethelparkpa.gov/bethel-market





BETHEL PARK PUBLIC
LIBRARY
Explore • Learn • Create • Connect

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

www.bethelparklibrary.org

Hours

Monday - Thursday: 10 AM - 8 PM

Friday & Saturday: 10 AM- 5 PM

Sunday: 12 PM - 4 PM

The Library is CLOSED on Sundays

Memorial Day - Labor Day

Always Open Online

Visiting your local public library is a great way to discover new interests and connect with your community. Beyond books, your library offers programs for all ages. Storytimes for little ones, after-school activities for teens, and engaging classes, groups, and clubs for adults. Whether you're looking to learn something new, meet people with similar hobbies, or just enjoy a welcoming space, your library has something for everyone.

Sign Up for
Our
Newsletter



Visit the
Library
Calendar



BP Fantastic Four Charities

Celebrates America250



In 2026, the United States will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The Bethel Park Fantastic Four Charities have asked three prominent artists in our community to interpret the ideals of democracy in a painting. You can purchase a print of one (or all) of these paintings with proceeds benefiting the community through the BP Community Foundation, BP Education Foundation, BP Historical Society and BP Library.



Buy Now



BETHEL PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

Retirement of K9 Officer Jeez



At the December Council Meeting, **Chief Arnold** recognized **K-9 Officer Jeez** by presenting him with the Medal of Distinguished Service.

After 9 years of racing through the halls of the station, catching bad guys and numerous games of "THROW THE DARN BALL!," Officer Jeez retired at the end of the year.

He will be greatly missed by his human co-workers and by the community that he so fearlessly protected.

We wish our furry friend a very long and happy retirement with his handler, **Officer Jacobs!**



**Thank you
for your
service
Officer Jeez
& Officer
Jacobs!**



AI Scams on the Rise

62%

More AI-generated scam victims year-over-year.

70%

Of consumers say scams have become harder to detect in the past year.

25%

Increase in consumer-reported funds (\$12.5 billion) lost to fraud in 2024 from 2023.

1.13 million

Global phishing attack incidents in Q2 2025, the highest since 2023.

Over 80%

Of phishing emails now contain AI-generated text. Phishing is the #1 entry point for data breaches.

31%

Of U.S. consumers reported encountering a deepfake voice fraud call in the past year.

148%

Increase in impersonation scams in the U.S. over the past year driven in part by AI tools.

New and Sophisticated AI Scams

We are seeing it in everything from commercials and social media videos to healthcare, education and machine technology...Artificial Intelligence (AI) seems to be integrated into every part of our lives.

While this technology can be incredibly useful and beneficial to our society, it can unfortunately also be used for nefarious intentions. Anymore, it can be hard to decide what is real and what is AI.

With this advancing technology, scammers can easily impersonate your family, friends, or financial institutions by producing realistic sounding voice recordings or sending photos and videos that seem to include individuals known to you.

Scammers, whether they use AI technology or not, are always after one of two things: your hard-earned money or your personal information.

If you're ever unsure about the information someone is requesting, treat the situation the same way you would with any suspected scam: pause, verify, and protect yourself.

A **voice clone** can be unnerving because it might sound just like someone you know and trust. Red flags are if you are pressured to act immediately without having time to think about the situation, the caller is urgently requesting money, or they are requesting personal information.

Typically, scammers request money through wire transfers, gift cards, payment apps or cryptocurrency because these methods are difficult to trace. *If something doesn't seem right, ask questions!*

Even **caller IDs** can be faked so that the number shown seems legitimate.

- Ask for information that only your friend or family member would know.
- Hang up and call the person back on a number that you know to be theirs.
- Take control of the situation by pausing to evaluate the legitimacy of the caller.

"Deepfakes" are even trickier to catch. Examples are the fake videos and photos we see on social media that are so realistic that it takes a trained eye to determine if they are created with AI.

- Look for signs of unrealistic movements, shifts in skin tone or minor details such as no blinking eyes.
- Listen to hear if the person is doing something completely out of character or using strange wording.

Again, if you are skeptical of a document, an email, a photo or even a video, find a way to research or verify the claims. Legitimate businesses and organizations will not ask you to wire money or purchase gift cards to settle issues or debt.

Never be afraid to hang up and directly contact the business or individual who claims that they need money or information from you.

Christmas Toy Drive a Success...Thank You!

As usual, our amazing community came together in a big way to support our yearly Christmas Toy Drive. We collected numerous trucks full of new toys that helped benefit multiple local organizations such as the Life Builders Christmas Blessing and Presents from Police, who distributed their toys to the Children's Institute and Children's Hospital. Additionally, the Bethel Park Community Foundation and the Bethel Park/St Clair Rotary Club donated money so that we could personally shop for multiple families in Bethel Park that needed a little assistance this holiday season. Thank you to the Black Hawk Family Relief Fund for their large donation of new toys and all the local businesses who help us with the collection. **A huge THANK YOU to our wonderful community who filled all those boxes for us!**

Visit to the Southwest Veterans Center



We had the honor of visiting the Southwestern Veterans Center alongside several members of the Allegheny County Communities and Police Together group. We spent the morning

enjoying breakfast with the Veterans and then helped decorate the lobby tree with our department patches. It was a privilege to share time, stories, and holiday spirit with those who have served our country.

Congratulations to Our Christmas Card Contest Winner!

This year we tried something new and asked the Bethel Park School District class of 2034 to help us design our department Christmas cards.

The 4th grade class sent us a lot of amazing artwork, and it was a very difficult decision to pick just one winner! Ultimately, we choose **Riya Spinda** from Memorial Elementary School as our winner! Her artwork adorned the front of our cards, and she was recognized at the January Council Meeting.



Thank you to all who participated! We look forward to making this a yearly tradition!



Pictured (top photo): Presents from Police; (bottom left): Life Builders; and (bottom right): Black Hawk Family Relief Fund.

Contact / Social Media

ANONYMOUS TIPS can be called into the Hotline - 412-851-BPPD (or 2773) or emailed to crimewatch@bethelparkpapolice.gov.

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram for updates!

FACEBOOK:

Bethel Park Police Department

TWITTER:

@bethelparkpd

INSTAGRAM:

bethelparkpolice

POLICE CHIEF: David Arnold

CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER: Amber Carruba



If you would like to be added to the Crime Watch e-mail list, please visit our webpage at crimewatch@bethelparkpapolice.gov and enter your name and email on our sign-up form.

BP VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

New Officers Announced!

Every December, we have elections for our line officers, executive officers, and board of directors. Our Chief, President, Treasurer, and Financial Secretary are offsetting two year positions. These positions, as well as our board of director positions, are longer terms to help with continuity of business.

All the line officer positions have some qualification requirements such as ensuring they attended a certain percentage of calls and drills in the previous year. Members can self-nominate if eligible and all regular and life members are able to vote at the election.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our outgoing Chief, **Dave Gerber**, for his many years of dedicated service as a line officer. Thanks to your guidance and leadership over the past 14 years as Chief, our fire company is stronger and better prepared for the future. *Thank you for everything.*

The Bethel Park Volunteer Fire Company is proud to announce the Line Officers, Executive Officers, and Board of Directors for 2025:

Line Officers

Russ Beeson – Fire Chief
Rob Uselman – Deputy Chief
Tom Kelton – Assistant Chief
Jon Mark – 1st Captain
Mike Innocenti – 2nd Captain
Steve McGough – 1st Lieutenant
Adam Betzler – 2nd Lieutenant



Executive Officers

Jeff Pritchard – President
Bob Clark – Vice President
Edward Schmidt – Recording Secretary
AJ Mastascusa – Treasurer
Jeff Ferencic – Financial Secretary

Board of Directors

Dante Bongiorno
Joe Hartung
David Henney
Paul Hoppe
Mike Pauline
Mark Stabryla

Please Support Us Today - So That We Can Protect You Tomorrow

The Bethel Park Volunteer Fire Company is urging our residents and businesses to support your volunteer fire company by making a donation. Your donations to us are the main source of revenue that enables us to purchase the firefighting equipment needed for emergency responses on a 365/24/7 basis. This year we are taking delivery and putting into service a new engine to replace one of the older units in our fleet, which is now over 30 years old. The cost for this engine is over \$800,000. It would be impossible to make this purchase without the continued generous support of the residents it is intended to protect. When you call for assistance, you should expect the best possible fire equipment and the most well-trained firefighters to arrive to rescue you or fight your fire. Whether it is a paid fire company like in a large city, or a volunteer fire company like ours in Bethel Park, the costs of equipping and maintaining a firefighting organization such as ours is staggering. As you can imagine, the quality and capability of the response to your call for help is directly connected to the financial support that we receive from the Bethel Park community as a whole. You can make donations on our website at www.bethelparkvfc.com, by PayPal @[bpvfc](https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/bpvfc) or by Venmo @[BethelPark-VFC](https://www.venmo.com/BethelPark-VFC).

2025 Year-End Review

Our comprehensive year-end review will soon be on our website and social media. Check out our website at www.bethelparkvfc.com or our Facebook page for access to the document. It will include a breakdown of the calls for 2025, a background on how our department operates, and information on things to come in 2026.

Need Some Excitement in Your Life?

Become a Volunteer FireFighter for your community! As little kids, many of us dreamed of being a fireman as we watched the big red fire trucks go down the street with their lights and sirens blaring. After a while, maybe your dream changed. Well, you can still have the chance to be a firefighter but on a volunteer basis. The time commitments are minimal and we always tell our members to put their families and work first. We provide all members with free training, all necessary equipment, and access to physical fitness equipment. CCAC also offers a scholarship program for volunteer firefighters!

To join, you can get an application from our website at www.bethelparkvfc.com, stop by the Brightwood Road Fire Station any Monday evening at 7 p.m. or email us at bpvfcmembership@gmail.com.

A Message from the Fire Chief: Russ Beeson

When driving through our community, you can't go far without seeing apartment buildings and senior living apartment complexes. Many people may be new to living in these types of buildings and not realize what to do when the fire alarms go off. You can find some very important and useful information below to help you be prepared.

This month, I have also included some new information about medical oxygen. I am sure most of us probably know someone who has been on or is currently on medical oxygen. You can find some information and facts on how to best prevent fires when it is used in the home.

Clothes dryers are often a leading cause of fires in our area. We use these on a regular basis, but do you really take the time to properly maintain them to prevent fires? **Read on to learn more.**

Apartment Building Safety



People living in an apartment building need to think ahead and be prepared in the event of a fire.

It is important to know the fire safety features in your building and work together with neighbors to help keep the building as fire safe as possible. Know the locations of all available exit stairs from your floor in case the nearest one is blocked by fire or smoke.

- Make sure all exit stairwell doors are clearly marked, and not locked or blocked by security bars and are clear of clutter. These doors should always remain in the **closed** position to limit the movement of smoke if there was a fire. Remember that you won't be able to use an elevator to exit when there is a fire. If you have trouble using stairs, try to get an apartment on a lower floor if possible.
- If there is a fire, pull the fire alarm on your way out to notify the fire department and your neighbors.
- Remember to **CLOSE THE DOOR** to the area where the fire is located. This will prevent deadly smoke from filling the hallways and stairwells.
- When the fire alarm sounds, feel the door before you open it and only open a cool door. Make sure to close all doors behind you as you leave to prevent the spread of smoke and fire. If a door is hot, use another way out.
- If an announcement is made throughout the building, listen carefully, and follow directions. Use the stairs to get out – NEVER use the elevator unless you are directed to do so by the fire department.
- If you or someone is trapped in the building, be sure to notify the fire department of that. If you can't get out of your apartment because of fire, smoke or a disability, stuff wet towels or sheets around the door and vents to keep smoke out. Call 911 and tell them where you are. Open a window slightly and wave a bright cloth to signal your location. Be prepared to close the window if it makes the smoke condition worse. Fire Department evacuation of an apartment building can take a long time. Communicate with the fire department to monitor evacuation status.

Accidents do happen, so if you accidentally set the fire alarm off by something like burnt food, just call to let us know so we won't have to make a loud entrance.

**WATCH FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF
CHRONICLES COMING TO YOUR
MAILBOX EARLY MAY!**

**IF YOU'D LIKE TO ADVERTISE, CONTACT HAYA EASON AT
HEASON@BETHELPAKPA.GOV.**

Medical Oxygen

Use of portable medical oxygen in the home has grown over the past decade. Medical oxygen adds a higher percentage of oxygen to the air a patient uses to breathe. Fire needs oxygen to burn. If a fire should start in an oxygen-enriched area, the material burning will burn more quickly. Homes where medical oxygen is used need specific fire safety rules to keep people safe from fire and burns.

There is no safe way to smoke in the home when oxygen is in use. A patient on oxygen should not smoke. Candles, matches, wood stoves, and even sparking toys, can be ignition sources and should not be used in the home.

Keep oxygen cylinders at least 5 ft. from a heat source, open flames or electrical devices. Body oil, hand lotion and items containing oil and grease can easily ignite. Keep oil and grease away from areas where oxygen is in use.

Never use aerosol sprays containing combustible materials near the oxygen. Oxygen saturates fabric covered furniture, clothing, hair, and bedding, making it easier for a fire to start and spread. Smoking materials are the leading heat source resulting in medical oxygen related fires, injuries, and deaths.

Clothes Dryer Safety



Do not use the dryer without a lint filter and make sure you clean it before or after each load of laundry. Also remove any lint that has collected around the drum.

Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. At least once a year you will also need to clean the lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.

Follow the manufacturer's operating instructions and don't overload your dryer. Another good practice is to turn off the dryer if you leave home or when you go to bed.

The leading cause of home clothes dryer fire is failure to clean them. Follow these tips and clean them on a regular basis to keep yourself and your family safe!

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 **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**.

If you are on Facebook, you can always send us a message on there as well. You may also call us at **412-835-1127** and leave a message on the answering machine.



TRI-COMMUNITY SOUTH EMS

26th Annual Nora Helfrich Memorial Golf Outing - May 21



Join us on **Thursday, May 21** for our sole fundraiser of the year - our Annual Nora Helfrich Memorial Golf Outing!

The Outing runs from 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Lindenwood Golf Club (360 Galley Rd., Canonsburg).

Event proceeds will once again go towards the purchase of a Lucas Device, critical to the effectiveness of our team when responding to cardiac arrest calls.

With your help, we were able to purchase one in 2025 - *Thank you!*

Please help us raise the funds to purchase our FINAL Lucas Device for our trucks by attending this Golf Outing. *Help us help you!*

GOLF PACKAGE

\$150 Per Player: Includes Green Fees/Cart, Continental Breakfast, Refreshments, Lunch, Prizes, and Buffet Dinner.

We are looking for **Event Sponsors and Prize Donations** outlined below.

Sponsors:

- **Hole-in-One** - \$2,500 (four complimentary golfers)
- **Gold** - \$1,000 (one complimentary golfer)
- **Silver** - \$500
- **Bronze** - \$250
- **Contest Hole** - \$150

All sponsors will be listed in the program and have a Sponsor Sign posted.

Prize Donations:

- **Themed Gift Baskets** – can be any type of theme – Movie Night, Game Night, Wine & Chocolate, Ladies or Men's themes etc. The more creative the better!
- **Gift Cards or Certificates**
- **Individual items** to be put into a Basket

Sign up early! Click the QR code to register!



2025 Boots & Blankets Drive Follow-up



Bethel Park, South Park and Upper St. Clair, we could not have done it without you! Our Boots & Blankets Drive was a resounding success!

We did the drive in two halves. The first half was delivered to SHIM, and the second half was picked up by City Mission. **We doubled what we collected from the first half to the second half!**

The teamwork between the three communities was incredible and we could

not have been this successful without **ALL OF YOU**. We are grateful to be able to help those in need.

The crews here at Tri-Community South EMS thank you and wish you a wonderful 2026!

Thank You for Your Contributions!



WE COLLECTED AND DONATED:

- 321** Blankets
- 106** Pairs of Boots/Shoes
- 13** Coats
- 19** Hats
- 6** Scarves
- 24** Pairs of Socks
- 7** Pairs of Pants
- 2** Shirts

Contact Us:

Web:
Phone (non-emergency):
Facebook:
Address:
Emergency Calls:

tcsems.org
412-831-3710
'Tri-Community South EMS'
5490 Progress Blvd., Bethel Park
911

BPTV BPTV 2025 Awards Announced

BPTV saw strong volunteer participation throughout December and capped off the month with its annual Awards Banquet recognizing numerous volunteers. Highlights follow.

PROGRAM OF THE MONTH AWARDS

(all shows can be found on the BPTV YouTube Channel)

December 2024

The Talking Machine Show: AI interviews Opera Singer **Marianne Cornetti**.

BPTV Holiday Special: A holiday version of 'Passport to Pittsburgh Adventures' with some great inserts of new and old content from our annual special.

Kim Adley did a great job!

Outtakes with Rex Reel 669 & Maria's Ideas Teaches Us to Paint

January 2025

Outtakes Rex Reel 669: Fiore puts his interview skills to good work featuring **Jesse Hutchins** and **Brian Ceponis** - two local filmmakers.

Maria's Ideas Teaches Us to Paint: **Andy Amrhein** comes on as a guest to paint a snowman.

February 2025

Jack of All Trades: **Mayor Jack Allen** goes to the Carnegie Library of Carnegie to feature the most well preserved Grand Army of the Republic meeting space in the country!

March 2025

Jack of All Trades: **Mayor Jack Allen** spotlights local Special Olympic athlete **Molly Mathias**.

April 2025

Coffee & Chaos: **Fiore Mastracci** visits a dinosaur museum right in our own area.

NNER: Author Spotlight

May 2025

Author Spotlight: **Audra Azoury-Sommer** - A great show featuring a local author and artist and a lot of facts about local weeds.

June 2025

The Talking Machine Show Special: **Al Levine** goes out to Washington, PA to interview the cast of the Wizard of Oz performance that took place in Washington Park between June 24-29.

July 2025

Pittsburgh Sportsline: 1000th Episode!

August 2025

Maria's Ideas Teaches Us to Paint: The National Aviary comes back on the show and offers some great educational insight in-between some great art instruction.

Empowering You: Find out how **Denise Galloni's** guest balances multiple job responsibilities and seven kids!

September 2025

Check it Out: A very informative episode about everything going on at the library in September.

October 2025

BPBS Fall Play Featurette: Preview show for the play, Clue.



November 2025

Author Spotlight: **Elaine Volpe** goes on location to Beaver Falls to conduct a great interview with local Author **Val Brkich**. Program, Series, Producer – **Al Levine**.

VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Hawk TV Collaboration: **Parker Davenport, Kassie Elkens, Jacob Pito-niak, Daisha Perri, & Ryder Barger**

Co-Op Students: **Eli McCullough, Ryan Grove & John Steffes**

Volunteer Excellence: **Brad Floom, Erin Ward, Scarlett Stockhausen, Corey Hajduk, Ethan Kinsella, Steven Fisher, Anthony Veltri, Mikaela Narr, Chris Satter, Chance Nannini, & Marco Rodi**

Dedicated Volunteer Service: **Linda Krall & Vinnie Jackson**

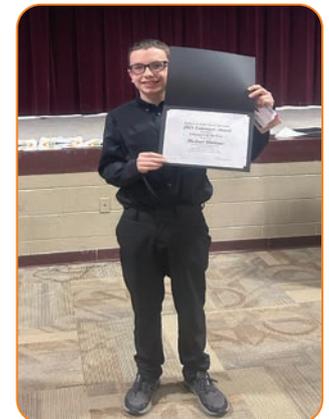
Volunteer of the Year: **Michael Mariano**

You Can Be Part of BPTV Too!

If you're looking for a quality activity during the upcoming spring season, stop by BPTV and make your own content or volunteer to help with our existing line-up of shows.

We offer flexible hours and plenty of opportunities to get creative.

If you or your students are interested, contact BPTV at **412-831-3304** or via email at **dcable@bethelparkpa.gov**.



Michael Mariano receiving his "Volunteer of the Year" award. Congratulations!

LOCAL BUSINESS

Support 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.

Municipal Small Business Initiatives

To provide support, the Municipality established numerous initiatives geared towards raising awareness of all that the Bethel Park business community has to offer.

- 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.
- **Job Fairs FREE** to employers and job seekers in conjunction with the Bethel Park Chamber. Visit www.bethelparkpa.gov/jobfair for more information!
- **Special events** geared towards supporting local businesses.



Are You a Local Business Owner?

We **are restarting** our local business profiles for our business blog! We'll be contacting those who've shown interest in being profiled. If you'd like to be considered for a feature too, or be listed on the Municipality's 'Dine Shop Support' webpage, please email: kweightman@bethelparkpa.gov.

Chamber News



Business Expert Panel Discussion



Our Chamber of Commerce was proud to participate in an informative Expert Panel Discussion hosted at Huntington Bank, organized by **Dana Regec** and her team in January.

The panel brought together professionals from

multiple business disciplines to share insights, answer questions, and provide practical guidance for today's business owners and professionals. We extend our sincere thanks to Huntington Bank for hosting and to Dana and her team for coordinating such a well-executed event.

Chamber President **Charles Dinovitz** was honored to serve as one of the panelists, contributing a digital marketing perspective alongside fellow experts from the financial and professional services community.

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the discussion engaging and impactful.

Events like this underscore the value of collaboration and shared expertise within our business community.

UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS

Chamber Chatter: Second Thursday of every month from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. at Dunkin' Donuts on South Park Rd. Open to any business looking to expand their network. **Free** coffee and donuts; *join us!*

On the Horizon:

- **Monthly Evening Networking Sessions** coming soon! These sessions will accommodate those who can't make the Chamber Chatter morning events.
- **New Member Welcome Event**
- **Spring Craft Fair:** Saturday, May 9 at the South Park Township Community Room

We're also looking for individuals to serve on **Chamber Committees** to help plan the Night at the Races, the annual Golf Outing and other larger events.

Chamber members also receive a printing discount from Save Here Today Printing!

Questions can be directed to admin@bpchamber.org.

Outreach Teen & Family Services: Bethel Park Client Notification



Notification for current clients of Outreach Teen & Family Services at the Bethel Park satellite office!

Please note that counseling sessions will now be held in the **Classroom at the Bethel Park Community Center** (5151 Park Avenue, Bethel Park, PA 15102). The room is accessible from either set of doors, but is closer to the front entrance. Upon arrival, you do not need to check-in at the front desk. Head straight to the Classroom at your scheduled time and your counselor will be there to welcome you!

Existing office hours of Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:45-7:15 p.m. will remain the same. Interested in learning more about Outreach's counseling services? Please visit <https://outreachteen.org> for more information.

Supporting Mental Health

By Maggie Zangara, LPC

The fresh start offered by a new year may have you thinking about recommitting to your goals and priorities. If one of your goals has been to connect with a mental health counselor, but you've been putting it off because you don't know where to start, let us help make the process feel a little less intimidating.

As part of the local community for more than 50 years, Outreach Teen & Family Services provides counseling and educational programs to support the mental health needs of youth, young adults, families, schools and more across the South Hills of Pittsburgh. With mental health concerns continuing to rise, we remain committed to providing affordable, accessible counseling to anyone in our communities who needs extra support.

Outreach welcomes children and young adults (*ages 5-21*) who are seeking help for the many challenges that come with growing up – school stress, anxiety, depression, peer conflicts, self-esteem, social media use, time management, and more. These common developmental hurdles can be further complicated by each individual's unique circumstances, such as family turmoil, divorce, substance use, violence, economic stress, and more. (*NOTE: As a low-level outpatient care center, Outreach does not provide crisis intervention services. Staff will provide appropriate referrals to ensure the safety of individuals who present with active suicidal ideation or thoughts of self-harm.*)

With a focus on empowerment, prevention, education & early intervention, our agency serves as a first line of care to help youth reestablish confidence in managing their mental health. Our professional team of master's degree level counselors creates a safe, nonjudgmental space where kids and teens can receive support and begin to feel more motivated and joyful in their daily lives.

In addition to our counseling services for youth, we also provide support to parents, guardians and other caretakers so they have the tools and education to succeed as they navigate the many ages and stages of their children. Common issues parents come to us about include house rules & household structure, communication struggles, and learning how best to support a child who is experiencing a mental health problem or addiction. Options for parents include a one-time, free consultation or formal counseling services to talk more in-depth about an issue they're facing.

If Outreach's services sound like something your family could benefit from, we encourage you to reach out. **We are here to help you navigate the process.** To get started, complete our online intake inquiry form on our website under the "Contact" tab (www.outreachteen.org) or leave a message on our intake line (**412-561-5405**).

Before connecting with services, you should identify your family's specific goal(s) for treatment; this will help our intake coordinators determine the best service match. If you are a parent calling on behalf of your child, have a preliminary conversation with them so needs can be identified from their perspective. Families planning to use insurance should also verify provider acceptance under their plan. Outreach maintains a commitment to community support, ensuring payment is never a barrier to care, but proactive insurance verification is helpful for those prioritizing coverage.

Our agency's approach reflects understanding that mental health support should be approachable, comprehensive and tailored to each family's individual needs. Through accessible services, comprehensive intake processes and community-focused care, Outreach is dedicated to fulfilling our mission of supporting mental wellness for all children, teens and families in our local communities.

For more information, please visit <https://outreachteen.org> and follow us on Facebook ([@Outreach Teen & Family Services](https://www.facebook.com/OutreachTeen&FamilyServices)) & Instagram ([@outreachteen](https://www.instagram.com/outreachteen)). Outreach does not offer crisis services or response and does not have evening and weekend on-call coverage. In an emergency, please go to your local emergency room or call RESOLVE at **1-888-796-8226**.

Municipal Social Media Contact Information



www.bethelparkpa.gov

Facebook: Municipality of Bethel Park

X (formerly Twitter): @Bethelpark_PA

Instagram: @BethelParkPA

TikTok: bethelparkpa



VISIT OUR INFORMATIVE
WEBSITE!

- Better Navigation
- Ease of Finding Information
- New Resident Page
- More Responsive

LOG ON TODAY!

WWW.BETHELPAKPA.GOV

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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 initiatives and community programs in the following five 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 via mail at **PO Box 811, Bethel Park, PA 15102.**

Did you know that the Bethel Park Community Foundation is a tax-deductible non-profit organization? What better way to support the Bethel Park Police, Bethel Park Volunteer Fire Company, Tri-Community South EMS, and a wide range of other community-focused activities than through one 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!

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. **Your tax-deductible contributions at work in our community!**



Dean Streator Holiday Concert



The Bethel Park Community Foundation (BPCF) hosted its free Dean Streator Holiday Concert Series on Sunday, Dec. 7 at the Bethel Park Community Center.

Over 300 people were in attendance to see Community Band South, the Bethel Park High School Top 21, and the Handell Ringers of Southminster Presbyterian. The BPCF and Bethel Bakery provided cookies for all attendees.

Thanks to all those who attended!

There's Still Time to Get Your Ornament!

Even though the holidays are behind us, you can still purchase a commemorative Christmas ornament to remember the closing Bethel Park schools! All proceeds benefit Fantastic Four charities.

Please see the graphic below for details:

School Memories Christmas Ornament

Hold your school memories close this Christmas and always.

**SPREAD SOME HOLIDAY CHEER!
PICK UP YOUR METAL ORNAMENT (4"X2.75")
AT EVERY HARDWARE.
PAY WITH CASH OR CHECK IN PERSON,
OR USE CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS ONLINE.**

\$25 per ornament

Proceeds benefit the
BP Fantastic Four Charities &
the new Bethel Park
Elementary School PTO

	Abraham Lincoln Elementary School 1965-2026
	Benjamin Franklin Elementary School 1955-2026
	Bethel Memorial Elementary School 1949-2026
	George Washington Elementary School 1966-2026
	Neil Armstrong Middle School 1971-2026
	William Penn Elementary School 1962-2026

FACEBOOK

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

YOU CAN DONATE VIA THE UNITED WAY



YOU MAY DESIGNATE THE BPCF AS THE RECIPIENT OF YOUR UNITED WAY DONATION. ENTER YOUR CONTRIBUTOR'S CHOICE AGENCY CODE AS: **#892191.**

EDUCATION FOUNDATION



The Bethel Park Education Foundation 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. 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.



The Bethel Park Education Foundation Seeks to:

- Create initiatives that support imaginative and creative opportunities for excellence and innovation in a Bethel Park education.
- Collaborate with educational, cultural, public, and private entities to enhance and enrich the educational experience of Bethel Park students.
- Develop supportive relationships between the Bethel Park School District, community and alumni to raise funds for the purposes set forth above.
- Encourage academic excellence in the Bethel Park School District by providing funding not available through traditional local, state or federal resources.
- Provide a perpetual source of funds through endowment gifts received from all parties interested in supporting excellence in a Bethel Park education.

INNOVATION

Innovation implies transformation from the status quo.

TEACHER GRANTS

These grants seek exploration of new teaching methods or to create experiences that stimulate student learning.

SCHOOL

IMPROVEMENT

School improvement means making schools better places for learning.

STUDENT GRANTS

Student grants support excellence in education and envision the student as a lifelong learner intellectually, physically and artistically.

BOARD

*President Pam Dobos
Vice President Dave Brown
Secretary Patti Campbell
Treasurer Pam Tiano
Andy Amrhein
Lindsay Crowley
Deb Luckasevic
Kim Walsh Turner
Dr. James Walsh
Michael Walsh
Cortney Williams
John Lorenzi*

**301 Church Rd.
Bethel Park, PA 15102
412-760-9614**

**www.bpsd.org
bpfoundation@gmail.com**

MISSION

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

DONATE VIA UNITED WAY



You can designate the Bethel Park Education Foundation as the recipient of your United Way donation! Enter your Contributor's Choice Agency Code as **#12998472**.

MUNICIPAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Quick Reference Guide

Bethel Park Municipality has full-time staff members who attend Council meetings to assist in the meeting conduct and answer Council questions. Those usually in attendance are listed below (*All numbers with extensions are 412-831-6800; specific extensions & other numbers are listed below*):

ADMINISTRATION:

5100 W. Library Ave.
Bethel Park, PA 15102

Kristen Denne, Municipal Manager x137
Jahd Burns, Assistant Manager x201
Lisa Lapaglia, Finance Director x210
Susan Dolinar, Public Works Director x301
David Rudolph, Code Enforcement Officer x240
Jason Mentel, Recreation Director 412-851-2910

Visit us online at www.bethelparkpa.gov.

OTHER IMPORTANT MUNICIPAL NUMBERS:

Emergency (Fire, Police, EMS) 412-833-2000
 Main Municipality Office Number 412-831-6800
 Receptionist 412-831-6800 x0
 Bethel Park Community Center 412-851-2910
 Bethel Park Public Library 412-835-2207
 EMS (non-emergency) 412-831-3710
 Fire Department (non-emergency):
 Brightwood Station 412-835-1127
 Fire Prevention Unit 412-835-3473
 Recreation 412-831-1328
 BPTV 412-831-3304
 Jordan Tax Service 412-835-5243

BETHEL PARK MAYOR & MUNICIPAL COUNCIL



Jack Allen
Mayor



Joe Janosik
President



Kim Kamenicky
Vice President



Diane Ford



John Oakes



Todd Cenci



Jim Jenkins



Jillian Kautzman



Viola Garis



Alison Piccolino

Jack T. Allen
Mayor
412-848-0906

Joe Janosik
President
Ward 5
412-328-6563

Kim Kamenicky
Vice President
Ward 2
412-523-9967

Diane Ford
Ward 1
412-523-8019

John Oakes
Ward 3
412-595-7750

Todd Cenci
Ward 4
412-357-0045

Jim Jenkins
Ward 6
412-389-9838

Jillian Kautzman
Ward 7
412-657-4963

Viola Garis
Ward 8
267-670-1768

Alison Piccolino
Ward 9
412-398-1256



Meet Bethel Park's Newest Team Members!



L Stravach (pictured left) and **Erin Mordaunt** (right) joined the Municipality in November 2025. Stravach is the new Social Media Coordinator and Mordaunt is the new Recreation Programs Coordinator.

"I'm looking to elevate our social media presence and make our information more interesting for people to digest," said Stravach, a 2024 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Film Production with a Certificate of Broadcasting and Television.

"Coming from an athletics background and coaching role, I was looking to transition to the programming side of things and have an impact on the community as a whole," said Mordaunt who holds an undergraduate degree in Management Information Systems & Data Analytics (2022) and a Master's in Sports Management (2023) from the University of Connecticut.

If you see these two, please welcome them to Bethel Park!

WATCH COUNCIL MEETINGS LIVE ON YOUTUBE & FACEBOOK!



SPRING 2026 PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

BETHEL PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

5151 Park Avenue, Bethel Park, PA 15102
Phone: 412-851-2910

Register online at: www.bethelparkpa.gov

Contact us: recreation@bethelparkpa.gov

Recreation Office hours:

Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Phone: 412-831-1328

WHAT YOU WILL FIND INSIDE:

REGISTRATION INFORMATION.....	Page 22
Mail Registration Deadline, Special Notice, When Programs Begin, When Fees are Due, Insurance Information, Returned Checks, Residency Information, Refunds, Cancellation of Class, Use of Photos, Class Attendance, Conduct	
RECREATION BOARD.....	22
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**PLEASE SAVE THIS INFORMATION.
PROGRAMS WILL CONTINUE THROUGH
APRIL 2026.**

PLEASE NOTE:

**The Community Center
Walking Track and
Basketball Courts will
be closed April 2 - 12
for floor refinishing.**

New Year, New You!

If you're looking to improve your fitness, relieve stress, or make new friends, consider purchasing a Community Center Membership this year! Memberships are open to both residents and non-residents. Full details are outlined in the graphic below.

Bethel Park Community Center Memberships

Membership Fees and Renewals

A membership card is required to use the Community Center Gymnasium and Walking Track.

Both residents and non-residents can purchase 12-month memberships at the Center during normal business hours.

New members will receive both a wallet sized card as well as a key tag card.

Children under 13 must be under direct supervision of an adult at all times.

Membership Renewal: All memberships expire 12 months after they were issued. Please remember to renew your membership by stopping at the front desk to update your information and pay the renewal fee!

Annual Membership/Renewal	Resident/Non-Resident
Youth (13-17 years old)	\$5/\$125
Adult (18-59 years old)	\$10/\$150
Family	\$25/\$250
Senior Adult (60+)	\$5/\$80

5151 Park Ave
Bethel Park, PA
15102

412-851-2910

bethelparkpa.gov

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

HOW TO REGISTER

Registrations will now primarily be online only. Please go to bethelpark.recdesk.com for more information on all our programs, activities and to register.

Register at least one week before the start of the activity unless otherwise stated.

It is important to pre-register for any activity found in this publication because an activity may be canceled when there is insufficient registration. **Never plan to attend the first class without pre-registering.**

Individual telephone calls will not be made confirming registration. The only time you will be notified is if there is a change or cancellation

SPECIAL NOTICE

Bethel Park Recreation 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 canceled 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.

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" (*non-sufficient funds*) will be subject to a **\$35 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 publication. Classes with 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 requests** received in the Recreation Office prior to the beginning of the second class or practice session for a grouped session. For a one-time class or session, a 24-hour **written request** will be required. Phone requests will not be accepted, nor does failure to attend a class constitute notification of intent to withdraw from a class.

A credit can also be applied to any non-contractual Recreation program(s) instead of a refund if the individual so desires; please specify in your written request. Exceptions for refunds or credits include special ticket sales and non-refundable programs/activities. All refunds are subject to a **service fee of \$5**.

All requests need to be in writing or sent to: recreation@bethelparkpa.gov.

NON-ATTENDANCE/NON-PARTICIPATION:

Non-attendance or non-participation in summer camp does not entitle the patron to a refund or credit.

MEMBERSHIPS

Bethel Park Community Center Memberships and Bethel Park Splash Park Memberships are not eligible for any refund or transfers.

CANCELLATION OF CLASS

Participants should check with the Recreation Office for updated program information. **Individual phone calls will not be made to verify registrations. Emails, text messages and/or phone calls will be made ONLY for classes that have been canceled.**

USE OF PHOTOS

Bethel Park Recreation provides opportunities for positive publicity by photographing/videotaping patrons at programs for use in local publications, newspapers, and/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, skill testing only takes place in swimming and basketball programs. All advanced classes in any area are based upon the 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

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 canceled**

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 your registration.

BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Bill Bonaccorsi
Christina Murtaugh
Kristen Normile
Mary Lynn Mack
Russ Spicuzza
Tarian Boscia
Jennifer Mills



Monthly Meetings

The Board meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Community Center unless otherwise advertised. Please contact the Recreation Office for specific meeting dates.

Department Administration

Jason Mentel, Recreation Director
Lindsey Sibert, Assistant Recreation Director
Erin Mordaunt, Programs Coordinator
Sarah Komatsu, Events Coordinator
Amber Armstrong, Administrative Secretary

Kristen Denne, Municipal Manager
Dr. James Walsh, School Superintendent
Kim Walsh-Turner, School District Liaison
Alison Piccolino, Council Liaison
Diane Ford, Council Liaison
Jillian Kautzman, Council Liaison

**WATCH FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF
CHRONICLES COMING TO YOUR
MAILBOX EARLY MAY!**

**IF YOU'D LIKE TO ADVERTISE,
CONTACT HAYA EASON AT
HEASON@BETHELPAKPA.GOV.**

YOUTH PROGRAMS

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS



KIDS IN THE KITCHEN

Children will have great fun learning new baking techniques from **Jessica Gombar** of The Pie Place! Supplies, ingredients, and recipes are all included. Participants will learn hands-on and will have the opportunity to make cakes, cookies, and pies, as well as some tasty and savory items. Please be sure to indicate any special needs or food allergies upon registration. Children may bring an apron, if desired.

Ages: 6 - 10
Resident Fee: \$175.00 Non-Res Fee: \$185.00
 6 session dates

3835.102
 Dates: 2/25/2026 – 4/1/2026 Wed
 Time: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

3825.112
 Dates: 4/15/2026 - 5/20/2026 Wed
 Time: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

SUPERSTAR THEATER FOR YOUNG ACTORS/ACTRESSES

Calling all young stars—whether you're brand new to the stage or already have some spotlight experience! In Superstar Theater, students will dive into the exciting world of acting through imaginative improv games that spark creativity and build confidence. They'll explore character development, practice voice projection and enunciation, and learn essential theater terms and stage directions in a fun, supportive environment. As the class progresses, students will put their skills into action by rehearsing short skits and a final play, which they'll proudly perform for family and friends on the last day of class. Get ready to shine on stage!

Instructor: **Adam Winter**
 Ages: 7 - 12
Resident Fee: \$60.00 Non-Res Fee: \$65.00
 6 session dates

3835.101
 Dates: 2/26/2026 – 4/2/2026 Thu
 Time: 6:30PM - 7:30PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

THE KNIGHT SCHOOL PITTSBURGH (CHESS)

The Knight School Chess Team is your school's official chess team and chess party. The Knight School's approach has had amazing success because our unique and unprecedented educational philosophy, 'the chess party,' is the perfect way to transform a complete beginner into an enthusiastic and engaged chess player! In this kid-centered classroom environment, we teach our kids every cool trick, strategy, and tactic in chessdom and our kids soon learn to love and master chess, their classroom, sports, and their home lives as well! Upon enrollment, new students receive a TKS T-Shirt, chess set, chess bag, and all the colorful TactixBands they can earn!

Ages: 5 - 11
Resident Fee: \$141.00 Non-Res Fee: \$151.00
 6 session dates

3835.100
 Dates: 2/24/2026 – 3/31/2026 Tue
 Time: 6:00PM - 7:15PM

3835.110
 Dates: 4/14/2026 - 5/19/2026 Tue
 Time: 6:00PM - 7:15PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

ARTS & CRAFTS

CANVAS CRAZINESS

Super fun art creations of the season including animals of all kinds! All supplies included except your awesome imagination! Acrylic painting on canvas with new themes each class! All supplies included and dress to get messy!

Instructor: **Ren Hartman**
 Ages: 5 - 15
Resident Fee: \$89.00 Non-Res Fee: \$94.00
 4 session dates

3805.100
 Dates: 3/11/2026 – 4/30/2026 Thu
 Time: 6:00PM – 7:00PM

3805.110
 Dates: 5/7/2026 - 6/18/2026 Thu
 Time: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center
No Class: March 19, April 2, 9, 23, May 14, 28, June 11



CARTOONING WORKSHOP



Silly and fun drawings along with your awesome imagination! We will even tell jokes and share our funny characters in class! All supplies included! Fun cartoons of the season including funny animals and silly characters!

Instructor: **Ren Hartman**
 Ages: 5 - 15
Resident Fee: \$89.00 Non-Res Fee: \$94.00
 4 session dates

3805.101
 Dates: 3/12/2026 – 4/30/2026 Thu
 Time: 7:15PM – 8:15PM

3805.111
 Dates: 5/7/2026 - 6/18/2026 Thu
 Time: 7:15PM - 8:15PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center
No Class: March 19, April 2, 9, 23, May 14, 28, June 11

DANCE

SOUTH HILL STARS - SPECIAL NEEDS COLOR GUARD

It is open for anyone to join no matter what abilities you may have. Learn to spin flags, use swing flags, twirl ribbons, dance with pom-poms and hoops, and show off your talents when we perform as a group.

Ages: 10 and over
Resident Fee: \$47.00 Non-Res Fee: \$52.00
 11 session dates

3810.406
 Dates: 2/23/2026 – 5/18/2026 Mon
 Time: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center
No Class: March 16, April 6

GO TO BETHELPAK.RECDESK.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER.

FIT & FUN

CHILDREN'S BEGINNER KARATE -
TANG SOO DO

Students will learn Tang Soo Do, the traditional Korean martial art from instructors with CS Kim Karate. Instructors will teach students the basics of martial arts while also incorporating important life skills. Balance, flexibility and overall improved physical fitness will be cornerstones as well as building confidence, concentration, discipline and respect.

*Uniform fee of \$35 due to instructor at first class

Instructor: Master Leccia /C.S. Kim Karate Instructor

Ages: 6 - 13

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

3820.100

Dates: 2/28/2026 - 4/4/2026 Sat
Time: 10:30AM - 11:30AM

3820.110

Dates: 4/18/2026 - 5/23/2026 Sat
Time: 10:30AM - 11:30AM

Location: C.S. Kim Karate
4705 Library Rd Ste 2
Bethel Park, PA 15102



***SATURDAY CLASSES ARE HIGHLIGHTED**

GO TO BETHELPAK.RECDESK.COM FOR
MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER.

SPORTS

BEGINNER / INTERMEDIATE FOIL
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. Students will be required to wear comfortable pants and non-marking athletic shoes. Shorts or jeans are not permitted.

Ages: 10 and over

Resident Fee: \$61.00 Non-Res Fee: \$66.00
6 session dates

3815.100

Dates: 2/19/2026 - 3/26/2026 Thu
Time: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

3815.110

Dates: 4/16/2026 - 5/21/2026 Thu
Time: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

ADVANCED FOIL 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 - students will be required to wear comfortable pants and non-marking athletic shoes. Shorts or jeans are not permitted.

Ages: 10 and over

Resident Fee: \$84.00 Non-Res Fee: \$89.00
6 session dates

3815.101

Dates: 2/19/2026 - 3/26/2026 Thu
Time: 7:00PM - 9:00PM

3815.111

Dates: 4/16/2026 - 5/21/2026 Thu
Time: 7:00PM - 9:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

WANT TO LEND
A HAND?

We'll help you get started.



Become a Bethel Park Rec Volunteer.

EMAIL RECREATION@BETHELPAKPA.GOV



BEGINNER FOIL FENCING – AGES 7, 8, 9 – LEVEL 1

Learn the fun and challenging Olympic sport of foil fencing in an aged appropriate setting. **Note:** This class format is specifically designed for youth aged 7, 8, or 9. The introductory and intermediate level instruction establishes & builds upon fundamental skills while incorporating exercise needed for successful fencing while both learning and having fun.

Sessions will include conditioning, instruction, and practice bouts. **Note:** All essential equipment will be provided by the instructors. Students will be required to wear comfortable pants, non-marking athletic shoes, and bring an appropriately sized full fingered glove which will protect the hand and wrist (*a gardening glove or batting glove often work well*).

Please note: shorts or jeans are not permitted. Coaches also will have a fencing glove for sale if students wish to purchase one for \$20 (*full fingered glove with Velcro cuff, suitable for competition. Subject to availability*).

Ages: 7, 8, 9

Resident Fee: \$61.00 Non-Res Fee: \$66.00
6 session dates

3815.106
Dates: 2/24/2026 – 3/31/2026 Tue
Time: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

3815.116
Dates: 4/14/2026 -5/19/2026 Tue
Time: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

BEGINNER FOIL FENCING AGES 7, 8, 9 – LEVEL 2

This class is designed as a progression for young fencers (*aged 7, 8, or 9 years of age*), who have taken the "Beginner Foil Fencing (*Level 1*)" class at least twice or otherwise can demonstrate to the instructor their ability to progress to this class. The class format will be smaller in nature to allow more age-appropriate instruction of additional concepts presented in Step 1.

Sessions will include conditioning, instruction, and practice bouts. More time will be devoted to fencing specific drills and bouting. Young fencers will still have the opportunity for some fun time during practice.

Note: Students will be required to wear comfortable pants, non-marking athletic shoes, and bring an appropriately sized full fingered glove which will protect the hand and wrist (*a gardening glove or batting glove often work well. Students are to wear athletic clothing that covers the whole leg (sweat pants or gym pants)*). Shorts are not permitted.

All essential equipment will be provided by the instructors, but fencers who wish to continue to develop are encouraged to begin to purchase their own personal equipment. Coaches can assist with this process for those who are interested.

Ages: 7, 8, 9

Resident Fee: \$61.00 Non-Res Fee: \$66.00
6 session dates

3815.107
Dates: 2/24/2026 – 3/31/2026 Tue
Time: 7:15PM - 8:15PM

3815.117
Dates: 4/14/2026 - 5/19/2026 Tue
Time: 7:15PM - 8:15PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

YOUTH CO-ED VOLLEYBALL

Come learn the fundamentals of volleyball! Girls and boys in grades 4-6 will learn the basic skills including passing, setting, serving, hitting, and rotation as well as the gross motor skills associated with the sport, such as jumping, footwork, and hand-eye coordination. The skills will be introduced through a variety of games and drills. No prior experience needed.

Emily Sarneso is a former college volleyball player and club volleyball coach.

Ages: 9 - 12

Resident Fee: \$89.00 Non-Res Fee: \$94.00
6 session dates

3815.102
Dates: 2/25/2026 – 4/1/2026 Wed
Time: 5:30PM – 6:45PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

GIRLS YOUTH VOLLEYBALL



This program is designed for girls in grades 7-9 looking to improve their volleyball game through skill development, team concepts, and games.

We will work to improve each athlete's ability to serve, pass, set, and attack in this six-week course. All beginner and intermediate level athletes are welcome.

Ages: 12 - 15

Resident Fee: \$89.00 Non-Res Fee: \$94.00
6 session dates

3815.103
Dates: 2/25/2026 – 4/01/2026 Wed
Time: 6:45PM – 8:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

BEGINNER GYMNASTICS



The beginner gymnast will learn basic stretching, balance, and tumbling skills in a fun and safe environment. Small-scale apparatus will be used to introduce the beam, bars, and vault. Participants should wear any comfortable athletic clothing, no socks or loose shirts.

Coach **Christina Mozes** has experience teaching beginning through competitive-level gymnastics and enjoys helping each child reach their potential.

Resident Fee: \$54.00 Non-Res Fee: \$59.00
6 session dates

Ages: 5 - 9

3815.104
Dates: 2/24/2026 – 3/31/2026 Tue
Time: 5:00PM – 5:45PM

Ages: 3 - 5

3815.105
Dates: 2/19/2026 – 3/26/2026 Thu
Time: 11:15AM – 12:00PM

Ages: 5 - 9

3815.114
Dates: 4/14/2026 - 5/19/2026 Tue
Time: 5:00PM - 5:45PM

Ages: 3 - 5

3815.115
Dates: 4/16/2026 - 5/21/2026 Thu
Time: 11:15AM - 12:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center



GO TO BETHELPAK.RECDESK.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER.

MIGHTY KICKS SOCCER CLASSIC

Mighty Kicks Classic is designed for children ages 3 – 6 to learn how to play and enjoy the great sport of soccer! Games and activities are age-appropriate and focus on players getting as many touches on the ball and as much movement as possible. Each child will have their own ball for most activities – no laps, no lines, no lectures! Perfect for beginners or intermediate. Coaching – All of your classes will be led by Coach Sam

Ages: 3 - 6

Resident Fee: \$69.00

Non-Res Fee: \$74.00

6 session dates

3815.108

Dates: 2/20/2026 - 3/27/2026

Fri

Time: 10:00AM - 10:30AM

3815.113

Dates: 4/17/2026 - 5/22/2026

Fri

Time: 10:00AM - 10:30AM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

MIGHTY KICKS SOCCER MOMMY AND ME

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.

Ages: 2 - 3

Resident Fee: \$69.00

Non-Res Fee: \$74.00

6 session dates

3815.112

Dates: 4/18/2026 - 5/23/2026

Sat

Time: 10:00AM - 10:45AM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

MIGHTY KICKS SOCCER OUTSIDE

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.

Resident Fee: \$79.00

Non-Res Fee: \$84.00

6 session dates

Age: 3 - 4

3815.118

Dates: 4/12/2026 - 5/17/2026

Sun

Time: 12:00PM - 12:45PM

Age: 5 - 8

3815.119

Dates: 4/12/2026 - 5/17/2026

Sun

Time: 1:00PM - 2:00PM

Location: Moury Park Turf Field

***SATURDAY CLASSES ARE HIGHLIGHTED**

GO TO BETHELPAK.RECDESK.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER.



MIGHTY KICKS SOCCER CAMP * CAMP HIGHLIGHTS:

Learn how to play Total Soccer - fast, smart, technical, and brilliant!

Enjoy daily games and contests led by **Coach Sam** himself; compete in the World Cup and Champions League tournaments against your peers; and learn and develop multiple new dribbling, ball handling, and passing moves and techniques.

Camp Features:

- Camp is open to boys and girls **ages 6 - 12**. Players will be grouped by age and ability level.
- Focus on learning and developing correct technique, with new skills and moves taught, demonstrated and practiced daily.
- A variety of small-sided games, in-camp leagues, competitions, and contests allow players to utilize their skills and practice their new moves in a competitive, yet supportive, environment.
- "Word of the Day" -- A Coach Sam original, each day players will learn, discuss, and utilize a specific character attribute helpful in player and personal development.
- Futsal, Soccer Tennis, and Quickness/Agility training are part of the daily curriculum.
- Camper to staff ratio is approximately 8 to 1.
- Campers provide their own lunch, sunscreen, water bottle, shin guards, and soccer ball.



Ages: 6 - 12

Resident Fee: \$155.00

Non-Res Fee: \$165.00

1/2 Day Resident Fee: \$105.00 Non-Res Fee: 115.00

5 session dates

3815.200

Dates: 6/8/2026 - 6/12/2026

Time: 9:00AM - 3:30PM

9:00AM - 12:00PM

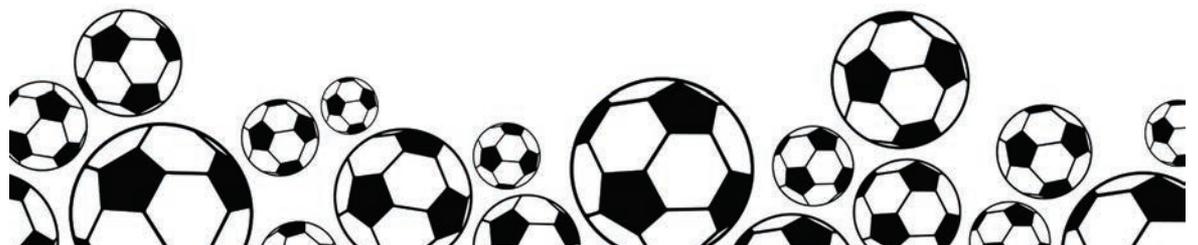
Mon - Fri

Mon - Thu

Fri

Location:

Park Avenue Field



THANK YOU

The Award-Winning Bethel Park High School Music Department 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 to Pigeon Forge, TN in the Spring of 2026!

Dates of our upcoming hoagie sales:

Feb. 7
March 28

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

Attention Business Owners / Managers

FIELD BANNER SPONSOR OPPORTUNITY

We have an exciting opportunity for your business or agency to sponsor a banner that will be displayed at PARK AVENUE FIELD, SIMMONS PARK, MOURY PARK, and/or MILLENNIUM PARK.

Your 4' X 6' banner will be displayed during the spring, summer and fall sports seasons.

Please contact the Bethel Park Recreation Office at recreation@bethelparkpa.gov for more information.

BETHEL PARK SUMMER CAMP

JUNE 15- AUG 14

9am- 4pm

WEEKLY THEMES, SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES, CRAFTS, FIELD TRIPS, AND DAILY FUN!

*** REGISTRATION OPENS 2.2.2026**

WWW.BETHELPAK.RECDESK.COM

***PLEASE NOTE: FEB. 2, 2026 REGISTRATION OPENING DATE IS FOR RESIDENTS ONLY; NON-RESIDENT OPENING DATE IS FEB. 9, 2026.**

YOUTH SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS

Bethel Park Junior Cheerleaders

Join us for the 2026 Cheer Season!

March 1-31: Returning cheer family registration (must have had at least one registered cheerleader in the previous season).

April 1-26: New cheerleader registration.

All registrations processed online at

<https://sports.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=769583>

Space is limited! Registrations are accepted in order of receipt.

Any balances remaining unpaid after April 30 will result in the registration being canceled.

Email bpjrcheerleading@gmail.com for any questions or concerns.



Bethel Park Travel Basketball

www.bpbasketball.com

Bethel Park Baseball

www.bethelparkbaseball.org

Spring Rec registration will open Dec. 1 and close Feb. 15.

Bethel Park Junior Football

<https://sports.bluesombrero.com/bpjf>

Registration dates will be March 1 - June 1.



Bethel Park Soccer Association

www.bpsoccer.org

Bethel Park Slow Pitch Association

<https://www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=bpspa>

Registration is open June 1-July 23.

Bethel Park Rec Swim Team

BPR Swim Team

"Success is Tradition"

Since 1963, the Bethel Park Rec Swim Team (BPR) has brought the sport of swimming to local athletes of all ages and experience levels. We provide a full range of swim-based offerings throughout the calendar year, including:

*A year-round USA Swimming-affiliated competitive swim club

*A year-round pre-competitive development training group (Sharks)

*A recreational-based summer league team for swimmers of all skill levels ages 6 - 14

*Private and group introductory swim lessons

We are proud to continue serving our community by providing our athletes an opportunity to succeed in and out of the pool through hard work, dedication, teamwork, and personal growth.

Visit our website at bprswim.org to learn more and for registration opportunities.



COMMUNITY DAY

Early Summer 2026

Part of USA250



ADULT PROGRAMS

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

ORGANIZE YOUR PRINTED AND DIGITAL PHOTOS

Come and join us for an educational presentation on how to Calm the Chaos of your printed and digital photo collections!

Instructor: **Lisa Webster**

Ages: 18 and over

Resident Fee: \$19.00

Non-Res Fee: \$24.00

1 session date

3935.100

Dates: 3/26/2026

Time: 5:30PM - 7:45PM

Thu

3935.101

Dates: 4/23/2026

Time: 5:30PM - 7:45PM

Thu

3935.102

Dates: 5/21/2026

Time: 5:30PM - 7:45PM

Thu

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

FITNESS & EXERCISE

★ NEW! NEW! NEW! ★

CHISEL & SCULPT

Sculpt and define your body using a powerful combination of light-to-moderate weights, body weight exercises & a Pilates ring. This class focuses on slow, controlled movements to build muscular endurance and create a lean physique. With a focus on form and proper muscle engagement, you'll get a full-body workout that's low-impact and easy on the joints, making it the perfect way to build strength and improve coordination. Pilates rings can be purchased on Amazon or a local retailer. Please bring water, a small towel, heavier weights if desired, a fitness mat and Pilates ring.

Instructor: **Christi Fredrick**

Ages: 16 and over

Resident Fee: \$35.00

Non-Res Fee: \$40.00

6 session dates

3920.112

Dates: 2/23/2026 - 03/30/2026

Time: 6:00PM - 6:45PM

Mon

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

★ NEW! NEW! NEW! ★

STRONG MOMS CIRCUIT

A full-body strength training class designed just for moms! Move through energizing workout stations that build muscle, boost endurance, and keep you feeling strong for whatever life (*or your kids*) throw your way.

Ages: 18 and over

Resident Fee: \$60.00

Non-Res Fee: \$65.00

6 session dates

3920.130

Dates: 2/23/2026 - 3/30/2026

Time: 12:30PM - 1:10PM

Mon

3920.132

Dates: 4/13/2026 - 5/18/2026

Time: 12:30PM - 1:10PM

Mon

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

★ NEW! NEW! NEW! ★

KNOCKOUT BOXING

Unleash your inner fighter with high-energy boxing drills that build strength, stamina, and confidence. No contact — just fun, empowering rounds that torch calories and relieve stress.

Ages: 18 and over

Resident Fee: \$60.00

Non-Res Fee: \$65.00

6 session dates

3920.131

Dates: 2/19/2026 - 3/26/2026

Time: 5:00PM - 5:40PM

Thur

3920.133

Dates: 4/16/2026 - 5/21/2026

Time: 5:00PM - 5:40PM

Thur

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

POWER YOGA

Power Yoga is a fusion class of classic yoga poses blended with Pilates components. We harmonize the strength building elements of Pilates with the fluidity and mindfulness of yoga.

Challenge your body as we focus on core stability, flexibility and breath awareness. This class offers a balanced approach to enhance your overall well-being and will leave you feeling centered and energized!

Bring a mat, towel and water.

Instructor: **Christi Fredrick**

Ages: 16 and over

Resident Fee: \$49.00

Non-Res Fee: \$54.00

Twice a Week: \$69.00

Non-Res Fee: \$74.00

6 session dates

3920.110

Dates: 2/23/2026 - 3/30/2026

Time: 7:00PM - 8:10PM

Mon

3920.111

Dates: 2/25/2026 - 4/1/2026

Time: 6:30PM - 7:40PM

Wed

3920.128

Dates: 4/15/2026 - 5/20/2026

Time: 6:30PM - 7:40PM

Wed

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

GO TO BETHELPAK.RECDESK.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER.



ZUMBA® GOLD

Zumba® is a total body workout that combines cardio, muscle conditioning, balance, and flexibility, boosting your energy. You will dance to great music, burn calories, and have fun while exercising. Zumba is designed for everyone, regardless of age, fitness level, or dance experience.

Instructor: **Kathy Raeder**

Ages: 18 and over

Resident Fee: \$42.00

Twice a Week: \$64.00
6 session dates

Non-Res Fee: \$47.00

Non-Res Fee: \$69.00

3920.100

Dates: 2/19/2026 – 3/26/2026

Time: 6:00PM – 7:00PM

Thu

3920.101

Dates: 2/24/2026 – 3/31/2026

Time: 7:00PM – 8:00PM

Tue

3920.102

Dates: 2/25/2026 – 4/1/2026

Time: 9:30AM – 10:30AM

Wed

3920.120

Dates: 4/14/2026 - 5/19/2026

Time: 7:00PM - 8:00PM

Tue

3920.121

Dates: 4/15/2026 - 5/20/2026

Time: 9:30AM - 10:30AM

Wed

3920.122

Dates: 4/16/2026 - 5/21/2026

Time: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Thu

Location: Bethel Park Community Center



GO TO BETHELPAK.RECDESK.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER.

After registering for a class, please make sure you receive a registration receipt to confirm attendance!

ZUMBA® GOLD FOR ACTIVE SENIORS AND BEGINNER

This class is an ideal, lower-impact cardio fitness program designed for the active older adult or any individual who is new to exercise. It utilizes the standard Zumba formula but modifies the moves and pacing to suit participants who are just starting their journey toward a fit and healthy lifestyle.

Instructor: **Kathy Raeder**

Ages: 18 and over

Resident Fee: \$32.00

Twice a Week: \$54.00
6 session dates

Non-Res Fee: \$37.00

Non-Res Fee: \$59.00

3920.103

Dates: 2/23/2026 – 3/30/2026

Time: 10:35AM - 11:15AM

Mon

3920.104

Dates: 2/25/2026 – 4/1/2026

Time: 10:35AM - 11:15AM

Wed

3920.123

Dates: 4/13/2026 - 5/18/2026

Time: 10:35AM - 11:15AM

Mon

3920.124

Dates: 4/15/2026 - 5/20/2026

Time: 10:35AM - 11:15AM

Wed

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

LifeSpan

YOUR PARTNER IN AGING

LIFESPAN ACTIVE LIFE CENTER

Adults aged 60+ are welcome to attend our daily programming.

Monday - Friday
9 AM – 3 PM

Call **412-831-7111** for information.

GOLD CARD CLUB

The Gold Card Club, a social and fellowship organization for seniors, was organized by the Bethel Park Recreation Department 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 cards, not for playing card games.**

Dues/Eligibility: Annual membership dues are \$6 per person per calendar year, Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. Annual dues shall be paid beginning at the January general meeting. Renewals paid after March 31 incur a late penalty fee. **New members, who MUST be current residents of Bethel Park in order to join the Gold Card Club, are welcome to join at any time during the calendar year.**

Meetings/Luncheons: 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, members enjoy excellent entertainment, light refreshments, and several games of bingo. We have an indoor summer picnic each year, as well as an Anniversary luncheon and a Christmas luncheon, both held at outside banquet facilities.

Trips/Bowling: Club members may take advantage of the many bus trips scheduled through the year by Cindy Carfagno. Some of our club members have become members of the bowling league that meets on Mondays from August through April. (*Call Tom Noonan at 412-913-2942 for more information on bowling.*)

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

If you have questions about **memberships**, please contact **Sue Forsyth at 412-605-4820**. Questions regarding **trips** should be directed to **Cindy Carfagno at 412-831-1913 or t2323c@comcast.net**.



T'AI-CHI BEGINNER

This traditional Yang Tai-Chi Chuan is for the beginning student as well as the student who wants to work on the first 1/3 of the form.

In this class you will learn the principles in order to develop better balance, coordination and posture.

No prior experience is required. Wear comfortable clothes and slippers or socks.

Instructor: **Tamara**

Ages: 18 and over

Resident Fee: \$70.00 Non-Res Fee: \$75.00
6 session dates

3920.105

Dates: 2/25/2026 – 4/1/2026

Time: 9:30AM - 10:30AM

Wed

3920.125

Dates: 4/15/2026 - 5/20/2026

Time: 9:30AM - 10:30AM

Wed

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

T'AI-CHI INTERMEDIATE

This class is designed for students who have previous experience in a Tai Chi class and want to further their knowledge and experience.

Students will work on postures past the first third of the form. Instructor recommendation is required to enroll in this course.

Instructor: **Tamara**

Ages: 18 and over

Resident Fee: \$70.00

6 session dates

Non-Res Fee: \$75.00

3920.106

Dates: 2/25/2026 – 4/1/2026

Time: 10:45AM - 11:45AM

Wed

3920.126

Dates: 4/15/2026 - 5/20/2026

Time: 10:45AM - 11:45AM

Wed

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

SENSE HANDS



In this class you will learn the "internal" system of Tai-Chi. When you practice you develop energy without tenseness and acquire a more heightened awareness of yourself and other players.

The principles learned in the form are used at a much higher level as a soft martial art.

Instructor recommendation is required to attend this course.

Instructor: **Tamara**

Ages: 18 and over

Resident Fee: \$61.00

6 session dates

Non-Res Fee: \$66.00

3920.107

Dates: 2/27/2026 – 4/03/2026

Time: 9:30AM – 10:30AM

Fri

3920.127

Dates: 4/17/2026 – 5/22/2026

Time: 9:30AM – 10:30AM

Fri

Location: Bethel Park Community Center



NO COOK

Tuesdays

**EVERY TUESDAY,
MARCH 3RD
THROUGH
APRIL 28TH**

See you there
from 4p - 7p
at the Bethel Park
Community Center
(Playground Lot)



**GO TO BETHELPARK.RECDESK.COM
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO
REGISTER.**

**After registering for a class, please make
sure you receive a registration receipt to
confirm attendance!**

LADIES VOLLEYBALL

This is a NON-TEACHING 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.

If you can only attend occasionally, there is a nightly drop-in fee.

Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$40.00 Non-Res Fee: \$45.00
 6 session dates

3915.103
 Dates: 2/23/2026 - 3/30/2026 Mon
 Time: 7:30PM - 9:00PM

3915.113
 Dates: 4/13/2026 - 5/18/2026 Mon
 Time: 7:30PM - 9:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Men play on Wednesday. Pick-up Men's Volleyball. Prior experience is 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: \$45.00 Non-Res Fee: \$50.00
 6 session dates

3915.105
 Dates: 2/25/2026 - 4/1/2026 Wed
 Time: 8:00PM - 10:00PM

3915.115
 Dates: 4/15/2026 - 5/20/2026 Wed
 Time: 8:00PM - 10:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center



MEN'S BASKETBALL

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

Ages: 18 and over
Resident Fee: \$45.00 Non-Res Fee: \$50.00
 6 session dates

3915.104
 Dates: 2/24/2026 - 3/31/2026 Tue
 Time: 8:00PM - 10:00PM

3915.114
 Dates: 4/14/2026 - 5/19/2026 Tue
 Time: 8:00PM - 10:00PM

Location: Bethel Park Community Center



GO TO [BETHELPAK.RECDESK.COM](https://bethelpark.recdesk.com) FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER.

PAVILION PERMITS

Resident Fee: \$40.00
Non-Resident Fee: \$60.00

Any **resident of Bethel Park** may reserve selected picnic areas at **Simmons Park or Moury Park**. These areas include a shelter and several picnic tables.

Permits are requested through RecDesk, our online software, at <https://bethelpark.recdesk.com/> **Community/Home** starting March 16, 2026. **You must request no later than 1 week in advance. You may reserve any available date from May 1 - Oct. 31.**

Pavilion Payment

Rental payment in full is due at checkout and an invoice will be emailed to the provided email. Please note that while we want your event to be a success, failure to meet any payment deadlines may result in rental cancellation.

All Park and Municipal rules must be followed. NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES are permitted in any of the parks. You must take your garbage with you if you rent a pavilion during a weekend. The permit gives restricted use for the picnic area only. The tennis courts, sand volleyball court, and ball fields are NOT included on the permit. Water and restrooms are available in both parks. All dates subject to change.

PLEASE NOTE THAT RENTAL FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE AND NON-TRANSFERABLE.

A \$50 SECURITY DEPOSIT (CASH OR CHECK ONLY) is required when Moury Park restroom key is requested. Deposit will be returned upon return of restroom key.

**MUNICIPAL OFFICES &
 THE COMMUNITY CENTER WILL BE
 CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING
 HOLIDAYS:**

PRESIDENT'S DAY
 Monday, Feb. 16

MEMORIAL DAY
 Monday, May 25

**Community Center Walking Track
 and Basketball Courts
 will be closed
 April 2 - 12 for
 floor refinishing.**

SPORTS

**PICKLEBALL**

General knowledge of game rules and beginner skill level is needed as this is not an instructional class.

Players must be able to bend to pick up balls and move forward and backward to play. You may register for a maximum of two days per week.

Experience is required. Instructions are not provided.

REGISTRATION INFO: Registration is open to RESIDENTS ONLY **Jan. 26, 9:00 AM.**

Non-residents may begin registering on **Jan. 29, 9:00AM.**

Ages: 18 and over

Resident Fee: \$45.00

Non-Res Fee: \$50.00

6 session dates

3915.100

Dates: 2/20/2026 – 3/27/2026

Time: 12:00PM - 2:15PM

Fri

3915.101

Dates: 2/23/2026 – 3/30/2026

Time: 12:00PM - 2:15PM

Mon

3915.102

Dates: 2/25/2026 – 4/1/2026

Time: 12:00PM - 2:15PM

Wed

3915.110

Dates: 4/13/2026 – 5/18/2026

Time: 12:00PM - 2:15PM

Mon

3915.111

Dates: 4/15/2026 – 5/20/2026

Tie: 12:00PM - 2:15PM

Wed

3915.112

Dates: 4/17/2026 – 5/22/2026

Time: 12:00PM - 2:15PM

Fri

Location: Bethel Park Community Center

GO TO **BETHELPAK.RECDESK.COM** FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER.

Spring COMMUNITY YARD SALE WEEKEND

Saturday, May 2nd and Sunday, May 3rd
8:00 am - 2:00 pm

**CLEAR OUT THE CLUTTER
& FIND SOMETHING NEW!**

Join us for the Bethel Park Spring Community Yard Sale Weekend—the first weekend of May!

How It Works:

- Set up right at home—no need to haul your items anywhere.
- Registered participants receive a yard sign to let neighbors know you're open for business.
- All registered homes will be featured on the Community Yard Sale Map, shared with treasure hunters across the area!

Place your sign in your yard on the day(s) you choose to participate, and get ready for a weekend of deals, decluttering, and discovery!

Register by April 27, 2026
\$20.00 per household
(Bethel Park Residents Only)
Register at bethelpark.recdesk.com




YOUR FAVORITE MARKET MOVES INDOORS

EVERY OTHER TUESDAY
INSIDE BETHEL PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

JAN 20 4-7 PM	FEB 3 4-7 PM	FEB 17 4-7 PM
MAR 3 4-7 PM	MAR 17 4-7 PM	MAR 31 4-7 PM

Fresh food, handmade goods, local flavor—warm, cozy, and waiting for you every other Tuesday




Fresh Baked Goods | Local Produce | Handmade Gifts | Support Neighbors

BETHEL PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

COMMUNITY CENTER FACILITIES



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.

Go to bethelpark.recdesk.com for room reservations or other information.

May 1 - Oct. 31 Hours of Operation:

Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Nov. 1 - April 30 Hours of Operation:

Monday – Saturday: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Sunday: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

The open gym schedule is available on the RecDesk calendar on the Municipality's website.

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

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, griddle, refrigerator, freezer, coffee makers, and microwave.

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.



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. Locks are not permitted to remain overnight.

COMMUNITY CENTER ADULT AND YOUTH CLUBS

BETHEL ARTIST GUILD

Membership is open to Bethel Park residents and non-resident 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 p.m.. 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.

SEE GOLD CARD CLUB ON PG. 30!

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 memberships must be purchased at the Bethel Park Community Center. Valid identification is required.

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

Annual Membership / Renewal:	Resident	Non-resident
Youth (13 - 17 years old)	\$ 5	\$125
Adult (18 - 59 years old)	\$10	\$150
Family	\$25	\$250
Senior Adult (60+)	\$ 5	\$ 80
Splash Park Seasonal Pass	\$50.00 (RESIDENTS ONLY)	

Day Pass:

Individual Community Center (Day)	\$ 1	\$ 10
Splash Park (Day)	\$ 3	\$ 5

(Everyone entering the Splash Park needs a pass)

To purchase day passes, please provide photo ID to prove residency.

Acceptable forms of identification include a Driver's License, Bethel Park School District Student ID, or a bill with your name and address. If NO ID is provided, the Non-Resident rate will apply.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

All Gym memberships expire 12 months after they were issued.

ROOM RENTAL FEES

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

RATES TO INCREASE JAN. 1, 2026

AREA	RATE	CAPACITY
A	\$40 per hour	49
B	\$80 per hour	148
C	\$40 per hour	49
Classroom	\$45 per hour	49
A B C	\$130 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.**

A minimum 2-hour reservation is required for rentals in The Classroom, Room A, C, and D. Room B and rentals spanning multiple spaces require a 4-hour reservation. Example of multiple spaces rentals, such as A, B, and C, or combinations like AB or BC.

*If event with alcohol has 150 persons or more, security personnel fee will be a minimum charge of \$240.

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 six months in advance. However, it is recommended that you reserve your space early as dates fill up quickly!

- Requests for rentals must be requested through our RecDesk software. The RecDesk portal can be found on **bethelpark.recdesk.com**. There will be a requirement of an electronic signature required for all forms necessary.
- Within five business days, you'll be able to see if your request was approved via the RecDesk online portal.
- If the space is available and approved, you'll be sent an invoice for the amount that is due via the RecDesk online portal.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- Rental payment in full is due as soon as the rental is approved and invoice is provided.
- A refundable security deposit of \$100 per area rented (*cash or check only*) in case there is any damage and room layout is due 15 days prior to your reservation.

***Please note that while we want your event to be a success, failure to meet any payment or layout deadlines may result in rental cancellation. Fees paid will not be refunded. (Refer to *Cancellation Policy/Fees.*)

CANCELLATION POLICY/FEES

If you need to cancel your event, your request **MUST** be submitted in writing to the Bethel Park Community Center at **recreation@bethelparkpa.gov**.

- Cancellations received in writing more than 45 days prior to the scheduled date will receive a refund of rental payment, less a \$35 processing fee.
- Rental fee will not be refunded if written cancellation is received less than 45 days prior to event.
- *No refunds will be issued for any unused portion of the rental.

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. This fee needs to be paid the day of the rental.
- Should your event need an alcohol permit for 150 persons or more, as a requirement, there will be additional security personnel fee. (*\$60 per hour*) Rental rate includes the set-up of tables and chairs.
- Renters will be responsible to submit a layout 15 days in advance of their event to sign-off on all seating/room arrangements.
- Rental rate includes setup of tables/chairs.
- Your rental space only includes the specified area listed in your rental agreement; use of additional amenities requires prior authorization.



BETHEL PARK FARMERS MARKET

Experience the award-winning Bethel Park Farmers' Market: fresh produce, local farms, small businesses, and food truck favorites every week!



BETHEL PARK FARMERS' MARKET

30 Corrigan Drive, Bethel Park, PA 15102



MAY 5TH TO SEPTEMBER 30TH 2026

Every Tuesday evening



3:00 PM-7:00 PM

Rain or shine



Scan to stay updated on market events and news!



Spring No Cook Tuesdays:

March 3rd to April 28th

Stay tuned for Fall NCT Dates and other special events!



DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION

Quick Reference Guide: Who to Contact & Where to Find Them

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

301 Church Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102

Dr. James Walsh, Superintendent

Mandi Figlioli, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education

Joseph Villani, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education

Elizabeth Wells, Director of Literacy, Assessment, Programs
& Accountability

Anthony Piscioneri, Director of Financial & Personnel Services

Sharon Kopy, Director of Accounting & Financial Reporting

Dr. Mark Korcinsky, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities & Operations

Dan Sloan, Supervisor of Facilities and Operations

Dr. David Muench, Director of Student Support Services

Christopher Bolin, Director of Technology

Chris Gawlas, Bethel Park School Police

Brandon Agostinelli, Food Services Director, Metz Culinary Management

Laura Grimm, Athletic Director

Thomas Howell, Assistant Athletic Director

James Cromie, Director of Communication & Public Relations

854-8402

854-8420

854-8420

854-8420

854-8425

854-8445

854-8608

854-8604

854-8410

854-8418

854-8592

854-8754

854-8548

854-8548

854-8438

BETHEL PARK HIGH SCHOOL

309 Church Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102

Racquel Sutton, Principal

Nicola Hipkins, Assistant Principal

Student Academics & Affairs

Brennan Hoffer, Assistant Principal

Student Academics & Affairs

- Counseling Office

- Health Office

- Attendance Office

- Library

- Records Office

- Activities Office

- Athletic Office

854-8571

854-8516

854-8580

854-8595

854-8550

854-8572

854-8565

854-8584

854-8514

854-8548

INDEPENDENCE MIDDLE SCHOOL

2807 Bethel Church Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102

James Fodse, Principal

Tyler Dillinger, Assistant Principal

854-8677

854-8678

NEIL ARMSTRONG MIDDLE SCHOOL

5800 Murray Avenue, Bethel Park, PA 15102

Lisa Miracle-Volpe, Principal

Keith Walters, Assistant Principal

854-8751

854-8756

ABRAHAM LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1524 Hamilton Road, Bethel Park, PA 15234

Jay Johnson, Principal

854-8618

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

5400 Florida Avenue, Bethel Park, PA 15102

Teresa Doumont, Principal

854-8741

MEMORIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3301 South Park Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102

Eric Chalus, Principal

854-8506

GEORGE WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

515 Clifton Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102

Fred Pearson, Principal

854-8546

WILLIAM PENN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

110 Woodlet Lane, Bethel Park, PA 15102

Brian Lenosky, Principal

854-8522

BETHEL PARK ONLINE ACADEMY

309 Church Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102

Sheryl Kremer, Director for Cyber/Alternative
Learning Options

854-8428

BETHEL PARK SCHOOL BOARD



Buffie Faes
President



Christina Headley
Vice President



Kim Walsh-Turner



Colleen Sokira



Jim Modrak



Sharon Janosik



Vince Scalzo



Darren McGregor



Barry Christenson

WATCH SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS LIVE ON YOUTUBE!

MAIN DISTRICT LINE: 412-833-5000



VISIT US AT: WWW.BPSD.ORG



Message: Superintendent Dr. James Walsh

After 36 years in education, I've discovered a universal truth: the first semester goes by faster than free coffee in a teachers' lounge. One minute we're welcoming students on Opening Day, and the next we're wondering how it's already time for winter concerts, midterms, and dreaming of the possibilities of snow days.

Why does the first half of the year fly by? Maybe it's the energy of the fall, or the excitement of the holidays, or the fact that we're all distracted by the eternal search for matching gloves. Whatever the reason, time seems to sprint from August to January.

So, if "time flies when you're having fun," the solution for the second semester is simple: **have more fun**. Teachers can breathe new life into well-worn lessons. Add a little interaction here, a little creativity there, maybe even sprinkle in some technology wizardry that makes students say, "Wait... what was that again?" Students, for their part, can try showing up each day with the mindset: **"I'm glad to be here. I'm going to learn something new. I'm going to give my best today."**

(Parents, you're welcome to print that out and put it on the fridge.)

Earlier this year, I encouraged everyone to set goals for becoming their "next best" selves, finding small ways to be better than yesterday. As we plow through the second semester, it's a perfect moment to check in on this. How are you doing? What's working? What's still "in progress?" What will it take to check more off the list?

Wherever you stand, this is your midyear nudge to refocus, reset, and recommit. Your goals are still waiting for you, and the year has plenty of runway left.

I send my best wishes for a productive, meaningful, and **chock-full-of-fun** second semester. May the days be bright, the lessons be lively, and may all lost hats, gloves, and water bottles miraculously find their way home.



Message: School Board President Buffie Faes

Celebrating progress and charting the path forward: A look at our most recent outcomes

Each winter, the District publishes its annual Outcomes Report, a comprehensive, data-rich look at how our students are performing on state, national, and advanced coursework assessments. While no single measure can fully capture the growth, potential, or spirit of our learners, these results provide important insight into our progress as a district and help us make thoughtful, informed decisions about instructional programs, curriculum, and student supports.

The most recent Outcomes Report includes several encouraging highlights that reflect both the hard work of our students and the dedication of our teachers, administrators, and families.

One of the brightest spots is our Advanced Placement (AP) program. Bethel Park students earned the highest AP success rate in eight years, with 87.5% of AP exam-takers scoring a 3 or higher, demonstrating readiness for college-level rigor. This sustained upward trend affirms the strength of our secondary curriculum and the opportunities our district provides to students who wish to challenge themselves academically.

Another area of notable achievement is our SAT performance. With 240 Bethel Park students participating, our average composite score of 1137 exceeded the Pennsylvania state average in both Reading/Writing and Mathematics. These results help validate not only the quality of our instructional program, but also our commitment to college and career readiness for every student.

We also saw promising signs in our mathematics growth data. According to PVAAS (*Pennsylvania's Value-Added Assessment System*), Bethel Park students made "Well Above" expected growth in Grades 4 and 7, and "Above" expected growth in Grades 5 and 6. This means students are advancing at a pace that exceeds state-level expectations based on their prior performance. Growth measures like these are especially important because they help us understand the impact of our teaching and the trajectory of student learning over time.

Our strong performance on the Keystone Literature Exam, where 75% of our students

scored Proficient or Advanced, continues to be a point of pride. Bethel Park remains well above statewide performance in this area, a testament to our longstanding commitment to literacy, critical thinking, and strong communication skills.

Finally, the accomplishments of our seniors extend far beyond standardized assessments. The Class of 2025 earned \$106,750 in local scholarships, and we are proud of the eight students recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program, including one semifinalist who advanced to finalist and scholarship recipient. These achievements reflect the broad range of talents, interests, and aspirations within our student body and the support they receive from families, teachers, coaches, counselors, and mentors across our community.

As we celebrate these successes, we remain equally committed to continuous improvement. We recognize that there are areas where we can and must grow particularly in the consistency of proficiency rates across grade levels and subject areas. The Board is fully supportive of the district's ongoing efforts to strengthen curriculum alignment, expand intervention and enrichment opportunities, and deepen our commitment to Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). These initiatives are essential not only for improving test scores, but for ensuring that every student is known, valued, and challenged appropriately.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the families, staff members, and community partners who continue to champion our students every step of the way. It is through your support that Bethel Park remains a place where young people build the academic foundation, character, and confidence they need to succeed in a rapidly changing world.

As we look ahead to the opening of our new elementary school and the continued implementation of our strategic plan, we do so with optimism, pride, and a shared belief in what our students can achieve. **Together, we will continue our journey to be, in every sense, Best in Class.**

Bethel Park Schools 2026-2027 School Year at-a-Glance

In November, at their monthly voting meeting, the Bethel Park School Board ratified the 2026-2027 school year calendar.

The 2026-2027 school year will run from **Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2026**, until **Friday, June 11, 2027**. Schools will be closed on Labor Day (Sept. 7), Presidents Day (Feb. 15), and Memorial Day (May 31), as well as during Fall Break (Nov. 26–30), Winter Break (Dec. 24–Jan. 1), and Spring Break (March 25–29).

The school year is structured around four academic quarters, with marking periods ending in November, January, April, and June. Additional staff development days are scheduled throughout the year, with some resulting in no classes or delayed starts.

The outdoor graduation ceremony for the Class of 2027 is set for **Thursday, June 10**, at 7 p.m. at Black Hawk Stadium.

Major Highlights of the 2026-2027 School Calendar:

AUGUST 2026

26 Room Preparation Day (No Classes)
27-28, 31 Staff Development Days (No Classes)

SEPTEMBER

1 2026-2027 School Year Begins
7 Labor Day (Schools Closed)

OCTOBER

12 Act 80 Day (2-Hour Delay)
19 Act 80 Day (No Classes)
31 Halloween (Celebrated on 10/30/26 -
Elementary School Parade)

NOVEMBER

3 Staff Development Day (No Classes)
5 First Academic Quarter Ends
6 Records Day (No Classes)
26-30 Fall Break (Schools Closed)

DECEMBER

23 Elementary School Holiday Parties
24-31 Winter Break (Schools Closed)

JANUARY 2027

1 Winter Break Continued (Schools Closed)
18 Staff Development Day (No Classes)

19 Act 80 Day (2-Hour Delay)
25 First Semester/Second Academic Quarter Ends
29 Records Day (No Classes)

FEBRUARY

14 Valentine's Day (Elementary School Parties)
15 Presidents' Day (Schools Closed)
16 Staff Development Day (No Classes)

MARCH

8 Act 80 Day (No Classes)
17 St. Patrick's Day
25-29 Spring Break (Schools Closed)

APRIL

6 Third Academic Quarter Ends
9 Records Day (No Classes)
12 Act 80 Day (2-Hour Delay)

MAY

18 Staff Development Day (No Classes)
31 Memorial Day (Schools Closed)

JUNE

10 Class of 2027 Graduation Ceremony
11 2026-2027 School Year Ends
14 Room Preparation/Records Day



MAKE-UP DATES:

Make-up dates for unanticipated school cancellations are designated as **Jan. 18, Feb. 16, and March 25**, though the order may vary. Remote Learning Days are also an option.

Graduation make-up dates are **Friday, June 11**, at 7 p.m. at Black Hawk Stadium and **Saturday, June 12**, at 10 a.m. in the Bethel Park High School Gymnasium.

LOCAL HOLIDAYS:

The local holidays are **Nov. 27, Dec. 24, Dec. 26, Dec. 28, and Dec. 30**.

Scheduled event times and dates can occasionally change during the school year.

For the most current Bethel Park School District events information, please consult our Events Calendar at <http://www.bpsd.org>.



Five Years of Purposeful Progress: How Bethel Park is Delivering on its Strategic Vision

By James Walsh, Superintendent

When I arrived five years ago, we set out to define what it truly means to be “best in class;” we knew the work ahead would be ambitious. Transforming a school system is not about quick wins or isolated initiatives; it requires clarity of vision, sustained commitment, and the collective efforts of educators, staff, families, and community partners. Today, as we reflect on our Strategic Plan progress, we are proud to share just how far Bethel Park School District has come.

A Stronger, More Coherent Learning Experience

At the heart of our work has been a focus on high-quality curriculum and instruction. Over the past five years, we have made significant strides toward consistent, research-based instructional practices across all grade levels. Curriculum mapping aligned to Pennsylvania standards, a districtwide commitment to the science of reading, and a robust Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) ensure that every student receives both strong core instruction and targeted support when needed.

Equally important, we have strengthened our culture of data-informed decision-making. Teachers and administrators regularly review student performance data: not to label or sort students, but to respond thoughtfully and plan instruction that meets learners where they are. This culture of “responsive planning” is helping students set meaningful goals and make measurable academic progress.

A More Supportive and Inclusive Student Experience

Bethel Park has also invested deeply in the whole child. Expanded Student Assistance Programs, social-emotional learning supports, restorative practices, and student voice initiatives are reshaping how students experience school. From elementary SEL instruction to middle and high school mentoring, leadership, and advisory programs, students are increasingly connected, supported, and heard.

Our commitment to belonging is evident in expanded STAND clubs, cultural awareness events, and improved supports for English Language Learners and families new to our district. These efforts reflect a clear belief: students learn best when they feel safe, respected, connected and valued.

Innovation, STEAM, and Future-Ready Learning

Preparing students for a rapidly changing world requires innovation—and Bethel Park is rising to that challenge. Over the past five years, we have expanded STEAM programming, redesigned learning spaces, and positioned the district as a regional leader in the responsible use of artificial intelligence in education.

New STEAM classrooms, outdoor learning spaces, computer science

pathways, and digital citizenship instruction are giving students hands-on, real-world learning experiences. At the same time, thoughtful AI guidelines and professional learning ensure that emerging technologies are used ethically and effectively to enhance teaching and learning.

Investing in Our People

None of this progress would be possible without our dedicated staff.

Over the last five years, we have prioritized professional growth, wellness, and collaboration. From differentiated professional development and instructional coaching to districtwide wellness initiatives, our goal has been to ensure that every employee feels supported, valued, and proud to serve Bethel Park.

As we prepare for the opening of our new elementary school and a major facilities transition, we have worked closely with employee groups to plan thoughtfully, communicate transparently, and maintain positive labor relationships.

Responsible Operations and Community Trust

Behind the scenes, the district has modernized operations, improved communication, and strengthened financial stewardship. A redesigned website, enhanced school-to-home communication tools, stronger media partnerships, and clearer financial reporting have increased transparency and trust.

At the same time, long-term facilities planning and upgraded technology systems are ensuring that our infrastructure is not a liability, but supportive of our educational mission.

Looking Ahead with Confidence

Progress of this magnitude does not happen overnight. It is the result of steady leadership, shared responsibility, and a community that believes in its public schools. While there is still important work ahead, Bethel Park enters the next chapter with momentum, clarity, and confidence.

Together, we have built more than programs and policies; we have built a stronger, more responsive school system for today’s students and tomorrow’s opportunities.



Bethel Park Winterizes Modular Facility as Turf Field Replacement Project Continues

In November, the Bethel Park School District began its winterization of the modular bathroom and storage facility located at the turf fields adjacent to Bethel Park High School, a process that remains in effect throughout the winter months.

Work finished in mid-November and included draining and blowing out water lines, adding a glycol antifreeze solution to the plumbing system, insulating exposed pipes, and sealing and weatherproofing the structure to protect it from freezing temperatures. The facility is scheduled to remain closed

through the winter and is expected to reopen in mid-March, or once the freeze-thaw cycle subsides, in preparation for the spring sports season.

The winterization coincides with an ongoing turf replacement project at the Bethel Park High School campus. FieldTurf began removing and replacing both turf fields, which were originally installed when the new high school opened during the 2012–13 school year. For safety and security reasons, the fields and surrounding construction areas have remained closed to students, staff and visitors and will continue to be inaccessible until at least March.

Bethel Park School Board Reorganizes, Welcomes New Member, and Sets 2026 Meeting Schedule



The Bethel Park Board of School Directors held its annual reorganization meeting in early December, appointing new officers and welcoming a new board member for the coming year.

Buffie Faes was named school board president, and **Christina Headley** was elected vice president. The board also welcomed newly elected member **Colleen Sokira**, along with recently re-elected members Faes, Headley and **Sharon Janosik**. All were officially sworn in by the Honorable **Ron Arnoni**.

During the meeting, the board announced a return to holding its regular meetings on the third and fourth Tuesdays of most months, moving away from the previous schedule of the second and third Tuesdays.

The re-seated board also reappointed Weiss Burkardt Kramer, LLC, as the district's solicitor and announced its preliminary 2026 meeting calendar, which remains subject to change.

Pictured (l-r): School Board President Buffie Faes and Vice President Christina Headley

2026 School Board Meeting Dates:

January

20 (Committee)
27 (Regular)

February

17 (Committee)
24 (Regular)

March

March 17 (Committee)
March 24 (Regular)

April

April 21 (Committee)
April 28 (Regular)

May

May 26 (Combined Committee/Regular)

June

June 16 (Committee)
June 23 (Regular)

July

No Meetings Scheduled

August

18 (Committee)
25 (Regular)

September

15 (Committee)
22 (Regular)

October

20 (Committee)
27 (Regular)

November

17 (Combined Committee/Regular)

December

1 (Reorganization – 6:30 p.m.)
15 (Combined Committee/Regular)

All school board meetings begin at **7 p.m.** and are held at the **Dr. Thomas A. Knight Memorial Community Room** in the Bethel Park Administration Building unless otherwise noted.

All school board meetings are live-streamed through the **school district's YouTube channel**. Meeting dates and times are also available on the **school district's website**.

If a Special Meeting is called, a notice will be posted on the door of the District Administration Building and advertised in the newspaper. Information concerning Special Meetings may be obtained by calling **Anthony Piscioneri** at **412-854-8425** or by emailing him at **piscioneri.anthony@bphawks.org**.



Bethel Park School District's Winter Weather Procedures

The Bethel Park School District has outlined its procedures for school delays and cancellations during inclement weather, ensuring the safety of students and staff while maintaining educational continuity.

Decision-Making Process

Closures and delays are decided in collaboration with the municipality's Public Works Department, Police Department, and other stakeholders. Parents are reminded that they may choose to keep their child home during severe weather for an excused absence.

Delay Schedules

In the event of a 2-Hour Delay, students in grades 1-12 follow adjusted schedules:

- **Bethel Park High School:** 9:25 a.m. – 2:28 p.m.
- **Independence Middle School:** 9:24 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.
- **Neil Armstrong Middle School:** 10:05 a.m. – 3:05 p.m.
- **Elementary Schools:** 11:20 a.m. – 3:40 p.m.

Kindergarten operates on a modified schedule:

- **AM Session:** 11:20 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- **PM Session:** 2 – 3:40 p.m.

If worsening weather conditions require school cancellations after a delay is announced, students will shift to remote learning using the 2-Hour Delay schedule.

Remote Learning Days (RLDs)

When in-person classes are canceled, the district may utilize RLDs to maintain instruction without calendar adjustments. Students log into Schoology and follow a modified 2-hour delay schedule. Teachers assign lessons, provide support, and ensure engagement throughout the day.

Snow Days

Traditional "snow days," officially known as Emergency School Cancellations, are rare but may occur for unexpected or extreme conditions. On these days, no virtual instruction is held, allowing students to enjoy an unplugged day.

Communication Channels

Weather-related updates are shared through the ParentSquare notification system, local TV stations (*KDKA*, *WPXI*, *WTAE*), the district website, and Bethel Park's social media platforms.



Bethel Park Schools Acknowledge Children's Grief Awareness Day



On Thursday, Nov. 20, Bethel Park High School, Independence Middle School, and Neil Armstrong Middle School marked Children's Grief Awareness Day, a global initiative established in 2008 by the Highmark Caring Place to support children dealing with loss.

Bethel Park High School

Throughout the week leading up to the observance, students and staff engaged in meaningful activities to honor lost loved ones. In the high school lobby, remembrance trees stood as symbols of reflection and support. Students and staff decorated the trees with butterflies, each representing someone they wished to remember. Additionally, the TEAMS room hosted a button-making station, allowing participants to create personal keepsakes.

On the day itself, the high school community wore blue as a visible show of solidarity, fostering an environment of compassion and understanding.

Independence and Neil Armstrong Middle Schools

Similar activities were held at Independence Middle School and Neil Armstrong Middle School, where students and staff honored the day with remembrance projects and wore blue to demonstrate their support for grieving peers.

Observed annually on the third Thursday of November, Children's Grief Awareness Day serves as a reminder of the importance of empathy and encouragement for young people navigating the challenges of loss—especially as the holiday season approaches.

Bethel Park Students Earn Honors Band Recognition

Four Bethel Park High School musicians performed at the PMEA Honors Band concert at North Hills Middle School after earning selection through a competitive audition process.

Lillyanna Alston (*clarinet*), **Reed Zeis** (*trombone*), **Sydney Kellander** (*trumpet*), and **Zoey Roberts** (*bassoon*) performed under the direction of Bethel Park band director **Mr. Chad Thompson** and guest conductor **Mr. Andrew Boysen Jr.**, representing the district at the regional event.



PMEA Honors Band representatives at North Hills Middle School.



Bethel Park Musicians Perform in District Chorus Concert

In January, students from Bethel Park participated in the District Chorus concert, showcasing their musical talents alongside their peers.

The group, consisting of **Ashlyn Schmidt**, **Scotlyn Paxton**, **Nina Lane**, **Layla Jones**, **Riley Smith**, **Maden Konopka**, **Noah Lloyd**, **Noah Rauch**, **Liam Coll**, and **Jaden Veinovich**, rehearsed diligently before performing a captivating concert at McKeesport Area High School.

The event was directed by **Dr. Christopher Kiver** from Penn State University, highlighting the exceptional skill and dedication of these young musicians.



District Chorus representatives at McKeesport Area High School.



Bethel Park Students Tabbed for Honors Orchestra

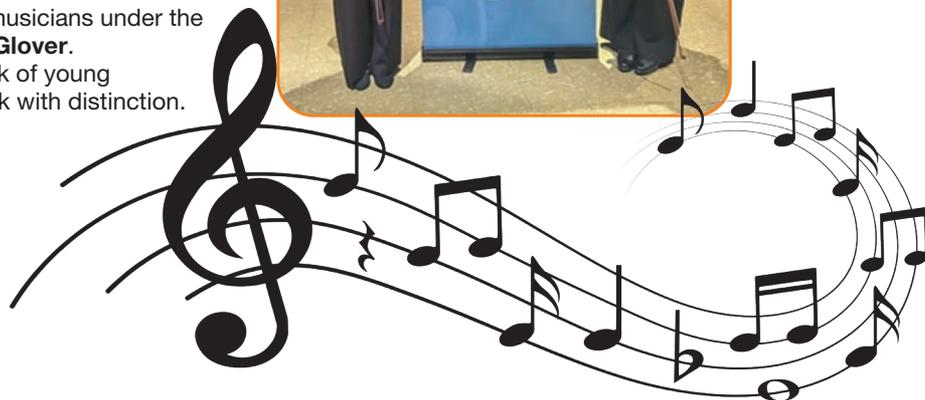
Bethel Park High School violinists **Adele Stamenov** and **Lyla Paull** were selected to perform in the PMEA Honors Strings Orchestra Festival, which was held at North Allegheny's Carson Middle School.

After a competitive audition process, the two Chamber Orchestra members were chosen to perform alongside the region's top student musicians under the direction of Bethel Park Orchestra Director **Mrs. Stephanie Glover**.

The festival recognized the dedication, skill and hard work of young musicians, with Stamenov and Paull representing Bethel Park with distinction.



Violinists represent Bethel Park at PMEA Honors Strings Orchestra Festival.



Bethel Park Athletic Hall of Fame Welcomes Class of 2025

2025 INDUCTEES

BETHEL PARK ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME



AWARDS NIGHT SPONSORED BY  Allegheny Health Network

2025 INDUCTEE CEREMONY

2025 INDUCTEES



TRACY PFISTER

Class of 1983
SWIMMING

ANTHONY CARUSO

Class of 2008
SOCCER



NICK KWIATKOSKI

Class of 2011
FOOTBALL



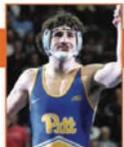
LEVI METHENY

Class of 2016
FOOTBALL/BASKETBALL



NINO BONACCORSI

Class of 2017
WRESTLING



COACH JEFF METHENY

FOOTBALL



PATRICIA BARNITZ

VOLLEYBALL/BASKETBALL
DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION AWARD



Bethel Park is proud to announce its Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2025, honoring exceptional athletes and contributors who have made lasting impacts on the community's storied athletic legacy.

This year's induction ceremony, which was sponsored by Allegheny Health Network and held in the Bethel Park High School Large Group Instruction Room, welcomed seven former Bethel Park sports standouts. That group included **Tracy Pfister '83** (*girls swimming*), **Anthony Caruso '08** (*boys soccer*), **Nick Kwiatkoski '11** (*football*), **Levi Metheny '16** (*football and boys basketball*), **Nino Bonaccorsi '17** (*wrestling*), and **Coach Jeff Metheny** (*football*). **Patricia Barnitz** (*girls volleyball and girls basketball*) was given the Distinguished Contribution Award.

More about this year's inductees:

Tracy Pfister (1983 – Girls Swimming)

A four-year starter on the Bethel Park girls varsity swim team from 1980 to 1983, Pfister helped lead the program to three consecutive WPIAL championships from 1980 to 1982, a WPIAL silver finish in 1983, and a PIAA state runner-up finish in 1982. During her high school career, Tracy earned one PIAA gold medal, two PIAA silver medals, two PIAA bronze medals, one WPIAL silver medal and four WPIAL bronze medals, and she was a four-time WPIAL champion and 10-time All-State honoree. She went on to swim collegiately at the University of Pittsburgh from 1984 to 1987, where she was a 19-time Big East champion, a four-time NCAA national qualifier, the 1984 Big East MVP, and a record holder at both Pitt and in the Big East Conference.

Anthony Caruso (2008 – Boys Soccer)

A three-year starter on the Bethel Park boys varsity soccer team, Anthony helped lead the Black Hawks to back-to-back WPIAL championships in 2006 and 2007, along with section titles in 2005 and 2007. He scored the lone goal in the 2006 WPIAL championship match and converted the decisive penalty kick in the shootout to secure the program's first WPIAL soccer title. Anthony was a three-time all-section selection from 2005 to 2007, a two-time all-WPIAL honoree in 2006 and 2007, and was named the 2007 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette All-South Player of the Year. He was also selected to the 2007 All-State and All-East Region national teams. He finished his high school career with 66 goals and 30 assists and went on to play collegiate soccer at Duquesne University.

Nick Kwiatkoski (2011 – Football)

Kwiatkoski was a three-year varsity letterman on the Bethel Park football team from 2008 to 2010. He helped lead the Black Hawks to the 2008 WPIAL championship and a berth in the PIAA state title game that same season. He also contributed to back-to-back conference championships in 2008 and 2009 and earned first-team all-conference honors in 2009. He went on to play collegiately at West Virginia University from 2011 to 2015, where he was a three-year starting linebacker and led the Mountaineers in tackles for three consecutive seasons. An All-Big 12 selection, he was drafted in the fourth round of the 2016 NFL Draft by the Chicago Bears and played seven NFL seasons with the Bears, Las Vegas Raiders and Atlanta Falcons.

Levi Metheny (2016 – Football/Boys Basketball)

A four-year varsity starter at quarterback and linebacker for Bethel Park from 2012 to 2015, Metheny threw for 4,862 yards, rushed for 1,000 yards, passed for 45 touchdowns, scored 34 touchdowns and totaled 204 points, while also recording 158 career tackles and 11 sacks. He led the Black Hawks to a 26-16 record and four playoff appearances, earning 2015 Almanac Football MVP and all-conference linebacker honors. In addition to football, he was a three-year starting forward on the basketball team, helping Bethel Park to a 70-30 record and four playoff appearances. He went on to play Division I football at the University at Albany from 2016 to 2020 and at Murray State in 2021, where he was an all-conference inside linebacker and totaled 281 career tackles.

Nino Bonaccorsi (2017 – Wrestling)

A four-year starter on the Bethel Park varsity wrestling team from 2014 to 2017, Bonaccorsi was a two-time WPIAL champion and two-time PIAA silver medalist in 2016 and 2017. He also earned three state medals, four WPIAL medals, three section championships from 2015 to 2017, two Allegheny County titles and a Powerade championship, finishing his high school career with a 147-21 record and 36 pins and earning a No. 2 national ranking. Bonaccorsi went on to wrestle six seasons at the University of Pittsburgh from 2018 to 2023, where he was a three-time ACC champion, two-time All-American and 2023 NCAA Division I national champion.

Coach Jeff Metheny (Football)

Metheny is the winningest football coach in Bethel Park history, compiling 164 victories from 1994 to 2018. He guided the Black Hawks to the 2008 PIAA state finals and captured the program's only WPIAL football championship that same season. Known as a master motivator, he led Bethel Park to five conference championships in 1998, 2008, 2009, 2016 and 2017, along with 21 playoff appearances. Renowned for his old-school approach, he embodied the grit and toughness he instilled in generations of players and earned conference Coach of the Year honors multiple times.

Distinguished Contribution Award: Patricia Barnitz

Barnitz was honored for her outstanding contributions and service to Bethel Park athletics as the founder and first coach of the girls varsity volleyball team in 1970 and the girls varsity basketball team in 1972. She remains the winningest coach in Bethel Park girls volleyball history, compiling 95 victories from 1971 to 1981, and led the basketball program to 28 wins between 1973 and 1976.

Congratulations to the Bethel Park Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2025 and their families.

Crumbl Cookies Students and Staff of the Month

Each month, Crumbl Cookies recognizes outstanding students and staff at Bethel Park High School with a series of awards, including Student of the Month Awards for one student at each high school grade level. They also recognize the top vocational students and students and staff who go above and beyond to make Bethel Park High School a special place to learn and work.

This month's Crumbl Cookies honorees include:

Students of the Month:

- **Caden O'Malley**, Senior
- **Madhu Hasini Chava**, Junior
- **Caden Powell**, Sophomore
- **Molly McGrath**, Freshman

Extra Effort Award:

- **Zayniddin Akhmedov**
- **Aiysha Dibble**
- **Nathan Guild**
- **Adele Stamanov**

Vocational Students of the Month:

- **Brihannah McCray** (*Job Skills*)
- **Shawna Palmer** (*Job Skills*)

Staff of the Month:

- **Shelley Dowling** (*Teacher, Mathematics*)
- **Tracy Ford** (*School Nurse*)

The Bethel Park High School Student of the Month Awards are intended to recognize student achievement and effort by creating a culture that values positive character, academic success, and active participation in the community. Only staff may nominate students for recognition. The winners are chosen by the school's principal, **Mrs. Racquel Sutton**, and her selection committee.

Staff Members of the Month are nominated by their colleagues and students, with the winners selected by Principal Sutton and the student leadership team. The honorees receive a certificate acknowledging their contribution to their school and community and a Bethel Park t-shirt. They also receive a \$15 gift card and a free cookie from Crumbl Cookies.

IMS Announces January Crumbl Cookies Students of the Month

Each month, **Crumbl Cookies** recognizes outstanding students and staff at Independence Middle School, honoring those who demonstrate excellence inside and outside of the classroom.

The following students and staff members were selected as the **Crumbl Cookies Students and Staff of the Month** for the most recent recognition period:

Students of the Month:

- Kinsley Elkins:** Unified Arts Department
- Cathy Parisi:** Foreign Language Department
- Elise McElvenny:** Physical Education & Health Department
- Mason Faccenda:** Music Department
- Alan Blake:** Team Unity
- Guy Nugent:** Team Valor
- Ashlyn Geis:** Team Freedom
- Gianna Weis:** Team Integrity
- Brody Staley:** Team Liberty
- AJ Winkler:** Central Office & Counseling Department

Staff of the Month:

- Rich Connelly:** Custodial Staff
- Brian Lippert:** Custodial Staff



Only staff members may nominate students for recognition. Each team or department submits its monthly selection to teachers **Jason Turka and Kristen Fonda**, who oversee the monthly recognition program. They, in turn, work with the school's principal, **Mr. Jim Fodse**, and assistant principal, **Mr. Tyler Dillinger**, to cultivate the final list.

Staff members of the month are nominated by their colleagues and students and are chosen for the value they bring to improve IMS students' experiences. Winners chosen by the IMS leadership team.

Each honoree receives a certificate, a *Student of the Month magnet* for their locker, and a **\$15 gift card and cookie** from Crumbl Cookies. The students also receive a notecard of specific feedback as to why they were selected.

Crumbl Cookies has sponsored a similar recognition program at Bethel Park High School since 2023 and has graciously agreed to extend it to IMS for this school year.

BETHEL PARK HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS
Disney **THE LITTLE MERMAID**

MUSIC BY **ALAN MENKEN** BOOK BY **DOUG WRIGHT**

LYRICS BY **HOWARD ASHMAN & GLENN SLATER**

Based on the Hans Christian Andersen story and the Disney film produced by Howard Ashman & John Musker and written & directed by John Musker and Ron Clements

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY
DISNEY THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

MARCH 11-14

7 PM - BPHS Auditorium
309 Church Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102

TICKETS: \$15

Disney's THE LITTLE MERMAID is presented through a special engagement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI (mtishows.com).



Bethel Park to Present "The Little Mermaid," March 11-14

Bethel Park High School will present its spring musical, Disney's "The Little Mermaid," with performances scheduled for **March 11-14, 2026**, at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

Tickets are \$15 and are available through the district's website beginning March 1.

Based on the 1989 Walt Disney Animation Studios film and the **Hans Christian Andersen** fairy tale, the musical tells the story of Ariel, a young mermaid who longs to experience life above the sea. In pursuit of true love, she strikes a dangerous bargain with the sea witch Ursula, trading her voice for a chance to become human. With the help of her friends Flounder, Scuttle and Sebastian, Ariel must find a way to set things right under the sea.

The stage adaptation features a book by **Doug Wright**, music by **Alan Menken** and lyrics by **Howard Ashman**, with additional lyrics by **Glenn Slater**. The production includes beloved songs

such as "Under the Sea," "Kiss the Girl" and "Part of Your World," along with new material written for the stage. Its underwater setting presents unique technical challenges, requiring creative staging and movement to give the illusion of characters swimming and gliding.

In sticking with the school's long-held tradition, this year's production will feature a double cast, with senior **Scotlyn Paxton** and sophomore **Sydney Glover** sharing the role of Ariel. Additional lead roles have also been double cast including senior **Andrew Hughes** and junior **Liam Coll** as Prince Eric; and senior **Ashlyn Schmidt** and junior **Soph Willis** comprising Ursula.

Chorus teacher, **Mr. Todd Kuczawa** will once again direct the production.

Additional information, including ticket details, is available on the Bethel Park School District website.

Independence Middle School to Present "Footloose," March 5-7



Independence Middle School will present its spring musical, "Footloose: Youth Edition," with performances scheduled for **March 5-7, 2026**, at 7:30 p.m. in the IMS auditorium.

Tickets are \$10 and are available through the district's website.

"Footloose: Youth Edition" is a one-hour adaptation of the high-energy musical designed especially for young performers, bringing the beloved story and iconic score to the stage. The show follows Ren, a teenager who moves from Chicago to a small farming town where dancing has been banned by a strict local preacher, sparking conflict between generations and challenging the town's rigid traditions.

As Ren forms a bond with the preacher's rebellious daughter and faces opposition from her jealous boyfriend and wary townspeople, the story reveals deeper themes of loss,

understanding, and the need for connection between parents and children.

Set to the Oscar- and Tony-nominated Top 40 hits from the chart-topping Footloose soundtrack, along with additional songs written for the stage, the musical celebrates the power of listening to young people and leading with empathy and open-mindedness.

Some of the lead roles include **Jordan Chamberlin** as Ren McCormack, **Bria Lang** as Ariel Moore, **Corey Gordon** as Willard Hewitt, **Catherine Radinick** as Rusty and **Matthew Lawton** as Rev. Shaw Moore. Teachers **Mrs. Tricia Quinque**, **Mr. Jeff Schilling**, **Ms. Nina Persi** and **Mr. Todd Richert** share the show's directorial responsibilities.

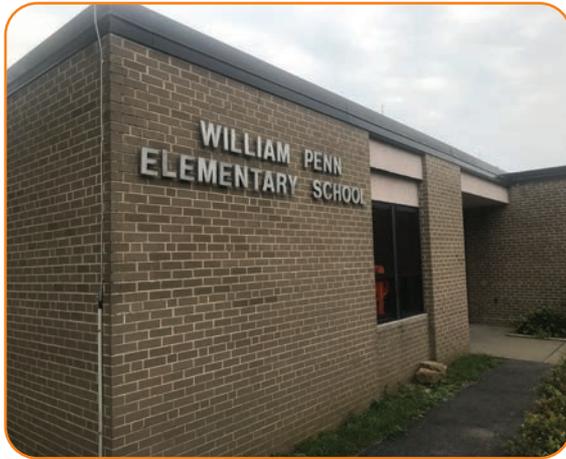
Additional information, including ticket details, is available on the Bethel Park School District website.

Independence Middle School
Presents

Footloose
THE MUSICAL

Tickets: \$10
March 5-7, 2025

William Penn Elementary Named One of Pennsylvania's Top Public Schools by *U.S. News & World Report*



William Penn Elementary School has been recognized among the top 10 public elementary schools in Pennsylvania, according to the *2026 Best Elementary Schools* rankings by *U.S. News & World Report*.

The annual ranking evaluates public elementary and middle schools across the nation using publicly available data from the U.S. Department of Education. William Penn placed ninth statewide, earning a spot alongside many of the region's most highly regarded schools.

Pleasant Valley Elementary School in Peters Township was named the best public elementary school in Pennsylvania, followed by schools from districts such as Fox Chapel, North Allegheny, Radnor, and Upper St. Clair.

"We are incredibly proud of William Penn Elementary School for earning this recognition," said Bethel Park Superintendent **Dr. James Walsh**. "It's a reflection of the hard work of our teachers, staff, students, and families who are dedicated to creating a supportive and high-achieving learning environment."

The **U.S. News** analysis considered performance data for schools serving grades pre-K through 5 or pre-K through 6. Rankings were based primarily on state assessments in math and reading/language arts, with results adjusted for student background and achievement in core subjects. Student-teacher ratios were used to break ties.

Across the nation, more than 47,000 public elementary schools were evaluated at both the state and district levels. For districts to be recognized, at least two of their schools had to rank in the top 75 percent of overall elementary or middle school performance.

"The 2026 Best Elementary and Middle Schools rankings highlight institutions that excel in fostering student achievement and providing exceptional learning environments for all," *U.S. News* said in a statement announcing the results.

Dr. Walsh said the honor underscores Bethel Park School District's commitment to academic excellence across all schools.

"William Penn's success is just one example of the outstanding educational experiences available to all Bethel Park students," he said. "We take great pride in the fact that our schools continue to rank among the best in Pennsylvania."

Submissions open for Bethel Park High School Military Wall

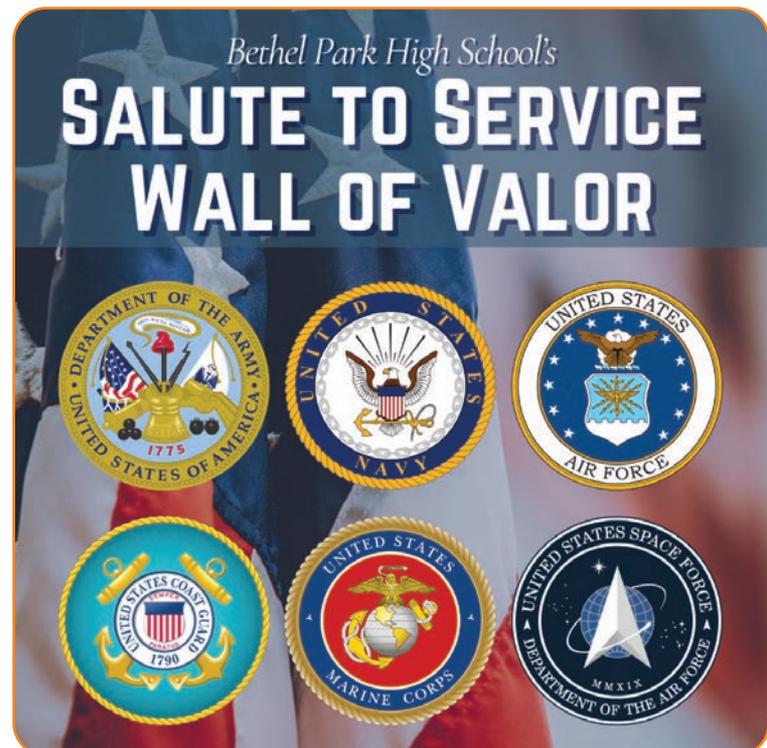
Bethel Park High School continues to invite submissions for its Military Wall, a tribute to alumni who have served or are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces. Located in the main lobby near the entrance to the academic wing, the wall serves as part of the school's Salute to Service, recognizing the bravery and dedication of Bethel Park veterans from all branches of the military.

Submissions can be made through a Google form available on the district's website. Alumni or their family members can submit a name for consideration. Before submitting, participants are encouraged to review the current list of names already displayed to avoid duplicates. It is also listed on the website.

Submissions will be carefully reviewed on a case-by-case basis and the Military Wall will be updated as needed.

For questions or additional information, contact **Mr. Brad Kszastowski**, Student Government Association advisor, at kszastowski.bradley@bphawks.org

This initiative underscores Bethel Park's commitment to honoring its alumni who have courageously served the nation.



Project Preservation Partnership



PROJECT PRESERVATION
Honoring the Past, Inspiring the Future

Do you have a story, photo or memory from any of BPSD's closing schools?

We're collecting voices, photos & memorabilia from the five closing district schools while we prepare for the excitement of the new elementary facility opening in fall 2026.

Be part of preserving the history of these buildings one memory at a time!

Closing schools include Neil Armstrong, Memorial, Ben Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, William Penn, & George Washington.

Share your story at the Bethel Park Historical Society booth Community Day - Saturday, Sept. 20!

The Bethel Park Historical Society, in partnership with the Bethel Park School District and BPTV, is seeking community help to preserve the history of five school buildings scheduled to close at the end of the school year.

The group is documenting the final year of the buildings and is inviting former students, staff, parents and community members to share memories, photographs and memorabilia connected to the schools. The contributions will be used in a yearlong documentary and archived in a special collection at the Schoolhouse Arts & History Center.

Organizers said the project is intended to honor the legacy of the schools while marking a period of transition for the district. The closures will precede the opening of a new elementary center, scheduled for fall 2026.

Community members interested in contributing are encouraged to submit their stories and materials as part of the preservation effort.

Schools closing include:

- Neil Armstrong
- Memorial
- Ben Franklin
- Abraham Lincoln
- William Penn
- George Washington

Questions? Contact **Tim Moury** at 412-992-8359 or email: historicalsocietybp@gmail.com.



Share your stories & photos!

Steel Center CTE's Students of the Month

The Steel Center for Career and Technical Education recognized 12 Bethel Park High School students as Students of the Month in their respective programs for November and December:



Luca Adams: Electrical Construction
Noah Anderson: Public Safety
Aaron Banks: Building Trades
Ian Burke: Electrical Construction
Reece Campbell: Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration
Leena Christian-Sampson: Cosmetology
Gianna Fannie: Cosmetology
Landon Freyvogel: Automotive Technology-A
Thomas McQuade: Welding
Lucas Semethy: Building Trades
Gregory Serrano Meza: Sports Medicine
Carolyn Taylor: Baking/Pastry Chef

Steel Center's best students are recognized monthly 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 remarkable achievements.

Bethel Park High School Hosts STARS Holiday Sweater Contest



Bethel Park High School hosted its annual STARS Rock Your Holiday Sweater Contest in December, bringing students together for a festive celebration that included a visit with ol' **Kris Kringle** himself and the chance to share holiday wishes.

The event is part of the Best Buddies International program, which promotes inclusion by creating opportunities for friendship,

leadership development and support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Students and staff from Baldwin, Chartiers Valley, South Fayette and Upper St. Clair also participated in this year's celebration.

DECA Students Working with BPVFC on Social Media Project



Bethel Park High School seniors **Bryan McGuire** and **Dominic Ollio** are putting classroom skills to work by helping expand the social media presence of the Bethel Park Volunteer Fire Company as part of a DECA competition project.

Since the fall, the students have managed the department's Facebook and Instagram accounts as part of their Project Management Business Solutions entry, which they will present at the Pennsylvania DECA Career Development Conference

scheduled for **Feb. 18–20** in Hershey. About 70 additional Bethel Park High School students will attend the conference to present written papers and projects at various competitive events.

The project's goals are twofold: increase volunteer membership and strengthen fundraising efforts by raising awareness that the fire company is entirely self-funded and staffed exclusively by volunteers. Ollio said he was surprised to learn it costs about \$10,000 to equip a single firefighter, not including expenses such as station utilities, maintenance, apparatus upkeep and vehicle purchases.

"A strong volunteer fire department is an essential part of any community's safety initiatives but is very expensive to properly maintain and equip," Ollio said. "We believe that improving their social media reach would help remind people of the essential role they play in our community and ways Bethel Park residents can help ensure they continue to function for years to come."

To help recruit younger members, the campaign highlighted educational and training opportunities available to volunteers. McGuire pointed to programs offered through the Community College of Allegheny County's Public Safety Institute, including entry-level firefighter certifications, Fire Science and Emergency Services degrees, and specialized rescue training. He also noted the FireVEST scholarship, which provides free education in exchange for a five-year volunteer service commitment in Allegheny County.

"If you are looking to continue your education but not quite sure what you

want to do, this is a very attractive option," McGuire said.

The students meet weekly with fire company leaders to brainstorm ideas and review content. The results have been significant.

When the project began, the department's Facebook page had about 380,000 total views. In roughly four months, that number grew to more than 1.6 million views, with the page gaining about 1,300 new followers. Instagram views also increased by more than 177 percent during that period.

McGuire and Ollio said they were given considerable creative freedom and focused on balancing lighter, engaging content — such as a holiday-themed "12 Days of Christmas" series and silly member interviews — with more substantive posts on safety, health initiatives and home fire prevention.

"We have kept an eye on what other departments have done, and if we see a good idea or something that could work for us, we repurpose parts of it for our needs and add our own spin," Ollio said. "We have received a lot of positive feedback."

The students said they were mindful of respecting firefighters' time and preferences.

"These are grown men and women, many with full-time jobs, who spend hours of their free time serving the community," McGuire said. "The last thing they want to do after a long day is a silly dance or jokes on camera."

In addition to online outreach, the students recently organized a fundraiser through The Bean, the school's student café, raising \$117 for the fire company.

They also sought to challenge misconceptions about who can serve as a volunteer firefighter. McGuire and Ollio said the Bethel Park Volunteer Fire Company includes men and women ranging in age from 19 into their mid-60s.

"It's people from all walks of life," McGuire said. "I know some people are concerned that they won't fit in, but everyone is welcome there."

"A strong volunteer fire department is an essential part of any community's safety initiatives but is very expensive to properly maintain and equip," Ollio said. "We believe that improving their social media reach would help remind people of the essential role they play in our community and ways Bethel Park residents can help ensure they continue to function for years to come."

BPHS Students Earn Top Honors at DECA District III Conference

Bethel Park High School DECA members earned multiple awards at the PA DECA District III Conference held Dec. 3 at Duquesne University, where Duquesne's School of Business and its Small Business Development Center hosted the event.

Carly Conroy was elected to serve as the 2026–27 PA DECA District III representative.

This year's conference featured a newly established format for the 2025–26 school year, which increased the number of participating schools while reducing the number of automatic qualifiers to the top two finishers in each event.

Eleven Bethel Park students earned trophies and qualified for the PA DECA Career Development Conference, scheduled for Feb. 18–20 in Hershey. They will be joined by about 70 additional BPHS students who are preparing written papers and presentations.

First-place winners:

- **Sam Bell**, Marketing Communications
- **Audrey Francis**, Principles of Entrepreneurship
- **Vince Ollio**, Personal Financial Literacy

Second-place winners:

- **Aruzhan Akhmetkhali**, Business Services Marketing
- **Veronica Balkovec**, Principles of Entrepreneurship
- **Brenden Bashline**, Supply Chain Management
- **Camdyn Cekus**, Hotel & Lodging Management
- **Robbie DeVilling** and **Declan Finnegan**, Financial Services Team
- **Ava Friday**, Human Resources Management
- **Jeffrey Rubican**, Personal Financial Literacy



Bethel Park Sophomore Luca Adams Earns STEM Honor Through The Challenge Program



Bethel Park High School sophomore **Luca Adams** has been recognized as the winner in the STEM category through The Challenge Program, earning the honor for his achievement in electrical construction.

Adams received the award during a recent visit by representatives from The Challenge Program, a nonprofit organization that partners with schools and local businesses to recognize student achievement in academics, career and technical education, and community involvement.

They also presented him with a \$200 check to spend as he pleases. His recognition came in the STEM category, which highlights excellence in science, technology, engineering and math-related fields.

Adams was honored for his work in electrical construction, an area of study that emphasizes technical skill, problem-solving and hands-on learning aligned with workforce needs in the construction and infrastructure industries. School

officials said the award reflects both his academic commitment and his ability to apply classroom instruction to real-world technical challenges.

Adams was one of four winners recognized from the school's PM session. He was joined by Elizabeth-Forward student **Terron Davis** (*Collision Repair and Refinishing*), who was honored in the Academic Improvement category; South Park's **Ava Webb** (*Vet Assistant*), who received a Community Service award; and West Mifflin product **Kendall Kerrigan** (*Culinary Arts*), who was also recognized for her Community Service.

Founded in 2003, The Challenge Program works with more than 100 high schools across Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia. The program motivates students in grades 10 through 12 by offering recognition, financial incentives and exposure to career opportunities. Students are eligible for awards in five categories: attendance, academic excellence, academic improvement, community service and STEM.

In addition to cash awards, The Challenge Program connects students with business partners who provide career-focused experiences such as facility tours, classroom presentations, mentoring, job shadowing and internship opportunities.

Since its founding, The Challenge Program has reached hundreds of thousands of students and awarded millions of dollars in incentives, helping students discover their potential and prepare for life after high school.

Adams' recognition highlights the value of career and technical education and the role it plays in preparing students for high-demand careers in skilled trades.

Speech & Debate Team Returns with Strong Season

After a two-year hiatus, the Bethel Park High School Speech & Debate Team returned to competition this season and quickly reestablished itself on the regional forensics circuit under the direction of coach **Mrs. Katie Clifford**.

The team opened its season in October at Peters Township High School. **Magnolia Cavagnaro** placed sixth in Dramatic Interpretation, while **Eliza Sterbal** earned third place in Humorous Interpretation, signaling a strong start for the revived program.

In November, Bethel Park competed at multiple tournaments. At the M&M Erie Invitational, **John Waterstram** and **Scarlett Stockhausen** finished fourth in Public Forum Debate, and **Lily Edwards** placed sixth in Dramatic Interpretation. Later in the month at Moon Area High School, **Sophia Zeglowitsch** earned third place in Congressional Debate, and Edwards followed with a fifth-place finish in Humorous Interpretation. The team then traveled to Pine-Richland High School, where Cavagnaro placed fourth in Dramatic Interpretation.

Competition continued in December at Duquesne University. Zeglowitsch earned a fifth-place finish in Congressional Debate, while Edwards added another fifth-place result in Humorous Interpretation.

In January, Bethel Park closed the season at the Dalmasse Sterner Invitational at Taylor Allderdice High School in Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill neighborhood. Waterstram and Stockhausen placed third in junior varsity Public Forum Debate, and Edwards secured third place in Humorous Interpretation.

Throughout the season, students have represented Bethel Park in Congressional Debate, Dramatic Interpretation, Public Forum Debate, Original Oratory and Humorous Interpretation, earning multiple awards despite a relatively small roster.

The year also included a historic milestone for the program. Edwards, a student at Independence Middle School, became the first Bethel Park middle school student to compete at the National Speech and Debate Association Middle School National Tournament. Competing in Des Moines, Iowa, she placed 27th nationally in Humorous Interpretation, finished first in one preliminary round and ranked as the top finisher from Pennsylvania in any middle school event.

Clifford praised the students for their dedication and composure, noting they often compete against larger, more established programs.

"Our kids compete well in every event they participate in," said Clifford. "Hopefully, they are laying a strong foundation for continued growth."



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Watch for Our Upcoming **FREE*** TV & Electronics Recycling Event!

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SOUTH PARK WAVE POOL PARKING LOT

Details will be announced on our Social Media Platforms & Website (www.bethelparkpa.gov) closer to the event date.

We collected 105,000 pounds of recycled material and had over 500 participating vehicles at our November 2025 event!

Collection breakdown included:

- Flat-panel display devices: 44,071 lbs.
- CRT devices: 12,023 lbs.
- Computers and data containing devices: 5,745 lbs.
- Additional peripheral devices: 33,171 lbs.



Questions about the upcoming event?
Email nguarino@bethelparkpa.gov

*\$25/fee for items containing freon.

Join us!

Bethel Park's Spring Cleanup Day

Volunteer to help spruce up your community! A list of areas in need of clean up will be provided as well as supplies.

Saturday, April 25



Individuals, groups or community organizations that would like to participate should RSVP to:
HAYA EASON at 412-831-6800, x204 or via email at HEASON@BETHELPAKPA.GOV.

