

The Bellmawr Bulletin

A REGULAR PUBLICATION BY AND FOR THE PEOPLE OF BELLMAWR



Winter 2023

2023 REORGANIZATION MEETING

The Annual Reorganization Meeting took place on January 6, 2023. Mayor Chuck Sauter was sworn in for his second term. Councilmen Ray Bider, Jamie Casey, and Bill Evans were also sworn in. Councilman Jim D'Angelo was installed as Council President.



Assemblyman Bill Moen administers the Oath of Office to Mayor Chuck Sauter. Mayor Sauter is joined by his mother, Barbara, and family.



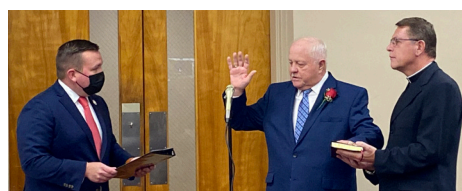
VFW #7410 presented the flags.



Councilman Craig Wilhelm swears in Councilman Jamie Casey. With Councilman Casey is his wife, Vicki.



Solicitor Howard Long, Jr. administers the Oath of Office to Councilman Bill Evans. Councilman Evans is joined by his family.



Assemblyman Bill Moen swears in Councilman Ray Bider. Father Piotr Szamocki holds the Bible for Councilman Bider.

FROM FIRE CHIEF DAN DiRENZO:

In 2022, the Bellmawr Fire Department provided service to our community by responding to more than 4,000 emergency calls for service (1,136 fire incidents and 2,865 EMS incidents), focusing on emergency preparedness through our Office of Emergency Management, and conducting over 200 fire inspections and investigations through our Fire Marshal's Office.

The Bellmawr Fire Department continues to change and evolve. This leads us to seek new cost-effective approaches to providing continued assistance resulting from consolidation of resources, shared services, and reduction of assets.

As a result of these initiatives and the continued support of our Mayor and Borough Council, the most notable improvement began on May 1, 2022 with the implementation of around-the-clock staffing plan. This guarantees fire service responses 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with a minimum of three firefighters on-duty at all times. A primary EMS unit is in-service at all times and it is supplemented by a second EMS unit during peak call volume times five days a week.

The ability to develop and implement these staffing plans has significantly enhanced the safety of our residents and business owners within our community. Our dedicated personnel remain nimble, creative and resilient, which is what makes me so proud of each member of our department.

As we move into 2023, we will continue to raise the bar and develop new cost-effective initiatives to increase our ability to better serve our community. Thank you all again and we look forward to providing you with our services.

SNOW ALERT

Our Public Works Department is working hard to make driving safer and easier in snowy weather conditions. Borough trucks may plow your street several times during these inclement times. As snow rolls off our plows, it will accumulate in driveway aprons and on sidewalks. Please understand that this is unavoidable and we apologize for any inconvenience you may experience while clearing your driveway after the plows have passed.

To ensure safety of pedestrians, residents must remove snow from sidewalks following a snowfall. During recent storms the Public Works Department observed and notified residents using snowblowers to blow all snow on lawn areas. Also, we ask that residents do not shovel the snow back on to the street. Please throw snow back onto lawn areas towards your homes. Once an area is plowed curb to curb, that area is considered finished and will not be plowed again if snow is being thrown back into the street.

- Here are some helpful hints to make "snow" business less frustrating:
- Shovel the snow to the right of your driveway (facing the street, left when facing your home) to minimize the amount of snow entering your driveway.
- If possible, wait until borough trucks have made at least three passes on your street before clearing your driveway.
- If possible, do not park cars on the street from one hour after snow has continuously fallen until 12 hours after snow has stopped. This speeds the removal process and prevents cars from being snowed in.

Please remove portable basketball courts from the street of parking strip. The borough is not responsible for any damages incurred due to plowing. Facts: It takes sunlight and traffic in addition to salt and sand to completely remove ice and compacted snow from roadways. The average car length is 14 feet. If parked on the street during a snowstorm, the area that would have to be shoveled to park in front of a clean curb is 42 feet. The average driveway apron is 12 feet. A total of 30 feet of non-shoveling area would be gained if residents who have driveways use them. We thank you for your cooperation. Please call 856-931-1111 with any questions.

REMINDER FROM PUBLIC WORKS DURING SNOWSTORMS:

BELLMAWR ESTABLISHES SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTE:

The Borough of Bellmawr has established Snow Emergency Routes to improve maneuverability during inclement weather. These routes have been designed by Bellmawr Police, Fire and Highway Departments and include the following streets, courts and parking areas:

Name of Street	Side	Location
Park Dr.	Even	Creek Rd. to W. Browning Rd.
Peach Rd.	Odd	Victory Dr. to Carter Ave.
Carter Ave.	Odd	Peach Rd. to Park Dr.
Farragut Ave.	Even	Charles Ave. to Creek Rd.
Holly Place		End of Court
Cherry Place		End of Court
Ash Terrace		End of Court
Pine Terrace		End of Court
Elm Place		End of Court
Beechwood Place		End of Court
Laurel Place		End of Court
Aspen Place		End of Court
Poplar Place		End of Court
Willow Place		End of Court
Fir Place		End of Court
Railroad Avenue		W. Browning Rd. to Linden Ave.
Rockville Dr.	Even	W. Browning Rd. to Anderson Ave.
Bell Rd.	Even	Creek Rd. to W. Browning Rd.
Colonial Rd.	Even	Bell Rd. to Midway Ln.
Midway Ln.	Odd	Creek Rd. to Colonial Rd.
Walnut Ave.	Even	Hall Ave. to Worthington Ave.
Hall Ave.	Even	Walnut Ave. to Creek Rd.
Old Kings Highway	Both	E. Browning Rd. to Dead End
S. Bellmawr Ave.	Both	E. Browning Rd. to Dead End
S. Cedar Ave.	Both	E. Browning Rd. to Dead End
N. Bellmawr Ave.	Both	E. Browning Rd. to Sixth Ave.
N. Cedar Ave.	Both	E. Browning Rd. to Sixth Ave.
Braington Ave.	Even	Spruce Ave. to Brown Ave.
Devon Ave.	Odd	E. Browning Rd. to Bradley Ave.
Borough Parking Lot	All	Rear Fire Department, Front Parking Area, Community Center and Library

Please call 856-931-1111 for further information or visit Bellmawr.com for Ordinance details.

NOTICE DURING SNOW STORMS

In the event of a snow storm, the Bellmawr Highway Department is asking all residents who have portable basketball courts to remove them from the curb and street during snow storms, because of liabilities. This enables the plows to come down the street with no obstacles to hinder our plowing procedures. We ask that residents shovel snow within 12 hours after the storm has ended.



FALL FESTIVAL

The Fall Festival was a success. The event was well-attended and there were many vendors. The fireworks display at night was enjoyed by all. Great news: There are plans to hold the fireworks again at the 2023 Fall Festival.



Congressman Donald Norcross is pictured with Mayor Chuck Sauter and Councilman Ray Bider



PICKLEBALL COURT

The two new pickleball courts at the Bellmawr Recreation Center are now open and already seeing lots of playing time.



TRUNK OR TREAT

Trunk or Treat took place on October 29, 2022. There were 38 cars that participated and over 700 attended the event. Special thanks to Bellmawr PBA #375 for sponsoring the event, along with the Recreation Department.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Community Clean-Up Day:

Date to be announced. Keep an eye on Bellmawr.com for the date and details.

February 22: Bellmawr Business Alliance Meeting.

March 12: Daylight Savings Time begins. As you spring forward and set your clocks ahead, don't forget to change the batteries in your smoke detectors. If anyone needs assistance with installing or obtaining a smoke detector, please contact the Fire Marshal's Office at 856-933-1239.

March 17: St. Patrick's Day. The Shamrock Search is back! Shamrocks will be placed at various locations around town beginning on Friday, March 10th. If you find a lucky shamrock, bring it to the Recreation Center on March 16th between 5-7 p.m. for your prize.

April 1: Bellmawr Baseball and Softball Opening Day Ceremonies. Parade kicks off at 12:00 noon.

April 8: Annual Easter Egg Hunt at 11:00 a.m. at the Bellmawr Recreation Center.

April 22: Community Yard Sale. Call 856-933-1313 for information.

May 6: Free Rabies Clinic from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Bellmawr Recreation Center.

May 29: Memorial Day Observations will be held at multiple monuments in the Borough. The public is invited and welcome to attend.

June 19: Juneteenth. "Juneteenth" is a combination of "June" and "nineteenth." On June 19, 1865, Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger led the Union Soldiers to Galveston, TX, to announce the end of the war and the freedom of all enslaved people. The Borough Hall will be closed and there will be no single-stream recycling.

SCHOOL SAFETIES HONORED

In early October, school safety patroller Audrina Kelly was injured in a hit-and-run outside of Ethel M. Burke Elementary School while doing her duty to keep her classmates safe. Audrina credits her fellow patroller, 9-year-old Aria King, with saving her life by yelling to get her attention so she was able to avoid being hit head-on by the oncoming truck.

For their bravery as AAA School Safety Patrollers, Audrina and Aria were each honored by AAA South Jersey at the November 15, 2022 Bellmawr Board of Education meeting with a gift basket containing school safety patrol gear and a surprise check for \$1,500. The Bellmawr

Police Department also presented Audrina and Aria with a care package.

In the Spring, Audrina and Aria will both be considered for the national AAA School Safety Patrol Lifesaving Award, the highest honor given to patrol members.



2022 HALLOWEEN HOUSE DECORATING Contest Winners

1st Place: 27 Adams Ave.



2nd Place: 205 Second Ave.



3rd Place: 27 Park Dr.



CHRISTMAS PARADE WINNERS

We would like to thank everyone who participated in our Annual Christmas/ Fire Truck Parade. Congratulations to all of the prize winners and a special thanks to our judges: Tara and Mike Root, Runnemedede-Bellmawr-Glendora Rotary and Therese DiTullio, Sons of Italy-Vita Nuova Lodge 2327 and to our special guest, Santa Claus.

Parade Prize Winners

Best Decorated Engine:

1st Place: Westmont Fire Department
2nd Place: Oaklyn Fire Department

Best Decorated Float:

1st Place: Bernie's Auto Repair
2nd Place: Holcomb Bus Company

Best Decorated Ladder:

1st Place: Barrington Fire Department
2nd Place: Anthony Siciliano (Antique)

Special Judges Award:

1st Place: Thirteenth Child Jeep Club
2nd Place: Paul Sandrock - Tonka Fire Truck

Best Animated Apparatus Company:

Mt. Ephraim Fire Department

Most Patriotic: Bellmawr Public Schools



BELLMAWR BELIEVES

Thank you to everyone who made a donation or dropped off a new toy to Bellmawr Believes. Because of everyone's generosity, 120 children from Bellmawr woke up to special surprises on Christmas morning.



CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

Bellmawr's Annual Christmas in the Park was held as a drive-through event four nights in December. We thank the Bellmawr Recreation Department for their hard work assembling all of the displays and lights. We welcomed approximately 200 cars each night.

A special thanks goes out to the Runnemedede-Bellmawr-Glendora Rotary for donating cookies to distribute.



2022 HOLIDAY HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS

The holiday spirit is truly alive in Bellmawr. Thank you to everyone who entered the Annual Christmas House Decorating Contest. A special thanks goes out to Guest Judges, Barrington Mayor Patti Harris and her husband Bob, who had the difficult task of choosing the winners as all of the entries were incredible.

1st Place:

323 Booth Dr.



2nd Place:

115 Anderson Ave.



3rd Place:

715 Carter Ave.



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Bellmawr Police Department has purchased the LifeVac devices for the patrol vehicles. When the officers are receiving their updated CPR certification, they will also be trained in the use of this device.

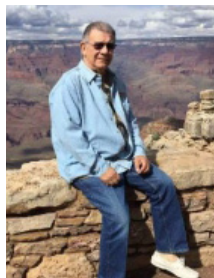
LifeVac is a non-powered, non-invasive airway clearance device developed for resuscitating a victim with airway obstruction. The department felt that having these devices in the patrol vehicles would be a great benefit for the community if the need should arise for their use.



IN MEMORIAM



George Rennles



Joseph "Tippy" Falcone

George Rennles passed away on December 24, 2022. He worked for 46 years in the Borough of Bellmawr and retired in March, 2021 as Water/Sewer Superintendent. George was hired in September, 1975 as an operator for the Bellmawr Sewer Authority. While employed in Bellmawr, George also served as Emergency Management Coordinator and Safety Coordinator.

He was also a volunteer firefighter in Bellmawr. George was a major contributor as a volunteer for Bellmawr's Haunted Hayride and Christmas in the Park. We all miss George greatly and extend our sympathies to his family.

Joseph "Tippy" W. Falcone passed away on October 5, 2022. He worked in the Borough's Public Works Department as Assistant Superintendent of Public Works. He retired in 2008 after 33 years of dedicated service. Our deepest condolences to Tippy's wife Bette and family. Tippy will be sorely missed.

COURAGEOUS OFFICERS PRESENTED WITH COMMENDATIONS

At the November meeting of Mayor and Council, Corporal Kevin Stinger and Patrolman Nicholas Sarin were presented with Commendations for Meritorious Service. While on patrol on November 4, 2022 at 1:00 am, Patrolman Nicholas Sarin observed a suspicious vehicle in the rear parking lot of the Wawa on Creek Road.

Patrolman Sarin was informed by Communications that the vehicle was wanted by the Millville Police Department for a homicide that had occurred in their jurisdiction hours earlier. Corp. Kevin Stinger arrived to assist and the subject was ordered out of the vehicle. The subject refused, locked himself in the vehicle and then began to ingest narcotics. After forcibly gaining entry into the vehicle, the subject was taken into custody and later found to be wanted for the homicide that occurred in Millville.

Due to these officers' diligent and dedicated actions, this dangerous subject was apprehended for the heinous crime committed.



Pictured from left: Lt. Bill Perna, Corp. Kevin Stinger, Chief William Walsh, Captain Mike Draham, Ptl. Nicholas Sarin, Councilman Craig Wilhelm, and Mayor Chuck Sauter.

DPW CONGRATULATES NEW FULL-TIME HIRES

The Department of Public Works congratulates Tristan Casey, Kyle Murray, Joe Cava, Larry King, and Jonathan Jefferson as Helper 4 new full-time hires.



Pictured from left are Pat Gallagher, Highway Superintendent, Tristan Casey, Kyle Murray, Joe Cava, Mayor Chuck Sauter, Larry King, Joe Ciano, DPW Director, Jonathan Jefferson, and Tim Shields, Water Superintendent

SEEKING POLICE OFFICER INFORMATION

Chief William Walsh is in the process of putting together a departmental officer plaque that will display all of the full-time officers who served with the department since the town was incorporated in 1926. If anyone can provide additional information on the following officers, please contact the Police Department at 856-931-2121.

- Patrick Auletto: Badge #1- Hired in 1945- *need retired year and rank*
- Sergeant John (Jack) Clark Badge #8 - Hired in 1960 (*deceased while employed- need year*)
- Patrolman Richard Baals Badge #10 - Hired 1960- *need retired year*
- Sergeant Dan Renzetti Badge #17 - Hired 1973- *need retired year*
- Patrolman George Kralle, Badge #18 - Hired 1974- *need retired year*

The first two Chiefs for the Bellmawr Police Department, Jim Garrity and Ed Garrity, did not have badge numbers. #13 was skipped. To date, the Bellmawr Police has had 70 officers serve the department.

Bellmawr Borough
21 East Browning Road
Bellmawr, NJ 08031

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BELLMAWR, NJ

BELLMAWR HOCKEY PLAYERS HONORED

At the November monthly meeting of Mayor and Council, Certificates were presented to Bellmawr Hockey Association – USA Ball Hockey U13 Future Stars Champions players Gavin Granese, Bradyn Skokowski, Aiden Stallard, and Jaxson Walsh.

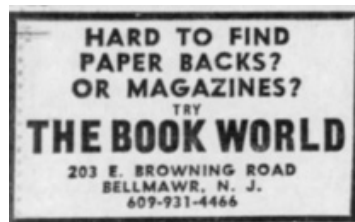


Head Coach Steve Scian said this team was the first New Jersey team to ever win the Future Stars Tournament.

TRIVIA QUESTION

In the last edition, we asked if you could name any of the previous businesses that were at 203 E. Browning Road. The American Heritage Credit Union was there most recently and has since relocated to Glendora.

Answer: A few of the other businesses that were there included an ice cream shop, a cheese shop, and a bookstore.



MISS BELLMAWR 2023

The Miss Bellmawr Pageant will be hosted by the Borough of Bellmawr and will take place on Sunday, May 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the Bell Oaks Gymnasium. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Sign-up information will be available soon on Bellmawr.com

SPONSOR A BANNER

"Drive Traffic to Your Business"

The Public Works Department is completing Phase II Beautification Project on West Browning Road. Display your business name on a light fixture banner on West Browning Road which has a high volume of local and commuter pass through traffic. The banners will be changed four times a year to reflect different seasons.



Borough of Bellmawr
Business Alliance

PO Box 368
21 East Browning Road
Bellmawr, New Jersey 08099
www.Bellmawr.com

- Four Banners & Hardware Kit \$600.00
- Includes Installation & Maintenance of Banners

If you are interested in one of the sponsorships please contact Kim Gallagher, Public Works at 856-931-1111 or fax your request to 856-931-6586. Thank you for operating your business in Bellmawr.

How Well Do You Know Your Town?

The Anthony Infanti Bellmawr Branch of the Camden County Library is located behind Borough Hall. Before the library was relocated to its present location, do you remember where it used to be?

