

The Bellmawr Bulletin

A REGULAR PUBLICATION BY AND FOR THE PEOPLE OF BELLMAWR



Fall 2023

POLICE OFFICERS PROMOTED & SWORN IN

At the August 31st meeting of Mayor & Council, three police officers were promoted, and a new officer was sworn in:

- Keith Williams was promoted to Lieutenant.
- Brian Ertl was promoted to Sergeant.
- Anthony Abbate was promoted to Corporal.
- Justin Reichert was sworn in as Bellmawr PD's newest officer.

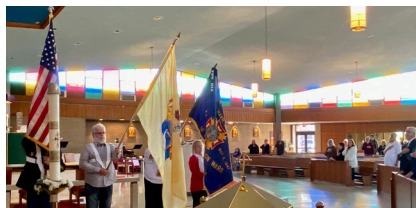
Congratulations officers and stay safe!



*Pictured from left to right:
Corp. Anthony Abbate, Ptl. Justin Reichert, Sgt. Brian Ertl, Chief Bill Perna, Lt. John Marrone,
and Lt. Keith Williams*

HONORING OUR VETERANS

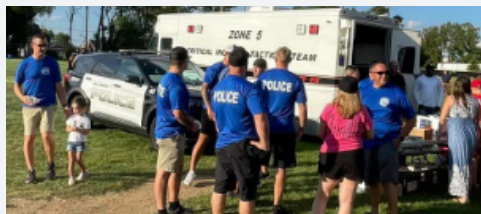
On November 11th, a Veterans Day Mass by Father Paul Olszewski was held at St. Joachim Church to honor our veterans – living, deceased, killed, or missing in action.



National Night Out



Bellmawr Night Out was held on August 1st at the Bellmawr Recreation Center. The event was sponsored by Bellmawr Municipal Alliance and the Bellmawr Police Department. We want to thank all of the organizations and businesses that attended the event. A big thank you to Bellmawr Recreation Department for setting up, taking down, and cleaning up after the event. And a special thanks goes out to Mayor Sauter and Members of Council.



Businesses & Organizations In Attendance:

Bellmawr Fire Department & EMS
Bellmawr Public Works
Bellmawr Police Department
Bellmawr School District
Mr. Softee
Runnemedede-Bellmawr-Glendora Rotary Club

Cooper Hospital Medical Helicopter
TD Bank
Fulton Bank
Gardner Funeral Home
Camden County Communications
Camden County Prosecutor's Office
Raw Health K9 Food

Activities:

The Gaming Truck
Trackless Train
Paw Patrol Characters
Horse & Pony Rides
Balloon Animals

Disc Jockey
Cooper Helicopter
K9 Demonstration
Face Painter

In addition, water, soda, hot dogs, pretzels, and ice cream were enjoyed by everyone!



HALLOWEEN IN BELLMAWR



TRUNK OR TREAT

Trunk or Treat took place on October 27th. There were 64 cars that participated and over 2,500 attended the event. Thank you to the children who participated in the parade. There were 60 children in three age groups (0-4), (5-8), and (9-12) who entered the contest. It was tough to pick the winners as the costumes were very creative. Some of the costumes included a scarecrow, a unicorn, a spider, a rainbow, mac 'n cheese, Mary Poppins, and Mr. Gomez. Prizes were awarded for First, Second, Third, and Fourth Place. Congratulations to the winners! Special thanks to Bellmawr PBA #375, along with the Recreation Department, Mayor and Council, Frani Wright, Lisa Young, and to the many other volunteers and local businesses that donated candy, food, and drinks. We are already looking forward to next year!



BELLMAWR MEN'S CLUB BEST DECORATED TRUNKS

Thank you to all of the residents and organizations who participated in Trunk or Treat. We had 64 participants! Prizes were awarded for First, Second, and Third Place. The winners of the Best Decorated Trunks were: Dumb and Dumber, Cookie Monster, and Michael Myers. ***Congratulations!***

HALLOWEEN HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS

Thank you to all the homes that participated in our Halloween House Decorating Contest.



1st Place: 115 Anderson Ave.



2nd Place: 205 Second Ave.



3rd Place: 135 Kingston Ave.



Congratulations to all the winners!



Dedication of the Mayor Joseph N. Petruzzi Memorial Park

On October 27th, a dedication and ribbon cutting took place for the Mayor Joseph N. Petruzzi Memorial Park on Braisington Avenue. Petruzzi was a Bellmawr resident for 80 years and served as Mayor of the Borough from 1975-1994. He passed away on January 29, 2006. The monument and plaque installed at the park reads: "The park was dedicated to a Mayor who worked tirelessly to make Bellmawr a better place to live. The residents knew his door was always open to them. His accomplishments were numerous, and he was a man who truly loved his town and the residents he served." Members of the Petruzzi family, including his children Lillian, Joe, and Karen, attended the ribbon-cutting. The Petruzzi family was joined by many long-time friends and elected officials, including Mayor Chuck Sauter, Members of Council, and Assemblyman Bill Moen.

Mayor Chuck Sauter said of Mayor Petruzzi: "This is a project Mayor Petruzzi would have been proud of and is worthy of his name. Although somehow, someway, he would have gotten it done far cheaper." Expressing her gratitude, Mayor Petruzzi's daughter, Karen, commented: "This location is the perfect place for him, and he would love it." A long-time friend of Mayor Petruzzi and retired Bellmawr Police officer, Ted Jeffers, served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He took a moment to honor his friend with a salute: "I have been a friend of Joe since we were 14 years old. I would like to salute Joe for his service in the Navy in World War II where he served in the Marines as a medic."



RYAN COYLE MONUMENT & MEMORIAL

A newly constructed monument was recently installed at the Bellmawr Recreation Center in honor of Ryan Coyle, who passed away in 2012 from injuries he sustained after being punched at a concert. Ryan loved baseball and played many games on the field which has been renamed in his honor. A new monument and marker have been erected in memory of Ryan.

The monument reads: "Ryan's passion for baseball was admirable and courageous. He will always be remembered by his easygoing, loving – yet goofy character. Ryan was a true example of a loyal teammate, uncle, son, and brother."



*Pictured are Ryan's parents,
Dennis and Ginny Coyle.*



*Pictured from left to right:
Councilman Bill Evans, Mayor Chuck
Sauter, Borough Clerk Frani Wright,
and Ginny and Dennis Coyle.*



PINA'S HAIR FASHIONS



Josephine (Pina) Quattrochi, of Pina's Hair Fashions, recently retired after 54 years of serving many clients in her hair salon at 1128 W. Browning Road. We wish you a very happy and healthy retirement.



Josephine Quattrochi is pictured with her family and in her salon.



Celebrating America's 250th Captain Harrison's Plantation: Home of Bellmawr's Revolutionary War Hero



As part of the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program and the Camden County Historic Preservation Fund, a new historic marker was recently installed outside of New St. Mary's Cemetery on Browning Road.

In 1775, the Gloucester Town militia soldiers elected William Harrison as their company captain. Here, on the land New St. Mary's Cemetery now occupies, Continental Captain William Harrison, Jr. lived with his wife, children, and servants. He was the township's largest landowner, possessing this 287-acre plantation, a mill, three 25-acre tenements (rental properties), the 156-acre Bromley farm, lots, and a house in Gloucester Town. The New Jersey Department of Transportation demolished the house in 2017.



NALOXONE KITS DISTRIBUTED TO BUS DRIVERS

On September 26th, Mayor Chuck Sauter and Police Chief Bill Perna joined with law enforcement, public officials, members of the Black Horse Pike Regional School District, and members of the county's Addiction Awareness Task Force to distribute Naloxone kits to school bus drivers at Triton Regional High School.

So far, four districts across Camden County are participating in the program and 104 bus drivers have been trained to administer Naloxone. The goal, like installing the Naloxone boxes throughout every school in Camden County, is to have this tool on every school bus.



CAMDEN COUNTY HEALTH FIRST CARE & WELLNESS CENTER UNVEILED

On November 1st, Mayor Chuck Sauter joined the Camden County Board of Commissioners and officials from the Camden County Health Department in a ribbon cutting and unveiling of the new Health First Care and Wellness Center. The Bellmawr Regional Health Center was renovated to offer residents a more welcoming healthcare experience.

The rebranding will help to reach a broader patient base by attracting new patients and improving the experience of existing clients. This rebranded wellness center will serve as a hub for community health in Camden County.



SOLDIER SCULPTURE AT THE BELLMAWR WAR MEMORIAL

In May, 2023, the Borough was notified by J.A. Montgomery Consulting that the mighty oak tree at the Bellmawr War Memorial should be trimmed of dead branches that could fall on the Memorial or visitors. The Borough was also advised that the tree was afflicted with bacteria oak scorch disease and that it should be removed. On May 17, 2023, Liberty Tree Service removed the tree, except for a section of its trunk. After a certified arborist confirmed that there was no risk of disease spreading to other trees, the Borough proceeded to commission a tree sculptor to craft a replica of the Cpl. Michael Crescenz statue from the Philadelphia Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Ackmonster's Chainsaw Art LLC performed the carving, which took two days and then one day to seal it. Additional blockwork, lighting, and mulch have also been added. Since the creation of the Bellmawr War Memorial, 82 trees have been planted at the scenic overlook. The Borough will continue its commitment to sustainability by planting additional trees in the area to offset the loss of the mighty oak.



MADE IN THE SHADE

Visitors to Sauter Park can escape the sun thanks to a newly installed shade system.





Safety Reminders From the Bellmawr Fire Department, Division of EMS, & Office of Emergency Management



As the winter months are approaching and the weather is starting to change, we have some reminders for our residents to keep in mind to increase their safety.

CARBON MONOXIDE

Often called the invisible killer, carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless gas created when fuels such as gasoline, wood, coal, propane, etc. do not burn completely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel are potential sources of CO. Carbon monoxide incidents are more common during the winter months, and in residential properties.



GENERATORS

Portable generators are useful during power outages; however, many homeowners are unaware that the improper use of portable generators can be risky. The most common dangers associated with portable generators are carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning, electrical shock or electrocution, and fire hazards.

According to a 2013 Consumer Product Safety Commission report, half of the generator-related deaths happened in the four coldest months of the year -- November through February, and portable generators were involved in the majority of carbon monoxide deaths involving engine-driven tools.



HEATING

In 2011-2015, heating equipment was involved in an estimated 54,030 reported U.S. home structure fires, with associated losses of 480 civilian deaths, 1,470 civilian injuries, and \$1.1 billion in direct property damage. These fires accounted for 15% of all reported home fires.



WINTER STORMS



Most of the U.S. is at risk for winter storms, which can cause dangerous and sometimes life-threatening conditions. Blinding wind-driven snow, extreme cold, icy road conditions, downed trees, and power lines can all wreak havoc on our daily schedules.

Home fires occur more in the winter than in any other season, and heating equipment is involved in one of every six reported home fires, and one in every five home fire deaths.

CANDLES

December is the peak time of year for home candle fires. The top three days for home candle fires are Christmas, New Year's Day, and New Year's Eve. Each year between 2012 and 2016, an average of 8,200 home candle fires were reported.



ELECTRICAL



Electrical home fires are a leading cause of home fires in the U.S. Roughly half of all home electrical fires involve electrical distribution or lighting equipment, while nearly another half involve other known types of equipment like washer or dryer fans, in addition to portable or stationary space heaters.



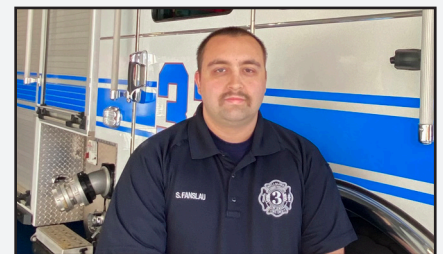
RECENT ADDITIONS TO STAFF



Over the past couple of months, we have welcomed some new full-time personnel hires at the Bellmawr Fire Department including:



Firefighter / Fire Inspector:
Scott Irwin



Firefighter / Fire Inspector:
Shawn Fanslau



EMS Captain:
Annmarie Tonnelli



EMT:
Bianca DiPadova

Good luck to all in your new positions and stay safe!

NEW HIGHWAY RAMP OPENINGS: MISSING MOVES

In the very near future, a couple of highway ramps will open, which will assist with reducing some of the traffic impacts created in our town.

Motorists will be able to commute directly from Route 42 North to Route 295 South and Route 295 North to Route 42 South without having to travel into Bellmawr to make the transitions. This is only part of the overall highway project but is definitely a step in the right direction for our community!



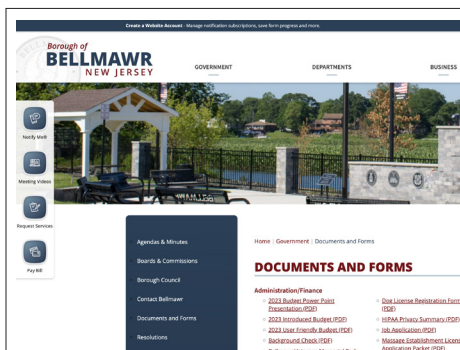
FROM THE ZONING OFFICIAL: PORTABLE SIGNS

The Zoning Official will continue to enforce the sign ordinance within the borough to include any portable advertising signs or décor. Election signs are considered freedom of speech and right to campaign but must be removed immediately following an election.

All signs are required to be permitted within our borough. This is enforced to ensure that our streets and town are kept clear and safe from anything that could create an obstruction from not being properly secured.

ONLINE PERMITTING

Coming soon, residents will be able to file for their zoning permits online via the borough website. We hope to have this launched soon to enhance our permitting efficiency and documentation.



❄️ 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 or 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.



The Holidays in Bellmawr

Mayor Chuck Sauter and Members of Council wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a very happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year!

SANTA'S MAILBOX

From December 1st - 15th, Santa's Mailbox will be outside of Borough Hall to receive your letters for Santa.



HOLIDAY HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST

The holidays are fast approaching! Details and registration information for the Annual Holiday House Decorating Contest will be on Bellmawr.com.

BELLMAWR BELIEVES

Every child deserves to experience the joy of Christmas by receiving surprises from Santa's magical sleigh. Bellmawr Believes is the only fund drive supported and sponsored by the Bellmawr Police Department and the Borough of Bellmawr and we rely on donations to help make this a success.

Please consider donating a new, unwrapped toy to Bellmawr Believes. Boxes will be placed at Borough Hall and various businesses throughout town. You can also bring a toy to "Fill That Bus" during Christmas in Bellmawr at the Recreation Center.

Monetary donations can be made via:

Venmo @Bellmawr_Believes

Email questions to:
bellmawrbelieves@yahoo.com



OPERATION SANTA ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Santa will continue his long-standing tradition of visiting each neighborhood in Bellmawr on Christmas Eve as he is escorted by our firefighters and EMT's. Look for Santa and be sure to wave when he comes by your house. The "Santa Tracker" will be utilized again this year so you can track Santa's whereabouts via the mobile app so you will know when he gets close to your house. The town is broken down into three Santa Zones and you will be able to click the link for your zone. Santa will be starting his ride around town at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

Operation Santa Zones:

East = Black Horse Pike to Barrington Borde

Central = Black Horse Pike to Route 42/76 Overpasses

West = Route 42/76 Overpasses to Brooklawn Border

Santa Tracker links for the zones will be posted on the Bellmawr Fire Department's Facebook page on Christmas Eve morning.

HOLIDAY TRASH/ RECYCLING SCHEDULE

December 25, 2023:

Christmas Day. Borough Hall will be closed and there will no single-stream recycling collection.

December 27, 2023:

No vegetative waste collection. The Highway Division will collect single-stream recycling town-wide.

January 1, 2024:

No vegetative waste collection.

January 3, 2024:

No vegetative waste collection. The Highway Division will collect single-stream recycling town-wide.

The Bellmawr DPW wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season!



ANNUAL HOLIDAY FIRE TRUCK PARADE & TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

On Sunday, December 3rd beginning at 6:00 p.m., the parade will kick off at St. Joachim Church and will continue along Browning Road. The parade concludes at Borough Hall for the tree lighting. We need cars and floats to be part of our parade! If anyone is interested in entering a holiday-themed vehicle or float, please call the Borough Hall at 856-933-1313.



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The Sons of Italy Vita Nuovo Lodge 2327 invites you for a free breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 2nd from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Bud Mullen Community Center, 21 E. Browning Road.



CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

Christmas in the Park will take place as a drive-through event on December 8th, 9th, 15th, and 16th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

GET READY FOR PRESCHOOL WITH TODDLER TIME

Ages 18 months - 3 years old with parent or guardian.

Meets every other Friday through May 17, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

This is a new program offered to Bellmawr residents to help children socialize with other children.

Program includes:

*Play-based learning, Arts and Crafts,
Storytime & Meeting New Friends*

Program location:

*James "Bud" Mullen Community
Center, 29 E. Browning Road*

Please email jfina@bellmawr.com for more information.



Students enjoy Halloween activities during Toddler Time in October.

IN MEMORIAM

We remember Pasquale "Pat" Gismondi, Sr. who owned and operated Pat's Place barber shop on 901 W. Browning Road for many years. Pat passed away on June 18, 2023 and he will be greatly missed.



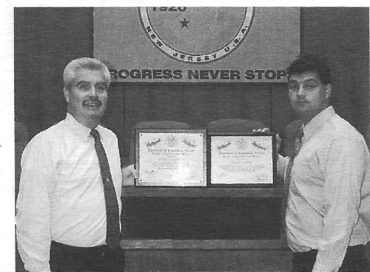
Blast From The Past

Check out this photo and story from the 1998 Bellmawr Bulletin featuring DPW Superintendent, Joe Ciano with Chuck Sauter, who at the time was the Borough Clerk and is now the Mayor.

Congratulations Are In Order

Mayor and Council extend their congratulations to Chuck Sauter and Joseph Ciano for completing courses needed to become a registered municipal clerk and certified public works manager, respectively. Borough Clerk Chuck Sauter is now a registered municipal clerk following completion of his fifth course in March and the passing of the state exam he took at Rutgers University on June 9, 1997. He received a certificate of recognition and a pin from the State of New Jersey Municipal Clerk's Association on November 19th at the 82nd Annual League of Municipalities Conference held in Atlantic City.

Joseph Ciano, who is currently the Public Works Department Foreman, is now a certified public works manager after passing the New Jersey Certified Public Works Management exam in June of 1997 at Rutgers University Center for Government Services where he has been taking classes since May of 1994. Some of the courses covered in-



cluded Managing and Developing Human Resources, Operations Resource Management and Municipal Planning and Urban Development. He is a current member of the South Jersey Water Environment Association and the Public Works Association of New Jersey. Joe also received a diploma on November 20th, during the 82nd Annual League of Municipalities Conference in Atlantic City.

TRIVIA QUESTION: DO YOU REMEMBER?

In the last edition of the Bellmawr Bulletin, we asked if you knew the name of Bellmawr's newest street.

The answer is Woodland Place in Bellmawr Park. Woodland Place was created in 2017 when 12 units in Bellmawr Park were relocated for the Direct Connection Project. Six units were relocated to the dead-end area of Peach Road, while the other six units were relocated to a newly constructed court called Woodland Place.

THIS EDITION'S QUESTION:



What very popular business was once located at 212 W. Browning Road?

Hint: If you went there on a Saturday morning, or after church, you had to be patient and remember to take a number because there were often long lines. But, it was always worth the wait. Do you remember the name of the business?