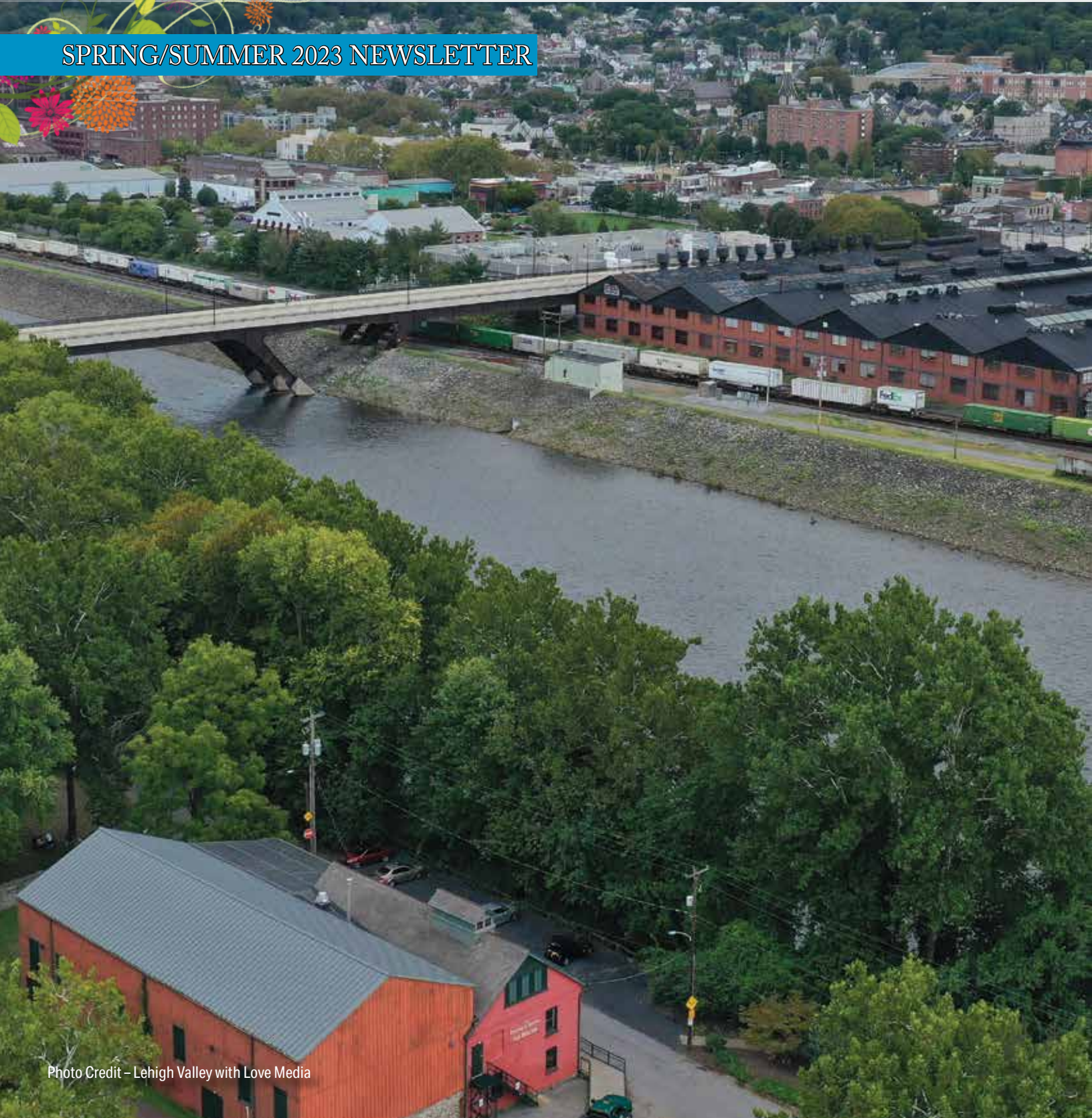




SPRING/SUMMER 2023 NEWSLETTER



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Mayor's Address to the City of Bethlehem

As warmer weather arrives, I invite you to get out and embrace the joys of life in Bethlehem and experience the strength of our community as we continue to grow and build a city for all.

There are many opportunities this Spring for you to see why Bethlehem continues to find itself on the lists of the most desirable places to live in America. From block parties to outdoor concerts, high-quality culinary experiences to familiar settings for fellowship, community meetings to cultural celebrations, the ways to engage with the features that give Bethlehem such a high quality of life are endless.

Just a few examples of exciting events and activities this Spring include the annual block party at Friendship Park co-hosted by the community-driven neighborhood revitalization initiative Northside Alive and our Live in the Garden Saturday evening concert series in the Rose Garden. Another opportunity for recreation and outdoor activity includes utilization of the recently completed fifth phase of the Greenway, which extends the Greenway to Saucon Park, connecting our beloved urban, multi-use trail to the South Side Little League Baseball field.

In addition to enjoying Bethlehem's vibrant quality of life, there are opportunities for you to continue to engage with this Administration on the priority community-based initiatives we have been building with tremendous momentum over our first year in City Hall. We are working every day on initiatives that will not only ensure Bethlehem stays one of the most desirable places to live but that will also meet the needs of our residents and support the people and the communities that make our city so unique, diverse, and special.

The Administration, with the support of City Council, created the Community Recovery Fund grant program that will allow us to make new investments in the community to help us rebuild from the pandemic and provide systemic and sustainable solutions to the most pressing problems people are facing. Applications for the first round of grant funding opened on March 1. To help determine what problems are most pressing for people in Bethlehem, last fall we asked you how you would prioritize spending made possible by the American Rescue Plan to address areas of need. We received more than 700 surveys. We established this fund to support non-profits and organizations that are seeking to fulfill needs based on the priority areas that you determined were the most critical.

We also know and have heard resoundingly from residents that housing affordability and housing stability are critical issues for people in Bethlehem. We allocated \$5 million dollars towards affordable housing strategies identified in the City's Comprehensive Housing Strategy. We are taking a data-driven approach to develop a smart strategy that will make the most progress for the most people given prevailing market conditions and capacity in the city. And we are incorporating the community's feedback that we gathered from over 3,000 survey responses we received at our pop-up events and through our community partners. We also allocated \$2 million dollars towards creating a permanent year-round homeless shelter to fill an identified, urgent need to support the housing pipeline and increase housing stability in our city.

We know that so many of the challenges we are facing are not unique to Bethlehem but are shared regional issues that can only be addressed through shared leadership. In February, Mayor Matthew Tuerk of Allentown and Mayor Salvatore J. Panto of Easton stood by my side in Town Hall to announce that we would be creating the 3 City Coalition to address together the issues of homelessness, affordable housing, and sustainability. The three mayors are collaborating to create far-reaching and powerful public and private partnerships to tackle these issues in a systemic, proactive fashion rather than reacting to individual crises as it occurs.

Finally, we are embarking on an internal process in City Hall to create Bethlehem's first Equity Plan. Our goal is to eliminate gaps or unintended consequences of some of our city services and policies for staff and Bethlehem residents who engage with us. We will identify clear goals, objectives and measurable outcomes for each department, creating long-lasting positive impact for our community.

There is so much to celebrate in Bethlehem and to strive for moving forward. We spoke about these initiatives and more at another successful State of the City, which took place on April 6th. We incorporated the experiences and voices of our partners in the community to provide a complete picture of why Bethlehem continues to be one of the best places to live, work, and play.

It is our hope that you find this newsletter to be both informative and inspiring as it highlights the great work happening in City Hall and in your neighborhoods. We hope you embrace and experience all that is special about Bethlehem this spring season.



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A Note From City Council



2022 was an ambitious and successful year for Bethlehem City Council. Three veteran legislators welcomed four new members who teamed to complete unfinished business and begin new initiatives. In all, Council held 24 regular meetings and 17 committee and

budget sessions resulting in the adoption of 247 Resolutions and passage of 40 Ordinances. The following highlights made these actions more than just statistics:

First, Bethlehem came alive again as it emerged from the Covid-19 pandemic in the first quarter of 2022. The City's Health Bureau stood tall in leading the fight along with our public safety teams — all of whom are owed a great deal of gratitude.

Despite the many hardships and challenges posed by the pandemic, the City now has perhaps a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to rebound and thrive thanks to \$34.4 million in appropriations through the American Rescue Plan Act. This federal money was provided for pandemic recovery, and the City has seen fit to use it in several ways: recover revenue loss, invest in infrastructure, and establish an affordable housing fund and a homelessness initiative.

In October, a joint meeting of the Community Development and Public Safety committees included a presentation by the City's Department of Community and Economic Development concerning a proposal to use \$1.4 million in ARPA money toward a 50- to 70-bed non-congregant shelter to assist the homeless. If this vision becomes a reality, this would be the Lehigh Valley's first year-round permanent shelter to address homelessness. It is envisioned that this plan would be coupled with a program in which those served by the homeless shelter would transition to affordable housing. The City is spearheading these initiatives and intends to gather partners for financial and professional support. These initiatives will continue to be developed and Council's Community Development Committee will meet again with DCED in February and March to receive updates.

Meanwhile, Council continued its efforts toward increasing transparency. The practice of live-streaming its meetings began in 2019. Today, live-streaming continues as a permanent feature. In June of 2022, Council participated in its biennial training conducted by the State Ethics Commission to educate members on identifying and avoiding conflicts of interest and fulfilling requirements of submitting Statements of Financial Interests. The year also brought passage of a Conflict of Interest Ordinance requiring the mandatory recusal of public officials in matters in which they hold a financial interest. Council held three Committee of the Whole meetings to

work out details before approving passage in November.

City Council also reviewed and took action on several financial matters during 2022. This included authorizing the refinancing of water debt to cap existing debt service payments and borrow an additional \$10 million for capital projects over the next several years, approving several budget adjustments, and convening the Committee of the Whole to review the Five-Year Capital Program.

In 2022, Council conducted its fifth annual Financial Accountability Incentive Reporting hearing to evaluate the effectiveness of economic development incentives — perhaps familiar to you as LERTA and CRIZ — and to increase transparency. These annual hearings are conducted by the Community Development Committee to review administration reports submitted to Council pursuant to Article 349 Economic Development Incentive Reporting and Evaluation, established in 2018.

The Community Development Committee also held a meeting in which the City's land development process was outlined. Other CD Committee meetings involved review, and eventual Council passage, of five zoning text amendments to update the Zoning Ordinance. Similarly, the Human Resources and Environmental Committee assisted in updating an ordinance regulating solar energy devices. The Community Development Committee also reviewed creation of a Southside LERTA District II. This tool, known as Local Economic Revitalization Tax Abatement, has been important in incentivizing the development of blighted and brownfield properties. After committee review, Council passed the ordinance in August.

Council committees also reviewed, and Council passed, amendments to Article 1701 adopting the 2018 Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code, Article 157 entitled the Civil Service Board, Article 1733 adopting the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code, and Article 1501 entitled Fire Safety and Code Enforcement Inspection Fees adopting the 2018 International Fire Code. Council also approved Community Development Block Grant/HOME allocations.

Additionally, Council approved resolutions to allow the City to accept state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources grant funds to help pay for the Fairview Park Revitalization, and DCNR and the Northampton County Open Space Initiative Livable Landscapes Grant Program to help fund the expansion of the Monocacy Trail.

Finally, Council throughout the year authorized a number of contracts, use permit agreements, and certificates of appropriateness, and approved Councilmanic Appointments and Administrative appointments to various City boards, commissions, and authorities.

Michael G. Colón, President of Bethlehem City Council

January 3, 2023

2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

All Council Meetings begin at 7:00 PM unless otherwise specified.

*May 2nd & May 17th	September 5th & September 19th
June 6th & June 20th	October 3rd & October 17th
July 5th & July 18th	*November 8th & November 21st
August 1st & August 15th	December 5th & December 19th

*Wednesday, May 17th- due to May 16th Primary Election Day

**Wednesday, July 5th- due to Fourth of July Holiday

***Wednesday, November 8th - due to November 7th-Election Day

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Michael G. Colón, *President of Council*

Grace Crampsie Smith,
Vice President of Council
Wandalyn Enix
Hillary Kwiatek

Rachel Leon
Paige Van Wirt
Kiera Wilhelm

Contact your Council Member directly through the Council webpage on the City's website: www.bethlehem-pa.gov

Event starts at 4:00PM

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BETHLEHEM SERVICE CENTER

The Bethlehem Service Center is available for residents to contact for non-emergencies 24-hours a day, 7-days a week, and 365-days a year.

There are four ways to contact the Bethlehem Service Center for non-emergencies:

- ✓ **(610) 865-7000:** can be reached by house phone line or by cell phone. This will dial directly into the BSC for non-emergency questions/city inquiries or city services.
- ✓ **Bethlehem Service Center App:** available to download for most cell phones and tablets on either the Play Store or the App Store on your device and search for "Bethlehem Service Center" or "City of Bethlehem" under Apps. Or scan the QR code provided. Access key information at your fingertips with this easy to use mobile application. Receive emergency notifications, submit a service request, find out what to do in Bethlehem, parking, bus schedules, pay your bills and much more.
- ✓ **E-Mail:** The BSC can also be reached at the following e-mail address - bethlehemservicecenter@bethlehem-pa.gov
- ✓ **City of Bethlehem Web Page:** By submitting a service request through the City of Bethlehem's "MY ACCOUNT" Portal.

Examples of "non-emergency" customer service: dirty water, pot holes that need to be repaired, debris in the street, recycling issues, etc. The BSC will also provide assistance to any City of Bethlehem residents that may have questions or concerns that need to be addressed.

Remember in the event of any type of emergency

DIAL 911



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Fire Department

Sound the Alarm Event – May 6, 2023

Home fires claim seven lives every day. Together we can change that. We've joined the American Red Cross in installing smoke alarms and delivering fire prevention information in homes across our area. We know that working smoke alarms can decrease the risk of a home fire death by 50%, and in the event of a home fire you may have as little as just two minutes to escape a burning home.

This is why the Bethlehem Fire Department, along with the Red Cross, have helped to ensure our neighbors and communities are safe and prepared at our Sound the Alarm Event that took place on Saturday, May 6, 2023 the Schweder Fire Station on E. 4th Street. We helped families create an escape plan to practice their 2-minute drill and installed smoke alarms in homes we visited. We also distributed home fire prevention and safety materials.

The Red Cross and the Bethlehem Fire Department are asking every household in Bethlehem to take two simple steps that can save lives: check existing smoke alarms and practice fire drills at home. More information on home fire safety and resources can be found at redcross.org/homefires.



Congratulations to Fire Firefighter Brett Knerr on his recent promotion to Lieutenant. Lieutenant Knerr has been assigned to the 1st Platoon as a district officer working throughout the City of Bethlehem



Congratulations to Jeff Fritz on his recent promotion to Director of EMS and Edward Kronmuller on his promotion to EMS Supervisor.

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Police Department

Graduation of the Citizen Police Academy

Congratulations to the graduates of the Bethlehem Police 2022 Citizen Police Academy! The class completed eight sessions which covered Use of Force, Investigations, Social Work, and many of the specializations like Bethlehem Mounted Police, Bethlehem Police Explorers - Post #301, City of Bethlehem Police School Resource Officers, Crisis Negotiations, and K-9's. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and our police department website for the 2023 class application announcement.



Police Applicant Wait List

Our most recent application period has closed, but we have created a recruitment waitlist so those interested are notified of upcoming application and testing dates. Sign up at <https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/police/recruitment>

City of Bethlehem Health Bureau Conducts Community Health Needs Assessment



The Bethlehem Health Bureau conducts a community health needs assessment every three years as part of our efforts to identify the most pressing health issues impacting our community. The community health needs assessment process helps us gain a better understanding of the risk factors, community assets, and external forces that impact the health of our community. The assessment not only takes into account health behaviors and health outcomes but also other key factors that influence health, such as income, neighborhood conditions, and access to care.

The community health needs assessment process is collaborative and includes input from Bethlehem residents as well as our community partners. A series of four meetings were held with community partners to review data and identify opportunities and threats affecting the local public health system. In addition, a total of four focus groups were held with community members to discuss the overall quality of life in Bethlehem and the major health issues impacting the community. Data collected through the assessment process was analyzed and prioritized in order to create action plans that outline how the Bethlehem Health Bureau will address the issues that have the biggest impact on health outcomes in Bethlehem.

The four priority areas that emerged from the assessment and will be included in the Bethlehem Health Bureau's Community Health Improvement Plan include (1) opioid use, (2) chronic disease prevention, (3) food insecurity, and (4) mental health. A full report can be found at: [https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/Health-Bureau;select Health Data & Plans](https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/Health-Bureau;select%20Health%20Data%20&%20Plans).



Resources and Assistance for City of Bethlehem Residents

For assistance, dial **2-1-1** • In case of emergency, dial **9-1-1**

Are you in need of emergency shelter?

Bethlehem Emergency	484-379-6694
New Bethany Ministries	610-691-5602
Victory House of Lehigh Valley	610-691-3373

Need help with rental payments or housing assistance?

American Red Cross (<i>Disaster Assistance</i>)	610-865-4400
Bethlehem Emergency Services (General)	610-865-7118
Salvation Army (<i>Rental/Housing Assist.</i>)	610-867-4681
Turning Point (<i>Rental/Housing Assist.</i>) (Domestic Abuse Hotline)	610-437-3369
Victory House of Lehigh Valley (<i>Housing Assist.</i>)	610-691-3373
New Bethany Ministries (<i>Rental/Housing Assist.</i>)	610-691-5602 (option 2)
Lehigh Valley Coalition on Affordable Housing (<i>Rental/Housing Assist.</i>)	610-691-5620
Bethlehem Housing Authority (<i>Rental/Housing Assist.</i>)	610-865-8300
Northampton County Housing Authority (<i>Rental/Housing Assist.</i>)	610-759-8488

Need legal assistance with housing?

North Penn Legal Services	610-317-8757
---------------------------	--------------

Do you need public transportation?

LANTA/Metro	610-776-7433
LANTaVan	610-432-3200

Need help paying bills?

First Energy

Repair/Customer Service	1-800-545-7741
First Energy WARM Program	1-800-545-7741

PPL

Repair/Customer Service	1-800-342-5775
PPL WRAP Program	1-800-342-5775

UGI

Emergencies	1-800-276-2722
General Office	1-800-276-2722
UGI WARM Program	1-800-844-9276

Electric

Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley (PP&L Bill)	610-691-5620
--	--------------

Gas

Lehigh County Energy Assistance (LIHEAP Program)	610-821-6702
Northampton County Energy Assistance (LIHEAP Program)	610-250-1785
Salvation Army (UGI Operation Share Program)	610-432-0129 610-867-4681

City Water

City Sewer

Water/Sewer Off Hours

610-865-7070
610-865-7065
610-865-7074



<https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/Community-Economic-Development/Community-Development/Housing>



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The Department of Water and Sewer Resources

LEAD SERVICE LINES and PIPING IDENTIFICATION

With funding assistance from PennVest, the City began a project last summer to replace lead service lines to homes in its water system. This project will continue through 2023. Under this program, the City will replace your private-side service line free of charge if it is made of lead. The private-side runs from the curb stop to your house. We will also replace a private-side galvanized steel line that is downstream of a lead line on the public-side (or street side) of the curb stop. We encourage all customers to help us identify if there is a lead service entering your home. Identification of the type of material used for service lines and in-home plumbing can be done using a magnet and a coin. Your service line material should be tested where the line first enters the home, which is typically found in the basement before the water meter. Once you identify your service line material, we ask that you contact the City so that we can update our data base and enter you in the program for line replacement if warranted.

You can contact us in one of three ways:

1. Call the Water Quality Bureau at 610-865-7144
2. Email the City at LeadServiceLine@bethlehem-pa.gov
3. Visit the City web-site and complete the lead service line identification form <https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/Water-Sewer-Resources/Public-Information/Lead-Service-Lines>

Department of Community & Economic Development

Keep Calm and Swim On

Having a backyard pool can be a fun way for you and your family to be active at home or just relax. However, it is important that you keep you and your family safe by making sure the pool you are enjoying is properly installed and safe for operation. To ensure your backyard pool is safe and installed properly, the City has prepared some swimming pool requirements that must be submitted and completed for a new pool installation.

ABOVE-GROUND SWIMMING POOLS

1. Submit a site plan, drawn to scale, showing the following:
 - a. Property lines
 - b. Location of all improvements (home, outbuildings and new pool, etc.)
 - c. Distance of new pool from property lines (must be a minimum 6')
 2. Indicate location of power lines and distance to proposed pool (must be a minimum 10')
 3. Pools shall have an alarmed door or self-locking gate
 4. If the finished grade of the swimming pool is less than 48" high, a fence must be installed around the pool.
 5. Submit construction information on how the pool will be erected.
 6. Complete Application for Permit
 7. **A licensed Electrician must obtain an electrical permit and perform the electrical work for the pool.** (The home owner may not do this work.)
- a. Property lines
 - b. Location of all improvements (home, outbuildings and new pool, etc.)
 - c. Distance of new pool from property lines (must be a minimum 6')
2. Indicate location of power lines and distance to proposed pool (must be a minimum 10')
 3. Pools shall have an alarmed door or self-locking gate
 4. A fence must be installed around the pool. The minimum height shall be 48". If there is a fence around the entire property, all doors entering into the fenced-in area must be alarmed. Submit details of the proposed fence.
 5. Submit construction drawings showing how the pool will be installed.
 6. Complete Application for Permit
 7. Show bonding of walkway (mesh or 6" slab with rebar)
 8. Show anti-suction device for drain
 9. **A licensed Electrician must obtain an electrical permit and perform the electrical work for the pool.** (The home owner may not do this work.)



IN-GROUND SWIMMING POOLS

1. **Submit a boundary and topographical survey of your property** (Note: A plan may be obtained from our engineering department showing contours.)

Please be sure to obtain the proper permits and inspections so that you can ensure the safety and enjoyment of your pool. A copy of these requirements can be found on the City of Bethlehem's website page under the Code Enforcement link. If you have any questions regarding these requirements, you can reach out to the City of Bethlehem's Code Enforcement Office at 610-865-7091.



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CITY OF BETHLEHEM TAXES

2023 City of Bethlehem Real Estate Property Tax Bills is due in full-postmarked by **May 31, 2023**. After **May 31, 2023** a 10% penalty will be assessed on all bills.

All property Taxes unpaid as of **December 31, 2023** will be turned over to a collection agency.

2022 Earned Income Tax Returns are due on or before **April 18, 2023**.

2022 Business Privilege & Mercantile Tax Returns are due on or before **May 01, 2023**.

2023 REAL ESTATE TAX BILLS

Property Tax Millage Rates

The current (2023) millage rates for the City portion of the real estate tax bill are:

Parcels located within Lehigh County – 6.05

Parcels located within Northampton County – 19.14

City of Bethlehem 2023 Real Estate Property Tax Due Dates:

Discount (2%) 03/31/2023

Base 05/31/2023

Penalty (10%) 12/31/2023

Installment Plan: Installment payments may not commence after the first installment Due Date. A grace period of five (5) days beginning with the due date is allowed for each installment. If not paid within five (5) days beginning with the due date, a penalty of 10% will be added to each delinquent installment. No discounts are allowed on installment payments unless the full tax is paid during the discount period. **Note:** If you are paying by installments, you will be billed for subsequent payments.

All property taxes unpaid as of **December 31, 2023** will be turned over to a collection agency.

Questions or Assistance

For additional questions or assistance with obtaining a copy of a property tax bill, Please contact:

City of Bethlehem Tax Bureau Phone: (610) 865-7022 Option 5

E-Mail: TaxDepartment@Bethlehem-pa.gov

For additional questions or assistance with paying a property tax bill, Please contact:

**City of Bethlehem Bureau of Financial Services
Phone: (610) 865-7125**

EARNED INCOME TAX & LOCAL SERVICES TAX

EARNED INCOME TAX (EIT) FILING

The Earned Income Tax (EIT) rate for the City of Bethlehem

is a 1% income tax that is assessed on the gross earnings of residents and non-residents and net profits of residents. Just like Federal and State income taxes, EIT tax returns must be filed on-line <https://efile.keystonecollects.com/#/login> or by mail on or before **April 18, 2023**.

LOCAL SERVICES TAX (LST) FILING

The Local Services Tax (LST) rate for the City of Bethlehem is \$52 for per person who is employed or self-employed within the City of Bethlehem. Most employers withhold this tax and list it as the "LST TAX" on an employee's pay stub or W-2 form. Self-employed persons are responsible to file/pay the tax themselves quarterly.

The City of Bethlehem uses a third party servicer for collection of Earned Income Taxes and LST Filing. Earned Income Tax Filing & LST Filings for the City of Bethlehem are collected and processed by:

KEYSTONE COLLECTIONS GROUP

<https://keystonecollects.com/forms/>

Phone: (866) 539-1100 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 12:00pm and 12:30pm - 4:00pm

To have forms automatically mailed to you please contact Keystone Collections Group.

BUSINESS PRIVILEGE & MERCANTILE TAX/LICENSING

BUSINESS PRIVILEGE AND MERCANTILE TAX/LICENSE FILING

A Business Privilege License (BPL) is required by all persons and/or businesses that engage in a business, profession, or other commercial activity within the City of Bethlehem. The BPL annual license fee is \$25.00. The license period runs from May 1st through April 30th of the following year.

The 2022 Business Privilege & Mercantile Tax Return is due on or before **May 01, 2023**.

The City of Bethlehem uses a third party servicer for collection of the BPL Licensing and collection of Business Privilege and Mercantile Tax. All BPL registrations, Business Privilege and Mercantile tax payments and returns for the City of Bethlehem are processed by:

Tri-State Financial Group

<http://www.tfgtax.com>

Phone: (610) 270-9520

Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

To have forms automatically mailed to you please contact Tri-State Financial Group.





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Public Works



What is All Over My Tree?

You may have noticed a strange light-green/gray mossy growth on some trees. Should this be removed? Is the plant in trouble?

What you are seeing is something called 'lichens' – Foliose lichens. They can grow on many things, but one often notices them on tree trunks and branches. Lichens are made up of two completely different organisms, mostly composed of a fungus. Algae cells live on fungus found on the tree. These two organisms live together and form a lichen structure.

Lichens never hurt your tree. They exist on top layer of the tree; they do not feed on the tree or cause it harm in any way. Lichens are common on trees because the bark provides a nice place to gather sunlight and grow. It is common to see lichen growing profusely on dead branches or trees which makes one to believe the Lichen is killing the tree. They grow this way on dead branches or dead trees because they are exposed so much more to sunlight than healthy fully foliated trees.

Lichen has several benefits and other functions in nature. Insects make their homes on lichen. Lichen is a food source for several animals including locally, the white-tailed deer. Multiple species of birds also use lichen for nesting materials. Some species of lichens are edible to humans, they can be used for making antibiotics and also made for making dyes.

Some lichen species are great indicators of air pollution levels. Lichen does not have any roots so they absorb whatever is in the air around them. If there are pollutants, it can accumulate in the lichen and stunt growth quickly. The more lichen you see, the more different species you see, and the larger they are which most likely means the air quality is better.

Stormwater and Our Environment

As the weather begins to warm up and residents find themselves spending more time outdoors, the City of Bethlehem would like to remind you to be courteous to your surroundings and the environment.

Stormwater becomes polluted and harms our environment when it comes in contact with and picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants as it flows into storm sewer systems and eventually discharges into our waterways. In an urban area like our city, stormwater flows over green space, parking lots, streets and into a network/system of catch basins and pipes which directly leads to our waterways. The debris that is thrown into the street, parking lots, or onto the City's green infrastructure gets picked up though this system and makes it directly into the waterways. These pollutants can cause harm to ecosystems in the streams, creeks, and rivers throughout the city. One example of this is pet waste that is left on the ground which gets carried away by stormwater contributing harmful bacteria, parasites, and viruses into our water. Similarly, chemicals used to grow and maintain lawns or gardens, if not used properly, will run off into the storm drains and into our waterways.

The city requests that you be mindful this season in keeping our environment clean. Accumulated debris on the roadway, streets, and green infrastructure can also clog the City's catch basins and lead to flooding within our communities. By not littering we can ensure our stormwater systems function as they should and protect our ecosystem and environment.



Image above provided by: <https://www.cccleanwater.org/community/watersheds/what-is-stormwater>

City of Bethlehem's Street Sweeping Schedule

April 1st – October 31st , Tuesday – Friday, 7:30 AM – 2:00 PM

The Bureau of Streets will begin its street sweeping program on April 1st and continue through October 31st. During this time frame street sweeping activities will operate every Tuesday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., on the posted roads throughout the city limits. The regularly scheduled street sweeping routes that are main thoroughfares in the city are posted with "No Parking" signs alerting motorists of parking restrictions for a given day and time. Vehicles must be kept off these posted streets to allow for affective street cleaning.

The city is broken into 88 sweeping districts that are not posted and tries to deploy three sweepers each day to run through these areas. Roads that are under 12 feet wide do not get swept.

For a full route schedule please visit the City Of Bethlehem's website: www.bethlehempa.gov

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RECREATION

SUMMER 2023



SUMMER PARK PROGRAM

Join us for some summer fun at our neighborhood parks! Our summer park program, led by our energetic staff, will again rotate through select parks throughout the City of Bethlehem. Park activities will include, but are not limited to, arts and crafts, games, and special visits by community organizations. We encourage you to visit each location of our park program, so you can experience the diversity in our varied geographic areas throughout the City.

SWIMMING POOLS AND SPLASH PARK

The City of Bethlehem has several ways to stay cool in the summer. There are 5 pools in the City and one splash park. They are Memorial, our regional pool, and Clearview, Stark, Westside, and Yosko, our neighborhood pools. Our splash park, which is free of charge, is located at Yosko Park and open daily from dawn to dusk from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day. The pool season will begin on June 10th this year and will end on August 27th. Season passes are available to be purchased online or in the recreation office at City Hall.



TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL

Tennis or pickleball anyone? Find a partner and play some tennis and/or pickleball at one of our courts. Tennis is available at Clearview, Monocacy, Sand Island and Westside Parks. Pickleball is available at Clearview, Monocacy and Westside.



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TRAILS AND LINEAR PARKS

Whether you like to walk, bike or run, we have a place for you. Visit one of our trails or linear parks:

Monocacy Way Trail - Travel along the beautiful Monocacy Creek from the Industrial Quarter to the Monocacy Recreational Complex at Memorial Pool.

Sand Island Trail (D & L Corridor) - Travel the Delaware and Lehigh Corridor to Allentown or Easton and beyond and experience the history of the Lehigh Canal.

South Bethlehem Greenway Linear Park - Take a walk on the Southside of Bethlehem and stop by Saucon Park, the Skateplaza, and play areas on the trail. In addition, enjoy the Southside Arts District displays and businesses along the way.

South Mountain Park - Enjoy the trails in this beautiful park on Mountain Drive in the backyard of Lehigh University. In addition, bring a disc to play some golf while visiting the park.



MOVIES IN THE PARK

Bring your blankets and chairs and come out and enjoy a movie and some popcorn with your family and friends under the stars. Movies will begin at dusk. This year's schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, June 27th @ Friendship Park -
"Paws of Fury: The Legend of Hank"

Tuesday, July 11th @ Rose Garden Park - "Family Camp"

Monday, July 24th @ Sell Field
(North Bethlehem Little League) - "Tyson's Run"

Wednesday, August 2nd @ Yosko Park - "Lightyear"

BERNIE FRITZ NIGHT

Join us for a night of food, games, dancing, face painting, arts and crafts, and more. Our annual Bernie Fritz Night celebration honoring the late playground leader, teacher, and coach who devoted his life to Bethlehem youth will be held Wednesday, July 19th from 6-8pm at Bernie Fritz Park on Memorial Ave. in the Northeast section of the City.



Please check out our website for more information on the above and all of our programming:
<https://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/Recreation-Activities>



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Hey! Thank you so much for taking the time to read this! My wife and I lead the East Coast campus of Our City Center Church right here in Bethlehem and we would love to connect with you! We believe that YOU were created on purpose for a purpose and we would love to hear your story! Scan the QR code below and let's connect!

CONNECT WITH US

GATHERING TIMES SUNDAYS

In-Person: 10:00am
William Penn Elementary School
1002 MAIN STREET
BETHLEHEM, PA 18018

FOR MORE INFO OR VISIT
OURCITYCENTER.COM/LEHIGHVALLEY

@OURCITYCENTER

Recycling

2023 SPRING YARD WASTE CURBSIDE PICK-UP SCHEDULE

JUNE 5-16, 2023

RECYCLING PICK UP DAY	YARD WASTE PICK UP DAY
--------------------------	---------------------------

6/5/23	6/5/23
--------	--------

6/6/23	6/6/23
--------	--------

6/7/23	6/7/23
--------	--------

6/8/23	6/8/23
--------	--------

6/9/23	6/9/23
--------	--------

6/12/23	6/12/23
---------	---------

6/13/23	6/13/23
---------	---------

6/14/23	6/14/23
---------	---------

6/15/23	6/15/23
---------	---------

6/16/23	6/16/23
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June 5 – 9 is B week, pick up all curbside recycling as well as curbside yard waste for all B week residents.

June 12 – 16 is A week, pick up all curbside recycling as well as curbside yard waste for all A week residents.

Here are the requirements:

- All materials must be placed **CURBSIDE** the night before your collection day.
- Only ONE pass-thru will be made for each street.
- All items must be in either **BROWN PAPER BAGS**, rigid containers of less than 30 gallons or bundled with string (no tape or rope).
- No items over 4 inches in diameter or 4 feet in length.
- Any materials in plastic bags will not be picked up.

Materials accepted:

Leaves, small brush, hedge and shrub trimmings, Christmas trees free of tinsel, decorations and lights. Christmas trees must not be in plastic bags.

Materials NOT accepted:

Grass, hay, straw, tree stumps, root balls, soil, dirt, sod, mulch, bamboo, ornamental grass, pumpkins, cornstalks, acceptable materials not bagged, bundled or containerized or items exceeding length, width or weight requirements.

City of Bethlehem
610-865-7082



2023
Holiday
Collection
Schedule

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Holiday

New Year's Day **Holiday is on Sunday**
Memorial Day **5/29**
Independence Day **7/4**
Labor Day **9/4**
Thanksgiving Day **11/23**
Christmas Day **12/25**

***If a holiday falls on a weekday (Mon.-Fri.) and it's your normal pick-up day, recycling will be picked up one day later for the remainder of the week.

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							
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										1	2	3	4				1	2	3	4	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28					26	27	28	29	30	31		
29	30	31																			
APRIL							MAY							JUNE							
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30		
30																					
JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
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OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER							
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
29	30	31												31							

Blue indicates "A" week

White indicates "B" weeks

Yard Waste Drop Off
Bethlehem Yard Waste Facility
1480 Schoenersville Road
Tuesday – Saturday: 9 am to 3 pm
CLOSED Sunday & Monday

FACILITY IS CLOSED DURING THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER, FEBRUARY & MARCH
Materials Accepted: Leaves (loose or in brown paper bags), small brush up to 4" diameter (no longer than 6'), hedge trimmings, garden plant residue, Christmas trees (free of ornaments, lights and tinsel).
Not Accepted: Sod, grass clippings, tree stumps, hay/straw, plastic bags, soil / mulch, root balls, bamboo, or ornamental grass.
No Dumping: Dumping is illegal and violators will be fined according to City Ordinances

and PA DEP Guidelines.

Please note: All loads must be tarped when entering or exiting the facility.

Loading Service: \$10 per cubic yard. Loading services end daily at 2:45 PM. Pickup trucks can no longer be self-loaded. There is a limit of 3- 30 gallon containers that may be self-loaded.

Please Note: Materials may only be dropped off when the Center is open and operating. Only **QUALIFIED RESIDENTS** and property owners within the City of Bethlehem may drop off materials at the Yard Waste Facility. You must show a valid driver's license and compost card on every drop-off trip.

Recycling
Theis/Cornfeld Recycling Center
635 Illick's Mill Road
Tuesday – Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed Sunday and Monday

Materials Accepted: Mixed office paper, junk mail, magazines/shiny paper, hard & soft cover books, cardboard, flat board, telephone books, scrap metals, aluminum, most appliances, textiles/used clothing, plastics #1 thru #7, glass bottles & jars, cans, used clothing and Styrofoam.

Please Note: We **CANNOT** accept the following items: **pressurized tanks, propane tanks, dishwashers, batteries, paint cans (empty or full), electronics and plastic bags.**

Please be advised of extreme temperature closings: During Summer when real feel temperature approaches 100 degrees and during Winter months when real feel temperature nears 0, our facilities may close unexpectedly. Please plan your visits accordingly. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Bethlehem Area Public Library

Bethlehem Area Public Library Undergoes Major Renovations

When the Main Library at City Center opened in 1967, it was the bee's knees. There were towering bookshelves, large oak reading tables, and more reference books than you could shake a stick at. But it was time to make some changes, freshen up the place, and reflect the needs of a 21st century library. The Bethlehem Area Public Library recently completed a major renovation of the first floor of the Main Library (11 W. Church St.), and after nearly two months of limited access to the library, we are ready to open the doors and are confident the new look is sure to please library patrons. There are new high-tech work areas, and the collection is more accessible and user-friendly for patrons. The new renovations include reconfigured shelving, a new computer lab, work spaces, relocated reference desk, as well as a variety of other updates.

There are new work spaces, but bookworms need not worry -- none of the collection was lost in the redesign. The library has installed new carpeting, seating, and all new bookshelves, making it easier to find books and other materials. The library has also updated the first floor with a fresh coat of paint and new furniture, giving the library a modern, inviting feel. The Bethlehem Area Public Library is committed to providing the best possible experience for its patrons, and we can't wait for you to check it out. With the renovations complete, the library is ready to continue to serve the community with a wide range of resources and services.



To learn more about the renovation and how you can support the library, visit bapl.org.

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The City of Bethlehem would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and recognizes each of them as contributors to our community. It is thanks to their advertising support that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents.

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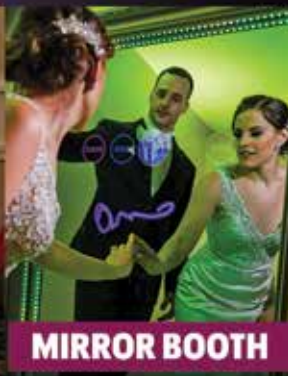
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Community Action Development Bethlehem

Join us for Monthly Neighborhood Clean Ups on the Southside

Join Community Action Development Bethlehem, the Southside small business community, and your neighbors in a monthly series of neighborhood clean ups on the Southside! Meet at the locations below to clean up our parks and surrounding neighborhoods. All supplies will be provided.

- May 6 - Lynfield Community Center - 1889 Lynfield Dr
- June 3 - Martin Luther King Jr. Park - 433 Carlton Ave
- July 8 - Yosko Park - 6th and Atlantic streets
- August 5 - Donegan Elementary School - 1210 E 4th St
- September 9 - Madison Park - 609 Ontario St
- October 7 - McNamara Park - 1100 Block of E 3rd St
- November 4 - Enix Park - 701 Pawnee St

For more information or to let us know you're coming, contact Community Action at (610) 807-9337 or info-cadcb@cacdv.org.



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1APY-Annual Percentage Yield. Penalty for early withdrawal applies. Principal may be reduced by penalty amount. Account must be opened at the Bethlehem, Pennsylvania branch. Minimum deposit of \$1000 for all certificate of deposit (CD) products. New monies only, funds not held at Unity Bank in the past 90 days. Available for consumer, business, and IRA/Retirement CD's. Offer valid beginning April 10, 2023. Offer can be withdrawn at any time. Rates, terms, and conditions are subject to change without notice. Please ask a representative for more details.
2Account must be opened at the Bethlehem, Pennsylvania branch to qualify for promotion. Offers apply to personal accounts only. Offer valid beginning April 24, 2023. Offer can be withdrawn at any time. APY-Annual Percentage Yield accurate as of 4/24/23 and subject to change daily. Savings account offered with eStatements only; account requires valid email, enrollment and activation of eStatements. If account requirements are not met, current interest rate of appropriate tier on Opportunity Savings will apply. \$10 monthly service charge if daily balance falls below \$100.

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Bethlehem Area School District



A message to the Bethlehem Community,

The Bethlehem Area School and the City of Bethlehem work together to build our next generation of Bethlehem community members. #BuildingBethlehem and #WeBuildBethlehem. We are proud of our BASD students and graduates who go on to do amazing things both in our community and around the world. This year we continue to highlight our graduates, students, and staff through our BASD eNews. Did you know that some of our students have even gone on to become the Mayor of our City of Bethlehem? #BuiltbyBethlehem.



Our school district offers many diverse opportunities for students. We invite you to join us for our upcoming plays and spring concerts. For more information visit our website at <https://www.basdschools.org/>.

Thank you for all your support.

Dr. Joseph J. Roy, Superintendent of the Bethlehem Area School District

Bethlehem Food Co-Op

New construction at 250 E. Broad St. will bring a new community-owned, 'everyone welcome' grocery store to the neighborhood, with a projected opening later this year.

The Bethlehem Food Co-Op is a community group working to open the new market. In addition to the opportunity to shop for fresh, locally-produced food, it will provide good-paying jobs and a year-round sales outlet for local growers and producers.

The new store will be a 'hub' in the community. "We're looking to bring a place to Bethlehem where everyone feels welcome to not only shop, but to eat, participate in educational programs, and connect with their neighbors," said Carol Ritter, chair of the co-op's Board. A meeting space is on the list of features, including typical grocery store departments like produce, meat, dairy, bakery, deli, prepared foods, and health and household items.

The co-op's roots go back over a decade, when a group of neighbors recognized the need for better shopping options in Bethlehem's downtown area – the idea of a food co-op was launched, and it formally organized two years later.

Since then the group has grown to over 1300 member households and organizations/businesses that have purchased an equity share in the co-op. "When we say the co-op is community-owned, we really do mean that we, the owners, make the decisions and own the store," continued Ritter. "But everyone will be welcome to shop at the food co-op."

The nine-member Board leads an extensive team of volunteers but has also assembled a team of professionals with expertise in food co-op project management, store design, and store décor. They are working on creating a space for the co-op's store on the ground floor of a four-story, mixed-use building being constructed on the site. Peron Development and Boyle Construction are driving the project.



Pictured: A portion of the large banner spanning the construction site at 250 E. Broad St., future home of the Bethlehem Food Co-Op

In addition to the revenue generated by members' one-time payments, the co-op works to secure grants, including a number of funding opportunities through the City of Bethlehem. In July 2021, U.S. Rep. Susan Wild announced a \$2.9 million grant to the City on behalf of the co-op's construction and start-up costs.

Other costs – such as supporting the co-op's "Membership for All" scholarship program for new members, educational programs, and the initial purchase of the store inventory – are covered by additional grants, gifts, and fund raising initiatives.

"Our food co-op is really by the community, for our community – we can't wait to get our doors open and shop alongside our neighbors for fresh, healthy, reasonably-priced locally-produced food," Ritter concluded.

For more information about the Bethlehem Food Co-Op, visit us at bethlehemfood.coop and on social. You can reach Carol Ritter at chair@bethlehemfood.coop.

The Bethlehem Fine Arts Commission bringing fineARTS to the community

Who We Are

Since 1963, we are volunteers nominated by the Commission and approved by the Mayor and City Council for three year terms.

Commission members provide leadership in the community by acting as a resource and advocate to nurture, promote and sustain the arts in Bethlehem.

What We Do

*Rotunda Gallery Art Exhibits

Year-round exhibits at Town Hall. Please go to our website or the QR code on this page for a complete schedule.

UPCOMING SHOWS: Sandra Corpora: 4/5 - 5/12

Lynn Gano: 5/19 - 6/27 • Lehigh Art Alliance: 7/5 - 8/11

*58th Annual Fine Art & Craft Show May 13 & 14, 2023

This juried sidewalk art show along Main Street in Historic Bethlehem is a celebration of the finest local and regional artists and craft artisans.

*Tribute to the Arts

Bi-Annual Reception honoring excellence in the arts

*Sculpture Garden (next to City Hall)

Tend to both plants and sculpture

*Sculpture Garden Concert Series

Outdoor concerts are held from 6 to 8pm on Friday nights in June

*Small Grants

Allocated to non-profit schools and arts organizations

*City Art Collection

Maintain & curate the City of Bethlehem Art Collection

*Public Art Review

Approve works of art within the City



www.bfac-lv.org
(open camera app &
point phone at QR code)

LEADERSHIP IN THE ARTS: Advocacy, Knowledge, Celebration

"To serve the community as
a resource and an advocate
to nurture, promote and
sustain the Arts in Bethlehem".



P.O. Box 1851 • Bethlehem, PA 18016
For more information, visit our website: www.bfac-lv.org

Bethlehem Fine Arts Commission

BFAC Grant Program

The Bethlehem Fine Arts Commission invites area non profit organizations and K-12 public and charter schools to submit proposals for annual arts grants. The grants are to support arts related activities that will take place between June 1, 2023 and May 31, 2024. The grants are offered to encourage new works of art, educational programs, exhibits, presentations, performances, and other arts-related activities that are to take place or be presented primarily in Bethlehem. This grant program supports the mission of the Fine Arts Commission. Please see our website for application details. (<https://bfac-lv.org/grants/>)

A total of \$3,000 is available for awards this year. Although the total could be awarded to one applicant, in recent years it has been divided among two to four applicants. An awardee may be granted all or part of the money for which it applies.

Submit two copies of proposals for funding to the Grants Committee, Bethlehem Fine Arts Commission, P.O. Box 1851, Bethlehem, PA, 18016, postmarked no later than May 12, 2023. Proposals postmarked after that date will not be considered.



Volunteer gardeners needed for the Bethlehem Historic Rose Garden

Located at Union Blvd and 8th Ave. in West Bethlehem, this 90 year old garden is no longer just about roses. Over the past three years, the beds have been replanted with hardy new roses as well as bird and pollinator friendly perennials and annuals. It is a community garden, planted and cared for by volunteers under the direction of a Master Gardener. As the garden has grown, so has the need for volunteers! All are welcome and no experience is necessary. Community Service hours are available for students. If you would like to help, we will be meeting in the Rose Garden on Saturdays at 10 AM starting April 15 and on through the summer. Bring gloves and your favorite tools.

If you have questions, contact bethrosegarden1@gmail.com

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SOUTHSIDE ARTS DISTRICT EVENTS *schedule*

Discover, revisit, dine, and shop our local South Bethlehem businesses through fun-filled Southside Arts District events.

Summer & Fall Happenings



SIP & SLIDE COCKTAIL CRAWL

June 17 (1-5 PM) Ages 21+ \$35

Sip & Slide through the SouthSide as you enjoy a generous assortment of sample-sized cocktails from our local eateries and businesses!

Tickets on sale May 1.



SUMMER RESTAURANT WEEK

July 17 through July 23

Savor the flavors of Summer at the diverse and delicious restaurants in South Bethlehem. Take advantage of special offers and exclusive pre-fixe menus created just for Restaurant Week!

List of participating locations TBA.



CHILIFEST

October 21

Join us for the 27th Annual ChiliFest Challenge! Our local SouthSide businesses and restaurants compete in a chili-making showdown. And YOU decide who has the best chili, and which business will take home the coveted Chili Pepper trophy.

Tickets on sale September 5.



FIRST FRIDAY

SOUTHSIDE

Explore our nightlife on the first Friday of every month.

June 2

July 17

August 4

September 1

October 6



Connect with us on
social media!



@southsideartsdistrict



Find more on our website!
Visit www.southsideartsdistrict.com or scan our QR code!

Touchstone Theatre

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Young Playwrights' Festival - May 19



An evening of new plays written by local students

Fresh Voices - June 2 & 3

Original performance work by Touchstone's MFA students

SUMMER CAMPS:

Teen Ensemble -
July 5-15 - ages 13-18

Camp Touchstone -
July 17-28 - ages 8-12



Campers build skills in acting, improv, and design as they create their own original show to share with family and friends

SAVE THE DATE:

Festival UnBound 2023 -
September 27 - October 1

An annual arts-based, community-driven festival



Please visit us at www.touchstone.org for more information.

BANANA FACTORY
BLOCK PARTY

Saturday,
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12-6pm

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DOWNTOWN BETHLEHEM ASSOCIATION & BETHLEHEM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

EVENTS



Tunes at Twilight

Retailers and restaurants will host favorite local bands in the Historic District on Thursday evenings May - July. While walking through Downtown Bethlehem, you'll hear 'Tunes' while supporting your favorite local businesses!

Summer Restaurant Week

Visit participating downtown Bethlehem restaurants from June 25 - July 1, and enjoy prix fixe menus and dining specials throughout the week. #POSTYOURPLATE for a chance to win a gift card to every participating restaurant, winners are selected at random.



Christmas in July

Experience festive window decorations, games such as the Snowball Scramble, and a summer visit from Santa in the Historic District.

Harvest Fest

The most popular street fair in the Lehigh Valley will take place on Saturday, September 30. It includes wine, beer, and soup tasting trails. This event features multiple stages, live music, local food, and creative artisans.

Live in the Garden



The 9-week concert series will take place in the Bethlehem Rose Garden on Saturdays May 6 - July 1. This family-friendly event includes live music of various genres, food trucks, and beer & wine!



A new event coming to the Bethlehem Rose Garden, date to be announced soon. Purchase a tasting passport for \$40 to sip samples from 15+ breweries, play games, listen to live music, and eat from local food trucks!



VisitHistoricBethlehem.com | LehighValleyChamber.org



CITY OF BETHLEHEM

10 East Church Street | Bethlehem, PA 18018

(610) 865-7000

Hours: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

www.bethlehem-pa.gov

CONTACTS OF INTEREST

Bethlehem Service Center	(610) 865-7000
Health Department.....	(610) 865-7083
Public Works	(610) 865-7050
Water and Sewer	(610) 865-7207
Recycling Dept.....	(610) 865-7082
Police House Sgt.....	(610) 865-7179
Pothole Hotline	(610) 865-7053
Graffiti Hotline	(610) 865-7065
Construction and Permitting	(610) 865-7091
Recreation Department.....	(610) 865-7081
Community & Economic Dev.....	(610) 865-7085
EMS / Fire / Police Emergency	911

EMAIL ALERTS

Sign up on the City's Website to register for email alerts of critical city updates:

www.bethlehem-pa.gov.



As a requirement of the Municipal Waste Planning Recycling and Waste Reduction Act, the City of Bethlehem is required to notify residents of our recycling programs twice a year. Please enjoy this newsletter and then place it in your recycling container. Or better yet, pass it along for someone else to learn about all the good things that are happening in the City of Bethlehem.



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1. firm belief in the reliability, truth, ability, or strength of someone or something.

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Spring/Summer 2023

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