



# Explore Bethlehem Parks & Recreation Spring 2014 Newsletter

## THE ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

This year's annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on the front lawn of Memorial Pool on Illick's Mill Road at 10 am sharp on Saturday, April 12, 2014. Candy is donated by Just Born and prizes are awarded for finding the specially marked candy.



The Easter Egg Hunt is for Bethlehem residents and their children ages 3 through 8. The rain date will be Saturday, April 19th. For information, call the Recreation Office at 610-865-7081.

## A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DONCHEZ

As your Mayor I am committed to promoting a healthier Bethlehem by properly managing our recreation resources. Bethlehem has a great history of providing recreational facilities for its residents. From our large regional parks such as Saucon Park, Sand Island and the multi-sport complex of Illick's Mill Road, providing swimming, golf, baseball, track & field events, fishing, walking, nature studies and tours.

As Mayor, I would like to invite you to enjoy all of the public resources that this great city has to offer this spring!



# sports

## BETHLEHEM GOLF CLUB

Over the past few months we have completely renovated our golf course clubhouse. The clubhouse now features a conference room for corporate outings and an indoor driving range. Now the golf season never has to end! Coupled with the indoor driving range, the Bethlehem Golf Course also features a Flightscope 3-d Doppler Launch Monitor. Not only can you keep playing with snow on the ground, you can improve your game. The Flightscope provides real-time data on your swing, club face angle, ball rotation, impact angle, swing plane, distance and a host of other golfing benefits!

Our Director of Golf, Paul Viola can then tell you what you are doing wrong (or right) and how to fix it to become better just in time for your first outing of 2014! Call today to reserve the room by yourself or to schedule a lesson with one of our highly experienced golf pros.

Paul Viola, Director of Golf, PGA 610-691-9393

[pviola@bethlehem-pa.gov](mailto:pviola@bethlehem-pa.gov)

Mark Csencsits, PGA 610-428-3434

Eric Cogorno, PGA 610-703-5520

<http://www.bethlehemgc.com>

## SUMMER GOLF PROGRAMS

**Ladies On Course Club \$200** - A 5 week program at the 9 hole course. Ladies will receive on course coaching and guidance.

**Monthly Private Lessons** - Receive detailed instruction at the range and on course.

**Private Get Ready for Golf School \$99** - A perfect way to ramp up your game, each session will focus on various skills.

**Learn Golf for \$11.90/hour** - 10.5 hours of instruction for anyone 13 and up for new or returning golfers.

**Junior Golf Camp 1 \$149** - This camp is for 7-16 year olds to learn the physical and mental skills (2 sessions)

**Junior Golf Camp 2 \$175** - A continuation of camp 1 with an emphasis on playing the game and course instruction.

**Junior Golf League \$275 all inclusive** - An 8 week program for course ready youth (8-16 yr olds) and goes beyond the fundamentals of golf

Call 610-691-9393 or visit [www.lehighvalleygolfpro.com](http://www.lehighvalleygolfpro.com) for more info.

## YOUTH SPORTS

For the youth of Bethlehem, there is a wide range of sports organizations. Each youth organization is managed independently from the City of Bethlehem but utilize the City's facilities. Youth athletics are an integral part in child development and help build character later in life.

There are 6 Little Leagues serving Bethlehem. Participants must register with the league that is closest to their residence.

The leagues offer baseball and softball and are open to boys and girls ages 5-16. For more information about the league, sign up dates, locations, please contact the individual leagues.

### City Line L. L.

Todd Willman  
610-295-9715

### Lehigh L. L.

Gene Ashner  
610-691-5234  
Keith Ashner  
[www.lehighlittleleague.org](http://www.lehighlittleleague.org)

### North Central L. L.

TJ Herstitch  
484-515-6675  
[www.eteamz.com/  
NCLLBethlehem/](http://www.eteamz.com/NCLLBethlehem/)

### North East L. L.

Amy Young  
610-865-9287  
[www.eteamz.com/  
NortheastLL/](http://www.eteamz.com/NortheastLL/)

### North West L. L.

Mike McGraw  
484-554-4321

[www.eteamz.com/  
nyaa/](http://www.eteamz.com/nyaa/)

### Southside L. L.

Jose Gonzales  
610-867-2199

## ADULT RECREATION SPORTS

As spring rolls around, it is time to start thinking of warmer weather. With the warm weather comes picnics, barbecues, and outdoor sports. The City of Bethlehem Recreation Department operates two summer leagues for adults, slo-pitch softball and adult basketball. For more information about these leagues, please contact the Recreation Office at 610-865-7081.

# summer

## FITNESS IN THE PARK

This summer the Parks and Recreation Department will continue the Fitness in the Park program. Fitness in the Park is a fun, inexpensive alternative to gyms and to be in the beautiful, park setting of the Bethlehem Rose Garden. Sign up for the session that fits your schedule. Multiple Program discounts are available. Programs will included Boot Camp, Power Toning, Yoga, and Walking for Fitness. Look to this summer's schedules to be out SOON!

Call the Recreation Office to sign up or if you have questions 610-865-7081.



## CITY POOLS

The City of Bethlehem operates 6 public pools and there is a good chance you live near one. Pools will open for the summer on June 7th. With reasonable daily rates and season passes, there is nothing like cooling off in a pool during the dog days of summer. Pool hours and rates vary by location.

Swimming lessons are offered for pre-school (ages 4-5) youth (6-up) in a group format. Adult, semi-private, and private lessons are also available based on interest. Class sizes are limited, so registrations are on a first come, first serve basis.

## SUMMER FUN

The City of Bethlehem's Annual Summer Day Camp will continue this summer at the Ice Rink on Illick's Mill Road. The Camp is for boys and girls ages 7-12 and will run Monday through Friday from 10AM to 3PM. There are four 2-week sessions which begin June 16th. The cost is \$150 per session. Activities include swimming, arts & crafts, sports, games, & special events. Children must bring their own lunch. Swimming lessons at Memorial Pool are also part of the daily activities. Our free supervised playground programs run from June 16th to August 1st and are held at various parks throughout the city.



In July, look for our annual Float your Boat competition where contestants build boats out of cardboard and race them at Memorial Pool. June 16th is the first day of our week long Adventure Camp for youth ages 13-15 where kids go biking, rock climbing, and more. Space is extremely limited and fills up fast.

For more information, dates, and availability, please call the Recreation Office at 610-865-7081 or visit our website: [www.bethlehem-pa.gov/parks](http://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/parks)



# summer cont.

## MOVIES IN THE PARK

The Bethlehem Movies in the Park is our annual summer series offering free movies on the big screen at a local park near you. The Movies are FREE to the public, including popcorn! We invite the neighborhoods to come out and enjoy a night under the stars to see both new and classic movies on our state of the art movie screen and surround sound system.

The popularity and success of Movies in the Park is due to the fact that it is free to the public, which is made possible by our great movie sponsors. We have 3 sponsorship levels available!

### Title Sponsor: \$3,000 (All Movies)

- Name Recognition on all movie advertisements, correspondence and preshow advertising.
- Banner, signage and table set up at all movies.

### Event Sponsor: \$600 (1 Movie)

- Preshow slideshow advertising
- Banners, signage and table set up night of movie.

### Popcorn Sponsor: \$100 (1 Movie)

- Cover cost of Popcorn for show
- Name recognition before show

Look for the official flyer soon. The tentative schedule is as follows!

June 7th - Field of Dreams @ Northdale Park

June 24th - Despicable Me 2 @ Higbee Park

July 8th - Gravity @ Rockland Park

July 15th - Muppets 2 @ Clearview

July 23 - Mr. Peabody & Sherman @ Bernie Fritz Park  
(Bernie Fritz Night)

July 29th - Goonies @ Bethlehem Rose Garden

# after school

## PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS

The Recreation Department works very closely with the Bethlehem Area School District. The Recreation Department offers after school programming at 4 schools in Bethlehem. Programs vary from sports, learning how to be a DJ, and even skateboarding.

The 4 current schools include Broughal, East Hills, Nitschmann Middle Schools, and Fountain Hill Elementary school. The Spring session of after school programs will also feature additional programs at Northeast Middle School.

The Recreation Department also partners with BASD to provide an SAT Prep Class. This class is held at NCC for students who want to improve their score on the SAT's and help with their college application process.



# the charles brown ice house

## PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH THEATRE

PYT proudly presents *Alice in Wonderland* in May at the Charles A. Brown Historic Ice House on Sand Island in Bethlehem. Please go to [www.123pyt.org](http://www.123pyt.org) or call (610) 332-1400 to purchase tickets: \$15 (adults) and \$12 (children under 12) General Admission; \$20 Premiere Seating.

### **Alice in Wonderland | May 9-May 18, 2014**

This classic tale of rabbit holes and wonder has been loved by generations, and this season PYT brings it back for a fully re-imagined production. From the Mad Hatter's tea party to the Cheshire grin, Lewis Carroll's classic will come to life with all the magic, mystery and mischief of the original novel. *Based on the story by Lewis Carroll, By Sharon Holland, Music by Hiram Titus (1982), Music by Victor Zupanc (2002), Produced by special arrangement with Plays For Young Audiences, A partnership of Seattle Children's Theatre and Children's Theatre Company-Minneapolis, Directed by James Peck.*

### **Summer Stage 2014**

PYT is continuing it's special camp experience at the Ice House for youth 3 years old through 2nd grade. Adventure Camp is either full day or half day, Monday-Friday for 11 weeks this summer. The camp features engaging, creative activities for kids who enjoy acting, singing and visual arts. There will be special performances, organized games, and some special guests and projects. Please call 610-332-1400 for more info.



## ICE HOUSE TONIGHT

For nearly 80 years during the end of the 18th century and beginning of the 19th century, the Ice House on Sand Island produced and delivered ice to Bethlehem residents and businesses. The need for ice took a severe hit with the inventions of refrigerators and freezers and the building became a warehouse. After a major revitalization in the 1990's, the Ice House became alive with action again, this time featuring performing arts.

In November 2011, representatives of six regional arts organizations met to discuss the viability of creating a recurring performance series called Ice House Tonight at The Charles Brown Ice House on Sand Island. The premise of the series focuses on regional artists and arts organizations and providing an eclectic blend of performances covering different genres of dance, music, theatre, and poetry. Since the Ice house is located between two vibrant downtowns with great restaurants, Ice House Tonight offers a conveniently located "Dinner and a Show" option to Bethlehem's night life.

The next *The IceHouse Tonight* show is "Godfrey Daniels Night" with The Craig Thatcher Band, Saturday March 29th at 7 pm. Admission is \$20, call Godfrey Daniels at 610-867-2390 for reservations.

Always an explosive show, local legend Craig Thatcher returns to the Charles A. Brown Ice House on Sand Island. Craig's history at Godfrey's goes back almost his entire career, and we are proud that he continues to bring his artistry to our stage, between his tours around the world. This evening, Craig will be performing with his full electric band including violinist Nyke Van Wyk, with special guest Mike Dugan. Room to dance, don't miss it!

# Facilities

## PAVILIONS

The City of Bethlehem offers 6 pavilions available for rent in 3 very different parks. There are two in Saucon Park, which boast plenty of open space, Saucon creek, play equipment, and a swimming pool. Two are located in South Mountain Park, which is a wooded area and home to an 18 “hole” disc golf course. The remaining two pavilions are located in Monocacy Park where you can enjoy a scenic walk along Monocacy Creek, and is a short distance away from the Bethlehem Municipal Golf Course and Memorial Pool. The City’s pavilions are available from April to October, 7am to dark.

The pavilions are a perfect place to host a birthday party, family reunion, or even a wedding!

Reservation fees are as follows:

<b>Weekday</b>	<b>\$65 Resident</b>	<b>\$90 Non-resident</b>
<b>Weekend</b>	<b>\$75 Resident</b>	<b>\$100 Non-resident</b>

To check pavilion availability, you can call us at 610-865-7081. To reserve a pavilion you must come to the Parks and Recreation Office in City Hall (Rm 506). Payments must be made in full when making the reservations, cash or check. No refunds. Pavilions are reserved on a first come, first serve basis.

## FACILITIES

The Charles A. Brown Ice House is an indoor facility that can host birthday parties, dance showcases, performing arts, and other special events.

There are a variety of athletic fields available for rent, including soccer, rugby, softball and lacrosse.

The Bethlehem Rose Garden is available for rental for weddings, pictures, and special events.

For more information, costs, and availability, please contact the Parks and Recreation office at 610-865-7081.

## SAND ISLAND TENNIS

Located on Historic Sand Island, the City of Bethlehem’s Public Tennis Courts are truly unique - featuring a Clubhouse and Eight Har-Tru (Clay) Tennis Courts with an underground watering system that ensures consistent play through-out our Summer Season. Whether you need a few lessons, are a casual player, or enjoy the competitiveness of a league, Sand Island has it all for young and old. Season passes and daily rates are available.

Our 2014 season officially opens on Saturday May 24. The deadline for signing up for the summer leagues is Friday, May 17th. Junior programs start the week of June 17 with clinics, match play, and travel team. Adult clinics will be Monday & Wednesday evenings. Private lessons and semi-private lessons are also available. Come out and enjoy one of Bethlehem's treasures.

For more information, contact Bob Dragotta(Dragon) - [nogard5@yahoo.com](mailto:nogard5@yahoo.com). Or call 484-431-3077



# RIPARIAN BUFFERS FOR THE MONOCACY CREEK WATERSHED

Riparian buffers link our land and water together and protect our streams from land-based pollution. These corridors of grasses, shrubs and trees along the banks of Monocacy Creek and its tributaries filter stormwater runoff and provide a transition zone between water and human land use. Riparian buffers are the single most effective and least expensive protection for our water resources in the Monocacy Creek Watershed. They are also complex ecosystems that provide habitat and improve the stream communities they shelter.

Riparian buffers have been lost in many places in the Monocacy Creek Watershed over the years. Preserving existing buffers and restoring lost ones are important steps forward for water quality, stream bank stability, flood protection, and fish and wildlife habitat. Landowners, farmers, businesses, governments, and conservation organizations can all work together to help restore and protect riparian buffers, which in turn restore and protect the quality of our streams and drinking water.

Over the years, the Monocacy Creek Watershed Association, Wild-lands Conservancy, Northampton County Conservation District, Scouting groups, school students, private landowners and others have helped restore riparian buffers along Monocacy Creek. These plantings help stabilize stream banks, prevent erosion and sediment pollution, and shade and cool waters for temperature sensitive fish, like trout, for which Monocacy Creek is locally famous. More recently, the City of Bethlehem secured grant funding for stream restoration work at Monocacy Park, including the restoration there of riparian buffers along Monocacy Creek. Streams guarded by healthy riparian buffers run cleaner, clearer and cooler, offer better fishing and support stable banks, which provide homes and highways for wildlife. We also received grant funding to update to update the Monocacy Watershed study, that was completed in 1998.

This article is compliments of the Northampton County Conservation District, Monocacy Creek Watershed Association and The Fox Environmental Center at Illick's Mill.



The City of Bethlehem Parks, Recreation,  
and Public Property

10 East Church St. Bethlehem, PA 18018

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Ralph Carp - Director

Jody Reppert - Business Manager

Jane Persa - Recreation Administrator

Mark Atkinson - Recreation Coordinator

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