

THE BELLEVILLE SENIOR MOMENT

MARCH

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

As we all eagerly look forward to the spring, it is my pleasure to provide you with the very first issue of my newsletter, 'The Belleville Senior Moment.'

There are plenty of services offered to our seniors – many at no cost. And with many Seniors not on social media, this newsletter will become the best way to

communicate. It will keep seniors informed about what is happening in town, as well as new programs and services offered to serve our senior citizens.



For example, my Civic Association has launched and funded a Tai Chi Yoga program on Tuesdays. There is also a return of Zumba and aerobics on Thursdays. I also created the very first Summer Concert Series, as well as a Free senior BBQ party.

If you ever have any questions, or need direction, please contact me at 973-450-3345.

MAYOR ANNOUNCES \$1.6 MILLION IN \$22,000 GRANTS (FREE MONEY) FOR SENIORS TO FIX THEIR HOMES!

For many Belleville seniors on a fixed income, surprise repair bills can have a drastic effect. We have heard stories of seniors who have gone without heat because they could not afford to fix a furnace, and others who have sustained water damage before a leaky pipe would require an expensive visit from a plumber.

The Township has amassed a \$1.6 million fund, generated from 2% fees on construction costs paid for by developers and NOT taxpayers. Property owners can receive up to \$22,000 in forgivable loans for repairs and improvements, as long as the resident remains in the home for five years.

Eligible improvements include but are not limited to:

- Heating, Plumbing, Electrical
- Roof, Leaders, Gutters
- Windows, Doors
- Exterior Siding
- Insulation



The program targets low- and moderate-income residents, making it perfect for seniors on a fixed income. For additional information please contact, Patricia Gallagher at 732-462-7400 ext. 1030.

EXPLORE BELLEVILLE AND BEYOND WITH FREE TRANSPORTATION

There are two free ways in which you can get around the area.

The Township offers a Senior Bus Shuttle service, in addition to our “Dial-a-Ride” program, serving residents 60 years of age and older, as well as any adults with disabilities. The Dial-a-Ride program provides free transportation for local appointments, trips to the store and senior center programming. While our Senior Shuttle goes along a pre-determined consistent route. For additional information call, 973-450-3402.



Common uses include:

- Dialysis appointments
- Physical therapy
- Doctor appointments
- Non-competitive employment
- Food shopping

MAKE SURE TO APPLY FOR THE TAX FREEZE PROGRAM

Don't pay a nickel in more in taxes that required.

The *'Municipal portion'* of your property taxes in Belleville have begun to stabilize. But, with the senior freeze program, there should be no increase for those who meet some simple qualifications.

Belleville seniors are being strongly encouraged to sign up for the state's "Senior Freeze, Property Tax Reimbursement Program."

For additional information call the Senior Freeze Hotline at 1 (800) 882-6597.

GET INVOLVED IN SENIOR CLUBS

There are established clubs in Belleville that would be happy to welcome you as a member. All clubs have members on the mayor's new Senior Advisory Counsel.

- Tuesday Club - Joyce Risoli: 973-751-7867 & 973-289-1227
- Friday Club - Barbara Rosenberg: 732-742-7071
- AARP Club - Carol Pomponio: 973-759-1980

