

MARCH 19, 2024

BELMAR NEWS

The official newsletter of the Borough of Belmar



Photo credit: Perryanne Townsend

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 19

HOME LANDSCAPING
PRESENTATION

MARCH 23/26

BELMAR PUBLIC LIBRARY
COMMUNITY INPUT
SESSIONS

MARCH 23

SKATEPARK FUNDRAISER
@ SALTY'S

APRIL 27

SILVER LAKE
COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

Belmar Housing Authority Awarded \$678K Grant

The Belmar Housing Authority (BHA) will receive \$676,000 in federal appropriations for critical building repairs, the Borough of Belmar announced today.

The BHA runs a 50-unit apartment building that was erected in 1966 to provide subsidized affordable housing to seniors and individuals with disabilities. The new funds will go specifically towards facade repair; modernization of the passenger elevator that is well beyond its life span; new wiring and a video camera to bring the elevator up to code; the replacement of a broken hot water heater; the replacement of a broken retaining wall on the west side of the building; and replacement of carpet/flooring and furniture from leaks in the community room.

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“Our seniors deserve to live in a safe, comfortable building,” said Belmar Councilwoman Maria Rondinaro, who pursued funding for the BHA with US Representative Chris Smith by co-writing the request and gathering letters of support from local representatives and Belmar organizations. “As the Council liaison to the BHA, I have seen firsthand the problems in the current building and have worked with the Board of Commissioners to try to troubleshoot them, but we knew we needed additional support. It has been an honor to work on the request for this vital repair funding with BHA Executive Director Paul DeSantis.

The BHA was previously awarded \$99,927 in emergency funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to address the deteriorating facade of the building.

Library Solicits Community Input

The Belmar Public Library, as it prepares its strategic plan, is soliciting feedback from the Belmar community and all cardholders.

In a short survey, residents are asked how frequently they use library services and the types of services and events they are most likely to frequent.

The library will also host two community input sessions. Residents can attend a session on either March 23rd at 11 am or March 26th at 6 pm.

[More information, and a link to the survey, can be found here.](#)

Environmental Commission Reminds Residents to ‘Cut it and Leave it’

The Belmar Environmental Commission is reminding residents this spring to “cut it and leave it” as part of a campaign to encourage ecofriendly landscaping practices.

According to the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), lawns that leave behind grass clippings require 25-50% less fertilizer. The DEP recommends that NJ lawns are left about 2.5 -3.5 inches tall to shade the soil, cool the roots and block weed growth.

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