

Mayor's Message for February 2022

Hello, Edgewater Park.

As of this evening, January 6, 2022, I will serve once again as Mayor. I would like to thank Lauren DiFilippo, for a wonderful job last year. The bar is set high. I hope I can live up to the excellent job she did over the past year. This year we chose Kevin Johnson as Deputy Mayor. Mike Trainor was also re-elected, congratulations all. Together with Committee Women Scott, we will work as a team to keep the wonderful momentum moving forward in Edgewater Park.

We plan to expand some of the good progress the Township Committee introduced in the last two years. A difficult couple of years to say the least. Despite social distancing, we adapted and overcame obstacles. Santa and the Mayor rode with our fire department, then with Endeavor, our ambulance service. The Easter Bunny did the same. This allowed children to see Santa and the Bunny, even though we could not hold our traditional events. The looks on their faces would make anyone's day. We held a movie night, Jumanji was shown. We had a fall festival; I believe the entire police department was in attendance. The bonfire and DJ kept everyone warm. There was even a beer garden, thanks to Third State Brewing. We also had events at Woodlake Park, reading with the kids. A book giveaway followed (that awesome event was all Lauren).

As things get back to normal, we will continue to expand the events. More movie nights and an expanded Fall Festival. All this momentum got Mr. Johnson thinking and he enlarged our recreation committee. I can't wait for the warmer weather so this growing team can assist with our events. There will be wonderful activities for residents of all ages.

Everyone who knows me knows my favorite project has been running the Edgewater Park Summer Concert series at the Red Dragon Canoe Club. The shows are held bi-monthly Wednesdays, on the lawn facing the Delaware River, a beautiful backdrop for a summer evening. We offered a diverse array of music from, blues and soul to reggae and funk, even the ever-popular classic rock and Latin fusion. As this event has grown, we have big plans for this summer: a new stage, more vendors, perhaps even

more music. I can't wait! Look for the dates and schedule in the upcoming Bee and the Township website.

Next month I will discuss the development in the Township. Until then, keep safe, we are not out the woods with COVID yet. Please follow all the CDC's and State's guidelines.

Thank you,

William A. Belgard