

Interview with the Mayor

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AN INTERVIEW WITH MAYOR JOHNSON



Bellefonte Borough Website

Tom Wilson spent many years as mayor and did a wonderful job. We are very grateful and appreciative of the time he put into our community. This past fall, the Bellefonte community elected a new mayor, Gene "Buddy" Johnson. Below is our interview with him, we hope you enjoy learning about our new mayor!

Tell us about yourself.

My name is Buddy Johnson. I have lived in Bellefonte for 23 years with my wife Jennifer. We have two children, Mia who is a Freshman at Edinboro University and Trevor who is a Sophomore at Bellefonte Area High School. I enjoy spending time with my family and am very appreciative of the community which we live in.

What are some of the duties of being major?

As Mayor of Bellefonte I work with the borough council and attend the meetings on the first and third Monday of every month. I also have a great working relationship with Chief Weaver as I oversee the police department. The main and most important duty that I have is acting as a liaison between the Bellefonte community and the borough council. I want to build a rapport with those who reside in Bellefonte and be a trusted individual who can bridge the gap between council and the community. I also enjoy attending community events and advocating for our beautiful town.

What made you decide to run for office?

Bellefonte is such a wonderful place to live and I just want to do my part to help out wherever I can. My philosophy of life is that if we can take care of our physical and mental well being, look after our family and loved ones, and be a good neighbor that life will be pretty good. I just want to do my part to help the community however I can.

Were you and the former mayor acquaintances?

I had met former Mayor Wilson on a few occasions. I always had a great deal of respect for the job that he did for our community. When I was elected, Mayor Wilson went out of his way to make my transition as smooth as possible. I have a great deal of appreciation for Mr. Wilson and continue to stay in touch with him.

What do you hope to do as mayor?

As Mayor, I hope to be trusted by our community and seen as someone who will advocate for them. I definitely cannot solve every problem or issue, but will do my best to make sure that those who reside in the borough are happy and satisfied with our community. I want to be a face that is recognizable and hopefully be someone that is uplifting to all who I come in contact with. There are so many good things going on in Bellefonte and I am proud to be Mayor of this great community.

What advice do you have for our readers?

My advice for the readers is to enjoy each and every day. Be a good neighbor and get involved with our community as best you can. If we can continue to work together in our community, it will continue to strengthen the relationships that make this such a special place to live.

Any remaining comments you'd like to express?

Thank you for your time and pride in the Bellefonte Community. Together we can continue to make a difference in each other's lives. I will continue to have a commitment to our community and do what I can to help out.

Thank you so much, Mayor Johnson, for giving us time to answer these questions. We are excited to experience your impact in our community and wish you the best of luck!