



The Mayors Corner

- Official Newsletter of Mayor Carol Bianchi



Fall 2019

Dear Bernards Township Residents,

I hope you enjoyed your summer. Here in Bernards, there was plenty to do, with concerts, plays, movies, our outstanding pool, parks, golf, and more to enjoy.

The Township pursued a rigorous schedule to get our roads paved and ready for school. We know that this always comes with some inconvenience and thank you for your patience. We hope our road construction emails helped to keep you informed. Please sign up for these and other email notifications on our homepage at bernards.org.

The Township Committee has been exploring a shared court with our neighbors in Bedminster, Peapack Gladstone, and Bernardsville and are in discussions. We are also moving to a private contract for emergency first aid services during the workday when our valued volunteers cannot cover certain hours. This was determined by all to be necessary for the safety of our residents.

Our Communications Task force delivered a mid year report as to how Bernards Township can improve upon our information sharing with residents. We appreciate the hard work of the team, Rita Zarabara, Marie Young, Supreet Bains Sharma, and Julie Keating, as well as our staff. The report can be found on our homepage.

The Vision 2020 Task Force has prepared a report based on the survey conducted and will be delivering that report shortly at an upcoming meeting. I hope you will attend or tune in. Remember that you can watch the meetings live by video streaming or on Channel 15 Cable or 35 FIOS. Thank you to all who took the time to provide feedback.

I also want to thank Kevin Orr and Scott Guibord for their contributions on the Quarry Task Force. Among other things, they provided an objective evaluation of the zoning board application and recommended that the Township Committee appear to contest jurisdiction. While the Zoning Board found it legally had jurisdiction to hear the application, it agreed with Township Attorney John Belardo's position that a use variance was necessary for a subdivision application. The application is pending before the Zoning Board, and the Quarry has not identified a proposed use for the contaminated property.

The Environmental Commission worked on two initiatives, a "design a reusable bag challenge" naming Anjali Dahiya as the winner and a Trex recycling challenge to encourage the use of plastic bag alternatives. If the Township collects 500 lbs. of plastic, Trex will donate a composite bench to the Township.

On a solemn note, we missed the Labor Day bike races this year and more so, Greg Cordasco, who passed away recently. We also will remember and miss the charming draw of Liberty Cycle and the café. Always smiling and joking, Greg was a giving, energetic part of our



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community who organized the bike races with the township every year. We will remember him fondly and hope to resume the races in the years ahead.

Today and every day we remember all those who lost their lives on 9/11 and pray for them and their families.

Please see below for a very important event planned for our first responders.

Best wishes for a happy and peaceful fall season,

Carol Bianchi
Mayor 2019
Bernards Township

Please mark on your calendars October 3 to celebrate our very important First Responders. Here is a note on the occasion:

On behalf of Bernards Township Mayor Carol Bianchi and the Township Committee, I am pleased to announce that Bernards Township will be hosting a “First Responders Appreciation Night” on October 3, 2019. The event will take place at the Liberty Corner Fire House starting with a private dinner for our First Responders and their families followed by a Public Ceremony at 7:30 pm with coffee and dessert. The purpose of this event is to support, celebrate, honor, and thank our First Responders for their service to our community.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! We are asking residents to please consider donating to this event.
Monetary - Any amount would be appreciated to help defray the cost of the dinner
Gift Certificates - To be placed in a door prize drawing for our First Responders
Gift Baskets - To be placed in a door prize drawing for our First Responders

Please contact me if you are interested in donating a gift certificate or gift basket. Monetary donations should be mailed to Bernards Township, 1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920. Checks are made payable to “Bernards Township” and the memo line MUST read, “First Responders Event”. All donations need to be received by Monday, September 23, 2019. Donations to this event are tax deductible. All funds received in excess of the cost of the event will be equally donated to the First Responders.

On behalf of Bernards Township First Responders’ Committee, I want to thank you for your consideration.

Janice Fields
mrsfields@aol.com
908-599-1637