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Berkeley Heights Newsletter - October 2018

Welcome to the Berkeley Heights Newsletter, created by the Berkeley Heights Communications Committee to provide residents with an easy way to learn about what's happening in town. Watch for it in your inbox ([sign up here](#)) or pick up a paper copy at Town Hall, the Library or at Senior meetings.

Comments? Suggestions? Please send them to: BHCommunications@bhtwp.com

Township Updates



Municipal Complex

Berkeley Heights Township has broken ground on construction of a new Municipal Complex, which will be located next to our current Town Hall at 29 Park Avenue.

The new facility will house government departments and fill community needs including:

- Township Administration and Departments
- Police Department
- Recreation Center
- Library
- Meeting and activity space for seniors
- Public meeting spaces
- Additional commuter parking

Watch the [Groundbreaking Ceremony Video](#).

Follow the progress of the construction and see what will be happening in upcoming weeks using [Weekly Construction Updates](#) online.

Learn about [New Traffic Patterns and Changes to Commuter Parking](#) resulting from this construction.

Warren Proposed Development

During a meeting on October 1, our neighboring town of Warren informed its residents about the status of their ongoing negotiations with New Jersey's Fair Share Housing Center.

Warren released initial plans for several potential residential developments that would stem from a settlement. This includes a development on Hillcrest Avenue that will potentially be located adjacent to Rogers Avenue within the Emerson Lane neighborhood area.

This development, as well as others that may occur in Warren, are in response to the State-mandated Affordable Housing obligations. Read [additional information about the proposed Warren development](#).

The public is encouraged to ask any questions or express their concerns regarding this potential Warren development during the public comment period of Township Council meetings.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please send your questions/comments to Mayor Bob Woodruff at rwoodruff@bhtwp.com or to Council President Jeanne Kingsley at JKingsley@bhtwp.com.

Fall Leaf and Yard Debris Collection

The annual fall Leaf and Yard Debris Collection program will begin the second week of October, starting in section 4, according to the schedule below. Leaf collection will start by section and will then continue throughout the Township until December 19th.

Initially, leaves and debris (brush) will be picked up at the same time.

Brush:

All brush must be bundled with twine and out for pick up on the first day of the scheduled week for the section. Each of the Township's [five sections](#) will have a brush pick-up starting on the first day of the scheduled week for that area, weather permitting. All brush should be curbside on the first day scheduled in each section. There will be only one brush pick-up per household.

Leaf Collection:

Leaf collection run concurrently with brush collection and then will continue across all sections for the duration of the Fall cleanup program. Volume can be intermittent - one week you may have no leaves and the next you may have significant volume. Leaves should be put into paper bags and left curbside, accessible by machine. Please do not include any other types of debris in the leaf bags.

All leaves must be bagged and placed curbside by Wednesday, December 5, as all collection is scheduled to end on December 19.

Details can be found on the [Township website](#).

Brush Collection Schedule:

- Section 4: October 9 - October 19
- Section 3: October 22 - November 2
- Section 2: November 5 - November 16
- Section 1: November 19 - December 4
- Section 5: December 5 - December 19

Road Improvements – Current and Future Plans

The Township has a 15-year capital road maintenance plan to pave, curb and repair our roads. The plan is updated annually based upon weather events and the changing conditions of our roads. Paving traditionally takes place during the months of May through October. The paving schedule is adjusted depending on previously assigned priority, the weather and any emergency roadwork requirements that week.

Prioritized streets close to locations where emergency roadwork is needed may get serviced sooner than scheduled because machinery is nearby. Paving plans are available on the [Township website](#) and updates are posted on the [Township Facebook page](#) as they become available.

New Senior Bus

Berkeley Heights has a new 22-passenger senior bus equipped with a wheelchair lift. Three days a week it picks up seniors who want to run errands along Springfield Avenue or attend Senior Club meetings and other social events run by the Senior Club each month. Here's the [October Schedule](#).

For Senior Bus reservations, call 908.464.0550 ext. 193.

For information on senior activities, trips or clubs, please contact Joan Luciano at 908.665.9604 or email grandmaluciano@gmail.com.

Recycling Schedule

Berkeley Heights Township contracts with Giordano Company to collect recycling.

Recently, there were IMPORTANT changes to which materials are recyclable and how Giordano Company will accept recycling. These changes are a result of strict limitations placed on recycling companies by China, the final destination for most recycled waste.

Specific questions can be sent directly to Giordano at (service@gogreengiordano.com) for the most up-to-date information. Read a summary of [Recycling "Do's and Don'ts"](#).

Remaining 2018 Recycling Dates:

- October 17, 31
- November 14, 28
- December 12, 26

Township Council Meeting Schedule

Township Council meetings take place at Town Hall (29 Park Avenue) at 7 pm.

Upcoming Township Council meetings:

- October 23
- November 5, 20
- December 4, 18

Committee & Board Updates

Communications Committee Update

The Berkeley Heights Communications Committee (BHCC) presented their 2018 plan to the Township Council on May 22. Among the highlights planned is an upgrade to the Township website planned for early 2019. This newsletter is also a part of that plan.

New: “Coffee and Conversations” sessions offer residents new opportunities to get to know the Mayor and Town Council Members, ask them questions and air concerns. The [first coffee](#) was held on Tuesday, October 2 at 7:30 pm at the Berkeley Heights YMCA.

Additional additional sessions are scheduled for Sunday November 4 at 12:30 pm, and Thursday, November 29 at 8 pm.

Recreation Commission Update

The Berkeley Heights Recreation Department and Recreation Commission offers a wide variety of educational, fitness and sports programs for all ages.

- Toddler and Pre-K Programs
- After School Programs
- Youth Programs
- Adult Fitness Programs
- Adult Programs

More sports programs are available through the Recreation Commission’s partnership with Berkeley Heights Youth Soccer Club (BHYSC) and the Police Athletic League (PAL).

The 2018 [Fall Recreation Program Booklet](#) contains the full schedule.

Field Improvements

The Recreation Commission is working hard to refurbish and care for our Township Fields including Snyder Park, Lower Columbia Park, Veterans Memorial Park and all of the baseball fields.

The Recreation Commission aims to ensure a high-quality athletic experience for Township residents with an emphasis on placing kids first. Importantly, all field improvements are fully funded through fees collected by the Recreation Commission for program registration, in conjunction with key partners such as BHYSC, PAL, various sports camps and the Kids Recreation Trust grant.

Snyder Park Concession Stand

For the first time since Snyder Park opened seven years ago, the concession stand is now open for business during games.

[Full details about all of the field improvements.](#)

Planning Board Schedule

Planning Board meetings take place at Town Hall (29 Park Avenue) at 7 pm.

Upcoming Planning Board meetings:

- October 17
- November 7
- December 5

Additional Boards & Committees

A list of [all Township sponsored boards and committees.](#)

Community Events

October

BH Walks - Downtown Beautification Committee

Wednesday, October 17, 4:30 pm.

Meet at Rita's

"Don't Press Send" - Kind & Careful Online Communication - Sponsored by the Berkeley Heights Education Foundation

Wednesday, October 17, 7pm Governor Livingston HS, 175 Watchung Blvd, Berkeley Heights

Township Council & Mayoral Candidates Debate - Sponsored by the League of Women Voters BHNPS

Thursday, October 18, 7:30 pm.

Governor Livingston HS, 175 Watchung Blvd, Berkeley Heights

Governor Livingston Fall Clothing Drive

Saturday, October 20, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm.

GL High School and Deerfield Elementary School, Mountainside

8th Annual Trunk or Treat -

Sponsored by Berkeley Heights PBA #144

Saturday, October 27, 11:30 am set-up, 12:00 noon start time.
The PBA requests all participants to decorate a trunk.
The event will be held at is the Police Department parking lot.

YMCA Halloween Spooktacular

Saturday, October 27, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.
Located at BH YMCA

**National Prescription Drug Take Back Day -
Berkeley Heights Police Department**

Saturday, October 27, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.
Located at Berkeley Heights Police Department

November

"Coffee & Conversation" -

Hosted by Berkeley Heights Communications Committee

Sunday, November 4, 12:30 pm.
Location TBD

"Girls Night Out Bunco" -

Berkeley Heights Education Foundation

Thursday, November 15th, 7:00 pm.
Autumn Lakes Healthcare, 35 Cottage St
Details and RSVP link coming soon to BHEDFoundation.org

4th Annual Diwali Celebration

Saturday, November 17, 2:30 - 4:30 pm.
Located at the BH YMCA.

"Coffee & Conversation" -

Hosted by Berkeley Heights Communications Committee

Thursday, November 29, 8:00 pm.
Location TBD

December

Santa Visit, Annual Tree Lighting & 4th Annual Winter Walk

Saturday, December 1:
Santa Visit at Town Hall from 10 am to 1 pm;
Tree Lighting at Peppertown Park at 5:00 pm;
Winter Walk kicks off immediately following tree lighting ceremony (6 pm).

Annual Menorah Lighting

Thursday, December 6, time TBA

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