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Berkeley Heights Newsletter - November 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

Construction of the new Municipal Complex continues. Follow the progress of the construction and see what will be happening in upcoming weeks at [Weekly Construction Updates](#).

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

Township Election Results

On Tuesday, November 6, residents elected a new Mayor, Angie Devanney, and two new Township Council members, Alvaro Medeiros and Stephen Yellin. All three will be sworn in on Tuesday, January 1, 2019. Details to follow.

Warren Proposed Development

On Monday, October 29 and Saturday, November 3, the Township held resident stakeholder meetings to listen to and collect the concerns of our residents about the proposed redevelopment projects in Warren Township.

Please read the [summary of what was discussed](#) and a [summary of the Township's meeting with Warren](#) officials on November 8.

Fall Leaf and Yard Debris Collection

The annual fall Leaf and Yard Debris Collection program began the second week of October and will 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](#).

Remaining Brush Collection Schedule:

- Section 1: November 19 - December 4
- Section 5: December 5 - December 19

Monthly Senior Bus

Berkeley Heights has a 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 [November Schedule](#).

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:

- November 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:

- December 4, 18

Committee & Board Updates

Communications Committee Update

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. There will be three pilot sessions before the end of 2018. The [first coffee](#) was held on Tuesday, October 2 at 7:30 pm. The [second coffee](#) was on Sunday November 4 at 12:30 pm.

The final pilot Coffee & Conversation session is **rescheduled** to Wednesday, December 12 at 8 pm. Location is TBA.

Environmental Commission Update

Applications are now being accepted for garden plots at the Berkeley Heights Learning Community Garden located at the Littel-Lord Farmstead, 31 Horseshoe Road, Berkeley Heights. Both the Berkeley Heights Township Council and the NJ DEP's Green Acres program have approved the site.

If you would like to apply for a community garden plot, complete [the application](#) on our recently updated website. If more than 30 applications are received, plots will be assigned via a lottery system. All gardeners must sign and accept the operating rules of the BHLCG, which are included in the application available on our website

The goal is to begin preparation of the area for the garden—including removing turf, installing the fence, and building the beds—as soon as possible in order to utilize grant money that is available to us. Gardeners can start planting in spring of 2019. Please be on the lookout for opportunities to volunteer. These opportunities, along with updates on the other environmental projects going on in Town will be posted on the Environmental Commission website and Facebook page.

Board of Health

The Berkeley Heights Board of Health along with the New Jersey Department of Health emphasize the importance of hand washing for everyday prevention of flu. They also recommend those six months and older get a flu shot. There are many locations within Berkeley Heights to get a flu shot such as Walgreens, Summit Medical Group, and eMedical Urgent Care. An easy Google search can help you find the closest location.



Prevent the Spread of Flu

Cover Coughs & Sneezes

❖ Use tissues; cough or sneeze into sleeve



#FighttheFluNJ

Wash Your Hands



Stay Home if You're Sick



Get a Flu Shot!

❖ If 6 months or older
❖ Flu season can last until May



nj.gov/health/fightthefluinj



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Library Board

December is a busy month at Berkeley Heights Public Library (BHPL) with programs for children and adult book groups. Try our Italian Conversation Group if you need to brush up your skills or if you are interested in learning a new language. Don't forget you can search our catalog, visit BHPL's facebook, and download e-books, e-audio, and magazines at www.bhplnj.org. We hope to see you.

A sample of upcoming events:

For Adults:

Tuesday, 12/4 at 7:00 Italian Conversation Group - all levels of fluency welcome
Friday, 12/7 at 10:30 Book Group - A partial History of lost Causes
Tuesday, 12/11 at 7:30 Book Group - Exit West

For Children:

Tuesdays, 12/4, 12/18 at 9:30 Paper Plate Story Time
Tuesday, 12/11 at 10:30 Good Tymes String Band

Wednesday, 12/12 at 10:00 Tinker Time with Tots
Thursdays, 12/6 - 12/27 at 9:30 Baby Time
Friday 12/28 at 10:00 New Years Eve Party, ages 3 - 6

Planning Board Schedule

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

Upcoming Planning Board meetings:

- December 5

Additional Boards & Committees

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

Community Updates & Events

Berkeley Heights Winter Walk 2018

Berkeley Heights Winter Walk 2018 is presented by The Connell Company, Grain and Cane, and Embassy Suites by Hilton Berkeley Heights. The Winter Walk is a way for the businesses of Berkeley Heights to give back to the community. The residents of Berkeley Heights and surrounding communities are invited to experience a night of fun, festivities and community fully funded and hosted by the Berkeley Heights Business and Civic Community.

The night will begin as the Berkeley Heights Fire Department escorts Santa Claus to the 'Berkeley Heights Recreation Department and Special Events Committee's' Christmas Tree Lighting and firework show at 5pm in Peppertown Park. The Winter Walk immediately follows on Springfield Avenue.

More information and details can be found on the [Winter Walk website](#).

Start with Hello Berkeley Heights

Start with Hello BH is a local group of volunteers working to bring Sandy Hook Promise's proven and innovative programs to the community to help address violence, social isolation and bullying.

After the Parkland tragedy in February, 2018, several Berkeley Heights residents with a shared vision organized Start with Hello BH to move community conversations about kids safety and inclusion forward under the tenants of Sandy Hook Promise and began making themselves available in the community.

To date, two successful presentations have been held at district schools by teaching kindness and inclusion to 2nd-5th grade students, and by focusing on being an upstander and how and who to talk too when you have concerns at the middle school. The assemblies were each complemented with school-based activities. We are also looking into the benefits of SSARS as an improvement on current procedures.

Our overall goal is to continue rolling out the assemblies to the rest of the district schools in 2019 and establish a long term plan to ensure all students in the district receive the training over the years.

If you are interested in learning more about the local Start with Hello BH group please contact Vicki Baum at vtisch@hotmail.com.

Sandy Hook Promise is a national non-profit organization founded and led by several family members whose loved ones were killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School in 2012. For more information on Sandy Hook Promise, please visit www.sandyhookpromise.org.

Little Women - GL Hilltop Players

The GL Hilltop Players The GL Hilltop Players proudly present the classic story, LITTLE WOMEN, about four sisters growing up with their mother over the course of a year while their father serves as a chaplain in the Civil War. The play explores issues of love, loss, duty and charity in a beautiful, nostalgic story about family.

Performances are Thursday 11/29 at 7:30pm, Friday 11/30 at 7:30pm and Saturday 12/1 at 2:00pm and 7:30pm. Tickets (\$12 for adults, \$10 for students/senior citizens) may be reserved here and will also be available for purchase at the door.

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, 6:00 - 8:00pm
Peppertown Park

**"Coffee & Conversation" -
Hosted by Berkeley Heights Communications Committee**

RESCHEDULED

New Date: Wednesday, December 12, 8:00 pm.
Location TBD

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

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