

JULY 2023 | @BOROUGH HALL |



Message from the Mayor

As the year progresses, Bergenfield continues to move forward in many ways. We look forward to a safe and healthy end of summer and back to school. As a reminder, please drive safely and be aware of pedestrians as everyone continues to enjoy the warm weather.

In June the Borough hosted Family Fun Day and it was even better than years past. It was a pleasure seeing so many residents enjoying all of the hard work of the volunteers and town employees.

Our Summer Series continues to offer dancing, movies and other outdoor activities. Please check out the Calendar of events sponsored by our Recreation Department. With regard to Recreation, we have fall sports sign ups, pickleball and much more! We are also near the completion of the Vivyen Turf Field. See the update on page 3. On the second phase of our project, we envision to creating a bike and walk trail around the 25-acre property and adding basketball and volleyball courts. This will be funded by a \$750,000 grant we recently obtained from the State.

Soon, Cooper's Pond will also be upgraded, and we will make this beautiful park even better for our residents. We received an initial grant of \$750,000 from the federal government through the initiative of Senator Corey Booker. We have high hopes that the State grant of 1 million will be awarded to supplement the initial funding for Cooper's Pond. Thanks to the efforts of our District 38 Representatives, Senator Joe Lagana and Assembly members Lisa Swain and Chris Tully. If you haven't noticed, we are even closer to the opening of Borough Hall. The outside of the structure is complete, and the construction inside is moving along at a great pace. See page 7 for updated pictures of the new Borough Hall.

We appreciated all of the wonderful feedback from residents about our inaugural quarterly newsletter and we hope you enjoy this and all future editions to come. We will continue to make sure we inform residents of all that is going on in the Borough.

Arvin Amatorio
Mayor Arvin Amatorio

Please Check out the Department Reports...

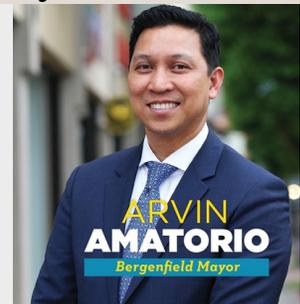
Reports from Departments & Boards, update on the Borough Hall, Twin Boro Field, upcoming events, and much more!!!

Mayor

- Arvin Amatorio

Council

- Marc Pascual, Council President
- Thomas Lodato
- Ora Kornbluth
- Hernando Rivera
- Buddy Deauna
- Domingo Almonte





Veterans Committee of Bergenfield

"The Moving Wall" is the half-size replica of the Washington, DC Vietnam Veterans Memorial and has been touring the country for thirty plus years. When John Devitt attended the 1982 dedication in Washington, he felt the positive power of "The Wall." He vowed to share that experience with those who did not have the opportunity to go to Washington.

John, Norris Shears, Gerry Haver, and other Vietnam veteran volunteers built The Moving Wall. It went on display for the first time in Tyler, Texas in October of 1984. Two structures of The Moving Wall now travel the USA from April through November, spending about a week at each site.

A Sponsor is any organization or group of individuals that wants The Moving Wall to visit their area and is willing to do the work to make the local arrangements as described in "Scheduling a Visit of The Moving Wall."

The Wall will be located at Bergenfield High School with Daily Services and Nightly Reading of names. There will be grief counselors on hand. This was brought to Bergenfield as a partnership between the Borough Veteran's Affairs Committee and the Bergenfield Board of Education.



"On August 30th through September 4th, VFW POST 6467 and the Board of Education will host the Moving Wall in Bergenfield at the Bergenfield High School. During the day the memorial will be open and at night there will be a ceremonial reading of the names. We invite all residents to come and pay their respects but also understand that this is a solemn and sacred memorial. There will be grief counselors on site. If you wish to volunteer, please contact the VFW POST 6467 at (201) 384-6467

VFW Auxiliary Committee Pig Roast (Tickets \$40.00)

Saturday, August 19th from 1pm-6pm. Contact, VFW Post 6467 at (201) 384-6467

Shade Tree

Borough Shade Committee overseas trees which are planted in Borough rights-of-way. If you are uncertain whether a tree is a Borough tree or not, call the DPW Office at 201-387-4055 option 3 Mon-Fri 7:00am-3:30pm, or send an email to dpw@bergenfieldnj.gov. For trimming or removal of Borough Trees, write a letter to the Shade Tree Committee at 198 North Washington Avenue, Bergenfield N.J. 07621, or e-mail dpw@bergenfieldnj.gov. Your e-mail will be forwarded to the Shade Tree Committee.

Social Services

Our guidelines are minimal. We have an intake form to help us assess the applicants needs. We require proof of residency in Bergenfield and proof of Income for the household. We advocate for families and interact with various county agencies such as Bergen County Board of Social Services, NJ family Care, WIC, PSEG etc. we also refer our clients to various Food Pantry's and churches within Bergen County. We Provide Information to parents for Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies in Bergenfield

Municipal Clerk

The No-Knock List allows residents to register their name, address indicating that they do not want canvassers, distributors, solicitors, peddlers, transient merchants or hawkers to approach their homes. No Knock Decals are available to those registered on our No-Knock List. One per household Cost is \$1.00 Registrants shall remain on the No-Knock List for a period 5 years, To Register please come to the Clerk's Office in Borough Hall.



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Twinboro Field Update



The construction is now complete for the first phase of the 25-acre Twin Boro Field. This state-of-the-art complex includes an artificial turf baseball field, an artificial turf soccer field, an artificial turf soccer/football field, sports lighting, and field amenities. The field is open to all residents by permit only. Please make sure you follow the posted rules to ensure this field remains in great condition. Sunflower seeds, gum chewing, metal cleats and dogs are not permitted on the artificial turf at any time. To fund this project Bergenfield received \$2.2 million in grants towards construction and upgrades from Bergen County Open Space Grants and New Jersey's Green Acres program. The total cost of the project is \$4.6 million. The New Jersey Green Acres Program helps fund projects that are protecting open spaces and have provided funding for hundreds of outdoor recreational facilities in communities around the State.



Borough Hall Construction Update



The New Borough Hall is expected to open in the Fall. Much of the work to the facade is complete and the concentration has been focused on the interior where the electrical, plumbing, and HVAC are being finished. All furniture and other items from the old building will be listed for auction by the auction company at a later date. We expect that the demolition of the old Borough Hall will commence when we have fully occupied the new building. In addition to the building, we will be relocating the cell tower and upgrading the parking areas for better access for residents who are conducting business at Borough Hall.



Bergenfield Public Library

From a small 400-book collection to a dynamic institution that encompasses books, multimedia, digital material, and so much more, the Library is a center of learning, growth and enjoyment for everyone in our community. This quarter our Library will have some amazing events, for more information visit us at Bergenfield Public Library 50 West Clinton Avenue.



SCAN TO SEE ALL OF THE FUN THINGS GOING ON AT THE LIBRARY



Passport Services by appointment: The Bergenfield Public Library to accept and execute passport applications on behalf of the Department of State. We verify the information of applicants using Form DS-11, which includes all first-time applicants and minors. We then send these verified applications for processing and issuance of passports.

YOU NEED TO BRING THE FOLLOWING:

- DS-11 Application
- Proof of Citizenship
- Proof of Identity
- One 2 " by 2" color passport photo
- Two checks or money orders You will need a check for each DS-11 form and one for the execution fee which is paid to the library. The execution fee is set by the department of state and is currently \$35.



To Schedule an Appointment

Department of Public Works



FREE wood mulch available now for Bergenfield residents! Monday-Friday 7:30 am-3:00 pm when the gate is open (closed on weekends & holidays) Pickup site: Windsor Road, between New Bridge Road and Maiden Lane.



African American Cemetery
New Walkway

For questions please call the Bergenfield DPW Office at 201-387-4055 option 3 or email dpw@bergenfieldnj.gov



Road Improvement Program:

The Borough of Bergenfield continues to make serious investments in the future of the community by doing additional infrastructure improvements this summer to roads. In order to help offset the costs of the road work, the Borough received \$234,072 through NJDOT Grants and \$134,164 through a Bergen County Community Development Block Grant to pave roads throughout the Borough. The Mayor and Council additionally commits millions of dollars every year that goes directly towards these types of projects. While every road cannot be fixed at one time, we are following a plan to ensure each roadway is evaluated and improved over a 15-year span. When considering a road for replacement, we take several factors into mind including condition of the storm and sewer drains, curbs, traffic, proximity to public parks, and road age.



Road Plan for 2023

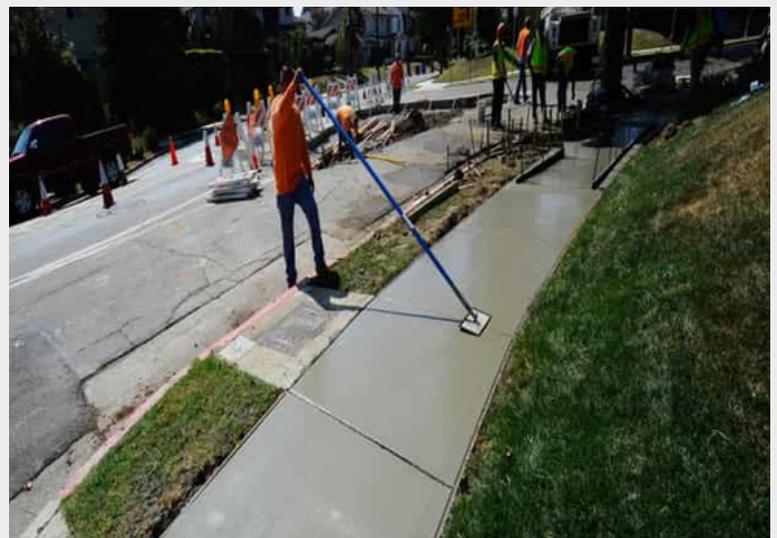
In 2023 we plan to upgrade portions of several roads by partnering with Veolia and PSE&G to improve infrastructure through lead pipe removal and gas line improvements on the following roads:

- Roosevelt Avenue
- North Taylor Street
- New Jersey Avenue
- Tulip Street
- New York Avenue
- Clinton Park Drive
- North Railroad Ave
- Bergen Ave
- Smith Edward O'Neil
- Orchard Street
- Mackay Drive

Side Walk Program 2023

Stats:

- 1200 Slabs replaced.
- 88 Trees replaced.
- 450 houses have used the sidewalk service.





Recreation Department



Water Parks OPEN

Walter Lubbe Jr. and Ross Applegate Playground are wildly popular in the heat of the summer. The sprinkler parks are large and open and consists of rings that kids can run through and get sprayed. The playground is partly fenced in and features swings, a rock wall, monkey bars, and bouncers. There is also a covered picnic area for those wishing to brown-bag it.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT presents **BERGENFIELD Summer Series**

FREE AND EXCITING FUN-FILLED ACTIVITIES

- WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21ST
BERGENFIELD HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION
6PM
- THURSDAY, JULY 27TH
DANCE PARTY
COOPER'S POND
6PM-10PM
- THURSDAY, JUNE 22ND
SUMMER DANCE PARTY
COOPER'S POND
6:30PM-10:00PM
- THURSDAY, AUGUST 10TH
DANCE PARTY
COOPER'S POND
6PM-10PM
- THURSDAY, JULY 13 TH
DANCE PARTY
COOPER'S POND
6PM-10PM
- THURSDAY, SEP 14 TH
DANCE PARTY
COOPER'S POND
6PM-10PM

Mayors Wellness Program 2023

RECAP

- 829 Participants
- 4,974 Pounds lost
- 36 Classes
- 18 Sponsors
- Join us next year!





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Emergency Services



www.bergenfieldpd.org



Police Chief for a Day
Chief JP Dungao 6/2/23



In Memory of
Captain
Richard
O'Connor

Chief: **Steven Naylis**
1st Deputy Chief: **Norman Hoyt, Jr.**
2nd Deputy Chief: **Alex Kneisler**
Captain: **Edward Kneisler III**
Captain: **Ryan Zadrozna**
Captain: **Kevin Schade**
Lieutenant: **Izzy Infield**
Lieutenant: **David Byrne**



Summer Safety Tips www.bergenfieldFD.org



Summer 2023 is finally upon us. Summertime brings with it family vacations, barbeques, fire pits, and all the fun in the sun we could possibly desire. As we begin to consider our plans for the summertime, it's important to take a few minutes to think about fire safety.

Let's start off with the good old fashioned backyard barbeque. While perfecting your burger skills on the grill is important, it's even more important to consider the potential hazards that come with it. According to the National Fire Prevention Association, or NFPA, fire departments responded to an average of 11,421 fires involving grills, hibachis, or barbeques between 2017 and 2021. During the same time period, over 22,000 patients visited emergency rooms nationwide as the result of thermal burns or other injuries involving outdoor cooking appliances.

How do we prevent this? Let's start off by talking a little bit about maintaining your outdoor cookware. Before you think about turning on your propane tank and throwing on some chicken legs, it would be a good idea to look over any cooking appliance you may want to use. Firstly, propane and charcoal grills should ONLY be used outdoors and away from any flammable materials including awnings, deck rails, low hanging tree branches, and, most importantly, your home. It is important to make sure your grill is clean of any grease or fat buildup that could potentially ignite and start a fire. NEVER leave your grill unattended while cooking, even if you think "well, I'll only be a minute". And lastly, be sure to keep any children or pets at least three feet from your cooking appliances while they are in use or still hot.

Another summertime staple that is becoming increasingly popular is the use of firepits. Just like with grills, it is important to take a few minutes to consider fire safety before lighting up your firepit. A study published in the Journal of Burn Care & Research, in 2019, showed that young adults, aged 19 and under, suffered over 10,000 burns between 2006 and 2017 related to the use of firepits. Before adding any type of wood or logs to your firepit, check to ensure the integrity of the firepit you are using. Do not use a firepit if there are cracks, breaks, or holes that were not designed into the product by the manufacturer. When lighting your firepit, lighter fluid is the ONLY substance that should be used. Do not use gasoline, kerosene, or any other flammable fluids. Remember to have a fire extinguisher or garden hose readily available in the event that the fire grows to be higher than two feet. The use of screens is also advised to keep any embers contained that may be blown around due to wind or a breeze. These embers can travel up to a quarter mile in the wind and could potentially start a fire wherever they may land.

For more information or fire safety tips, you may visit the National Fire Prevention Agency website at www.NFPA.org. From all of us here at the Bergenfield Fire Department, we want to wish you a happy, healthy, and safe summer.

The Bergenfield Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc. is the independent not-for-profit emergency ambulance service of Bergenfield, New Jersey. BVAC operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and answers over 2,300 calls annually. Also, the Ambulance Corps just expanded its fleet to 5 ambulances (previously 4). This allows us to station ambulances in more locations around town so we can respond to emergencies faster. Best of all, BVAC ambulances are funded by donations - not taxes.



As of June 25th, for 2023 the BVAC has responded to:

- 1,100 Emergency Call
- 1 CPR Save
- 3 New Members

www.bergenfieldambulance.org

Bergenfield Municipal Court

Bergenfield Municipal Court is conducting court appearances virtually via Zoom video conferencing instead of having participants physically attend the court.

Individuals will receive notices through the mail and/or by email with instructions on how to participate. If you have a matter that is scheduled with this court and if you have not already done so, please contact Bergenfield Municipal Court via e-mail. Provide your name, summons number, email address and, telephone number.

- nadia.cavli@njcourts.gov
- kim.grimaldi@njcourts.gov
- 201-387-4055 ext 2

- Payment information
- You may pay your traffic ticket/complaint through one of the following methods:
- In-person at the Violations Bureau Window 9:00AM- 4:00PM. You may pay with cash, check, money order or by credit-card
- By mail with either check or money order. Please remember to provide either the ticket or complaint number with your payment method.
- On the New Jersey Courts website directly at www.njmcdirect.com. Mastercard and Visa are accepted for payment of fines. Bergenfield's Court Code is 0203



SCAN HERE FOR PAYMENT



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The Building Department

As Summer arrives there are often questions on the requirements for pools. The Building Department and Zoning Departments have reviewed the pool requirements and Borough Council has adopted some changes. The following will be a brief overview of the common questions.

Pools - Any structure intended for swimming, whether permanent, temporary, or inflatable which can contain 24 inches of water. Swimming pools are regulated by the building code and borough ordinance and require permits to ensure proper installation. Pools are required to have barriers (fences) to guard unsupervised entry. A barrier can be a fence or may be the pool wall, depending on its construction. Soft-side, inflatable pools must be fenced. Borough ordinance also regulates where a pool may be located. A fact sheet may be obtained at the Borough office for more detailed information, which also includes bonding and electrical requirements.



Build Department.

POOLS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Are Pools considered Lot coverage?

A: Yes

Q: Are permits required for Pools?

A: Yes

Q: What is the first step I need to take if I want to install a pool?

A: Fill out and submit a zoning application and a current survey, with an Impervious Surface Breakdown inclusive of the location and size of the pool you wish to install, to the Building Department.

Q: Are there any restrictions where on my property a pool can be located?

A: Your pool needs to be located a minimum of 10 feet from the side and rear of your property. You must also have a pool compliant fence with a self-locking gate.

Q: What if I am denied by the Zoning Officer?

A: You will need to seek a variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Q: What else would I need for my pool?

A: Once you are approved, you will need to file for building, electrical, and plumbing permits.

All required forms needed for the above application can be found online on our Borough website or picked up at the Building Department.
BE SAFE AND ENJOY YOUR SUMMER

Health Department

- Marriage license fee has been reinstated and is \$28, effective July 1st.
- Now is a great time to schedule your child's physical and Immunization for the 2023-2024 school year please call 201-387-4055 option 5

Barrier Free Committee

Is currently looking for additional members
Please Contact Mayor Arvin Amatorio
AAmatorio@BergenfieldNJ.GOV



BERGENFIELD
PROUD TO BE
STIGMA-FREE
2023

Reminder:

Baby wipes and Grease/Cooking Oil should not go down the drain! It causes back ups and clogs lines

Senior Bus Services

HANDICAPPED AND ELDERLY TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

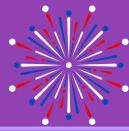
- Providing residents with transportation to Doctors, Hospitals or Clinics in this area.
- Also provides a shopping route every Wednesday.
- Operation Days: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri
- Operation Hours: 9AM-1PM
- Contact: DPW Dispatcher at 201-387-4055 x4088



Borough of Bergenfield

EDITION #2

JULY 2023 | @BOROUGH HALL |



July



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independence Day Borough Offices Closed 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	6	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	8
9	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm Zoning Board Meeting 8pm @High School 	11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VFW Members Meeting 7pm @VFW English Speaking Skills @ Library (registration required.) 	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Live Music from Grace's Basement Cooper's Pond 6pm-10pm 	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	15
16	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barrier Free Committee Meeting 11AM 	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> M & C Meeting @ 8pm @ Library English Speaking Skills @ Library (registration required.) 	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Game Night @ Library 6:30PM Library Board of Trustees @7:30PM 	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	22
23	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm Planning Board Meeting 8pm @High School 	25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tech Help Tuesdays @ Library 11AM-12:30PM English Speaking Skills @ Library (registration required.) 	26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dance Party Cooper's Pond 6pm-10pm 	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 8pm-10pm 	29
30	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 					



SUMMER SERIES
SUMMER SERIES THURSDAY JUNE-SEPTEMBER
 BEER GARDEN. FOOD VENDORS. DANCING. LIVE MUSIC.





JULY 2023 | @BOROUGH HALL |



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 • Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm	3	4 • Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm	5 • English Speaking Skills @ Library (registration required.)
6	7 • Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm • Planning Board Meeting 8pm @High School	8 • VFW Members Meeting 7pm @VFW • English Speaking Skills @ Library (registration required.)	9 • Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm	10 • Live Music from Shaman @ Cooper's Pond 6pm-10pm 	11 • Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm	12
13	14 • Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm	15 • M & C Meeting @ 8pm @ Library • Speaking Skills @ Library (registration required.)	16 • Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm	17	18 • English Speaking Skills @ Library (registration required.)	19 • Veteran's Committee Meeting 10am @VFW • VFW AUX PIC ROAST 1pm-6pm
20	21 • Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm • Planning Board Meeting 8pm @High School	22 • English Speaking Skills @ Library (registration required.)	23 • Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm	24	25 • Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm	26
27	28 • Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm	29 • English Speaking Skills @ Library (registration required.)	30 • Vietnam Moving Wall @ Bergenfield Highschool • Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm	31 • Vietnam Moving Wall @ Bergenfield Highschool		

FALL SPORTS SIGN UPS



Scan the box for calendar of sign ups and downloadable forms.

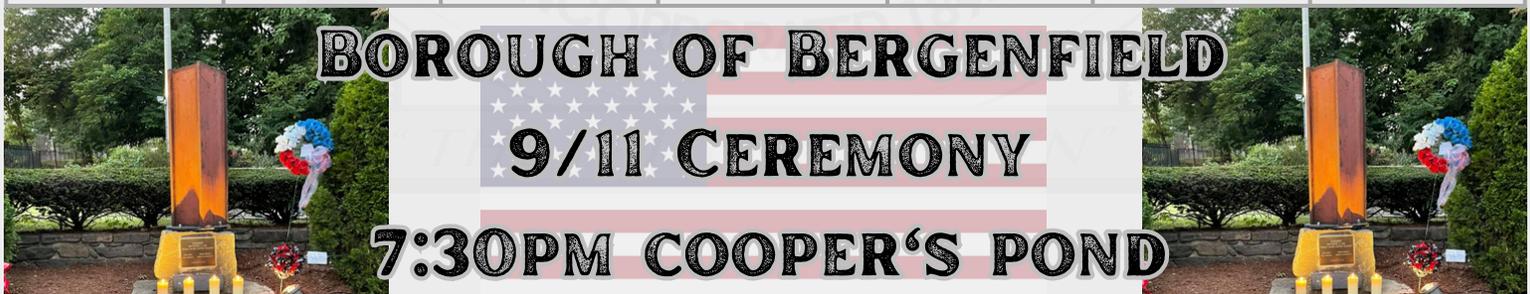




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September

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					1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vietnam Moving Wall @ Bergenfield Highschool Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vietnam Moving Wall @ Bergenfield Highschool
3 Vietnam Moving Wall @ Bergenfield Highschool	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vietnam Moving Wall @ Bergenfield Highschool Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> M & C Meeting @ 8pm @ TBD 	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	7	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	9
10	11 9/11 Ceremony 7:30pm @ Cooper's Pond	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VFW Members Meeting 7pm @VFW Zoning Board Meeting 8pm @TBD 	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dance Party Cooper's Pond 6pm-10pm 	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7pm-10pm 	16
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WWW.BERGENFIELD.COM