EDITION #4

JANUARY 2024 | @BOROUGH HALL |





**MESSAGE FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL** 

As we usher in 2024, it is with great anticipation and excitement that we look forward to serving the residents of Bergenfield. Mayor Arvin Amatorio, Councilman Marc Pasqual, and Councilman Domingo Almonte are eager to dedicate their time and energy to the betterment of our community. We are proud of our elected officials and have full confidence in their ability to lead us into another prosperous year.

We are thrilled to announce that the new Borough Hall is nearing completion and is set to open its doors soon. This new space will serve as a hub for community engagement and public service. In parallel, we continue to make headway on our new parking lot construction and the development of the veteran's memorial gardens. These projects, aimed at enhancing our borough's infrastructure and honoring our residents, are scheduled to reach completion by this summer.

Our winter sports teams are in full swing, gearing up for the finals. We wish them luck and encourage everyone in the community to show their support. Simultaneously, our spring sports teams are eagerly preparing to start their practice sessions.

Lastly, we want to remind everyone about the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 10th. This event is a vibrant testament to Bergenfield's spirit and unity. We invite all residents to join us in this time-honored tradition, as we celebrate our shared heritage and look forward to the year ahead.

Here's to a prosperous, healthy, and joyful 2024 in Bergenfield!

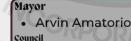
Please Check out the

**Department Reports** 

New Year Activities

**Community Groups** 

**Boards and Committees** 



- Marc Pascual
- Thomas Lodato
- Ora Kornbluth
- Hernando Rivera
- Buddy DeaunaDomingo Almonte



### Mayor Arvin Amatorio

win Amatorio

#### Volunteers Needed

Our Community Groups, Boards, Firefighters and Recreation are all looking for people to get involved please visit our Community Involvement Page (FORM)









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SCAN FOR LICENSE APPLICATION



In New Jersey, it's mandatory that dog owners have their pets licensed. A license tag helps police, animal control, and shelters quickly identify your dog or cat and get them back to you safely. Licensing your pet is important to control the spread of Rabies. Licensing ensures when a dog bite occurs and person is bitten, the town can quickly identify and immediately determine whether the animal is up to date on its Rabies vaccine. Fees from pet licensing are distributed to the statewide Animal population control program.



All Dogs/Cats MUST be licensed by January 31, 2024. Please scan QR code on the left to access the online application. Please mail application with a copy of updated rabies vaccine & payment. Rabies vaccine MUST be valid through the entire licensing period.

All Nail/Hair Salons MUST be licensed by January 31, 2024.

Please mail application, fee and licenses for all employees in the shop.

All Daycares MUST be licensed by January 31, 2024. Please mail application along with the fee and license for all employees at the daycare.

CHC & SAC immunization program for uninsured children every 2nd & 3rd Tuesday of the month. Contact the Health Dept. if you have any questions regarding any of the programs listed.



Bergenfield Bocce Group: Tuesdays & Thursdays weekly at Memorial Park for more information call Bob Gallione (201)421-6819



Scan here for a report an outage, gas leak, or to see outage map.



What to Do During a Power Outage

**Find out how to stay safe after you report a power outage.** Checking the cause of your power outage:

Your power may be out due to a utility issue or because of a problem inside of your home.

To check if the problem is in your home, locate your fuse box or circuit breaker box. If the surrounding area is clear of water, proceed to the box and ensure that none of your circuit breakers have tripped (indicated by the switch being in the OFF position.) Don't forget to check your main breaker switch as well. Blown fuses may be indicated by broken wires or scorch marks, but not always.

If the problem doesn't appear to originate in your home, check to see if your neighbors have power. If not, report the outage immediately.





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### End of 2023 Photos



**2022 Sustainable Bronze Level Certification** 



**Commendations to our Police officers who responded and** 

birthed a baby!



**2023 Menorah Lighting** 



**2023 Volunteer Thank You Dinner** 



The Bergenfield Stigma Free Hosted a symposium on Seasonal Depression and Anxiety Management and Prevention for Bergenfield High School Students. The featured speaker was Rabbi Dr. Ari Sytner, who is a licensed social worker and certified Gottman couple's therapist and holds an advanced training in trauma resolution. Congressman Josh Gottheimer holds press conference in Bergenfield and praises Bergenfield Food Pantry as one of the best in the State. Joel Berg CEO of Hunger Free America, "For a municipality to take personal responsibility and operate a food pantry is remarkable and not something we see in many municipalities in this country."

The Bergenfield Food Pantry is dedicated to serving the needs of local residents and strives to eliminate food insecurity within Bergenfield.



TTHEIMER

Bergenfield Health Department and Stigma Free Annual Coat Drive



**2023 Christmas Tree Lighting** 



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## Borough Hall Update

The highly anticipated update to Bergenfield Borough Hall is set to redefine the way our community interacts with its local government. While the project has faced some delays due to unforeseen challenges such as supply chain issues, the excitement and anticipation are palpable as the move-in date has been rescheduled for February.

The essence of this revitalization project lies in bringing together key facets of municipal operations under one roof. A central hub for civic engagement, the new Borough Hall aims to streamline accessibility and enhance functionality for both the Borough officials and constituents.

One of the highlights of the project is the cutting-edge police station that is poised to be state-of-the-art. This modern facility will not only provide our dedicated officers with the tools and technology they need but will also serve as a symbol of the Borough's commitment to public safety.

The technological advancements incorporated into the new Borough Hall will set a benchmark for efficiency and communication. From streamlined administrative processes to enhanced communication systems, every detail has been carefully considered to ensure that the Borough remains at the forefront of modern governance.

The crown jewel of the Borough Hall update is undoubtedly the Court/Council Chambers. Designed to be a gem of Bergen County, this space will host Mayor and Council meetings as well as various boards and committees. The Chambers have been meticulously planned to foster an atmosphere of transparency and accessibility, ensuring that the community feels engaged in the decision-making processes that shape Bergenfield's future.

The second floor is set to become a one-stop-shop for all constituents, housing various offices under one roof. This consolidation is not only a practical measure but also an embodiment of the Borough's commitment to providing efficient and easily accessible services to its residents.

While delays have tested the patience of the community, the silver lining lies in the fact that every aspect of the Bergenfield Borough Hall update has been scrutinized and refined to meet the highest standards. The wait will undoubtedly be worth it as we usher in a new era of municipal excellence.

As the move-in date approaches, Bergenfield residents can look forward to a Borough Hall that not only meets the needs of today but anticipates the challenges of tomorrow. The future is bright, and the Bergenfield Borough Hall update stands as a testament to the community's dedication to progress, innovation, and service.



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### **SNOW REMOVAL**

#### NO STREET PARKING

It is not permitted to park on Borough roads during snow emergencies (see Borough Code Ch. 299 Section 12).

### DO NOT PUT SNOW IN STREET

It is not permitted to blow, shovel, or plow snow or ice into the street (see Borough Code Ch. 273 Article III).

#### DO NOT BLOCK FIRE HYDRANTS

If you have a fire hydrant on or near your property, please clean and keep this area free from snow.

### **Department of Public Works**

FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL THE BERGENFIELD DPW OFFICE AT 201-387-4055 OPTION 3 OR DPW@BERGENFIELDNJ.GOV CHRISTMAS TREES, THEY ARE TO BE PUT ON JANUARY WE WILL BE PICKING UP

THE CURB ON RECYCLING DAYS. THEY ARE INE CURB UN RECTULING UM T. INET MARK ALSO INDICATED ON THE CALENDAR WITH A

BULK PICK UP. **21- JANUARY 10TH** Q2- JANUARY 24TH 03-JANUARY 31ST **Q4-FEBRUARY 7TH** 

> Q1- APRIL 3RD **Q2-APRIL 10TH Q3-APRIL 17TH** Q4- APRIL 24TH

> > Bulk pickup is for residential purposes ONLY

-The DPW does NOT pick up contractor debris, concrete, bricks, asphalt, rocks, mortar, stone, cultured stone or any stone-like materials, wet paint, chemicals, tires, fluorescent lightbulbs, vehicle batteries, rechargeable batteries, propane/fuel tanks, fire extinguishers, TV's, computer monitors, computer towers/computer CPU's, laptops, tablets, printers or fax machines. -The limit per bulk day is 4 pieces of household furniture, 2 household appliances (ex. air conditioning (AC) unit), oven, washer, dryer, refrigerator (DOOR MUST BE OFF), and 1 carpet or rug that does not exceed 12 feet in length and/or 1 foot in diameter (including the pad) or a mixture of fragments from carpet or rug of said size. The DPW will not collect carpet removed professionally.

-Water heaters must have borough-issued inspection stickers on them, or they will not be picked up. Please call the Building Department to schedule an inspection, 201-387-4055, option 4.

-Bulk may not be placed at the curb any earlier than 6:00pm the night before scheduled bulk pick-up days. Bulk must be ready no later than 6:00am on the scheduled day of the bulk pick-up.

-There is a bulk pick-up on scheduled bulk pick-up days only. There are no special pick-ups.





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### **Bergenfield Museum**

The Museum displays many artifacts portraying the history of Bergenfield --from the early 1800's to present day. See and touch "old " furniture including original Cooper Chairs, view vintage photos, play with dolls and toys, read and see military info on Camp Merritt, purchase literature in our museum shop and more.

#### Never an admission fee.

Look-up the history of your street and the "old' neighborhood. Relive your shopping experiences in the town's stores like the Florence Shop and Woolworth 5 and 10. Walk the grounds and visualize living in the 19th century and stroll around Cooper's Pond for a nice leisurely walk.



Tuesdays and Saturdays 1:30 to 3 :30 PM. For more info contact bergenfieldmuseumsocietynj@gmail.com



The Bears Den Annual Fishing Event at Coopers Pond.

The Bears Den is located behind Lincoln School adjacent to the Little League. The students greatly appreciate the assistance of Bergenfield High School and DPW.



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## **Emergency Services**



#### www.bergenfieldpd.org



Honest organizations won't call, email, or text to ask for your personal information, like your Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers. If you get an email or text message from a company you do business with and you think it's real, it's still best not to click on any links. Instead, contact them using a website you know is trustworthy. Or look up their phone number. Don't call a number they gave you or the number from your caller ID

Chief: Steven Naylis 1st Deputy Chief: Norman Hoyt, Jr. 2nd Deputy Chief: Ryan Zadrozna Captain: Kevin Schade Captain: Edward Kneisler III Lieutenant: Israel Infield Lieutenant: JF Cote Lieutenant: Emily Sandman Lieutenant: Ewily Sandman Lieutenant: David Byrne



The Bergenfield Fire Department would like to remind everyone to be sure to check the batteries on your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. We would also like to remind people to stay away from any downed utility lines. Bergenfield Volunteer Fire Department is always looking for members. If interested in joining our ranks or want to donate, please visit us at

www.bergenfieldfd.org



The Bergenfield Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc. (BVAC) is proud to close 2023 with an incredible year of consistently fast response and compassionate, competent care. Our dedicated group of volunteers are devoted to taking care of all our patients as if they're family. In 2023 we expanded our fleet to five ambulances, all funded completely by private donations, so that we can station our rigs throughout town to be able to respond even quicker. All our members carry complete sets of medical equipment and with an average response time of 3:30, we are the fastest EMS agency in Bergen County. When seconds count, rest assured that BVAC is there for you.

Want to save someone's life? Consider volunteering for us. All training is provided for free, and saving lives will give you a deeply rewarding experience that is hard to accomplish in today's world. To find out more about how you can join or contribute to BVAC scan the QR CODE below:



BERGENFIELD VOLUNTEER



www.bergenfieldambulance.org

#### **Bergenfield Municipal Court** PAYMENT INFORMATION You may pay your traffic ticket/complaint through one of the Bergenfield Municipal Court is conducting court appearances virtually via Zoom video conferencing instead of having participants physically attend the In-person at the Violations Bureau Window 9:00AM- 4:00PM. • You may pay with cash, check, money order or by credit-Individuals will receive notices through the mail and/or by email with card. instructions on how to participate. If you have a matter that is scheduled · By mail with either check or money order. Please remember with this court and if you have not already done so, please contact to provide either the ticket or complaint number with your Bergenfield Municipal Court via e-mail. Provide your name, summons number, payment method. email address and, telephone number. • On the New Jersey Courts website directly at SCAN HERE FOR PAVA nadia.cavli@njcourts.gov www.njmcdirect.com. Mastercard and Visa are accepted for kim.grimaldi@njcourts.gov payment of fines. Bergenfield's Court Code is 0203 201-387-4055 ext 2





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### **Department Reports**

#### The Building Department

With the cold weather coming, it's important for our residents to be safe and warm in their homes. If your WATER HEATER, FURNACE OR BOILER should break down and need to be replaced, please remember that this replacement would be considered **Emergency** Work. The replacement of a water heater, furnace or boiler should be top priority and replaced immediately or ASAP. You have 72 hours to submit a permit application to the Building Department for Emergency Work. Once the permit is processed and issued, you can then schedule an inspection to close out the permit. Do not be concerned with doing Emergency Work prior to obtaining a permit when dealing with something as vital as heat or hot water in the winter months. If you do find yourself in need of Emergency Work during the winter months, we do ask that you put in a courtesy call to the Building Dept the day of work being performed. Have a safe and





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**Building Dept Forms** 

We are here to help you! The Building Department (201) 387-4055 ext. 4

#### Senior Bus Services Handicapped & Elderly Transporation 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

### Social Services

Our guidelines are minimal. We have an intake form to help us identify the applicant's 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 Pantries and Churches within Bergen County. We provide Information to parents for Childcare Resource and Referral Agencies in Bergenfield.

 Be advised, the first quarter 2024 installment is due February 1st with a grace period date to February 12th. PD5's (Annual Post-Tax Year Annual Statement) Must be mailed out by February 1st and returned by March 1st
 Qualified veterans, senior citizen, disabled or surviving spouse, Civil union/Domestic Partner of a senior citizen or disabled person qualified for a \$250.00 deduction on their yearly property taxes.
 Senior freeze property tax reimbursement applications are mailed in the month of February for qualified

applicants. These 2023 verification forms are called (PTR-1A and PTR-2A). You may apply by calling 1-800-882-6597 or go to: <u>www.nj.gov/treasury/ptr</u>

**OFFICE** 4. You may apply for the Affordable New Jersey Communities for Homeowners and Renters (ANCHOR) Program at nj.gov/treasury/taxation/anchor/index.shtml

### Code Enforcement

#### **ICE AND SNOW**

Homeowners and business owners are reminded that they are responsible for keeping their sidewalks clear of snow and ice. Accumulated snow and ice must be removed within 24 hours. No person, firm or corporation shall cast or throw snow or ice onto a public street or thoroughfare.

#### PORTABLE BASKETBALL HOOPS

During the winter months, all portable basketball hoops must be removed from the sidewalk, the area between the sidewalk and curb, or on the street along the curb. Doing so will enable the Borough snow plows to properly clear the streets of snow.



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HAPPY NEW YEARI A January								
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
	<b>7</b> New Year's Day Borough Offices Closed	<b>Z</b> Mayor and Council Meeting REORGANIZATION 5PM	<b>3</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	4	<b>5</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	<b>b</b> Museum Open 1:30pm-3:00pm		
7	<ul> <li>Zoning Board Meeting 8PM</li> <li>Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM</li> </ul>	<b>9</b> VFW Members Meeting 7:00pm VFW POST	<b>10</b> VFW AUX Meeting 7:00PM VFW POST	11	<b>12</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	<b>73</b> Museum Open 1:30PM-3:00PM		
14	<b>15</b> • Martin Luther King Jr. Day • Borough Offices Closed	<b>16</b> • Mayor and Council Meeting 8PM • Museum Open 1:30PM- 3:00PM	<b>17</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	18	<b>79</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	20 • VFW Advisory 10:30M Library • Museum Open 1:30PM-3:00PM • Safe Sitter Class 9AM Conlon Hall		
21	<b>22</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	<b>23</b> Museum Open 1:30pm-3:00pm	<b>24</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	25	<b>26</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	<b>27</b> Museum Open 1:30PM-3:00PM		
28	<b>29</b> Planning Board Meeting 8PM	<b>30</b> Museum Open 1:30pm-3:00pm	<b>37</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM					
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February 岁						
Sweday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	<b>2</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	<b>3</b> Museum Open 1:30PM-3:00PM
4	<b>5</b> Zoning Board Meeting 8PM	<b>6</b> Mayor and Council Meeting 8PM	<b>7</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	8	<b>9</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	<b>10</b> Museum Open 1:30PM-3:00PM
11	<b>12</b> • VFW Members Meeting 7:00PM VFW POST • Lincoln's Birthday	<b>13</b> VFW AUX Meeting 7:00PM VFW POST	<b>14</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	15	<b>76</b> VFW Advisory 10:30M Library	77 • Museum Open 1:30PM- 3:00PM • Safe Sitter Class 9AM Conlon Hall
18	<b>79</b> Presidents Day Borough Offices Closed	<b>20</b> Mayor and Council Meeting 8PM	<b>21</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	22	<b>23</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	<b>24</b> Museum Open 1:30PM-3:00PM
25	<b>26</b> Planning Board Meeting 8PM	<b>27</b> Museum Open 1:30pm-3:00pm	<b>28</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	29		
PRES	Image: Non-Water StateImage: Non-Water StateNon-Water StateNon-Water StateNon-Water StateNon-Water StateNon-Water StateNon-Water State				Happy Valentine	Page 11

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	2024   @BOROUGH HALL						
March							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					<b>7</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	<b>Z</b> Museum Open 1:30PM-3:00PM	
3	<b>4</b> Zoning Board Meeting 8PM	<b>5</b> Mayor and Council Meeting 8PM	<b>b</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	7	<b>8</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	<b>9</b> Museum Open 1:30PM-3:00PM	
<b>10</b> • VFW Members Meeting 7:00pm VFW POST • St. Patrick 's Day Parade	<b>77</b> VFW AUX Meeting 7:00PM VFW POST	<b>12</b> Museum Open 1:30pm-3:00pm	<b>13</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	<b>74</b> VFW Advisory 10:30M Library	<b>75</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	<b>76</b> • Museum Open 1:30PM-3:00PM • Safe Sitter Class 9AM Conlon Hall	
<b>17</b> St. Patrick 's Day	<b>18</b> Planning Board Meeting 8PM	<b>79</b> Mayor and Council Meeting 8PM	<b>20</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	21	<b>22</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	<b>23</b> Museum Open 1:30PM-3:00PM	
24	<b>25</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	<b>26</b> Museum Open 1:30pm-3:00pm	<b>27</b> Pickle Ball @ Conlon Hall 7PM	28	<b>29</b> Good Friday Borough Offices Closed	30	
<i>31</i> Easter		NCO	10 M E	1894			
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