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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 9, 2016

## Berkeley Township Volunteer Firefighter's Memorial Honoring Members Who Have Passed Away

**BERKELEY TOWNSHIP-** A memorial project 11 years in the making is finally coming to fruition.

Volunteers from the three different fire companies in Berkeley Township have come together to raise money to build a memorial for their fallen brothers. Led by Chairman Pat Piccoli, Ex-Chief of the Manitou Park Volunteer Fire Company, Co-Chairs Jim Murray and John Anderson of the Bayville Volunteer Fire Company and Charles Bunnell of the Pinewald Pioneer Fire Company, the group had a collective vision to build a memorial where the public can visit daily and view the names of the volunteers who risked their lives and donated their time as a firefighter.



“Congratulations to Berkeley Township on the recent dedication of the Volunteer Firefighter’s Memorial at Veteran’s Park to honor the Bayville Volunteer Fire Company, the Manitou Park Volunteer Fire Company, and the Pinewald Volunteer Fire Company,” said Congressman Tom MacArthur. “May this memorial remind us of the dedication, commitment and sacrifice our volunteer firefighters demonstrate each day, and the safety and security they provide for our community.”

Berkeley Township Mayor Carmen Amato said, “I am proud of all the volunteers in town and for taking the initiative to raise donations to honor their fallen. This is a fitting tribute.”

At the groundbreaking ceremony of the Berkeley Township Volunteer Firefighter’s Memorial, held on September 7<sup>th</sup> at Veteran’s Park in Bayville, Piccoli thanked all of the individuals involved in making the

memorial possible.

“I’d like to thank Mayor Carmen Amato for providing the land and giving us the approval to install electricity so we can light the flags,” Piccoli said. “I also have to thank our Berkeley Parks Department for their hard work.”

Piccoli also praised Suffolk Redi Mix Corp. for donating the concrete and LJH Landscaping & Construction Co. for their generous contribution by helping the organization purchase the pavers at cost and then installing the pavers for free.



“A lot of work has already been completed, but we’re not done yet,” Piccoli added. “We’re hoping to continue to raise money for the purchase of a ‘Kneeling Firefighter Statue’ that costs approximately \$40,000, so we need another \$35,000 for that last addition to our memorial.”



The Berkeley Township Volunteer Firefighter’s Memorial is still selling bricks to raise funds to complete the project. Visit their website at [www.BTVFM.org](http://www.BTVFM.org) or send donations to Berkeley Township Volunteer Firefighter’s Memorial, PO Box 266 Bayville, NJ 08721.

To see more photos from the dedication ceremony, view our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/Berkeley-Township](http://www.facebook.com/Berkeley-Township).



Raymond Holmes, Chief of Manitou Park Volunteer Fire Company, Kenneth Anderson, Chief of Bayville Fire Co., Alexa Palmieri, Constituent Services Representative for Congressman Tom MacArthur, Richard Worth, Secretary for Pinewald Fire Co. and Berkeley Township Mayor Carmen Amato.  
(Photo credits: Debbi Winogracki)