



Bernards Township 250th Anniversary 1760-2010

[Click here to subscribe!](#)

A Citizen's Newsletter Vol. 6, March, 2010

School Mural Celebrates Two Anniversaries



To honor Oak Street School's 70th and Bernards Township's 250th anniversaries, the OSS PTO commissioned a mural which was unveiled March 5 in the school's cafeteria. Caren Frost Olmsted, local artist and OSS parent, designed the mural depicting local community life, including **Oak Street School, the Basking Ridge Oak Tree, Brick Academy, English Farm, Southard Park, Town Hall and downtown Basking Ridge**. Every Oak Street student helped paint a portion of the mural under the guidance of Ms. Olmsted and parent volunteers. Parents also loaned supplies and painted the upper portions of the mural. Oak Street students are proud to have participated in creating this masterpiece, which will grace the school for years to come. The photo above shows just one of several sections of the entire mural.

250 Tea is a Success
Over 125 people attended the 250th Anniversary Tea held February 28 at St. Mark's Church. The tea was chaired by June Kennedy, town historian, and sponsored by the Bonafides and AAUW. Guests were served authentic period food and tea from china teapots which had been volunteered for the event. Historical information and photographs were on display, while a harpist provided music. Guests received a gift booklet containing the biographies of 10 "Notable 18th Century Women" from Bernards Township. More photos of the event coming soon!



Commemorative Items Now Available!

You can now order 250th Anniversary t-shirts, sweatshirts, aprons, tote bags, mugs, water bottles, and many other gifts at <http://www.cafepress.com/bt250>.
Check it out today!

Save the Date!

On **May 25** the **Northeast Navy Pops Ensemble** will perform a special concert commemorating our 250th Anniversary! The band is directed by 1981 Ridge High graduate, **LT Carl J. Gerhard, USN**. More info soon!

Essay Contest Underway!

Could you be the author of a winning essay about Bernards Township? See entry information [here](#). A generous donation of \$1,000 from Skylands Bank will provide savings bond prizes for winners in each age category.

What are you waiting for? Start writing!



Do you recognize this Local Landmark . . . ?
(This is a tough one, so here's a hint: it can be found somewhere between N. Maple and N. Finley Avenues in Basking Ridge.) Answer next month!

Did you know . . . ?

The area now called Jockey Hollow is actually named "Jockey's Hollow" because jockeys tested their race horses there! In 1779-80, 10,000 Revolutionary troops built 1,200 log cabins on 900 acres of land in Jockey Hollow. The nearest tavern, where the men went for news, a warm bed, good food and drink, was the Vealtown Tavern, also known as John Parker's Tavern. It was located in the former Bernardsville Library building (currently Meli Melo Designs). The soldiers cut a footpath through the mountains to reach the tavern, which is why the road is called Old Army Road in both Bernardsville and Bernards Township!

www.bernards.org/250thAnniversary