



City of Bridgeton
City Hall Annex, 181 E. Commerce St, Bridgeton NJ 08302

Ask the Mayor a monthly impromptu column

August 2009

mayor@cityofbridgeton.com

Events:

3rd Annual Bridgeton “King Pig Barbeque” Contest:

Friday September 4th from 5pm to 10 pm and Saturday September 5th 11 am to 4 pm @ the beautiful Bridgeton’s Sunset lake. Sponsored by the FMBA (Firefighter’s Mutual Benevolent Association) Live music, entertainment Antique Classic Fire Engine Show and so much more. **For more information or to help sponsor this event please call Jeff Belmum @ 856 207 2576**

You may or may not be aware that over the past four months graffiti was getting out of control. I asked residents to call the city if they knew who the kids were that feel the need to deface other peoples property. There were some ideas of who, but not enough to press charges, so we continue to investigate. I recently asked the city code enforcement to issue notices, (not a ticket) to property owners with graffiti on their properties to remove or paint over the graffiti. I understand that this is a burden for those who have to time and time again paint over graffiti, but removing the anger is necessary for the city to prosper. This graffiti lowers property values, invites bad behavior (illegal dumping, drug sales, prostitution) and tells a perspective commercial developer that this is no were to invest his money. What you get is more of the same low income housing, prisons, and higher taxes.

I ask every resident to stay on top of the graffiti problem. If your property is “tagged” take it down that same day. Don’t wait for the city to give notice. **If you are a unable to take care of graffiti call my office 856-455-3230 ext 200 and I will personally take care of your graffiti problem.** I want every resident to know that you are not alone.

Please enjoy the rest of August, I hope to see you at the Bridgeton Invitational Tournament going on right now and please be sure to help your neighbor