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**“BERGEN COUNTY AMERICAN LEGION TO MARK 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO VETERANS;
COMMITTEE FORMED”**

BERGEN COUNTY --- The Bergen County American Legion is pleased to announce those individuals who are serving on the organization’s committee to promote 100 years of The American Legion’s service to the county’s veterans, their families and communities. The Committee’s mission is to bring recognition to the 23 centennial American Legion Posts in Bergen County that were chartered in 1919, and to that end will hold a on Sunday, September 29. The Centennial Posts are located in Bogota, Carlstadt, Cliffside Park, Closter, East Rutherford, Englewood, Fort Lee, Garfield, Hackensack, Hasbrouck Heights, Hillsdale, Leonia, Lodi, Lyndhurst, Maywood, Oradell, Park Ridge, Ridgefield, Ridgefield Park, Ridgewood, Rutherford, Teaneck and Wood-Ridge. Committee (in formation) members come from all parts of the county and most branches of the service:

- Michael Burhart, Past County Commander, Centennial Chairman, Post 139, U.S. Navy (Lyndhurst)
- Andra Akridge, President, Bergen County American Legion Auxiliary (Bergenfield)
- Ronald J. Beattie, Commander, Post 369, U.S. Army (Oakland)
- Brenda Calandrillo, Past President, Unit 57 (Mahwah)
- Frank Calandrillo, Jr., Past Department Commander, Commander, Post 531, U.S. Navy (Mahwah)
- Francis A. Carrasco, Commander, Post 136, U.S. Army (Lodi)
- Joanne Ciffo, Past Bergen County American Legion Auxiliary President (Lyndhurst)
- Sophia Dmoch, Commander, Post 310, U.S. Army (Little Ferry)
- Margaret Frontera, Secretary, Unit 136, Centennial Committee Secretary (New Milford)

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- Charles S. Gunn, Commander, Post 453, U.S. Army (Rutherford)
- Pamela Jengo, First Vice President, Bergen County American Legion Auxiliary (Hasbrouck Heights)
- Assemblyman Gordon Johnson, Post 58, U.S. Army (Englewood)
- Sharon Johnson, Sergeant-at-Arms, Unit 136 (Hackensack)
- Mario R. Lembo, BCAL Finance Officer, Post 369, U.S. Navy (Hawthorne)
- Patrick McCarthy, Commander, Post 106, U.S. Army (Hasbrouck Heights)
- Jim Morton, Webmaster, Director, Post 170, U.S. Navy (Bergenfield)
- Peter Mosca, Commander, Sons of the American Legion Squadron 136 (Rochelle Park)
- Val Nicholas, Member, American Legion National Centennial Honorary Committee; Post 170, U.S. Army (Leonia)
- Edward O'Dowd, Commander, Post 170, U.S. Navy (Lodi)
- Richard Palka, Commander, Post 1, U.S. Navy (Leonia)
- Sharon Salvacion, President, Unit 136 (Lodi)
- Bob Salvini, Past County Commander, Post 170, U.S. Army (Florida)
- Mayor Harry Shortway, Jr., Post 1000, U.S. Marine Corps (Midland Park)
- Thomas E. Simpson, Commander, Post 30, U.S. Army (Harrington Park)
- Raymond Stitz, Bergen County American Legion Vice Commander, U.S. Army (River Edge)

Chartered by Congress in 1919, the American Legion focuses on service to veterans, service members and communities. The American Legion evolved from a group of war-weary veterans of World War I into one of the most influential nonprofit groups in the United States. Today, membership stands at over 2 million in more than 13,000 posts worldwide, with over 4,000 members in Bergen County alone.

Visit the organization's web site for more information: <http://bcnjal.org/bcnjal-centennial-celebration/> or email BergenAL100TH@bcnjal.org

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