



December 2016

The office will be closed
Friday and Monday,
December 23rd, 26th, and
December 30th and January 2nd
in observance of the
Christmas and New Year's
Holidays



Mayor's Message

It is hard to believe we are closing 2016 and ushering in the New Year of 2017. This has been a year of accomplishments in the village, a year of coming together as a community for events to both serve and celebrate. My sincere thanks go out to everyone who participated in our Community Action Day, Arbor Day, tree planting program, summer recreation program, community garden, village walks, family park activities, disc golf tournaments, Christmas Tree Lighting, and all other activities we share in the village. It's your participation and community spirit that make these activities celebrations.

A big thank you to our office staff and DPW who's dedication to serving our community with the work they do. There are many projects, both ongoing and those coming to completion, that happen on a continual basis to make our village a great place to live.

The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree is the presence of family and friends together sharing in the spirit of the season. Whether your loved ones are near or far, let the spirit of love and peace fill up our hearts. On behalf of the entire village staff and board of trustees, I want to wish everyone a joyous, festive, safe, and Merry Christmas! *Mayor Anna Marie Barclay*

From the Desk of the Village Historian

Revisiting Guy F. Montgomery - thanks to village acquisition of Ancestry.com



Many more facts are now known about the farmhand and thresher, Guy Montgomery. He was born in Kansas, 1875. He went to school until the 4th grade. The 1900 Census has him, at the age of 25, in Iowa with his aunt and uncle David and Frances Howell. He moved with them to New York State by the 1930 Census. I am assuming the "Dust Bowl" might have driven them back East.

Guy, again in 1930, was a boarder and worked on my grandfather's farm, William S. Wilcox, on route 19. My grandparents gave up the farm about 1937 to move into the village. In 1940 Guy was listed as a boarder on Sackett Road with a Jeanette E. Wood. He died in 1941.

As the first story on Guy mentioned, he is buried in Mt. Rest Cemetery. The five graves to his left are those of his family (Howell) including David and Frances, whom he traveled back from the West. So this first reported lonely man did join his family and chose Bergen as "Home". David had two sons Leland of Brockport, and Harry of Bergen. I am so glad I found this information and no longer think of Guy as a lonely individual, a lost soul.

It is a happy coincidence that I have a friend in Brockport, Dorothy, the wife of Leland Howell, David's son. We met at Friendly's in Brockport and now meet each Tuesday for supper at another restaurant. Who would think I would make a study of one man and connect it through time to a newly-made friend. What a small world it is!

VILLAGE INFORMATION

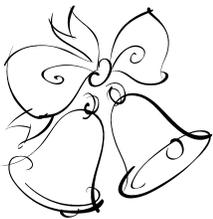
Department of Public Works

Please remember that there is no parking on Village streets between 2:00 am and 7:00 am. Your assistance will help our crews in their efforts to keep our roads clean and safe during the winter months.

We will do our best to keep streets and sidewalks safe during snow and ice conditions. If you believe you have an unsafe situation, please contact the office at 494-1513 and we will do our best to resolve the problem as quickly as possible.



The DPW Staff will be out on January 9th, 2017 (weather permitting) to pick up Christmas Trees



Holiday Office Closings

December 23rd, 26th, & 30th
and January 2nd

#BergenProud

A proud thank you to all the members of the Bergen Fire Department for responding to the massive structure fire at Big O Farms in Elba on Thanksgiving Day. On a day when everyone should be feasting with their family and friends, these men and women arose at the sound of the alarm and spent the entire day helping to fight the fire with a neighboring community.

winter weather tips:

know winter weather terms.

- Watch=winter storm is possible in your area. Follow local officials and media for tips and updates.
- Advisory=conditions expected to cause major delays & may be hazardous. Use caution.
- Warning=winter storm is occurring or will occur soon your area.

winter storm tips.

- Prepare for possible power loss: add warm clothes to emergency kit, check flashlight (never use candles) & radio batteries, charge mobile devices, fill car tank, take cash out (ATM's may not work).
- Only use generators in open areas away from windows & home to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Bring pets/animals inside and move livestock to sheltered areas with non-frozen drinking water.
- Travel only if necessary. Keep an emergency kit in your vehicle.
- Let family and friends know where you are. Check on neighbors before, during and after a storm to make sure they are OK.

FOLLOW DIRECTIONS FROM LOCAL OFFICIALS.



Thermal Infrared Imaging

The Village of Bergen is using infrared technology to identify ways to become energy efficient. Thermal infrared imaging has become a valuable tool in performing energy audits in residential and commercial applications. Again this year we are offering a free **infrared assessment on your home**. The assessment, complete with color photos and helpful information show areas of heat loss, if you are interested please contact the Village Office.