



**January
2017**



Mayor's Message

Happy New Year!!

As a summary of changes, improvements, and accomplishments in the village over the past 12 months, each department will be highlighted in our January, February, and March newsletters. This month the focus is on our electric department.

Joe Chimino, lineman, has been a full-time member of our electric department since 1997, Nick Booher, lineman, since 2004, and Matt Sluberski, apprentice lineman, since 2015. During 2016, they have worked throughout the village maintaining and improving our electric system, as well as working with other electric systems as part of shared services.

The conversion of Village Street lights to energy efficient LED is 100% complete (an energy cost savings to the village), new underground primary lines have been installed at the corner of Buffalo Street and Emily Court replacing rotting pole eyesore and updating service to the Hartland development, seven poles were replaced and new wire strung on Church Street, and 50 transformers have been switched out in preparation for the conversion to our new substation.

Yearly work has included tree trimming throughout the electric system to keep lines free from damage, all poles are inspected and replaced as needed, lines are scanned for stray voltage (as required by PSC), infrared inspections of homes throughout the village (as service available to everyone in the village), and 100 meters have been tested (100 per year each year). Weekly preventative substation inspections are completed.

The crew has assisted Castile, Churchville, Holley, Akron, and the Town of Bergen in tree trimming, electric outage solutions, and system improvements as part of shared services. They are responsible for electric maintenance at Bonduelle, replaced 10 poles at the plant, and are on call for any problems that may occur. These services are paid for to the village by Bonduelle.

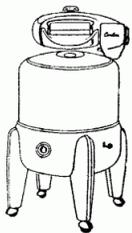
Construction of the WWTP building (2 months), electric installation in that building and the "Sage" Pavilion adjacent to Hartland Park, snow removal, holiday decorations, roadwork, and general village maintenance are all part of the work completed by our electric department.

The crew has done a great job for us this year, and will continue to update our system to make sure our electric service is there for all of us at the "flip of a

Mayor Anna Marie Barclay

switch."

From the Desk of the Village Historian



This time the story is about my mother, Ruth. 12 Rochester Street is the only home I have known, except for a couple of years away during and after college. Every Monday, being wash day for mom, or as she said "wors" day, and we had just returned from a trip to "Worshington, DC". We had a visit from Bea Howard, also of Rochester St., to welcome us home. Mom told about our trip to "Worshington" and Bea promptly corrected her, in a friendly way, with "Washington, you mean?" Mom, blushed, giggled, and smiled, then said "Yes, that is what I meant". After that experience I would torment mom, "Doing the wors, mom?" We sometimes say "crick" for "creek" in this part of New York State, and "goin-a" for "going to," as well. It is all about our local charm, or country talk.

Wash day also meant the reorganization of our backroom. It involved moving rinse tubs into place, a wringer washing machine centered in an assembly line position. She pinched her fingers many times and even bent her engagement and wedding ring enough to warrant its replacement from using the ring. Then lighting the gas heater to take the chill out of the room for the hours needed to complete washing in comfort. Starching shirts was done in a separate basin after rinsing. Hanging the wash outside followed. During the Winter I remember clothes lines stretched in the backroom, or even frozen semi-dried items, after hours spent outside, were brought into the dining room to thaw and finish drying. We didn't have a dryer at the time, so many scratchy towels and bed sheets were produced. When we finally had a dryer mom thought she was in heaven with the soft towels, etc. It was a whole day's work for mom and every other housewife of the 50's. Today, one presses a few buttons, and adds detergent, then walks away. The iron was brought out and hours were spent making neat piles of clothing out of the snarled mess of dried items. She lived through it, to do the entire procedure again, the next week. I gradually tried to help her and was allowed to iron a few items, then more, and more. Soon, a good ten years later, I was doing most of the ironing, except for shirts and her dresses. I enjoyed it!

VILLAGE INFORMATION

Looking for a way to get involved in your community?

The Park Committee/Tree Board is looking for new members!

Meetings are the 1st Wednesday evening of the month

Contact Mayor Barclay for more information at ambarclay@villageofbergen.com

Thermal Infrared Imaging

Thermal infrared imaging has become a valuable tool in performing energy audits in residential and commercial applications. We are again 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.

#BergenProud

All those participating in the 2016 Tree Lighting Ceremony; Mr. and Mrs. Claus, members of the Byron Bergen elementary band and high school singers, Bergen School of the Arts, Underground, Park Committee, village staff, and the groups and organizations that decorated the 26 trees donated by Bonduelle USA.

A Special note: the evergreen decorated by the Rose Garden/Viking Valhalla was covered with 150 miniature bowling pin ornaments made by employees. The bowling pin ornaments were labeled with the names of those who donated to their fundraising cause; \$750 was collected and will be distributed to the American Diabetes Association, and to Veterans through the bowling association.

Save the Date



2017 Anti-Rabies Immunization Clinic

Thursday, February 16, 2017
4pm-7pm
Batavia Town Highway Garage

Each dog, cat, and ferret must be accompanied by someone who can control it.

Dog, cat, and ferret vaccinations are free but voluntary donations are accepted.

Save time by filling out your registration form before the clinic at:

www.co.genesee.ny.us/departments/health/index.html

Please be sure to print 2 copies for each pet



Residential Refuse Collection Holiday Schedule

Memorial Day pickup will be Thursday, June 1st
Independence Day pickup will be Thursday, July 6th
Labor Day pickup will be Thursday, September 7th
Christmas pickup will be December 28th
New Years pickup will be January 4th