



December 2023

## Mayor's Message

Season's Greetings!

On December 4<sup>th</sup> the Village of Bergen hosted the annual Tree Lighting & Santa's Family Block Party. The Bergen Fire Dept. escorted Santa and the children to Zuber Park where a good time was had by all. Many thanks to all the participants that made this holiday tradition possible.

Our walking trail located at Hickory Park continues to be well utilized for recreational use. This 1/3-mile loop around the park will be snow plowed so it can remain open to the public for walking throughout the winter months.

The village was awarded an engineering and planning grant in the amount of \$50,000. to address inflow and infiltration of our wastewater system. Other grants we have submitted are the Empire State Development grant for electric infrastructure, Go-Art for summer concerts in the park and a grant application to fund our summer recreation program. Hopefully we will be awarded these grants, we await notification. We did submit a grant through the Consolidated Funding Application for a Hickory Park grant which was denied. The CFA received 197 eligible applications requesting over \$73.5 million. With only \$26 million available for distribution, not all eligible projects could be funded. The Town of Bergen also applied for this grant and, unfortunately, was also denied. We will continue to pursue this grant on a yearly basis when offered by the CFA.

On behalf of myself and all the village employees, we want to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. It has been a pleasure and an honor serving you all in 2023. *Mayor Joseph M. Chimino*

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns. I can be reached at [jchimino@villageofbergen.com](mailto:jchimino@villageofbergen.com) or (585)703-2875.

## From the Desk of the Village Historian, Vicky Truax

In honor of the 12 days of Christmas, we are recognizing the 15 past and present mayors of Bergen. There are a few mayors that have given a memory of their term in office.

**Joe Chimino 2022 – 2026** It is an honor as Mayor to serve the residents of the village. I strive daily to meet the expectations they have placed in me, and make my day to day decisions on what I feel is best for the village as a whole.

**Anna Marie Barclay 2014 – 2022** During my 8 years as village mayor, I wrote and secured grants for the renovation of downtown buildings, the Sage building and the covid meal program to name a few. I was proud to work as part of a team with staff and crew and to see the growth in our village.

**Ralph Marsocci 2010 – 2014**

**Wayne Bailey 2004 – 2010**

Wayne remembers the accomplishment of a new efficient treatment plant for the community.

**Tom LeSage 2002 – 2004**  
**Jim MacConnell 1989 – 2002**

**Ralph Garnish 1987 – 1989** It was a period dominated by problem solving: Replacing the collapsing Buffalo St. bridge; acquisition of land for sewage treatment plant; finalizing permanent financing for sewer project; recovery from and replacing a defaulting sewer project contractor; fighting Riga landfill with an Article 78 lawsuit and negotiating for Monroe County Water. Fun things were with Historian Tally Almquist obtaining a Main Street USA grant for a façade study and financial aid for the downtown district; designating Zuber Park and acquiring the flagpole from the former high school on Rochester Street for it; and establishing an influence in the Municipal Electric Utilities Association

(MEUA) for elected officials. It was an honor to serve.

**Ben Zuber 1976 -1987**

**Roy Hill 1971-1976** A memory from Roy's wife Helen. In the fall of 1973, the bank opened in the village. Roy and Helen's son, Mark (4 years old) was to do the ribbon cutting. While people were talking and not paying attention, Mark took it upon himself to cut the ribbon early. Everyone laughed.

**Carl Allen 1963 – 1971**

**Charles Collister 1962 – 1963** (finished term)

**Evan Cotter 1957 – 1962** (Resigned 6/21/1962)

**Burton Sackett 1953 – 1957**  
**Vincent Fowler 1949 – 1953**  
**Benjamin Cooley 1929 – 1949**



### Village Emergency Contact Numbers

Electric 353-0981  
Sewer 353-3659



These numbers do not receive text messages

# Village Meetings

All meetings are open to the public

### Board of Trustees

Second Wednesday of the month  
6:30pm

### Planning Board

Third Wednesday of the month at 7pm  
Agenda items must be submitted no later than ten days prior to the meeting

### Zoning Board of Appeals

Fourth Thursday of the month at 7pm

## Save the Date

### Holiday Office Closings

Friday and Monday,  
December 22nd and 25th  
In celebration of Christmas

Friday and Monday,  
December 29th and January 1st  
In celebration of New Year's

We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

Refuse Service **will be** delayed for Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Pickups will be on  
Wednesday, December 27th and  
Wednesday, January 3rd.



### Department of Public Works

Please remember that there is no parking on Village streets between 2:00am and 7:00am and no parking across the sidewalks at any time. Your assistance will help our crews in their efforts to keep our roads clean and safe during the winter months. Vehicles that remain parked on the street between these hours will be towed at the owner's expense.

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.

Property owners and snow removal contractors should be aware that shoveling or plowing snow from private property onto or across public roads is illegal because it can present a serious traffic hazard to motorists.

Customers must keep the approach to their mailboxes clear of obstructions to allow safe access for delivery. If USPS employees are impeded in reaching a mail receptacle, the postmaster may withdraw delivery service.

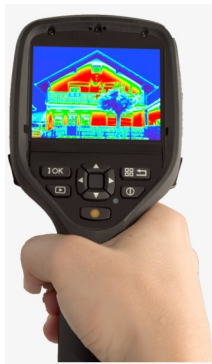
On-street parking on Lake Avenue is limited to 2 hours at all times and there is no overnight parking allowed.



Monday, January 8th our DPW will be around to pick up Christmas trees only. Brush and leaf pickup has been completed for the season.

Please place bare trees parallel to the road in the right-of-way for pickup.

### 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**.

\*\* Correction to last month's Historian's story of Dr. VanEenwyk. Dr. Morden's dental office was above the old hardware store next to Greg'ry's. It was stated that it was above Greg'ry's.