



**November
2023**

Mayor's Message

This newsletter may not find its way into your homes in time for Thanksgiving Day. If not, my hope is that you may have gathered with family and friends to share a very special day with very special people in your lives. On behalf of the entire village staff Happy Thanksgiving.

The recent Bergen Business & Civic Association event Hallows Eve & Ghost walk was a great success once again bringing our community together for some Halloween enjoyment. Thanks again for all the yearly activities your organization provides for the benefit of all the residents. You are truly appreciated.

On December 4th the Village of Bergen will be hosting the annual Tree Lighting & Santa's Family Block Party. The timeline for this event is meeting at 6:15 pm at Hickory Park, 6:20pm Santa lays wreath at Memorial, 6:30pm Bergen Fire Dept. Leads Caroling to Zuber Park (corner of Rochester St. & South Lake), 6:45pm Singing Silhouettes & Tree Lighting, 7:00pm 5th & 6th Grade Band, 7:30pm DJ Josh. Bring the children out to chat with Santa and Mrs. Claus, enjoy crafts, hot chocolate and cookies and some festive music as we welcome the holiday season to our village. Very special thanks to Cortney Gale, Rene Vurraro, and Barb Zinter for organizing this event.

The village's equipment is ready to handle whatever old man winter throws our way. I ask for all the residents' consideration when parking on village streets during daytime snow events and to follow the village local law of no overnight parking on village streets. It is imperative to keep traffic off the streets to accommodate safe and efficient snow plowing activities. Blocking sidewalks has also been a problem in the past. Please refrain from parking vehicles across the walks so that our sidewalk plow can do its job. Until next month be safe, be healthy.

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

Mayor Joseph M. Chimino

From the Desk of the Village Historian, Vicky Truax

Today's story is about Dr. Robert VanEenwyk. He was our Bergen dentist for many years. Doc, (as I'll refer to him, as that's how most knew him) grew up in Williamson, NY. He went to school at Hartwick College and then got his DDS from SUNY Buffalo. After college and his marriage to Deborah, they wanted to settle in the midway point between Doc's and Debbie's families. While attending the Bergen Presbyterian Church, they met Harris Wilcox. Harris told the young couple about Mrs. White's house being for sale, containing the dental practice of Dr. Louis Gallo. Seizing the opportunity, the VanEenwyks purchased both. Their practice followed Dr. Gallo, who had followed Dr. Burton White. Dr. White moved his office from the downtown area, where his office was above the drugstore, (Greg'rys) to 26 S. Lake Ave prior to the White's. It is said that a dentist lived at 26 S. Lake Ave from the early 1900's until Dr. VanEenwyk retired in 2017.

Over the years, Doc's practice had one other employee who was a dental assistant, receptionist and the office manager. If the employee couldn't be there, Debbie stepped in, and you would often find their children playing behind the desk. The last fifteen years, Debbie held that role full time, and then you'd often find a grandchild playing behind the desk.

The VanEenwyks's plan was to retire at the end of 2017, but God had other plans. In January of 2017, Doc had a triple bypass. While Debbie closed the office, they realized that it was easier this way, as they had already started saying goodbyes to longtime friends that had been patients.

One story that Doc remembers, was a man called the office saying that he had swelling, and his vision was blurry in one eye. Upon examination, Doc told him that he had an abscessed tooth. As for the blurry vision, it was because his glasses were missing a lens.

It was a sad day when the dentist office closed. Bergen was blessed with a wonderful and caring dentist. My family and our children were patients of Dr. VanEenwyk. It was a convenience living next door to a dentist. Along with that, the VanEenwyk's were wonderful neighbors.



Village Emergency Contact Numbers

Electric 353-0981
Sewer 353-3659



These numbers do not receive text messages

Save the Date

Holiday Office Closings

Thursday and Friday,
November 23rd and 24th
In celebration of Thanksgiving

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

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

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



Bergen Community Christmas Concert

Saturday, December 2nd, 2023
6:00pm

Bergen Evangelical Presbyterian Church
38 South Lake Avenue

Join us for an evening of Christmas music performed
by members of the community.

Young and old are welcome to attend.
Family friendly, bring all your little ones!

Cookies, milk, and cocoa to follow.
Need a ride? Call 494-1251

Calling all musicians- please share your talent with
our community!

Questions about attending or performing?
Contact Jocelyn Rebisz, 494-6031

Village Meetings

All meetings are open to the public

Board of Trustees

Second Wednesday of the month
6:30pm

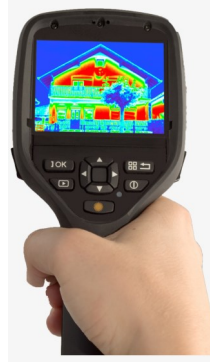
Planning Board

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

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**.

Department of Public Works

Please remember that there is no parking on Village streets between 2:00 am and 7:00 am and no parking across the sidewalks. 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. 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.

