



Mayor's Message

Where has the summer gone? It was just Memorial Day and now we are looking at Labor Day with back-to-school ads along with the bombardment of political commercials. I surely hope your summer has been a good one shared with family and friends. While on the topic of how quickly time passes by, I would like to congratulate the Viking Valhalla Restaurant at the Rose Garden Bowl for marking their 70th year in business. They are currently being added to the NYS Historical Business Registry. A minimum of 50 years is required to qualify for the registry. Thank you to the Sardou family for all 70 years of service to our community.

Thank you to Evie Rodriquez and all her helpers for another successful summer rec program at Hickory Park, as well as to John and Lori Schrenker and all the volunteers for overseeing the recent Bergen 5K race which benefits the Jenny Kuzma Memorial Fund and Young Life. Thanks for keeping this race tradition alive and well.

Our 3rd summer concert which was scheduled for August 19th had to be cancelled due to inclement weather and is being rescheduled. The next concert is on Wednesday August 28th at Hickory Park with Cummings Family and Friends performing a benefit concert as they did last year which helps fund future park upgrades. This concert is from 6:00pm-9:00pm Thank you to all these musicians for performing and truly making a positive difference in our community. In closing, a sincere thank you to all the men and women volunteers of the Bergen Fire Department for all your dedication. I have sat in your meetings and heard and felt the commitments you have all made for this community. Thank you for protecting our lives and property 24/7. BFD, the crown jewel of Bergen. If you are looking to be part of something special, please consider joining. They meet the first Monday of each month at 7:00pm on Hunter Street.

Until next month be safe and stay healthy!

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 or (585)703-2875.

From the Desk of the Village Historian, Vicky Truax



Today's story is of long time Bergen resident Don Hart, or Mr. Bergen as many knew him. Donald was born on July 11, 1927, in Kendall, New York. His parents were George Washington Hart and Bessie Koehler Hart. He had four siblings, three brothers and a sister. Don lived most of his life in Bergen. He joined the navy during WWII in June of 1945 – August 1946. Upon returning home he graduated from Bergen High School in 1947. Shortly after, he began his many business ventures. He owned his own excavating business, ran a sawmill, lawn mowing business, and landlord, to name a few. He was the Bergen Highway Superintendent for 17 years. This is only a short list of his life accomplishments.

I reached out to Jerry MacConnell as he and Don were best friends for nearly 60 years, despite their age difference. Jerry recalled the story of Don, Bob MacVean and Bob MacConnell (Jerry's dad) buying a racehorse in the 1960's named "Stars Above". They were sure that the racehorse was going to be a big winner and a huge money maker. Unfortunately, the horse never ran a single race. Don stabled the horse, and Jerry's job was to clean the stall. Jerry was the son that Don never had. Jerry MacConnell returned home from Vietnam in 1973. On his second weekend home while living with his parents, his dad met him at the door at 2:00am and informed him that if he was going to live with his parents there would be a 12:00am curfew. Clearly, he couldn't abide by that. The next day Jerry told Don that he needed an apartment. Don laughed and within 30 days, Jerry was in a beautiful studio apartment on Buffalo Street, above Don, Kathy, and Florence Hart (Don's daughter and wife). He paid \$90 a month and that included most of his meals. Little did Jerry know that his dad and Don were in co-hoots. Jerry's Mom couldn't sleep wondering where her son was and whether he was safe.

Don was part of many organizations. He was a past Chief of the Bergen Fire Department, and a board member. He was a member of the Masons for almost 70 years, Commander of the American Legion, member of the Bergen Business and Civic Association, to name a few.

My best memory of Don Hart is the Kaymar housing development. Don bought the property between Buffalo Street and Townline Road around 1972. From there he developed the sub-division and named it Kaymar Drive after his daughter Kathleen (Hammerl) and his nephew Mark DeMars/(hence Kaymar). Two other streets in the tract are named after two of his granddaughters, Trisha Lane and Emily Court.

I can still see Don with that twinkle in his eye and his wide smile. To say he was a kind man is an understatement. He will be remembered for being a low-profile but very generous man with his time and energy.



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
Agenda items must be submitted no later than ten

Save the Date

2024 Concerts in the Park

August 28th 6-9pm

The Cummings Family

All concerts are held in Hickory Park
Food and Beverages available for purchase



The office will be closed
Monday, September 2nd
in celebration of

Refuse Service will be delayed for
Labor Day. Pickup will be on
Wednesday, September 4th.



GLOW Region Solid Waste

Wyoming County Highway Department

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Saturday, September 7, 2024

9am to Noon

Acceptable materials include vehicle fluids EXCEPT MOTOR OIL, lead acid batteries, household cleaning products, pesticides and insecticides, polishes and waxes, resins and adhesives, oil base AND Latex paint and stains, fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, pool chemicals, driveway sealer, 11lb and 20lb propane canisters and tanks.

Tires are accepted. Passenger car tires are \$5.00 each and \$10.00 each for light truck tires.

Electronics Collection

Saturday, September 21, 2024

8:30am to Noon

Acceptable materials include monitors and TVs, computers and peripherals, printers, keyboards, small appliances(i.e. microwaves), speakers and stereo equipment, cables and cords, and phones.

Appointments are required and there are a limited number of them available. You may make them online at www.glowsolidwaste.org. Click on the link for the collection you would like to attend. Those without internet access can call the GLOW office for an appointment.(585)815-7906
glow@co.genesee.ny.us

First day of classes for Byron-Bergen is
Wednesday, September 4th!



**OBEY ALL
SCHOOL BUS
WARNING
SYSTEMS!**

**PROTECT
OUR
CHILDREN!**

If red lights are flashing, **STOP!**
They show that children are getting on or off the bus and may be crossing the street.



Foodlink Pop Up Pantry Food Distribution
Thursday, September 19th at 4pm
Bergen Evangelical Presbyterian Church