



Mayor's Message

Hope this newsletter finds you enjoying the summer-like weather. Many activities are planned in the ensuing days, weeks, and months. We start off with the annual Memorial Day parade which starts at 9:00am on May 27th. The parade starts on Buffalo Street and proceeds down South Lake Ave. to Hickory Park where a military service will be held to honor those who gave some and to those who gave all. The 34th annual park festival is June 8th. The parade starts at 12:00pm and proceeds down South Lake Ave to the park. Please plan on bringing the children out for a fun-filled day of activities including a car show, crafters, food vendors, music, fireworks and so much more. Thank you, BBKA, for once again organizing this event for the community's enjoyment. On June 20th the first of the summer concert series will take place at Hickory Park. Rebels Posse will be performing for your enjoyment from 6:30-8:30pm food and beverage vendors will be available. Grab a lawn chair and enjoy the show.

On May 14th the 7th grade students from BBKS were on hand to celebrate Arbor Day in the village. Many hands made short work. Thanks to the staff and children for helping to beautify our village parks and green spaces. I am happy to report that the 8 park bench pads as well as the concrete floor in the front pavilion are complete, park benches will be installed prior to Park Festival.

The 2024-2025 budgets have all passed with no increase to our village tax rate. A mass mailing was sent to all village residents explaining in detail the state of the sewer budget and the need to raise the unit charge by \$20.00 per quarter to balance the budget. With no alternative after a public hearing the board voted unanimously to enact local law 1 of 2024-Sewer Debt Service Charge. Again, this increase was necessary to meet NYS mandates and bond payments for infrastructure improvements

I have received numerous calls from residents complaining about excessive noise from cars, minibikes, four wheelers etc. I ask that we all keep our neighbors' right to peace and quiet in mind. Many residents are too timid to speak up in fear that they will start a war with their neighbors by expressing how they feel. Again, please be a considerate neighbor. Thank You!!!

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 takes us back to the gas station at 24 North Lake Avenue, known as H & K. It first began as Sackett's Esso Service in the late 1940's. The owner was Burton Sackett and it wasn't just a gas station/service station. They carried Atlas Tires and Remington Rifles. Their phone number was 14W.

After returning from WWII, Skip Sackett, brother of Burton began working at the station. Eventually Skip bought the business from his brother. Burton was the town plumber and had his hands full with that job. Skip ran the full-service station. They cleaned cars, fixed cars, and pumped gas. They also sold ice cream, cigarettes, soda, and candy. They also gave away green stamps. After

several years, Skip sold the business to one of his employees, Farrell (Tink) Fisk around 1969. Tink was a kind and gentle man. He had an employee named Harry Millsbaugh. Many of us recall the long time Bergen family. Ryan Dewitt actually owned the building and one of the stipulations was there had to be gas pumps providing gas service. Diane Hunt Donnelly has a fond memory of riding her bike over the hoses by the gas pumps, because they would go ding ding, to let them know someone was waiting to get gas.

Story continued on page 2...



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

Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 27th at 9am



It will begin at Buffalo Street and Lake Avenue and proceed south on Lake Avenue to Hickory Park where there will be a ceremony to honor our fallen servicemen and women.

Refuse Service will be delayed one day. Pickup will be on Wednesday, May 29th due to the Memorial Day Holiday. Also refer to the special letter that was sent for details on the provider changes.



Village Historian, Continued...

In 1971, Jack Munt leased the building and carried on with the service station and engine repair. His son, John worked at the station from when he was 16 years old until he was 18. John remembers a man named Francis coming to the station every day for an ice cream and some small talk. One day a dog showed up. It was an Airedale Terrier. Jack asked everyone where the dog came from, but no one knew. The dog made his home under the cash register. They named him Hector. Once a month, the Dudley sisters would come gather Hector and take him to their home for a bath and grooming. They would return a clean Hector. I can remember as a senior at Byron-Bergen, we had a carwash fundraiser at the station as Jane Munt (Jack's daughter and one of my best friends) was a classmate.

In 1974, Tom LeSage purchased the station ending the lease with Ryan Dewitt. At this point, Tom removed the gas pumps, ending gas service. Tom was a long-time fixture at the station. Tom had many employees over the years. His son Jessie, Kate Wride, Tim Downs to name a few. He was generous, letting some of the young kids have car washes, to earn some spending money. He ran the business until 2004, when he died shortly after.

In 2004, Harry Wannike bought the business (H&K). Harry grew up in Bergen and was no stranger to the village. Harry runs the business as the owner and sole employee. His son, Ryan helps out occasionally. Harry still uses the same desk that Tom LeSage had. H & K continues to have a thriving business. Bergen is lucky to have this gem in our community.



The office will be closed
Monday, May 27th
in honor of
Memorial Day

2024 Summer Recreation Program

Hickory Park
July 1st through August 9th
Monday through Friday
10am to 1pm



Registration forms are available on the Village website or at the Village Office..

The 34th Annual Bergen Park Festival

Saturday, June 8th

Come out and enjoy the day in Hickory Park!

Fireworks at Dusk!

Basketball Tournament, Car Show, Parade, Magician, Live Music, Food Trucks, Craft Vendors, Bounce Houses, Dunk Tank, Petting Zoo, Pony Rides, and a Book Sale!

4:00-5:30pm Chicken Barbecue

Chicken Barbecue tickets are \$15 each. Pre-sale tickets can be purchased at the Village and Town Offices and at the Byron-Bergen Public Library as well as at the Main Tent on Festival day.



In observance of the Memorial Day holiday, brush pickup will be delayed to Tuesday, May 28th, weather permitting.