



**January
2025**

Mayor's Message

As we turn the page on 2024, I look back with extreme gratitude to the many individuals and organizations who impacted our community in such a positive manner. It is truly an honor to be your mayor and to work hand in hand with you all as we work together towards a common goal.

2025 has started off on a high note as the village was informed, we have been awarded a \$100,000.00 park grant from NYS which will be used to replace the many decades old rear pavilion in Hickory Park along with regular and handicapped picnic tables. We are anticipating the project to begin in the middle of June.

We were also notified that we have been awarded a Community Arts Grant (REACH) through the Genesee-Orleans Regional Arts Council. This GO-Art grant in the amount of \$4900.00 will once again fund our summer concerts in the park series which will be held on June 25th, July 16th, July 30th, and August 20th. Please mark your calendar for these events.

We have also been informed that the Genesee County Legislature has again budgeted up to \$5000.00 per municipality on a first come first serve basis to be used for grant writing expenses. We will surely look at the available grants offered that could benefit our village, to take advantage of this County funding. This same funding was used last year for the park grant submission which we were awarded.

We are finalizing plans for the return of the farmers market which will be held on Tuesdays at Hickory Park with more information to follow in future newsletters.

With the new year upon us the village board of trustees is preparing the June 1, 2025-May 31, 2026, fiscal budgets for the general, sewer and electric departments. Extensive thought goes into the process of preparing these budgets which serve and benefit the residents. Copies of these budgets for review will be available when tentatively approved at the village office prior to a public hearing. This public hearing is held prior to the vote to adopt these budgets and allows you, the residents, time to raise questions or concerns.

Until next month, Be Safe Be 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 longtime resident Roy G. Hill. Roy was born in February of 1941. He was one of three children and graduated from Byron-Bergen in 1958. Roy married Helen Cockram and had three children. (Wayne, Mark, and Kristen) He was the village mayor for six years, (three terms) from 1971 – 1976. Along with being mayor, Roy was a volunteer fireman, a Mason at the Hesperus Lodge in Bergen, a member of the Byron-Bergen Sports Boosters, and Sunday school teacher at the Presbyterian church in Bergen, to name a few. He was a Deacon at his church along with being involved in their biblical plays. Roy had many talents and along with his community service, he also wrote poetry. He submitted three poems to the National Library of Poetry and all three were published. For friends and colleagues' birthdays or special events, Roy would often write a poem, in their honor.

Roy was president of the MEUA (Municipal Electric Utility Association) and was instrumental in obtaining lower electric rates for the village residents. He was the village supervisor for our Department of Public Works from 1981-1992, and the interim supervisor from 2004-2005. When the Bergen carnival ended, Roy saw a need for the people of Bergen to have a gathering, and hence Bergen Park Days began, and continues every year.

When speaking to some of Roy's co-workers the same response was given. Roy was a friend to all, and a genuine good guy, with integrity, who was always smiling. Roy passed away in March of 2007 at the young age of 66. He has left his footprint in the village and has an honorary bench in Carpenter Park that describes him in a few short words. Roy Hill, Poet and Friend.



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

Save the Date

Office Closing

The office will be closed
Monday, February 17th
In honor of President's Day



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 days prior to the meeting

LAST CALL! 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 .



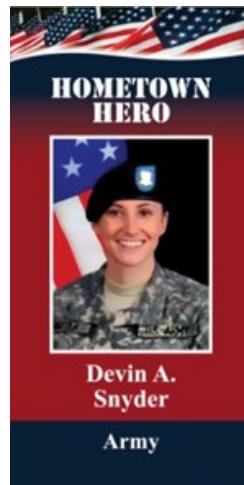
Residential Refuse Collection



Refuse Service **will not** be delayed for President's Day!
Pickup will be **Tuesday, February 18th**

- Visit wm.com 7 days prior to a holiday to view the schedule for your area.
- Waste collection services typically occur between 5 a.m. and 6 p.m. local time. As a best practice, please place your container out the night before the day of your service.
- Make sure the lid on your container is completely closed so our drivers can service them safely.
- Three feet apart with lids opening toward the street
- At least three feet from cars, trees, and mailboxes
- Wheels as close to the curb as possible
- Please remove containers as soon as possible after collection

Hometown Hero Banners



The Bergen Triangle Club, Ladies Auxiliary of the Sackett-Merrill-White American Legion, and the Friends of Bergen are proud to continue the Hometown Heroes Banner Program for spring 2025. The program serves as a tribute to recognize service men and women from Bergen who are currently serving or have been honorably discharged from service to our country, in a branch of the military.

These banners are proudly displayed in the Village of Bergen from Memorial Day through Veteran's Day each year.

Have a service member you know honored with a banner of their own. To order a banner to honor a service member, and to have questions concerning the banners answered, please email amb0330@rochester.rr.com. Guidelines and an application will be sent to you. Orders must be submitted by February 28, 2025, for banners to be added to our display in 2025.