



**June 2025**

## Mayor's Message

At the time of you reading this newsletter, the days have already begun to shorten with the summer solstice having taken place on Friday, June 20th, which is also the first day of summer. To take full advantage of the summer weather, we here at the village have been very busy organizing events for the summer and fall seasons.

First, let's catch up on the events that just recently took place. The Memorial Day Parade organized by the American Legion was a great way to kick things off, followed by the BBCA Bergen Park Day celebration which was held on June 14<sup>th</sup>. The streets were lined with spectators like I had not seen in years. The weather was gorgeous. The night culminated with a superb fireworks display. Thanks to the BBCA for again organizing the annual park day event, it surely brings our community together in a very positive way.

Now let's look ahead to upcoming events. The concert in the park series begins on Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> with ATLAS performing from 6:30-8:30pm. This band has shared the stage with Chicago, Kool and the Gang, and Earth Wind and Fire to name a few. They are a national recording artist group. Please attend, you will not be disappointed. The Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> concert from 6:30-8:30pm features Something Else which is a cover band with exceptional talent featuring Bergen's own Johnny Cummings. Local food vendors will be on site serving hot, burgers, pizza, ice cream, and cookies. Please attend and show your support, our GO-Art funding depends on it. Other concert dates will be listed in next month's newsletter.

Another activity of interest is the free summer camp program which begins on June 30<sup>th</sup> thru August 8<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-1:00pm, Monday thru Friday, you can register the children at the village office. Lastly, for activities in this newsletter, the Bergen Harvest Market is being held at Hickory Park, which opens on Tuesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> and will be open every Tuesday 3:00-6:00pm through September with many vendors on site. Please support these vendors as we work together to make this farm market a success. Many thanks to the Bergen Tree and Park committee for all the time and effort which has gone into organizing these events.

In closing, I have been informed of dogs not on leashes on residents' property which is ok until said dogs come after residents walking on the sidewalks. Please be responsible pet owners so our residents can feel safe while enjoying a walk. Also please be mindful when cutting grass onto the sidewalk and road. This grass becomes a safety issue when not cleared from these areas. Simply blow it back into the right-of-way area when finished mowing. The motorcyclists and pedestrians will thank you.

Until next month be healthy, be safe, and enjoy your Fourth of July Holiday!!!

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.

*Mayor Joseph M. Chimino*

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

Today's story features Ralph D. Gillette, a lifelong resident of Bergen, born in 1891 and passing in 1972. His father, George Gillette, was well known in both the railroad and farming industries, and had a strong interest in politics.

Ralph entered the insurance business in 1919, founding the Gillette Insurance Agency. The office was located on Buffalo Street, in the building that later housed Mike's Gym. Ralph and his wife, Minna, lived at 48 Rochester Street in the family home, which they always kept in immaculate condition.

Ralph was devoted to Minna and ensured she had the very best. Though the couple had no children, their home was beautifully appointed. Minna worked with a decorator from Sibley's department store, resulting in a stunning interior—featuring a Waterford chandelier, sterling silver displayed on the dining room buffet, and elegant, upholstered furniture in the living room.



### 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



The office will be closed  
Friday, July 4th  
in honor of  
Independence Day



Bergen Evangelical Church  
38 South Lake Avenue  
Thursdays at 4pm

June 26      September 25  
July 17      October 23  
August 28    November 13

This is an outdoor walk-through food distribution.  
Please bring a cart or wagon to gather your food.  
Everyone is welcome to attend all Foodlink events

### 2025 Summer Recreation Program



Hickory Park  
June 30th through August 8th  
Weekdays 10am to 1pm

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



### Bergen Harvest Market

Hickory Park  
Tuesdays 3-6pm  
July 1st through September 30th

Vegetables, fruits, flowers, fresh baked goods, meat,  
eggs, maple syrup, honey and much more!

### 2025 Summer Concert Series

Hickory Park  
6:30pm to 8:30pm

Wednesday, June 25th Atlas  
Wednesday, July 16th Something Else  
Wednesday, July 30th Blue Sky  
Wednesday, August 20th The Cummings Family



### Board of Trustees

Second Wednesday of the month  
at 6:30pm

### Planning Board

Normally the Third Wednesday of the month at 7pm  
**Meeting Time for July 16th, 2025 is at 6pm**  
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

### Byron-Bergen Public Library

#### Summer Reading Program

#### COLOR OUR WORLD 2025

Day	Date	Event	Time
Thurs	6/19	Summer Reading Kickoff! Dance, jump, sing, and enjoy the music of "Drumming with Mayukwa!"	2pm
Wed	6/25	"Art in the Afternoons" Beach Sign & Origami bookmark	4pm
Thurs	6/26	Colorful Adventures in Collabora- tive Storytelling with Jacob!	4pm
Tues	7/1	Musical Story Time	6pm
Wed	7/2	"Art in the Afternoons" Paper Making (space limited-sign up)	4pm
Tues	7/8	How to Make Balloon Animals (sign up)	6pm
Wed	7/9	"Art in the Afternoons" Coaster Decorating (sign up)	4pm
Fri	7/11	PreK/Toddler Story Time begins Ft. Special Sensory Activity	10:30am
Tues	7/15	Fired Up & Ready to Paint (space limited-sign up)	4pm
Wed	7/16	"Art in the Afternoons" ages 8+ Painting & More (sign up)	4pm
Thurs	7/17	Colorful Adventures in Collabora- tive Storytelling with Jacob!	4pm