



Mayor's Message

As I walked to the village office to prepare this newsletter, I observed many residents walking while pushing baby strollers and I thought to myself that this is what makes living in a village so special. The ability to walk through the neighborhood, socialize with neighbors all in a safe family friendly environment, which is such a rarity today. Just go one half hour east or west of our village and you will experience a different world. Having come from Batavia fifty-three years ago I know how special our village is and why I am proud to call it home.

With spring upon us, it is also fiscal year 2025-2026 budget time with a public hearing being held on April 9th at 6:15pm at the village office to answer any resident's questions or concerns. There is no increase in the village tax levy with this 2025-2026 budget. The village board will vote on the budget following the public hearing. This budget includes such things as road work, sidewalk replacements along with many other line items that are necessary to meet the needs of the residents we serve. Residents will be given advance notice of any construction that might affect their property such as road closings or sidewalk replacement that might temporarily impede access to their property. Brush pickup in the village will officially begin on April 7th and will continue on Mondays through late fall. Please note we are a brush pickup not a tree removal service. Pickup is limited to one truck load per week.

As stated in a previous newsletter we received a NYS grant enabling us to replace the back pavilion in Hickory Park. The design of the new pavilion is being finalized, and we are expecting a lead time of 26-28 weeks from the vendor. This would put us into November for construction.

I am pleased to announce that the new car charger is operational. It is located in the municipal parking lot on Buffalo Street. I have once again been informed by numerous residents of dog feces on lawns and sidewalks in the village. Please be a responsible pet owner and pick up after your pets. The public should not have to deal with and clean up the mess left behind by inconsiderate pet owners.

Some dates for community events: April 6th Concert series at the Bergen Evangelical Presbyterian Church 38 South Lake Avenue will feature George Collichio, Guitar -concert begins at 6:00pm. The Bergen Business and Civic Association will once again sponsor their annual Easter Egg Hunt for the kids at Hickory Park on Saturday, April 12th. A meet and greet with the Easter bunny along with the sale of box lunches will be available at the Sage Pavilion from 12:00-12:45 followed by the egg hunt in the park at 1:00pm Hope to see you all there.

Until next month be healthy be safe!

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 takes us back to 1955 when Rollin and Dorothy Harradine bought the drug store (13 North Lake Ave.) which is now Gregory's. It had been Fishers Drug Store until 1946. Then it became Fowler's over the counter drug store and fountain business. In 1955, the Harradine's bought the store, along with the home at 16 Munger Street from Bert Fisher. It was a package deal. The business and the home. The store was called Harradine's. They sold over the counter drugs along with shaving cream, soaps etc. There was not a pharmacist on site. The store also had a lunch counter with stools along with five or six booths. It was a popular place, as there was a grill and they served hamburgers, hot dogs, grilled cheese, BLT's and macaroni and potato salad and more. along with friendly service.



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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: 6:30pm March 12th

Planning Board: 7pm March 19th

Zoning Board of Appeals: 7pm March 27th

Agenda items must be submitted no later than ten days prior to the meeting

Save the Date



Brush Pickup Begins April 7th

Brush and paper bagged leaves will be picked up each Monday, weather permitting, and continuing into November

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Bergen on April 9th, 2025, at 6:15pm in the Village Hall, 11 North Lake Avenue, Bergen, New York, in the matter of the adoption of the Electric, Sewer, and General Budgets. Copies of the tentative budgets are available for inspection in the Village Administrator's Office or on the village website. All interested persons will be heard at the aforesaid time and place.



Bergen Evangelical Church
38 South Lake Avenue
Thursdays at 4pm

April 17, May 15, and June 26

This is an outdoor walk-through food distribution.
Please bring a cart or wagon to gather your food.

Easter Lunch & Hunt

Saturday, April 12th



Noon to 12:45pm

Meet and greet with the bunny
Lunch available for purchase
at Sage Pavilion
62 South Lake Avenue

1pm Easter Egg Hunt at Hickory Park
Presented by the BBCA



. Office Closing

We will be closed
Good Friday, April 18th

Harradine's continued from page 1... A big part of the business was the soda grill. They sold Sealtest ice cream and made milkshakes, root beer floats, malts along with cherry cokes. Along with Rollin and Dorothy working the business, other employees were Lorraine Swarts and Gladys Mielke. When asking former customers about the store, everyone agreed that it was a great place,

The Harradine's ran the store until 1969 when big stores such as the Big N in Brockport began popping up. Rollin and Dorothy said that it was hard to compete with such places that could sell shaving cream etc for nine cents less. When they decided to sell the business and building, they moved the grill away from the back west wall, and some of the drywall ripped away. They found a staircase that was hidden and went to the second floor. Up until then they had only been upstairs by using a ladder against the building and enter through a second story window. Upstairs were many old apothecary bottles, with medicine still in some of them. They were sold at auction along with all the contents of the soda grill, including the glass showroom cases and restaurant equipment.

I can remember going to Harradine's with my sister Pam and long-time friend, Joan Fodge Mitchell. We would share a tin of Charles Chips along with cherry cokes. Oh the good old days.



Burn Ban In Effect

Reminder! Annual Burning Ban in effect until May 14th

All residential brush burning is prohibited in smaller communities during the state's historically high fire-risk period from **March 16 through May 14th.**

Several factors enable wildfires to start easily and spread quickly at this time, including the lack of green vegetation, abundance of available fuels such as dry grass and leaves, warm temperatures and wind.