



**December
2025**

Mayor's Message

The village ushered in the holiday season bringing the community together for our annual Christmas Tree Lighting/Block Party celebration which was held on December 9th. Thanks to all the volunteers for staffing the booths and to village staff for organizing this festive event. Special thanks to the Byron-Bergen 5th and 6th grade band and the Singing Silhouettes for braving the cold. Santa and Mrs. Claus were not fazed by the cold. I guess coming from way up North (Lake Ave) they were accustomed to the temperature. Thanks to all for once again making this a great community event. This is what small village is all about.

Last month I reported that the materials were in-house for the construction of the new pavilion in Hickory Park. This month I am happy to report that the construction of the pavilion is complete with staining and final landscaping to be scheduled for this spring, it is truly an incredible structure we, as a community, can all be proud of.

In other good news, U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer and U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand have announced that a federal grant, named the Northern Border Regional Council Grant, in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 was awarded to the village to address inflow and infiltration issues within our sewer infrastructure. An initial engineering study estimated a cost of 1.998 million dollars to address all those issues. We continue to pursue grants to offset these costs.

The village electric express line operating at the higher voltage that the village has adopted to meet present and future growth was energized on December 13th bringing power to the new OXBO facility located in the Appletree Industrial Park. Liberty Pumps is next to be switched over as of December 21st with the other businesses in the park to follow. We are projecting the fall of 2026 before the Gibson Street Substation replacement will be completed enabling the village residents' homes to be electrically connected to the new system.

At the village board meeting held on December 10th the board passed resolution 11 of 2025 to join other towns and villages in Genesee County to oppose large scale solar projects that override local land use authority and impact agricultural land in Genesee County. The message to the Governor is Enough is Enough.

In closing, I would like to thank all the residents who have put up Christmas lights and displays around the village, your holiday spirit is greatly appreciated. I hope you all enjoyed your Christmas holiday and, on behalf of all the village staff, we wish you a Happy and, most of all, a Healthy New Year.

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

On December 9, the village gathered once again to celebrate the holiday season with the lighting of the big, beautiful Christmas tree at Zuber Park—a cherished tradition that has continued for many years. Mayor Joe Chimino opened the evening by thanking our fire department, whose steady presence always helps keep our community safe. The Genesee County Sheriff's Department also assisted by directing traffic and ensuring everyone's safety.

The night was filled with wonderful performances. Students from the 5th and 6th grade band played their hearts out under the guidance of Robert Lancia, who continues to impress us with his dedication and talent as an educator. The Singing Silhouettes, led by Emily Sylvester, delighted the crowd with their beautiful harmonies, while DJ Josh kept the festive spirit alive by spinning Christmas favorites.

Cookies and hot chocolate were plentiful, generously served by village trustees Mike and Bernadette, with help from Mariann and Rob. The village office staff organized the craft tents, where children and adults alike painted wooden snowflakes, decorated cookies, and personalized small tote bags—thanks to Cortney, Barb, and Rene' for their hard work. The FFA, led by Jeff Parnapy, ran the cookie-decorating tent.

Behind the scenes, the village crew—Pete and Eric—made sure the street was safely closed and the tents were set up for the evening's activities. Linemen Nick and Matt beautifully decorated the massive Christmas tree. And of course, no Christmas celebration would be complete without Santa and Mrs. Claus. We thank them for their many years of dedication to our community.

As Christmas and the New Year approach, I would like to recognize everyone who helps make our village such a wonderful place to live and to raise our children and grandchildren. I am truly thankful to have grown up in the Village of Bergen and to continue sharing in the love of this kind and caring community.



Village Emergency Contact Numbers

Electric 353-0981
Sewer 353-3659



These numbers do not receive text messages

Monday, January 5th our DPW will be around to pick up Christmas trees only. Brush and leaf pickup has been completed for the season.

Please place bare trees parallel to the road in the right-of-way for pickup.



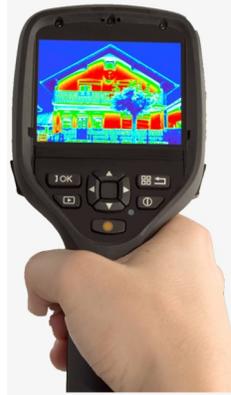
Save the Date

Refuse Service **will not** be delayed for Christmas or New Year's Day

Pickups will be on Tuesday, December 23rd and Tuesday, December 30th as usual.



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**.

Holiday Office Closings

Wednesday and Thursday, December 24th and 25th
In celebration of Christmas

Wednesday and Thursday, December 31st and January 1st
In celebration of New Year's



Department of Public Works



Please remember that there is no parking on Village streets between 2:00am and 7:00am and no parking across the sidewalks at any time. Your assistance will help our crews in their efforts to keep our roads clean and safe during the winter months. Vehicles that remain parked on the street between these hours will be towed at the owner's expense.

We will do our best to keep streets and sidewalks safe during snow and ice conditions. If you believe you have an unsafe situation, please contact the office at 494-1513 and we will do our best to resolve the problem as quickly as possible.

Property owners and snow removal contractors should be aware that shoveling or plowing snow from private property onto or across public roads is illegal because it can present a serious traffic hazard to motorists.

Customers must keep the approach to their mailboxes clear of obstructions to allow safe access for delivery. If USPS employees are impeded in reaching a mail receptacle, the postmaster may withdraw delivery service.

On-street parking on Lake Avenue is limited to 2 hours at all times and there is no overnight parking allowed.

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 2026. 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, 2026, for banners to be added to our display in 2026.