



**July 2025**

## Mayor's Message

I want to start out by congratulating all the graduates of the BBCS class of 2025 and wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

- \* The free summer recreation program for kids is being held at Hickory Park Monday through Friday from 10:00am -1:00pm with lunch provided and runs through August 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - \* Our Bergen Harvest Market is in full swing and being held every Tuesday from 3:00-6:00pm through September 30<sup>th</sup> at Hickory Park. Stop by and show support for the vendors.
  - \* Our third concert in the park is scheduled for July 30<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30pm featuring Blue Sky. Come out, relax and enjoy the music with friends.
  - \* The annual Bergen 5K race is scheduled for August 9<sup>th</sup> at Hickory Park with a start time of 8:30am which will be followed by a Kids' Fun Run at 10:30am for boys and girls ages 3-12. This fun run requires no registration and is free to enter. Thanks to the Friends of the Bergen Parks for organizing and sponsoring this event for our little athletes.
  - \* Also on August 9<sup>th</sup> is a cornhole tournament with a check in time of 3:00pm at the park. The cost is \$20.00 per team with prize money being awarded for first and second place. Registration is at the village office. Proceeds benefit Hickory Park.
- For any additional information on any of these events call the village office at 494-1513.

Various road maintenance projects such as catch basin repairs and chip sealing of Gates and Church streets will be taking place in August, along with some sidewalk tile replacements being scheduled. Residents will be notified if these projects impact their residence.

Four major sanitary sewer manholes have been replaced in the village, eliminating ground water infiltration into our wastewater system.

Again, please refrain from blowing grass clippings into the road and on the sidewalks for safety reasons.

Enjoy the summer!!! 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](mailto:jchimino@villageofbergen.com) or (585)703-2875.

## 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.

The Gillette's were dedicated members of the Presbyterian Church, always sitting in the same pew. Minna, known for her impeccable style, was often admired for her latest hat, coat, or purse—always setting trends in the community.

After Minna passed away in 1967, Ralph's spirit seemed to fade. His health declined quickly, and he passed away in a Rochester nursing home in 1972. Despite their quiet life, Ralph left a lasting legacy. His contributions to the community endure today—two of my daughters were proud recipients of the Ralph Gillette Scholarship.



## 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

### 2025 Summer Concert Series

Hickory Park  
6:30pm to 8:30pm

Wednesday, July 30th Blue Sky  
Wednesday, August 20th The Cummings Family



Bergen Evangelical Church  
38 South Lake Avenue  
Thursdays at 4pm

August 28      October 23  
September 25      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



### 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 Bergen 5k

Jenny Kuzma Memorial Race  
Saturday, August 9th 8:30am

[www.bergen5k.com](http://www.bergen5k.com)

Registration increases after  
August 3rd.

Please watch for the road  
closures around Hickory Park to  
be in place between 8:00am and  
10:00am for runner's safety.



### 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 August 20th, 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

TUES	7/22	ISPY Bottle Workshop (sign up)	6pm
WED	7/23	"Art in the Afternoon" Jellyfish Bracelet (sign up)	4pm
TUES	7/29	ZooMobile with Seneca Park Zoo	6pm
WED	7/30	"Art in the Afternoons" ages 8+ Melty Crayon Necklaces (sign up)	4pm
<b>August</b>			
TUES	8/5	Native American Wampum Beads Craft (space limited--sign up) <i>9:30am!</i>	4pm
*	8/5-8/8	<b>LAST WEEK TO SPIN THE WHEEL!!</b>	8/5-8/8
WED	8/6	"Art in the Afternoons" Craft Palooza	4pm
Thurs	8/7	Magic Madin's Smile-Maker Show	6:00pm
		Drop off Reading Log by 8/13 to get your final Prize!	