



# TOWN OF BERGEN NEWSLETTER

## MARCH, APRIL, MAY 2022



Editor: Michele Smith

### Town News ... From the Desk of Town Supervisor *Ernest Haywood*

Many of you are noticing water pipe arriving along roadsides throughout the Town. Construction on our water district is finally underway! We held a pre-construction meeting on February 22 and we closed on a \$5,850,000 Bond Anticipation Note to fund the construction on February 23.

We have begun to work on a schedule of sign-up sessions for residents to meet with the Monroe County Water Authority and Town Engineers; you will receive a letter with the date of your session. There will be five sessions beginning in March and ending in June. Every resident in the district will be assigned to a session based on the contractors' proposed schedules and the Water Authority's recommendation. We ask that you make the date assigned to you a priority, but if you cannot make it to that session, we will make arrangements for you to attend an alternative session or complete the process by phone/and or mail. The first session March 22, 2022 will include residents of Pocock, Swamp, Warboys, Sautell, Dublin and Jerico Roads. April 12, 2022 will be residents of North Bergen, Reed and West Sweden Roads will be in Session 2. The third session May 3, 2022 will be Cook, Creamer and West Bergen Road residents. Session 4 May 24, 2022 will be Sacket, Old State, School, Gilbert, Lyman, Connelly Roads and Maple Avenue. The fifth session June 14, 2022 will be Evans, N. Lake, Peachey, Buffalo and Clinton Street Roads. All sessions will be 3:00 – 7:00 pm.

The Monroe County Water Authority will mail every property owner in the district a packet of information as the date for your sign-up session approaches. Please read it carefully. You will have to complete the Water Authority's forms and make a payment to them.

At the sign-up session you will be able to confirm with the engineer your desired location for the water service and receive a stake you will place in your yard. The Water Authority will attend remotely and answer any questions you may have about their sign-up process. Remember, you must hire an installer to run the water line from the road into your house and connect to your fixtures (the connection must be done to the Water Authority standards).

In other business not related to water, the Town Board opted out of cannabis legislation that would have permitted cannabis dispensary and on-site consumption parlors to be located in the Town. The Town can opt-in in the future, however the way the state legislation was written, municipalities that did not opt out prior to December 31, 2021 could never opt out. We joined with many other municipalities that chose to opt out, at least for now, until the State puts into place the regulations regarding the operation of these businesses. If the Board decides in the future to opt-in, a public hearing must be held so that you have a voice in the decision.

Finally, I would like to welcome our newest Town Board Member Teresa Whalin. Many of you know her well already. Teresa is serving on the Parks, Policies and Personnel committees.

Thank you to our highway crew for the great job they have been doing this snow season. We appreciate it!



As Spring approaches and we progress and hopefully reemerge from under the cloud of the pandemic, we are optimistic of the direction we are headed as a County. Despite the optimism, every consumer and business are feeling the effects of inflation and a new level of costs. Government is no different, we have seen the escalation of costs of just about everything required to run a municipal government. Our 184 bed County Jail project is well underway with our bond resolution passed and initial construction bids are live. There remains concerns of rising construction material costs as well as the availability of many of the specialty components. The timeline is still progressing with breaking ground sometime this Spring.

Progress continues with phase 2 of the water infrastructure project. We continue to scour all the possible sources of outside funding for these projects. We recently met with Congressman Jacobs to discuss any possible federal funds as well as using all our contacts and resources at the State level. The County is wrapping up several mainline and pump projects in Monroe and eastern Genesee County. The basis of design work continues on phase 3 as water availability and quantity continues to be a big focus of the County over the coming years.

Another focus of the County is looking into how to improve and potentially get every resident Broadband access. The Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council have been tremendous partners in this review and continue to provide guidance and direction. We recently reviewed a map of the entire county and all the potential "holes" in coverage. We have dollars set aside to assist with this, but need to leverage it with State and Federal broadband program monies to tackle this issue effectively. We will be looking for input from all our municipal partners as well as the providers. This issue is certainly a focus of County leadership. Stay tuned.

The County has also recently taken a much more involved role in our EMS and fire service. As demands on these services has increased, the workforce and volunteer numbers have declined. If we are not in it already, we are entering in a time of crisis in this area. County leadership is ready to deploy resources towards this effort as we learn more of the needs and how to do so most effectively.

Internally, our mental health department continues to have more demands from the Community and our workforce needs have increased with this demand, much of this due to the pandemic and changing demographics. IT infrastructure is another area of need as we try to be on the frontline of protection for our systems as cybersecurity threats are ever increasing. Both these departments we are making a larger than normal investment in. Covid test kits are available for free if needed anytime for whomever is in need. Enjoy Spring and the warmer weather! As always, feel free to contact us anytime with any questions or concerns you many have.

---

#### Town Clerk News *by Michele Smith*



**Dog License:** Please make sure your dogs are licensed and their rabies information is up to date.

**ANTI-RABIES CLINICS:** May 19<sup>th</sup> Genesee County Fair Grounds 4:00 - 7:00 pm

**2022 Town & County Tax Payment** - Last day to pay Town & County taxes is Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> (with March 31<sup>st</sup> falling on a Thursday) with 2% penalty, any taxes not paid by that date will be turned over to Genesee County Treasurer, any payments can be left in the drop box after hours.

#### Office Closings

April 15<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday

May 30<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day



#### Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

8:00 am – Noon & 1:00 – 5:00

Friday 8:00 am – Noon & 1:00 – 4:00

Closed on Thursday & Saturday

Did you know?

- The Library is Bigger than it Looks-The Byron-Bergen's interlibrary loan service gives you access to collections at other libraries! Being part of the Nioga Library system gives you opportunities to interloan books from Niagara, Orleans, and Genesee County Libraries. Just check out our online catalog with your valid Library card unlock millions of books, audio books, music CD's, and DVD's available to you! Can't wait for delivery to the Library? Take your card to other libraries in the system and check it out yourself!
- The Library has several free options for online and downloadable books, audiobooks, magazines, music and movies you can read on your computer, smart phone, dedicated eBook reader, or tablet. Just go to the Byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org website and click on OverDrive/Libby and Hoopla to find out more!
- The Library is more than just books – there are movies and music, programs for all ages, book sales, and much more. Check us out at [www.Byron-BergenPublicLibrary.org](http://www.Byron-BergenPublicLibrary.org) or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

We have New York tax forms available here! You also can go to the website at [www.nystax.gov](http://www.nystax.gov) and go to forms to print from home. If you need Federal tax forms, they are available at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

Library has Pre-K/Toddler story time for children at 10:30am on Fridays until April 8th for the winter session and will begin the spring session on April 22nd. We enjoy a different themed story each week with a related craft and a snack! Registration is recommended by calling or stopping by the Library.

Book discussion group meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30pm. March 10<sup>th</sup> we are reading Night Tiger by Yangsze Choo. Come join the discussion and meet new people! We enjoy lively conversation about the book and refreshments too! Call or stop by the Library to reserve your copy of our current book.

Join us for St. Patrick's Day Craft Day March 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Wear something green and make a fun craft and have a yummy treat! Registration is appreciated by March 16th.

Discover the History and Culture of Dreams with Deborah Dominguez on March 31<sup>st</sup> at 6pm. The presentation includes a discussion on historical meaning of dreams in different cultures, lands and time periods. Please bring at least 3 written dreams to share. Registration by March 29<sup>th</sup> is appreciated.

***National Library week is April 4<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> --Stop in and take out 3 or more books and have a chance to win a prize!! Everyone invited to participate!***

Save the date of April 6<sup>th</sup> for our annual pre-school concert! Join our smaller patrons at the Bergen Evangelical Presbyterian Church at 9:30am for music and fun with Buffalo and Brandy's "Magical Musical Storytelling Show"! Children will be swept into an imaginary "storybook world" with songs, dancing and play! No Registration required! Just come join the fun! This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrant Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by GO ART!

Join the Library and the Bergen Historical Society on April 7<sup>th</sup> as we welcome Joan Wanecski as she presents "Conquering Polio with the Vaccine" at 7pm. A short meeting will be before the presentation. Refreshments to follow. No registration necessary.

**Spring Break Happenings!! April 12<sup>th</sup> – April 16<sup>th</sup>**

Movie Day -Tuesday April 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm – Join us for the movie **Sing 2**- Rated PG. Enjoy popcorn and refreshments too! Registration by noon on April 12<sup>th</sup> is appreciated. This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrant Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by GO ART! \*\*

Spring/Easter Make & Take Craft – April 13<sup>th</sup> from 3pm- 6pm- Come anytime between 3pm and 6pm to create a fun colorful craft. No Registration necessary.

Join the Library and the Bergen Historical Society on May 5<sup>th</sup> at a special time 6:30pm as we welcome Perry Ground as he presents “Haudenosaunee Women- From SkyWoman to Influence on American Suffrage. Perry Ground is a Turtle Clan member of the Onondaga Nation of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy that will share stories starting with Creation Story and SkyWoman and highlight the important responsibilities woman have. Refreshments s to follow. This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrant Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by GO ART! \*\*

Movie Day at 10:30pm will be Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup> with the movie to be announced soon! Check out our website for more information. This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrant Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by GO ART! \*\*

Library book sale will be at the Bergen Park Festival on June 11<sup>th</sup>. There are audio books, movies, children’s books and many bestselling authors. The Library will be closed on June 11<sup>th</sup> h so stop by the tent at the Park Fest!

The Library is hosting the Kelley’s Hero’s Marching Band at the Bergen Park Festival on June 11th in the parade and right after the parade too with a field show not to be missed! This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrant Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by GO ART! \*\*

The Library has Spectrum/Time Warner Internet service available. The Library has copy /fax service for a small cost. Interlibrary loans from any Library in the NIOGA Library system at our catalog [www.byronbergenpubliclibrary.org](http://www.byronbergenpubliclibrary.org). If you can’t find it, please ask! Stop in soon! For more information on our services or programs, please call the Library at 494-1120.

Happy Reading!

Nancy Bailey -- Library Manager

\*\*

*goArt!*



**EASTER EGG HUNT SATURDAY, APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup> AT 1:00 PM**  
**THE BERGEN BUSINESS & CIVIC ASSOCIATION SPONSORS**

**THIS ANNUAL EVENT AT THE HICKORY PARK IN**

**THE VILLAGE OF BERGEN.**



**BERGEN SUMMER RECREATION IS COLLECTING CANS AND BOTTLES!**

If you are interested in donating your empty cans and bottles, please drop them off at the Bergen Bottle Redemption Center, 72 South Lake Avenue and let them know it is for Bergen Rec. The money will go toward buying supplies for Bergen Summer Rec!

We look forward to seeing you this summer for SIX weeks of fun at Hickory Park!



This is a FREE program for Bergen children ages 5 and up, contact the Village Office for more information 494-1513.

**BERGEN NEWSLETTER  
10 HUNTER STREET  
BERGEN, NY 14416  
bergenny.org**