

Town of Byron NEWSLETTER



Volume 1, Number 48 Spring 2018

From the Supervisor's Desk

I am beginning my first year as Town of Byron Supervisor having moved here with my wife in August 1970 to begin my position that I accepted at Harris Seeds in Rochester. I served in many roles in the Town between then and now. In January I attended a State of new York newly elected officials three day seminar where a large amount of information was presented that I am still processing. I have also learned a lot from Debra, our very capable Town Clerk, as to the daily operations of the Town.

Water District funding bids are out to banks for the construction loans. Work is expected to commence in the next month or two. If you have any questions, give me a call at the Town office or drop me a note.

Roger Rouse
Supervisor

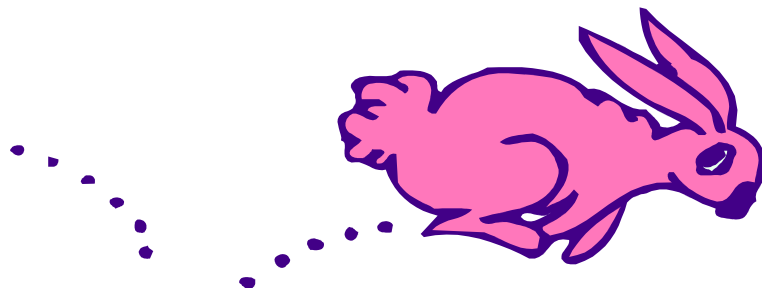
Town Clerk

Please remember that you can now renew your dog license online, it's fast and easy. Just go to the Town website at www.byronny.com and click on the blue link titled "To Renew Your Dog License Online Click Here" and it will take you through the steps to renew online. You cannot, however, renew your license online if your rabies are due, and you will need to come in to the office.

As a reminder, taxes are collected at the Town Hall through March 31, 2018, and can be paid by cash, check, charge or money order. After March 31st you will need to contact the Genesee County Treasurer's Office regarding payment.

Visit our website at www.byronny.com for information, and don't forget to Like us on FaceBook.

Happy Spring!
Debra Buck-Leaton, Town Clerk



Highway Superintendent

As of this writing, things although probably not over, have slowed down quite a bit weather wise. Now that the snow has melted I'm sure some of you are finding some plow damage to your lawns. As I've stated in previous years after the ground hardens up a bit more we will be around to restore things. As in years past please be patient for us to get around. We have a lot of miles of road and a small crew to get it done. We will go plow route by plow route, road by road, so like with snowplowing someone has to come first and someone has to come last. Every year I hear from people who have done their own assuming we don't do it. We do so please be patient. Have a great spring!!

Respectfully,

Brian Forsyth, Highway Superintendent

Byron Cemetery Association

As spring approaches, people are thinking about green grass growing in lawns, trees producing new leaves and the flowers blooming. The cemetery lawn will continue to look amazing as John Durand keeps it mowed and trimmed. John and Dave Leaton will continue to maintain the trees, bushes and the older graves. We are proud of the appearance of the Byron Cemetery.

The Byron Cemetery Association is looking for new members. If you own a cemetery plot or have a family member who owns a plot you may join this group. If you are interested, please contact Kim Dewey at 585-356-2256. The Cemetery Association meets periodically to discuss topics that affect the cemetery and to maintain the beautiful cemetery grounds in Byron.

The annual meeting of the Byron Cemetery Association will be held at the Byron Town Hall on Tuesday, April 17th at 7pm.

Points to remember about decorations and plants at the cemetery.

- Decorations may be placed between April 1st and October 1st .
- Kindly place moveable pots or containers in line with the marker. This helps with mowing the grass.
- Please do not place any glass containers in the cemetery.
- Live plants (trees, shrubs or flowers) should not be planted in the cemetery without the Byron Cemetery Association's permission. They require maintenance and this has to be taken into consideration before they are planted. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

There are many available cemetery plots. If you are interested in choosing your final resting place, John or Donna Durand would be happy to show you the eligible plots.

Trustees:

Kim Dewey, President

Ginny Ivison, Vice President

Barb Read Treasurer

Elaine Bezon, Secretary

Dave Leaton Jr.

Superintendents:

John Durand (585)813-3531

Donna Durand (585)813-2591

From the Historians' Desk

We are writing you to encourage you to join the Town of Byron Historical Society. The historical society is a group of folks that are interested in preserving our Town's history and its artifacts. First requirement to join is a love of Byron, Genesee County, New York. Second requirement would be a willingness to share your knowledge of the Town of Byron with others. Third requirement would be to attend and socialize at our May and October dinner meeting. These dinner meetings are followed by a wonderful guest speaker.

The Town of Byron Historical Society is in the process of updating the displays for the 200th birthday of the Town of Byron in the year 2020. On April 4, 2020 Byron will officially be 200 years old. The Historical Society is also working with our Town Clerk, Debra Buck-Leaton for the 200th Birthday Celebration. We would love to have your assistance in this endeavor.

As a member of the Historical Society we ask if you would be willing to be a greeter at the Town Museum. The duties of the greeter are simple. We ask that you greet each person with a smile and a hello. The museum is a self-guided tour, and the reward of sharing the history is heartwarming.

No, you don't have to have been raised in Byron to enjoy the benefits of the Byron Historical Society and the Museum.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Laurel Hart-Smith at 585-548-2555 our wonderful President or Jeanne Freeman 585-548-7197 our Treasurer. They will be glad to fill you in on what the dues are and tentative date for the upcoming May dinner meeting.

This year the Byron First Presbyterian church will be celebrating its 200th birthday. They have several activities planned to commemorate this occasion.

Bob and I were married 35 years ago by Rev. Gail and Anthony Ricciuti, along with the Rev. James Udnerwood at the Oakfield First Presbyterian Church. We have truly been blessed over the years in our marriage. In April of 1989 Mr. and Mrs. Edgar (Peggy) Wilson celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in the Fellowship Hall of the Byron Presbyterian Church. They are truly a wonderful congregation full of love and friendships that last a lifetime.

Bob and I are working on updating our knowledge and history of the Byron Presbyterian Church. In 1831 there were 162 members. In 1845 it officially became a Presbyterian Church. According to my notes, in 1893 the parsonage was built on the Boynton estate. The church celebrated its Sesquicentennial in 1968.

An interesting news article from about March 22, 1911 - just after the bell in the Presbyterian Church has been rung for the evening service on Sunday, the bolts holding it broke. There were heavy timbers only a few inches below which caught the bell and prevented much damage being done. It was put back in place yesterday, under the direction of Harr G. Lewis. The bell was hung in the spire in 1833 and until this time had never been out of place.

Please share your stories and facts with us as we put together the updated history to share with the Byron Presbyterian Church in November 2018. Please contact us at 585-409-5991 or 585-409-9008.

Your Town Historians,
Bob and Beth Wilson

Genesee County Legislator, Robert Bausch

Following the November elections, the County Legislature reorganized in January and welcomed three new legislators: John Hilchey from District 1 (Towns of Oakfield & Alabama); Gordy Dibble from District 3 (Towns of Pembroke and Darien); and Gary Maha from District 9 (west end of the City of Batavia). The former chair of the Legislature, Ray Cianfrini, did not seek reelection. My fellow legislators elected me as the new chair for a two-year term.

The new legislature will be addressing some significant issues remaining from the previous legislature. The most pressing is water, specifically increasing the water supply from the Monroe County Water Agency (MCWA). As this is being written various environmental studies are being completed and preparation is under way for the needed bonding. The total cost is estimated at \$25 million. The county is also in the process of identifying grants, both state and federal, that may be available to assist with the cost. Bottom line is that the county is out of water and all the towns are requesting additional capacity. In addition the county water plant in Batavia which currently serves approximately 45% of the county population is aging and in need of replacement.

On February 24th, the legislature received the initial report on the status and need for a new jail. This has been, and will continue to be, a very slow and deliberate process. In January I toured the current facility with the Jail Superintendent, Bill Zipfel, and fellow legislator and former sheriff, Gary Maha. The physical structure is severely lacking and staff working conditions are poor / inadequate. The newest area is 40 years old and the oldest and largest area is over 100 years old. The State Department of Corrections continues to grant the county a variance that allows the jail to house 10 more male inmates than its designed capacity but there is no reason to expect this wavier to continue indefinitely.

Genesee County continues to not be immune from the opioid crisis or any of the related drug issues. Professionals in law enforcement, mental health and medical community in general are continuing to report significant and increasing drug activity. Unfortunately the death toll continues to rise with Genesee County reporting 2 to 3 deaths per month. In addition, a significant number of deaths, for privacy and other reasons, are not reported as drug related that are drug related.

Some good news: Sales tax receipts increased for the first time in the 4th Qt of 2017 in over a year. The increase was driven by a stronger economy and higher gas prices which account for 20 to 25% of the county's sales tax revenue. Scott Gage, Director of the Job Development Bureau, reported that for the week ending February 10th his office had 1046 job postings for available positions in the county.

2018 Anti-Rabies Immunization Clinic

Offered by the Genesee County Department of Health on the following dates and locations:

May 17, 2018	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Pembroke Highway Department
August 16, 2018	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Genesee County Fairgrounds
September 20, 2018	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Pembroke Highway Department
October 25, 2018	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	LeRoy Village Highway Garage

A voluntary donation per dog, cat or ferret is requested to offset clinic expenses. Animals must be leashed or crated and accompanied by someone who can control it.

Byron Presbyterian Church

The Byron Presbyterian Church is celebrating its 200th year during 2018. Here are some of our special anniversary events:

Saturday, April 21, Noon, **Brides of Byron Afternoon Tea**. A special invitation to those who have been married at our church. Come tell your stories ("and here's what's happened since!"), share old photos ("That's how women wore their hair back then?"), and see the bridal dresses some of us still have ("Yikes, look at what I was wearing!"). No need to have actually been a Byron bride, just come for the fun. Please call Kim (356-2256) for more information.

Sunday, June 3, 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM, **Bicentennial in the Church Park**, in the park adjacent to the church. Free hot dogs and ice cream, games for all ages, and music by "The Old Hippies". Everyone is welcome.

Saturday, November 17, 5:00 PM, **200th Anniversary Dinner**, at the South Byron Rec Hall. A catered meal, with speakers, music, and more! Reservations are needed. Please call the church office at 548-2800 for reservation info. Tickets are \$10 per person.

Sunday, November 18, 9:45 AM, **200th Anniversary Sunday Worship Celebration** at the church.

But wait, there's more ...

200th Anniversary Quilters meet once or twice each month to make a 200th Anniversary Quilt for the church, plus plenty of other side projects for quilters to take home. For skilled and unskilled quilters. The next date on our calendar is Sunday, March 4, 10:45 AM, following our Sunday service. Please call the church office 548-2800 for more information.

200th Anniversary T-shirts in all sizes, and "**200 Tastes for 200 Years**" **recipe books** are available from the church. The recipe books are \$10, and the T-shirts vary in price according to size and design. Please call the church office 548-2800 to make arrangements to get yours. The first Sunday of every month in 2018 is "T-Shirt Sunday".

On each Sunday during the summer months our church shares iced tea, lemonade and lots of goodies on our front steps following the 9:45 AM church service. On Sunday, July 15, we will be taking our porch fellowship over to the **Byron Town Museum**, expecting to begin around 10:45 AM.

And still more ...:

Sunday, February 18, 9:45 AM -**Bring a Friend Sunday**. Bring a friend, be a friend, find a friend!

Maundy Thursday Communion Service, March 29, 6:30 PM, in the Church Dining Room.

Good Friday Service, March 30, 6:30 PM, at North Bergen Presbyterian Church

Easter Sunday Service, April 1, 9:45 AM, followed by an Easter Egg Hunt for young children.



Byron-Bergen Public Library



Stay connected with your Library by checking us out at www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org and “Like” us on Facebook! Find us on Twitter too! Lots of great programs coming up!!

We have New York tax forms available here! You also can go to the website at www.nystax.gov and go to forms to print from home. If you need Federal tax forms, they are available at www.irs.gov or at the larger Libraries and Post Offices in Batavia and Brockport.

Hoopla is here and available at your Library! What is Hoopla? A place to get all your digital movies, TV shows, e-books, audio books, comics, and music! All you need a valid Library card and you are on your way! Check us out on the web at www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org!

Tech Time at the Library! Call and sign up any Wednesday during regular Library hours to receive help to set up your e-reader, tablet or phone to get use Library digital platforms. Please come with your passwords and Library card and all your questions to be answered.

Health Fair on March 3rd from 10-12! Join us to find out different ways to stay healthy! Healthy Refreshments will be served! Young Living Oils with Andrea Golino, It Works! with Chris Ariyaratnam, Bergen Chiropractic with Dr. Amy, Peer Educator with Jill Smith. Stop in and see all Bergen has to offer! For a fun educational day! Something for everyone! Call 494-1120 for more information.

Library has preschool story time at 10:30am on Fridays. Join Miss Brilyn for some stories, a related craft and a snack too! Registration is recommended by calling or stopping by the Library.

Book discussion group will meet March 8th, April 12th, May 10th, and June 14th at 7 pm. Join this and explore new venues and topics. We have lively conversation about the book and refreshments to enjoy too! Stop by or call the Library to reserve your copy of our current book.

Save the date of March 14th for our annual pre-school concert! Join our smaller patrons at the Bergen Evangelical Presbyterian Church at 9:30am for music and fun with Checkers and his **“On your Mark-Get Set -Read”!** **A unique magic and juggling show full of fun and learning!** **A great way to get the children excited about reading! No Registration required! Just come join the fun!**

Join us on St. Patrick’s Day for a Make and Take Craft day on Saturday March 17th from 10:30 to 12:30pm with Miss Makayla. Wear something green! Enjoy a green treat!

Pajama Story time Tuesday March 27th at 6:30pm! Come join us in your PJ’s for a fun story, craft and snack too. Miss Makayla will be reading stories about spring so bring your favorite stuffed animal too. Registration is not required.

Spring Break Happenings!! Yes we are open!!

Tuesday April 3rd at 6:30 – “Noah’s Ark-Build a Bear” workshop coming to the library! Join us for a story and a choice of animal- frog, lamb, chick, or bunny to stuff! Cost will be \$2/per person. Space is limited so sign up soon!

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page ...

Wednesday April 4th at 2:30 –Star Wars-The Last Jedi Movie will be showing on the Big Screen! This movie is rated PG so grab a friend and we will provide the popcorn!

Thursday April 5th – Babysitting workshop from 10am-3pm. Cost is \$25/student and includes book. You must be at least 11 years old. Special pricing for workshop so sign up soon! Class size is limited. Payment is needed by March 30th.

Friday April 6 – Coloring Fun! From 10:30 to 1:30- Come color with us! Experience the latest trend in relaxation- coloring! Studies show coloring can have a calming effect on the adult mind and helps promote overall wellness. All supplies provided-Along with refreshments. All ages welcome

National Library week is April 10th-14th – Stop in and take out a book or two and have a chance to win a prize!! Everyone invited to participate!

Game day at the Library on Wednesday April 18th at 5pm! Bring the family and join us as we explore different board games, card games, and Xbox games! Pizza and drink provided! No registration needed!

Saturday Morning Movie! April 21st – Enjoy a fun movie for the whole family showing at 10:30am – check out the web at www.Byron-BergenPublicLibrary.org for more information.

Pajama Story time Tuesday April 24th at 6:30pm! Come join us in your PJ's for a fun story, craft and snack too. Miss Makayla will be reading stories about spring so bring your favorite stuffed animal too. Registration is not required.

Thursday May 3rd at 7pm – Join the Library and the Bergen Historical Society for a fun presentation on hats and headdresses from around the world! Stacey W. Miller from Hat Horizons will share her insight on all the variations of hats and headdresses that are a tribute to the diversity of the world's cultures. No registration required! Refreshments provided.

Saturday Morning Movie on May 19th at 10:30- Save the date. Movie to be determined so check the website for more information or stop into the Library.

Come enjoy some great music for the Byron Memorial Day events with Hill Brothers in concert on May 28th at 11:30am--after the parade at the Byron Fire Hall on Rt.262. A fun-filled afternoon of sing-alongs, humor, and participatory songs for the whole family to enjoy!

The Library will be hosting the Kelley's Hero's Marching Band at the Bergen Park Festival on June 9th in the parade and right after the parade too with a field show not to be missed! Stop by visit the book sale too!

Would you like to volunteer during the summer at the Library? For children 11yrs and older, the Library is looking for help with the summer reading program. Stop by before June 19th to sign up! Chance to win prizes, help with programs, and place to meet new people! Come join by yourself or with a friend!!

Enjoy eBooks and audiobooks Anytime, Anywhere. *Enjoy popular titles from the comfort of home. Byron-Bergen Public Library is proud to offer you best-selling and classic eBooks and digital audiobooks available 24/7 from the library's digital collection, <https://nioga.overdrive.com/>*

The Library has Roadrunner 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. 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

Upcoming Events

Annual Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, March 24th 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Presented by the Byron Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary at the Byron Fire Hall, Rte. 262, Byron. The hunt will be for all youngsters ages 12 and under. There will also be some crafts and activities immediately following the hunt.

Annual Pancake Breakfast and Chinese Auction Sunday, April 8th 8:00 am - noon

Presented by Byron Kiwanis and Byron Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary. Bring the entire family to enjoy a pancake breakfast, auction and 50/50 raffle. All proceeds go to assisting the community of Byron and the Byron Fire Department. Breakfast tickets: \$7.00 (ages 8+). Byron Fire Hall, Rte. 262, Byron.

Byron Kiwanis

When Started: January 9, 1969 Where Started: South Byron School Quanset Gym
 First President: Russell E. Gillett First Vice President Richard L. Henning
 First Treasurer: Duane L. Squires First Secretary: Charles Hiscock

Thirty six Byron citizens were present and inducted into the new Byron Kiwanis Club of Byron, NY Today: 2017-2018:

President: Karen Jaczynski Vice President: Daryle Chapman
 Treasurer: Joe Penepent Secretary: Robert Penepent

Besides having a good time at meetings, our major goals are Byron youth oriented activities.

We have three meetings a month at the Byron Hotel (the oldest continuous business in Byron) at 6:00 pm on the 1st, 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, except holidays. Join us while we are making history at any Byron Kiwanis monthly meeting.

Town Clerk's Office Hours:

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
 9:00 a.m.-12 noon & 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.**

Closed on Thursday

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

Phone Number and Extensions:

Town Hall - Highway Garage - Sewer Dept.
 585 - 548 - 7123

Supervisor – Roger Rouse	Ext. 14	Home: 548-7767	
Town Clerk – Debra Buck-Leaton	Ext. 10	Highway Dept. - Brian Forsyth	Ext. 11
Court Clerk - Michelle Rast	Ext. 18	Cell Phone:	615-7713
Sewer Dept.	Ext. 12	In an Emergency	585-322-0006
CEO/ZEO – Mike Morris	Ext. 15	Assessor - Barry Flansburg	Ext. 17 Town
Justice DiMatteo	343-2770	Town Justice Smith	Ext. 18 Councilman
Jeff Thompson	851-1469	Councilman Sue Fuller	300-3456
Councilman Jim Cudney	548-7383	Councilman Fred Klycek	548-9025