

# Town of Byron NEWSLETTER



Volume 1, Number 21 Spring 2011

## From the Supervisor's Desk

Water District Nos. 3 and 4 are now complete, and residents of Ivison Road and Cockram Road have seen their first debt service payment on their 2011 Town/County tax bill. The cost of forming a water district has increased tremendously over the years, for example, the cost to residents for Water District No. 1 is \$331.67 per unit (301.5 units), Water District No. 2 is \$386.41 per unit (188.5 units), Water District No. 3 is \$487.78 per unit (9 units), and Water District No. 4 is \$429.28 per unit (11 units). Grant funding was more readily available when Water District Nos. 1 and 2 were formed, and there have been significant increases in engineering fees and construction costs throughout the years. All these factors make it a hardship on municipalities to do more water districts. With this in mind, water districts in the future will cost significantly more per unit than they have in the past, if they happen at all. The Town continues to pursue funding for water districts, but please remember, there is a limit that the State Comptroller will allow each homeowner to pay. If the cost of a water district is greater than the Comptroller's limit, then the water district can not be formed unless it is approved by the Comptroller.

The sewer department will be replacing generators in the filter beds as soon as the cold weather breaks.

Bob Crnkovich, Supervisor

## Town Clerk

As a reminder, taxes are collected at the Town Hall through March 31, 2011, and can be paid by cash, check or money order (no credit/debit cards). After March 31st you must contact the Genesee County Treasurer with regard to payment.

As many of you already know, the State is no longer issuing dog license renewals, and the Town has taken over the responsibility of sending out renewal notices to dog owners. At the time that you renew your license you will be issued a new dog tag, which will be put into a statewide database. If you have any questions regarding your renewal, or if you no longer have your dog, please contact me so that I can remove your name from the database, and so that you do not receive further notices.

Debra Buck-Leaton, Town Clerk

With the coming of spring, many residents will start thinking about new projects on their properties; the Byron Building Department would like to remove some of the mystery around building permits and whether or not a permit is necessary. Hopefully the following information will be helpful.

Please contact me if you have any zoning or building questions at 548-7123 ext 15

## **Frequently Asked Questions Concerning Building Permits**

### **What is a building permit?**

A building permit is a document which grants legal permission to start the construction or alteration of a building or other structure in accordance with approved drawings and specifications.

### **Why do I need a building permit?**

Permits ensure that construction within our municipality meets with standards set out in the New York State Building Code and the Code of the Town of Byron. Your home renovation project must meet basic requirements for health, safety and structural soundness. Beyond this, the permit process makes sure that your plans are in line with other town requirements, such as zoning regulations and historic building designations.

### **What happens if I don't get a permit?**

**The property owner may be subject to legal action for failure to obtain a building permit. If you carry out a renovation project that requires a building permit without having one, the town can issue a "Stop Work" and or a "Cease and Desist" order, which remains in effect until you obtain a permit. If the work doesn't meet the requirements of the Building Code, you may well have to redo the work at your own cost. A one hundred dollar (\$100.00) fee plus permit costs will be applied to construction projects started or completed before approved building permits have been issued.**

Work performed without a required building permit may hold up the sale of your property in the future and may also affect an insurance claim. Before any work begins on your home, check with your insurance representative, who can explain exactly what is needed to ensure continuous and adequate coverage, both during and after the renovation.

### **When do I need a permit?**

A building permit is required for any new building, any addition to an existing building, and any alterations to an existing building which impacts the following: the building's structural design; heating/cooling and ventilation systems, electrical, and plumbing systems; and the use of buildings or parts thereof. Below you will find a list of typical residential projects that require a building permit:

- All decks, porches, and three-season rooms
- Additions, interior alterations, finishing a basement or a portion thereof
- Fireplaces, wood-burning stoves, chimneys and gas inserts
- Attached or detached garages, sheds
- Pole Barns
- Alterations to windows or doors
- All pools that can hold 24 inches or more of water and hot tubs
- Extensions or modifications to the plumbing, heating/cooling, ventilation and electrical systems
- Generators

Some repairs may not require a permit. These include re-roofing, re-siding, flooring and cabinet installation, and replacement of windows and doors (provided the opening is not enlarged). In brief, work that does not entail changes to structures or systems.

**Check with the Town of Byron Building Department to be sure if your project requires a building permit.**

### **What paperwork do I need to get a permit?**

The specific requirements depend on the type of work you are planning. For simple interior projects, a scale floor plan will often be adequate. For larger projects involving additions, large decks or major structural renovations, a full set of working drawings and a site survey map may be required. The Building Department can tell you exactly what's needed.

### **When is the permit complete?**

A final inspection is required when all work has been completed; **it is the applicant's responsibility to call in advance for proper inspections. When it has been determined that the project meets the applicable codes and standards, a Certificate of Compliance or a Certificate of Occupancy will be issued.**

**You cannot use or occupy the space until either certificate has been issued.**

### **Do I need a contractor?**

You can do the work yourself or hire a contractor. If you decide to hire a contractor, you will need to provide the contractor's name when the application is made. The Building Department will then verify that the contractor has all of the appropriate insurance coverage.

### **Who should get the permit – homeowner or the contractor?**

As the homeowner, you are legally responsible to ensure that a building permit is obtained when required. Your contractor or designer may apply for the permit, but the homeowner should ensure that a permit has been issued prior to any work starting.

Some things to consider when choosing a contractor:

- Check for the contractor's experience in the type of construction proposed.
- Interview the contractor and check the contractor's references.
- Check the reliability of your chosen contractor with the State Attorney General's Office and the Better Business Bureau.
- Arrange a contract and ensure the contract covers all the work, including who prepares drawings and who arranges for inspections.
- Before signing the contract, check the drawings to ensure they comply with what you want. Also check specifications and materials proposed.
- Confirm the type of warranty that is being given, and on a large contract, you may wish to obtain legal counsel before signing.
- Confirm who is obtaining the building permit: contractor or homeowner. When the contractor is applying for the permit, make sure you see the permit card before allowing work to start.

· **It is recommended that you make final payment only after a final inspection has been completed by the Building Inspector and a Certificate of Compliance or a Certificate of Occupancy has been issued.**

Ken Kuter, Town of Byron Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer



# Byron Presbyterian Church

Every Thursday until Easter there is a Community Bible Study for the churches of Byron and Stafford, 7:00 PM, at the Stafford United Methodist Church. A study guide is available to participants. There is a monthly Bible Study on the 4th Wednesday throughout the year, 7:00 PM, at the Byron Presbyterian Church. The next dates are March 23rd and April 27th.

A "Growing in Faith" Small Group meets each month in local homes. The next dates are Tuesday, March 8, 7:00 PM, and Tuesday, April 12, 7:00 PM. Please call the Byron Presbyterian Church 548-2800 for the location.

There is an Ash Wednesday service at the South Byron Methodist Church on Wednesday, March 9, 7:00 PM.

The Byron Presbyterian Church has a Maundy Thursday service on April 21, 6:00 PM, with a potluck meal and the Lord's Supper. Children are especially welcome at this service.

There is an Ecumenical Good Friday Prayer Service at the Morganville United Church of Christ in Stafford on April 22, 4:00 PM. The people of Byron and Stafford are invited.

The South Byron Methodist Church and the Byron Presbyterian Church have long shared an early morning Easter service that will be held this year at the South Byron Church, at 7:00 AM on April 24th, Easter Sunday. The breakfast that follows is free!

An Easter Celebration of the Resurrection takes place at the Byron Presbyterian Church at the usual Sunday hour of 9:45 AM. An Easter Egg Hunt for young children follows the service.

The Easter Sunday service at the South Byron United Methodist Church begins at 9:30 AM.

Please contact the Byron Presbyterian Church (548-2800 or [www.byronfpc.org](http://www.byronfpc.org)) or the South Byron United Methodist Church (548-2450) for more information.

In addition to the special events listed above, both churches have Sunday School, youth activities, and different mission projects for the community.

# Byron Historical Society

2011 marks the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. Historical groups in Genesee County and across our nation will be commemorating this very difficult time in our history.

We plan to set up a display at the Byron Museum to honor those from our area who served in the Civil War.

The Byron Historical Society spring meeting will be held Thursday, May 12th at 6 PM at the Byron Presbyterian Church. The ladies of the church plan to serve a delicious roast pork dinner at a cost of \$8.00. Please make reservations no later than Friday, May 7th by calling Dick Glazier at 548-2231 or Marilyn Britt at 548-7122.

The program will be presented by Donna Payne who is president of the Genesee Valley Civil War Roundtable. Her topic will be "Children of the Civil War".

A short business meeting will be held following the program.

This meeting is open to all who wish to attend. Remember if you plan to come for dinner **please** call ahead to make reservations.

Membership in the Byron Historical Society is available at a cost of only \$5.00.

## From the Historian's Desk

As I sit here contemplating what historical information to write about, it struck me that this year we have lost two of the oldest residents of Byron. Everett Roda, 91, the oldest male, on April 5, 2010 and Doris Fuller, 86 on November 29, 2010. Reading their obituaries I realized that what was said was only a small part of what they had accomplished and who they were. There is probably not a person in Byron who has not met or at least seen both of them. What they have left may have an affect on Byron for hundreds of years to come.

Dora Jones still holds her title as the oldest female at 96, and Les Barnard is now the oldest male at 91.

2011 will mark 150 years from the start of the Civil War 1861. Byron has had many Civil War veterans and we will try to give you some information on them in 2011.

## Byron Kiwanis

2011 has started out well for the Byron Kiwanis Club! We are pleased to announce that we have added several new members from the area. We welcome Nancy Wiedrich, Jodie Freese, Jeff Cook, Mike Zuber and Aaron Johnson. Fresh new faces and new ideas are always welcome.

Upcoming events include our annual scholarships for area seniors. Applications will be available for any area seniors who are planning to go onto college. Contact Karen Jaczynski at 314-4245 or visit any guidance office for your applications.

On March 27th Kiwanis will be sponsoring a pancake breakfast at the Byron Fire Hall from 8:00 a.m.-noon. There will be a Chinese Auction with winners drawn at noon. Proceeds will go to sponsor a program at the elementary school called "There's No Magic in Drugs." It was well received last year and we wanted to repeat it again this year. Mark your calendars to help us out!!

Our annual Beef Barbecue/Auction will again be at the South Byron Rec Hall on Sunday September 11, we are holding a raffle all year that will be drawn that day. Prizes include a stay in Niagara Falls, Sony Blue Ray player or an Apple Touch Ipod. Only 300 tickets will be sold so get your tickets early.

Visitors are always welcome. We meet at the Byron Hotel on the first, second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm in the dining area. Stop in and check us out. Our focus is on helping children in the community and input is always welcome!!!

## Byron Youth Recreation Summer Program

The Town of Byron will be continuing the youth recreation summer program beginning July 5th and running through August 12th at Firemen's Park. The program will go from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, with no cost to participants. If you are interested in sending your child(ren) and have any questions, please call Laura Platt at 548-2245 or Debra Buck-Leaton at 548-7123 ext. 10. Registration forms will be available at the Town Hall.

# Highway Department

This winter has been dragging on since the first plow run on November 26, 2010. It has been steady work of plowing and sanding, with sometimes up to six runs a day to keep the roads open and pushed back for the next storm, and allow for room for drifting and let the roadsides freeze down to help prevent digging dirt. Snowfall is at around 120 inches of snow so far with three weeks to go until Spring. The cold temperatures have worked into the roads and the sub layers and created the frost heaves that are breaking the surfaces of roads apart and giving you a roller coaster ride. Hopefully, warm weather will mend some of the cracks back to normal. Some of the road maintenance programs will be crack sealing with a tar filler or stone and oiling to keep water from entering the road cracks. The snow fence this year along Route 237 north has proven to be a great help in holding back the blowing snow, and NYS pays us \$1.35 per foot, which brings the Town about \$ 4,000 for highway revenues. Other town snow fence did it's job as well on the town and county roads.

The town crew, with weather permitting, will be working with National Grid to remove problem or dead trees along town roads.

The transfer station at the town is still holding on to break even cost with the payments of recycling of scrap, iron, cardboard and tin cans bringing in revenues. The recent order of new bags was at the same cost as the previous orders which will help hold the price to the users.

The town crew will also be doing ongoing machinery maintenance on the town's fleet when weather prevents outside work. The salt that is used to for ice control, as you know, does create a lot of corrosion on equipment. A lot of rinse water and neutralizers are used, but it still eats away at the trucks and plows.

The program for road drainage with ditching and culvert replacement will be part of the road work this year again.

If anyone has a concern about the roads, street lights, or things in general, call me, many of you do, to alert me to a problem that I might be able to fix, but not all can be solved easily.

RGE is replacing a section of the old natural gas steel line that has been there since 1910 along Rt. 237 that is under the shoulder of the road, with a 4 inch plastic pipe away from the road. Maybe the leaks will end in this area.

Call 703-3309

THANK YOU,

George

## Upcoming Events

### ***Genesee County's Individuals With Disabilities Dance at the Byron Fire Hall***

Sunday, March 20th (Mardi Gras) 6:30 p.m. - 8:30p.m.

Sponsored by the Byron Ladies Auxiliary.

### ***Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast at the Byron Fire Hall, Sunday, March 27th 8:00 a.m. - noon***

Chinese Auction, with winning entries being drawn at noon. Please come and support this worthwhile event.



# Gillam-Grant Community Center

## **April 2nd - Gillam-Grant hosts: The Soprano's Dinner Theatre**

Cocktails 6-6:30pm, Show starts 6:45pm, Great Lakes Productions, the company that brought us Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding, now brings a zany assortment of characters together in one place in this hilarious parody. Show & Dinner \$40.00 per person.

## **April 11th: Comedy Show and Tea Tasting**

Sample unique and delicious teas and nibble on fancy tea sandwiches, sweets and other treats. While tea is being served and fascinating tea facts and history are being shared, get ready for laughter! Bus leaves the Gillam-Grant at 1:15pm. Cost: \$32M/\$42NM

## **April 18th, 19th & 20th: Fencing Camp at Gillam-Grant    daily 9am – noon**

This camp is 9 hours of training in just a few days! Play games like **capture the flag**, jail break and war—all in fencing gear! All of the necessary equipment is provided by En Garde Batavia and included in the cost of camp. Fencing has been proven to be as safe by the American Pediatric Association and the National Athletic Trainers Association and far safer than soccer, basketball and football. Cost: \$75M/\$85NM

## **April 25th: Gillam- Grant Senior Evening Meal**

Entertainment by West Side Quartet who play and sing standards from the “Golden Age of Jazz”. Reserve by noon 4/22.

## **April 27th: Getting Paid To Talk, Making Money with Your Voice    6:30-9pm**

This class is an introduction to professional voice overs. We will cover all the basics, including how to be successful and earn great income in this exciting field. Class participants will even have a chance to record a commercial script under the direction of our Voicecoach.com producer! Registration closes 4/20/11. Fee: \$16M/\$26NM

## **April 28th: Tour of George Eastman House and Exhibits**

Come enjoy tours of George Eastman's house, this National Historic Landmark and exhibits which will feature Civil War in motion pictures. Lunch will be on your own at the Eastman House Café. Bus transportation leaves the Gillam-Grant at 9:15am. Cost: \$24.50M/\$34.50NM includes Eastman House, Exhibit tour & bus transportation.

## **April 30th-June 18th: Swimming Lessons**

Call Gillam-Grant for more information 494-1621. Registration required prior to the start date of class. First come basis. Fee: \$38.50M/ \$43.50NM for 7 weeks.

## **May 31st: Visit Sonnenberg Gardens with Gillam-Grant**

Take a walking of Sonnenberg Gardens and Mansion and enjoy lunch at a local restaurant near Canandaigua Lake. Bus transportation will leave Gillam-Grant at 10:15am. Call Gillam-Grant for details.

## **June 1st -June 30th: On the Run with Gillam-Grant, month long running club**

Details will be in the upcoming Gillam-Grant Newsletter.

## **June 17th: Annual Gillam-Grant Golf Tournament    11:30am tee time**

Watch for Gillam-Grant Newsletter for more information.

## **June 27th-July 1st: UK International Soccer Camp    9am – noon**

Pick up registration at Gillam-Grant or go online to [www.uksocca.com](http://www.uksocca.com), look for Bergen-Gillam-Grant and follow the directions.

# Byron-Bergen Library

Stay connected with your Library by checking us out at [www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org](http://www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org) or friend us on Facebook! Lots of great programs coming up!!

We have New York tax forms available here! Stop in and follow the orange sign to pick up all your tax forms. 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) or at the larger Libraries or Post Offices in Batavia and Brockport.

Library has preschool story time at 10:30am on Fridays until April 8th. Home school children are invited too! We enjoy some stories, a related craft and a snack! Registration is recommended by calling or stopping by the Library.

Book discussion group will be meetings will be held March 17th, April 14th, May 12th, and June 9th!! Come join this fun group and see what your neighbors are reading!!! We enjoy lively conversation about the book and refreshments to enjoy too! Stop by the library to reserve your copy of our current book.

Spring story time March 16th at 6:30! Join us and some special animal friends as we celebrate spring (really it is coming!) We will have a fun craft and snack to enjoy too! No registration is required- join the fun!

Saturday Morning Cartoons at the Library on March 19th from 10-12. Join us for popcorn and enjoy the movie MEGAMIND on the big screen! Everyone invited!! No registration needed!!

What would happen if everyone read the same book??? Well, if you read our A Tale for Three Counties book you will find out!! A Tale for Three Counties book for 2011 will be Mudbound by Hillary Jordan. The author will visit in our area March 10th at the Richmond Memorial Library in Batavia at 7pm. Log on to [www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org](http://www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org) and reserve your copy now.

Save the date of March 23rd for our annual pre-school concert! Join our smaller patrons at the Bergen First Presbyterian at 9:30am for music, and fun with Glenn Colton! With audience participation and humor, Glenn is a concert you won't want to miss! No Registration required! Just come join the fun!

Saturday Morning Cartoons on April 2nd from 10-12!! Come see the movie TANGLED! Enjoy popcorn too! Everyone invited! No registration needed!

Easter Story time on April 9th from 10-11 with Mrs. Cosgrove and Mrs. Harrison! Our guest story readers will interact with finger plays, flannel board and much more! A fun craft and games to follow! Registration recommended!

National Library week is April 13-18th – Stop in and take out a book or two and have a chance to win a prize!! Everyone invited to participate!

Bring your Teddy or other favorite stuffed toy for story time on April 13th at 6:30. We will celebrate with stories, craft and snack!! Come join the fun!

## **Spring Break Happenings!! Yes we are open!!**

April 19th at 6:30—Craft Day!! Come make a fun craft to celebrate Easter coming!

No registration!

April 20th at 6pm – Movie night! Join us for pizza before the showing at 6:30pm of The Chronicles of Narnia: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TRADER.

**Continued On Next Page ...**



Would you like to volunteer during the summer at the Library? For children 11 yrs and older, the Library is looking for help with the summer reading program. Stop by before June 18th to sign up! Chance to win prizes, help with programs, and place to meet new people! Come join by yourself or with a friend!!

Have you read the newest bestsellers? We have Tic Tock by James Patterson, Alone by Lisa Gardner, Room by Emma Donoghue, Unbroken by Lisa Hillenbrand, and many many more! Stop by the Library to get your copy or reserve your copy on-line at [www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org](http://www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org)! Getting a new E-Reader for Christmas? Check out our catalog for downloadable e-books free with a valid Nioga Library card. New children's books arrive weekly! New DVD's monthly! Check out Playaways too!

## 2011 Anti-Rabies Immunization Clinic

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

April 7, 2011	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Pembroke Highway Department
May 5, 2011	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	LeRoy Village Highway Garage
June 11, 2011	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Centennial Park
August 18, 2011	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Genesee County Fairgrounds
September 15, 2011	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Pembroke Highway Department
October 20, 2011	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	LeRoy Village Highway Garage

A \$5 voluntary donation per dog, cat or ferret is requested to offset clinic expenses.

## Byron Heritage Festival - July 23, 2011

The Byron Heritage Festival 2011 will be here again before we know it. The committee is working diligently on making Saturday, July 23rd a fun-filled day for the whole community. This year it will include the Fishing Derby at Trestle Park, 3rd Annual 5K run, parade, food and craft vendors, cruise-in, garden contest, town-wide garage sales, live bands, Chicken BBQ, raffles, Basketball Shootout, Horseshoe Tournament and a spectacular fireworks display.

Volunteers are always needed, please contact Donna Bobzin at 750-3327, or Debra Buck-Leaton at 548-7123 ext. 10, if you're interested in helping.

### 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 – Robert Crnkovich	Ext. 14	Highway Dept. - George Heins	Ext. 11
Home:	548-7767	Cell Phone:	703-3309
Town Clerk – Debra Buck-Leaton	Ext. 10	CEO/ZEO - Ken Kuter	Ext. 15
Sewer Dept.	Ext. 12	Assessor - Barry Flansburg	Ext. 17
In an Emergency	585-507-9245	Town Justice DiMatteo	343 - 2770
Town Justice Lamkin	548 - 2818		

# ***Byron Heritage Festival Calendar of Events***

***July 23, 2011***

<b>Fishing Derby</b> (Sponsored by Byron Kiwanis)	8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. (Ages 12 and under) (sign-in begins at 7:30 a.m.)
<b>5K Run</b> (Sponsored by Boy Scout Troop #13)	7:00 a.m. Registration 8:00 a.m. Race Begins 9:30 a.m. Race Results
<b>Craft and Food Vendors</b>	9:00 a.m. – ?
<b>Garage Sales</b>	9:00 a.m. – ?
<b>Bounce House</b> (Sponsored by Fullerino's)	10:00 a.m. - ?
<b>Parade</b>	11:00 a.m.
<b>Cruise In</b>	11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
<b>Raffles</b>	Winners announced starting at 3:00 p.m.
<b>Basketball Shootout</b>	2:30 p.m. (Basketball Court)
<b>Garden Contest</b>	Winners announced at 3:00 p.m.
<b>Horseshoe Tournament</b> (Sponsored by Sue Fuller)	4:00 p.m.
<b>Chicken BBQ</b> (Sponsored by Byron Kiwanis)	5:00 p.m. until sold out (Tennis Courts)
<b>Ghostriders</b>	1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
<b>Brick Band</b>	5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
<b>Stolen Gnome</b>	8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
<b>Fireworks</b>	9:30 p.m.