

Town of Byron NEWSLETTER



Volume 1, Number 24 Winter 2011

From the Supervisor's Desk

There will be no increase in the Town tax rate for 2012, with rates going down \$.01 from 2011. Sales and mortgage tax were up for 2011, but no one knows what the future will bring. The Town Board realizes the many financial difficulties families are going through, and worked hard to maintain the tax rate for the 2012 budget year.

The Town and Highway budgets decreased \$65,000 in spending. Overall assessments went up \$4,142,130, with \$2.5 million coming from the Empire Gas Pipeline assessment. After a 10 year moratorium on the Pipeline's value, the state allowed the towns to reassess the Pipeline for full assessed value. Farmland assessment increased \$800,000 overall. With Ag Exemptions farmland value is at \$800 per acre, with actual full value above \$2,000 acre.

Maintenance costs (fuel, salt, sand, oil, stone, blacktop, pension and health costs) continue to increase, which is why the tax rate does not decrease substantially.

At this tax rate, a house assessed at \$100,000 will cost you \$200 in Town taxes to get all the Town services you receive.

Have a safe and Very Merry Christmas!

Bob Crnkovich, Supervisor

Town Clerk

If you do not receive a tax bill by the beginning of January, unless your taxes are escrowed with your mortgage company, please call me right away. Taxes are collected at the Town Hall January 1st through March 31, 2012, and can be paid by cash, check, charge or money order. After March 31st you must contact the Genesee County Treasurer with regard to payment. Taxes paid after January 31st will be assessed a penalty (please see your tax bill for amounts).

The Town Clerk's Office is now accepting credit cards. A small convenience fee will be charged to the user for this service (2.45% or \$1.50 minimum).

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Debra Buck-Leaton, Town Clerk

South Byron United Methodist Church

Christmas Eve service will be at 7:00 p.m., and since Christmas is on a Sunday this year, we will celebrate our Saviors birth at our normal Sunday service time of 9:30 a.m.

New Year's Day also falls on a Sunday, so that service will also be at 9:30 a.m.

February 12th is bring a friend Sunday, with a special service of honoring our friends.

Please call Pastor Linda at 330-0618 if you have any questions.



Byron Presbyterian Church

CHRISTMAS SEASON ACTIVITIES AT THE BYRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saturday, December 24, 7:00 PM - Christmas Eve Service of Candlelight and Carols. There will also be an informal Sunday service on Christmas morning, 9:45 AM.

BACKPACK PROGRAM

Many thanks to all who have been supporting the Backpack Project - individuals, families, churches, the Byron-Bergen Teachers Association, and schools and community organizations in the Byron Bergen School District. Due to the generosity of many, during the 2010-11 school year we provided backpacks to approximately 30 students. The backpacks continued during the summer with delivery made to individual houses. We offered the service to families that received the backpacks during the 2010-2011 school year and delivered to 10 children for the summer months.

Each weekend a backpack filled with nutritious food is sent home with a child from each family. This year, we are supplying for 24 children, but that number may increase during the school year.

Food items needed continuously are individual entrees (microwaveable), 100% fruit juice boxes, individual fruit cups or applesauce cups, granola and cereal bars. To drop items off, or for more information, please contact Pam Kenward, Mission Moderator, Byron Presbyterian Church at 585-813-4211. Monetary donations can also be sent to the Byron Presbyterian Church--please indicate on the check "Backpack Program".

THANK YOU

Thank you! To all the people in the church and community who supported our parking lot paving project at the Byron Presbyterian Church earlier in the fall. The work was done by Yasses Construction.

Thanks!

Jim Renfrew

Byron Dig

To the People of Byron,

With the passing of this summer and the 28 that preceded it, the Byron Dig has finally come to an end. This is a very emotional time for me and, if you'll indulge me, I want to share some of my thoughts with you.

Through these years I've come to feel much at home in your town, and I know this is true for very many of the 1,000 or so volunteers who've worked with me. I've found among you some of the kindest people I've ever known, and have seen clearly that you're folks who feel a strong sense of responsibility toward one another. The institutions you've built, be they your volunteer fire department and rescue squad, your historical museum, your town park, the summer camp for your kids, and any number of others, demonstrate your cohesion as a community. Because of this, you have a sense of your past and understand the importance of remembering it as a guide to where you want to go in the future.

My memories of Byron are vivid and many. Some are tied to individuals, some to places, some to evening campfires under starry skies, and some to special times and events, both happy and sad, that you've allowed me to share with you. To list even a small portion of these would, I'm afraid, abuse your patience. Let me just say, then, how honored I feel to have been allowed to be a part of your community. The bonds that have been formed will keep me tied to you for the rest of my life.

Finally, my family and I wish all of you a most beautiful holiday season, one that's just as you wish it to be.

With fond wishes,

Dick Laub



Dreams Do Come True! B-B Playground is Complete



The Byron-Bergen Elementary School and community would like to thank everyone for their support in making this dream come true. There are way too many people to thank individually. We greatly appreciate your efforts. From the large jobs to the smaller ones, from years ago until recently, our community is now a better place to live thanks to you. We know that this playground will be enjoyed by Byron-Bergen students and the community for years to come.

A HUGE THANKS FOR SUPPORTING OUR CAUSE

Pepsi ~ Frito-Lay ~ Batavia Legal Printing ~ Applebee's ~ Tops ~ BJ's ~ Wal-Mart

Ralph and Rosie's Deli and Pizzeria ~ Pontillo's, Churchville ~ Fullerino's ~ Batavia's Original Pizza

The Byron Hotel ~ Bergen Farm Market ~ Greg'ry's Bakery ~ Viking Valhalla Room

Gillett's Hardware ~ Visual Impact Graphics ~ Western Concrete ~ The Daily News

Yasses Trucking & Construction ~ Village of Bergen DPW Workers

Byron-Bergen STEP Boosters ~ Robert Morris Elementary School

Bergen Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary

Byron Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary



Gillam-Grant Community Center

Call the Gillam-Grant Center 494-1621, for more details...

Dec. 7th: Christmas Memories at Yorkshire Hall in Pembroke trip. Enjoy a great afternoon of entertainment. Transportation leaves at noon and returns approximately 4:15pm.

Dec. 10th: Santa's Workshop from 9am-1pm. Santa arrives at 10am stays until noon.

Dec. 17th: GGCC Jr. Drama Club presents "A Peanuts Christmas". Performances at noon and 7pm at BB High School Auditorium. Admission at the door \$2, children 12 & under free.

Dec. 17th: Life guard training / Certification course. Dates include 12/17 & 18, 12/27-29. Must attend all days and participants need to be at least 15 years old. Re-certification available. Call for details.

Dec. 19th: Social Supper at 5:30pm with entertainment. Celebrate a Celtic Christmas with music by Cuisle Mo Chroi. Funded in part by GOART grant funds. Reservations & payment by noon 12/16.

Starting in January, watch for Youth Recreation registrations including: soccer, baseball and softball!

Jan. 9th: Dodgeball Deadline! The league play dates are Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18 and Mar. 10 – Round Robin Night. Registration packets available at Gillam-Grant.

Jan. 12th: Fencing starts! Haven't found your sport yet? Coed, all levels and all ages 9 & up. All equipment is provided. Taught by EnGardeBatavia.com.

Jan. 23rd: Social Supper at 5:30pm with entertainment. The menu includes Cream of Broccoli soup, followed by Chicken French. Reservations & payment by noon 1/20.

Jan. 30th: Acrylic painting for adults offers an opportunity to enhance your artistic abilities. Four classes 6:30-8:30 with Lorie Longhany.

Jan. 30th: Art Adventures for kids offers an opportunity to learn about art by creating several fun projects. Four classes 3:30-5:00 with Lorie Longhany.

Feb. 13th: Social Supper at 5:30pm Get a sneak peek at the High School Musical!

Feb. 20th: "Hot & Spicy" Warming Winter Foods is the latest Health Cooking Class with Chef Eric and Dr. Amy Mercovich from 5:30-7:30pm.

Coming Events...Look for more details of programs and events including a February Wine Tour in the Gillam-Grant Newsletter!

Byron-Bergen Library

Happy Holidays!! During your holiday rush of activities don't forget to enjoy the many holiday books and movies available at your Library! We have quick cooking books for meals on the go! Make a family tradition by baking cookies from our many cookbooks! Stop by when the children are on vacation for boredom buster books and craft books to inspire their imaginations. Don't forget your audio books for the long car rides to Grandma's house!! Check us out on the web at www.byron-bergerpubliclibrary.org and check out our on-line catalog!

Book Talk:

Ever heard the phrase "the book is better than the movie"? There a number of hit films that have been inspired by and based on YA novels. Come to the Book Talk with Jessica on December 6th at 6:30pm to find out what books have led to blockbuster films and find your next great read. From literary classics to graphic novels to action and romance, you are sure to see something you'll like!

*Participation recommended for those 13 and older due to subject matter of YA novels. Parents are welcome.

Book discussion for December will be on the Thursday the 8th at 7:00pm. We are reading Finding Noel by Richard Paul Evans. If you're interested in joining the group, stop by and pick up a reserve copy or log on to the catalog at www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org to place your request.

Pre-school story time is at 10:30am on Fridays until December 13th!!! If you are 3-5 years old or are home schooled, join us for a story, related craft and a snack!! January 11th starts our Winter Fun theme for story time. Home schooled children are welcome. Registration is recommended.

Library's Holiday hours for Christmas weeks:

Dec.20nd thru the 22nd 10-12 & 2-8, Dec. 23 10-6, Closed December 24th,

Dec. 27th thru 29th 10-12 & 2-8 and Dec. 30 10-6, Closed December 31st.

Christmas break at your Library!

December 22nd at 6:30-Movie Day on the Big Screen with Kung Fu Panda 2! Join the fun of watching the movie with all your friends and family! Free popcorn too!

December 27th at 6pm— The Library is hosting a Wii Bowling tournament. Sign up by December 22nd a team of 4 or we can put you on a team! All ages- Fun for the whole family!

Yell Fire!!! Jan7th from 10-12. This seminar focuses on empowerment, safety awareness, safe dating, self defense and letting girls know they can keep themselves safe! Recommended for girls 11 to 19 years of age has been featured on the Today Show, Good Morning America and in several magazines. There is a cost so call or stop by to register by January 3rd.

Jan 28th is Movie day @ the Library with Dolphin Tale showing at 10am! Bring a friend or two and enjoy a movie and some treat!

Continued On Next Page ...

A babysitting workshop on Saturday February 25th from 10am to 3pm at the Library. This workshop is recommended for children 11 years old and up. The cost is \$40 with book included. Registration and payment is due by February 17th. Please call 494-1120 for more information.

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 2012 will be The Call by Yannick Murphy. The author will visit in our area March 22nd at the Richmond Memorial Library in Batavia at 7pm. Log on to www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org and reserve your copy now. Our community wide book discussion will be held on Thursday, March 14th at 7pm. Join us as we explore the book and its characters!! Share your views of the book with your neighbors and friends. Refreshment served. No registration needed.

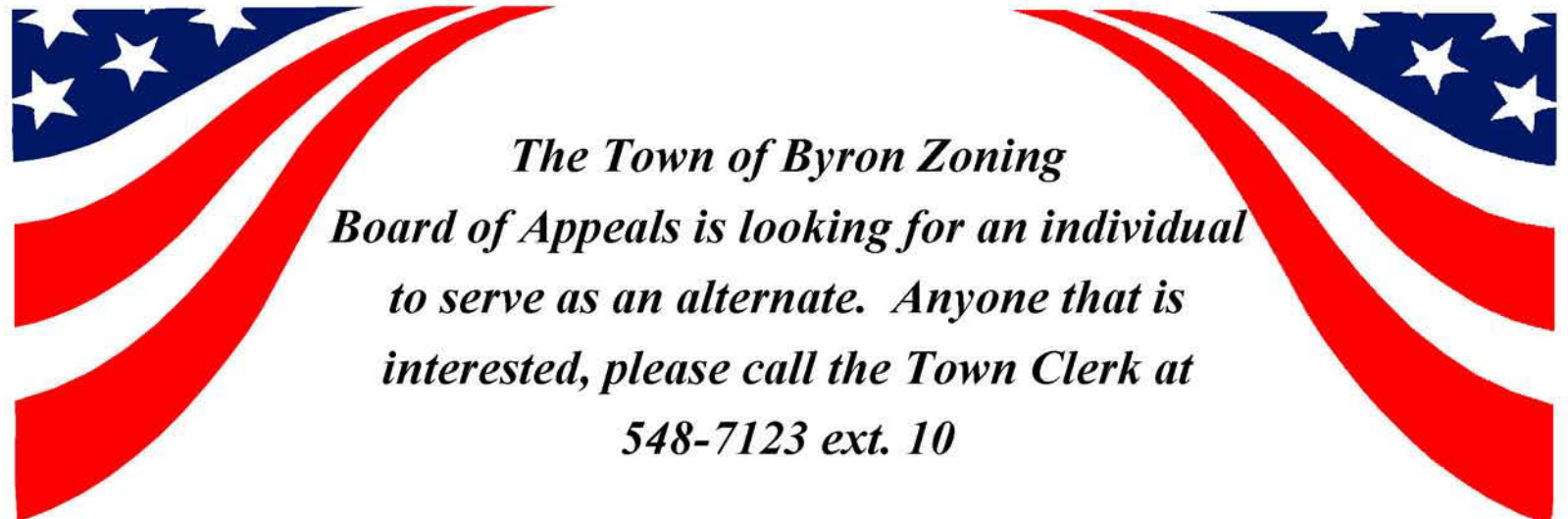
Have you read the newest bestsellers? Stop by the Library to get your copy to enjoy or reserve your copy on-line of Steve Jobs by Walter Isaacson, Zero Day by David Baldacci, Best of Me by Nicholas Sparks and 11/22/63: a Novel by Stephen King. New Audio CD's and Playaways are Scottish Prisoner by Diana Gabaldon, State of Wonder by Ann Patchett, and Betrayal of Trust by J.A. Jance. New children's books arrive weekly! New DVD's monthly!

Order books – down load audio books, e-books and order the newest movies at the Nioga Library system from the comfort of your home!! There are databases; Librarian 24/7, Tumbling Talking Books, TumbleBook Library, NOVEL list, and many more data base are available to you!! Just go to www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org and you're on your way!

The Library has Roadrunner Internet service available. We also have a variety of games for younger children to play and learn on the computer!!! The Library has copy /fax service for a small cost. Interlibrary loans from any library in the NIOGA Library system at our catalog www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.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



***The Town of Byron Zoning
Board of Appeals is looking for an individual
to serve as an alternate. Anyone that is
interested, please call the Town Clerk at
548-7123 ext. 10***

TOWN OF BYRON
REFUSE AND GARBAGE FEE SCHEDULE

(Updated July 2009)

Saturdays 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

GARBAGE BAGS: 10 Large Orange Bags.....30 gallon - 10/pkg.\$20.00
May be purchased at Transfer Station or Town Clerk's Office
30 gallon black bags (store bought).....\$3.00/bg.
White tall kitchen garbage bags (store bought).....\$1.50/bg.

TIRES: Car Tire 2.00
 Light Truck Tire 5.00
 Large Truck or Tractor Tire 15.00

FURNITURE: Stuffed Chair 7.00
 Stuffed Sofa 15.00
 Mattress - single or full 8.00
 Mattress - queen or king 12.00
 Box Spring - single or full 8.00
 Box Spring - queen or king 12.00
 Televisions - small portable 2.00
 large portable 5.00
 large console 8.00
 over 40" screen 12.00

REFRIGERATION UNITS:
 If Freon - IS NOT - Removed 15.00
 If Freon - IS - Removed - *(Must show certificate)* Free

TRUCK LOAD REFUSE:
Compact Pick-up Truck - level full, minivan or equivalent 25.00
Full Size Pick-up Truck - level full or equivalent trailer, etc..... 35.00
Full Size Pick-up With Rack..... 45.00

(No larger quantities will be accepted)

Rolled carpet - 10 ft. long, 1 ft. diameter 12.00
Miscellaneous trash per black bag or equivalent..... 3.00

Plastic Containers: #1s and #2s only

NO PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS ACCEPTED

Paper: All cardboard, paper and magazines accepted

Glass: All glass accepted

Metal: All metal and tin are accepted

From the Desk of the Genesee County Clerk Don M Read

Attention Veterans-Filing Discharge Paper (DD214)

Honorable discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces are entitled to record their Discharge Certificates (DD214) at the County Clerk's Office where they live. There is no charge for recording the certificate.

Military discharge records have restricted access. The County Clerk's Office will provide you with a form; which will allow your authorized representative to access this record.

Certified copies of recorded discharges are made, free of charge, for veterans or their immediate families whenever needed. Discharge papers are proof of your military service, and can be used to establish eligibility for a variety of benefits including property tax exemptions and civil service credits.

Once recorded in the County Clerk's Office, a DD214 is available at any time in the future. A certified copy of a discharge certificate is a legally acceptable as the original.

EZ Pass On the Go

Our first anniversary is coming up on selling EZ passes in our offices. It has been more successful than we had anticipated. For those of you who might be considering getting an EZ pass come to either the Motor Vehicle office or the County Clerk's office to obtain one. It is easy and convenient for you. They make great birthday, anniversary, Christmas gifts or an anytime purchase. The cost for the EZ Pass tag is just \$25.00. Just mount the device onto your vehicle and it is ready for immediate use.

Beware of Deed Scam

Genesee County Clerk Don M Read is again advising property owners to beware of a spreading deed copy scam. Property owners may receive by mail or e-mail solicitations offering to do the research and secure a certified copy of the deed to your real estate for a fee of \$50 to \$60. You can obtain that same certified copy from the County Clerk's Office for \$5 to \$10 depending upon the length of the deed. If you desire just a plain (uncertified copy) the fee will be between \$2 to \$5. If you would like a copy of your deed, you can write, call or stop by the County Clerk's Office. It only takes a few minutes to obtain the copy.

Passports & Enhanced Licenses

Just a reminder that you are able to apply for your passport book or passport card at the County Clerk's office. Our office has the capability to take the necessary passport pictures for you if you need it. According to U.S. Passport Service the turn-around time to receive your passport from the time you execute in our office is 4 to 6 weeks. If you need it sooner you can expedite your application at an extra fee. If you have questions please don't hesitate to contact our office at 344-2550 ext. 2245. In the Motor Vehicle office we are able to process applications for an enhanced license or enhanced ID card, which is a document that allows you land border crossings. If you are traveling internationally you will need to obtain a passport.

Handheld Electronic Devices (example cell phones)

It is now illegal for drivers to use handheld electronic devices for activities such as texting/talking on your phone while a vehicle is in motion. This legislation makes this action a primary traffic offense, giving law enforcement the power to stop drivers solely for engaging in this activity. The monetary penalty for a violation of this law is up to \$150. and 3 points on your driving record.

Continued on Next Page....

Renew Locally

By renewing locally you will generate revenues for the County which will help keep your taxes down. Our office works hard to turn your registrations around in a quick timely manner. You can mail your registration to our office at: Genesee County Clerk, PO Box 379, Batavia, New York 14021-0379 or use one of our drop boxes either located on Court Street in Batavia or on Main Street in LeRoy. We are always happy to see our residents stop by and see our friendly staff. Renew your registration locally think global and act local.

THANK YOU

On behalf of the Town of Byron and its residents, the Town Board would like to thank Carrie Capostagno and all the volunteers who helped to construct the new dock at Trestle Park. Through a grant received by Carrie provided by Lowe's, volunteers were able to install an attachment to the existing fishing dock. Thank you again Carrie!

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
Home:	548-7767
Town Clerk – Debra Buck-Leaton	Ext. 10
Highway Dept. - George Heins	Ext. 11
Cell Phone:	703 - 3309
Sewer Dept.	Ext. 12
In an Emergency	585-507-9245
CEO/ZEO – Ken Kuter	Ext. 15
Assessor - Barry Flansburg	Ext. 17
Town Justice DiMatteo	343 - 2770
Town Justice Lamkin	548 - 2818
Councilman Jeff Thompson	
Councilman Jack Redick	
Councilwoman Jeanne Freeman	548 - 7197
Councilman John Ivison	509 - 2262



