

Town of Byron Newsletter



Volume 1, Number 60

Supervisor

I hope everyone is healthy and doing fine. I would like to clear up some questions on the solar project. NO ONE, from the citizens in Byron INCLUDING the Town Board, had a vote on this project. This is a pet project of your Governor. The only vote the Town of Byron had was to accept the \$1,066,000 a year plus 2% increase every year for 20 years, that is all. Approximately 1/3 of that money will go to tax relief, in other words, to be injected back into our budget, which will help offset the money the County took from our share of sales tax distribution during COVID.

We are waiting on Comptroller approval for Water Benefit Area No. 1, which should finish up the remainder of households for municipal water.

The LED street lights are approximately 45% complete for our Town. They are being installed by National Grid through a grant the Town received.

As always, this is your town, please try to attend a Town Board meeting by ZOOM, for now, as your input is always welcome.

Have a safe and healthy summer,

Peter N. Yasses, Supervisor

Town Clerk

The Town of Byron and the Byron Historical Society have decided not to have the Town's Bicentennial celebration this year due to the fact that we would not have enough time to plan for it after the Governor lifted COVID restrictions. However, we will still be doing our annual garage sales on Saturday, July 31st, so if you plan on having a sale please call the Town Clerk's Office to be put on the list.

The Byron Kiwanis and the Town Clerk's Office will be selling Town of Byron commemorative throws to celebrate our Bicentennial, the cost is \$40 and will need to be prepaid.

Our FREE Summer Youth recreation program will start on June 28th this year and go until August 13th from 10 am-1 pm. Registration forms will be online in the next couple of weeks, or you can fill them out on the first day of rec.

Have a safe summer,

Debra Buck-Leaton, Town Clerk

Highway Superintendent

As summer approaches the Highway Department has been busy doing roadwork. Lyman Road has already been paved, and the following roads are slated for stone and oil: Cole, Tripp, Coward, Caswell, Cockram, Beaver-Meadows and possibly Tripp Road.

The County Highway Department has closed the bridge on Tower Hill Road with work to continue for at least the next 3 months. Please find an alternate route.

We continue to do roadside mowing, please be aware and alert when coming upon the mower.

Thank you, David Leaton, Highway Superintendent

Byron Hotel Summer hours of operation July-September: 11am- 10pm Thursday-Friday-Saturday (kitchen closing@ 9pm)

Special arrangements for groups outside operating hours are available, call Candace 548-9992.

Happenings at the BH:

The Hotel has been approved for EV charging ports through the NYSERDA/National Grid "ChargeReadyNY/MakeReady" initiative. Watch for more information.

The Town of Byron has been awarded a Technical Assistance grant through the New York Main Street Program to administer a feasibility study for the future development of Byron Hotel and the utilization of the upper floors.

Saturdays from 2-7 the BH staff will be hosting a "Porch Party", a themed afternoon for friend's to gather and enjoy. Check our Facebook page for upcoming details.

The community's patronage and support is greatly appreciated as the Byron Hotel emerges from the Pandemic that has affected us all.

Clean Energy Resources Information Committee (CERIC)

Byron's CERIC group (Clean energy resources information committee) has been working on several action items along with the Town of Byron. Completion of 4 Action Items allows for the Town to be designated a NYSERDA Clean Energy Community and enables Byron to compete for grant funding for future Clean Energy initiatives.

Action Items currently being pursued are:

Adopting a Uniform Solar Permitting process

Relamping the Town of Byron with LED streetlighting

Clean Energy Upgrades with more efficient HVAC system

Benchmarking resolution to record and analyze municipal usage of various resource, electricity, water, gas, propane.

The CERIC group is looking for interested, motivated people to join in, to better position Byron as a town and its residents to seek out the Clean Energy Initiatives that are available.

Please contact CERIC.BYRON@GMAIL.COM for more information.



Library is Open--- Hours -

Sunday and Monday – Closed, Tuesday 10-1 and 2-7, Wednesday 10-1 and 2-7, Thursday 10-1 and 2-7, Friday 10-6, Saturday 10-1, **Closed Saturdays July and August**

Open up new worlds- read new authors, try a new recipe book, or get lost in a movie! Check us out on the web at www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org. There are databases, Librarian 24/7, TumbleBook Library-e-books for Kids, NOVEL list-readers advisory, **Libby/Overdrive** –e-books, digital magazines and downloadable audio books and **Hoopla** for eBooks, audio books, video and music are available to you with a valid Library card! The Library also has a coupon exchange available to patrons! The Library has Wi-Fi available as well as three patron computers with printing for a small fee.

The Library is looking for responsible kids age 11 years old and older to help volunteer during the summer reading program. Stop by and pick up an application now before the end of the school year or email us at byrbgn@nioga.org! You can win prizes for volunteering and get a first look at all the new books and DVDs!!! Beat the heat in our air-conditioned Library and sign up with a friend to join the fun!

Summer is coming!! So is the summer reading program- “Tales and Tails” The kick-off will be Tuesday June 22nd. Come any time between 5 – 6:30 pm to meet our special guest “Tracy the Triceratops” and take a picture with her. There will be games and crafts too! Sign up for the summer reading program and win prizes for reading this summer! All activities will be socially distanced according to CDC guidelines.

Why should you join the reading program? The summer reading programs are set up for children 3 years old and up to read and win prizes! Having your child read throughout the summer will help keep up their reading skills for school in the fall. Reading to your preschool child will help them master the skills of language at an early age. If you are not able to make the Kick-off event- stop in any time after June 22nd to sign up! Throughout the summer we will be having special story times, science fun, crafts, campfire stories and movie days. For a complete schedule of events check us out on the web at www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org or friend us on Facebook and stop by to pick up a schedule. Lots of fun activities you won’t want to miss!

Is your child staying home alone while you are at work? The Library is offering a “Home Alone” safety workshop on June 28th from 10:30-12:30. This workshop will prepare your child for situations that can occur when they stay home alone. The cost is only \$20. Class size is limited so stop by soon to sign up no later than June 24th!

The Library has preschool story time at 10:30am starting on Friday July 9th to August 13th. We will be exploring fairy tale and animal tales! Join the fun this summer with your young children! There’s magic in every book! Registration is required by calling the Library.

A Babysitting workshop will be offered on July 26^h from 10-3. If you are interested, please call the Library to sign up by July 22nd. Cost is \$25. You must be at least 11 years old to be certified.

Come check out our newest books the web at www.byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org to reserve your copy! We also have a great selection of adult and children’s audio books that are great to listen to while you are driving to your vacation destination!

The Library has copy /fax service for a small cost, Spectrum High Speed Internet, Wi-Fi and interlibrary loans from any Library in the NIOGA Library system. If you can’t find it at our Library, please ask or check us out on the web at byron-bergenpubliclibrary.org! Stop in soon! For more information on our services or programs, please call the Library at 494-1120.

Happy Reading!

Nancy Bailey -- Library Manager



From the Historian's Desk

History of the Railroad in Byron, New York

From notes of Dora Jones, Past Historian

Land in Byron was sold for the New York Central Railroad in 1830. During the years, 1830-40s, the New York Central Railroad was built and the four tracks called the "Main Line" from New York City to Chicago went directly through the hamlet of South Byron. This gave much help to the farming community in many ways. Horses and sheep were shipped into South Byron from the Midwest. Grains, hay and cabbage were shipped out on the railroad. It gave employment to men and was a great help to the public in general. There were several accommodations trains each way, taking passengers west to Batavia and Buffalo, and east to Rochester, Syracuse and Albany.

There was a sharp up-grade, known as the Byron Grade going through South Byron and as far west as Godfreys Pond. Many freights, heavily loaded were assisted up this grade with a separate engine which was known as the "pusher". In the early 1950's the steam engines were replaced by the diesel motors which were more powerful and the pusher was no longer needed.

In 1958-59, two tracks were taken up, but there are still two tracks remaining. The name of the railroad has been changed to Penn Central.

A spur line, called the West Shore, was built in the 1890's. It left the main line in Churchville and went through Byron, Elba, Oakfield etc. to Buffalo. It was used by the two grain elevators to ship grain and to bring in coal. Freight was received and shipped from the depot in Byron. Passengers also traveled to Rochester on this railroad. One set of tracks was taken up in 1935. In 1957 the other set of tracks was removed from Churchville west to Oakfield.

Both sets of railroads were used to ship ice from Mill Pond, cattle, and produce.

The abandoned railroad right of way follows easterly along the south side of the Bergen Byron Swamp. It is used as an access route for hunters in Fall. It is also used by snowmobiles for recreation during Winter. Also currently used by all-terrain vehicles, and motor bikes.



2021 Anti-Rabies Immunization Clinic

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

- August 12, 2021 4:00 to 7:00 pm Genesee County Fairgrounds**
- September 16, 2021 4:00 to 7:00 pm Genesee County Fairgrounds**
- October 14, 2021 4:00 to 7:00 pm Genesee County Fairgrounds**

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.

Now available, save time by filling out your registration form before the clinic at:

<http://www.co.genesee.ny.us/departments/health/index.html>

PLEASE BE SURE TO PRINT 2 COPIES FOR EACH PET

GLOW SHRED-A-THON

When: Saturday, June 12, 2021

Where: Town of Pavilion Highway/Office Facility

One Woodrow Dr. (off Rte. 63 by RR tracks)

Time: 8:30 am—11:30 am ONLY

For more information: 585-344-2580 ext. 5463 or 585-815-7906

Town Clerk’s Office Hours:

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

Thursday and Friday: 9:00 a.m.-12 noon

Saturday: Closed

Phone Number and Extensions:

Town Hall - Highway Garage - Sewer Dept.

585 - 548 - 7123

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| Supervisor—Peter Yasses | Ext. 14 | Highway Dept.— David Leaton | Ext. 11 |
| Town Clerk—Debra Buck-Leaton | Ext. 10 | Cell phone: | 402-4717 |
| Court Clerk—Michelle Caballero | Ext. 18 | Assessor— Barry Flansburg | Ext. 17 |
| Sewer Dept. | Ext. 12 | Town Justice Smith | Ext. 18 |
| In an Emergency (Sewer Dept.—Shaun) | 585-322-0006 | Town Justice DiMatteo | 343-2770 |
| CEO/ZEO—Mike Morris | Ext. 15 | Councilman Sue Fuller | 300-3456 |
| Councilman Josh Kent | 813-1760 | Councilman Eric Zuber | 746-5158 |
| Councilman Jeff Thompson | 851-1469 | | |