

Village of Barker

Fall 2018 Newsletter



Village of Barker
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Mayor's Message

I hope all is well as we welcome this warm Indian summer knowing that it is a precursor to the cold winter months to come. We have had some "movement" so to speak, in regards to our Board personnel. We would like to thank Kimberly Ruffini for her service, as well as welcome newly appointed Trustee Ben Seward.

Our other Trustees have been very busy, namely Seanna Corwin-Bradley with her work on "Light up Barker", which she will expound upon later. On October 8th we began the last phase of our "Main Street Rehabilitation Project" lastly completing the parking lot improvements. This was to include our milling and paving of Main Street, the new playground equipment, as well as resurfacing our front and side lots at the Village Hall

and making our meeting room and playground area ADA compliant. This could not have been done without the assistance of a State and Municipal Funding (SAM) Grant secured by Senator Robert Ort. To this we are grateful for the work we've been able to accomplish.

Along those lines, due to the historic lake shore erosion taking place all along the lake Ontario shore line in 2017, we had to close our beloved Bi-Centennial Park for a time. With the support and encouragement of our neighbors Dale Howard and Bob Brown, along with a grant supported by Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senator Robert Ort and Assemblyman Michael Norris, I am happy to say we were able to not only repair our shore line, but I believe improve upon it.



A Grand Re-opening Ceremony will take place on Saturday, October 13, 2018 at 3:00pm at the Bi-Centennial Park located at 1 Huntington Beach Road, Barker. Please join us in celebrating our "jewel" of a park and thanking our elected officials for the support of such an endeavor.

Please have a safe and enjoyable holiday time ahead.

In your service,
Aaron Nellist
villageofbarkmayor@gmail.com
716-628-2578

The Village of Barker is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at

http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send you completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington D.C. 20250-9410, or by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Halloween Happenings



Excitement is Building for Trick or Treats on Wednesday, October 31st from 5:00-7:30pm!

Remember to turn on your porch lights or any other outside light if you would like to participate. Please keep a watchful eye on your children and have them wear something highly visible. Children under the age of 12 should be accompanied by a peer or be supervised by an adult. If you are going to be

driving around the Village on Halloween, please use extreme caution.

Please remember the Village curfew law, that states all persons under 18 are not to be in or around public places from 10:00pm-5:00am.

If you're new to the Village, we get approximately 400-500 children trick or treating.

Have a safe and fun filled Halloween!



Village of Barker Officials:

Mayor Aaron Nellist
Deputy Mayor Greg Kerth
Trustee Jim Baker
Trustee Seanna Corwin-Bradley
Trustee Ben Seward

Superintendent of Public Works

Mark Remington
Laborer Gene Cavanaugh
Laborer Robert Verheyne
Police Chief Timothy Braugher
Police Sergeant Paul Beakman
Police Officer Larry Weibert
Police Officer Jacob Januchowski
Police Officer John Dowd
Clerk-Treasurer
Amanda Detschner, CMC, RMC, CMFO
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
Vicky Baker



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Police Department Reminders

Have Questions or Need Information like.....

What week is it for recycling/
garbage pick up?

What hours is the Village Hall
Open?

VISIT OUR WEBSITE.

www.villageofbarker.org

The fall season is upon us and it's a great time to be outside, enjoy the foliage and also to prepare for colder temperatures. I'd like to share a few safety notes in advance of trick-or-treating and the snow.

Halloween: SEE and BE SEEN.

Ensure costumes allow for adequate sight. Costumes that drag or are low to the ground not only pose a trip hazard but risk catching fire near lit jack-o-lanterns.

Adding reflective strips to costumes is a great way to make them more visible to motorists.

Flashlights and glow sticks are also great for making sure kids can see and be seen

Driving on Halloween can be stressful and dangerous. If possible, walk to your destination or try carpooling to reduce the traffic on the roads.

And of course, always check candy before kids eat it—especially that which can be re-wrapped easily.

A few more tips for Autumn to keep in mind:

When storing summer tools and equipment, place them in the most secure area possible. Deter would-be thieves with bicycle

locks or padlocks and avoid conspicuously displaying expensive tools. Remove the keys from lawnmowers and ATVs for safe keeping.

Make sure that your car is ready for winter; snow tires, emergency vehicle kits and fully operational lights will help keep you safe on the roadway this winter.

Best wishes to all for a safe and enjoyable fall season.

God Bless,
Chief Tim Braughler



Upcoming Village Election

Mark your calendars for March 19, 2019! This is the date that the Village Election will take place this upcoming year.

Open seats on the 2019 Ballot are:
Mayor two year Term
Two(2)-two year Trustee terms
One(1)-one year Trustee term

As a resident of the Village you have a voice and opinions, so please consider attending a monthly board meeting (check the website). Board meetings are typically the second Monday of the

month at 7:00pm in the Village board room, unless it's a holiday.

We are a small community, which allows for active involvement in various ways. You can attend meetings, join a civic organization, run for an elected position, serve on the Planning or Zoning Boards or ask around for other volunteer opportunities.

Our community is what we make it. All it takes is some leadership and a drive to want to make a difference. If you feel this is something you would be interested in, stop by the Village Office. Nominating

petitions are available beginning Wednesday, January 2nd. Let's do all we can to make our community quaint and distinctive.

Reminder, you must be a registered voter to vote in a Village Election. It's very simple to do, just stop in the Village Hall or Library and grab a form to mail to the Niagara County Board of Elections or visit our website under the "I Want To..." Tab. If you're a new resident make sure update your voter registration information.

IT'S BACK.....LIGHT UP BARKER

We are happy to announce that the Village of Barker is bringing back our Light Up Barker contest on December 1st, 2018 from 3-8 pm at the David Barker Park on Main St.

Started in the 1990s by then-Mayor, Cheryl Parr, Light up Barker was a Village-wide home decorating contest and tree lighting ceremony.



Judges would go through every street in the Village and award prizes to the best decorated homes. In addition to the Light Up Barker contest, there will be activities and



entertainment, including:
*Chicken Barbecue done by the Barker Lions and Somerset Youth Baseball and Softball
*Official tree lighting ceremony and announcement of Light Up

Barker winners

- *Holiday Performance by the Pratt Elementary 3rd and 4th grade chorus
- *Barker Community Band Brass Ensemble
- *Cookie decorating by Rebecca's Delights
- *Holiday crafts
- *Winter themed games and face painting
- *Tables and booths featuring local vendors and businesses
- *Soups and baked goods by Stone Hollow



Bakery

*Wine tastings from local wineries
If your business or organization would like to take part, please contact me at (585) 590-2871 or Seanna.Bradley@gmail.com; or pick up a vendor form at the Village Hall. The Board of Trustees and the Clerk/Treasurer's Office are so excited to bring a holiday celebration to our town and hope you will join us in celebrating the season!

Code Enforcement Reminders



As another season has come and gone please remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. This little habit could save a life!

*Carbon Monoxide detectors are a requirement in each home and are recommended on each level of the home. If you have a high efficiency furnace make sure you keep the vent clear of snow or it will cause carbon dioxide to build up inside your home.

*Smoke detectors are required on each level of your home including the basement and attic, as well as in each bedroom.

*Only ONE unlicensed car/vehicle per property. This includes boats, trailers, snowmobiles, etc.

*Please call the Village Hall before you make any changes to your property to see if a building permit is necessary. Roofs, pools, sheds as well as any structural change requires a building permit.

*Contractors are required to have a certificate of insurance supplied to the Village and if you do your own work, a sign off is necessary



Solicitor Permit Reminders

The Village requires all peddlers and solicitors to obtain a permit before they are granted permission to begin door to door activity. It's important that you, the resident, are educated on what is appropriate activity and what constitutes suspicion. It's our utmost concern that the Village does everything in its power to protect its residents. Under the Village Code peddlers/solicitors must carry their permit with them at all times and produce it when asked, the Town of Somerset and the Village each have their own local laws for this so if a Town of Somerset permit is provided as adequate proof, its insufficient. Call the Village Hall immediately if you have a peddler/solicitor that does not have a permit. Do not let them inside your home, if you choose to conduct business do so outside or on the porch. If they are pushy or use strong coercive tactics to push their product on you, immediately send them away and call the Village Hall to report the inappropriate activity. If they are threatening in any way call 911 immediately to report the problem, if the Village PD is on duty they will be dispatched. Religious and Non-Profit organizations can not be stopped from going door to door, but you can hang a No Soliciting sign to notify potential peddler/solicitors that they are not welcome. Lastly, the hours that peddlers/solicitors may operate is 9:00am to 7:00pm.



Department of Public Works Reminders-Fall & Winter Edition

Leaves are not collected by the Village, to discard of leaves you must bag them and put them to the curb for garbage pick up. Please do not rake them to the curb, this clogs the Village storm drains.

During the snowy winter please remember to try and keep the fire hydrant within your property limits clear of snow at all times. Please be aware of this if you contract to have your driveway plowed. This will make a difference for the fire fighters by saving precious time that could be used to fight a blazing fire.



On the same note please make sure the sidewalks are clear at all times. Last year we had many complaints about snow that was plowed into the sidewalks. Please be aware of this if you contract to have your driveway



plowed. The sidewalks are a necessity to keep people safe and out of the way of oncoming traffic. It is the property owners

responsibility to keep their sidewalks clear of snow and debris. The Public Works Department will only clear snow from the sidewalks when time permits and the equipment is functioning properly.



Reminder that there is **NO PARKING** on Village streets from **November 1-April 1st** from **2:00am-6:00am** to facilitate snow removal, which is enforced by our Police Department.

Lastly we would like to address the issue of chipping. The chipping service is provided for residents that have fallen limbs or branches. When removing trees from your property it is your responsibility to remove debris, these items will NOT be chipped. If you are having a tree service trim or remove trees from your residence it is the tree services responsibility to remove all limbs and debris created from the work that was performed. Due to the condition of our chipper we are unable to take care of vines



of any kind, leaves, grass, shrubs or any branch that is more than 3" in diameter. ALL vines, leaves, grass, shrubs and small twigs need to be bagged and put out to the road for pick up on garbage day or take them to the public works garage. All limbs and branches put to the curb for chipping are to be **BUTT ENDS TO THE STREET**, which aids in easier feeding of the chipper, and the pile may be **NO MORE than 3' HIGH**. Please be aware of sidewalks and streets when placing limbs to the curb, the limbs should NOT be blocking the sidewalks or be in the road at any time. Chipping is only done when TIME ALLOWS by the Public Works Department. Last Day to put limbs and branches curbside for chipping will be **NOVEMBER 1st**.

Thank you for your cooperation!
Sincerely, Mark Remington





Village of Barker
8708 Main Street
PO Box 298
Barker, NY 14012



Food Express

The United Methodist Church on the corner of Quaker Road and Haight Road, holds a Food Express program the first Monday of October and will resume again the First Monday of January. In order to participate in this program you must prove residency and household size. Many times they have fresh fruits and vegetables from local farmers. If you have questions regarding the Food Express program please call the United Methodist Church at 716-795-9945.



LAST 2018 FREE RABIES CLINIC being held in Niagara County

**Saturday, December 1st
2:00-4:00pm**

**City of North Tonawanda
Public Works Department
758 Erie Avenue,
North Tonawanda
716-695-8585**

**Pre-Registration is now
available online at
www.niagaracounty.com/health**

Village Dumpster

The Village has a dumpster that residence may utilize, it's behind the Village DPW gates located off of Quaker Road through the Ridge Road Express parking lot. Do not use the dumpster that is **not** located behind the DPW lot gate, that belongs to a private business and is not for residential use. If the DPW gates are unlocked you are welcome to use it. Do not place dirt, trees, stones in the dumpster. If it is full come back another time, do not overflow it with debris because Modern will not empty it.