

Village of Barker



Spring 2014 Newsletter

Mayor's Message

As my first year as Mayor comes to an end and the second begins, a few things come immediately to mind. Firstly, it is crystal clear to me that this job is far more difficult than one might think. Many, many hours are put in by all of our staff to keep the Village residents pleased with the services we provide. The good news is, it's a labor of love for us.

Secondly, I am sad to say I have not accomplished all that I would have liked to in the first half of my term. Many items on my agenda simply take more time to see through to the finish. I am happy, however, to report that we are getting there. I feel that as a direct result of the

hard work put in by our staff and elected officials that the Village is in good position for the future.

Finally, I'm not sure whether this is due to political apathy or busy schedules filled with higher priorities, but it seems people are less interested/active in Village affairs. There are positions within the Village that are open that seem very difficult to fill. Remember we have a Planning, Zoning and Ethics Board, and I encourage anyone interested in serving to contact myself or leave word at the office. We would love to have you. Also in the next few months I will be coming around the Village, door to



door, to meet with you and hear your concerns (praises are good too). So be prepared, maybe you have ideas or solutions that we can implement to make our Village an even more desirable place to live and do business.

Thank You,

Aaron Nellist

716-628-2578

villageofbarkemayor@gmail.com



Bicentennial Park at Lake Ontario

Board of Trustees:

Mayor Aaron Nellist
Deputy Mayor Mark Wilson
Trustee Gregory Kerth
Trustee Janice Rider
Trustee Kimberly Ruffini

Police Chief:

W. Ross Annable

Superintendent of Public Works:

Mark Remington

Clerk-Treasurer:

Amanda M. Detschner

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer:

Vicky A. Baker

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The Board of Trustee's Welcomes Two New Faces

The Village of Barker held an election on Tuesday, March 18, 2014 for the positions of two Trustees. Janice Rider and Kimberly Ruffini each turned in an independent nominating petition, therefore ensuring that each would win a seat pending any write in votes.

No write in votes were entered clenching each a seat on the Board of Trustees. Janice and Kim both live on Pallister Avenue and each are starting their first term as Trustee. They were sworn in on April 7th at the Annual Organizational meeting. Congratulations and

welcome aboard ladies! Please feel free to attend our monthly meetings on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00pm. Your local government is your chance to have your voice heard.



Village Website: villageofbarker.org

Village Office Hours

9am-Noon 1pm-4pm

Monday thru Friday

Village Police Department

716-795-3207

Dial 911 for an emergency

New RECYCLING CARTS are HERE!



The Village is pleased to announce that we have purchased 64 gallon recycling carts, just like Town of Somerset and Town of Hartland, that will be collected Every Other Week (EOW). The recycling carts are blue bodies with green lids stamped with the Village logo on the sides. They are also equipped with RFDI chips, so that we know exactly which cart belongs to each property address. The purchase of these carts helped us to receive a better bid price for our refuse contract that has been awarded to Modern Disposal.

We urge all residents to take advantage of the EOW recycling cart program. The more we reduce waste and recycle the better our environment, as well reduce the costs associated with refuse disposal.

On **Saturday, April 26th from 9-Noon at the back building of the Barker Fire Department** will be an Education/Distribution Day for the recycling carts. We **STRONGLY** urge you to attend this event. The

Modern staff will be on premises to answer any questions, as well as demonstrate the use of the carts. The Elected Officials and Village employees will also be in attendance. If you choose not attend the educational/distribution day your cart will be delivered to your house by our Department of Public Works. Please remember the cart you are given is free the first time and must stay with the property. If you would like more than one, for any reason, you may purchase additional carts for \$45.00 per cart. The Board of Trustees has decided that each property will receive one cart, this is for all properties. If you own an apartment building or are a resident who generates a lot of recycling you always have the option of buying additional carts.

TUESDAY, MAY 20th will be the kick off day for our new EOW recycling program. It's important that you follow the instructions and menu on the lid of your cart. It's important that the carts are placed

properly to the curb, as well. Since a mechanical truck will be picking up the carts, proper placement at the curb allows for easier/speedier collection for the Modern team, which in turn generates savings to the Village. The new calendar for pick up will be distributed with each cart, as well as our website and on the bulletin board of the Village office. Please follow the calendar, recycling will not be picked up just because you put it to the curb, It has to be on the designated week. The Village will be collected all on the same week, which is the "A" week or RED week of the Town of Somerset's calendar. If you have any questions or just want to stop in to see what the new carts look like, stop in the Village Office. We're excited to start this new chapter for the Village.

Barker Public Library: *Where the story never ends...*

April 14- Board of Trustee's Meeting at 7:00pm

April 21- Book Club at 6:00pm and new members are always welcome This months book is "The Husband's Secret"

April 30-Storyteller Gretchen Sepik will present Mary Jemison's Life at 6:30pm. Registration is required.

Also, 3 Mondays a month the Library holds Story Hour for 3 and 4 year olds. It's held from 10:30am to 11:30am through the middle of June. It's a great time for children to socialize, hear a good book and make fun crafts. Call the library for more info or to register your child.

716-795-3344

www.BarkerFreeLibrary.com



Code Enforcement Reminders By: Mark Remington

Spring means clean up time! Please take the time to get rid of junk and debris to keep your yard looking nice! Our trash pick-up allows one large item a week. We have a dumpster available located by the highway garage. Electronics are collected at the Town Water and Sewer Plant on Tuesdays from 7:00am-3:00pm.

As Village residents you are only allowed ONE unregistered vehicle per property. This includes boats, snowmobiles, trailers, etc.

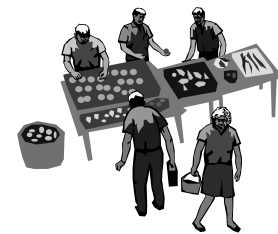
Brush will be chipped as necessary. Please pile neatly at the curb so it can be fed to the chipper.

This is a free service to our residents for your trimmings. It is not meant for tree removal.

Please keep your lawns mowed. The Village code requires lawns to be kept under 6 inches.



Building permits are required for pools and most home improvements. Please call the Village office at 795-3777 before you begin a project.



Farmer's Market Opening June 12

On Thursday June 12th the Farmer's Market is getting underway with a number of events to kick off the Summer season. As well as the Farmer's Market, their will be the classic car show, the Barker Community Band and a dedication of the new picnic tables in memory of John "Jack" Dewart, who loved the Village, Village Park and even served as the Mayor from 1971-1977. The market will be held on Thursday nights from 5:30 to 7:30. Invite your friends and family down to visit our quaint Village and see all it has to offer. Joanne Greewald has made our Farmer's Market something special, so enjoy it while it's here. For information about the Farmer's Market call Joanne at 716-795-3787.

Police Department Reminders



As the spring and summer season is approaching, bike operation will increase. In an effort to keep children safe we encourage you to make sure your children have an approved helmet for these activities. All bicyclist, skate boarders and in line skaters under the age of 14 must wear approved helmets and ride in a specially designed child safety seat. Our officers will be educating youth that are not in compliance to make sure they operate with a helmet. Children under the age of one are prohibited from being transported on a bicycle. [\[Section 1238\(5\), NYS Vehicle & Traffic Law\]](#)

Effective January 1, 1996, in-line skaters under the age of 14 are required to wear approved bicycle helmets. [\[Section 1238\(5-a\), NYS Vehicle & Traffic Law\]](#)

Effective July 1, 2002, persons under the age of 14 years old are required to wear certified bicycle helmets when riding a non-motorized scooter. [\[Section 1238\(5-b\), NYS Vehicle & Traffic Law\]](#)

Effective January 1, 2005, persons under the age of 14 years old are required to wear certified bicycle helmets when operating a skateboard. [\[Section 1238\(2-a\), NYS Vehicle & Traffic Law\]](#)

Any parent or guardian whose child violates the helmet law is subject to a fine of up to \$50. [\[Section 1238\(3\)\(6a\), NYS Vehicle & Traffic Law\]](#)

Also with warmer weather we have seen an increase of youth out late at night into early morning hours. This creates the opportunity for vandalism and criminal mischief. Our evening patrols will be enforcing the village curfew that prohibits unattended youth under the age of 18 to be out after 10:00 pm. We ask all parents to make sure their children are not out after hours as they are responsible under the law. Many times children from out of the village stay with friends and are not familiar with the curfew. With your help we can keep vandalism and noise complaints from occurring. As always if you have an emergency please call 911 for help. Our local number is 795-3207. If you are planning on being away stop by the village office and fill out a vacation check form. We would be glad to keep an eye on your residence while you are away. Have a safe summer everyone.

~ Chief Ross Annable

ANNUAL TIRE DROP OFF

Monday, April 21 thru Friday, April 25 from 7:00am-3:00pm

Monday, April 28 thru Friday, May 2 from 7:00am-3:00pm

Saturday, May 4th from 8:00am-Noon

Drop off your tires at the Town of Somerset Water/Sewer/Grounds Department on Lower Lake Road. There is a limit of **8 tires** per household and remember you are required to sign for the tires you drop off.

716-795-9919

Pet Owner Reminders

By: Mark Remington

Please be a responsible pet owner and clean up after your dogs when you are walking them! No one wants to come across the mess that your pooch left behind. In the recent weeks there have been many residents upset about the amount of messes left behind in their yards and sidewalks.

Also, the Village of Barker has a leash law, which requires all dogs must be kept on a leash at all times outside your property limits.

It's extremely important that if you own a dog that you license it through the Town of Somerset. This ensures that your animal is up to date on it's shots and can be returned to you in a timely manner if it's caught running at large. Your dog must wear it's licensed dog tags at all times.



Free Rabies Clinics

Sat., April 2nd from 2pm-4pm: [Town of Somerset Highway Garage](#) (795-3575)

Sat., June 14 from 2pm-4pm: [Hyde Park-Oasis/Centennial Pavilion](#) (behind ice arena) 716-286-4940

Sat., July 12th from 2pm-4pm: [Town of Wilson Highway Garage](#) (716-751-6704)

Sat., September 20th from 2pm-4pm: [Town of Lockport Highway Department](#) (716-439-9524)

Sat., December 6 from 2pm-4pm: [City of North Tonawanda-Public Works Department](#) (716-695-8585)

Pat Fuller Past Trustee Update

It was great serving the Village of Barker. Thank you to everyone. If you like our little Village spare some time to attend some of the Village meetings. I still would like to see the ice skating pond redone so it could be used as a street hockey area. I feel it has to be a community effort to achieve. Wouldn't it be great to see the kids and adults using it during our 8 weeks of our Farmer's Market. By the way the Farmer's Market kicks off JUNE 12, check the Union Sun and Journal paper for additional info. This year you will see 3 new square picnic tables donated by the Barker Business & Professionals Association and the Dewart family in memory of John "Jack" Dewart. The dedication will be at the June 12 Farmer's Market. I have been informed by Joan Greenwald, director of the market, that it will be full of various Community entertainment.

"Can you guess what two new businesses will be in the Village hoping to start up in 2014?" Support your local small businesses, it is to our advantage to keep this a destination and a nice community to live in and raise your family.

Thank you again for your support,

Patricia Fuller



Our New Recycling Carts!

VILLAGE OF BARKER
8708 MAIN STREET
PO BOX 298
BARKER, NY 14012



716-795-3777-Office
716-795-3478-Fax
www.villageofbarker.org
barkervillage@roadrunner.com



Niagara County Veterans Service Agency

Calling all Vets!

If you are a Veteran and are unsure about the benefits you receive, you have the opportunity to meet with a representative from the County about helping you receive all that you entitled too.

September 23rd at the Town of Somerset
call 716-795-3575

December 9th at the Village of Barker call
716-795-3777

Please make an appointment, if you stop by without an appointment you will have to wait until there is an opening available.

Each appointment is approximately one hour long. Please remember to
BRING YOUR SEPARATION PAPERS



Barker Fire Department

By Scott Matheis



The Fire Department has a busy year ahead so please mark the following dates on your calendars:

May 18-Spring Raffle

July 26- 100th Year Celebration
a Parade and our Annual Beer and
Band Night

August 2- 100th Year Celebration
continues with a banquet. Limited
tickets will be available to the
public.

Please remember **ALL** open
burning is prohibited in New York
State.

The JR Fireman and Firewomen
are selling the reflective address
signs. Call 795-3011 to order yours
today!

Have you ever thought about
learning CPR? We can help. The
Barker Fire Department is
accredited through the National
Safety Council.

Recently we changed our clocks:
Did you remember to change your
smoke detector batteries?

We are always accepting new
members so if you are interested,
stop by any Thursday evening and
see what you can do to help your
community.

Have a safe and enjoyable
Summer!

