

A VIEW OF THE FALLS

Office of the Mayor - Richard B. Milne

September 19, 2009

Dear Friends;

I hope that everyone has had an enjoyable summer and as we near the first week of "fall" I ask that we all remember that school is back in session and that drivers continue to watch for our children walking to and from school. Remember, pedestrians in designated cross-walks that are not at an intersection controlled by a traffic light have the right of way. Drivers, please slow down in the Village!

This article serves as a follow up to two topics that have been part of our local dialogue this past summer (vandalism and auto break-ins) and also a current topic of concern nationally (if not world-wide) the H1N1 (Swine Flu).

First; vandalism and auto break-ins; I have been contacted by residents and spoken to many regarding this concern. Over the summer, there were a number of automobiles that were left unlocked at night in our area and then unfortunately entered by individuals that stole small amounts of money or other valuables that were in the vehicles. There have also been reports of homes entered and items stolen as well. While this is extremely disturbing and we do continue to work with the Monroe County Sheriffs Department, there are some obvious things we can do as a community to help.

1. Lock your cars and homes at night and certainly when you are not at home. This may seem simple, but I am amazed at how many people have not done this in the past. We all expect that we live in a clean, safe community (and we do) but there is no reason in today's society that one should think that he/she shouldn't keep things locked up. It's a sad fact but one that needs to be followed.
2. Communicate with your neighbors! Keep a watchful eye open to not only your home and belongings but to your neighbors as well. At night, listen for dogs barking etc; they have very keen senses. Don't pass off a dog's intuition, take a look out side and be aware of your home surroundings. (One local resident did indeed listen to his dogs' growl one night and actually caught someone on his property supposedly trying to enter one of his vehicles.)
3. CALL 911! If you have something taken from your car, property or you catch someone or see someone on your property that shouldn't be there, call 911. If calls are not made and formal reports aren't given than nothing can be done to curb the situation.

Secondly; the **H1N1 Virus (Swine Flu)**; this is certainly a topic of conversation and in the local news daily. The information for this concerning virus is changing daily. The Village of Honeoye Falls has put a direct link to the Monroe County Health Department on our website (home page). Your best source of information right now is this web site. I have had the opportunity to sit in on various county led meetings regarding this topic and am being updated regularly. The one constant at this time is that information changes weekly and sometimes daily and that information is very limited at this time. Available doses of vaccines, where the vaccines will be dispensed and when is still an unknown at this time but this is being worked on constantly. The "target" population is also being confirmed and this will be very important to understand as the plan for dispensing vaccine doses is determined. The Village of Honeoye Falls will have information for residents as it becomes available. We are working on preparing current information to be available to residents if requested. **At this time, the best source of information is indeed the [Monroe County Health Department Web Site](#)**. In the mean time, common health practices such as washing hands thoroughly, covering coughs, coughing into arm area and not on hands is important. If you are ill and show the common signs of flu; don't infect others at work, school etc. be mindful of doing your part to not spread potential sickness.

There will be more to follow; but in the mean time, enjoy the onset of the colors of fall, be healthy and be vigilant in your community observations.

Sincere Regards,
Richard B. Milne
Mayor, Village of Honeoye Falls