

A VIEW OF THE FALLS

Office of the Mayor - Richard B. Milne

June 29, 2012

Dear Friends,

I'm a little over due for an article about what your Village staff and board of trustees have been working on, as well as updates on projects and committees, so as school has recessed I felt this was a good time. First of all - as I just stated, school is out for the summer recess. Let's all be sure to be diligent in watching for children at play, crossing streets and also remember that pedestrians in marked cross-walks have the right away. Please drive slowly in the village and be safe!

I want to thank you for the many positive comments surrounding the beautiful flowers and hanging baskets and flags in the village. We appreciate the comments and also thank the many volunteers who use their "green thumbs" to plant the annual flower garden/planters. Also my thanks to the businesses that put so much time and effort into their businesses to make them look attractive.

While there are many projects that the Village is involved in, I want to touch on a few specifically.

- The Veterans Memorial: There are a dedicated group of volunteers comprised of veterans and non-veterans alike all working together for a common cause. To create, develop and build a fitting memorial to all those brave souls who have served our nation proudly in the armed forces. This memorial is in process and we had a wonderful ceremony on Memorial Day to begin its recognition. We will look forward to a dedication ceremony - most likely in early 2013. We do need to raise funds for this project to help see it to fruition and hope we can count on your support. More information can be found on our Village Website and this information will continue to grow.
- The Active Service Banner Program: This effort is just getting off the ground and I'm proud to say that this is a joint project that will include the Town/Village of Lima; Town of Mendon and Village of Honeoye Falls. The goal of this committee is to create a banner program in conjunction with the Hometown Heroes effort, and will proudly depict the pictures of our active military personnel from our communities on banners in all our communities. Those service personnel must have graduated from the HFL School district or must reside in our community to be eligible. The goal is to thank those serving today and to let them know we are proud of their service. Again, this information will be on our website moving forward.
- The Village of Honeoye Falls - Auditorium Renovation Project: This committee is another group of active, energetic community members who believe (like I do) that the auditorium that is the second floor of our Village Hall is a beautiful, historic venue that should be brought back to life and used for many functions. We hope that concerts, movies, dances, plays and much more will come back to the Village and that this auditorium would be a potential spark to economic development and also provide a needed venue for those functions already mentioned. It is our goal to have this facility used by our community but it is also hoped that the size of the venue will attract groups from outside the Village that may want to use it. We certainly have a long way to go, but this is an exciting project to be part of. Look to our website for further updates.
- We do have our share of problems as well. Graffiti has been an issue and ignorant, selfish acts of vandalism have been on the uptick. Not only do these issues cost money, but they hurt the look of the Village. I want to stress to all, there will be no breaks if your child or family member gets caught being involved in these acts. Enough is enough; we will prosecute to the fullest extent possible if this is going to continue. The Monroe County Sheriffs do have some names, they are gathering information and when they catch those involved (which they will), we will follow through with prosecution. We have also asked the MCS to step up the ticket process with motor vehicles speeding, please be aware of this.
- Lastly, I want to mention another project that has recently been approved by the New York State DOT. The village will need to replace a main sewer line on North Main Street from the 4-corners to Maplewood Avenue. This replacement is necessary to solve a bottleneck issue in the waste lines. This is especially bad with high water flows (excessive rain events) and the issue needs to be corrected. This will also benefit residents and especially new development and businesses. There will be much more on this project to follow, including a time line, as it deserves an article by itself as do the other projects. My thanks go to the New York State DOT for working with the Village on this plan. I want to thank retiring NYS Senator Jim Alesi for meeting with Village staff about this project, his interest was appreciated. I also want to specifically thank Assemblyman Sean T. Hanna (now running for the NYS Senate) for his strong involvement in this project. Assemblyman Hanna was a key factor in bringing the NYS DOT and Village together in a joint meeting to review the needs, develop a path forward and ultimately get this project approved to its current status. While we have a lot of planning to do, we are on a positive path forward because of the involvement of our Assemblyman. Thank you Assemblyman Hanna!

Rick Milne
Mayor, Village of Honeoye Falls