



The Villager
 News from the Village
 of Williamsville

Winter 2014

TOP UPDATES IN THE VILLAGE

UPCOMING EVENTS

Picture Main funds secured

Picture Main Street is about to launch from a plan into a reality.

The long-awaited streetscape improvement project got a major boost this month with the announcement of \$2.5 million in state and federal funds to re-make the Main Street corridor.

The design of the traffic-clogged stretch, long a detriment to business and social activity on the busy thoroughfare, will soon be changed to accommodate both motorists and pedestrians.

Key changes will include:

- Enhanced crosswalks that are more visible to pedestrians and drivers
- Bulb-outs and curb extensions at village intersections to make it safer for residents and visitors to cross Main Street

- A pedestrian-activated H.A.W.K. signal, to be located at mid-block in the core of the village, that is still awaiting approval from the state
- Pedestrian refuge islands placed in the current turning lane in select areas to help pedestrians make their way across Main Street

In addition to the \$2.5 million secured by the village's state and federal representatives, the village is required to match roughly \$500,000 to bring the project near completion.

Design work will be performed for Main Street in 2014 and road construction is expected to begin in 2015.

The village is committed to working with residents and businesses to make the process as smooth as possible.



Williamsville Library Gala - Feb. 7

Help keep our beloved Williamsville Library open! Tickets for the 3rd Annual gala, from 7 to 10 p.m. at Calvary Episcopal Church, are available at loveyourvillage.org (until Feb. 3), at Village Artisans or at the door.



Winterfest in Island Park - Feb. 9

This year's event, put on by the village Youth & Recreation Committee, will feature hay rides, a petting zoo, snow sculpture contest, a bonfire and hot chocolate (bring your sleds). From 1 to 4 p.m. in Island Park.

Water Mill update

The village's most iconic structure remains a center of activity and commerce as long-term plans for the Williamsville Water Mill are coming into focus.

Sweet Jenny's ice cream, which reactivated the mill during the holidays for the first time in more than seven years, remains set up on the first floor.

And just as Howard and Tara Cadmus prepare for the Valentine's Day season, they are making clear their intentions to remain there for the long haul.

The couple recently submitted an offer to purchase the mill for \$450,000 to move its ice cream production and sales to the mill on Spring Street.

Village Trustees are evaluating that offer and will accept any other

offers until April, when they will begin to finalize long-term plans for the village-owned structure.

Any proposal, village officials say, must include protections for the Farmer's Market, a fair purchase offer and an acceptable use plan.



HELP US KEEP YOU UPDATED

To join our e-mail list, please email your name and contact information to Charlie Specht, Community Development Director, at cspecht@village.williamsville.ny.us

Water consolidation update:

- **Water consolidation with Erie County is nearly complete**
- **The village will not budget for a water dept. in 2014**
- **Hydrant fees will be charged as part of agreement with county**
- **Consolidation will produce savings for village residents**

Mayor's Corner

by Mayor Brian J. Kulpa

It's a great time to be a part of the Village of Williamsville.

Not only is the village tackling its greatest challenges – Main Street, the Water Mill -- but also leading the way on Smart Growth in WNY.

Look no further than Jan. 22, when 200 people came to South H.S. to hear why villages are the future of smart development in the suburbs.



John Norquist, former Milwaukee mayor and president of Congress for the New Urbanism, talked about what makes places like ours so great.

Village centers like Williamsville are affectionately referred to as "places of the heart," he said.

We couldn't agree more.