

When I was running for Mayor 4 years ago, I had a vision of what I wanted to accomplish during my term. My first priority was street paving – 45th & Home being one of the worst. I would have been happy to see just that one street paved but we were able to do more with the final phase coming in September. My 2<sup>nd</sup> goal was to get a website. Last but certainly not least was to focus on Public Works, which to me seemed to be the "red-headed step child" when it came to improvements. We know this department cannot be put on the back burner especially when it come to our water department. We have the best and safest water in this area so I don't understand why people waste money on bottled water, which, by the way, is NOT regulated by the EPA.

I am proud to say, I have fulfilled my campaign promises and then some.

We have strengthened our relationship with the Police and Fire departments in the surrounding towns.

We were named Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in 2023.

We've had a lot of "firsts" during my term. To name a select few: Veterans Day Celebration, Halloween and Christmas house decorating contests with prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Valentine Greeting postcard to all residents. Easter egg delivery to all residents in Forest View.

A pet parade, which was Laura McGuffey's idea; our Clerk/Treasurer. Christmas cards to all residents and businesses. We formed a direct line of communication with the North Pole so kids can write letters to Santa and receive a personalized letter in return. All they have to do is deposit their letter in a special mailbox in the village Hall. Mrs. Claus now joins Santa for his traditional visit on Christmas Eve via the Forest View fire truck passing out candy to all who are outside in their front yard. We have a closer relationship with the Park District which I hope continues and thrives. We have a book exchange in Village Hall, a bulletin board w/items of interest/upcoming events in Forest View as well as other towns. We have a Kids Corner where kids (or adults) can display their coloring pages that are in the newsletter. We have a "I Live Alone" form that is kept on file. A chip scanner for pets. The village foyer is decorated on holidays and Hallmark days and informative literature and brochures are provided free of charge. Let's not forget the Oktoberfest's we had with live bands, ethnic food and beer and all kinds of fun activities, games and contests for kids and adults.

I hope the incoming administration continues to keep the "Cinderella Village" title and feel that is associated with Forest View and that they continue to apply for grants so that our taxes in Forest View can continue to remain the lowest compared to the surrounding areas.

And again, I hope the new administration continues to work with the Park District to keep their events striving. The Park District was always an important and memorable part of my childhood as well as my children's. I urge the residents to take advantage of what their talented team has to offer.

Best wishes to the new administration and board and many, many thanks to all of you who supported me the last four years!

Village President Nancy L. Miller 2021-2025