

## **News from Mayor Ken Harsanje Sr.**

Fellow Residents & Business Owners:

I would like to send out a “Big Thank-You” to the 2019 Genoa Homecoming Committee volunteers. Sponsored by the Genoa Chamber and led by new chairmen Brian and April Huston, and Amanda and Mark Suckle, for organizing and putting on a wonderful event. This event takes many volunteers, hard work, and donations to make it a success. Once again many young and older, made this event possible. The weather did not quite cooperate for the committee’s plans, but the committee made good decisions and was able to use Sunday to keep the amusements open for everyone’s enjoyment, followed by a fantastic fireworks display.

A big Thank you goes out to Administrator Kevin Gladden, Public Works, and Park Crew, for all their work prior, during, and after Homecoming. Thank you to Chief Weis, the Genoa Police Officers, and several neighboring Police Departments for keeping us safe and maintaining order during the event. Also Thank you to the Allen/Clay Fire District for their service throughout the weekend.

November 5<sup>th</sup> this year will be Election Day. The seat of Mayor and two Councilmen are up for election. If you are interested in running for any of these positions, you will need to go to the Ottawa County Board of Elections to obtain a petition. Once you obtain the required signatures from the Village Voters you will need to return the petition to the Board of Election by 4:00 pm on August 7, 2019.

While monitoring social media we have noticed there seems to be many folks with opinions and questions who may want to consider running for a position. I encourage each and every one who has an opinion or question to come to Council meetings (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 pm) where the Mayor, Council, and Administrator can hear and answer your concerns, helping to eliminate the rant on social media.

There was a false rumor on social media that the Genoa Police Dept. would be disbanded as of January 1, 2019 and Clay Twp. Police Dept. would then cover Genoa. A year ago we had an open meeting with Clay Twp. Trustees and the Administrator, along with the Genoa Council, Mayor and Administrator, to discuss what possible resources etc. including police departments, that we could possibly share in working together. To date there has not been any other conversation on the subject between the Trustees or the Village. Could the combining of the two police departments ever take place? “Possibly”, but there would be many details to work out, negotiations, and public input before any such joining of departments. So, “No”, Genoa Police department will not be disbanded January 1, 2019. We ask you to please call the Mayor, the Council, or attend a Council meeting to get the facts instead of getting false information from social media!

## **Upcoming Events:**

**Sponsored by the Genoa Chamber, happening this summer thru the end of the year:**

- **Car Shows downtown Main Street – Tuesday July 30<sup>th</sup> and August 27<sup>th</sup> (5-8 pm)**
- **Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 there will be an all-day event downtown (Genoa Harvest Fest) events include:**
  - **Rayz Hog Roast w/proceeds to go to the Genoa Police**
  - **Tractor Drive In Show / Parade and line up on Main Street**
  - **Kidde Tractor Pull**
  - **Chile Cook Off**
  - **Beer tent (behind Town Hall Parking Lot) Square Dancing and a D.J.**
- **The Redneck tractor pulls will have pulls at the Genoa Park on July 20<sup>th</sup>, August 24<sup>th</sup>, September 21<sup>st</sup>, and October 5<sup>th</sup>. All pulls will start at 12 noon.**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Holiday Parade, Lighting of the Town Hall Tree, arrival of Mr. & Mrs. Clause, Santa's Elf, and visiting Santa's Wonderland will be held on Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup>.**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Festival of Lights judging of Village homes and businesses will be held on Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

**For more information and details on any of these events will be available on the Village of Genoa or Genoa Chambers web sites when the details are available.**

I want to inform all residents and businesses that I do not plan to run for re-election as Mayor in this year's election. I plan to finally retire from all work activities on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving as a Council member for 3 years, and as your Mayor for the last 3 ½ years. It is time for my wife Kim (who has worked tirelessly to improve the Village) and I to have Kim, Ken, and Family Time... and do some traveling.

If any of you are interested in continuing the Genoa Garden Club and their efforts in beautifying Genoa, please contact the Genoa Chamber or Kim Harsanje 206-8498.