

MAYOR'S CORNER
DECEMBER 5TH
2018

The hustle and bustle of the Christmas season is upon us. Your schedules are filling up and trying to find those extra moments for yourself is almost non-existent. You need to do so. That's the gift that you can give to yourself. The reason for the season is to be thankful and to appreciate what we, all of us, have.

Whether it be reading a story with your children or cuddling with a loved one by the fire, take the time. Tell those around you how valued they are. That goes so much farther than a brightly covered ribbon around a box.

Remember those that are serving in our Armed Forces and in our Public Safety professions. They miss their families as well but they have chosen to give you the gift of safety and security. Think of their families, they serve as well.

They bear a huge burden this time of year. Their gift to you is their loved one, whether they are far away from home or out patrolling a cold wind swept street at 4:00 am on Christmas morning. They give you this gift while receiving nothing in return. That's the true meaning of Christmas.

I hope you had the opportunity to attend our Christmas Parade and the myriad of events that took place during our Hometown Family Christmas celebration. In true Eaton Rapids fashion we welcomed our visitors from the north. With a rousing countdown of 5,4,3,2,1 the jolly old Elf used the magic key and lit our tree. I would like to extend my appreciation to the Chamber of Commerce Hometown Family

Christmas committee for their efforts. Nice work. To our own Eaton Rapids Fire Department and Eaton Rapids Police Department, great job. To our DPW/Electric crews, we couldn't have done it without you. To our QoL Director, celebrate the cheers.

To our residents, a profound THANK YOU.

As we move forward into our New Year we are hoping for some great changes. After a lot of hard work our Michigan Main Street application has been submitted. This will be reviewed by the State of Michigan and we are hoping that we will be selected to move forward in the process. That can only bode well for us.

Watch for an announcement on a monthly Art night. The Arts Council will be advertising for artists to display their works in a vacant store front in the downtown once a month. We hope to have all forms of artistic expression (painting, photography, sculpture, weaving etc), music and possibly short films. This should break up those January drearies.

I am thankful that you gave me the gift of allowing me to serve you as your Mayor. I am forever grateful to my wife and daughter. They put up with those long nights and holidays while I was away. I am thankful for my city staff and crews. They keep the lights on, the water flowing and the streets patched. The bills get paid and they are responsible for moving our town forward.

Most of all I am thankful to our residents. Without you the other things would be inconsequential. Thank you for being here.

I bid you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. I hope 2019 brings a cessation of hostilities. Both foreign and domestic. Let's make "PEACE" our goal for next year.

Sincerely,
Paul