

Opinion

Guest Editorial: Continuing revitalization of downtown

Monday, June 22, 2009

By John T. McDonald III
The Record

Once again, this time of year marks the start of the Cohoes Farmers' Market as it enters its third season having two successful seasons since opening in 2007. The Farmers' Market has expanded to 15 vendors and will include several community groups and organizations that will also be participating in this year's market. Every Friday from 4 to 7 p.m., now until Oct. 2, the market will be held at the Remsen Street Municipal Parking Lot where you can find dairy products, fruits, vegetables, meats, baked goods, gourmet goods and much more.

Last week, the Farmers' Market was part of ExploreCohoes, an event sponsored by LinguaLinx in collaboration with the Albany Colonie Regional Chamber of Commerce and the City of Cohoes. This event gave residents and visitors the opportunity to tour many of the remodeled buildings along Remsen Street and explore downtown Cohoes.

With local businesses offering discounts and specials, visitors and residents walked along Remsen Street making their way to local shops, the Farmers Market, local restaurants and gave people the chance to really see what is happening here.

This event proved to be a success and showcased the result of a lot of hard work and dedication that has gone into the revitalization efforts in downtown Cohoes. The tours allowed people to see for themselves the transformation of many of the old buildings that are now home to businesses such as Mac Source Communications, Soft-Tex Outlet, Harmony House Marketplace, and Smith's Restaurant. It also gave people the chance to check out some of the new businesses and explore some of the older ones. In addition, ExploreCohoes was an opportunity to welcome LinguaLinx, a full-service language translation agency, to its new headquarters at 122 Remsen St.

June is also a great month to visit the Cohoes Falls either at the new Falls View Park or Overlook Park. The Falls are a spectacular sight to see this time of year especially with the addition of a new walk way at Falls View Park that provides visitors access to the base of the Falls for an even closer view. I invite you to come to Cohoes on a Friday night and shop at the Cohoes Farmers' Market and if you didn't have a chance to come to ExploreCohoes, we encourage you to come and explore Cohoes on your own.

John T. McDonald III is mayor of the city of Cohoes.

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