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VILLAGER

VILLAGE OF NEW LENOX INFORMATION NEWS Sept. 2009

Village Meeting Dates

Village Board meets the second, third, and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

The Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals meet the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

All meetings are in the Village Council Chambers at the Village Hall, 1 Veterans Parkway, New Lenox.

Agendas for Village Board and Plan Commission meetings are posted at the Village Hall. Village Board meetings air on New Lenox Channel 6 starting the day after the meeting.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Timothy Baldermann, Mayor
Marcia Englert, Village Clerk
Annette Bowden, Trustee
David Butterfield, Trustee
Nancy Dye, Trustee
Keith Madsen, Trustee
David Smith, Trustee
Ray Tuminello, Trustee
Russ Loebe, Village Administrator
Village Information can be found at www.newlenox.net
email: info@newlenox.net

COMMONS HAS ANOTHER EVENTFUL SUMMER



Photo courtesy of Burns Photography

As the summer winds down, the Village is taking this opportunity to thank the many sponsors that have made the concerts and movies a smashing success. The following companies have generously helped underwrite the costs of the Village's Triple Play Concert Series, Heat the Hoops Basketball Tournament, and Kids Fest: Christopher B Burke Engineering, Silver Cross Hospital, Harris Bank, Suburban Bank and Trust, Old Plank Trail Bank, Zumbox, Comcast, Badda Bing's Restaurant, Café on Cedar, Charleston's Bar and Grill, Pizza Mia, Rising Sun Restaurant, STAR 96.7, RXQ 100.7, EmbroidMe, and Burns Photography.

Over 3,800 tickets were sold for our Triple Play Concert Series that featured the national recording acts Gin Blossoms, Blues Traveler, and Peter Frampton. We are pleased to report that proceeds from ticket sales and beer sales not only covered the cost of bringing in these big name acts, but also covered the costs associated with the entire summer performing arts calendar.

The Village's annual golf outing also raised funds for our performing arts program. Sponsorships for the golf outing came from Smith Engineering

Group, Mortenson Construction, and Wight Company. Hole sponsors included: Warner Enterprises, Lincolnway Community Bank, Tri-Star Cabinets, Kurtz Ambulance Service, New Lenox Travel, NuWay Disposal, Cardinal Fitness, Suburban Bank and Trust, New Lenox Auto Body, New Lenox Chamber of Commerce, Baxter & Woodman Engineers, Cartridge World, Huguelet - Attorney at Law, PMA Financial Network, Inc, and Andromeda Computing Systems.



In appreciation of their generous donation of 200 spruce seedlings for our Arbor Day, Mayor Baldermann and the Village Board honored Teerling Nursery and Smurfit Stone at the May 18th board meeting. Representing Teerling Nursery was Lang Beiswanger, and representing Smurfit Stone was Robert Davis.



LEAF DISPOSAL PROGRAM

Free Leaf Pick Up

We would like to remind Village residents that the Village of New Lenox offers its residents an alternative to leaf burning. Each Fall during a 8-week period, leaves that are bagged in the brown paper yardwaste bags are collected free of charge to the residents.

As part of the Village's contract with our disposal service, Village residents who place their leaves in brown paper yardwaste bags do not have to affix yardwaste stickers on the bags during this 8-week period. These yardwaste bags are collected by Nu-Way on the same day as your regular garbage collection.

This year's free pickup starts October 8th. The last free leaf pickup day for 2009 is Saturday, November 28th which coincides with the annual end-date of landscape waste facilities' season.

Please note: Yardwaste bags filled with grass clippings, garden waste, and brush still require that yardwaste stickers be affixed to each bag or bundle.

Free Leaf Bags for Senior Citizens

In addition to the free leaf collection for bagged leaves, the Village offers ten free yardwaste bags per Fall for our Senior Citizen Households. Each fall, our senior residents are provided ten free yardwaste bags as part of our refuse contract with NuWay Disposal.

We would like to remind Village residents who are Senior Citizens (over the age of 65) to stop by Village Hall to get their packet of ten free yardwaste bags. Bags will be available from mid-September through the end of November.

RAIN GARDEN HOW-TO....

Looking for ways to improve standing water on your lot?

Rain gardens are an inexpensive and beautiful way to improve your garden and also improve stormwater drainage with native wild flowers and vegetation. Rain gardens work to greatly decrease stormwater runoff into the stormwater system, reducing the total flow into the stormwater system. Consequently, residents can reduce individual flooding problems



Village Sponsors 50/50 Parkway Tree Program

The Village of New Lenox is pleased to once again offer its popular 50/50 tree program. Under this program, Village residents pay 50% of the cost of a parkway tree, including planting and mulch. The Village pays the other half and contracts for the purchase and planting of the trees through our membership in the Suburban Tree Consortium.

We have budgeted 75 trees for this Fall's tree planting program.

In an effort to reforest subdivisions that were constructed prior to the Village's parkway tree requirements, priority will be given to participants living in the following subdivisions: Aerohaven Estates (Units 1-3); Chadwick; Country Creek; Coventry Heights; Eagle Estates; Fieldstone; Meadowview; Royal Meadow (Units 1 and 2); Schoolhouse Manor; Springview; Stonebridge; Walker Country Estates (Units 1 and 2); Wellington (Single- Family); Wildwood Club Estates; Windermere East; Windermere East, 1st Addition (Units 1 and 2); Windermere West.

Village residents not living in the above subdivisions are welcome to submit an order form. Any trees not allocated to the above subdivisions will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis to residents of other subdivisions in the Village. Residents may select from the following tree species: Little Leaf Linden, Honeylocust, Maple, Japanese Tree Lilac, and disease resistant Elm. Prior to ordering, Village Staff will verify that the trees can be planted in accordance with our Village's spacing requirement (30 feet from any other parkway tree and 10 feet from all driveways, streetlights, fire hydrants, and other utilities located within the parkway.) The deadline for the 50/50 Parkway Tree Program is September 9, 2009.

and the overtaxing of subdivision detention ponds and the Village stormwater system.

Rain gardens may also work to decrease the mosquito population by attracting natural predators (dragonflies and birds) of the insect and decreasing the standing water on the property. They are also inexpensive to build and maintain, with a cost of \$3 to \$5 per square foot if you purchase the plants and do the work yourself, or it may cost approximately \$10 to \$15 per square foot if you hire a landscaper. As the native wildflowers are typically perennials, the yearly cost would be primarily for rain garden maintenance. For more information on how to build a rain garden and frequently asked questions, please take a look at the University of Wisconsin-Extension website, clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs/home.htm#rain, and click on the "How-To Manual for Homeowners." Questions? Contact Tricia Diduch in the Planning Department at 815-462-6460.

SUMP PUMPS REGULATIONS

Reminder: Sump pumps connected to the sanitary sewer through floor drains or drain pipes are in violation of Village Code. Surface and groundwater inflow carried by sump pumps into the sanitary sewer system create unmanageable flows at the treatment plant, which jeopardizes the ability to meet State and Federal mandated Clean Water Standards. In addition, the collection system incapable of handling the peak flows which are produced by sump pump discharges during heavy rains, resulting in flooded basements in area residences. Your cooperation in this matter will help to assure our ability to meet State and Federal mandated Clean Water Standards without the need for expensive additions to the Village's excess flow facilities as well as preventing basement back-ups.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM AVAILABLE TO ALL INTERESTED RESIDENTS.

A reminder to everyone, that our Community Alert/Notification System is available to all residents. In 2008, the Village and Police Department, through the partnership with XStream Mobile Solutions had implemented a new community alert/notification system. This system provides the police department with the ability to send text messages to residents who subscribe for the free service, via their cell phone or pager. The system also has the ability to send information via e-mail should a subscriber select that option.

What is the Community Alert System?

The Community Alert System is just one tool the New Lenox Police Department can use to notify the community of an ongoing emergency. Other forms of notification may include e-mail, department website and local media outlets. One or all of these tools may be used depending on the situation. In an emergency situation, an alert will be sent by New Lenox Police Department authorized personnel, and subscribers will receive these messages by e-mail and text message(s) on their cell phone or mobile device.

When subscribers receive the alert message they should follow any instructions in the message. They should NOT call 911 or an Emergency Communications Center as they are already aware of the emergency and unnecessary calls would tie up precious resources, further endangering the emergency situation.

The New Lenox Police Department will make every effort to update subscribers with more information about the emergency if necessary.

Is there a charge for subscribing to the Alert System?

The New Lenox Police Department will not charge the subscriber a fee. However, please check with your cellular provider to determine what, if any, charges they may have for receiving text messages.

What types of Alerts will be Sent?

The Alert system will provide critical information such as:

- Criminal Activity Alerts - Information related to recent criminal activity in specific areas within the Village.
- Amber Alerts (New Lenox Only) - Information related to juveniles who are taken against their will that fit the criteria for the issuance of an Amber Alert.
- Missing Persons - Information relating to missing adults and juveniles who may be in danger or in need of medical assistance.
- Enhanced Neighborhood Watch Information - Information for specific subdivisions or areas within the Village such as dates for neighborhood watch meetings, National Night Out as well as other programs and activities.
- Hazardous Materials Events – Emergency notification of hazardous material incidents such as gas main breaks, railway emergencies or vehicle crashes involving hazardous materials.
- Homeland Security - Notifications from Homeland Security of escalations or reductions in the National Alert System and rebroadcasts of Federal Government Homeland Security information.
- Local Traffic Alerts (Roadway Emergencies/Closures) - Emergency road closures due to traffic crashes, signal failure, and any other special events. Notification of any long term closures such as water main break or emergency road repairs.
- Watering Restrictions - Notifications during warmer weather regarding watering restrictions, to include the level of restriction.
- Special Village Events and Information (e-mail only) - Information relating to Village events such as movies at the Commons, Proud American Days, concerts, Loyalty Day, holiday celebrations or other events.

How do I register and what information is required to register?

Anyone interested in signing up for the service is encouraged to go directly to the registration page at www.nlpdalert.com. The following information is required for registration to the Alert System:

- Name
- E-Mail address
- Cell Phone Number
- Cell phone provider (i.e. Sprint, AT&T, Verizon, etc.)

If your information ever changes, you will need to notify us of the change by going to www.nlpdalert.com and click on "Edit Info" to update your information.

How will New Lenox Police use the information I enter to register for the Alert System?

Your information will be used only for emergency notifications. Your subscription information will never be sold to a third party nor will it be used for anything other than the Community Alert System.

FROM OUR FRIENDS AT NEW LENOX PUBLIC LIBRARY

Did you know that there are 150 parking spaces in the New Lenox Library's parking lot? The on-street parking on the west side of the building is open parking for anyone visiting the Commons, but space there is limited. A far safer alternative, especially if you have young children with you, is to park in the library's lot on the east side of the building. One of our two main doors is on the east side, and it opens directly onto the lot. There is a driveway that leads directly into the lot so you do not have to cross a street or dodge traffic to get into the building. The east side has an off-street drop-off area so drivers dropping off or picking up passengers can do so without blocking traffic. Blocking traffic is a serious safety issue on Veterans Parkway, so drivers are strongly encouraged to use the designated drop-off area on the east side.

Six handicapped spaces are also located in the east lot, and there are no stairs into the building so access is easy. The on-street parking has only one handicapped space, and there are stairs and a ramp that have to be navigated to get into the building.

Please be safe and use the convenient parking lot on the east side of the library.

NEW PROGRAM TO AIR ON CHANNEL 6

The Village of New Lenox has started a new economic development activity in conjunction with New Lenox Cable Television Channel 6. We are spotlighting our local businesses through our community cable television system in order to strengthen our town's business component. Mayor Baldermann is interviewing our local businesses for this new Channel 6 television show that will begin to air in the next month. Business interviews on Channel 6 will provide local companies the opportunity to highlight their business activity on our cable television channel. Mayor Baldermann is hosting this program with existing businesses in order to bring additional exposure to our local business community.

Canadian National Railroad Update

Earlier this year TRAC (The Regional Answer to Canadian National) appealed in Federal Court the Surface Transportation Board's December 24th decision to allow the sale of the EJ&E line to the CN railroad. TRAC is a coalition of suburban communities that have joined forces to ensure the quality of life for their residents is not adversely impacted by this proposed acquisition and includes municipal and county leaders from Lake, Cook, McHenry, Kane, DuPage, and Will Counties.

Earlier this month, the Surface Transportation Board rejected an appeal by the Illinois Commerce Commission of the sale. Because this final decision is now in place, the appeal in federal court, that was filed eight months ago, can now proceed. TRAC reiterates the call for the federal government to re-examine Canadian National's safety plan for the former EJ&E line.



Mayor Baldermann's Second Annual Heat the Hoops Competition

Mayor Baldermann's Second Annual Heat the Hoops Competition took place this year on Tuesday, June 30th. Once again this was an opportunity for New Lenox youth to display their athletic skills in a 3 on 3 basketball tournament. Joining Mayor Baldermann this year were NBA superstars, Dwyane Wade and Quentin Richardson. Winners in each of the five divisions are as follows:

Division 1 – Ages 11 – 12, Boys: Wolfpac: Max Petrunaro, Anthony Marotta, Jon Marotta, Joel Hollingsworth, and Craig Majcher

Division 1 – Ages 11 – 12, Girls: Hoop Gurlz: Kauai Bradley, Jerell Matthews, Kayla Kieklak, Iliana Elias, and Emily Cabay

Division 1 – Ages 11-12, Coed: Dynamites: Divinity Burgos, Americo Petrongelli, Steven Lotz, and Andrew Milsk

Division 2 – Ages 13 – 14, Boys: New Lenox's Best: A J Carlstrom, Matt Mikolajczak, Ryan Kahne, Grant Bartell, and Kyle Carpenter

Division 2 – Ages 13- 14, Girls: Xplosion: Jana Mudrock, Erin Hayes, Kara Krolicki, Kelsie Foster, and Margaret Kolyvas

Division 2 – Ages 13 -14, Coed: V-Bombers: Veronica Baldermann, Matt Crnich, and Sean Berry

Division 3 – Ages 15 – 16, Boys: Xplosion Legacy: Brad Foster, Brian Oddo, Matt Doherty, and Mike Marietti

Division 3 – Ages 15 -16, Girls: Celtics: Ashley Weringa, Alexandra Shermulw, Rose Shultz, and Samantha Rottler

The team that was chosen to compete against Mayor Baldermann, Dwyane Wade and Quentin Richardson was: Kolmar 4 comprised of: Keaton McCahill, Alex Guerra, Jimmy Heil, and Brendon O'Hara