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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

VILLAGER

VILLAGE OF NEW LENOX INFORMATION NEWS July 2009

Village Continues Its 4th of July Tradition

Come to the New Lenox Commons on Saturday, July 4th where you will be treated to an evening of family friendly activities. Starting at 5:00 p.m. young and old alike will enjoy the magic of Mr. Jim Jenson. Jim has been working as a performer full time since 1991, working more than 300 events per year. Jim has been featured in many newspapers, WGN morning news, and a few cable TV shows. Jim worked as a featured performer at Chicago's Navy Pier for more than 9 years. The fun continues as the crowd is invited to participate in an interactive music game show. Highlighting this game show will be the money machine where one lucky winner can test his/her skill at grasping cash as it swirls in the air.

Next on the entertainment lineup is the local rock band Vintage Wood. Vintage Wood is sure to entertain everyone with the classic sounds of the sixties and seventies as well as contemporary music.

Getting into the patriotic theme of the evening, the Joliet American Legion Band will once again perform on the Common's stage. This band has proven to provide quality entertainment in years past and is sure to do so again this year. The Village is honored to have our New Lenox American Legion and VFW Color Guards join with the Joliet American Legion Band Color Guard as they present the Colors to the audience.

The fireworks are scheduled to begin at 9:30 just west of the Commons Park, same time and location as the last four years.

Finally, since the 4th of July is on a Saturday this year, at the conclusion of the fireworks Vintage Wood will return to the stage and perform for an additional hour.

Free parking at the Metra Parking lot and shuttle service to and from this lot will be provided again this year. The shuttle service will begin at 4:00 and conclude at the end of the final concert.



Village Welcomes Our New Farmers Market

Residents visiting the area around the Village Hall on Saturday mornings cannot miss noticing the buzz of activity in our south parking lot. From 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. each Saturday until October 10th, residents can browse through the market stalls offering fresh produce from Illinois, fresh fruits from Michigan, hanging baskets and potted herbs from local nurseries, gourmet cheese from Wisconsin and pasture raised poultry, eggs, and pork from Illinois. The aforementioned is only the beginning. There are bakery goods, gourmet vinegars, salad dressings, salsa, freshly cooked soups, and sandwiches. Freshly brewed coffee is also available for purchase.

Our market master, Merrill Marxman has many years of experience of running farmers markets. He brings his knowledge of running the Frankfort Farmers Market, the Monee Farmers Market, the Manteno Farmers Market as well as other farmers markets to our community. He has told us that the New Lenox Farmers Market has started off with a bang. Over 1,000 patrons visited the market on the first day, and attendance will increase as the produce becomes available. Blueberries and other Michigan fruit should be arriving the beginning of July. Illinois corn, due to the chilly wet spring, will arrive to the market later in July with Illinois tomatoes being available in late July.



Earlier this year the Village introduced Zumbox – the paperless postal system – to New Lenox residents. Since then, over 40 organizations have taken the opportunity to communicate important information and relevant special offers to you, without using paper and saving money on postage. The Village of New Lenox is the first in the country to take this step! Now the Village has taken another very significant step in the fight against paper mail waste. You now have the option of accessing your Water-Sewer bill online at Zumbox.com. It looks just like the paper version of your bill enclosed with this newsletter, but it's in a more secure, confidential, digital format. If you have not yet claimed your Zumbox, please do so at www.zumbox.com by typing in your street address. This will begin the registration process of your household's digital mailbox – your Zumbox.

Once you have fully registered your Zumbox, you will be able to access your Water-Sewer bill securely. Here is an example of what a bill looks like when opened in a registered Zumbox:



The green "Pay Now" button at the top takes you straight to the Illinois ePay system the Village is already using for online bill payment.

The orange "Do Not Papermail" button adds your address to a list the Village is compiling. This is how you can take control of your mail – click this button if you wish to receive less physical paper mail from the Village. In a few months, the Village may look to reduce its postage and printing costs by removing only those residents' addresses who have clicked this button from their paper mail list. Rest assured that the Village will always use traditional means to relay the information you

need. But the Village of New Lenox is proud to offer its residents a new alternative mail system – one that's good for both the environment and the Village budget in the long run.

The Village has been very diligent in checking out Zumbox – getting the nods of its Financial, Legal and Technology departments before taking this step. Viewing your Water-Sewer bill at www.zumbox.com is secure and convenient. Please also keep checking your Zumbox for other important communications from the Village, New Lenox Township, New Lenox Public Library, and a host of other New Lenox organizations. Check your mail at www.zumbox.com today.

For any questions, please feel free to email support@zumbox.com.

GREAT RESULTS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT INAUGURAL FOOD DRIVE

The Mayor and Village Board along with New Lenox Police Chief Bob Sterba are proud to announce the results for the New Lenox Police Department's inaugural food drive. With the active participation of New Lenox School District 122 students, teachers and administrators the food drive netted close to 13,000 food items collected. This four week food drive began on March 9th and concluded on April 6th.

The food drive also impressed upon the youth of our Village the value of service to community. Altruism is a value by which we serve others without an expectation of repayment or thought of self-interest. This challenge not only helped fill our local food pantries, but raised the consciousness of our children.

The Police Department also extends its gratitude to the Chamber of Commerce, the Fire Protection District, and the Park District for allowing their facilities to be used as drop off points. This effort will be replicated this fall in the form of a coat drive. Both drives will become annual events coordinated by our Community Services Division and our School Resource Officer with the generous cooperation of New Lenox School District 122.



On May 18, 2009 the Village of New Lenox passed a Resolution authorizing the creation of the Village of New Lenox Citizen Corps Council. Citizen Corps is FEMA's grassroots strategy to bring together government and community leaders to involve citizens in all-hazards emergency preparedness and resilience. Citizen Corps asks residents to embrace the personal responsibility to be prepared; to receive training in first aid and emergency skills; and to volunteer to support local emergency responders, disaster relief, and community safety. By following guidelines set forth by the Illinois Citizen Corps Council, the Village of New Lenox will be among the active Councils eligible to apply for funding, receive training opportunities, access best practices/lessons learned, and develop networking relationships with similar programs. Additional information regarding Citizen Corps can be found at www.citizenscorps.gov/.

One of the first programs to be created under the direction and guidance of the Village of New Lenox Citizen Corps Council will be the Village of New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The CERT Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members are also encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community. Additional information regarding CERT can be found at www.citizenscorps.gov/cert/.

Those interested in becoming a member of the Village of New Lenox CERT should contact Public Safety Division Chief Dan Martin at the New Lenox Police Department, (815) 462-6100.

Village Well Prepared for Mosquito Season

With summer in high gear, the Village is ready for another mosquito season. As in past years, the Village works jointly with the New Lenox Township under an intergovernmental agreement to provide the community with an effective mosquito abatement program.

Most of us have had the experience of being driven indoors because mosquitoes have decided it was time to feast. In addition to being a nuisance, mosquitoes can also carry disease, in turn posing a major health threat.

Residents are asked to assist in our abatement efforts by eliminating any potential breeding places in their yards. Keep roof gutters free of leaves; repair leaky outside faucets; change the water in bird baths frequently; empty outdoor plant pots' drip trays at least once a week; and finally, keep grass cut short and shrubbery well-trimmed around your house. These are just a few of the things you can do to help keep the mosquito population in check.

Along with other villages and cities in our region over the course of the last few years, our attention has turned to the issue of West Nile Virus. West Nile Virus is transmitted to people only through the bite of a mosquito that has obtained the virus by feeding on an infected bird. This virus typically causes mild flu-like symptoms including mild fever, headaches, skin rashes and swollen glands. However, the virus in its most advanced form may cause encephalitis, which is a dangerous inflammation of the brain and spinal chord. The risk of serious illness is greatest for people age 55 and older or those with impaired immune systems.

Village Staff assigned to our Mosquito Abatement Program are fully licensed and certified by the State of Illinois' Department of Agriculture. To meet certification requirements, each employee must attend a series of classes and pass an exam testing their knowledge on this subject.

The Village begins its Mosquito Abatement Program each year by placing larvacide pellets in the many area ponds, catch basins, and areas prone to standing water. This action is followed by periodic mosquito spraying dependent on weather conditions.

Residents who do not wish to have mosquito spraying done in front of their property or persons with respiratory problems wishing to be notified prior to spraying in their area, may call the Village Hall at (815) 462-6480. Further information about WNV can be found at the Will County Web Site at: www.willcountyhealth.org. Have a safe and happy summer.

Reminder About Our Refuse Collection Program and Update About Our Recycling Program



The Village of New Lenox has a modified volume-based program for our residents refuse removal. Residents have the opportunity to select the size cart that fits the needs of their households. Each of the carts sizes, 32-gallon, 64-gallon, and 96- gallon, are priced according to size. This pricing includes all household garbage that fits in the cart (with the lid closed) and one large item per week (such as couch, appliance, washer, dryer, etc.) and will be billed directly to you by NuWay Disposal. The carts remain the property of NuWay Disposal. If you have more garbage than what fits into your cart, additional garbage stickers are for sale and can be put on bags. Overloaded carts and additional bags without stickers will not be collected. For any questions, please contact NuWay Disposal at (708) 479-9555.

An alternative to just throwing away refuse is to recycle. The Village encourages recycling, and our recycling program has expanded to include more plastics. In addition to #1 and #2 plastics, residents may now place #3, #4, #5, and #7 plastics into their recycling totes. The only type of plastic not being collected is #6, polystyrene (found in disposable plates and cups, meat trays, egg cartons, and carry-out containers).

Examples of plastics that are now being collected are as follows:

- #1 PETE (polyethylene terephthalate) which include: 1-liter and 2-liter pop bottles, mouthwash bottles, and salad dressing bottles.
- #2 HDPE (high density polyethylene) which include: milk jugs, juice bottles, detergent bottles, shampoo bottles, and cereal box liners.
- #3 PVC (vinyl) which include: window cleaner bottles, clear food packaging, and piping.
- #4 LDPE (low density polyethylene) which include: shopping bags, bread bags, dry cleaning bags, and squeezable bottles.
- #5 PP (polypropylene) which include: medicine bottles, ketchup bottles, and straws.
- #7 Other (miscellaneous) which include: three-gallon and five-gallon water jugs.

Residents may request larger recycling totes or additional recycling totes free of charge if they cannot get all of their recyclables into one tote. Please contact NuWay Disposal at (708) 479-9555 for more information about recycling.

TOWN HALL MEETING



Saturday, July 18th
10:30 a.m.
Village Hall
Community Room
Areas to be highlighted:
North of Route 30,
East of Cedar

Kids Fest at the Commons Sunday, July 12



Kids – come join the fun at Kids Fest 2009! This year Kids Fest at the New Lenox Commons is scheduled for Sunday, July 12th. Activities will include an inflatable castle, a giant slide, a petting zoo and a child I.D. station just to name a few of free events. Please check our website for future updates as activities are being added. Kids Fest will begin at 11:00 a.m. and conclude at 4:00 p.m.



Announcing Unwanted Prescription Medication Disposal Program

Each year, millions of Americans resolve to clean out their medicine cabinets. Medicines unsecured in the home can cause confusion and medication misuse, resulting in serious health implications for adults and children. The New Lenox Police Department is promoting the importance of safe prescription medication disposal in order to decrease the risk of drug catastrophes. In addition to prescription medication misuse, prescription medication abuse among teens and young adults is a serious and increasing problem in the United States. The Partnership for a Drug Free America's Annual Tracking Study recently found:

- 1 in 5 teens has abused a prescription pain medication.
- 1 in 5 teens report abusing prescription stimulants and tranquilizers.
- 1 in 10 teens has abused cough medication.

Many teens think these drugs are safe because they have legitimate uses. However, taking them without a prescription to get high or "self medicate" can be as dangerous and addictive as using street narcotics and other illicit drugs. In the past, the advice has been to flush old and unused medications down the toilet or put them in the trash. Neither is a good method. Prescription drugs can kill helpful bacteria in septic systems and pass largely untouched through sewage treatment plants. Unfortunately, scientists are finding traces of prescription medications in our streams, rivers, and lakes. Furthermore, children and animals can get into drugs discarded in the trash and once in landfills, drugs can trickle into the groundwater. The Unwanted Prescription Medication Disposal Program will provide residents with an environmentally safe way of disposing of their unwanted medications. The New Lenox Police Department has acquired a galvanized steel depository and collection storage unit as a repository for unwanted prescription medications. The acquisition of the unit was made possible through a generous donation from Walgreen's Pharmacy. The unit is constructed of 16-gauge heavy steel, equipped with two frontal locking doors and removable totes for safe and easy collection. The collection box has been placed at the New Lenox Police Department, 701 W. Haven Avenue. The unit is located on the exterior of the administrative offices and is available to residents 24-hours per day. Acceptable prescription and over-the-counter medications include pills, salves, and liquid medications in original containers. Items not in original containers must be packaged in non-leaking containers. Unacceptable items include sharps, needles, IV bags, thermometers, and medical waste. The New Lenox Police Department will dispose of unwanted medications on a regular basis by transporting them to an approved location for safe disposal. For additional information regarding the program, contact Public Safety Division Chief Daniel Martin at (815) 462-6100.

WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES

The Village welcomes the following new businesses which opened since the first of the year.

The Creamery –
918 Timber Place

Kazies Kandies –
140 W. Illinois Highway

Le Petit Nail Salon –
2063 E. Laraway Road

Hair Cuttery –
2026 E. Laraway Road

Everest Dental Group –
2073 E. Laraway Road

Fifth Third Bank -
E. Laraway Road

Development News Update

Construction activity continues to progress on the Silver Cross Hospital Campus located on U.S. Route 6 west of the I-355 Interchange. The 60,000 square foot, two-story medical office building is slated to open in early August. Construction of the Clinton Street improvements is scheduled for completion in about four weeks. Steel for the hospital building is expected to arrive at the construction site very soon. Overall development activity on the Silver Cross Campus is on schedule with the hospital projected to open in 33 months.

Tenant activity is on the increase at Heather Glen. At the Heather Glen Plaza, located northeast of the Schoolhouse Road and Laraway Road intersection, spring business openings occurred for the Hair Cuttery, Everest Dental Group, and Le Petit Nail Salon. Verizon is expected to open their new store next month in this plaza as well. Fifth Third (5/3) Bank recently opened their facility on an outlot at the Heather Glen Plaza. McDonald's was approved last month to begin construction on their drive-thru restaurant. Construction on the McDonald's is scheduled for completion in about 90 days.