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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](http://www.newlenox.net)  
email: [info@newlenox.net](mailto:info@newlenox.net)

# VILLAGER

VILLAGE OF NEW LENOX INFORMATION NEWS Dec. 2009

## Village Property Tax Rebate Update

The Mayor and Village Board announce increase in property tax rebate. We are now pleased to announce that the rebate has been increased to 40% of the Village's share of the property tax. A portion of the Village share of 2009 property taxes that village residents will pay in their tax bills in June 2010 and September 2010 will be rebated back to village residents in 2011. Please note, the rebate portion of the Village's share of the tax bill is what is being rebated back, not the entire tax bill.

As part of the drive for Home Rule, the Village Board adopted a resolution on October 13, 2008, authorizing a rebate of 33% of the Village's share of the property tax for any owner occupied home within the Village. This property tax rebate was pledged to begin with the tax levy paid by the residents in 2010. Those rebate checks would be mailed in early 2011. As mentioned, this rebate is now increased to 40% of the Village's share of the property tax.

Look for further announcements regarding the steps Village residents will need to complete prior to receiving their rebate checks in 2011, including proof of payment of taxes.

## Cops Care Coat Drive a Success

The Police Department is very pleased to report that the New Lenox Police Department's inaugural coat drive was a overwhelming success. In conjunction with the New Lenox School District #122, the department led an effort to aid those less fortunate in staying warm this

winter, while teaching the students the valuable lesson of service to the community. The goal of collecting 1,000 coats this fall was surpassed. Over 2,200 coats were donated to the coat drive by New Lenox residents. MorningStar Treasure Chest II, 2571 East Lincoln Highway, New Lenox, will also participate in this event. It will have coats available for anyone in need. MorningStar Treasure Chest II will provide a coat for anyone presenting a voucher. Vouchers will be available at the New Lenox Police Department, School District 122 and at the New Lenox Township building. This effort will be replicated next spring in the form of the annual food drive. Both drives will be annual events coordinated by the police department's Community Services Division and its School Resource Officer with the cooperation of New Lenox School District 122.



Top Row: Brendon Bregman, Bresha Hill, Logan Franke, and CSO Carl Teska.  
Bottom Row: SRO Officer Mike Jurka, Jack Forman, Hayley Sawyer, Therese Egner and Officer Aurena Davis.

# Christmas in the Commons 2009

Come join the festivities in the New Lenox Commons on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. See over 30 Christmas trees being decorated by various youth groups. The Christmas tree decorating starts at 3:00 p.m. The official tree lighting by Mayor Baldermann and the Village Board is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. Local Girl Scout Troops will be collecting new mittens and gloves for local charities during the afternoon.

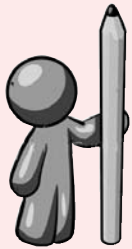
Family entertainment during the afternoon includes free horse drawn wagon rides, a real live Reindeer display, and Christmas carols in the Rotunda and in the Commons. Entertainment begins at 2:00 p.m. and continues to 5:00 p.m. In addition, free hot chocolate will be served at the Village Hall. For everyone's enjoyment, Santa Claus arrives at the Village Hall at 2:00 p.m. and will visit with kids through 5:00 p.m.



## TWO NEW MEMORIALS DEDICATED IN NEW LENOX COMMONS

Two new memorials have been recently added to the New Lenox Commons. The first new memorial that has been added to the New Lenox Commons provides an opportunity for all to reflect on the sacrifices that have been made to our community by three of our firefighters. The Firefighter Memorial, which was dedicated on September 26<sup>th</sup>, honors the three firefighters that had lost their lives in the course of duty. These men include Captain Wallace Faulk who died on May 26, 1978 after suffering a fatal heart attack after responding to an emergency call; Firefighter/Engineer Michael Palumbo who was killed in a car accident on September 5, 1980, while responding to the station for a call; and Firefighter Ken Sobbe, January 21, 1983, who was killed when the engine he was riding on was involved in a fatal accident.

This second memorial is dedicated to the memory of Alesia DiSandro, daughter of Nick and April DiSandro. Alesia lost her battle with cancer in 2000. To honor her memory, her parents have volunteered tirelessly organizing the first Relay for Life Cancer Fund raiser in New Lenox as well as other youth related organizations.. A tree has been planted and a mounted brass plaque has been installed in her honor.



## Your Participation in the 2010 Census Matters

In 2010 the U.S. Census Bureau will conduct its decennial census as required by the U.S. Constitution. The census is a count of everyone residing in the United States: in all 50 states, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.

Your participation in the 2010 Census matters. Census data is used to determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. Census information helps determine locations for schools, roads, hospitals, senior citizen centers and more. Businesses use census data to locate supermarkets, shopping centers and other facilities. Illinois municipalities receive funding from the state based on population. Currently the per capita funding is \$130 per year per person.

Completing the 2010 Census Questionnaire is simple and safe. The 2010 Census questionnaire asks only a few simple questions of each person. These questions are name, relationship, gender, age, date of birth, race, and whether the respondent owns or rents his or her home. This simple, short questionnaire takes only a few minutes to complete and return by mail. The Census Bureau does not release or share information that identifies individual respondents or their households for 72 years.

How will the 2010 Census differ from previous census efforts? In the last census, one in six households received a long questionnaire asking for detailed socioeconomic information. In 2010, every residence will receive a short questionnaire that is simple and fast to complete and return. More detailed information will be collected annually from a small percentage of the population through the American Community Survey.

The 2010 Census Timeline is as follows: February – March 2010, Census questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households. April 1, 2010, Census Day. April – July 2010, Census takers visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail. December 2010, Census Bureau delivers population counts to the President for apportionment. March 2011, Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states.



## Village Residents Recently Honored at Village Board Meetings



Mayor Baldermann, Mr. Paul Chen



Mr. Ed Selvas, Mayor Baldermann

In honor of Mr. Paul Chen being awarded the Department of Veterans Affairs Veteran of the Month for June 2009, Mayor Baldermann presented Mr. Chen a Key to the City at the July 13<sup>th</sup> Village Board Meeting.

In recognition for all of his efforts in volunteerism, Mr. Ed Selvas was honored with a plaque at the October 26<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting proclaiming the Village's appreciation for all that he does.

## LINCOLN HIGHWAY INTERPRETIVE GAZEBO COMPLETED



Construction of a Lincoln Highway interpretive gazebo along Route 30 on the campus of Lincoln-Way Central High School is now complete. The gazebo is one of 16 the Lincoln Highway Coalition is building in participating communities. Funding for the gazebos came from the Lincoln Highway Coalition as well as a 20% match from the Village. The coalition plans to build the gazebos statewide along Lincoln Highway, once known as "the most famous road in America." The Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition, which New Lenox joined in 1999, has been marketing the 179-mile route for more than 10 years. The group counts 34 towns along its Lincoln Highway corridor in its membership.



## Canadian National Railroad Update

The Village of New Lenox continues to work with the county and TRAC (The Regional Answer to Canadian National, a coalition of suburban communities that includes municipal and county leaders from Lake, Cook, McHenry, Kane, DuPage, and Will Counties) in fighting the Canadian National Railroad.

The Village is working with Will County since four out of the five roads that are in New Lenox area (Schoolhouse, Spencer, Cedar, and Gougar Roads) are in unincorporated New Lenox and the County has jurisdiction over them. We are still fighting for those items that we believe should be addressed such providing for an overpass or underpass on Gougar Road and providing for adequate noise mitigation to name a few items.

In a letter sent on October 14<sup>th</sup> by TRAC to the U.S. Surface Transportation Board (STB), communities who continue to scrutinize the impact of the CN/EJ&E acquisition asked the STB to increase oversight and become "further engaged" in the federal monitoring of a transaction that impacts more than one million Chicago area residents and businesses. The letter outlines close to 100 issues that were either not included in CN's required operating report to the STB or incidents that were brought to TRAC's attention by community members and first responders.

TRAC communities have outlined dozens of incidents in their letter to the STB that make it evident that CN is failing to meet the mitigation terms of the acquisition and continues to disregard public safety including derailments, grade crossing delays, excessive noise, vibration, idling, quiet zone violations, signage issues and environmental concerns. TRAC also outlined its concerns regarding the current monitoring system in its inadequacy in providing the public and the STB with a full understanding of the real world impacts ensuing from its decision to allow CN to purchase the line. Some of the requests in addressing the concerns are:

- In conjunction with TRAC, develop a more comprehensive monitoring system for the implementing of this transaction that enables the STB to fully understand the impacts of the transaction along the line.
- Respond to the TRAC request of June 30 regarding CN's safety record.
- Inform TRAC and the region as to whether the derailment pattern evidenced by CN in Illinois over the past year is considered normative.
- Require CN to install (at its cost) monitoring equipment that measures noise and vibration levels at hot spots along the EJ&E as identified by TRAC.
- Require that CN provide more complete and public-friendly descriptions in its monthly operations report instead of summarizing incidents as trains "went into emergency."
- In consultation with TRAC, require that a new independent third party consultant be engaged to monitor implementation.
- Require that CN document all the claims it has made thus far about remedying operational problems that TRAC has brought to its attention.

Residents are encouraged to continue to lodge their complaints regarding CN's operation, be it excessive idling, loud noise and vibrations, or excessive/loud train horns to name a few issues on the "register rail complaint" section of [www.fightrailcongestion.com](http://www.fightrailcongestion.com).

# Mayor Baldermann & The Village of New Lenox Say THANK YOU To Our 2009 Concert Sponsors



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## NEW LENOX TOWN CENTER UPDATE

As one drives along Route 30 just east of the viaduct, one cannot miss the massive project underway just north of the highway. Work on the New Lenox Town Center has begun. Once fully developed this retail center, located on the 72-acre site adjacent to Route 30 at Williams Street, will contain 450,000 square feet of retail store space. This development includes a 176,000 square foot Wal-Mart Supercenter with grocery store. The Wal-Mart Supercenter will be built in the company's latest architectural design with updated façade and features. A Menards Mega home improvement center (240,000 sq ft with 162,300 sq ft building) will anchor the eastern side of the development. Included in the Town Center is 82,000 sq ft of in-line retail stores and 12 out lots along Route 30 featuring smaller retail store and restaurants.

The Town Center's mass grading and installation of storm water sewer lines, water lines, and sanitary sewer lines have begun. The building pad for the Wal-Mart Supercenter has been started and should be completed before the beginning of winter. We should see the walls on the Wal-Mart Supercenter going up before the first of the year. The contractor for this center informed the village that he expects to have this building completed by early next fall.

Work on the other stores, including the Menards home improvement center will begin after the first of the year. As part of the project, the developer will install a traffic light at the intersection of Williams street and Route 30 as well as making additional improvements to Route 30.

## Silver Cross Medical Office Building Ribbon Cutting

On Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> the Village welcomed the opening of the new Silver Cross Medical Office Building. The 60,000 square-foot Medical Office Building opened on the Silver Cross Hospital campus located south and east of the I-355 / Route 6 interchange. Tenants in the Medical Office Building include Children's Memorial Outpatient Center, Silver Cross Center for Women's Health, Advanced Eye Care, Hinsdale Orthopedic Associates, Partners in Obstetrics & Women's Health, and Spectrum Eye Institute. We welcome these new service providers to our community.



Dan Miranda, *President, HSA Commercial Real Estate*, Daniel Gutierrez, *M.D., Chairman, Silver Cross Hospital Board of Directors*, Christine Radogno, *Illinois Senator, 41<sup>st</sup> District*, Paul Pawlak, *President/CEO, Silver Cross Hospital*, Timothy Baldermann, *Mayor, Village of New Lenox*.