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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
Laura Ruhl, Village Clerk
Annette Bowden, Trustee
David Butterfield, Trustee
Nancy Dye, Trustee
Keith Madsen, Trustee
David Smith, Trustee
Ray Tuminello, Trustee
Kurt T. Carroll Village Administrator
Village Information can be
found at www.newlenox.net
email: info@newlenox.net

VILLAGER

VILLAGE OF NEW LENOX INFORMATION NEWS July 2011

US Route 30 Reconstruction Project Update

The long-awaited U.S. Route 30 reconstruction project is now beginning. This State of Illinois project extends from Williams Street in New Lenox to Harlem Avenue in Frankfort. Design approval was received in October, 2003. The new roadway improvements have been designed using state-of-the-art highway standards to address specific needs of the roadway user. Upon completion, reconstructed US Route 30 will increase capacity, improve travel times, reduce congestion, and improve highway safety.

The project has been divided into two segments for construction, from Williams Street to US Route 45 and from US Route 45 to Harlem Avenue with concurrent starting dates. Date of completion is projected for Fall 2012 (weather permitting).

This construction project will provide two 12 ft. lanes in each direction separated by a 22 foot wide raised curb median throughout the limits. There will be an addition of a 12 ft. wide bi-directional turn lane utilized from Williams Street to the west entrance to Lincoln-Way High School. There will be noise walls installed at warranted locations between Williams Street to U.S. Route 45. There will be combination concrete curb and gutter with a new storm sewer drainage system and ditches to drain storm water. Finally there will be a 10 foot wide bike path and/or 5 foot wide sidewalk adjacent to the road on either side of the highway where requested by local agencies.

The construction project also includes new traffic signal installation and/or traffic signal modernization at the following intersections with Route 30: Marley Road, Schoolhouse Road, Vancina/Retail Drive, and Joliet Highway/West Circle.

The mainline reconstruction work will take place under a stage construction schedule. These stages include:

Pre-stage - Installation of temporary pavement and temporary traffic signals.

Stage One - Construction of the westbound lanes of US Route 30 and associated improvements. Traffic will be maintained with one lane in each direction on the existing pavement and temporary pavement installed in the Pre-Stage.

Stage Two - Construction of the eastbound lanes of US30 and associated improvements. Traffic will be maintained with one lane in each direction on the future westbound lanes installed in Stage One.

Stage Three - Construction of the median, turn lanes and miscellaneous items and landscaping.

Recently construction has begun on temporary drainage in advance of the temporary pavement on the south side of Route 30 required for the first stage of the project. When the temporary pavement is completed on the south side of Route 30, construction will begin on westbound lanes on the north side of Route 30. When the new pavement is completed on the north side of the road, traffic will be moved to the north side and the south side will be constructed. The traffic will then be moved to the correct side of the road and the median work will be completed. There will be one lane open in each direction with intermittent lane closures as required during the day. IDOT has a link on their website on the status of this project.

Please visit <http://www.dot.state.il.us/USRROUTE30/index.html>.

VILLAGE HIRES NEW ADMINISTRATOR

For the first time in 30 years, the Village has hired a new Village Administrator, replacing our former Village Administrator, Russ Loebe who retired after many years of service to the Village. Mr. Kurt T. Carroll officially started his duties at the helm of the Village on May 31, 2011. Mr. Carroll comes to New Lenox with much experience having spent the last ten years in the Village of Shorewood as its Village Administrator. Prior to his employment in Shorewood, Mr. Carroll was the Assistant Manager for the Town of Munster, Indiana. The Village Board and Village Staff welcome Kurt to New Lenox.

2011 STREET MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Each summer the Village completes its annual Street Maintenance Program using State collected Motor Fuel Tax funds. These funds are distributed to communities based on their population. This year's Street Maintenance Program includes the following sections of Village streets: Cattleman from Grand Mesa to south of Coyote Trail
Palmer Ranch from Coyote Trail to Grand Mesa
Sweetwater from Cattleman to Palmer Ranch
Grand Mesa from Nelson to Authur Pass
Authur Pass from Grand Mesa to Cul-de-Sac
Northgate from Joliet Highway to Stonegate
Sunset Trail from Cooper to Twilight Dawn Way from Sunset to Cul-de-Sac
Twilight from Sunset to Cul-de-Sac
Coventry from Gougar to Pine Grove
Lewis Lane from Coventry to Cul-de-Sac
Misty Creek from mid-block to Wildwood
Beech from mid-block to Wildwood
Kingsway partial section east of Daniel Lewis
Western from Joliet Highway to Woodlawn
Maintenance includes pavement heat scarification, grinding and overlay. This year's annual street maintenance program is scheduled to begin in late July and will be finished in August

Electric Power Aggregation Moves Forward



On April 5th Village voters passed the referendum that authorizes the Village to bid for the supply of electric power on behalf of residents and small commercial retail users. Known as Community Choice Aggregation, the goal of this program is to allow local governments to offer their residents the option of obtaining a cheaper energy supply. Currently New Lenox residents and small businesses receive their electricity through ComEd at a fixed rate.

Under Community Choice Aggregation, the Village bids for competing electric rates on behalf of its residents and small commercial retail users. Residents would still receive their electricity through the ComEd delivery system and would continue to receive customer service, such as billing and outage response through ComEd. In fact, the Village of New Lenox has been buying power this way for the last four years. The Village purchases power for our water pumping and street lighting on the open market, and it is then delivered by ComEd.

Similar to how the Village saves money on water pumping and street lighting, we are partnering with the Collaborative Inc. to solicit bids from several energy suppliers. The Village and NIMEC will analyze the bids and recommend a contract to the Board for approval later this summer.

On June 13th and again on June 20th the Village held the required Public Hearings on its Aggregation Program and its Electric Power Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance. These Public Hearings were required before proceeding with the actual bid process. The Village plans to complete the bid process in late June/early July with the goal of converting to the new electrical supplier in early September. For those residents wishing to keep ComEd as their electric supplier, there will be opportunities to "opt out" of the program, as prescribed by law. Customers will have chances to opt-out of the aggregation program, but must do so before the Village service begins. Customers will receive notice from the new supplier, whoever that may be, informing them of the opt-out period, who to contact, and how they must communicate their intention to opt-out. Notice will also be put on Village website updating our residents of the opt-out process.

In the unlikely case that the Village cannot purchase or negotiate lower rates than ComEd's rates, the residential and small business accounts would stay with ComEd, and ComEd would be both the power provider and the local distribution company. Either way, ComEd will be our distributor.

It is important to note that ComEd owns the distribution system only, and so does not realize profits or losses from the sale of energy. ComEd has worked for several years with large commercial and industrial customers who have switched to third-party energy suppliers, and remains supportive of other customers who switch to third-party suppliers. In other words, there will be no impact on distribution rates, per ICC regulations, ComEd cannot introduce any separate distribution fees on cities that aggregate.

Once again the Village does not profit from Community Choice Aggregation. The Village, as a governmental organization, is trying to take advantage of the new State law to benefit our residents and small business and save them money. Please visit the Village website, www.newlenox.net for future updates on the Electric Power Aggregation program.

NEW VILLAGE HALL HOURS.

Starting July 2nd the Village will no longer be offering Saturday Business Hours. Instead, the Village will be offering extended business hours on Wednesdays until 7:00 p.m.

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 larvicide 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.

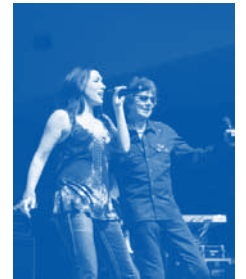
Residents who do not wish to have mosquito spraying done in front of their property or persons with respiratory problems wishing to be notified prior to spraying in their area, may call the Village Hall at (815) 462-6480. Further information about WNV can be found at the Will County Web Site at: www.willcountyhealth.org.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

Triple Play Concert Series Returns to the Commons



Photos by Treffly Coyne

The threat of thunderstorms did not keep over 4,400 spectators away from the summer kick-off of our Triple Play concerts.



After a quick thunderstorm that swept through the area on Saturday afternoon, June 4th, crowds began arriving at the Commons where they were treated to the music of Bernie Glim and Country Roads, M&R Rush and the headlining band, Starship featuring Mickey Thomas. The next Triple Play concert date is Saturday, August 6th and features Cheap Trick. The final Triple Play concert date for 2011 is Saturday, September 3rd and stars REO Speedwagon. Limited tickets for the concert series are still available at Village Hall for \$60.00. For more concert information, visit www.newlenox.net.



ROCKIN' RELAY – 2011

Relay for Life – New Lenox

FRIDAY, JULY 15TH THROUGH SATURDAY, JULY 16TH

Beginning at 6:00 p.m. on the 15th
Lincoln-Way West High School
21701 S. Gougar Road – New Lenox

One day. One night. One community. Your Relay for Life® is about Celebration, remembrance, and hope. By participating, you honor cancer survivors and raise money to help fight here in New Lenox.

- MOON WALK FOR KIDS!
- REFRESHMENTS & FOOD!
- LIVE BANDS!
- SILENT AUCTION!
- DJ!
- FUN FOR ALL!

For more information, please email April DiSandro at adisandro@newlenox.net Or call Nick DiSandro at (815) 603-1683 or visit www.relayforlifelenox.net.

on the web
www.newlenox.net
visit us on facebook

VILLAGE CONTINUES ITS 4TH OF JULY TRADITION



Come to the New Lenox Commons on Sunday, July 4th where you will be treated to an evening of family friendly activities. Starting at 7:00 p.m. young and old alike will enjoy the music of the blues rock band Valid Proof. Valid Proof will perform until 8:00 p.m. Getting into the patriotic theme of the evening, the Joliet American Legion Band will once again perform on the Common's stage starting at 8:30. 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 local Color Guards join with the Joliet American Legion Band Color Guard as they present the Colors to the audience. Prior to the Joliet American Legion Band performance, the New Lenox Lions will be drawing the lucky raffle ticket in their 55th Annual Sweepstakes.

The fireworks are scheduled to begin at 9:30 just west of the Commons Park.

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 6:30 p.m.

Village Welcomes Our New French Market



Residents visiting the area around 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 15th, residents can browse through the market stalls offering fresh produce, organic meats and eggs, hanging baskets, fresh cut flowers, and gourmet cheese from Wisconsin and Illinois. With the concept of the French Market, all vendors display their wares under rows of canopies. Besides farm products, our French Market also has bakery goods, gourmet vinegars and dressings, salsa and pesto available for purchase. Vendors selling food related gadgets and fine crafts also have stalls at the French Market. We even have a vendor that will cater to your dog and cat! In addition, a number of not-for-profit organizations will have stalls at the market.

Local vendors interested in participating in the market may contact Leslie Cahill, General Manager of French Market, Bensidoun USA at (312) 575-0294 or at Cbec@sbcglobal.net.

Mayor Baldermann Presents the New Lenox Experience

Mayor Tim Baldermann and NBA Star Dwyane Wade present the New Lenox Experience slated for Thursday, July 7th through Sunday, July 10th. The New Lenox Experience will take place at Lincoln-Way Central High School, 1801 E. Lincoln Highway. Starting on July 7th there are three 2-day camps featuring Chicago Superstars Dwyane Wade, Devin Hester and Jim Peterik. The three camps are: Old Spice Devin Hester Football Camp; Dwyane Wade Skills Academy; and New Lenox Music Camp with Jim Peterik, Inc. & special guest Bo Bice. Each camp hosted by the respective personality will feature 7 hours of expert instruction, camp t-shirt, camper gift bag, games and prizes. For more information on the three camps, including pricing and registration visit www.NewLenoxExperience.com.

Fun continues on Saturday, July 9th with the return of Kids' Fest. This year Kids' Fest will be held in conjunction with the New Lenox Experience at Lincoln-Way Central High School. Activities include a petting zoo, jumping castles, fire trucks, police children I.D.s and much more. Kids' Fest activities are scheduled from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Completing the fun at the New Lenox Experience at the Lincoln-Way High School is the addition of a carnival which runs from Thursday through Sunday. Carnival hours are Thursday, 5:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.; Friday 5:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.; Saturday 1:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Presale Mega Carnival Passes will be on sale at the Village Hall for \$40.00. Please visit our website, www.newlenox.net for more information.

Village Sponsors Blood Drive



During the summer months the amount of blood donated to local blood centers historically declines. However, the need for blood donations never takes a holiday. The Village is attempting to meet this challenge by sponsoring a community blood drive at the Village Hall on Saturday, July 30th. The Village is teaming up with Heartland Blood Centers and is inviting our residents to participate in this worthy cause. All of the blood donated goes to our area hospitals.

Village of New Lenox Community Blood Drive

Location: Community Room at the
New Lenox Village Hall
1 Veterans Parkway

Date: July 30, 2011

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

To schedule your appointment, please sign up online at www.heartlandbc.org or call the Village Hall at 815 462-6400.

Walk-ins are welcome
Photo ID is required

Every donor will receive a gift certificate for a Free quart of Oberweis ice cream.