

INSIDE

- PROPERTY
TAX REBATES



-CHRISTMAS
IN THE
COMMONS

-COPS CARE



Village Meeting Dates

Village Board meets the second 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 Carroll Village Administrator
Village Information can be found at www.newlenox.net
email: info@newlenox.net

VILLAGER

VILLAGE OF NEW LENOX INFORMATION NEWS Dec. 2011

Governor's Home Town Award

The Village is proud to announce that on October 26, 2011 the Village of New Lenox received a Governor's Home Town Award for its "Preparing Citizens for Emergencies and Disasters" program. The prestigious award was presented during a ceremony at the Executive Mansion in Springfield, IL and recognizes volunteers for their work to improve their communities. The Governor's Home Town Award is given annually.

This year's Governor's Home Town Award recipients were chosen by a group of volunteer judges who reviewed and ranked applications based on community need, use of resources and results. Projects were judged within their population category as well as within an assigned project category such as services and mentorship, memorials and monuments, parks and recreation, beautification and sustainability and history and preservation. The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Development oversees the Governor's Home Town Awards Program.

The New Lenox "Preparing Citizens for Emergencies and Disaster" program was created through the Village's Safe Communities America Coalition and Citizen Corps Council which is comprised of individuals representing over twenty community organizations in New Lenox and Will County. Safe Communities and Citizen Corps members are responsible for identifying injury prevention priorities, safety promotion, preparedness activities and assessment of these efforts within the community. In June 2010 the World Health Organization and National Safety Council designated the Village of New Lenox as a "Safe Community," the 9th community in the United States to achieve this designation. In September 2010 the New Lenox Citizen Corps Council received a National Citizen Corps Achievement



Left to right: Chief Bob Sterba, Public Safety Division Chief Daniel Martin, Village Administrator Kurt Carroll, Mayor Tim Baldermann, New Lenox CERT Members John Opoka and Assistant Director of Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity Dan Seals.

Award for work also related to preparing citizens for emergencies and disasters.

The New Lenox Police Department's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers also play an integral role in the "Preparing Citizens for Emergencies and Disasters." Since the CERT program's inception in September 2009, over 180 residents have completed the 20-hour Basic CERT Class which teaches citizens how to prepare for emergencies and disasters. Graduates of the program participate in ongoing training, volunteer their time at community events and stand ready to assist first responders during times of crisis. In October, fourteen members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC took first place in the Prairie State CERT Challenge, an event designed to test the skills of CERT teams throughout the state.

"We're very proud of all our volunteers who have dedicated their time and effort to make New Lenox a safe place to live and raise a family," said Mayor Tim Baldermann. "The Governor's Award is an achievement that we're very proud of and truly appreciate the efforts that our volunteers have put forth," Baldermann went on to say. Volunteers that contributed to the Governor's Home Town Award were also recognized at the November 14th Village Board Meeting.

COMMUNITY SHOWS OUTPOURING OF KINDNESS IN COPS CARE COAT DRIVE



The New Lenox Police Cadets were recognized at the November 16th District 122 School Board Meeting for their efforts in donating new school clothes and shoes to students in-need who attend New Lenox School District 122. The Village is proud of the generosity shown by these young men. Pictured are: (Back Row) Advisor Mark Hammond, Cadet Andy Bereta, Cadet Robert Maes, Cadet Ryan Darnell, Cadet Tom Rodeghier, and Advisor Michael Putrich. (Middle Row) Cadet Joe Leet, Cadet John Beck Cadet John Hillman and Cadet Vincent Schnayer. (Kneeling) Sgt. Justin Bennett and Sgt. Brandon Doyle.

The New Lenox Police Department is happy to report that the New Lenox Police Department's third annual coat drive was once again an 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. Over 2,100 coats were donated to this year's coat drive by New Lenox residents. The Village truly appreciates the community's generous outpouring of kindness to those less fortunate. Morning Star Treasure Chest II, 2571 East Lincoln Hwy., New Lenox, will also participate in this event. It will have coats available for anyone in need. Morning Star 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 are 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.

CHRISTMAS IN THE COMMONS DECEMBER 4TH, 2011

Come join the festivities in the New Lenox Commons.

See over 25 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.

Family entertainment during the afternoon includes free horse drawn wagon rides, 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, cookies, and popcorn 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. In keeping with the spirit of the season, the Village will be hosting a food drive for the local food pantry. Please bring non perishable food items to the Village Hall Dec 4th.

TICKETS FOR THE JIM PETERIK WORLD STAGE CONCERT ON SALE NOW

Mayor Baldermann and the Village Board announce the upcoming concert of Jim Peterik and World Stage at Lincoln Way West High School. Scheduled to appear at the Saturday, January 14th concert are Jim Peterik from the bands The Ides of March and Survivor, Rik Emmett from the band, Triumph, Kelly Keagy from the band Night Ranger, and Mike Reno from the band Loverboy. This supergroup will play hits from each of their respective bands. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. and promises to provide a great evening of classic rock and roll.

Reserved tickets are \$30.00 to \$60.00. Profits from this one night only concert will be donated to the Lincoln-Way High School District 210 Foundation for Educational Excellence. The mission of the Foundation is to creatively generate financial support with which to enrich and enhance the opportunities and educational experiences of Lincoln-Way High School District 210 students. The Foundation is committed to serving our community by funding programs and donating items that touch the lives of as many students as possible.



Reminder: Property Tax Rebate Application Due Back to Village Hall by December 15th.

The Mayor and the Village Board of Trustees are pleased to announce that the Village of New Lenox will again be refunding a percentage of the Village of New Lenox' portion of the 2010 property tax that were paid in 2011. **This year the Village Board increased the refund to 50% of the portion of the residential property tax paid to the Village of New Lenox.**

Property Tax Refund Program application packets were mailed to Village residents in late October.

Village homeowners who resided in their homes for all of all of 2010 and currently reside in the same home are eligible for a **50% rebate** on the Village portion of their property taxes.

The deadline to return the completed application and required documents to the Village Hall is **Thursday, December 15, 2011.**

The required documents that need to be submitted are:

- 1) Completed Property Tax Refund Application
- 2) Copy of 2010 Property Tax Bill
- 3) Copy of current driver's license or state identification card

Who Qualifies?

Residential properties only

- Owner resided in the home for all of 2010 and currently resides in the same home.
- The residential property qualified for the Homestead Exemption in 2010.
- No portion of the property was rented or leased in 2010.
- All 2010 property taxes (due in June & Sept. 2011) were paid in full.
- No past due balances (greater than 90 days) are due to the Village
(including utility bills, weed bills, police tickets, etc.)

How Much is the Refund?

50% of the Village of New Lenox portion of the tax bill

How Do I Obtain A Copy Of My 2010 Property Tax Bill?

There are two ways:

- Option #1: Print for free at www.willcountytreasurer.com
- Option #2: From the Will County Treasurer's Office for \$2 which is imposed by their office

Does This Refund Apply To Commercial, Industrial Or Rental Properties?

No, only owner-occupied residential properties that were occupied by the owners in 2010 and are currently occupying the same home to qualify for the **50% refund.**

When should I expect my refund?

The refund checks will be mailed by March 2012.



Early
 Voting

**Available
at the
Village
Hall**

The 2012 Primary Election is on Tuesday, March 20, 2012. As in past elections, early voting will be available at the Village Hall. The early voting for the 2012 Primary Election is scheduled for weekdays from Monday, February 27th through Thursday, March 15th. Hours for early voting are 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Absentee voting for the 2012 Primary Election is scheduled for Friday, March 16th. Hours for absentee voting are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Both early voting and absentee voting will be in the Community Room located on the first floor of the Village Hall, 1 Veterans Parkway.

Economic Development News

New businesses continue to open in New Lenox. This is a great sign of the stability and desirability of the community in the eyes of the developers and retailers, especially in the current economic climate. The New Lenox Town Center Development (Walmart anchored project) continues to see new construction and new retail businesses launch. On Thursday, November 17th, Aldi's opened its doors to customers. The 18,000 square foot retail store is a welcome addition to the New Lenox Town Center. Other businesses set to open at the shopping plaza include Discount Tires and Chase Bank, both with early December openings. Additionally, a 14,000 square foot Goodwill retail store is under construction with an anticipated early spring 2012 opening date.

Directly across the street on the south side of Route 30, the Provena Saint Joseph Medical Arts Pavilion is under construction. This 45,000 square feet facility will offer an immediate care center, state-of-the-art diagnostic imaging, and a comprehensive women's center. The Women's Center will feature a full range of services such as primary care, gynecology, general surgery, cardiology, urology, plastic surgery, and imaging services. Family medicine, from newborns to seniors, is available in the areas of internal medicine, cardiac services, and pediatrics. An Immediate Care Center will treat non-life threatening illnesses and injuries from fevers and sore throats to sprains and broken bones. Expect a spring 2012 opening.

Keep an eye out for "Notice New Lenox", a program designed to promote businesses in the Village. The cable program will spotlight both storefront and in-home businesses and will be traveling on-site to interview the business owners. The goal is to make everyone aware of what our businesses have to offer.

Everyone is well aware of the Route 30 construction that is affecting much of New Lenox already and will continue for the next 18 months. While it is easy to try and avoid Route 30 due to the inconvenience, our businesses greatly need your continued support during this difficult time.

At Route 6 and I-355 there is much activity. Road work is underway to improve Rt. 6 and install signals, and Silver Cross Hospital has set an opening date of February 26th. The Medical Services Building on the same campus is opening in December. At this point there are 30 different physician practices moving into the building, representing over 100 doctors in many areas of practice. Children's Memorial Out-Patient facility is already open and the University of Chicago Cancer Treatment Center is scheduled to open in March. All of these services coming to New Lenox will make the Village a premier healthcare community with not only superior quality but easy access for our residents.



U.S. ROUTE 30 RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT



Work continues on the State of Illinois Route 30 Reconstruction Project. Currently AT&T, Nicor, ComEd, and Comcast are working to complete all utility relocations by the end of the year. The contractor hired by the State, has started construction on temporary drainage improvements in advance of the required temporary pavement. They are also preparing to place some temporary pavement on the south side of RT 30 from Schoolhouse road to Vancina Lane. This work is scheduled to be completed by the middle of December. Once this temporary pavement is placed and pavement markings are completed, traffic will be shifted to the temporary pavement. The new traffic pattern in the area from Schoolhouse Road to the east will consist of one lane in each direction with left turn lanes at Schoolhouse Road, Vancina Lane, Joliet Highway and Bluestone Bay Drive.

The Illinois Department of Transportation, in an effort to improve safety for workers and motorists, has lowered the speed limit for the U.S. 30 work zone in New Lenox, Frankfort and Mokena to 35 mph. The reduction also means police can begin writing tickets in the work zone to drivers who are using cell phones, unless they are in a hands-free or voice-activated mode, even when workers are not present.

IDOT has a link on their website on the status of this project. Please visit <http://www.dot.state.il.us/USRROUTE30/index.html>. The State informed the Village that they are on schedule for a late 2012 completion.



REMINDER TO ALL VILLAGE RESIDENTS:

The Village is now offering extended business hours on **Wednesdays**. The Village Hall is now open until 7:00 p.m. each Wednesday evening. The Village is no longer offering Saturday business hours.



visit us on the web
www.newlenox.net.



Visit us on
Facebook