



NEW LENOX

VILLAGER

DESPITE PANDEMIC, CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES IN NEW LENOX

While 2020 has proven to be a challenging year in many ways, the COVID-19 pandemic, working from home, and remote learning did not slow construction in the Village of New Lenox!

Building permits have been issued for 116 new single-family homes and 8 townhomes since January 1st. Many residents took advantage of the quarantine to get caught up on home improvement projects. As of November 30th, more than 1,400 permits have been issued for windows, doors and siding, roofs, decks, driveways, fences and sheds; an increase from 873 permits issued during the first 11 months of 2019.

Silver Cross Hospital continues to expand, as it celebrates 125 years since it first opened in Joliet in 1895. The hospital is currently undergoing a 4-story hospital addition that will include a neonatal intensive care unit and operating rooms for cardiovascular surgeries.

Several new commercial projects were completed along U.S. Route 30 in 2020, such as Forever Family Dental, O'Reilly's Auto Parts, and the new Crash Champions facility. Life Storage opened up at Gougar Road and Haven Avenue.

45 new businesses have opened in the Village since January 1, 2020, including Joey's Redhots, Mainstream Boutique, OrangeTheory Fitness, Smoothie King, and Teardrop at the Library.



The Village also undertook important projects during 2020. The U.S. Route 30 Water Main Replacement Project involved the replacement of an aged water main from Nelson Road to Church Street. The new Metra Station and associated parking lot reconfigurations are near completion, and the station should be operational by the end of the year.

Some projects were understandably delayed, but look for Arby's and Pete's Fresh Market to begin construction in 2021!



4 STEPS TO BE "SALT SMART"



Together we can protect our local waterways by using the right amount of salt while keeping roads, driveways and sidewalks safe.

Step 1: Shovel First. Clear all snow from driveways and sidewalks before it turns to ice.

Step 2: Size-Up. More salt does not mean more melting. A 12-ounce coffee mug of salt should be enough for a 500 square foot driveway or about 10 sidewalk squares.

Step 3: Spread. Distribute salt evenly, not in clumps.

Step 4: Switch. Rock salt stops working if the temperature is below 15 degrees. When temperatures drop that low, switch to a different deicer formulated for colder temperatures.

For additional information, visit the Salt Smart Collaborative at

www.saltsmart.org as well as the Lower Des Plaines Watershed Group at www.lowerdesplaineswatershed.org/winter/.



Village Officials

Timothy Baldermann / Mayor
Laura Zilinskas / Village Clerk
Annette Bowden / Trustee
David Butterfield / Trustee
Douglas Finnegan / Trustee
Jasen Howard / Trustee
Keith Madsen / Trustee
David Smith / Trustee
Kurt T. Carroll / Village Administrator

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Village Meeting Dates

Village Board Meetings: Second and fourth Monday of each month at 7pm
Council of the Whole Meetings: Third Monday of each month at 7pm
Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals: First and third Tuesday of each month at 7pm.

All meetings are held in the Village Council Chambers at the Village Hall.

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.

New Lenox Village Hall

1 Veterans Parkway
New Lenox, IL 60451
815.462.6400
Hours: Mon. thru Fri. 8:30am-5:00pm

www.newlenox.net

NEW LENOX POLICE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

The New Lenox Police Department has seen some interesting changes in the last six months, as a new administration has assumed responsibility for the Department due to the recent retirements of Chief Bob Sterba and Chief April DiSandro. On November 3, 2020, Louis Alessandrini was sworn in as the new Police Chief.



Chief Louis Alessandrini was born and raised in Chicago Heights. In 1992, he began his career in Law Enforcement with the Chicago Heights Police Department as a desk clerk/dispatcher/9-1-1 operator. He was sworn in as a Chicago Heights Police Officer in 1995 and attended the Chicago Police Academy. From 1995 – 2000 he served in patrol, community policing

and on the special operations unit. In 2000, he was assigned to Investigations and remained in the unit until 2005. In 2005, Chief Alessandrini joined the New Lenox Police Department. The following year he was assigned to Investigations. Chief Alessandrini served on the South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force and became a supervisor on the team. In 2010 he was promoted to Sergeant and in 2017 he became Deputy Chief of Administration. He attended the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia and is a graduate of class #269. In 2020, he completed the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety Executive Management Program. Chief Alessandrini has been married to his wife Susan for 24 years and they have four children. In his spare time, he enjoys playing hockey. Chief Alessandrini is a member of the Knights of Columbus Local 997 and the Sons of Italy Lodge 1430.



Also newly sworn in is Deputy Chief Micah Nuesse. Deputy Chief Nuesse was hired by the New Lenox Police Department in 2007. While in the Patrol Division he filled roles as an Officer in Charge and a Field Training Officer. He was appointed to the Investigations Division and selected to become a member of the Will County SWAT Team in 2014. Deputy

Chief Nuesse was promoted to Sergeant in 2017 and led the Investigations Division, upon promotion. He completed Northwestern University's Center for Public Safety, School of Police Staff and Command in 2018, and holds a Bachelor of Science in Business with a concentration in Management and a Master of Science in Administration of Justice and Security. When he was promoted to Deputy Chief, he was assigned to the position of Deputy Chief of Administration. Prior to being hired by the NLPD, Deputy Chief Nuesse served in the United States Air Force for seven years as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician. In his spare time, he likes to spend time with his large family of seven. Deputy Chief Nuesse grew up in New Lenox and feels a strong desire to serve the community of New Lenox.

Deputy Chief Hilary Davis was sworn in on April 24, 2020, as the Deputy Chief of Operations. Deputy Chief Davis was



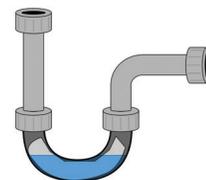
hired in 1997, and attended the Police Training Institute where she earned the Van Meter Award for top of her class. After working as a patrol officer, she was assigned to the Investigations Division as a Detective for seven years, where she served on both the South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force and the Will County Gang Suppression Unit, and was trained as a Certified Child Forensic

Interviewer. Deputy Chief Davis was promoted to Street Sergeant in 2006, appointed Administrative Sergeant in 2014, and then promoted to Administrative Commander in 2017, where she served as the departmental training coordinator, Master Firearms Instructor, and represented the department on the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police Traffic Safety Committee. She completed Northwestern University's Center for Public Safety, School of Police Staff and Command in 2011, where she served as Vice-President, and the FBI National Academy for Executive Leadership in Quantico, Virginia, in 2017. She has both a Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Criminal Justice. Deputy Chief Davis also grew up in New Lenox, and is honored to serve the residents of the community she loves.

The administrative staff at the New Lenox Police Department look forward to continuing the great service that has always been a priority at the department. They appreciate the support and encouragement received by this community and are proud of the work the officers do on a daily basis. It is an honor and a privilege for them to serve the Village of New Lenox.

SEWER TIP: P-TRAP REFILL

Every year the Village of New Lenox receives calls about weird smells in resident's homes. The majority of the time it's a simple fix and something all residents can and should do on an annual basis at a minimum. And that is to fill your P-Traps.



What is a P-Trap?

A P-Trap is a plumbing connection that is designed to hold water so that sewer gas doesn't come into your homes. Sinks, tubs, floor drains and any other fixture that connects to your home's sewer drain system should have a P-Trap.

Why is it dry?

Most P-Traps in your home will stay filled because you use that sink, tub or drain on a daily basis. Those traps will never dry out if used regularly. It's the drains that rarely get used that dry out. Oftentimes it's a basement shower, sink or utility sink that people don't use on a regular basis will dry out and let sewer gas into the home.

Just add water!

The simplest solution to rarely used drains is to just add some water. Run the shower or sink for a minute and that will refill your P-trap and stop those sewer gases from coming back into your house. Another option is to add a diluted bleach water mix to the drain, a mix of 20% bleach to 80% water would be sufficient. It won't last longer than just water but may add a fresher scent to the space.

The sewer department is available 24/7 365. Any time you

suspect a sewer issue, call the Village first to determine if the problem is located in the sewer main or your service line. During normal business hours you can call Public Works at (815) 215-4800. If your issue occurs after normal hours you can call the Village non-emergency number (815) 485-2500 and an employee will contact you.

SNOW REMOVAL

January, 2021 has arrived and for most of us not a minute too soon! Crisp, cold January brings a fresh slate filled with new resolutions and anticipations for a better year ahead. However, for the Public Works Department, January means having our snow fleet ready and waiting!

As always, the practice of shoveling or blowing snow from private driveways into public roadways is prohibited. These frozen snow piles cause a danger to traffic and make subsequent removal efforts difficult. We ask that when clearing your driveway and walkways, place the snow in your yard or in the parkway. Depositing snow back to the streets simply adds more to your drive after the next plowing cycle and is a hazard to motorists. We truly appreciate your cooperation and understanding keeping private drive snow off public streets.

Please remember to keep vehicles off the streets and roads during a snow storm. Failure to clear the entire road hinders further removal of snow and presents a hazard with the remaining snow once it freezes. When the forecast predicts 2" or more, ALL vehicles must be removed from the street. It's advisable to remove your vehicle as soon as it begins to snow for any winter storm and keep in mind many times snow arrives during the night and crews are already out with equipment. Village code provides for ticketing for both this ordinance and also for depositing snow in the street.

Village crews try their best to avoid hitting mailboxes, but sometimes damage will occur while clearing the streets of snow and ice. The force of heavy wet snow can result in toppling over a mailbox as well. Any mailbox that is damaged by the Village during a snow removal operation will be repaired or replaced with a temporary mailbox as soon as possible following the storm. If you incur damage from a plow please contact Public Works at (815) 215-4800 so it can be documented for repair. Please do not address concerns or damage to the drivers. Approaching the trucks is unsafe, especially in the slippery winter conditions.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation in keeping New Lenox streets and roads safe this winter.

True Fact: January is noted to having the coldest recorded temperature in Illinois at -38 degrees Fahrenheit on 1/31/2019 in Mt. Carroll Illinois.



NEWS FROM THE WATER DEPARTMENT

Red Ring In Toilet, Shower or Sink

Many questions have been raised regarding the pink ring or

film that appears from time to time in toilets, sinks, showers, and tubs. This is a bacteria known as *Serratia marcescens*. It grows in areas with materials containing phosphorous or fatty substances, such as feces. It also will grow in areas that have soap residue, namely showers, sinks, and tubs. The bacteria survive in these areas because the chlorine in your water dissipates as it sits, allowing the bacteria to grow. Flushing your toilets a couple times a day, and rinsing all soap residue from showers, and sinks will help to lessen these bacteria. Once you notice the bacteria, clean with a chlorine-based cleanser, or bleach. While these bacteria are generally harmless, it has been known to cause issues in hospital settings.



Black Sediment in Faucet

Some residents have asked questions regarding the black sediment that occasionally accumulates in the aerators on their sinks, or comes out in their bathtubs. This sediment usually comes from somewhere inside the home, although it can occasionally come from outside the home. First, we will talk about the causes inside the home.

One of the main causes is your hot water tank. Sediment will sink to the bottom of your water tank, which will cause your tank to work that much harder to produce hot water. As you drain the tank for a long shower, or bath the sediment will mix with the last amount of hot water and will then go to your fixtures. Manufacturers recommend flushing your hot water tank at least once a year. Another cause is from your pipes itself. Over time, especially in older homes that were once on well water, sediment builds up on the pipes. As water flows through these pipes, they will occasionally knock some of this sediment off. Another cause can actually be the fixture itself. Many fixtures have rubber rings that will, over time, gradually wear away, going into the aerator. Cleaning your aerators once a month is a good practice to reduce any particles going into your water.

There are also a couple ways that this sediment can come into your house from the public water supply. If there has been any hydrant flushing or a fire in your neighborhood, the water rushing through these pipes can knock sediment off the village water mains and into your home. Likewise, with water main breaks, the village will flush the mains through fire hydrants to make sure the water is clean. If you notice any of these situations occur in your area, run the water in a utility sink or bathtub, something without an aerator, until the water clears up.

If anyone has any questions, feel free to contact the Water Department at (815) 215-4800.

Route 30 Water Main Replacement

The Village of New Lenox would like to thank all of the residents who were impacted during the Route 30 Water Main Replacement project. This was a much-needed upgrade and will provide better service to the residents with fewer interruptions due to water main breaks. Full landscape restoration, and final pavement restoration on Route 30 will take place in the spring. Feel free to call Public Works at (815) 215-4800, to add your name to the list if you have any dirt settling or other issues.

OPEN NOW

Anointed Hands Physical Therapy

1316 N. Cedar Road (on the north end of the strip mall at Cedar & Francis Roads). Anointed Hands offers physical therapy services, massages, foot detox, and Pilates.
www.myahpt.com

Embracing Life 352 W. Maple, Suite C (in the same strip mall as Ace Hardware) is a life coach.

www.embracinglife365.com

Forever Family Dental 202 Vancina Lane (behind Five Guys Burgers & Fries Restaurant on Route 30). Forever Family Dental is a general practitioner dental practice.

www.familydentistnewlenox.com

Innovative Custom Homes 1005 W. Laraway Rd. (in the strip mall northwest of Nelson & Laraway Roads) builds custom homes and remodels existing residential and commercial properties.

<https://innovativecustomhomes.business.site>

Raffy's Candy Store 838 W. Laraway Rd. (in the same strip mall east of CVS). Raffy's has opened a second location in New Lenox and will sell candy, popcorn, and nuts. Visit Raffy's Candy Store on Facebook.

Training Social 304 W. Maple St. (on the southwest corner of Route 30 and Oak Drive). Training Social is a private personal training facility that offers one-on-one and small group personal training sessions. Contact the facility at thebodyarchitects101@yahoo.com

NEW OWNERS

Mo's 3 Chinese Kitchen

2417 E. Joliet Hwy. (in the same plaza as Bulldog Alehouse).
www.moskitchen3.com



COMING SOON

Innovative Kitchen & Bath, LLC 1005 W. Laraway Rd. will sell quality cabinets to the general public. <https://ishopininnovative.business.site> Tentative Opening: January, 2021.

Maci James Hair Salon 302 W. Maple St. (on the southwest corner of Route 30 and Oak Drive). The salon will offer cutting and coloring services. Contact the salon at 779-875-1173. Tentative Opening: January 5, 2021.

VINO 647 E. Lincoln Hwy. (in the same plaza as MOD Pizza and Chipotle on Route 30). VINO is a wine bar that will have video gaming. Tentative Opening: Dependent upon State's reopening of gaming.

"RESTAURANT WEEK" IS SUCCESSFUL - THANKS TO RESIDENTS!

The Village and the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce wish to express their appreciation to all residents who supported local eating and drinking establishments in October during Restaurant Week. Of the 22 participating establishments, survey results proved that 90% of the restaurants received more customer business through the promotion. It's a win-win when residents eat and drink local to support businesses in the Village!



CHRISTMAS IN THE COMMONS

After a difficult year, New Lenox residents were offered a chance to forget the tough times of 2020 by getting lost in the magic of the holiday season with Christmas in the Commons. On Saturdays and Sundays throughout the month of December, the Village Commons was filled with activities to accompany the dazzling display of holiday lights.

With safety at the forefront of the 2020 events, activities looked differently than they had in the past. It took additional effort from a great number of people to make these events happen in a safe and responsible way. The utmost thanks and gratitude go out to all who made them possible, including Village of New Lenox staff, C.E.R.T., E.S.D.A., and the New Lenox Community Park District. Additional thanks to our incredibly generous sponsors, including Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd., SPACEO, Homewood Disposal, HR Green, Silver Cross Hospital, Old Plank Trail Community Bank, Strand Associates, Image360 Mokena, Kurtz Memorial Chapel, LincolnWay Community Bank, Burns Photography, and Fleckenstein's Bakery. Without the support of these wonderful people and organizations, these events would not be possible.

We hope that all those who came out to the Village Commons during the holiday season enjoyed a respite from the challenges of the year. We look forward to seeing you again in 2021!

FREE NARCAN® (NALOXONE) TRAINING

The New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition, in partnership with the Will County Executive's Office, is offering FREE Narcan® training on Monday, January 25, 2021 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm, via Zoom.

Narcan® (Naloxone) is a medicine that blocks the effects of opioids and reverses a drug overdose. The combination of training and having a Narcan® Nasal Spray Kit can save a life!

Dr. Kathleen Burke, Director of Will County Office of Substance Use Initiatives, will be the instructor for this class. Dr. Burke will also provide everyone in attendance with a Narcan® Nasal Spray Kit, upon completion of the training. Arrangements for the pick-up of the kits will be announced during the Zoom videoconference.

For additional questions or to register, contact Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, via email dmartin@newlenox.net or by phone (815) 462-6493.

safe
COMMUNITIES
AMERICA.
NEW LENOX, IL

