



NEW LENOX

VILLAGER

SCARECROW STROLL



The Village of New Lenox is proud to partner with the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce to offer Scarecrow Stroll in the Village Commons for its fifth year! Local businesses and organizations are invited to create a scarecrow to be included on a path throughout the Commons. Scarecrow Stroll is a standing public display, available for free viewing at any time from October 19 through November 1. Organizations that are interested in creating a display may visit newlenox.net/scarecrow no later than October 5 to register for a space. For more information, please visit newlenox.net/scarecrow or call (815) 462-6438.

PUMPKIN SMASH



Pumpkin Smash returns to the Village Commons on Saturday, November 8, offering an environmentally friendly (not to mention FUN!) way to dispose of your pumpkins after Halloween. From 9:00 a.m. until noon, residents can bring their pumpkins to the Commons to drop off for composting. By composting pumpkins instead of sending them to landfills, we not only reduce the amount of waste in landfills, but we also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce the amount of water in landfills, where it has to be monitored to avoid groundwater contamination. Residents may simply drop their pumpkins off or may stick around to try out some of the fun ways we have for their pumpkins to be smashed. Find full details about Pumpkin Smash by visiting newlenox.net/smash.

CHRISTMAS IN THE COMMONS



The Village of New Lenox will again be celebrating the holiday season with Christmas in the Commons, bringing a magical light display and accompanying activities and entertainment to the New Lenox Village Commons throughout the month of December. The stunning light display will return to the Village Commons, creating a magical landscape adorned with lights and highlighted by 3D displays that make for amazing photo opportunities. The star of the show, as always, is the largest illuminated Santa Claus in the United States, standing nearly 50 feet tall and covered in 18,500 LED lights. Standing alongside Santa this year will be a BIG new friend (but you'll need to visit

Village Officials

- Timothy Baldermann / Mayor
- Laura Zilinskas / Village Clerk
- Katie Christopherson / Trustee
- Amy Gugliuzza / Trustee
- Keith Madsen / Trustee
- Lindsay Scalise / Trustee
- Bryan Reiser / Trustee
- Jim Wilson / 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 and the Village's website, www.newlenox.net/agenda

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

the Commons in December for his exciting reveal!). Santa will again be accompanied by his special mailbox, and all letters submitted by December 18 will receive a response from Santa. Christmas in the Commons will feature a calendar of events on Saturdays and Sundays from December 6 through December 21. Each of these dates will include the holiday market, visits with Santa, horse-drawn wagon rides, souvenir mugs and hot cocoa, and much more. Full details and a complete schedule will be posted at newlenox.net/christmas as they are confirmed.

CEDAR & HAVEN ROUNDABOUT

Construction on the new single-lane Roundabout at the intersection of Cedar Road and Haven Avenue will be completed later this fall. As the opening of the roundabout nears, educational information regarding traffic safety while utilizing a roundabout will be posted to the Village Website.



How to Safely Navigate the New Roundabout at Cedar Road and Haven Avenue:

As you approach the roundabout, slow down and follow all posted signs and pavement markings. Yield to pedestrians and bicyclists in the crosswalk before entering. Remember, all traffic already in the roundabout has the right of way. Enter only when there is a safe gap, and continue counterclockwise without stopping.

When exiting, yield again to pedestrians and bicyclists in the crosswalk. The roundabout's design—including the center island, raised median, crosswalks, and truck apron—helps ensure safer and more efficient travel for everyone. By following these simple steps, drivers can keep traffic moving smoothly while staying safe.

CONGRATS TO OUR NEW POLICE CHIEF AND DEPUTY CHIEF!

Deputy Chief Micah Nuesse was recently named Chief of Police for the Village of New Lenox Police Department. This promotion is the result of the recent retirement of Chief Louis Alessandrini. After a 30-year career, we wish Chief Alessandrini a happy retirement. Chief Nuesse has a solid connection with New Lenox as he moved here in 1985. He attended Lincoln-Way Central High School and Joliet Junior College before



entering the United States Air Force in 1998. Shortly after serving seven years in the Air Force, he started his Law Enforcement career with the New Lenox Police Department in 2007. Chief Nuesse has held numerous roles within the PD, including patrolman, field training officer, detective, SWAT Team member, and department-wide trainer. He was promoted to Detective Sergeant in 2017 and was sworn in as a Deputy Chief in 2020. Chief Nuesse believes in continual education and holds a master's degree in Public Safety and Administration. He attended the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety School of Police Staff & Command in 2018 and graduated from the prestigious FBI National Academy in 2024.



Nuesse named Detective Sergeant Brandon Tilton as the new Deputy Chief of Operations. Deputy Chief Tilton was raised in South Chicago Heights and graduated from Marian Catholic High School in 2009. He went on to attend Lewis University, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice. While attending college, he enlisted in the US Army Reserves as a medic and was honorably discharged at the rank of Sergeant in 2020. Deputy Chief Tilton started his law enforcement career in 2012 with the South Chicago Heights Police Department. He was hired by the New Lenox Police Department in 2015 and has held numerous roles within the PD, including patrolman, detective, SWAT Team member, field training officer, department-wide trainer, firearms instructor, patrol sergeant, and investigations sergeant.

THE NEW LENOX SPORTS COMPLEX IS UP AND RUNNING



New Lenox is a village on the rise, and there's no better proof than the remarkable success of the new Wintrust Crossroads Sports Complex. This 100-acre, state-of-the-art facility has not only met expectations but has far exceeded them, already doubling sponsorship projections and exceeding initial visitor spending forecasts. The complex is now a regional destination for youth sports tournaments, with every weekend booked through at least June 2026. This incredible demand is a testament to the community's investment and forward-thinking design.

Beyond the fields, the development is poised to become a dining and entertainment hub. The site includes 14 acres dedicated to future restaurants, retail, and hotels. Among

these exciting new additions, the “Coors Light Chill Zone” has already become a fan favorite. Local residents agree that the burgers are unbelievable, and it’s the perfect place to grab a cold drink after a long day of cheering on the team. With its delicious food, refreshing beverages, and welcoming vibe, the “Coors Light Chill Zone” is quickly establishing itself as a key part of the Wintrust Crossroads experience.

And you thought it couldn’t get any better? Get ready for more as The Chill Zone is expanding its menu and extending its hours, so you’ll have even more to love. Stay tuned for details and visit us at www.newlenoxcrossroads.com

SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER THROUGH THE ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

The Village of New Lenox invites community members to help make the holiday season brighter for local families in need through the 2025 Adopt-A-Family Program. This initiative matches sponsors—whether individuals, families, businesses, or community groups—with families living in the Lincoln-Way area who may not otherwise have the resources to purchase gifts and basic necessities during the holidays. Sponsors receive a personalized wish-list for each family member, offering guidance on meaningful and much-needed gifts. For many families, these will be the only presents they receive.



Sponsors are asked to spend at least \$100 per family member to ensure equity and quality across all adopted families. In addition to wrapped and labeled gifts, non-perishable foods, household supplies, and personal care items are always appreciated. By participating, you’ll not only provide essential items and holiday cheer but also remind local families that they are supported by a caring community. For questions, please contact Megan Applegate at (815) 462-6427 or mapplegate@newlenox.net. Together, we can make this season brighter for our neighbors.

FALL LEAF COLLECTION PROGRAM

The Village of New Lenox provides a Residential Leaf Vacuuming Program every fall. The 2025 leaf vacuuming program will run weather permitting, beginning Monday, October 6th, through November 29th.



The goal is to collect the leaves at least once a week. The length of each rotation is based on the volume of leaves crews encounter and some rotations may take more than one week to complete. Weather and equipment function also come into play. Due to these factors, pick-up dates in your area will vary each week; therefore, no ‘scheduled’ pickups are possible. Unlike the Branch Pick-Up Program, you do NOT have to call

the Public Works Department for this service.

Please follow these helpful guidelines to ensure that this service will operate quickly, safely, and efficiently:

Place leaves on the parkway parallel to the street and immediately behind the curb or the edge of pavement. Leaves must not be placed in the street or in the curb/gutter. If the leaves are placed in the street or gutter, they have a greater chance of blowing and will obstruct the flow of storm water and cause street flooding during rain events.

Do not include any debris such as garden materials, brush, dead potted plants, cans, paper, bottles, etc. These foreign materials can cause damage to leaf collection personnel and equipment.

Do not place leaves behind or around obstacles such as: parked cars, trees, mailboxes, fire hydrants, streetlights, etc-

- Reasons for not picking up leaves could include:
- Placed too far from the parkway
- There are branches, twigs, or dead potted plants mixed in
- Parked car(s) were blocking the area where the leaves were placed
- Inclement weather
- Equipment failure

Crews are inundated and the removal process is going slowly

Alternative Options are also encouraged. In some neighborhoods where trees are not mature, utilizing a mulching lawn mower adds the leaves back into the lawn, providing nutrients to the soil.

Nu-Way will also pick up leaves placed in the Kraft-type paper bags free of charge (NO stickers required). This service is offered from October 22nd– November 29th.

The bags will be picked up on whichever dates fall on your regularly scheduled garbage pick-up day - Leaves Only. In addition to the free leaf collection for bagged leaves, the Village offers ten free yard-waste bags per fall for our senior citizens' households (65 and older), which may be picked up at the Village Hall in early October. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please call the Public Works Department at (815) 215-4800.

TOWER-BASED METER READING SYSTEM

The Village of New Lenox installed a new tower-based meter reading system. This system allows us to read meters remotely without the need to drive by each resident’s home. There are also many benefits to the residents. With the new system, we are able to get on-demand reads, so you can call us at any time, and we will be able to give you your current read. We are also able to obtain hourly reads, which will be able to

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tell residents when water was used and how much per hour. This new system also alerts the Village of New Lenox when excessive water is being used. We are then able to notify our residents that they may have a toilet running, a spigot left on, etc.



OLD-REPLACE



NEW

In order to receive these benefits, residents must have a newer meter installed. Your water meter is most often located in your basement or crawl space. If you have a plastic-looking meter, then you are all set. If you have a brass meter, we urge you to call Utility Billing at (815) 462-6440 to schedule an appointment to have a new meter installed. Once again, we do not receive alerts on the older meters. If you have any questions regarding this new program, please call Public Works at (815) 215-4800.

NOTE:

Businesses are published once they register with the Village of New Lenox. Residents may hear that an establishment is forthcoming to the Village but it is not publicized until a completed registration is submitted.

BEST MUNICIPALITY AWARD:

For the fifth consecutive year, the Village of New Lenox was recognized as the "Best Municipality" in Shaw Media's Best of Lincoln-Way Readers' Choice Awards. New Lenox is a great community with great people, and we are pleased to have it recognized. Thank you to all who voted!

OPEN NOW:

ACE & VINE IV, INC., 832 W. Laraway (in the strip mall with Gina's Teardrop Café) is a wine bar with video gaming.

CHERYL GLEASON CONSULTING is a home-based business which is a full-service marketing agency. The consulting firm specializes in strategic marketing, CRM (Customer Relationship Management) optimization, eCommerce transformation, and B2B channel management to effectively manage various marketing and sales channels a company uses to reach other businesses. Contact through



website: <https://www.cherylgleasonconsulting.com>

FIRST RESPONSE THERAPY, PLLC, 1938 E. Lincoln Hwy., Suite 209C (in the Town Center/Atrium Point Building on Schoolhouse Road and Route 30) provides mental health counseling and therapy services to first responders and non-first responders in the community. Contact through website: www.firstresponsetherapypllc.com

JACK IN THE BOX #4224, 672 E. Lincoln Hwy. (in the building formerly housed by Arby's) is a fast-food restaurant. www.jackinthe-box.com

MATTHEW GANSER FARMERS INSURANCE, 124 W. Illinois Hwy., (in the same plaza as Rising Sun Restaurant). The office sells and manages home, auto, commercial, and life insurance policies. 708-465-4563 or mganser@farmersagent.com

NICKY V'S NEW LENOX, 21950 Howell Dr. – Unit 1 (in the space formerly housed by The Pony Express off Schoolhouse Road) is a carryout restaurant with gaming. Contact through website: www.hotdoggoat.com

S & T TOO PIZZA, 336 W. Maple St., Unit 4 (in the plaza on the southeast corner of Route 30 and Vine St.) has been serving its pizza setups, world-famous meatball mix, homemade sausage, and imported pasta for over 60 years. sandtnewlenox@gmail.com

NEW OWNERS:

UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

RANCH FROSTIE, 1259 N. Cedar Rd., is now owned by Jackie Potocki.

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THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN RESTAURANT WEEK.

The Village and New Lenox Chamber of Commerce co-hosted Restaurant Week from September 2, 2025, through September 9th. There were 26 local eating establishments that offered discounts and specials during the week-long promotion. We are so appreciative of residents who patronized these local establishments!