



NEW LENOX

# VILLAGER

## SUMMER EVENTS



The Village of New Lenox has another summer full of fun planned for the New Lenox Village Commons! **Fridays After Five** will return on select Friday evenings throughout the summer. These events feature an assortment of food trucks offering mouth-watering dishes that can be enjoyed while taking in some live music. Fans of classic cars will be happy to know that **Cruise the Commons** is returning this year, again taking place on the third Tuesday of the month from May through September. **Live on the Lawn** will return with even more events this year as we showcase the talent that can be found throughout the Lincoln Way area. Fun for children can be found at **Play Day in the Commons**, a day full of activities and entertainment for our youngest residents. Join us for bounce houses, character visits, the Young Entrepreneurs Fair, and more. And we are very excited to share that **Food Fight: Taco Fest** will return for another year after its successful debut last summer. Local restaurants and food trucks will again be invited to put up their best taco for attendees to vote on, and the event will also include live music, fun for kids, and plenty of special activities.

All the details on these and the rest of our events will be shared on [newlenox.net/events](http://newlenox.net/events) as soon as they are available. If you'd like to receive monthly updates about what's happening in the Commons, you can also sign up for our monthly email newsletter by visiting [newlenox.net/events](http://newlenox.net/events).

## MOVIE NIGHTS

The Village of New Lenox is excited to bring Movie Nights back to the Village Commons this year, continuing



a favorite summertime tradition. On Wednesday evenings, grab your blankets and lawn chairs and join us for a free evening of fun under the stars and in front of the big screen. Concessions will be available for sale courtesy of the New Lenox Community Park District.

Movie Nights take place from June 5 through August 14. The full lineup will be shared at [newlenox.net/events](http://newlenox.net/events) as soon as it is available.

## DEPUTY CHIEF MICAH NUESSE COMPLETES FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY TRAINING

Deputy Chief Micah Nuesse was among the 198 law enforcement officers who graduated on Friday, March 15th, 2024 from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. The 289th session of the National Academy consisted of law enforcement officers from all over the United States and twenty-five other countries. FBI Director Christopher Wray delivered remarks at the ceremony



Internationally known for its academic excellence, the National Academy offers 10 weeks of advanced communication, leadership, and fitness training. Participants must have proven records as professionals within their agencies to attend. On average, these officers have 21 years of law enforcement experience and usually return to their agencies to serve in executive-level positions.



Training for the program is provided by the FBI Academy instructional staff, Special Agents, and other staff members holding advanced degrees, many of whom are recognized internationally in their fields of expertise.

Almost 55,000 graduates have completed the FBI National Academy since it began in 1935. The National Academy is held at the FBI Training Academy in Quantico, the same facility where the FBI trains its new special agents and intelligence analysts.

## Village Officials

Timothy Baldermann / Mayor  
 Laura Zilinskas / Village Clerk  
 Katie Christopherson / Trustee  
 Amy Gugliuzza / Trustee  
 Keith Madsen / Trustee  
 Lindsay Scalise / Trustee  
 David Smith / 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](http://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](http://www.newlenox.net)

## BRANCH PICK-UP

Branch Pick-up will resume the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays starting April 2nd continuing through October 15th of 2024. This program is extremely popular answering over 1,200 requests last year. Please refresh yourself with these helpful guidelines to ensure that this service will operate quickly and efficiently:



- Residents need to contact the Public Works Department by calling 815.215.4800 to be placed on the list **each time** they need a pick-up. Please note: *Residents may see branches in their neighbor's parkway and assume crews will get theirs as well, but unless their address is on the list they will not be picked up.*
- **Please allow a 2-3-day buffer for pick-up.** High-volume requests cannot be done in one day, but we will continue where crews left off the following day(s) until completed.
- Branches must be placed in the parkway as crews will not encroach on private property to remove branches.
- Please **DO NOT** tie or bundle branches.
- Please place branches with thorns in a separate pile.
- Only branches 1 inch in diameter or larger will be picked up and at least 2 ft in length, as smaller materials do not go through the chipper properly. The Maximum diameter size is 12 inches (this is a branch pick-up service, not a tree removal service).
- When placing the branches in the parkway, do not block the sidewalk, streetlight base, fire hydrants, or manholes.
- Place the cut ends of the branches towards the street.
- For longer branches that may block the sidewalk, we will require the cut ends of the branches to be pointing to the left side of your property as you face your property from the curb. When the chipper pulls up to your home, the chipper opening will be facing the cut ends of the branches. This allows our crews to load the branches safely and efficiently.
- Materials that **WILL NOT** be picked up include but are not limited to railroad ties, wood telephone poles, construction material, lumber stones, roots or root balls, vines, dirt, nails, and metal. These materials will damage our equipment and present unsafe conditions for Village crews and the general public.

For any storms with wind gusts reaching 50mph and storms declared a disaster, the Village will be out patrolling the town for damage. You do not need to call in to schedule a pick-up in that scenario, as Public Works will be out continuously till the Village is cleaned up.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please call the Public Works Department at 815 215-4800.

## COLLECTION SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

The Sewer Department will start its annual inspection and maintenance program in the spring and continue through the fall. Sewer line cleaning, televising, manhole inspections, and most manhole repairs are all done in-house. We don't anticipate any disruption to your sewer services or traffic.



In 2024 we will complete sewer line cleaning and televising

east of Cedar Rd. between Illinois Hwy and Rt. 30 before moving onto subdivisions North and South of Laraway Road starting in Heather Glen, Sky Harbor, and working West. Sewer lines are thoroughly cleaned to remove any debris that could potentially cause a blockage and make it easier for the television crew to inspect the lines for defects.

Crews will be South of Rt. 30 between S. Prairie Rd. and Wildwood Dr for manhole inspections. They will be inspecting the manholes for signs of inflow and infiltration (I&I) of groundwater since manholes are a major source of I&I. Over time leaks can develop from manhole ring connections, stub-outs, precast joints, loose mortar, and cracks caused by shifting and expanding soil along with subsidence from traffic loading. We also look for Hydrogen Sulfide damage. We have found that regularly inspecting every manhole in town and making necessary repairs greatly reduces our I&I at a low cost.



Manhole repairs will be taking place in a 1.5-mile radius from Cedar Rd. to the Rt. 30 intersection.

Cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) repairs also take place every year by an outside contractor, where we find repairs that need to be made through our in-house televising program. CIPP is a technique for repairing leaks or restoring structural stability to an existing pipeline. CIPP is completed by installing a smaller, carrier pipe into a larger host pipe, grouting the annular space between the two pipes, and sealing the ends. The trenchless method is generally a cost-effective rehabilitation method to replace water and sewer mains. This work was completed in March 2024.

The sewer department is available 24/7, 365 days per year. 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, call the Village Non-emergency number (815) 485-2500 and an employee will contact you.

## LOYALTY DAY PARADE

The Village of New Lenox is excited to announce the return of the annual William A. Athans 18th District VFW Posts' Loyalty Day Parade. The parade, now in its 44th year, will be taking place on Sunday, May 5th with a 2:00 p.m. kick-off. The parade route begins at 4th Ave. and Cedar, travels north to Haven and then heads west, ending in the New Lenox Village Commons.



Loyalty Day, a national holiday taking place annually on May 1st is a day reserved for showing our loyalty to our country and recognizing the heritage of American freedom. As the Home of Proud Americans, New Lenox is honored to be able to celebrate our country, our flag, and all those who have served or currently serve in our Armed Forces with this annual event. Registration is still open for groups who are interested in participating through April 19th. The registration form can be found at [www.newlenox.net/events](http://www.newlenox.net/events). Whether it's as a participant or as a viewer, we hope you can join us for the festivities!

## NLPD INTRODUCES REACH PROGRAM

The New Lenox Police Department implemented a new community-oriented program called REACH (Resident Engagement and Community Health). Family members and friends may be worried about their loved ones who struggle with Alzheimer's, Dementia, Autism Spectrum Disorder, developmental or intellectual delays, and mental illness. Often, these conditions place individuals at a higher probability of interacting with first responders. The New Lenox Police Department's REACH Program was developed in response to the increased need of New Lenox residents who require extra care when interacting with first responders. The REACH Program allows residents to voluntarily provide the New Lenox Police Department with crucial information to be utilized in medical or other types of emergencies. By having this information before an emergency occurs, the New Lenox Police Department can proactively work to keep our community members safer.

The information gathered for the REACH Program includes emergency contact information, medical conditions, special considerations or habits, and an up-to-date photo. New Lenox Police officers will have quick access to the information through a web-based portal. This database can be used for a variety of police calls for service. If a resident in the database is reported missing, the officers can review the photo and the special considerations and habits to familiarize themselves with the missing person's appearance and potential places to search. If located, the officer will have emergency, family, and doctor contact information readily available. The officer will also have access to information regarding the resident's diagnosed medical condition, which is valuable in determining how the officer will engage with the resident; like refraining from introducing flashing lights or loud noises if they are known to overstimulate the resident.

The New Lenox Police Department is encouraging residents with family members who may need extra care to complete an application so that we may better serve the community. Applications are available on the New Lenox Police Department's website under "Forms," or in person at the front desk of the New Lenox Police Department. Completed applications may be mailed or dropped off at the NLPD, or emailed to Police Social Worker Ariel Ruttenberg at [aruttenberg@newlenox.net](mailto:aruttenberg@newlenox.net). Upon receipt of the application, you will be contacted by Police Social Worker Ruttenberg to confirm the information provided in the application and complete enrollment.

## SEVERE WEATHER SPOTTER TRAINING HEALTH AND SAFETY EXPO "TOUCH-A-TRUCK"

The Village of New Lenox and the New Lenox Safe Community Coalition are pleased to announce that the 2024 Severe Weather Spotter Training, Health and Safety Expo, and "Touch-a-Truck" event will be held on Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at Lincoln-Way West High School, 21701 Gougar Road. Please use the entrance off Gougar Road for this event, which is free and intended for all ages.

The Health and Safety Expo will be held from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the area just outside the auditorium. Approximately 50 organizations from the health, safety, fitness, preparedness, and emergency response sectors will be on hand. Information, literature, and giveaways will be available to guests.

The "Touch-a-Truck" portion of the event will be held from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm near the main entrance to the auditorium and in the parking lot just south of the auditorium. Many types of vehicles will be on display for families to enjoy. There will be demonstrations and representatives on hand to answer questions about the vehicles and apparatus.

The Severe Weather Spotter Training will be held in the auditorium from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. *Immediately following the Severe Weather Spotter Training, door prizes will be given out as compliments of the participating organizations. Everyone in attendance will be given a raffle ticket for a chance to win some great stuff.*

The training provides those in attendance with information on what to look for during severe weather season. Attendees will learn about:

- Thunderstorms – lightning, hail, damaging winds, flash flooding and tornadoes;
- Facts and myths about severe weather hazards that impact our area;
- Advisories, watches, and warnings;
- How and where weather spotters can report information from the safety of their homes; and
- Steps that can be taken to prepare for severe weather.

This program is perfect for students, parents, scouting groups, amateur radio operators, emergency services, public works, police, fire, schools, and anyone else wishing to learn about severe weather.

Special thanks to Lincoln-Way Community High School District #210 and Lincoln-Way West High School for hosting. In addition, special thanks to the National Weather Service Chicago Office for offering this training.

For additional information or questions, please contact Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, at (815) 462-6493 or via email at [dmartin@newlenox.net](mailto:dmartin@newlenox.net).

## WATER TANK CLEANING



The Joliet Highway Standpipe holds 2.5 million gallons. This water tank is slated to get cleaned in late March or early April depending on the weather. The cleaning of this tank will have no effect on the residents as the tower will stay full of water and in operation during the outside cleaning.

Spencer Road Storage Tank stores 5 million Gallons. This water tank is slated to get cleaned and a fresh coat of paint. This project should start in April and be completed in May. This will require the water tank to be "Out of Service" during the project. This will not affect any residents since it is only a Storage Tank and will be thoroughly tested before being put back into operation.



## INCREASED WATER USAGE

The Village of New Lenox reads all water meters on the 1st weekday of every month. After meter reads are input, a high usage report is generated and investigated. Once confirmed, letters are created and mailed out to residents notifying them of increased water usage for the previous month.



If you receive this letter, do not disregard it!

Please contact our Utility Billing Department at (815) 462-6440 to schedule an appointment for our Water Operator to assist in finding a leak.

Main Causes for High Usage:

- Toilets (most common reason for increased consumption)
- Outside Faucets
- Underground or Above Ground Sprinklers

## OPEN NOW:

- **Aflac/Margo Moore**, 1234 N. Cedar Road on the east side of Cedar Road directly north of New Lenox Eyecare. Services insurance products to customers. Email: [margo\\_moore@us.aflac.com](mailto:margo_moore@us.aflac.com) or (815) 462-8884.
- **CCR Auto Sales**, 410 N. Vine St. formerly the site of Chicago Internet Auto Inc. across the street from KFC on the north side of the railroad tracks. Used auto sales. [CCRAutoSales@aol.com](mailto:CCRAutoSales@aol.com)
- **Crepe-N-Brew**, 336 W. Maple in a strip mall on the southeast corner of Route 30 and Vine St. A carry-out restaurant that makes crepes, shakes, boba drinks, espresso, coffee, waffles and offers bottled water, juice, and soda. [CrepeNBrew@gmail.com](mailto:CrepeNBrew@gmail.com).
- **Off-Leash Hotel**, 706 W. Maple St., located in the strip mall that includes Planet Fitness, is a dog daycare, boarding, and grooming facility. Dogs may stay during the day and/or overnight for short or long stays. [www.offleashhotel.com](http://www.offleashhotel.com). Contact through the website to register for services.



## COMING SOON:

- **Don Jose's Cantina & Taqueria**, LLC, 1080 E. Lincoln Hwy. in the tenant space formerly occupied by Chicago Dough. Full-service restaurant with sit-down dining and gaming. [donjosescantina@yahoo.com](mailto:donjosescantina@yahoo.com) Tentative opening: April 2024
- **El Sombrero**, 338 W. Maple St. former Pizza Hut building on the southwest corner of Vine St. and Route 30. Sit-down Mexican restaurant that serves liquor. Tentative Opening: Spring
- **Hickey Memorial Chapel**, 2100 Calistoga Dr. across the street from Berkot's off Laraway Road. Funeral and burial services, including merchandise sale of caskets, urns, printed material, and various other funeral-related merchandise. [www.hickeyfuneral.com](http://www.hickeyfuneral.com) or [info@hickeyfuneral.com](mailto:info@hickeyfuneral.com) Tentative opening: April



- **Hog Wild**, 1300 N. Cedar Rd. in a strip mall on the northeast corner of Cedar & Francis Roads. Fast casual restaurant with bar with full liquor sales and video gaming. <https://thehogwild.com/> Tentative opening: April
- **Speed Trek**, 2020 E. Laraway Rd., on the southeast corner of Laraway & Schoolhouse Roads, is a gas station that sells liquor, beer, wine, groceries, and tobacco. [omnewlenoxoil@gmail.com](mailto:omnewlenoxoil@gmail.com) Tentative opening: Spring
- **Stay Grounded Coffee II, LLC**, 2111 Calistoga Dr. in the plaza west of Berkot's on Laraway Road. Coffee shop and café serving coffee, teas, lemonade, and light fare (donuts, pastries, grab and go). Seating areas for studying, remote working, and leisure. <https://www.thegroundedcoffeebars.com/> Tentative opening: April

## NEW OWNERS:

- **Pico de Gallo**, 1938 E. Lincoln Hwy., Unit 105 in Atrium Point on the southwest corner of Route 30 and Schoolhouse Road. A new owner acquired the business on January 1, 2024. [www.picodegalloil.com](http://www.picodegalloil.com) 815-869-9957
- **Sims Lohman, Inc.**, 1918 Ferro Dr. located inside Paramont-EO Crest Lighting on the southeast corner of Gougar Road and Ferro Drive. Cabinet showroom that acquired Seigel's Cabinets. [www.sims-lohman.com](http://www.sims-lohman.com) 815-723-7000
- **Spin Taco**, 1005 W. Laraway – Suite 300, in the plaza on the northwest corner of Laraway & Nelson Roads, has a new owner. The business will continue to be a Mexican food restaurant with a menu of tacos, burritos, tortas, and other Mexican dishes. [www.spintaco.com](http://www.spintaco.com) 815-717-8150



## RELOCATION:

- **Hopewell Academies**, 100 Batson Court, Unit 8 on the north side of the railroad tracks on the west side of Cedar Road. Hopewell relocated its administrative offices from 1234 N. Cedar Rd

**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.



## LOOK FORWARD TO "BRING ON SPRING" IN MAY

The Village and the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce will soon announce the local establishments that are participating in "Bring on Spring," a promotion that discloses the names of businesses offering discounts and specials for residents to use in spring cleanup, auto maintenance, updating a spring wardrobe, pet services or retail, or for graduation and Mother's Day gifts. The promotion will be held beginning Monday, May 5th and will continue through Mother's Day on Sunday, May 12th. Gift cards at these establishments may also be available. Remember to support our local businesses throughout the year!

