

The **VILLAGER**



**New Lenox Commons Master Plan**

Over the last year, the Village Board and Staff have been working with Ginkgo Planning and Design, Inc., an architectural and planning firm located in Orland Park, to develop a master plan for the land surrounding the New Lenox Commons. The goal of the plan was to develop a general development framework identifying street layouts, detention areas, and developable lots tying the New Lenox Commons with Nelson Road and U.S. Route 30. This Master Plan builds off of the recommendations of the Route 30 Corridor Implementation Plan adopted by the Village Board in June, 2013.



The Master Plan is broken into nine segments that can be implemented incrementally over time. There is also a one-page document highlighting the important elements of the Plan and depicting the Plan's final vision.

The main elements of the New Lenox Commons Master Plan include the extension of Independence Boulevard from its current terminus west of Nelson Road to Veterans Parkway. A new detention facility necessary to accommodate the runoff from the future anticipated development would be constructed south of this new road extension. A new public open space would also be developed in order to create a destination for residents and visitors that will help support the commercial development in the next phases. It is anticipated that the Village would be responsible for this important first phase of the Plan.

The Master Plan recommends the development of restaurants and small retail uses along the east side of Nelson Road, utilizing the pond and public park as an opportunity to encourage outdoor dining. A second roadway connecting Nelson Road to Veterans Parkway would be constructed south of the restaurants. The existing Jewel property could be further developed with outlots along Nelson Road and Independence Boulevard. Independence Boulevard would eventually be extended to the west to connect with the AMC Theaters.

An important recommendation of the Master Plan is to provide a direct connection between the New Lenox Commons and Route 30, both physically and visually. This connection could be accomplished by extending the existing entrance into the former F.I.M. center from Route 30 to the extension of Independence Boulevard.

Properties along the west side of Nelson Road north of the Old Plank Road Trail could be developed with higher density residential development or offices. Residential development would have the added benefit of creating a night-time population to support the desired commercial development.

Implementing the New Lenox Commons Master Plan will involve the efforts and cooperation of the Village, land owners, Park District, and private developers. The Plan Commission will hold a public hearing on the New Lenox Commons Master Plan on September 16, 2014. The Master Plan will be presented for formal adoption by the Village Board in late September.

**Christmas in the Commons - Save the Date**

SAVE THE DATE! Christmas in the Commons will be held on Sunday, December 7th from 1:00pm - 5:00pm at Village Hall and the Commons area. Bring the kids to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus and even Comet and Cupid, two of Santa's reindeers will be there for some pictures. The popular horse drawn wagon rides will be back this year for all to enjoy!



There will be free hot cocoa and popcorn for everyone along with Christmas Caroling throughout the event.



The Police Department will be on hand issuing free children identification cards for those that are interested. The Youth Coalition will conduct their annual Christmas Tree Decorating Contest and the finale will be the lighting of the Christmas trees at 5:00 pm.

Check out our website at [www.newlenox.net](http://www.newlenox.net) and Facebook page in the coming weeks for updates. We hope you are able to share in the fun and excitement of this wonderful event.

**September 2014**

**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*

**Inside This Issue**

New Lenox Commons Master Plan	1
Christmas in the Commons	1
Leaf Collection Program	2
Tree Replacement Program	2
Contract Renewal with Nu-Way	2
Cooper Road Water Main Project	2
3rd Annual Job and Resource Fair	2
Winter Snow Removal & Parking	3
Road Resurfacing Project	3
The Vactor	3
Wednesday Night Movies	4
Ladies Night Out	4
6th Annual Triple Play Concerts	4
New Lenox Takes to the Airwaves	4
I-Spy Game	4
Dwyane Wade & Brandon Marshall Sports Academy	4
Time to Shop	4

**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. Tues. Thurs. Fri. 8:30-5:00  
Wed. 8:30-7:00

## Fall 2014 Leaf Collection Program

The Leaf Collection Program for residents will begin **Monday October 6, 2014**. The Village will send out leaf collection equipment and vacuum your leaves from your parkway. Residents must place the leaves in the parkway and not on the street. Please see below for the correct and incorrect ways to place the leaves.

Crews will start at the beginning of the week on the north side of town and work their way south. The goal is to collect the leaves at least once a week.

**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, cans, paper, bottles, etc. These foreign materials can cause damage to leaf collection personnel and equipment.
- **Do not** place leaves behind obstacles such as: parked vehicles, trees, mailboxes, fire hydrants, streetlights etc.

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 for 6-weeks. The Village's free leaf collection program ends **Friday, November 21st** (weather permitting).

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



The correct way to place leaves for pickup



The wrong way to place leaves for pickup

## 50/50 Parkway Tree Replacement Program

The Village has budgeted funds to replace approximately 90 trees that have been removed due to infestation by the Emerald Ash Borer. Residents that have had their trees removed by the Village as a result of the insect will be sent an order form to choose a replacement tree. Under the program, the resident pays for half, with the Village paying the other half of the cost of the tree and installation. Trees will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. The trees will be planted in October.

The Village continues to remove trees infested with the Emerald Ash Borer. If you believe your tree is infested, please contact Public Works at (815) 215-4800 to be placed on a list for removal. The Village continues to seek additional funding for the removal and replacement of Ash trees.

## Cooper Road Water Main Project

This project provided for the installation of a new water main from the Suburban Bank and Trust to near Sunset Trail along Cooper Road just south of Route 30. This water main provided new water service to homes along Cooper Road. The new water main and services allowed the existing private well pump house and underground storage tank to be removed. This project had a budget of approximately \$161,000 and was funded through a Community Development Block Grant from Will County.



## Renewal of Contract With NuWay Disposal

At its August 25, 2014 meeting, the Village Board approved an Agreement with NuWay Disposal to continue to provide garbage, yard waste, and recycling service in the Village for the next seven years. The Village negotiated to keep the pricing the same for the next two years, with the first adjustment occurring October 1, 2016.

In order to standardize the program and keep costs from increasing, it was determined that all homes in the Village must use one of the three garbage carts provided by NuWay. These carts all have lids, which will help keep the community clean by reducing the amount of garbage blowing around. The lid must be able to close over all garbage placed in the cart. Any garbage that does not fit in the closed cart requires a red garbage sticker, which can be purchased at the Village Hall, Berkots, and Jewel stores in New Lenox. If you do not currently use a garbage cart, you will receive a letter from NuWay explaining the three size options and prices.

Previously, recycling and a small portion of the garbage collection fee were paid by the Village from funds collected through water bills and property taxes. Under the new Agreement, NuWay will bill each residence directly for all garbage and recycling services. You will receive a quarterly bill from NuWay Disposal in January, April, July, and October.



## 3rd Annual Job & Resource Fair

Friday September 12th was the 3rd year that the Village hosted the ShareFest Job & Resource Fair. Over 55 Companies attended with more than 400 Job Seekers participating. Some were offered jobs on the spot! This event is only possible with the help of MANY people. The New Lenox Library hosts the seminars and resume review. Trinity Services had the "Dress for Success" Career Clothing event at their offices. Many volunteers come together to make this a very worthwhile event for the Community. Thank you to all who participated!



## Winter Snow Removal & Parking Regulations

The winter season brings inclement weather conditions making travel difficult. One of the Village's primary objectives during the season is to keep roads and highways free from snow and ice through plowing and salting operations. As residents, you can help us keep our streets and roads safer by keeping vehicles off public streets and roads during a snow storm and by depositing snow from private drives and walkways on your own property and not on Village streets.



### On Street Parking Prohibition - Snow Tow

In order to effectively clear all streets from curb to curb, any vehicle parked on the roadway must be removed. Failure to clear the entire road surface hinders further removal of snow and presents a hazard when the remaining snow on the roadway freezes. As soon as the snow depth reaches 2" or greater, ALL vehicles must be removed from the street. It is advisable, however, to remove your vehicle as soon as it begins to snow. When parking overnight, keep in mind it may snow while you are sleeping, creating a problem early in the morning. Village code provides for ticketing or towing of vehicles in violation of this ordinance.

### Depositing Snow in the Roadway

The practice of pushing or blowing snow from private driveways into the public roadways is prohibited. Frozen snow piles from private snow removal operations create a hazard to vehicular traffic and make subsequent snow removal efforts difficult. Village code provides for ticketing violators of this ordinance.

We ask that when clearing your driveway and walkways, snow is placed in your yard or in the parkway, not the street. Our snow plow drivers try to minimize any excess snow plow windrowing into cleared drives, however, the plowing process regrettably pushes some snow back into the cleared drives. Depositing snow on the street simply adds more to your drive after the next plowing cycle. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding by keeping private drive snow removal off public streets.

### Questions

Should you have any questions about "Snow Tow" or discharging snow into the roadways, please feel free to contact the Village offices at 815-462-6400. Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation in keeping New Lenox streets and roads safe.

## 2014 Road Resurfacing Project

The 2014 Road Resurfacing Project included improvements to sidewalk to eliminate cracked and spalled sidewalk sections and trip hazards, curb and gutter to improve storm water conveyance, asphalt pavement removal and replacement to eliminate numerous potholes and failing pavement, and landscape restoration on approximately 8 miles of Village roads. Additionally, the project included improvements to storm structures in the curb to eliminate sinkholes. The project also included new storm structures and storm sewer pipe at the intersection of Oxford Court and Central Road to help storm water drainage. A drainage pipe was also installed behind the back of curb on the east side of Ogden Road and the west side Oxford Court to provide an outlet for drainage issues in the area.

The project had a budget of approximately \$1.3 Million. The project began in June and was substantially complete by the end of August. The streets that were completed this year include all of the streets in the Schoolhouse Manor Subdivision at Schoolhouse Road and Joliet Highway; Ogden Road and Oxford Court between Central Road and Joliet Highway; Prairie Road between Joliet Highway and Illinois Highway; Nelson Road from Haven Avenue to Route 30 and between Illinois Highway and the CN Railroad tracks; and the portions of Blandford Avenue, Cricket Avenue, Golf Avenue, Lone Drive, Pine Grove Lane, Lambeth Lane, Windsor Lane, Wimborne Avenue, and Spring Creek Street in the Village.



## The Vactor

### Protecting Our Streams

The Village's storm sewer system is comprised of many parts. The part most people see are the curb inlets on the side of the road. Water runs down the curb and falls into these catch basins. Sediment drops to the bottom of the basins, and the water continues on through our underground piping system. The water is then conveyed to ponds throughout town, and then finally released into one of our creeks in town, Jackson Creek, Hickory Creek, Spring Creek, Marley Creek, Sugar Run Creek or Jackson Branch Creek. As these catch basins fill with sediment, they reduce the amount of water storage, as well as allow sediment to continue to these creeks. The Vactor cleans these catch basins to prevent this sediment from carrying to the creeks.



### Cleaning and Inspection

The Vactor team hit the ground running in early spring and hasn't slowed down. So far this year the Vactor has cleaned and inspected over 700 structures in 21 subdivisions or areas throughout the Village of New Lenox. They have removed approximately 130 cubic yards of debris, which is the equivalent of roughly 117 tons. The crews have cleaned the structures in Wildflower, Cherry Hill Meadows, Cherry Hill Manor, Cherry Hill Estates, Ferro Industrial Park, Fieldstone, Grand Prairie, Haven Manor, Walker Country Estates North and South, La Poca Sicilia, Coventry, Spring Creek, Old Homestead, Warren Woods, Aerohaven, Wildwood, Greenbriar, Sunset Trails, Original Town of New Lenox, and Haven to 4th Ave. from Prairie to Pine. By the end of next year, they hope to have the entire town completed.

### Other Uses

The Vactor has also assisted with 9 water main breaks, 3 fire hydrant repairs, and 4 water service line repairs. The hydro excavator portion of the Vactor allows for much safer digging around utilities than with your standard backhoe. It makes for a much cleaner job also, since all spoils are contained within the tank on the rear of the truck. The Vactor has also been called upon to assist with cleaning of tanks at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, grease removal at sanitary sewer lift stations, as well as jetting of clogged storm and sanitary sewer lines.



Please call (815) 215-4800 with any questions related to this program.

## Wednesday Night Movies

Were you one of the several hundred who came out for Wednesday Night Movies? The summer 2014 line-up was well-attended with over 1,000 who came out to enjoy the movie FROZEN! Gold fish, snow cones, glow sticks and karate demonstrations were just few of the surprises movie goers were able to enjoy. Keep an eye out for the summer 2015 movie line-up in early spring with more family fun and surprises in store!



## Ladies Night Out

What do you get when you have over 50 unique vendors displaying their wares in the Commons along with Wine, Snacks, Music and a Movie? Our 3rd Annual Ladies Night Out of course! Vendors brought in everything from one-of-a-kind-artisan crafts, to hand-made baby items, trendy purses, fashionable jewelry, kitchen gadgets, greeting cards, infused olive oils, and even fresh flowers!



Long day at work? Those in attendance were treated to complimentary mini-massages and \$5.00 manicures. Attendees also received make-up tips, chemical free body and bath products and delightful cups of TCBY Frozen Yogurt! Strawberry spinach salad and bruschetta, along with fresh popcorn of all flavors and sugared nuts were a perfect pairing with the assortment of wines available to please every palate.

We even raffled off two pairs of 2015 TRIPLE PLAY CONCERT TICKETS for a \$1.00 with proceeds going to ShareFest, while the New Lenox Food Pantry received \$650.00 from vendor donations. Don't be left out next year, grab the ladies in your life and enjoy a delightful night in the Commons that benefits both our residents and the Community!

## 6th Annual Triple Play Concert Series

The 6th Annual Triple Play Concert Series had another very successful run at the Village Commons with tickets selling out in just 3½ days! Headliners for the 2014 Series were Rock 'n' Roll Legends Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo on Friday July 11th, followed by Grammy Award Winner Peter Dinklage on Saturday August 2nd. Southern Rock Favorites, .38 Special wrapped-up the series on Saturday August 30th. Supporting Acts featured John Waite, 10,000 Maniacs and the Fabulous Thunderbirds.

Thank you to our local food vendors, concert sponsors, ESDA & CERT volunteers and village staff for helping to make the Triple Play Concerts a huge success for the past 6 years. Thank you to all of the loyal fans for coming out to the Commons and supporting our performing arts!



Photos courtesy of Burns Photography, New Lenox

## New Lenox Takes to the Airwaves

The Village has launched a year-long ad campaign with WLS radio. You may have already heard the spots on the radio highlighting the many advantages of living, working, owning a business, developing or raising a family in New Lenox. We truly are "At the Crossroads of Opportunity!" Visit the Village website to learn more and listen to the radio ads for yourself at [www.newlenox.net](http://www.newlenox.net).

## Ready For Some Family Fun??? Join The I SPY GAME



The New Lenox Chamber joins with the Village and the New Lenox Library to bring you a fun family game. I Spy is a community-wide, family friendly Scavenger Hunt where participants visit New Lenox businesses to find clues and decode a secret message.

Game sheets will be available on Saturday October 25th at the Annual Chamber Halloween Fest and on the Chamber web site. Pick-up a game sheet on Monday October 27th at the Chamber Office, New Lenox Public Library, or a participating I Spy business!

Use the game sheets to locate clues displayed at businesses throughout New Lenox. The clues will decode a secret message. Once the puzzle is solved, return the game sheet to the Chamber Office to get entered into the prize drawing!

The contest will run October 25th thru November 17th. There will be a \$250.00 & \$100.00 Gift Card Prize Drawing on November 18th. To qualify, return your game sheet to the Chamber Office by 5:00pm on November 17th. Additional information is available at the Chamber web site [www.newlenoxchamber.com](http://www.newlenoxchamber.com).

## Dwyane Wade & Brandon Marshall Sports Academy



Three-time NBA Champion & Superstar Dwyane Wade of the Miami Heat and five-time Pro Bowler & Wide Receiver for the Chicago Bears Brandon Marshall took time out of their busy summer schedule to teach children of New Lenox and the surrounding Lincoln-Way Area the fundamentals, and much more, about the game of basketball and football. The Sports Academy also featured a special appearance by WNBA Chicago Sky Player Sylvia Fowles and a Cheerleading Skills Camp.

Over 600 children participated in the Dwyane Wade & Brandon Marshall Sports Academy, which took place at Lincoln-Way Central High School on July 22 & 23.

## Time to Shop

New Lenox has seen a flurry of retail activity in recent months. From locally owned and operated Flirty on 30 Boutique to TJ Maxx, Petco and soon to open Ross Dress for Less, the Village is truly becoming full service for your shopping needs. The goal is to have everything here that you want and need so that we can all Shop Local.

Other activity that you may have noticed is the LA Fitness across from Target and Lowe's, Pep Boys and PotBelly's nearing completion in front of Wal-Mart and numerous medical and administrative buildings going up around Silver Cross Hospital. Buffalo Wild Wings received approvals and are planning to be open around the first of the year in Nelson Plaza across from Jewel. This will bring a welcome revitalization to that center...and some great wings as well!