

The

VILLAGER



What's Coming To New Lenox?

A common question from residents is “what’s coming in?” Unlike other built out communities, the Village is so pleased to have the opportunity to welcome new businesses. To understand when the Village of New Lenox can formally announce a new business (this does not include residential developments), the following points of information are offered:



- Village Staff may have early discussions with potential, commercial or industrial businesses that wish to locate in New Lenox. However, until paperwork is filed by the potential business, no announcement will be made. Examples of the formal paperwork is a business registration or permit.
- Once paperwork is filed, the Village’s website, www.newlenox.net is updated in the “Coming Soon” section. Updates minimally occur at the beginning of each month.
- Despite what is posted on social media, the Village is unable to confirm or comment on anything until requisite paperwork is filed. If something is posted on social media and is not on the Village’s website, it’s likely that the announcement is premature or false.
- The Village is pleased to announce the following businesses that recently opened or will be coming to the Village in the near future:
 - ♦ Raffy’s Candy Store @ 2571 E. Lincoln Hwy. – NOW OPEN!
 - ♦ A. T. & T. @ 709 E. Lincoln Hwy. – NOW OPEN!
 - ♦ Images Boutique @ 338 Alana Dr. (opening in January 2016)
 - ♦ Lou Malnati’s (Carry-Out Only) @ 2510 E. Lincoln Hwy. (opening in early 2016)
 - ♦ Five Guys Restaurant – Northeast corner of Rt. 30 and Vancina Lane by LA Fitness (opening spring 2016)
 - ♦ Anytime Fitness @ 800 W. Laraway Rd. (opening March 2016)

Available Sites

Residents who are seeking or know someone who is seeking commercial or industrial property can search on the Village’s website for available properties. Go to Economic Development under Departments and the drop down menu lists Available Sites. If you know of a site that is NOT listed, please have them contact Nancy Dye, Economic Development Coordinator at ndye@newlenox.net. Sites that are not dated within three months are either unchanged or under contract. The Available Sites inventory is just one of many ways the Village assists potential new businesses find existing buildings or vacant properties.



The Village of New Lenox Asks Residents To Sign-Up To Receive Local Alerts

The Village of New Lenox has partnered with Nixle to implement its Community Notification System to alert residents in real-time for localized emergency situations and relevant community advisories.

As a resident, there are several simple ways to register:

1. Text your zip code (60451) to 888777 from your mobile phone
2. Go to the Village of New Lenox website www.newlenox.net/notifications and sign-up via the Nixle widget
3. Sign-up and create a User Profile on www.nixle.com

The service is secure, reliable, and easy to use.

All Alerts will be targeted geographically, allowing residents to receive localized, relevant alerts from the Village of New Lenox, including alerts from the police department and public works. Nixle Alerts can be sent via Text, Email, Web, Social Media, and the Nixle Mobile App in an instant. Nixle is partnered with NLETS for unmatched data security, as well as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the National Blue Alert Network, and Google for unmatched reach and two-way information exchange.

We are very excited to have you experience it for yourself!



January 2016

Village Officials

- Timothy Baldermann *Mayor*
 Laura Ruhl *Village Clerk*
 Annette Bowden *Trustee*
 David Butterfield *Trustee*
 Douglas Finnegan *Trustee*
 Emily Johnson *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. Tues. Thurs. Fri. 8:30-5:00
 Wed. 8:30-7:00

www.newlenox.net

Third Annual “Celebrate & Shop New Lenox” Promotion

The third annual “Celebrate & Shop New Lenox” promotion was held from Small Business Saturday on November 28, 2015 through Sunday, December 6, 2015. This promotion encouraged residents to visit and support local businesses during the holiday’s busiest time of the year. In 2015, 45 retail shops, restaurants and grocers, and business services in New Lenox participated.

Beginning in early November, businesses were sent information about participating in the promotion. At no cost to businesses, advertising occurred on social media, a local newspaper, and through brochures that each participating merchant received. This year the brochure categorized the 45 businesses into events, gift shopping, getting your home ready for the holidays, holiday photos, don’t cook at home, taking caring of yourself, and taking care of “furry” family members. Residents could save on gasoline, wear and tear on their vehicles, and support local businesses with great deals.

Small Business Saturday was started by American Express in 2010. In 2015, according to the International Council of Shopping Centers, “This year more shoppers report visiting local, independent businesses on Small Business Saturday than ever before. Some 95 million consumers shopped on Small Business Saturday . . . up 8% from last year.”



Conducting Village Business Electronically

While the Village Board and Staff welcome all residents and businesses to the Village Hall, we are continuously seeking ways to make it easy and convenient to conduct Village business anywhere at any time.

There are many ways to pay your water bill in addition to bringing it to the Village Hall, placing it in one of the drop boxes at the Village Hall, or mailing it in.

You can sign up for Automatic Payment Withdrawal by filling out the application, which is available under the Online Payments button on the Village’s Home Page. Simply provide the Village with a voided check, and your monthly water bill will be deducted from your checking or savings account on the due date. No worries and no late fees!

You can also pay your water bill online through the Illinois Funds E-Pay system using a credit card. A small convenience fee will be applied. The E-Pay system can be accessed on the Village’s Home Page under Online Payments.

For residents that want to do more than simply pay their water bill, you can also view your water bill on-line. Residents can create an account at www.newlenoxutilities.com to view their water bill, as well as pay their water bill on-line with a credit card, with a small convenience fee.

Over the past several months, the Community Development Department has been working to provide residents the ability to apply for certain building permits online. By the end of the year, residents can apply for permits for driveways, fences, roofs, sheds and windows online, provided they have the ability to attach the required documents, such as a plat of survey. Stay tuned!

Keep Up-to-Date More Often Than This Quarterly Villager Newsletter

The Village of New Lenox uses a variety of ways to keep our residents informed on a regular basis.

One of the best ways to keep informed is through the Village Website at www.newlenox.net. On the Front Page you can find sections for News & Announcements, a Calendar of Upcoming Events, view upcoming Agendas, and more. You can even sign up to receive email updates when items get posted or updated at www.newlenox.net/notifications.

Another great way is to follow the Village of New Lenox on Social Media. Important information is posted regularly on both Facebook and Twitter (@newlenoxil). We use social media to provide Important Reminders, pictures of Commons Events, video of Village Board Meetings, and any other material we feel residents would like to see.

With an eye towards public safety the Village of New Lenox’s Police Department is proudly offering Nixle (www.nixle.com). Through this service important safety information is sent out via email and text. This information can range from storm warnings to road closures that may affect your commute. With Nixle providing a Cellular Text based option this is a great way to receive timely and important public safety information.

If you are a Comcast or AT&T U-Verse customer, you can also tune into New Lenox Community Television Community Announcements. They run for an hour every day at 6am, Noon, 6pm, and Midnight, as well as between many of the programs during the course of the day. Any important Village information will be included among the upcoming community wide reminders and event information.

Don’t forget the Village’s online Business Directory, Shop New Lenox. Village businesses can post a description of the business, hours of operation, and coupons or special offers. Residents can search by business name or type of business to meet all of their needs locally.

With all of these communication tools, it is easy to keep informed of what is happening in the Village of New Lenox 24 hours a day, 7 days a week!

Joliet Highway Standpipe Rehabilitation

The rehabilitation of the Village’s 2.5 million gallon standpipe was recently completed. During this process, the contractor sandblasted the inside and outside of the tank to remove all the existing paint. Repairs were made as necessary, before applying 3 layers of paint as recommended by the American Water Works Association. Due to the rainy weather in May and June, this process took longer than expected. We appreciate the patience shown by our residents with this project and apologize for any inconvenience. This new coating should last between 10-12 years, will be inspected on a regular basis, and will help insure the investment made in bringing quality water to New Lenox is protected for many years to come.



Before



After

Preventing Frozen Pipes

The water inside pipes can freeze when outdoor temperatures drop below freezing. As the frozen water expands, the pressure inside the pipes increases, which can lead to bursting pipes and water meters.

How do I prevent pipes from freezing?

- Insulate pipes, especially those close to outside walls, attics, or crawl spaces
- Seal air leaks surrounding or near pipes
- Keep garage doors closed
- Open cabinet doors below sinks on outside walls to allow warm air to circulate
- Disconnect all outdoor hoses and turn off water to exterior faucets
- Keep heat at 55 degrees F or higher even when you are out of town
- During extreme cold, allow both hot and cold faucets near outside walls to trickle
- If you are going to be away from home for a prolonged period of time, drain the water system



What do I do if my pipes freeze?

- Open all faucets
- Remove insulation
- Apply heat to frozen pipes in the form of a hair dryer or heat lamp. DO NOT use an open flame because of the fire hazard it creates

What do I do if my pipes burst?

- Shut off water supply immediately using valve by water meter. If this cannot be done, call the Water Department at (815) 215-4800 between the hours of 7:00am - 3:30pm or (815) 485-2500 after hours or on weekends. They will turn water off at the main.



If you have any further questions, feel free to contact the Water Department at (815) 215-4800.

New Lenox Community Television Offers Video Class to Residents

NLCTV is offering a free two-day class on how to shoot better videos. Whether it is a home video or an amateur film, the principals of good videography are the same. An Emmy Award Winning Videographer, John Petrosky, will be teaching the class. John is both a local resident and NLCTV Volunteer.

You do not have to join NLCTV to attend the class, but it is a good way to get started in the organization. We do ask that an adult accompany anyone under the age of 17. This is a great family activity to do in January!

The two-day class will be offered on Saturday, January 16th and 23rd from 9am-Noon. Registration is requested so please contact dwnnie@newlenox.net or call 815-462-6428 for additional information.

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 & Reporting Damage

Should you have any questions about "Snow Tow", discharging snow into the roadways or plow damage please feel free to contact the Village offices at 815-462-6400 or Public Works at 815-215-4800. If you incur damage from a plow please contact the Village offices at 815-462-6400 or Public Works at 815-215-4800. Please do not address questions or concerns with the plow drivers directly. Approaching the trucks or climbing on 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.

Register to Vote

The Primary Election for 2016 is fast approaching and will be held on March 15, 2016. Early Voting begins Monday, February 29th and extends through Friday, March 11th from 9:00am - 4:30pm in the Community Room of the Village Hall, 1 Veterans Parkway.

If you have not already done so, please come into the Village Hall and register to vote. Voting is a way to make your voice heard!



Tips For Preventing Sanitary Sewer Problems

In the Village of New Lenox, the homeowner is responsible for their sanitary service from their house until connection to the sewer main.



The Village maintains the network of sewer mains that take the sewage to one of our three treatment plants.

A clog in a service line or a sewer main can cause sewage to back up into your home. This can be a devastating experience. To help reduce the risk of sewer back-ups in the Village's mains we maintain a cleaning, inspection and repair program. A high pressure sewer jetter is used to clean the lines and a mainline camera to inspect the lines. Repair work is either done in house or contracted out based on cost effectiveness.

To protect your property from sewage back-ups follow these simple Do's and Don'ts

DO NOT pour grease, fats, and oils from cooking down the drain.



DO NOT use the sewer to dispose of food scraps, baby wipes, diapers and personal hygiene products.

DO NOT dispose of chemicals down the drain or toilet. Chemicals can kill "good" bacteria used for sewage treatment, cost much more to treat and could pollute the waterways.



DO NOT plant trees near your sewer lateral. Tree roots seek water sources and can penetrate cracks or separated joints in your service line.

DO NOT connect your sump pump or gutter downspouts to the sewer system, this can cause the sewer system to become overloaded and back-up into your home. It is also an ordinance violation.

DO Call the Village first if you believe you have a sewer back-up.

DO collect grease in a container and dispose of it in the garbage.

DO place food scraps, baby wipes, diapers and personal hygiene products in your regular garbage.

Additional Tips

- If you know you have roots in your service line have them cut out regularly by a licensed plumber.
- For additional protection, an ejector pit with a check valve can be installed in your basement. The village also offers a cost sharing program for ejector pit installations. Call Public Works for details.
- 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 (815) 215-4800 or the Village Hall (815) 462-6400 to have an employee dispatched to your home. If your issue occurs after hours you can call the Village's Non-Emergency number (815) 485-2500 and an employee will contact you.

Christmas in the Commons

This year's Christmas in the Commons was another success thanks to all of the staff, CERT, ESDA, the many volunteers, Santa, Mrs. Claus, Comet, Cupid, Old Plank Trail Bank, Fleckenstein's Bakery, New Lenox Public Library, Martin Boban, the New Lenox Police Department, the New Lenox Fire Department and the New Lenox Youth Coalition. Santa and Mrs. Claus had a delightful afternoon visiting with the children who stood in line with their parents to share Christmas wishes. Our student volunteers handed out free hot cocoa and sugar cookies. The New Lenox Police Department handed out free Children's IDs throughout the event while the New Lenox Library was busy quizzing guests with holiday trivia! Throughout the afternoon, guests enjoyed the horse-driven carriage rides around the Commons Park. Comet and Cupid received quite a bit of attention and affection as they posed for pictures with all who visited them.



The Community Room was very busy and filled with children taking part in the coloring contest. We received many submissions from each age group. The winner of age group 1 - 4 was 4-year old Breanna Kirincich who attends Bobbie Noonan's Child Care, the winner of age group 5 - 8 was 8-year old Emily Schmeier who attends Haines Elementary School and the winner of age group 9 - 12 was 11-year old Devin Smith who attends Spencer Crossing Elementary School.

A big thank you to the musical entertainers who provided those in attendance with some musical holiday cheer. Throughout the event, Liberty and Martino Junior High Madrigals, Lincoln-Way West Madrigals, St. Jude School Music Ministry & Bell Choir and the Providence Catholic High School Singing Celtics performed and as usual they all shined while spreading wonderful holiday cheer!

A special thank you to our sponsors Old Plank Trail Bank and Fleckenstein's Bakery. Old Plank Trail Bank generously donated and prepared bags of freshly popped corn and Fleckenstein's Bakery generously donated the most delicious sugar cookies for the event.

This year's winner of the Tree Decorating Contest was Cub Scout Pack 755 New Life Church. Congratulations to all the boys of Pack 755 for a job well done! Once the master switch was turned on at 5:00pm, all the trees were lit!

The Village would also like to thank resident Martin Boban who donated a freshly cut tree from his cabin in Michigan. It was a wonderful addition to our beautifully decorated Commons area. The tree was decorated by students from the Lincoln-Way High School L.I.F.E. Transition Program.

As always, many thanks to our Cable Access Team for the hours spent preparing and photographing this event.

Many thanks go out to all who volunteered and supported this event. Thank you to the many families who came out to share in all of the wonderful holiday activities. We hope you enjoyed this year's activities and we look forward to seeing you out in 2016. It is always a pleasure having our community join us during this



festive season. Have a safe and happy holiday season and we wish you a happy and prosperous New Year!