



Village News

Volume XXIV, No. 3
December 2015

News & Information for Residents

The Village of Lemont is dedicated to promoting and preserving the character of the community and ensuring a high quality of life through professional public service provided in a friendly, consistent, and fiscally responsible manner, emphasizing the best interest of the community as a whole.

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Don't Miss . . .

Hometown Holiday

Saturday, December 5

4 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Downtown Lemont

Community Tree Lighting
5:00 p.m. at Budnik Plaza

Visit us on the web
at www.lemont.il.us



Kick off the holiday season with an event the whole family will enjoy! Don't miss Hometown Holiday on Saturday, December 5 from 4:00 to 10:00 p.m. Shopping, children's activities, visits and photo opportunities with Santa & The Grinch. Tree Lighting at 5:00 p.m.

From the Mayor's Desk



Over the past few months, much of our focus was aimed at objecting to the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village of Palos Park and the Cook County Forest Preserve District, which would allow Palos Park to annex certain Forest Preserve property located in unincorporated Lemont. The annexation of district property would provide Palos Park with the opportunity to annex properties in Lemont Township including Cog Hill, Glen Eagles Golf Club, Mid-Iron Golf Club and Ludwig Farm.

The community worked diligently to stress the importance of local control and asked the Forest Preserve Board not to involve itself in land matters between municipalities. In spite of all of our efforts, the Forest Preserve Board (which are the same members as the Cook County Board of Commissioners) voted in favor of this annexation.

On behalf of the Village Board of Trustees, I want to thank the residents and community leaders for all of your calls, letters, and emails to the Cook County Commissioners and the showing of support throughout the process. Although we are extremely disappointed with the outcome, our opinion on the matter has not changed. The properties in question, when they are ready to develop, should be developed within the Village of Lemont and be subject to the same level of oversight and review from our community that all development proposals receive. The Board and I will explore all options available to us, and will continue to fight for local control with regard to these properties and others where development will impact our residents, businesses and infrastructure.

Another key issue that we will continue to monitor is the unresolved state budget issue and its impact on Lemont. Although we are still receiving our local distributive funds at this time, the State is withholding our motor fuel tax (MFT), video gaming tax and local use tax. Legislation is being proposed to ensure local government receives the revenues owed,

Mayor's Message Cont'd on Pg. 2

From the Mayor's Desk

however, there is no final word on the overall budget. The total withheld funds amount to approximately \$80,000 per month and affects our general operating fund and road maintenance funds. Conservative budgeting and a strong financial condition allow the Village to operate seamlessly in the short-term. However, further delays or cuts in our revenues will have significant impacts on our ability to continue the provision of quality services for our residents and businesses.

In the spirit of the holiday season, many activities will take place in December including our Hometown Holiday. This year many of our downtown businesses will be open and involved in the festivities which will include a Kris Kringle Market, so be sure to join us on Saturday, December 5, from 4-10 p.m. Remember to shop local for your holiday gift giving and keep your dollars in our town; we have many unique stores and great restaurants. Visit our website's Community Calendar and Business Directory for current information throughout the year.

On behalf of the Village Board, we wish you all a joyous and safe holiday season.

Brian K. Reaves, Mayor



Collection and Disposal Agreement Requirements of all Applicable Properties

In April of 2014, the Village entered into an eight-year agreement with Waste Management of Illinois. This agreement allows Waste Management exclusive rights to collect and dispose of wastes, recyclables and landscaping materials for all applicable properties within the Village limits. These applicable properties include all single-family, townhouse and duplex residential dwellings and all multi-family residential of up to four units. As a reminder to residents residing in the applicable properties, in order to protect the public health and welfare and the quality of the environment, you are required to use Waste Management services and will be billed by Waste Management accordingly. If you have any questions regarding this or other Waste Management services, please contact the customer service department at (800) 796-9696.

Trustee Stapleton Receives 2015 Senior Citizen of the Year Award



Village of Lemont Trustee Ron Stapleton received the 2015 Senior Citizen of the Year Award on November 2, 2015, from Congressman Dan Lipinski. Since moving to Lemont in 1989 from Chicago, Ron had a desire to become involved in the Village, and in 1992 he became a volunteer member of Downtown Lemont Incorporated. He served on the Design Committee, became a member of its board in 1994, and in 1998, became the board president.

In 1995 Ron was appointed to the Planning & Zoning Commission where he served as a volunteer for six years. He was then appointed to the Lemont Zoning Board of Appeals for two years. In 2003, Ron was elected as a Trustee on the Lemont Village Board, where he is currently serving his fourth term.

Throughout this time, Ron volunteered on several committees and charitable organizations, and is still active in many. He is also the current liaison to the Art & Culture Commission, Planning & Zoning Commission, and the Historic Preservation Commission. He can be seen at many events, fundraisers, and ribbon cutting ceremonies around town, and is always willing to help out where needed.

We thank Ron for his devotion and dedication to the Village of Lemont and its residents. He has volunteered countless hours, and we are very appreciative of his passion, knowledge and his friendship.

Emerald Ash Borer Update



The mass removal of the affected Emerald Ash Borer trees has now been completed, and the Village will continue to monitor those deemed 50% or more affected. The removal will continue as necessary, with the next scheduled removal expected to occur between November and January. The Village will begin replacing parkway trees when funding is available, but this process will take several years to complete.

If a homeowner wishes, they can purchase and plant a new parkway tree at their own expense in the parkway adjacent to their home. No permit is required, however, the tree should be an approved parkway tree species, and trees should be planted in accordance with the Village parkway tree planting specifications. The approved parkway tree species list and parkway tree planting specifications are located on our website at www.lemont.il.us/EmeraldAshBorer. Homeowners are cautioned to always use a licensed contractor. Please call the Public Works department with any questions at (630) 257-2532.



Landscape Waste Collection Ends The First Full Week in December

All landscape waste, including brush and other branches will be collected once per week on the same day as the regular refuse and recycling collection from April 1 through the first full week of December each year. Landscape waste materials should adhere to the following requirements:

- place in biodegradable paper “kraft” type bags, up to 33 gallons in capacity,
- shrubbery cuttings, tree branches, twigs, must be placed either in a kraft paper bag OR in a securely tied bundle,
- ties must be made of string or twine,
- branch bundles must not exceed 4 feet in length, and
- bags containing landscape waste and/or branch bundles cannot exceed 50 pounds in weight.

Residents may rent a 96-gallon cart for \$4/month or purchase one for \$105 based on availability. Carts purchased for the disposal of yard waste must be clearly identified by the resident for the disposal of yard waste.



Electric Aggregation

The Village of Lemont’s municipal aggregation plan supplier is currently Homefield Energy. Our 3-year contract term with Homefield Energy began in October of 2014 and expires in October of 2017. Rates are as follows:

- Time Period of October 2014 to October 2016 - \$0.06996 per Kwh
- Time Period of October 2016 to October 2017 - \$0.06850 per Kwh

Residents are able to join the plan at any time during our contract term with no fee. Residents should always contact their current energy supplier before considering a switch to find out if the current company imposes an early termination fee. It is important to know that through this term, Homefield Energy will not impose a fee for early cancellation. If you have any questions please visit www.homefieldenergy.com for FAQ’s and information. Homefield Customer Care is available 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at (866) 694-1262 or via email at CustCare@Dynergy.com.

Downtown Parking:

On-street parking time limits in certain downtown areas have been increased from 2-hour to 4-hour parking. The 4-hour parking is effective from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday – Saturday, except on holidays at the following locations:

- Talcott Avenue, north side, within designated parking stalls only
- Lemont Street, from Illinois Street to I&M Canal
- Front Street
- River Road, with the exception of designated areas
- Stephen Street, from Illinois Street to River Street
- Canal Street
- Main Street, from Stephen Street to Fremont Street

Other parking restrictions have been modified throughout the downtown, so please pay special attention to the signs noting the restrictions when parking.

WINTER WEATHER INFO



Don't Take Chances!



Get Winter Weather
and Traffic Alerts Sent
Directly To Your
Cell Phone or E-Mail

Don't be left out! In today's age of instant communication, Nixle makes it possible for Village of Lemont departments to get information out to the public immediately through text messaging, e-mails and web access at www.nixle.com. To register for Nixle messages, sign up through <http://local.nixle.com/village-of-lemont>.

Emergencies During A Winter Storm

If an emergency arises during a winter storm, residents should dial 911. All Public Works plowing vehicles maintain continuous two-way radio communication with the Police Department. Snow removal equipment can provide immediate support to ambulance and fire equipment.

Damaged Property

Mailboxes in the Village right-of-way are sometimes damaged during snow removal. These will be replaced with a standard rural route mailbox in the spring. To report damage, call the Public Works Department at (630) 257-2532.

Winter Parking Reminder

During and after any snowfall, please try to remove vehicles from Village streets if at all possible to facilitate clearing. If removing vehicles is not possible,

**AFTER a snowfall of 2 inches or more,
please park on the
ODD-numbered side of the street
on odd calendar days,
EVEN-numbered side of the street on
even calendar days.**

The day is considered to begin at 9:00 a.m.

Sign up for NIXLE to receive important emergency weather and traffic alerts sent directly to your cell phone.

Questions: Call Public Works at (630) 257-2532.



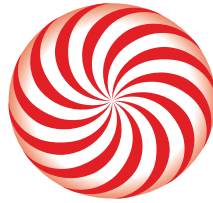
The Public Works Department begins ice and snow control measures even before hazardous road conditions are expected. As soon as conditions warrant it, the salting process begins on major streets designated as primary routes, hills, curves, and all intersections. Residential streets that are relatively flat will be salted only at intersections. Salt remains the most cost effective means of breaking the bond between ice and the street, especially with Lemont's unique topography.

Plowing commences after snow accumulates to an inch or more. Village roadways are divided into 9 zones for the plowing process with primary routes, including hills and school bus routes, being plowed first. As soon as primary routes are cleared, crews will move on to the secondary routes. After all streets are open, trucks will begin the curbing operation.

The goal of the Public Works Department is to remove snow from all streets within six hours after the conclusion of a significant snowfall. **Your cooperation in removing vehicles from the street and observing the odd-even parking regulations will make this job easier and more efficient.**

Historic Downtown Lemont

Hometown Holiday



Saturday,
December 5

4 p.m.
to
10 p.m.

Kick off the Holiday Season...
Shopping, Children's Activities,
Tree Lighting, Visits with Santa &
The Grinch and More...

For More Info:
www.lemontevents.com



2015 Lemont Loves the Arts

Lemont Loves the Arts is a community arts program sponsored by all PreK-8 grade schools in Lemont. The program gives students an opportunity to express their creativity based on a theme. Last year's theme was "Imagine That."

The most recent winners in the featured **6-8 Grade Category** are:

1st Place – Maria P., Old Quarry School; **2nd Place** – Kasia P., Everest Academy; and **3rd Place** – Grace M., Everest Academy. Pictured here is Maria's winning entry.

Congratulations to all of our young artists! The theme for the 2015-16 school year is "I Love Lemont." All preschool through 8th grade students in the Lemont area are invited to participate in this program. **Entry deadline is January 15, 2016.** A community open house will be held on February 17, 2016 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Everest Academy in Lemont. Please visit www.lemontpto.org for details on this program.

Lemont Art & Culture
Commission's
5th Annual
Holiday
Artists
Bazaar

The Lemont Center for the Arts will host its annual Holiday Artists Bazaar. This is a great opportunity for shoppers to find exquisite and unique gifts.

**Extended Holiday Shopping Hours
November 7 through December 21**

Friday: 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

December 3: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

**Duck, Dive & Dodge for Donations
Dodgeball Tournament at The CORE**

A fun family night! Teams compete in a "friendly" competitive round robin dodgeball tournament. Entrance for fans is a monetary donation for Hope & Friendship Foundation's Christmas Giving, and/or personal care products, and/or non-perishable food for the food pantries. A 50/50 Raffle will also take place. Questions, call (630) 816-4972.

December 5: 9:00 a.m. to Noon

Breakfast With Santa

CORE Fitness & Aquatic Complex, 16050 127th Street. Breakfast With Santa in a Winter Wonderland. Enjoy a delicious catered breakfast with your family. Children will visit and have their picture taken with Santa, make a holiday craft and play holiday games. Please register in advance. For more information, call (630) 257-6787, X 3001.

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Winter Events

December 5: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

December 6: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Holiday Craft Fair

Lithuanian World Center, 14911 127th Street. Arts, crafts, jewelry, gifts, food, drinks and music. For more information, call (630) 257-8787.

December 5: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Neighbor to Neighbor Holiday
Vendor & Crafter's Market**

Lemont Township Community Center, 16300 Alba, just NW of 127th St. & Timberline. Come browse various independent vendors and crafters marketing their wares. 50/50 Prize Raffle. For more information, call (630) 257-2522.

December 6: Beginning at 8:00 a.m.

7th Annual sbtTunes.com Frigid 5K

Park District's CORE Fitness & Aquatic Complex. Festive 5K race through the Park District's Centennial Campus. Candy Cane Kids Dash for kids 10 & under. Register at Active.com. For more information, call the Park District at (630) 257-6787.

December 6: 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Choral Concert & Holiday Cookie Sale at Lemont Historical Society

306 Lemont Street. Doors Open 1:00 p.m. Enjoy the music of the Christmas Season by local choirs, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Bring the kids for a visit and photo with Santa and our Victorian tree from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Delicious assortment of homemade holiday cookies available for purchase. For info, please call (630) 257-2972 or www.lemonthistorical.org.

December 10 & 11: 6:30 p.m.

December 12: 10:30 a.m.

Polar Express

First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 Bell Road. Join us for an interactive movie experience for the whole family. Reserved Seating. Tickets are limited. No admission without a ticket. Call (708) 349-0454 for more information.

December 15: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Lemont Park District's Senior Holiday Luncheon at Park District's CORE Complex

Enjoy your favorite Christmas music and a catered lunch. Lunch will be followed by Bingo for all. This is a FREE event. Please register in advance as space is limited. (630) 257-6787, X 3031.

December 31: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Family New Year's Eve Day Bash at the CORE!

FREE! Join us in ringing in the New Year at noon instead of midnight! Celebrate with party favors, a DJ, a balloon drop at noon, pizza lunch and fun new year's activities and games for the whole family. For more info, (630) 257-6787, X 3031.

February 12: Starting at 7:00 p.m.

**Lemont Historical Society Presents
"Drinkin' With Lincoln" Historic Pub Crawl**

Lemont Area Historical Society takes a walk through Lemont's historic hangouts with a pub crawl. Visit the saloons, taverns and pubs of days gone by to learn their history. Feel free to bring photos or any memorabilia you may have. More info: (630) 257-2972 or www.lemonthistorical.org.

February 20: 9:00 a.m. to Noon

Passport to Lemont and Beyond...Community Showcase & Expo at the CORE Complex

Don't miss this great opportunity to showcase your business! Or stop by to see what your community and surrounding communities have to offer! Enjoy family friendly activities and a FREE CORE Open House during the Expo. For more information, call the Lemont Chamber (630) 257-5997 or the Park District (630) 257-6787, X 3030.

March 6: 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

CORE Indoor Sprint Triathlon

Athletes will swim for 10, bike for 15 and run for 15 minutes. Total distance traveled will be measured at the conclusion of the event. Register at www.Active.com. For more information: (630) 257-6787, X 3037.



*Be sure to check the
Community Calendar of Events
section on our website for all
the latest event information at
www.lemontevents.com.*



Village Seeks Nominations for St. Patrick's Day Queen



The Village of Lemont is seeking nominations for Queen of the St. Patrick's Day Parade to be held on **Saturday, March 5** at 1:00 p.m. in historic downtown Lemont.

Nomination letters must be received by **February 1, 2016** and should be submitted to the Village of Lemont, 418 Main Street, Lemont, IL 60439, Attn: St. Patrick's Day Parade. The contest is open to Lemont residents, high school juniors through second year college students, preferably of Irish heritage. The candidate must demonstrate an active involvement in school service organizations and/or community service activities.

The nominee who is chosen will reign as Queen of our **25th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade** and lead this year's parade in a horse drawn carriage. For additional information, please contact Donna at (630) 243-2700.

On Line Voter's Registration

Citizens 18 years of age on or before the next general election, with an Illinois Driver's License or Identification Card can now register to vote online on the Cook County Clerk's website at www.cookcountyclerk.com. Select "Your Voter Information" from the left sidebar, and then select "Register to Vote" from the sidebar; a list of registration options will be shown. The process is simple, and when you complete your registration you will receive an email confirmation of your registration application. You will also receive an email confirmation once the Cook County Clerk's Office received your data. Your Voters Registration card will be mailed to your home.

Eligible voters can also register to vote in person with a Certified Registrar at one of the following Lemont locations:

- Lemont Public Library, 50 E. Wend Street, M-F 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. For registration after 5 p.m. and on weekends, please call ahead at (630) 257-6541.
- Lemont Township, 1115 Warner Avenue, M-F 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Lemont Village Hall, 418 Main Street, M-F 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The last day to register to vote in the March 15, 2016 Presidential Primary Election is February 16, 2016. The Presidential Election (general election) will be held on November 8, 2016. Please visit the Cook County Clerk website for all voter information – www.cookcountyclerk.com.

Commission Vacancies

The Planning & Zoning Commission has one appointed position open for a commissioner. The Commission meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Village Board Room. The PZC conducts reviews and makes recommendations to the Village Board of Trustees about proposed zoning actions and various planning documents. If you are interested in serving on this Commission and would like to apply, applications are located on the Village website, www.lemont.il.us, Lemont Village Hall, or call (630) 257-1552.

The Art & Culture Commission has one appointed position open for a commissioner. The Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in promoting the cultural environment in our community and would like to apply, applications are located on the Village website, www.lemont.il.us, at the Lemont Center for the Arts, Lemont Village Hall, or call (630) 257-1552. The Lemont Center for the Arts is located at 1243 State Street, Unit 101, Lemont, IL.

As Winter Unfolds Into Spring..... Save These Dates

March 2, 2016

Mayor's State of the Village Address

March 5, 2016

St. Patrick's Day Parade & Festival

April 16, 2016

LEAC's Spring Recycling Day

April 23, 2016

Earth Day Heritage Quarries Restoration (sponsored by CITGO)

April 25, 2016

Mayor's Drive for Charity

May 7, 2016

Quarryman Challenge



Remember How Important It Is To Shop Local



Shop Lemont This Holiday Season

It is never more important than during this holiday season that we continue to support our local businesses. For a community our size, we truly have a diversity of businesses, from boutique shops, to full service grocers, to great restaurants. They all need our support. Please patronize our local businesses for your holiday shopping needs. One of the best marketing tools to help attract new businesses to our community is support of our current local businesses. So shop local and support Lemont! Visit our website for a complete list of licensed local businesses.

For every dollar you spend in Lemont, a portion of that dollar returns to our community through taxes, payroll, and other expenditures. Spend it in another town or spend it online and *nothing comes home*.

Holiday Hours Village Offices



Village offices will be closed December 24 and 25.
Offices will also be closed on January 1 (New Year's)
and January 18 (Martin Luther King Day).



**PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOOD PANTRIES
DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON**



Lemont Village News

Village of Lemont
418 Main Street • Lemont, IL 60439
630-257-1550
FAX 630-257-1598
email: vlemont@lemont.il.us
website address: www.lemont.il.us

Mayor

Brian K. Reaves

Clerk

Charlene Smollen

Trustees

Debby Blatzer Rick Sniegowski
Paul Chialdikas Ronald Stapleton
Clifford Miklos Jeanette Virgilio

Village Administrator

George J. Schafer

*Village Board Meetings
2nd & 4th Mondays - 7:00 p.m.*

**Village of Lemont
418 Main Street
Lemont, IL 60439**

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