

Volume XXI, No.4 December 1, 2012 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 1 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Downtown Lemont

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

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



Mayor Brian K. Reaves Charlene Smollen, Clerk

Board of Trustees:

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

### From the Mayor's Desk

wishing you a Joyous Holiday Season!

From our families to yours,

As we approach the end of the holiday season and the beginning of another year, as a community we have much to be grateful for. Over the course of this past year, much has been accomplished and we begin to see the glimmer of improvement ahead. Two years ago, a significant topic of discussion in Lemont and many communities was vacancies due to the economic downturn. Over the course of this year I have been pleased to



attend many announcements, grand openings and reinvestment of businesses in the community through expansion and renovations. Those vacancies of years past continue to be filled. We had a total of 16 new business openings in 2012.

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 great diversity of business options available from national retailers to numerous boutique type businesses and a great variety of restaurants. They all need our support. Please patronize our local businesses for your holiday shopping needs from unique gifts to gift cards from our local restaurants. One of the best marketing tools in helping to attract new business in the 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.

#### **Construction Projects**

One of the major projects that has been talked about for some time has been the reconstruction of McCarthy/Derby/Archer roads, commonly referred to as the triangle project. I am pleased to report that this contract has officially been awarded and initial pre-construction meetings

Mayor's Message Cont'd on Pg. 2

#### From the Mayor's Desk

were held. There will be some preliminary work done still this year, with heavy construction scheduled to begin mid-March of 2013. It is also anticipated that the Walker/McCarthy intersection improvements will be done next year; however, exact timing with IDOT has not been finalized.

The renovation of our Village Hall is expected to continue into January. We will continue to reside in our temporary location in the Central School building at 410 McCarthy Road until further notice.

#### **Community**

Over the last few months, Lemont-Bromberek CSD 113A has been working diligently to create a five year Strategic Plan for the district. The district has sought input through discussions with parents, district volunteers and partners, local business owners and representatives from local taxing bodies, which I personally participated in. SD113A's Board and staff is wrapping up the data gathering portion of their Strategic Plan in a Community Forum being held on December 4th from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at Old Quarry's Learning Center. During this forum, the district will provide information on what was learned from the information gathering process, and will look to participants for feedback on the information gathered. As a result of this forum, the District's Board of Education will establish district priorities and create an action plan to be accountable for moving forward in the next five years. Your input is important. Help be a part of the vision of public education in our community and join them on December 4th.

#### **Support of Local Families**

There is much that makes our Village a wonderful place to live and work, but ultimately it is the people of Lemont that make it unique. While many of us will be celebrating during this holiday season, there are still those less fortunate in our Village who won't be as merry. Through the continued efforts of those who help support our families facing hardships by putting food on their tables and smiles on their children's faces, we ask for your support in any way possible. Reach out to the numerous non-profit organizations and faith based groups who help those in need. Most of these organizations have volunteer opportunities available such as assisting the Hope and Friendship Foundation with preparing holiday dishes, delivering Christmas dinners, or donating or sorting Christmas Care Boxes. The Lemont Township office assists our seniors, from providing various activities to providing them with meals. Volunteer opportunities are available to help with the senior lunches or assist with the delivery of Meals on Wheels. As always, please support our local food pantry. Drop off locations in Lemont for food items are Chipain's, Lemont Police Station lobby, Lemont Township Office lobby, Starbucks and U.S. Bank.

On behalf of the Village Board and Village staff we wish you all a safe and happy holiday season and a blessed New Year.

Brian K. Reaves, Mayor



## 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 9th at 1:00 p.m. in historic downtown Lemont.

Nomination letters must be received on or before **February 8, 2013** and should be submitted to the Village of Lemont, 418 Main Street, Lemont, IL 60439, Attn: Festival Committee. 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 the 22nd 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.

In your travels this holiday season, remember two important convictions:

ALWAYS use your seatbelt and NEVER drink and drive.

### Senior Volunteers Honored



## Reverend Glenn Bergmark Honored as 2012 Citizen of the Year by U.S. Representative Dan Lipinski

Reverend Glenn Bergmark was honored by U.S. Representative Dan Lipinski (IL-3) as one of the recipients of the 2012 Senior Citizen of the Year Award. Seniors were recognized for their volunteerism and involvement in the local communities that make up the Third Congressional District at the award ceremony on October 18th.

Reverend Bergmark was nominated by Mayor Brian Reaves for his countless hours of involvement in the Lemont community for so many organizations, expanding over a period of 47 years. It began in 1965, when he became Pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church where he retired after almost 40 years of service. He currently serves as

an elected Trustee of the Lemont Fire Protection District and on their Pension Board. He is also a member of the Lemont Environmental Advisory Commission, Lemont Christian Clergy Association, PLOWS Council on Aging, Odor Alert Network, Community Awareness Emergency Response for CITGO Lemont Refinery, Community Chest of Lemont, Ethics Committee of Franciscan Village/Mother Theresa Home and is a 40 year member of the Lemont Lion's Club. Mayor Reaves noted that Reverend Bergmark is truly an exceptional individual and we are so thankful for his dedication to the Village of Lemont.



## Rebecca Betten Honored by the Illinois TRIAD

On August 27, 2012 the Illinois TRIAD recognized senior volunteers from areas of Illinois for their countless hours of volunteer work in their communities.

From the Lemont community, Rebecca Betten from the Lemont S.A.L.T. Organization (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) was recognized for her many hours of volunteer time put in while being a member of the Lemont S.A.L.T. Organization. Becky is very involved in every event the S.A.L.T. Organization puts

together, including the Lemont Senior Expo, Senior Games and S.A.L.T. picnics. Becky continues to be an inspiration to others.

The award reads "...the hours dedicated to the Lemont Police Department and for your volunteer efforts to maintain a safe commuity in Illinois."

Chief Kevin Shaughnessy of the Lemont Police Department is very proud of her, as Becky is one of only a handful of individuals recognized throughout the State of Illinois for her volunteer efforts and would like to thank her for all the volunteer hours she has put in while being a member of the S.A.L.T Organization.

## **WINTER INFO**

## 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
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.
Watch Channel 6
or call (630) 257-1550 for information.









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.



#### **Don't Take Chances!**

## Winter Storms and Emergencies

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-ofway 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.

## Important Phone Numbers

Police or Fire Emergency: 9-1-1
Water & Sewer After Hours

Emergency: 9-1-1

Water & Sewer Dept. 630-257-2532
Water Billing Dept. 630-257-6277
J.U.L.I.E. (Utility Locator) 800-892-0123
NICOR 888-642-6748
ComEd 800-334-7661
Comcast Cable T.V. 866-594-1234
Waste Management 800-796-9696



#### **Holiday Safety Tips!**

As the holiday season nears, please take extra precautions to keep you and your family safe. Following are tips from the National Crime Prevention Council:

#### While Shopping:

- Park in well lit areas and lock doors.
- Purchases should be hidden in the trunk out of view.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Keep purse close to your body and wallets in a front pocket.
- Have a designated meeting place for older children.
- Instruct young children if lost, to go to a sales clerk at a register, request help and remain at the counter until your arrival.
- Children should never return to your vehicle in the parking lot to wait for you!
- Know where to find credit card contact information if they get lost or stolen.

#### At Home:

- Always lock the doors and windows of your home.
- Display gifts where they can't be seen.
- If a delivery person or solicitor comes to your door, ask for official identification through the locked door. Call to verify identity using a number you get through the phonebook or 411, not one they offer you.

#### **Vacation Leaves:**

- Use an automatic timer for your lights and radio.
- Have a friend or good neighbor watch your residence and make it look inhabited.
- Lemont Police Department offers a Vacation Watch for up to two weeks at a time. Applications are located at the kiosk in the lobby of the Police Department.

#### **Police Briefs**



Keeping citizens informed.

The Lemont Police Department participates with Southwest Central Dispatch to provide residents with emergency and severe weather

alerts by telephone (reverse 911). This program, called CodeRED, is designed to quickly and efficiently deliver targeted emergency notifications, severe weather warnings, road closures, missing child alerts, and other alerts and warnings directly to you by phone. This service is completely voluntary.

You can sign up for CodeRED by visiting <a href="http://www.southwestcentral911.">http://www.southwestcentral911.</a> org. There is a direct link on that page to sign up for the CodeRED alerts. There is also a link from the Village website for CodeRED sign-up. If you need assistance or have additional questions, please contact the Lemont Police Department at (630) 257-2229. There is no cost for this service.



#### In an Emergency, Can We Find You?

Make sure your address is visible from the street. If there is a police, fire or medical emergency at your home, can first responders find you fast? Address markers that are hidden

by shrubs or trees, or ones that are non-reflecting or unlighted are hard to spot, even by trained emergency personnel. Help us help you! Make sure your address is easily visible. If you have a long driveway, or a shared drive, make sure there are markers at the street, on the house, and at forks in the drive. Large numbers, 3-4 inches high that reflect light are best. It is also helpful if the numbers are visible from both directions on your street and visible at night as well as during the day. Technology is making the job easier, but it's neither foolproof nor perfect. A well-marked residence or business is the best way to ensure that when you call 9-1-1, we can find you.

#### **The Pothole Hotline**

Winter can be unusually harsh to area roadways. To report potholes or submit a claim for damage on a non-village roadway, please consult the appropriate agency:

127th Street	Cook County Hwy. Dept.	(312)	603-1600
127th Street (Smith to State)	Cook County Project	(630)	420-1700
131st Street	IDOT	(847)	705-4000
Archer Avenue	IDOT	(847)	705-4061
Bell Road	Cook County Hwy. Dept.	(312)	603-1600
Lemont Road (North of Bluff)	DuPage County	(630)	682-7318
Main Street (East of Wheeler)	IDOT	(847)	705-4061
McCarthy Road	IDOT	(847)	705-4061
New Avenue	IDOT	(847)	705-4061
Walker Road	Cook County Hwy. Dept.	(312)	603-1600

Potholes on IDOT roadways can also be reported via e-mail at webmaster@iltrafficalert.com. To report potholes on Village-maintained roadways, please call the Public Works Department at (630) 257-2532 or publicworks@lemont.il.us.



### Odor Alert Network (OAN)

The pioneering environmental initiative to improve air quality in the Lemont area is in its ninth year of operation. This initiative, the Lemont Odor Alert Network (OAN), is focused on resolving nuisance odor problems.

Fewer than 10% of odor complaints were being resolved before the OAN began operation. In its nine years of operation, the OAN has consistently resolved over half of all odor complaints. Ninety-six percent of the odor complaints in the 2010-2011 operating year were resolved and eighty-eight percent of the odor complaints reported in 2011-2012 were resolved.

#### How does the OAN work?

When residents notice an outdoor odor, they should immediately call:

During business hours: (630) 257-2228, Ext.0 (Police Dept.)

Evenings and weekends: (630) 257-2226

Anytime:

(630) 257-2376, Ext. 222 (Fire Dept.)

Tom Ballard, the Lemont OAN Coordinator, will investigate and respond to each caller. Mark LaChappell and Ed Buettner provide additional support.

Romeoville has now joined the OAN with their own Coordinator and the information is shared mutually with Lemont, which helps identify odor sources that impact both municipalities. Inquiries about the OAN and news of our success has spread regionally. The Lemont OAN is a successful example of how the business community, concerned residents and local government work in cooperation to improve our air quality.



## Saturday, December 1st: 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. HOMETOWN HOLLIDAY

- Tree Decorating Throughout Town by Various Organizations
- Ice Sculpting Demonstration (Budnik Plaza)
- Horsedrawn Wagon Rides from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. (Budnik Plaza)
- Facepainting from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. (Nail Inn Academy, 115 Stephen)
- Sponsored by Girl Scouts Community Service Unit 24
  - Complimentary Hot Chocolate & Cookies
  - Toy Drive for Earl Anderson Foundation
  - Food Drive for the Local Food Pantries
  - Collection of Personal Care, Cleaning & Laundry Items
  - "Christmas Cards to Heroes" Mini-Event. Girl Scouts will supply all cards, paper & writing utensils needed. Stop in and write a note to our soldiers!
- Caroling Girl Scouts from 4:30 to 5:00 p.m. (Budnik Plaza)
- Tree Lighting 5:00 p.m. (Budnik Plaza)
- Visits With Santa from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. (Sweet Water Deli)
- Variety of Children's Activities to Enjoy!

For more information, call Village Hall at 630-243-2700.

## Friday, December 7th: 6:00 p.m. til Midnight MIDNIGHT MADNESS

- Participating Merchants stay open til midnight for the convenience of holiday shoppers arts and crafts vendors too! Enter the "Shop Lemont" Contest!
- Pick up your map of participating merchants & activities at Belle De Jour, 108 Stephen Street.
- Pictures with Santa for you and your pet from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Pawz 'N Klawz at Talcott Square, 447 Talcott Street.

Contact Michelle at 630-514-6642 with questions or interest in participating.



## HOMETOWN HOLIDAY EVENT SERIES

Hometown Holiday, December 1, 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.



Midnight Madness, December 7, 6:00 p.m. to Midnight

See Page 6 for Schedule & Full Details.



#### Holiday Artists Bazaar Lemont Center for the Arts

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

Extended Holiday Shopping Hours November 9th through December 23rd (We will be closed on Black Friday, 11/23)

Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

#### December 1: 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. OR 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. – 2 Sessions Offered "Milk & Cookies With Santa"

Franciscan Village, 1270 Village Drive. Admission FREE. Visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus, "Milk and Cookies," and Children's Christmas Bingo with prizes. Goodies, door prizes & face painting. RSVP's required by November 24. Phone 630-243-3412 or 630-243-3451 to RSVP or for more information.

#### December 2: 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Christmas Choral Concert & Holiday Cookie Sale at Lemont Historical Society

306 Lemont Street. Doors Open at 1:00 p.m. Enjoy the music of the Christmas Season by the choirs of St. Patrick and St. Alphonsus Churches, 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 <a href="https://www.lemonthistorical.org">www.lemonthistorical.org</a>.

### December 4: 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. District 113a's "Forum for the Future"

Old Quarry Middle School's Learning Resource Center. Forum feedback, community survey results, future direction. Please join us in developing our Strategic Plan. Questions can be directed to the District Office at 630-257-2286.

## December 6: 7:00 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: \$5 donation for the Township Family Emergency Fund and/or a bag of food/personal care products for the Food Pantries. 50/50 Raffle, too. Questions, call 630-257-2522.

### December 8: 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Shop Til You Drop!

Come start your Christmas shopping at The CORE. You will be able to pick out gifts for your whole family at our shopping expo. There will be over 10 company vendors such as Pampered Chef, Tupperware, Lia Sophia, Thirty One, and more. Crafters are also invited to participate in this event. This one day shopping event will offer a variety of gifts to please even the pickiest shopper. For more info, call the Park District at 630-257-6787. FREE entry to shoppers!

#### December 8: 2 Seatings - 8:30 & 11:30 a.m. Lemont Junior Woman's Club Hosts its 18th Annual Benefit Breakfast With Santa

Location: Cog Hill Country Club. Guests enjoy a buffet breakfast with table-side magic performances, a visit with Santa, crafts with Mrs. Claus, and a horse-drawn sleigh ride. The event benefits over 50 underprivileged children in our community. Reservations must be made in advance. Please contact Lindsey (773-562-8353) or Sandi (773-230-0766) for more information.

### December 14 thru 16: 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. Franciscan Village Holds "Live Nativity"

This unique, live outdoor event includes live animals, a baby camel, a miniature donkey, sheep, goats and a lamb, and will be held at Franciscan Village, 1270 Village Drive. Please enter our community at the west entrance on Main Street. You will be guided through the community grounds past the Live Nativity scene. You will then exit right, via the east entrance onto Main Street. This event is FREE. For more information, call 630-243-3500.

#### December 15: 6:00 p.m. December 16: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. "A Rockin' Royal Christmas"

Location: First Nazarene, 12725 Bell Road. Musical presented by the children's department. For more information, call 708-349-0454.

### December 16: 8:00 a.m. 4th Annual Frigid 5K

This event will feature a 5K race (3.1 mile) that will take place at the Park District's Centennial Park Campus. Awards given to the top 2 runners in each age division. All runners receive a T-shirt if registered before December 10th. For more info, call the Park District at 630-257-6787.

### December 16: 9:00 a.m. to Noon Breakfast With Santa

Centennial Building Gym. Enjoy all your breakfast favorites as we turn Lemont Park District into the Polar Express! Children visit and have their pictures taken with Santa, make a holiday craft and/or listen to the story of the Polar Express. For more info, call the Park District at 630-257-6787.

#### December 16: 6:00 p.m.

#### "Home for Christmas" Concert & Carol Sing First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 Bell Road. Southwest Community Concert Band (pre-concert

ensemble music begins at 5:30 p.m.). Free admission. Food pantry donations accepted for Lemont. For more information: 708-349-0454.



### December 31: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Happy New Year Family Fun Day

Join us in ringing in our own New Year at noon instead of midnight! We'll celebrate with party favors, a ball drop at noon, a pizza lunch and fun new year's activities for the entire family. For more information, call the Park District at 630-257-6787.

### January 3: 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Franciscan Village Holiday Housewalk

1270 Village Drive, Lemont. Residents look forward to opening their homes and sharing a glimpse of the exceptional lifestyle they enjoy. RSVP at 630-243-3479.

#### January 22: 7:00 p.m. Happy Birthday, Teddy Bear! Lemont Historical Society, 306 Lemont Street

Please join the Lemont Area Historical Society in their celebration of the Teddy Bear's 110th Birthday. Come and learn the history of the Teddy Bear. Bring yours and share a story about your "Very Loved Bear," take a photo and enjoy the Teddy Bear Picnic. Teddy Bear repair will also be offered. For more info: 630-257-2972 or <a href="https://www.lemonthistorical.org">www.lemonthistorical.org</a>.

### January 26 • February 16: 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Special Needs Respite Nights

First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 Bell Road. Staffed by trained professionals. Contact Pastor Adam Lewis, 708-349-0454 to register or for more information.

## February 2: Starting at 9:00 a.m. Open Registration for Children's Clothing RESALE

First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 Bell Road. Small registration fee. First-come, first-served. For more information, please call 708-349-0454.

#### February 9: Starting at 7:00 p.m. SD 113A Educational Foundation Presents Mardi Gras Mask-er-Aid

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Ruffled Feathers Golf Club, One Pete Dye Drive, Entertainment provided by the Blooze Brothers. Visit <a href="https://www.SD113AFoundation.org">www.SD113AFoundation.org</a> for more information and to purchase tickets.

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

March 6: State of the Village Address
March 9: St. Patrick's Day Parade
For More Info: 630-243-2700



## Important Notice Regarding Your Water Utility Bill If You Pay Online Using Your Bank

Residents who pay their utility bills online using their bank may have noticed some delays in water bill processing. Due to the reconstruction of the Village Hall, all mail has been forwarded to the temporary location at 410 McCarthy Road. Due to the mail being forwarded, it has sometimes taken 30 days to forward, or the mail has been returned to sender. For example: a resident signs on to their bank account and utilizes their online bill pay on the 15th of the month. The paying bank will then send the Village a check for payment of the utility bill. The Village should receive this within 5 business days (in time for the due date of the 20th), but has seen delays of up to 30 days (which would be past the due date).

If you would like to avoid these issues, residents may sign up for Direct Debit; pay their utility bill online via the Village of Lemont website; or temporarily revise the mailing address with your bank to send your check directly to 410 McCarthy Road while the Village Hall remains under renovation. Otherwise, you could see delays in your payment processing.



## 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 21 (Martin Luther King Day).







#### **Lemont Village News**

Village of Lemont
410 McCarthy Road • 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**

Benjamin P. Wehmeier

Village Board Meetings 2nd & 4th Mondays - 7:00 p.m. Village of Lemont 410 McCarthy Road Lemont, IL 60439

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