



Village News

Volume XVIII, No.4
December 1, 2009

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
2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Downtown Lemont

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

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



*From our families to yours,
a Joyous Holiday Season!*

Mayor Brian Reaves
Charlene Smollen, Clerk

Board of Trustees:

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



From the Mayor's Desk

Village Website Gets a Facelift

The new and improved Village website made its debut in early November. It is attractive, easier to use and should vastly improve communication with residents. One of the new features is the Electronic News Sign-up. Important notifications can be provided to residents instantly through email, text message and/or web access. Visit the website at www.lemont.il.us and register by clicking on the E-News Signup icon. Increased payment options for utility bills, ordinance fines and building permits through Illinois E-Pay will be up and running by the end of December.

Census 2010 - Jobs Available

The Local Census Office serving our community is now open: U.S. Census Bureau, 936 N. State Street in Lockport.

We have been notified by the Census Bureau that testing for enumerator positions has already begun at several suburban testing sites. This is temporary, part-time work offering good pay, flexible hours and paid training. Bilingual speakers are especially encouraged to apply. Residents who are interested in testing for census jobs should call the Census phone number (866) 861-2010 to coordinate a location and time for testing that is convenient. Actual hiring of census workers will not take place until after the first of the year.

2010 Census Form - It's Easy, It's Quick, It's Safe.

It is not too soon to begin reminding residents that census forms will be mailed to each household in March, 2010. When you receive it, it's important to fill it out promptly and send it back. An accurate count of our population forms the basis for many important political,

Mayor's Message cont'd on p. 2

From the Mayor's Desk

economic, and social decisions that affect our daily lives. The information collected in the census helps to determine how more than \$400 billion dollars in federal funding is spent. The Complete Count Committee chaired by Trustee Ron Stapleton has been meeting regularly at the Village Hall to develop promotional activities to promote the census.



Lemont Designated as a Preserve America Community

The Village has received notice from the White House that Lemont has been designated as a Preserve America Community, recognizing our significant accomplishments in historic preservation, community revitalization and heritage education. The Preserve America program is a federal effort to encourage and support community efforts to preserve and enjoy America's cultural and natural heritage. Some of the benefits of this designation include being listed as a heritage tourism destination, and eligibility to apply for Preserve America Grants to provide economic and educational opportunities related to heritage tourism. Through this tool, Lemont can use its substantial historic assets to encourage economic development and community revitalization.

Joint Presentation on Tax Levy

On November 30, a joint presentation by all Lemont governmental agencies was made and televised on local cable access Channel 6. The program will be aired several times during December, and I encourage all residents to view it. The goal of the presentation is to assist tax payers in understanding the complexities of the tax levy process and address any resident concerns about the relationship between the tax levy and their taxes. This is another example of intergovernmental cooperation to keep residents informed and involved in the governmental process. We especially salute Lemont High School District #210 which served as the lead agency in putting the presentation together.

Efforts Continue for Improved Train Service.

For several months, the Mayors and Administrators of the Heritage Corridor Rail Line communities have been involved in an effort to gain improved and more efficient rail service. Recently, we were able to meet with the Executive Director of Metra and personally present our case. We left the meeting encouraged that Metra officials see the need for improvements on the Heritage Corridor Line and will join with us in the initiative to lobby our legislators for funding of infrastructure improvements to make some of the service upgrades a reality.

On behalf of the entire Village Board, I would like to personally acknowledge the significant contribution of Administrator Gary Holmes to the Village of Lemont over the past 9 years. Gary very skillfully administered the day to day operation of the Village Hall, Public Works and Police Departments professionally and with dedication. We send our very best wishes with him as he retires.

In this holiday season, we extend the sincere wishes of the Village Board and staff for a healthy, safe and joyous Christmas and New Year!

Brian K. Reaves, Mayor

Village Administrator Gary Holmes to Retire December 31

After 9 years as Lemont's Village Administrator, Gary Holmes will retire on December 31, 2009. During his career as Chief Administrative



Officer, Gary has seen the Village population expand from about 13,000 to almost 17,000 residents. Although he has been in Lemont for 9 years, Gary was recently honored for a total of 30 years of service as an administrative professional by the International City Managers Association.

Looking back on the significant accomplishments of his career in Lemont, Gary considers the opening of the I-355 Extension, improvements to 127th Street, and the construction of the new Public Works and Police facilities as his major achievements.

Lemont's New Village Administrator

Effective January 1, 2010, Ben Wehmeier will assume the duties of Village Administrator. Ben has been a full-time Assistant Village Administrator



since 2006, and prior to that served as Administrative Intern while simultaneously completing his Master's Degree in Public Administration and his Law Degree. Ben is a member of both the Illinois and Wisconsin bar associations and is a Captain in the Illinois National Guard.

Ben served a one-year tour of duty in Iraq in 2007-2008.



10 Questions 10 Minutes It's Easy, Quick & Safe

Every household will receive a census form in March, 2010. There are only 10 questions on the form:

1. How many people living in this house on April 1, 2010?
2. Were there any additional people you did not include in question #1?
3. Is this house or apartment owned or rented?
4. What is your telephone number?
5. What is Person #1's name?
6. What is Person #1's gender?
7. What is Person #1's date of birth?
8. Is Person #1 of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin?
9. What is Person #1's race?
10. Does Person #1 sometimes live or stay somewhere else?

The form will ask you to provide this information for each member of your household and mail the form back.

The data from your form will be tabulated but your personal information will be sealed by law for 72 years. The information cannot be accessed by any other agency, so it is completely safe.

Why should you return the Census Form?

Federal funds are awarded to states and communities BASED ON CENSUS DATA.

**For more information
visit www.census.gov/2010census**

2010 Census - Employment

Part-time Census Jobs Available

Temporary, part-time employment opportunities are available with the 2010 Census. Testing is underway at several suburban locations for census takers, crew leaders, crew leader assistants, recruiting assistants and census clerks. Even if you previously tested, you must re-test for these positions. Bilingual speakers are urged to apply. Complete information regarding available jobs and a practice test is available on the census website: www.2010censusjobs.gov. To schedule a testing date and location, call 815-221-4470 or 866-861-2010.

Two forms of identification will be required at the testing site and the applicant must pass a written test to qualify for employment.

What's New

Street Signs on State Street



New street signs were recently installed on State Street by the Public Works Department. The Department designed, manufactured and installed the signs in-house at a considerable savings over vendor-provided signs. As budget and schedule permits, the new signs will eventually be installed on major streets: 127th Street, McCarthy Road, Archer Avenue, Illinois Street and New Avenue.

Kiosks Downtown



New informational kiosks have been installed downtown. One is located on the corner of Stephen Street and Canal Street, across from Budnik Plaza and the other is located near the north side of the pedestrian bridge over the I & M Canal. A map and a directory of downtown businesses will be displayed along with information on upcoming Village events. The information and maps will be installed soon. Echo Design, a downtown graphic design firm, assisted the Village with this project.

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, Village Website - www.lemont.il.us
 or call 630-257-1550 for information.



Salting and Snow Removal

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-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.

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

Planning Effort for I & M Canal Underway

Lemont's history is closely linked with the Illinois & Michigan Canal. Congress established the I & M Canal National Heritage Corridor as the nation's first national heritage area in 1984, and the Canal Corridor Association (CCA) was subsequently created as the local coordinating agency for preservation and development activities within the Corridor.

The Canal Corridor Association, the Village of Lemont, other canal communities, along with county and state agencies are partnering on the development of a management plan for the Corridor to cover preservation, conservation and economic development in the Corridor. On November 17th, the Village co-hosted one of four planning forums aimed at obtaining public input on the vision for the Corridor.

In January, the Canal Corridor Association and the Village will host another public meeting to obtain input on the prioritization of identified projects.

Contact Jim, Brown, Planning and Economic Development Director at (630) 257-1581 or jbrown@lemont.il.us for more information.

Lemont Jaycees Will Again be Collecting "Toys for Santa!"



Santa needs new unwrapped toys for children of all ages up to 18 years old. Santa visits thousands of children every year to make their Christmas brighter. Watch for the collection boxes at various locations in town. If you would like to make a donation and are unable to make it to one of the drop-off locations, please call the Jaycees at (630) 257-2423.

Police Briefs

Police Department Provides Fighting Chance Workshop

In November, the Police Department partnered with the Lemont Junior Woman's Club, the Fire Department and the Illinois State Police in providing another Fighting Chance Workshop for students age 9-15. Workshops have been presented over the last few years to educate children on avoiding and preventing abduction.

Instruction is given on how to escape from a vehicle, the best hiding places in a building or home, how to identify an attacker, 911 and cell phone instruction, and some basic hand to hand techniques for restraint.

The workshop is designed to empower young people in the event of kidnapping or abduction by presenting both information and skills.

For more information, please contact Office Denise Bode at (630) 257-2229.

Lemont S.A.L.T. First Senior Expo

About 100 seniors attended the first annual Senior Expo presented by the Lemont S.A.L.T. (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) Council on November 12.

Twenty-seven vendors from Lemont and surrounding areas provided information and services to Lemont seniors ranging from flu shots to free legal advice. S.A.L.T. is planning to make the Expo an annual event.

E-News Sign-up

Residents can receive instant notifications on road closures, weather emergencies and Village events by email, text message and/or web access by registering on the Village website at www.lemont.il.us. **Click on the E-NEWS SIGNUP icon to register. If you previously registered for the E-mail Alert, you should re-register for this service.**

Art & Culture Commission Gets Temporary Art Center

Brad Byarski, developer of the Lemont Village Square Plaza, has donated a storefront at 1243 State Street near the Aldi store to the Art & Culture Commission for use as the Lemont Center for the Arts. The Commission will now have space for a studio for public art projects, a gallery to display some of its previous and future work and the capacity to include the performing arts.



HOMETOWN HOLIDAY EVENT SERIES

Saturday, December 5th: 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

HOMETOWN HOLIDAY

- Tree Decorating Throughout Town
- Ice Sculpting Demonstration at Budnik Plaza
- Horsedrawn Wagon Rides from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- Facepainting from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- Complimentary Hot Chocolate & Cookies
Provided by Girl Scouts Community Service Unit 24
- Caroling – Girl Scouts from 4:30 to 5:00 p.m.
- Tree Lighting – Budnik Plaza at 5:00 p.m.
- Pictures With Santa & Mrs. Claus from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.,
\$5.00 donation to the Lemont Food Pantry
- Variety of Children's Activities (Crafts, Games & Storytelling)

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

Saturdays, December 5th, 12th & 19th: 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

KRIS KRINGLE MARKETS

431 Talcott Avenue - Historic Downtown Lemont

- Come, take your picture with Mr. & Mrs. Claus in the North Pole, \$5.00 Donation to The Lemont Food Pantry.
- Enjoy the outdoor German inspired market.
- Carolers, story telling and much more.
- Lions Club eyeglasses drop-off box on site.
- Please come and help those in need this holiday season!

Contact Viviana at 630-243-9430 with questions or interest in participating.

Friday, December 18th: 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!
- Caroling – St. Pat's Choir Starting at 7:00 p.m.

Contact Village Hall at 630-243-2700 with questions or interest in participating.

Lemont Welcomes New Business

*Shop Lemont during this
Holiday Season!*



*Celina's Fresh Market
14164 McCarthy Road*



*The World According To ... Boutique
439 Talcott Avenue*



*Duplicity Furniture & Accessory
Consignment Shop, 447 Talcott Street*



*Chicago Taste Gyros
1220 State Street*



*Stationery Girl
220 Main Street*



December 4: 7:00 p.m.
Polar Express Night in 3D

A free family Christmas event! Come in your PJs!
 Location: First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 Bell Road, Lemont. Call the church office, 708-349-0454, for more information.

December 5: 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Hometown Holiday
Historic Downtown Lemont

A Fun-Filled Afternoon for the Entire Family. For The Day's Schedule of Events, See Page 6.

December 5th, 12th & 19th:
2:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Kris Kringle Market
Historic Downtown Lemont

Fun for the Entire Family. More details on Page 6.

Dec. 18: 6:00 p.m. - Midnight
Midnight Madness

Historic Downtown Lemont

Escape the malls! Caroling starting at 7:00 p.m. adds to the fun! For a complete schedule, see Page 6.



December 5: 2 Sessions from 9:30 a.m. to Noon OR from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
"Milk & Cookies With Santa"

Franciscan Village, 1270 Village Drive, Lemont. Ages Birth to 12. Admission is FREE. As a result of growing response in past years, this year 2 sessions are offered. Please RSVP by December 1. Call 630-243-3412 or 630-243-3451. Each session will consist of Visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus, "Milk and Cookies" with Santa, and Children's Christmas Bingo with Prizes. There will be goodies for each child, door prizes and face painting.

December 6: 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Lemont Area Historical Society's Annual Christmas Choral Concert and Homemade Cookie Sale – Location: The Old Stone Church, 306 Lemont Street. FREE ADMISSION. Enjoy the harmonies of the season performed by the choirs of Lemont. Delicious homemade holiday cookies available for purchase. For further info call 630-257-2972.

December 8: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Lemont Library's Holiday Open House

Lemont Library Meeting Room. Enjoy cookies and punch, visit with your neighbors, library staff and Friends of the Lemont Library. The Open House will feature a special Victorian/Civil War Christmas musical performance by the Battlefield Balladeers at 7:00 p.m. You will be entertained by a medley of traditional Christmas songs performed on the guitar, banjo, harmonica and fiddle, as well as many tunes popular during the Civil War era. Audience members are encouraged to sing along and ring sleigh bells to the tunes. **Help others in need by bringing non-perishable food items to donate to local food pantries. No reservations required.** Contact Sandra Pointon at 630-257-6541 for more information.

December 12: 2 Seatings
8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Lemont Junior Woman's Club Hosts its 15th Annual Benefit Breakfast With Santa
 Location: Cog Hill Country Club. Guests at each seating enjoy a visit with Santa, stories with Mrs. Claus, a sleigh ride, a roaming magician, and a buffet breakfast. The event benefits over 50 underprivileged children in our community. Please contact Linda at 630-257-0136 for additional information.

Dec. 12 – Jan. 30 – Feb. 27: 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Special Needs Respite Nights

A time of crafts, sensory integration, music, snacks and more staffed by trained professionals. Location: First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 Bell Road. Call Pastor Adam Lewis at 708-349-0454, ext. 41 to register or register online at www.chicagofirstnaz.org.

December 17th thru 20th: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Franciscan Village Holds "Live Nativity"

This unique, live outdoor event will also include live animals; a baby camel, a miniature donkey and baby, sheep, goats and a lamb. Event held at Franciscan Village the evenings of 12/17 thru 12/20. The event is FREE. For further information, contact the Franciscan Village at 630-243-3500.

December 20: 9:00 a.m. to Noon
Breakfast With Santa

Come celebrate the season at Lemont Park District's magical Winter wonderland! Children will visit and have their picture taken with Santa, make a holiday craft, and play fun festive games! Fee if purchased by Dec. 16th is \$10 (rdr \$7) and a Family of four is \$26 - each add'l member \$6. On the day of the event cost will be \$11 (rdr \$8) and a Family of four is \$30 - each add'l member \$7. For more info, call the Park District at 630-257-6787.

December 20: 6:00 p.m.
Annual Carol Sing and Fellowship

Ensemble music starting at 5:30 p.m. An evening of holiday music with the Southwest Community Concert Band and special guests followed by a time of refreshments. Location: First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 Bell Road, Lemont. Call 708-349-0454, for more information.

January 2: 7:30 to 10:00 p.m.
EDGE Engage Bowl-a-Rama

First Church of the Nazarene. For students in Grades 6-12. For more info go to nazedge.com or call 708-349-0454.

January 6: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Franciscan Village Holiday Housewalk

1270 Village Drive, Lemont. Housewalks look forward to opening their homes to you. RSVP at 630-243-3500.

January 14:
"Let's Connect" Winter Gathering

Our next gathering is on Thursday, 1/14 at 7:00 at Shale Harbour, 102 Stephen Street. Guest speaker will be Terri O'Neill from Hope & Friendship Ministries. Please join us for food, friendship and fun! Questions call Julie Johnson (630) 243-1898.

January 23: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Annual Band Day Sponsored by Southwest Community Concert Band

For students in Grades 6-9. For more information go to swcommunityband.com or call the church office at 708-349-0454.

January 24: Noon to 7:00 p.m.
Lemont Junior Woman's Club Fundraiser

Grab your friends, grab your family and head down to Seamus McGhee's on January 24th. From noon to 7 p.m. LJWC will receive all tips and 15% of the proceeds (including take-out orders) to benefit all of our local programs. Don't forget, the NFL playoffs will be going on, so grab some fans and come watch the game with us. Hope to see you there!

February 6: 9:00 a.m. til Full Seller/Volunteer Registration for Spring Children's Resale – First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 Bell Road, Lemont. First-come, first-served. Call 708-349-0454 for more info.

February 13: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Community Blood Drive

First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 Bell Road. For more information or to sign up, call the church office at 708-349-0454.

LEMONT JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB

The LJWC is a volunteer organization that supports worthy causes in our community. We sponsor scholarships to local students, support local food pantries and Meals on Wheels, and provide safety curriculum for Lemont citizens and children. We're a diverse group of women of all ages that encourage self-improvement, foster friendships, and have fun. We meet the first Wednesday of each month at the Village Hall, 418 Main Street at 7:00 p.m. Please join us or for more information visit our website at www.lemontjuniorwomansclub.org.

FEEDBACK

Your comments, suggestions and concerns are important to us. Please use this form to communicate and include your name and address if you would like a response.

Return to:
Village of Lemont
418 Main Street
Lemont, IL 60439



Holiday Hours Village Offices

Village offices will be closed December 24 and 25th.
Offices will also be closed on January 1.



PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOOD PANTRIES
DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



Lemont Village News

Village of Lemont
418 Main Street Lemont, IL 60439-3788
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	Ron Stapleton
Clifford Miklos	Jeanette Virgilio

Village Administrator

Gary C. Holmes

Village Board Meetings
2nd & 4th Mondays - 7:00 pm

Village of Lemont
418 Main Street
Lemont, IL 60439

Car-T-Sort
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lemont, IL
60439
Permit No. 89

Postal Customer
Lemont, IL 60439

