



Village News

Volume XII No. 1
March 1, 2003

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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St. Patrick's Day
Parade and Festival
March 8th - 1:00 p.m.
Historic Downtown
Lemont

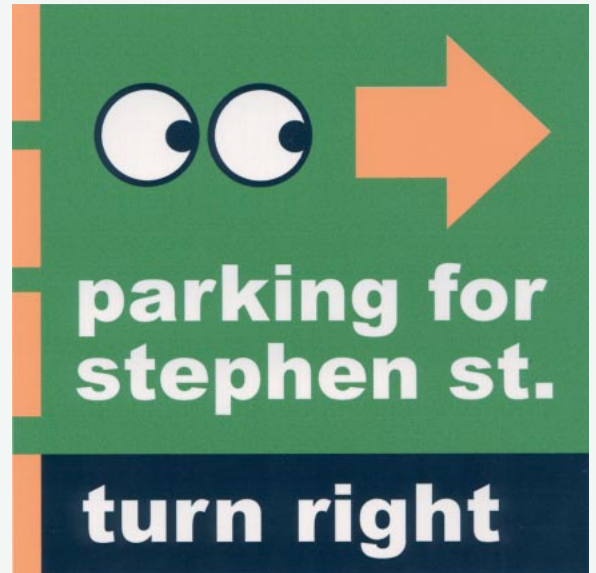
Irish music and
dancing in our tent on
Stephen Street

See details on p. 5

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

Follow the signs to downtown parking during the Stephen Street Construction project, scheduled to begin in early April and continue through November. Your support of downtown businesses and restaurants during the construction is appreciated.

More info on page 3



From the Mayor's Desk

Village Moves Another Step Closer To Heritage Quarries Park

Phase I to be Ready by End of Summer

Recent successful negotiations by the Village with K.A. Steel Chemicals and I.M.T.T. have resulted in obtaining lease agreements for Ice Box Quarry and sufficient additional acreage to develop Phase I of the Heritage Quarries Park Master Plan by the end of this summer.

The north side of the I & M Canal path has already been cleared, surfaced, extended west to I.M.T.T. and looped around the Great Lakes Quarries by volunteers and the Village Public Works Department.

The remaining grant funds, approved three years ago by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, will be used to construct a parking area this spring on the south side of the I & M Canal, just west of Ice Box Quarry, and to extend the path on the south side of the Canal to I.M.T.T. Funds have also been requested to construct two pedestrian bridges over the I & M Canal, one near Amato's Quarry and an additional crossing point near I.M.T.T., also to be constructed this spring. Contingent upon construction cost, a third footbridge near the waterfall has been designed and may also be constructed.



Mayor's Message cont'd on p. 2

From the Mayor's Desk

(continued from page 1)

Unveiling Phase I of the Heritage Quarries Park this year is an exciting prospect for the Village Board. The natural beauty of this area is awesome, and we as residents of Lemont are fortunate to soon be able to hike, bike, and fish in over 100 acres of pristine open space. Phases II and III of the park concept plan will be developed as funding becomes available.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge Trustee Jeanette Virgilio who has been the driving force behind this project, spearheading the negotiations with K.A. Steel and I.M.T.T. to keep the plan moving forward. Also, we offer many thanks to our Director of Public Works, Dan Fielding, and his entire crew for turning a vision into reality.

Sincerely,

John F. Piazza

Mayor

Phase I: Heritage Quarries Park



Mayor's Drive for Charity - Monday, April 28



This is the fifth consecutive year that Ruffled Feathers has generously donated the use of their outstanding facility for this event.

The 2003 Mayor's Drive for Charity, jointly sponsored by Mayor John Piazza and Ruffled Feathers Golf Club, will tee off on Monday, April 28. Two shotgun starts are planned for 7:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Fees: \$125 Per Player includes
18 holes & cart
Continental Breakfast or Box Lunch
Buffet Dinner
Prizes

Tee Times: Shotgun Start
7:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. - Scramble format

Hole sponsorships (\$150), lunch and beverage sponsorships are also being accepted to defray some of the costs of the outing.

One hundred percent of the profits from the outing will go to charity. The funds will be made available to all bona fide Lemont service organizations, non-profit organizations and recognized community groups. The funds will be spread among several charities, and all of the funds will be used to benefit the community.

Registration forms are available at the Village Hall or by calling 257-1590.

Making History...



Stephen Street Reconstruction to Begin Soon

Don't let the Stephen Street construction keep you from downtown shopping and restaurants!

Easy and convenient access will be available for car and pedestrian traffic.

FOLLOW THE GREEN CONSTRUCTION SIGNS to the designated **Customer Parking Zone** along Talcott Street. Sidewalks will remain in place for the majority of the project for easy access to all businesses.

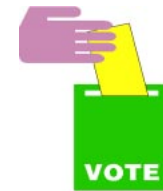
Special activities and promotions are being planned by downtown merchants and volunteers throughout the construction project.

Regular summer Village events, including Heritage Fest and the Wednesday Cruise Nights will take place with some minor adjustments.

Watch the Village website and local newspapers for more details. Construction is expected to begin in early April.



From the Village Clerk...



Polling Places April 1 Consolidated Election

Polling Places for the April 1 Consolidated Election are listed below. Please note that Precincts 7 and 8 have been relocated from United Methodist Church to VFW Post 5819, 15780 New Avenue.

| Precinct | Name | Address |
|----------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 001 | Slovenian Cultural Center | 14252 Main Street |
| 002 | Our Lady of Victory Convent | 14700 Main Street |
| 003 | Lithuanian World Center | 14911 127th Street |
| 004 | Lemont Township High School | 800 Porter Street |
| 005 | Lemont Township High School | 800 Porter Street |
| 006 | Witkoski Recreation Center | 1115 Warner Avenue |
| 007 | VFW Post 5819 | 15780 New Avenue |
| 008 | VFW Post 5819 | 15780 New Avenue |
| 009 | Centennial Recreation Center | 16028 127th Street |
| 010 | Witkoski Recreation Center | 1115 Warner Avenue |
| 011 | Centennial Recreation Center | 16028 127th Street |
| 012 | Slovenian Cultural Center | 14252 Main Street |
| 013 | Centennial Recreation Center | 16028 127th Street |
| 014 | Lithuanian World Center | 14911 127th Street |
| 015 | Centennial Recreation Center | 16028 127th Street |

Please consult your voter registration card for your precinct number. Voter registration may be verified by contacting the Cook County Clerk at 312-603-0906.

Applications for absentee ballots are available at the Village Hall and at Lemont Township. Applications must be received by the County Clerk's Office no later than Thursday, March 27. Voters may cast in-person absentee ballots at the Bridgeview Mini Center, 10220 S. 76th Avenue in Bridgeview.

ELECTION SIGNS

Political campaign signs must be located on private property and may not exceed 16 square feet in area. Signs may be erected not more than 30 days before the election and must be removed within 3 days after the election. No signs are permitted in the public right of way.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LEMONT P.D.!

The Police Department has successfully completed its application and achieved the necessary rank in all aspects of law enforcement to become nationally accredited through the Commission for Accreditation in Law Enforcement. Over two years of effort will be recognized on March 22 when the Commission officially confers the accreditation. Congratulations to the Department, Chief Jack Bluis and the project coordinator, Commander Don Jones, on an excellent job. What this means for the citizens of Lemont is that national standards set by C.A.L.E.A. for all police procedures are being observed on a daily basis, increasing the level of professionalism in law enforcement and making Lemont a safer community.



Celebrate St. Patrick's Day!

PARADE & IRISH FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, MARCH 8 - 1:00 PM
HISTORIC DOWNTOWN LEMONT

FEATURING CHICAGO STOCKYARD KILTY BAND
PARADE ROUTE

Fun!

Line-up at Lemont Train Station 12:30 p.m.
East on Main to Stephen, North to General Fry's Landing

ENTERTAINMENT AFTER THE PARADE
Visit our Hospitality Tent on Stephen Street!

2:00 Irish Dancing
3:00 Gerard Haughey & The Ramblers
4:00 Soda Bread Contest

Music

March 1: 6:30 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.
14th Annual Lemont High School Band Parents Association Dinner Dance
Location: Willowbrook Ballroom
For information call 630-257-7811.

March 4: 6:30 p.m. — AND —
Earth Day Planning Committee Meeting
Lemont Village Hall, 2nd Floor
For more info, call 630-243-2700.

March 12: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Long Term Care: You Are Never Too Young or Too Old!
Centennial Community Center
FREE - Pre-Registration Required.
Seminar covers nursing home and home health care options, asset preservation and more. For info call the Park District at 630-257-6787.

March 19: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Outside Stressors and the Effects on your Health
Lesnieski Recreation Center
FREE - Call 1-800-323-8622 to register. For further info call the Park District at 630-257-6787.

For the most up-to-date event listings, visit our web site at www.lemont.il.us.



March 25: 11:30 a.m.
State of the Village Luncheon
Argonne Guest House
Advance Registration Required.
For registration info contact the Chamber of Commerce at 630-257-5997. Cost: \$25.00 Members; \$35.00 Non-Members.

March 26: 6:30 p.m.
Earth Day Planning Committee Meeting
Lemont Village Hall, 2nd Floor
For more info call 630-243-2700.

March 29: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Motor Oil Recycling Day
Metra Commuter Lot at Main Street & Ed Bossert Drive (enter via River St.)
Sponsored by LEAC and Heritage Environmental Services.

March 30: Noon to 5:00 p.m.
Lion's Club Chicken Dinner
Lesnieski Recreation Center
For further information call Ed Panzer (815-886-4051) or Tom Drez (630-257-0661).

April 12: 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Lunch with the Easter Bunny
Lesnieski Center
\$6.00 Res./\$9.00 Non-res. per person.
Tickets are PRE-SALE ONLY!
For info contact 630-257-6787.

Spring Events



April 12: 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Lemont Celebrates Earth Day
Historic Downtown Lemont Canal Clean-up, Historic Walk, Refreshments at Safety Village.
For info: 257-1550 or 257-1902.



April 13: 1:00 p.m.
Lemont Jaycees Easter Egg Hunt
Centennial Community Park.
Rain Date: Saturday, April 19
For info contact the Park District at 630-257-6787.



April 23
Professional Assistants Luncheon
Sponsored by Lemont Chamber of Commerce. Location: Ruffled Feathers.
For info contact the Chamber office at 630-257-5997.

April 24: 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Town Hall Meeting with Congresswoman Judy Biggert
Village Hall Board Room
For info: 630-257-1590.

April 27th (Tentative): 7:00 p.m.
Lemont High School Band Concert
Lemont High School, 800 Porter St.
Admission: Donation for our community food pantries. For further info contact 630-257-6211.

April 28: 7:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.
Mayor's Drive for Charity
Ruffled Feathers Country Club
1 Pete Dye Drive
For info: 630-257-1590



**Mayor to Present
State of the Village
Report on March 25**

On March 25, the Village will join with the Chamber of Commerce in presenting a State of the Village report. Mayor John Piazza will present information on current and future Village plans and projects.

This collaboration is the first of its kind for the Village and will be hosted at the Argonne Guest House at 11:30 a.m. The event is open to the public and includes a luncheon.

Tickets (\$25.00 for Chamber members) are available by contacting the Chamber of Commerce Office at 101 Main Street, 630-257-5997. The report will be taped by Lemont Community T.V. for later broadcast on Channel 6.

**U. S. Representative
Judy Biggert
to Host
Town Hall Meeting
April 24 - 6:30 p.m.**

All residents of Lemont are invited to attend a Town Hall Meeting in the Council Room at the Village Hall on Thursday, April 24 at 6:30 p.m. Congresswoman Judy Biggert will host the meeting to explain current federal legislation and answer questions from the audience.

In addition to her other duties as 13th District Representative, Cong. Biggert serves on several committees and was recently named to the House Energy Committee.

Cong. Biggert's District Office:
115 W. 55th Street, Suite 100
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514
(630) 655-2052.



Don't Miss the Fun at the 
**St. Patrick's Day Parade
& Irish Fest**
Saturday, March 8th - 1:00 p.m.

A complete day of family fun is in store on Saturday, March 8, when the Irish of every nationality will gather in historic downtown Lemont for the 12th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Line-up will begin at 12:30 at the Lemont Train Station. The parade will march east on Main Street and north on Stephen Street to General Fry's Landing.

Lemont's own Irish queen, Heather Jankowski, will lead the parade in a horse-drawn carriage, and the Chicago Stockyard Kilty Band will pipe the marchers through the parade route.

Following the parade, be sure to visit the Hospitality Tent on Stephen Street for Irish Dancing beginning at 2:00 p.m. by the World Academy of Irish Dance and Hughes Academy of Irish Dance. Gerald Haughey & The Ramblers will provide some rousing Irish music beginning at 3:00 p.m. Plenty of food and refreshments will be available.

The Soda Bread Contest will be judged at 4:00 p.m. Entries must be dropped off at the tent before 3:00 p.m. on March 8. See details on page 4.



**Pot of Gold Discounts
Saturday, March 8th!**



After the parade on March 8, be sure to visit your favorite downtown stores to take advantage of fantastic discounts and special promotions on merchandise during the Shamrock Shopping Spree.

Look for the shamrock in the window of participating merchants.

Know Your Legislators

82nd District
Rep. Eileen Lyons
1030 S. LaGrange Road
LaGrange, IL 60525
(708) 352-7700

41st District
Sen. Christine Radogno
410 Main Street
Lemont, IL 60439
(630) 243-0800

Be Prepared for Severe Weather

Spring weather fluctuations can often cause severe storms and weather conditions. Know the terms:

STORM WATCH

Severe storms or tornadoes are possible. Watch the sky and listen to radio or T.V. for more information. Be prepared to take shelter.

STORM WARNING

A tornado has been sighted or severe weather is imminent as indicated by weather radar. Take shelter.

Tornado Awareness Week March 3 - 8

Lemont Declared a Storm Ready Community

The National Weather Service has declared Lemont a Storm Ready Community. Lemont Emergency Management personnel, led by Coordinator Tom Ballard, have participated in a grant program to install weather monitoring radios in all Lemont schools and public buildings, and have provided a community education program for storm preparedness.

LEMA personnel have also been trained in spotting and reporting techniques for severe weather conditions. According to the National Weather Service, Lemont has a prototype severe weather preparedness program.

EMERGENCY WARNING SIREN

The tornado warning siren will sound if a tornado or funnel cloud aloft is reported within a ten-mile radius based from the center of Lemont or any time the National Weather Service advises a warning which will impact the Village or Township, and when wind gusts are clocked in excess of 50 m.p.h. **No All-Clear Siren will be activated.**

Severe Weather Tips

Determine the best location in your home and office to seek shelter when threatened by severe weather. A basement or cellar will usually afford the best protection. If an underground shelter is not available, identify an interior room or hallway on the lowest level. Conduct periodic safety drills with your family.

Observe these safety precautions in the event of severe weather:

- Stay away from windows.
- Get out of automobiles.
- If caught outside or in a vehicle, lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression.
- Keep a battery-powered radio available for weather updates.

BECOME A L.E.M.A. VOLUNTEER

If you are interested in being a L.E.M.A. volunteer, please contact Tom Ballard at 630-257-6689.

Lemont Celebrates Earth Week



The Lemont Environmental Advisory Commission (LEAC)'s Earth Day Committee has planned several community events in honor of Earth Week.

- March 29 Motor Oil Recycling Day** - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Metra Commuter lot at Main Street & Ed Bossert Drive (enter via River Street). Residents may dispose of used motor/fuel/lubricant oil, brake/transmission fluid and antifreeze, which will be processed by Heritage for additional uses. Sponsored by LEAC and Heritage Environmental Services.
- April 12 I & M Canal CleanUp** - 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
(Meet at Safety Village).
Historic District Walk - Historical Society - 9:00 a.m.
(Meet at the Historical Society).
I & M Canal Walk - Lee Anderson - 10:30 a.m.
(Meet at Safety Village).
Refreshments and Exhibits: 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
at Safety Village.
- April 15 Arbor Day** tree planting in Lemont.

For additional information, please contact Tom Thomas, Chairman, at 630-257-1902 or the Village Offices at 630-257-1550.

Landscape Waste Pick-up to Begin April 1

The landscape waste pick-up program will resume on April 1 and continue through the end of November. Yard waste will be collected on your regular trash pick-up day. To guarantee timely pick-up, landscape waste must be placed in a biodegradable paper landscape waste bag up to 33 gallons in capacity. **LANDSCAPE WASTE IN CANS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Place landscape waste at the curb prior to 6:00 a.m.

Landscape Waste Sticker Required

Stickers may be purchased at the Village Hall, Lemont Township Office, Chipain's, Jewel Foods, Peterson's Hardware, Sears Hardware, and Totura's. The cost per sticker is \$2.00.

Paper landscape waste bags may be purchased at the Village Hall at \$.30 each or at local grocery and hardware stores.



Branch Pick-up Program Begins April 1

The annual branch/brush pick-up program will begin on April 1 and continue through the end of November. Branches and tree limbs will be picked up on the regular trash pick up day by Waste Management.

BRANCHES MUST BE TIED:

- less than 4 feet in length.
- less than 4 inches in diameter.
- less than 50 pounds.
- tied with biodegradable string/twine (no wire)

BRANCHES IN CANS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED.

NO LANDSCAPE STICKER IS REQUIRED FOR BRANCHES. THIS IS A FREE SERVICE.



FREE Landscape Waste Spring Clean-up

April 22, 23, & 24

NO STICKER REQUIRED

A special **FREE** Spring Yard Waste Pick-up provided by the Village of Lemont and Waste Management has been scheduled on the **REGULAR TRASH PICK-UP DAY** during the week of April 21. This is your opportunity to get rid of all the leaves and debris which may have accumulated over the winter.

NO STICKERS REQUIRED THIS WEEK ONLY

Yard waste must be bagged in paper landscape waste bags to be picked up.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT REHAB FUNDS AVAILABLE

You may be eligible to receive Community Development Block Grant Funds for necessary home improvements. Home rehabilitation is available to qualifying homeowners with zero interest and no repayment until the home is sold or title is transferred. The Single Family Rehab program corrects all code violations, including: plumbing, electrical, roof replacement, siding, and window replacement.

To qualify as an applicant:

- Household income must meet CDBG income guidelines.
- You must own and reside in the home.
- There must be sufficient equity to cover the amount of the repairs.

For more information, please contact the Village of Lemont's Single Family Rehab Administrator:

Gail Brown
Chicago Southland Development, Inc.
1655 S. Union Street
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
(708) 754-2206



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



Planning a Spring Garage Sale?

No Village permit is required for garage sales. Any temporary signs for garage sales must be located on private property (no utility poles or parkways) and must be less than 6 square feet. Signs must be promptly removed after the sale.



Lemont Village News

Village of Lemont
418 Main Street Lemont, IL 60439-3788
630-257-1550
FAX 630 257-1598
email: vlemont@aol.com
website address: www.lemont.il.us

Mayor

John F. Piazza

Clerk

Charlene Smollen

Trustees

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| John Benik | Connie Markiewicz |
| Debby Blatzer | Steven Rosendahl |
| Peter Coules | Jeanette Virgilio |

Village Administrator

Gary C. Holmes

Village Board Meetings
2nd & 4th Mondays - 7:30 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