

ew Lenox Township operates the Guy Sell Senior Housing Building which has 24 units available for Township residents 62 years or older. Our transportation department provides in town rides for 600 - 800 riders monthly. We maintain operate Marshall Cemetery on Regan Road and Maplewood Cemetery on Haven Avenue. While these are important services that we are proud of, the two items that seem to receive the most questions are:

The Food Pantry has moved from its 500 square foot space in the Township offices into its own 2,000 square foot building, which is an addition to the former Road District building east of the Senior Housing building. The Food Pantry has its own waiting room for our shoppers. We now have a large room filled with shelving that allows our volunteers to stock the food that has been donated by local grocery stores or purchased from Northern Illinois Food Bank with donated money in an orderly, efficient manner. We also now have a receiving area that allows the incoming food to be sorted; extra items can be stored on additional shelving in the

receiving area for future use with minimal disruption to the main pantry area. We were fortunate to receive donations that allowed us to purchase a $10' \times 10'$ walk in refrigerator, a $10' \times 10'$ walk in freezer and a glass front three door display refrigerator. The new space will allow our staff and volunteers to serve our residents who need assistance more effectively.

We continue to operate traditional Recycling Monday - Friday 1:00 - 3:00 PM and the fourth Saturday of the month 8:00 AM - Noon, with Latex Paint Recycling being accepted the fourth Saturday in May through September only. Our Electronic Recycling has been re-instituted in a different format than you may have seen in years past. We have worked out an intergovernmental agreement with Will County; they have a contract with an outside vendor who will come to our south parking lot the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. They accept electronic items with a limit of 2 TVs per vehicle. The vendor checks that the driver is from Will County. stacks the recyclables in Gaylord boxes, puts them in their truck, cleans up the area and leaves at 7:00. We can't store any recyclables on site. They must be received by vehicle only during contracted time. This program has been in operation since July and has been averaging about 80 - 90 cars per night. The program is paid for by Will County with The Township assisting with traffic flow. Please enter off Otto Drive.

Michael Hickey, Township Supervisor

New Lenox Township will no longer be providing curbside collection of household items

ew Lenox Township will no longer be providing a curbside collection of large trash items in conjunction with our annual clean-up day. The cost of providing a "Saturday" township wide collection has increased three hundred percent in the past five years. The cost of this service has simply become prohibitive for us to continue. New Lenox Township has moved towards a philosophy of re-using and recycling items that might otherwise end up in a landfill. We have re-instituted the electronics recycling, which has proven to be a more widely used service. If you live in the Village of New Lenox, NuWay disposal is your refuse collection provider. NuWay will pick up most large household items any time throughout the year provided you give them a few days' notice prior to your normal trash collection day. 75% of the residents in unincorporated New Lenox Township also have NuWay as their trash collection vendor. We urge our residents to use the service that NuWay already provides for its customers. For residents who have other trash collection vendors, we encourage you to contact your vendor to arrange for disposal of any large household

items. The data collected over the past 3 years has shown that many of the items that were collected on our clean-up day, were items that could have been recycled, or re-used. We are asking residents to make every effort possible to keep items that could be re-used, or recycled, out of the landfills. Please visit www.willcountygreen.com

TRUSTEE MARTY BOBAN
Environmental Chairperson

for further information on recycling household items. Please take advantage of the other services that we are providing as part of our clean-up day efforts.

Thank you for your cooperation, and keep recycling, as we try to keep New Lenox Township clean and green.

Marty Boban, Trustee

The Responsibility of All New Lenox Township Residents to Keep Our Roadside Clean and Beautiful

From the Desk of the Editor, Township Trustee Larry Wennlund









ne of my pet peeves is seeing irresponsible people throw junk and garbage out the window of vehicles traveling upon our roadways destroying the beauty of our road sides and polluting our neighborhoods. As I was writing this article, my wife called me to the front window to see three little kids picking up garbage along the road sides of Regan Road. I quickly grabbed my camera and went outside to the road to meet these great examples of citizenship

and responsibility. In the photos above you will find Abby Tindle, age 7, Lily Kaplan age 6, and little Layla Kaplan age 3 willingly picking up roadside garbage thrown there by thoughtless adults and teenagers. WHAT A GREAT EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW!! These three youngsters, accompanied by their grandparents Maria Rayson and Lisa DeVries, were happy to clean up the road side of Regan Road in New Lenox Township AND were enjoying doing so.

If only the adults and teens could follow their example. Please take the time and make the effort to follow their

example and walk the road ways. Bring a garbage bag and pick up the road side garbage. You will find a great deal of satisfaction in doing your part to keep this township beautiful, AND get to walk off many pounds in the process while getting the exercise you body needs to stay healthy. Last week on Ground Hog Day, I was driving on Constitution Road between Schoolhouse Road and Spencer Road and saw two young folks walking along the roadside picking up refuse thrown there by senseless drivers. I stopped and congratulated them and thanked them for their work to keep this township beautiful. Collin Yenerich, a resident of Constitution Road, and his friend Brittney Ross were there and got some great exercise cleaning the environment.

Another GREAT EXAMPLE for the rest of us residents to follow! In addition to picking the refuse up they recycle what they pick up! Think about it, beer cans aluminum, paper and other recyclable items. ITS WIN-WIN! Think about how good you will feel by doing your part to clean the environment, get needed exercise, recycle trash, and set a great example for others to do the same.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE NEW LENOX TOWNSHIP BEAUTIFUL AGAIN!

Thanks for doing your part in keeping the Township clean and beautiful!

Larry Wennlund, Trustee



New Lenox Township's 30th Annual TOWNSHIP WIDE RECYCLE DAY MAY 6, 2017



Bring this newsletter with you as proof of residency. New Lenox Township will not be providing curbside pickup of any items. Please do not set any items at the curb.

New Lenox Township is moving in the direction of re-use and recycle. Therefore, we are encouraging residents to donate usable items that can be re-used, rather than disposing of them. Please see adjoining information regarding disposal. We will be collecting the below mentioned items ONLY. We will be collecting used electronics on May 6th as well. PROOF OF RESIDENCY IS REQUIRED.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE ON MAY 6th. Collection of household hazardous waste is very costly. New Lenox Township taxpayers already pay Will County Land Use to process this waste. New Lenox Township (in partnership with Will County Land Use & Sharefest) will be providing a household hazardous waste collection on Saturday, September 9th, 2017 at the Sharefest event held at Spencer Trail campus located on Spencer Road just north of Laraway Road.

All of the above-mentioned items will be collected on May 6th from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, at our Recycle center located in our Township yard at 1100 S. Cedar Road. Please enter from Otto Drive. Visit our website at www.newlenox.org for more information.

DO BRING

- Used Motor Oil
- Used Anti-Freeze
- Used tires (4 per household removed from rim) car & light truck - No large truck or tractor tires
- Used automotive batteries
- Used electronics: TVs. computers, keyboards, printers, monitors, microwaves, etc.
- Traditional recyclables: paper, plastic, glass, aluminum, tin, cardboard

DO NOT BRING

- Smoke detectors
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Aerosols
- Stains/varnishes
- **Propane bottles**
- Pressurized containers
- Any hazardous materials
- Alkaline **batteries**

New Lenox Township offers used electronics collections on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month from 5-7pm

We now offer electronics recycling at the above-mentioned times. The collections take place at our Township recycle center located at 1100 South Cedar Road. Please enter from Otto Drive. New Lenox Township is one of just a few locations available in Will County to drop off used electronics. We will make every effort possible to keep our site available and make it convenient for New Lenox residents. We collect computers, printers, microwaves, modems etc. There is a limit of 2 TVs. The collections end promptly at 7pm.

New Lenox Township Recycling Tips



- Alkaline batteries I.E. "AA" "AAA" "D" "C": The above-mentioned batteries can be disposed of as normal trash. These batteries are no longer considered hazardous material for residential users.
- Large household items: Many large household items such as bedding, carpet, furniture may be recyclable or reusable. Go to www.willcountygreen.com for more info.
- Paper, glass, plastics: Most trash vendors offer a recycling option for the above-mentioned items. If your vendor does not offer a curbside collection of recyclables, you can bring those "traditional recyclables" to our recycle center during posted times. This includes all newspaper and most other paper products.
- Plastic containers: Most household plastic containers are recyclable. Check for the recycle symbol on the container, and simply make sure the container is empty and put it in your recycle container. This includes most automotive fluid containers as well. Please make sure that all containers are completely empty before recycling them.

Please help us keep New Lenox Township clean and green as we move towards a goal of recycling and reusing items as opposed to putting those items in landfills. Thank you. Marty Boban, Trustee

New Lenox Township Food Pantry – BIGGER and BETTER

EW LENOX TOWNSHIP government working together with community organizations such as Share Fest New Lenox, Family Services Foundation of New Lenox Township, Northern Illinois Food Bank and many other groups and local community organizations, have donated food, money and labor to make the New Lenox Township Food Pantry a reality. Within the last year we have been able to expand and acquire 1,500 square feet of building space in which to operate a new walk-in cooler and a new refrigerator that enables our pantry to offer frozen and dairy products to feed those citizens of New Lenox Township who need a helping hand in putting food on the table.

Under the leadership of the Township Family Services Director, Kathie Johnson, the New Lenox Township Pantry has fed a total of 930 people for the year 2016 which constitutes 262 families living in the township. Notwithstanding stronger economic numbers for the US economy as a whole, not every one can manage to feed their families together with the cost of health care, child care, utilities, transportation and housing let alone the unexpected costs that the average family can incur in a year's time. Our food pantry that feeds the hungry citizens of the Township each week depends on a steady stream of groceries and money from such sources as Old Plank Trail Community

Bank and many other community organizations. The Northern Illinois Food Bank, for every dollar donated to the food pantry, donates \$8.00 worth of food to feed the hungry of the Township. More than 80% of the food distributed by the Food Pantry is donated by local retailers such as Berkots, Walmart and many others.

The Food pantry feeds an average of 80 families each week. Look at your own family's food budget each week and that will give you an idea as to how much is consumed on a weekly basis. Without generous donations of money and food, the mission of the Township Food Pantry would not be possible. No tax dollars are spent on this important function except the physical plant in which it operates and the salary of it's operators. New Lenox Township is grateful to all those who donate food and money to make this Food Pantry possible and we thank you all for your much-needed donations. For the last 8 plus years our Director Kathie Johnson has worked very hard to make the job of feeding the hungry of the township possible.

The New Lenox Supervisor and Board of Trustees are grateful for the generosity of all who support the Township Food Pantry! Please consider donating to this vital lifesaving effort!

Larry Wennlund, Trustee







You will now have two ways to make your donation.

Write a check to "Family Services Foundation of New Lenox Township" a 501 (c) (3) charity in the amount you wish to donate. Please mail the check along with your return address to:

New Lenox Township, 1100 South Cedar Road, New Lenox, IL 60451 Attn: Foundation Account

Or you may go to newlenox.org (homepage) to find our PayPal account link on lower left side. We will mail a receipt for your taxes.

If you would like to have your donation go through Sharefest New Lenox, you may write a check to:

United Way Will County Sharefest/New Lenox and mail to: New Lenox Township.

1100 South Cedar Road, New Lenox, IL 60451

Attn: Sharefest/New Lenox

Or you may go to Sharefest/New Lenox (homepage) at sharefestnewlenox.com to make a donation through their PayPal account.

New Lenox Township Food Pantry Information

- We are located at: New Lenox Township Offices, 1100 South Cedar Road. New Lenox. IL.
- No property tax money goes to support/purchase food for food pantry.
- The phone number is 815-485-6431.
 Fax number is 815-485-2544.
- If you have any questions, please call and ask for Kathie Johnson.
- You must be a resident (unincorporated/incorporated) of New Lenox Township to receive food.
- You must register by second visit to the food pantry.
- Upon registration you must provide a current photo id and current utility bill.
- · We are open Monday through Friday.
- Our daily hours are: 9:30 am to 11:30 am and 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
- You are welcome to visit the food pantry once a week.

New Lenox Township Food Pantry Yearly Averages:

- 930 registered people on average a year.
- An average of 262 families are included in the 930 registered people.
- From total number of 930 there were 342 children, ages from newborn to age 18.
- From total number of 930 there were 208 older Americans age 50 to 97.
- There are many different types of families who register here. There are single parent households, two parent households, adults' only households and multi-generational families, etc.
- They were employed full-time, part-time, unemployed, disabled, retired, injured, laid-off, etc.
- Some families were receiving other assistance such as SNAP, Medicaid, SSI, Kidcare, WIC, free or reduced lunch and still it did not cover enough.
- They also received Medicare, Social Security Retirement, and Veteran's Assistance.
- There were many seniors living on a fixed income that did not even begin to cover their food, medicine and bills.

Many of the families who visit the NL Food Pantry are what has come to be known in America as "the working poor." They work but their incomes from their jobs are not high enough to cover the cost of food, healthcare, utilities, childcare, housing and the list goes on and on.

We here at New Lenox Township Food Pantry are proud of the New Lenox community and the support they have given us. There is a feeling of compassion for our neighbors here in New Lenox. In New Lenox we have come together in an effort to solve hunger in our community. We will continue to raise the public awareness of hunger here in New Lenox to help ensure that are neighbors in food crisis have access to nutritional food.

Items of food most needed:

- · Canned chili
- Canned carrots
- Instant potato
- Flavored noodles
- Canned pasta/ravioli
- Saltine crackers
- Raisin Bran/Honey Nut Cheerios breakfast cereal
- Cream of Chicken Soup
- Pineapple (canned)



Senior Citizens and General Homestead Exemption Information

nyone born in 1952 is eligible to apply for the Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption. You do not have to wait until your birthday to apply. If the household income is \$55,000 or less you may qualify for the Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze. Applications are available in

our office as of April 1st. Just bring your 2016 income tax return with you. The Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption is \$5,000 off of your assessed valuation.

Anyone born in 1951 or before that has not already signed up for the senior exemption, come into our office as soon as possible and we will process the necessary paperwork to get the exemption added to your tax bill. Do not delay as we have a limited time to make corrections on the 2016 tax bills. The tax bills should be in the mail on May 1, 2017.

The General Homestead Exemption is \$6,000 off of your assessed valuation. The exemptions and requirements are as follows:

General Homestead Exemption \$6,000 off the assessed value

- The property must be your primary residence
- · The property must be owner occupied

Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption \$5,000 off the assessed value

- The property must be your primary residence
- · The property must be owner occupied
- · At least one owner will be 65 during the tax year

The 2017 Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze applications for the 2016 income year were mailed out in late March. They are available in our office after April 1st, if you did not receive one in the mail. The household income limit remains at \$55,000. Please fill out as much of the information that you can, and then bring the form and all your income information to our office and we will assist you with copies and turn your paperwork over to the Will County Supervisor of Assessments Office for approval. If you think you are eligible and did not receive an application, we have them available in our office. Remember to bring all your income information with you, i.e. the front page of your 2016 federal 1040 income tax return and/or your Social Security 1099. If you do not file a 1040, then just bring all the income statements you received for 2016 and your Social Security 1099 and we will help you with the completion of the form.

The Will County Treasurer's Office mails tax bills out usually by the first of May. When the bills are mailed by the first, then the first installment is due June 1st, and the second installment due date is September 1st. If the bills are not mailed by May 1st, then the first installment is due 30 days from the day of the mailing and the second installment due date remains September 1st. Please read your tax bill to be sure that the exemptions are listed in the calculations. The tax bill is the only place where you actually see the exemptions being applied to your property. Please read them carefully, as we only have a limited time frame to make corrections for any missed exemptions. If you think there is an error, please call the office as soon as possible so we can look into the matter. Our office hours are 8:00 am to 3:30 pm Monday through Friday. The telephone number is 815-485-9419.

Bonnie Luckhart Hernandez, C.I.A.O., New Lenox Township Assessor



he New Lenox Township "Meals on Wheels" program is sponsored by New Lenox Township and the Kankakee County Community Services, Inc. The Senior Nutrition Program is for all senior citizens regardless of income. You must be 60 years/older and live in New Lenox Township (Incorporated/Unincorporated) to be eligible.

For many seniors "Meals on Wheels" is literally the difference between remaining in their own homes and needing to relocate to a nursing facility. The nutritious meal, friendly visit and safety check help them cope with three of the biggest threats of aging: hunger, isolation and loss of independence. Research proves that when seniors have the right support, they gain greater quality of life, need fewer hospital stays and live longer.

Meals on Wheels helps keep seniors in their homes and communities by providing nutritious meals, safety net services, social contact, community resource information and much more. The meals are designed for the adult appetite: low in salt, calorie controlled, individually portioned, tasty and nutritious. Diabetic desserts are also available. A complete nutritional analysis is available for you to discuss with your doctor or dietician.

We provide:

- Menus are developed by a Registered Dietitian for healthy nutrition.
- Home delivered meals to homebound seniors in New Lenox Township.
- A community location where seniors can join together and dine with others.
- Socialization and safety net services.
- Nutrition education and senior resource information.



"Meals on Wheels" Home-Delivered Meals

The Meals on Wheels Home-Delivered Meals Program is offered to eligible seniors who are:

- · 60 years of age and older.
- Home-bound due to illness or injury.
- Have a lack of accommodations for meal preparation.
- Unable to prepare your own meals or lack of support system for meal preparation.
- The senior must have a doctor's approval.
- Must meet the assessment needs of the Case Coordination Unit of KCCSI.

KCCSI has dedicated and compassionate staff who deliver the meals daily with a smile and a kind word for each person. Our staff checks on the seniors daily to insure their safety and well-being is intact. The Meals on Wheels program helps our seniors to remain independent in their homes for a longer period of time with dignity and self-respect.

For information on how to register, please call (815) 726-0094.

"Meals on Wheels" Congregate Dining Program

The word "congregate" means to come together or assemble in a group. If you are 60 years or older and are interested in getting out of the house and meeting others over a delicious hot lunch, please consider joining us for lunch at the Guy Sell Senior Apartment Complex located at 1090 South Cedar Road in New Lenox. The dining hall is located in the Community Room downstairs in the basement of the building. Lunch is served Monday thru Friday from 11:00am to 12:00 Noon.

To find out more information about the congregate dining program regarding the menus and how to make reservations, please call (815) 485-7187 ask for Cynthia.

If you are in need of transportation, please call the New Lenox Township Transportation Services at (815) 485-6431 for availability.

Best Buddies Food Pantry Program

This is our second year in partnership with Best Buddies Pet Pantry which is an all-volunteer 501c3 non-profit that provides free pet food to qualified families in need. Best Buddies Pet Pantry delivers pet food once a month to the New Lenox Township. Families who visit the food pantry for

food assistance may also receive food for the pets. This is a wonderful program that has helped so many of our four-legged friends. Their mission is to help reduce the number of pets surrendered to shelters due to lack of food and to help keep families and pets together. Thanks so much to all our friends at Best Buddies Food Pantry. Bark-Bark and Meow-Meow!



Medical Exchange Program

New Township provides a medical supplies exchange program for residents of New Lenox Township. If you are in need of medical supplies, we do have limited inventories on items. Medical supplies that are offered for use include but are not limited to: wheelchairs, walkers, canes, crutches, bedside commodes, raised toilet seats, shower chairs.

Please call or visit our office and we will be happy to see if we can help you out with the items you are in need of. There is no charge for this service. Anyone having these same new or gently used items are encouraged to donate them to New Lenox Township for others who are in need.

Anvone who would like to donate medical supplies/ equipment is encouraged to donate them for others who are in need. Medical supplies include wheelchairs, walkers, canes, crutches, bedside commodes, shower chairs, incontinence supplies, nutritional/health drinks. We do not accept hospital beds, motorized scooters, medicines. If you are unsure about the donation of a particular item, please call the office and ask.

Barbara Kaupas, Trustee



New Lenox Township Highway Commissioner

Highway Commissioner Dennis McPartlin is now retiring after 24 years of GREAT SERVICE to the residents of New Lenox Township. Commissioner McPartlin was first elected in 1993 and has since then devoted all his time and efforts to making the roads in New Lenox Township not only the smoothest and best, but also the safest roads for the traveling public. The residents of New Lenox Township owe McPartlin a great debt of gratitude for his hard work and dedication. Long time residents of the Township agree that Dennis has been the best highway commissioner the Township has ever had! We hope you have a great retirement Dennis! THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

The other news about the highway commissioner is great news also! Newly elected Highway Commissioner RON SLY TAKES OVER upon the retirement of McPartlin. And, notwithstanding he has big shoes to fill, Commissioner Sly will do a fantastic job for residents of the Township and traveling public. Ron Sly has many years of experience after retiring from the Village of New Lenox Public Works Department. As a lifetime resident of New Lenox, he knows the road system well and has the dedication and knowledge to continue to maintain our road system in excellent condition and safe for travel for all those who use it. Congratulations to Comissioner Ron Sly, New Lenox Township government looks forward to working with you on behalf of all the residents of the Township.

Larry Wennlund, Trustee

2017 Manhattan-New Lenox TRIAD

TRIAD works to improve the quality of life for seniors by providing an opportunity for the exchange of information between public safety, social services and seniors. There are no membership papers to fill out or fees to pay. Everyone is welcome to attend. Each month we present a guest speaker on subjects that keep you informed and up to date on the latest scams, frauds and other criminal activities. We also discuss safety issues, home safety preparedness and staying healthy.

Questions? Contact Dawn at (815) 314-2303 or Kathie at (815) 717-6221.

April 27 @ 1:30pm Date: Spring Fire & Fall Safety Topic:

Location: Manhattan

Date: May 25 @ 1:30pm

Living Will, Power of Attorney & Topic: Do Not Resuscitate Orders

Location: New Lenox

Date: June 22 @ 1:30pm Topic: **Driver Safety** Location: Manhattan

July 27 @ 1:30pm Date:

Long Term Care Options Topic:

Location: New Lenox

August 24 @ 1:30pm Date: Scams & Fraud Topic: Location: New Lenox

Date: September 28 @ 1:30pm Medication Safety & Flu Shots Topic:

Location: New Lenox

Date: October 26 @ 1:30pm

Topic: Medicare Location: New Lenox

November 16 @ 1:30pm **Disaster Preparedness**

Manhattan

December 13 @ 1:30pm TRIAD Christmas Party & Christmas Cookie Exchange

Location: New Lenox (VFW 9545)



Meeting Locations

New Lenox Police Department Training Room 200 Veterans Parkway,

New Lenox

Village of Manhattan Community Room 260 Market Place, Manhattan

New Lenox VFW Post 9545 323 Old Hickory Road, **New Lenox**

New Lenox Township

1100 S. Cedar Road New Lenox, IL 60451 PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW LENOX, IL PERMIT NO.100

POSTAL PATRON

The New Lenox Township Newsletter is a public information service for Township residents.

Free copies are available at the Township Administrative Office.

Supervisor

Michael Hickey

Town Clerk

Annette Boyd*
Sue Smith**

Assessor

Bonnie Hernandez

Highway Commissioner

Dennis McPartlin*
Ron Sly**

Trustees

Martin Boban Kathy Hilton** Barbara Kaupas Dave Medema* Larry Wennlund

*Retiring **Taking office May 15th

New Lenox Township Administrative Office

1100 S. Cedar Road New Lenox, IL 60451

Business Hours

Monday - Friday Administrative Office 8:00 am - 4:00 pm 4th Saturday of the Month 9:00 am - Noon Assessor 8:00 am - 3:30 pm

Township Phone Numbers

Township Administrative Office: 815-485-6431

Assessor's Office: 815-485-9419 Highway Department: 815-485-6484 Dial-A-Ride: 815-485-6431 Township Fax: 815-485-2544

2017 Township Board Meetings

Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the New Lenox Township Administrative Office (1100 S. Cedar Road). All meetings open to the public. For more information call 815-485-6431.



May 11 August 10
June 8 September 14

October 12

July 13

November 9 December 14

Please visit our website: www.newlenox.org