



# ***Newsletter***

## ***March 2011***

### **VILLAGE OF LANSING** *Incorporated 1974*

2405 North Triphammer Road \* Ithaca, NY 14850 \* 257-0424 \* (FAX) 257-3230

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Web Page Address: [vlansing.org](http://vlansing.org).

Board of Trustees' Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 7:30 PM

Planning Board Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday and last Tuesday, 7:30 PM

Board of Zoning Appeal Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday as needed; 7:30 PM

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Welcome to the Village of Lansing's electronic newsletter! The Village Newsletter is currently published twice a year in March and October. The newsletter and much much more are available on the Village website at [www.vlansing.org](http://www.vlansing.org). If you haven't already done so, please sign up to receive notice of our publication by sending a blank message to [vlansing-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com](mailto:vlansing-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com). This automatically subscribes you. If you prefer to receive a paper copy just call the office and Jodi will be happy to add you to the mailing list.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR**

This winter the Village Department of Public Works staff has again taken care of the snow removal from the Village streets. It has been a busier year than last year and we have already used nearly 1000 tons of salt. Our equipment has performed well and from the comments I hear from the public our roadways have been well maintained.

As you may have noticed, we are constructing a new garage facility for all of our equipment. The construction is nearly finished and it will be a great benefit to John and his staff to get into clean warm trucks to begin the snow plowing next season. The construction has made their job a bit more of a challenge this season especially parking our large trucks while leaving access for the construction crew.

We will be busy as soon as the weather warms and dries a bit repairing the usual winter damage to the roadways. Pot holes will continue to be patched as soon as we hear about them and more permanent repairs will be carried out as soon as the asphalt batch plants re-open in the spring. Crack sealing and shoulder repairs along with street sweeping and re-striping will be carried out as soon as weather permits. The other rite of spring is the annual brush pickup by Town of Lansing and Village crews. The dates of the pickup and the guidelines appear later in the newsletter and I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity.

The new district, the Warren Road Sewer District, has now been approved and construction is nearly complete. We have negotiated the final agreements with the Town. It will be a modest system that at most will amount to 120 units (~ 40,000 gallons per day) and can easily be accommodated by our transmission system. It continues the spirit of cooperation between the Town and the Village.

We have completed the budget process for the coming fiscal year and have a proposed budget that will be presented at a public hearing scheduled for 7:35 pm on April 7. The assessed value of the properties in the Village has decreased by 2% compared to last year, so with a tax rate of \$1.21, an increase of 2% over last year leaves the tax levy the same as last year. This is less than inflation (2.5% for the items we use) this past year and is significantly less than other taxing entities in the region and has been made possible through careful management. We expect that next year we will remain in this steady state with the tax levy increasing at roughly the rate of inflation since the costs of the Village's needed supplies increase with inflation just like those required by you and me. Over the years, the Village has systematically reduced its reliance on New York State financial aid so that budget issues in Albany have only minor effects on Village finances.

During this coming construction season, we will be replacing around 900 feet of sanitary sewer main behind the Shops at Ithaca Mall to improve capacity to accommodate anticipated growth in the Northeastern part of the Village. In addition we will be replacing a section of water main along Cayuga Heights Road that has had a number of breaks during the past few years along with replacing the water main along Burdick Hill Road. The other water related project will be the demolition of the Oakcrest Tank which is no longer in service. This is part of a project to construct a new Village Office that will be started this year and completed next year. The storm water sewer along Dart Drive that was started last year will be completed this year and a sidewalk will be constructed along the north side of the roadway. The roadway will also be repaved as part of this project. In addition, there will be other small repaving projects in the Village. These projects are all part of our long-range infrastructure maintenance program. By carrying out these projects in a planned way, we avoid the serious failures that are very expensive to repair when they occur.

This past year, Larry Fresinski retired as Trustee and Deputy Mayor to join his family in Las Vegas. Larry served the Village tirelessly since the spring of 1993 and was responsible for creating our website and taking care of our software challenges. We will miss him. Jodi has taken over maintenance of the website and that is going well. Pat O'Rourke agreed to serve as Trustee to replace Larry and is overseeing our youth programs. With her background in youth activities and support she is a very welcome addition to the Board. It is this kind of dedication that makes the Village of Lansing such a delightful place to live and work.

Finally, Village elections for Mayor and two Trustees will be held from noon to 9 pm on Tuesday April 26<sup>th</sup> at the Village Office. I encourage you to vote.

Donald Hartill, Mayor

## **VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE**

### **NOTARY SERVICES**

Notary public services are available free of charge to Village residents at the Village Office. Residents are asked to telephone the Village Office at 257-0424 to arrange a time for this service.

### **LOOK FOR THE PINK POSTCARD!**

In April your water/sewer bill will be a postcard. The Southern Cayuga Intermunicipal Water Commission (SCLIWC) met with representatives from each municipality to find a more cost efficient way to send out bills. The previous bills were carbon copies and were hard to read so they have gone back to postcards. Postcards are also cheaper to mail. However, the dot matrix printer they are currently using to print the post cards is also hard to read. SCLIWC is working on replacing that printer. Hopefully, this problem will be resolved before you receive your July billing. If you are having trouble reading your bill please call the office and Jodi will get you the correct information. Thank you for bearing with us through this transition.

### **WHEN IS IT DUE?**

Many people call the office to find out when payments are due. If you have water and sewer services you receive a bill quarterly at the beginning of January, April, July and October. All water/sewer bills are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of that month and can be either mailed in or you may bring your payment to the Village Office at 2405 N. Triphammer Rd. The Village of Lansing is part of the Southern Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Water Commission (SCLIWC).

Village Tax Bills will be going out June 1<sup>st</sup> and will be due by July 1<sup>st</sup>. We do accept postmark. Any payments that are made after July 1<sup>st</sup> but before July 31<sup>st</sup> have a five-percent penalty. There is an additional one percent penalty added each additional month that the payment is late. In November the unpaid taxes are turned over to Tompkins County and relieved on your Town & County Tax Bill.

### **BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING**

The Public Hearing for the 2011-12 Village of Lansing Budget will be Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:35pm.

### **ELECTIONS**

The Village of Lansing Elections will be held at the Village of Lansing Office on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 12:00pm to 9:00pm. The two-year terms for Mayor Donald Hartill, Trustees Lynn Leopold and Patricia O'Rourke are expiring. All three will be running again. All voting takes place at the Village of Lansing Office at 2405 N. Triphammer Rd. When you come to vote enter at the side door of the Village Office. This door goes directly into the conference room where the machines will be set up.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer

## **VILLAGE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

### **BRUSH PICK-UP**

Spring brush and limb pick-up will be provided by the Village of Lansing Highway Department on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Residents are asked to leave all materials near the roadside by 6:00am Monday morning. To assist the work crews, all limbs and brush (up to 5 inches in diameter) should be piled with the cut ends facing the same direction. The limbs should be no longer than 6 feet in length. Also, the piles should not be

tied, but should be left loose. Please do not put out bags of yard waste. This pick up is only for limbs and brush.

You may also take your brush to the Town of Lansing Highway Department any time during the year. They also have a large pile of free woodchips that any Lansing Resident is allowed to go pick up for their personal use. Sorry, no private contractors! If you have any questions or need more information, please call the Town Highway Department at 533-4328.

John Courtney, Supt. of Public Works

## **PLANNING BOARD NEWS**

Since our last Planning Board News we are pleased to welcome Jonathan Kanter as our Alternate Board member. Jonathan brings with him 32 years of planning experience, having just retired from the Town of Ithaca as Director of the Planning Department. The Alternate member position was being temporarily filled by Ned Hickey. Once again, our thanks to Ned for 25 years of dedicated service to the Village.

In the interest of maintaining the aesthetics of the Village, the Planning Board and the Village Code Officer reviewed and updated several sign laws, which were approved by the Board of Trustees. The purpose of these changes are threefold: i) provide adequate size for readability by passing traffic, ii) permit equitable, yet controlled and minimal commercialized advertising, and iii) provide necessary and helpful way-finding directional signs; while at all times keeping signage throughout the Village as unobtrusive as possible.

We earlier reported on a major project, just west and north of the YMCA, that would have resulted in the construction of a BJ's Wholesale Club, 12 single-family Senior Housing units, and a wetlands/bird habitat. It is now public knowledge that the IDA rejected the developer's application to fund the Senior Housing units. While awaiting word from the Triax developers we have insured that land fronting on Oakcrest Rd. will now be residential, as a result of the Planned Development Area (PDA) that the Village Boards (Planning and Trustees) established.

We welcome the new CIAO! Restaurant on Triphammer Rd., which opened in November.

A proposal for development of 65 affordable housing townhouse rental units has recently been submitted. The location is a 23-acre parcel of land between Woodthrush Hollow Lane and Dart Drive. This project is still in the very early stages of what is generally a quite lengthy process. As of this publication the developers have not heard whether their application for the NYS grant monies has been approved, which would partially fund this project.

Once again, we welcome the Village public to attend our Planning Board meetings, which usually are held the second Monday and the last Tuesday of each month, from 7:30 - 10:00pm.

Mario Tomei, Planning Board Chairman

## CODE & ZONING REPORTS

The New York State Building Codes collection has changed to a new 2010 version that was adopted on December 28, 2010. There have been some significant changes that have occurred, and I would encourage individuals who are interested in additions, new construction, and/or remodeling to visit the Village of Lansing Office at 2405 North Triphammer Road for any questions they might have.

Marty Moseley, Code & Zoning Officer

### VILLAGE OF LANSING CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

#### Building and Land Use Activity

2010

<u>Type of Construction</u>	<u>Number of Permits</u>	<u>Total Value</u>
New Building - Retail/Service	1	\$5,900,000.00
New Single-Family Residence	11	\$5,143,800.00
Commercial Improvement	22	\$3,577,350.00
Mechanical	8	\$482,813.70
Residential Alteration	17	\$384,612.00
Demolition	6	\$108,400.00
Swimming Pool	1	\$20,000.00
Site Improvement	1	\$2,500.00
Temporary Commercial Activity	4	\$0.00
Kiosk	1	\$0.00
Change of Occupancy	28	\$0.00
Totals	100	\$15,619,475.70

Fees Collected .....\$53,414.00  
Certificates of Occupancy .....38  
Fire and Safety Inspections Completed.....114  
*Housing Maintenance Inspections* .....53  
Sign Permits .....16

## **TOMPKINS COUNTY EMC**

The Tompkins County Environmental Management Council does not currently have a member from the Village. There is one seat on EMC for each municipality in Tompkins County, plus a dozen at-large seats. Members have a variety of interests and levels of expertise. Formed in 1971, the EMC is a citizen advisory board to the Tompkins County Legislature. Visitors are welcome at meetings that are held the second Wednesday of each month, 7:00 PM, at 395 Pine Tree Road. Anyone who is interested can learn more about EMC at their website <http://www.tompkins-co.org/emc> or by phoning Tompkins County Planning Department at 274-5560.

## **MEDICATION DISPOSAL EVENT-FREE- Saturday, April 9, 2011**

This event will be a supervised collection of unwanted household pharmaceutical and other non-prescription pharmaceutical items. This event is FREE and no appointment is necessary to participate.

This event will collect medications for safe disposal at the following locations:

1. [TCAT](#), 737 Willow Ave., (off Rte. 13), Ithaca – 9 am to 3 pm
2. [Juniper Manor 1](#), 24 Elm St., Trumansburg – 9 to 10:30 am
3. [Newfield Garden Apts.](#), 261 Main St., Newfield – 11:30 am to 1 pm

This event is organized by the Tompkins County coalition for Safe Medication Disposal. For more information visit [www.recycletompkins.org](http://www.recycletompkins.org) or call 211.

## **JOINT YOUTH COMMISSION**

The Joint Youth Commission (representing the Town of Ithaca and the Villages of Cayuga Heights and Lansing) has just hired a new Youth Program Manager, replacing Laura Smith who left to attend Graduate school. Beth Bannister will be the full-time JYC Youth Program Manager beginning in April. Many of the students at Boynton and DeWitt will know Beth, because in her previous work with Enfield youth, she frequently worked in larger groups including JYC youth. Beth will be working full time offering enrichment programming at both DeWitt and Boynton, as well as a Youth Employment program. Please look for program flyers from Beth in mid-April and check our website for her latest offerings and youth employment information: <http://ccetompkins.org/4h/rural-youth-services/joint-youth-commission> . You can reach Beth at 272-2292, or by e-mail at [bab47@cornell.edu](mailto:bab47@cornell.edu).

Linda Schoffel, Rural Youth Services Coordinator  
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County

## **TOWN OF LANSING**

As a Village of Lansing resident you are also part of the Town of Lansing and are able to enroll in Town of Lansing Recreation Programs and get into Myers Park for free. Village of Lansing residents are eligible for a FREE Myers Park ADMISSION pass. All you need to do is stop into the Town of Lansing Recreation Office and provide your name address and license number. This is a beautiful park on Cayuga Lake! For all Pavilion or Camping reservations please call the Town of Lansing Recreation Department at 533-7388. For more information on Lansing Recreation programs visit their web site at



# MUSIC IN THE PARK

*Lansing Parks & Recreation Department invites you to bring your dinner, coolers, and lawn chairs and enjoy pleasant Thursday evenings on the lake at Myers Park listening to some great bands. The 2011 schedule will include:*

**July 7 – 6:30 – *Finding Tomorrow*** Fronted by Luke Kutler, the band is known for beautiful covers of hit songs from bands such as *The Fray* and *Switchfoot*. Luke is a multi-talented musician who is able to play guitar, bass, drums, and piano. Luke is joined by singer/songwriter Nina Lindberg on bass, Tom Arleo on drums, and Yiusong Liu on synthesizers/keyboards - ALL Lansing students who are outstanding!

**July 14 – 6:30 – *Bad Alibi*** The best in Classic Rock with all of the favorites you'll remember – with no excuses. This is the first appearance for Bad Alibi in the Myers Concert Series and features Lansing's own Scott Hollister on drums, Rob Romano on keyboards and Mark Miller on guitar!!

**July 21 – 6:30 – *5 Mile Drive*** Covering some familiar classics and deeper cuts from the 60's and 70's as well as some of the best in recent music, the band also drives home its own engaging and innovative songs. Band members Kate Roeland, Jay Skezas, Kevin Moss, Mark Finnigan and Greg Emerson are excellent!

**July 28 – 6:30 – *Tailor Made*** Central New York's premier contemporary Country act with a smattering of great Classic Rock! Playing the local scene since 1994 and have opened for: Sammy Kershaw, George Jones and even Molly Hatchet. Tailor Made also has 3 CD's out with all original material.

**August 4 – 6:30 – *Iron Horse*** Back to back years of the largest crowds to attend the concert series. If you like "Southern Rock" you can't miss this concert, featuring Lansing's own Dave Halton and Mark Armstrong. You better get to the Park early!!

**August 11 – 6:30 – *The Prophets*** The Prophets play a mixture of Chicago Blues (Howlin Wolf, Muddy Waters), blues based rock (Eric Clapton) with a good dose of Memphis (BB King and Elvis), New Orleans, Detroit, and Austin TX (Stevie Ray Vaughn). The 5 piece band is versatile offering strong vocals with creative blues/jazz arrangements and improvisations. If you want to get down to hard driven grooves that rock the house... come and listen.

**August 18 – 6:30 – *The DixieKats*** The DixieKats are a concert, show and dance band that play a variety of traditional Dixieland and Bayou Gumbo. The band plays music made famous by Louis Armstrong, Pete Fountain, King Oliver and more recently, Dr. John, Randy Newman and the Neville Brothers. The band has played the Lilac Festival in Rochester, the NY State Fair and the Hershey



Sports Arena.

**Admission is free but donations will be appreciated!**

## **YMCA UPCOMING EVENT**

Ithaca YMCA holds its Annual Healthy Kids Day, Saturday, April 9, 2011, 1:00pm to 3:00 pm in the YMCA gymnasium. Our theme is "Keep it Movin`!" Teaching kids new ways to get movin` and keep movin`. Activities are as simple as balloon blowing to college sports, floor hockey to the huge bounce house. Healthy Kids Day is sponsored by Wegmans, and the first 100 kids through the door get a special T shirt. The event is free and open to the public. Tour the Y and find out why the Y is the family place to be!!

Frank S. Towner, YMCA Associate Executive Director

## **LANSING STAR**

The Lansing Star Online would like to share two things with Village residents. First, they have been building the events calendar at <http://www.ithacalendar.com> . Any events you want the public to know about can be entered there for free. It is a moderated calendar, so events may take about a day before they show up. It's also a great place to find out what's happening around Tompkins County. IthaCalendar is also a prominent part of <http://www.lansingstar.com>, as is our local weather site, <http://www.icathaweather.net> .

The Lansing Star would also like to invite parents to submit articles about activities in the Ithaca School district. They are happy to accept articles on sports, the arts, special achievements, profiles, etc. The guidelines for writing and submitting articles are posted at <http://news.lansingstar.com> .

Dan Veaner, Lansing Star Online Editor, attends most Village of Lansing Board meetings and has good coverage of both Town and Village of Lansing meetings. Check it out!

## **OFFICE FOR THE AGING**

Are you wondering about services for senior citizens? From questions about Medicare, to concerns about an older relative, the staff at the Tompkins County Office for the Aging can help you. The Tompkins County Office for the Aging offers information on a wide variety of services for senior citizens and their caregivers. If our office cannot help you, we can refer you to others who can help. Please call the Tompkins County Office for the Aging at 274-5482, or visit us on the web at [www.tompkins-co.org/cofa](http://www.tompkins-co.org/cofa)

Katrina Schickel

## **TOMPKINS COUNTY SINGLE STREAM CURBSIDE RECYCLING**

Single stream recycling collection allows Tompkins County residents to mix recyclable paper, plastic, aluminum cans and glass in one bin. This method of recycling collection is more convenient for residents and reduces litter. Single stream recycling collection began at the curb, Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. Scheduled recycling collection days and times for Tompkins County residents will not change in 2011. The recycling calendar is available at the Tompkins County Solid Waste Management Division office, Recycling and Solid Waste Center at the Drop-off Area, and online at [www.recycletompkins.org](http://www.recycletompkins.org).



## VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Mayor Donald Hartill 272-7671  
[DLH13@cornell.edu](mailto:DLH13@cornell.edu)  
Deputy Mayor Lynn Leopold 273-3457  
[LynnBird58@yahoo.com](mailto:LynnBird58@yahoo.com)  
Trustee John O'Neill 266-7306  
[johnoneillati@cs.com](mailto:johnoneillati@cs.com)  
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke 272-4029  
[patithaca@aol.com](mailto:patithaca@aol.com)  
Trustee Julie Baker 257-2474  
[jbaker@atc-nycorp.com](mailto:jbaker@atc-nycorp.com)  
  
BZA Acting Chair Mary Sirois  
Planning Bd. Chairman Mario Tomei 257-1921

## VILLAGE EMPLOYEES

Clerk/Treasurer Jodi Dake 257-0424  
Code Enf. /Zoning Officer Marty Moseley 257-8363  
Supt. of Public Works John Courtney 257-6280  
Laborer Adam LaLonde 257-6280  
Nolan Hatfield 257-6280  
Fire Inspector Marty Moseley 257-0424  
Electrical Inspector Floyd Ferris 592-5829  
Village Accountant  
Ciaschi Dietershagen Little & Mickelson 272-4444  
Village Attorney  
Barney Grossman Dubow & Marcus 273-6841  
Village Engineers TG Millers 272-6477  
Engineering Consultant Brent Cross

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

John Courtney, Superintendent of Public Works  
257-6280, Ext. 224 or 849-4970

### VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES

Southern Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Water Commission.....Donald Hartill, Michael Newman  
Tompkins County Board of Representatives, District 6.....Pat Pryor  
Tompkins County Board of Representatives, District 10.....Dooley Kiefer  
Tompkins County Environmental Management Council..... John Dennis

### STATE AND FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

N.Y. State Senator Mike Nozzolio (R) N.Y. State Assembly Barbara Lifton (D)  
54th State Senate District 125th State Assembly District  
412 Legislative Office Building 106 E. Court St.  
Albany, NY 12247 Ithaca, NY 14850  
(518)455-2366 (607)277-8030

U.S. Senator Charles Schumer (D)  
322 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
(202)224-6542

U.S. Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand (D)  
478 Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
(202)224-4451

U.S. Rep. Richard L. Hanna  
127 Cannon House Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
Cortland office-(607)756-2470

# Happy Spring!