



Newsletter October 2016

VILLAGE OF LANSING *Incorporated 1974*

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

Clerk's Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Web Page Address: www.vlansing.org.

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

Planning Board Meetings: 2nd Monday and last Tuesday, 7:00 PM

Board of Zoning Appeal Meeting: 3rd Tuesday as needed; 7:30 PM

The Village Newsletter is currently published twice a year in March and October and is also available on the Village website. You can also sign up to receive notice of our publication by clicking on "Subscribe to Village Email" at the top of our home page. If you prefer to receive a paper copy just call the office to get added to the mailing list. Copies are also available at the Village Office in the foyer brochure rack. Spread the word to your neighbors about the newsletter!

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

It has been a very busy summer here in the Village of Lansing. North Triphammer Road has been resurfaced with Suit-Kote doing an outstanding job. They managed to keep the traffic flowing and the quality of their product is outstanding. Bush Lane had major reconstruction with a complete water main replacement, installation of storm water management infrastructure, widening, leveling and repaving the roadway. Here the Village must apologize to the residents both along Bush Lane and Brook Lane and Drive for the increased traffic and lack of proper traffic diversion. A car accident on North Triphammer Road hit an electric distribution pole that closed the road for several hours while NYSEG carried out the necessary repairs. This disrupted power in the area for a similar period. Two weeks later a heavy trailer owned by the contractor for the Bush Lane project ran away and hit the same pole causing the same chain of events. Fortunately the pole stopped the trailer from crossing North Triphammer Road that could have caused a very serious accident.

Those of you who use Uptown Road have noticed that the Village is installing a sidewalk along the North and East side of the road to keep pedestrian traffic off the roadway. The project is nearly complete and will provide a safe path for the significant number pedestrians using this route. In that same area, the playground equipment in the small Community Park across from Dankert Park will be replaced with similar modern equipment to that in Dankert Park in the spring.

The owners of Northwoods Apartments have dedicated the private roadway serving their complex and the residents to the west to the Village. During the fall the Village will be replacing the four failing storm water drainage structures that cross the roadway and extend the divided roadway to the beginning of Woodthrush Hollow Road. In the spring the granite curbing will be replaced, the roadway will be slightly reconfigured and a sidewalk will be added on the north side of the roadway from the entrance to the Northwoods Apartment parking areas to Warren Road providing a safe path for the many residents who use TCAT. Also during the spring, the new Village park on the twenty

acre parcel on the south side of Wood Thrush Hollow will be constructed. It will include a playing field and playground structures that will be very similar to those in Danker Park. It will provide a much needed addition in the area.

The Village has been asked to consider rezoning a twenty acre parcel on the south side of Bomax Drive. It is currently in the Business and Technology Zone and the request is to change it to High Density Residential so that an apartment complex could be constructed. There was considerable discussion during the September 19th Board of Trustees meeting before a date for a public hearing was set. **That public hearing will be at the Board of Trustees meeting at 7:35 pm on October 17.** We anticipate a lively discussion. With the current zoning a 180,000 square foot industrial building with its associated parking areas could be constructed with a hard surface area covering nearly half of the parcel. A well-designed apartment complex would cover less than a quarter of the parcel.

Another rite of fall is the brush pickup that will occur during the week of October 17th. See details in the brush pick up article later in the newsletter.

Finally, winter will be coming and our DPW is starting to prepare for it. We have significant amounts of salt left over from last winter and have purchased more so we should be all set. We need the moisture that good fall rain season and a good snow pack would bring.

VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE

Village of Lansing Website- www.vlansing.org.

Important announcements are posted on our website. You can also see the meeting agendas, read minutes from Board meetings, look at past newsletters, print off forms, find contact information for our staff, view our codification and much more. This is one of the main ways we communicate to our residents so please visit often.

Village Taxes

Tax Glance Lookup is a link on our website that allows you to look up and print your tax bill. After a tax payment is posted to your tax bill you can also print a tax receipt directly from here. We hope this service will make it more convenient for you to get your tax information. If you still have unpaid taxes, there is currently an 8% penalty due if paid by October 31st.

Quarterly Water Bills

The October water bills have gone out and are due by October 20th. There have been a few issues with the new meters but we are working through it. If you have any questions about your water readings please contact Bolton Point at 277-0660.

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 ext.2 to arrange a time for this service.

Adopt a Garden of Volunteer

One of the Village goals is to improve the visual character of the Village. If you, your company or group is interested in adopting a garden in the Village please call the Village Office. We can always use volunteers to help maintain the beautiful gardens around the Village! This past July, we had two groups of students from the Learning Web program come to the Village to help clean up the Village gardens around the administration building and at the entrance to Pyramid Drive. Thank you so much to the students that participated and to Lisa Schleelein for her help!

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer

VILLAGE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Brush Pick-Up

Fall brush and limb pick-up will be provided by the Village and Town of Lansing Highway Departments on Monday, October 17th. Residents are asked to leave up to one pick-up truck size load near the roadside by 7:00 am. 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.

John Courtney, Supt. of Public Works

VILLAGE CODE & ZONING DEPARTMENT

With Fall upon us, I would remind everyone that there are numerous scenarios in which a building permit would be needed. I would encourage individuals who are interested in additions, new construction, remodeling, installation of a solid fuel burning heating appliance, chimney or flue, installation of new heating equipment, decks, pools, roofs, etc. to visit the Village of Lansing Office at 2405 North Triphammer Road for any questions they might have.

Code Changes

Recently the Department of State, as of October 3, 2016, adopted an updated 2016 version of the New York State Building Codes collection. There have been some significant changes that have occurred, and anyone now looking to construct a new building, remodel an existing building, place an addition on an existing structure, etc... will be required to build to the 2016 New York State Codes collection. Based on the new code provisions, siding and window replacements will most likely require permits, in addition to the existing permits that are required. I would encourage anyone with questions to contact me (607-257-0424 option # 223).

Stormwater

Fall is upon us once again and as beautiful as the fall leaves are, they mean lots of yard work for local homeowners. One option for reducing your workload is to use a mulching lawn mower to mulch leaves into your yard. It is less time intensive than raking and the shredded leaves act as a natural fertilizer during the fall.

While you are tending to your yard, take a moment to sweep or rake leaves and branches out of the street in front of your house. Left in the street, they can clog storm drains and contribute to localized flooding. When washed into nearby lake and streams via storm drains or ditches, the leaves become a major source of phosphorus, the nutrient that allows algae to bloom in the summer. Dispose of leaves by composting them in your yard. Keep leaves and yard waste out of the regular garbage, and never dump them in wetlands or buffer areas.

Roofs, driveways, snow melt, and lawns all provide stormwater runoff that could potentially end up in Cayuga Lake. All should be mindful of what is spilled or placed on these surfaces. Please clean up any spills that occur, attempt to minimize the fertilizers for lawn care, and properly dispose of pet waste. This is an important task since the Village and four other municipalities are provided drinking water from Cayuga Lake.

Please remember to check/replace the batteries in all Carbon Monoxide and Smoke Detectors.

Marty Moseley, Code, Zoning & Stormwater Management Officer

PLANNING BOARD NEWS

The first few months (April-June) of this period were rather slow for the Planning board. During the quiet months the Board worked with our Code Enforcement Officer, Marty Moseley, to:

- Redefine the wording and add zoning components for Senior Living and Special Care Facilities.
- Define large scale and small scale solar arrays.
- Adjust front-yard setbacks for Commercial Districts

The following are activities approved by the Planning Board that will have minor environmental impacts:

A minor change to a previous special permit for Cayuga Medical on Brentwood Dr., to add 14 more staff parking spaces, leaving more room in the main lot for patient parking.

- Approval of construction of a new home on Esty Drive, in the vicinity of Steep Slopes and Unique Natural Areas.
- Approval of a minor subdivision of land on Graham Rd. West, which will allow the Village to move one step closer to owning this road. If, and when, the final transfer of ownership ever occurs, it will allow the Village to repair the road surface.
- Approval of construction of a new home on Twin Glens Rd. in the vicinity of Steep Slopes.
- Approval of construction of a small office building and 3 garages at Triphammer Apartments (formerly Chateau Claire Apts), on Cinema Drive. Additional trees and shrubs will be required in their landscaping plan, because of the necessary removal of several willow trees.
- A minor alteration of the special permit at McDonalds on their parking and landscaping plans. The changes are for better customer convenience and improved visibility/safety in the drive thru lanes, respectively.

In mid-July the Village Trustee and Planning Boards were approached by Park Grove Realty concerning a rezoning of a 20-acre lot on Bomax Dr., from Business and Technology District to High Density Residential District. As of this time the two Boards are considering the need for more high density housing, and the impact this would have on surrounding neighborhoods.

In July we welcomed Carolyn Greenwald to the Planning Board, as our Alternate member. She lives in Shannon Park, has a young family, and had attended several of our meetings as an observer for the Community party. At the same time Mike Baker moved up to a regular member on the Board.

We try to get our meeting minutes on our Village website as soon as possible; however, if you would like any additional information on any of the above topics please contact Marty Moseley at the Village of Lansing Office. 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, 7:00 – 9:30pm.

Mario Tomei, Planning Board Chairman

VILLAGE TRUSTEE REPORTS

Fall Training School

Recently, Village Trustee Patricia O'Rourke, and Village Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake, returned from a Fall Training School sponsored by the New York State Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials (NYCOM) and the Office of the State Comptroller. As local municipal

officials, we have many responsibilities that require difficult decisions on various aspects of running local village government. The NYCOM Conference offers up-to-date training, technical assistance, and reference materials to help make these decisions and address the challenges our Village Officials face.

Courses offered at the conference included Internal Controls, Capital Planning, Governmental Accounting, Health Reform, and Enacted and Pending Legislation. The courses provide guidance in understanding the powers and responsibilities of local officials. Information was distributed on relevant state statutes, forms of Village government, powers of elected officials, and good practices with respect to record keeping and communications.

The training we received will help us achieve the goals that the Village of Lansing is dedicated to, such as sound policies and practices for government as well as reliable and prudent fiscal management. The information and training acquired at the NYCOM Conference will be shared with the Village Mayor, staff and all Board members.

Patricia O'Rourke. Trustee

Greenway Committee Status Update

The Greenway-Landscaping Plan committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the Village Hall. All meetings are open to the public. Village residents and interested parties are invited to attend any scheduled meeting.

The Greenway-Landscaping Plan Committee members include:

- Ronny Hardaway, Board of Trustees Representative, Chair
- Phil Dankert, Community Representative
- John Dennis, Community Representative
- Leopold, Community Representative
- Monica Moll, Community Representative
- Deborah Dawson, Planning Board Member to serve as Secretary.

Since the committee's last update in the Spring of 2016, we:

- Welcomed Monica Moll to the committee as a community representative, and said goodbye to John Gillott and Gerry Monaghan as they resigned their committee positions due to the demands of other commitments.
- Continued work on updates to the Village's Greenway Plan.
- Worked with the Village's DPW staff to evaluate and perform a preliminary clearing of the planned Dart-parcels park.
- Created a preliminary sketch of the Dart-parcels park layout and held a public hearing to discuss the park and its proposed layout.
- Met with, or contacted, playground equipment designers and vendors to consider future equipment installations in the Dart-parcels park.
- Evaluated the Village Park site and equipment conditions. It was determined that the playground equipment was potentially unsafe and needed to be replaced.
- Researched, selected, and recommended replacement equipment for Village park.
- Evaluated Shannon Park's site and made recommendations for future improvements.
- Contacted Village residents near Shannon Park about creating a "Friends of Shannon Park" group to monitor and maintain the park.

- Evaluated Dankert Park's site and equipment and provided a list of issues that were corrected by the DPW staff.
- Researched potential public grants for the Village parks and trails.

Future goals for the committee include: working with the Board of Trustees and the Village staff to begin development of, and installations in, the Dart-parcels park, assist with the replacement of the Village Park equipment, update Shannon Park equipment, maintain Dankert Park, and establish landscaping guidelines for Village-owned properties. The committee will also continue updating the Greenway Plan to reflect current and future Village greenways and trails.

For more information, please visit the committee's webpage on the Village website at:
http://vlansing.org/greenway_home.html

Ronny Hardaway, Trustee

Living in Skateboard Heaven

Our Village is blessed with many natural resources such as a deep lake, breathtaking waterfalls, quiet woodlands, and dramatic gorges. If you are a teenager, from the neighborhoods of Lansing or Cayuga Heights, the long steep dead end roads that run west off of Cayuga Heights Road provide some phenomenal long board skateboarding hills. These types of roads are regularly used by athletes hoping to hop on their boards to catch the perfect metaphorical wave.

Long board skateboarding has become a big league serious sport. Long a part of X-Games, it is being seriously considered as an Olympic event for the Tokyo 2020 Summer Games. Some of the skateboarders from our area are of the caliber to possibly compete at this level. Some of our local athletes are internationally ranked in the sport, traveling all over the country to compete.

That being said; the Village is often approached by residents expressing concern for the safety of these young athletes. Understandably, people need to be able to drive cars safely. The thought of being involved in a skateboarding accident becomes a constant concern. We can all relate to the worry they feel pulling out of their driveways, never knowing who might be zipping down the hill standing on a thin board with no brakes and little protection.

People ask us; what can the Village do to manage this problem? How can driving and skateboarding safely coexist? The fact of the matter is, skateboarding is a legal activity. We have created a nearly perfect course for the skateboard enthusiast to practice. Long well paved hills on dead end roads with little traffic are ideal. One idea would be to pass a local law requiring skateboarders to wear helmets and protective padding. I suggest we explore that option.

So it seems that until a Jetson's style flying skateboard emerges, our residents will need to coexist with these sport enthusiasts. I am happy to report we have had no serious injuries to date. We will continue to encourage cooperation between our residents and our guests. Let's invite some skateboarders to share their thoughts. I will raise this issue at the Tompkins County Council of Governments to see what other municipalities are doing. You are always welcome to share your thoughts. We hope that property owners along these roads will continue to use caution and that drivers will be aware that we are living in skateboard heaven.

Gerry Monaghan

FALL & WINTER YOUTH SERVICES AVAILABLE TO VILLAGE RESIDENTS

Annually, approximately 8,000 Tompkins County youth receive services through Tompkins County Youth Services Department-funded programs, with approximately 700 youth from the Village and Town of Lansing participating in Youth Services programs. Village of Lansing residents are encouraged to enroll their youth in the available programs and activities.

Many Youth Services programs involve recreational activities through local municipalities. For the Village of Lansing, youth programs are available through the Town of Lansing Parks and Recreation Department and the Ithaca Youth Bureau, plus the Ithaca & Tompkins County YMCA. A partial list of Fall and Winter 2016 programs are provided here.

Lansing Parks and Recreation Department Link: <http://www.lansingrec.com/>

Steve Colt has provided a list of upcoming youth programs in an article below.

Ithaca Youth Bureau Link: <http://www.ithacayouthbureaurecreation.com/>

The Ithaca Youth Bureau provides a broad variety of recreation and youth development programs to promote the health, happiness, and well-being of all youth and families in the greater Ithaca area.

The IYB serves youth, aged 0-20 years, through a wide array of programs including:

- Indoor Soccer
- Small Ball Basketball
- Youth Basketball
- Wheel Throwing (Ceramics)
- Artstravaganza (Creative Arts)
- Adult/Child Pottery
- Art Spot (Learning Basic Art Skills)
- Gift Making
- Art Afterschool!
- Youth Theatre Classes

Ithaca & Tompkins County YMCA Link: <http://www.ithacaymca.com/index.html>

YMCA youth-related programs include:

- School Age Child Care
- Red Cross Training
- Childwatch
- Pickleball
- Youth Swim Lesson for All Ages
- Family Time: Family Zumba, Ping Pong, Badminton
- Ages 3-5: Gym & Swim, Bitty Games and Sports
- Ages 5-12: Basketball, Racquetball, Floor Hockey, plus more

For more information, call the Y at 607-257-0101, or consult the website at www.ithacaymca.com.

Please contact any of these organizations for more information about youth programs and enrollment.

Ronny Hardaway, Trustee

Joint Youth Commission Openings

The Village of Lansing currently has two open seats on the Joint Youth Commission. If you're thinking about joining this wonderful commission, I would highly recommend it. My last 2 years on the JYC have been wonderful. I have learned a lot about the opportunities for our youth in this community, as well as the people involved in providing a brighter future for them. This opportunity involves a monthly meeting and one to two monitoring visits a year where you get to see the programs in action. It is a fairly low time commitment while still being able to provide change in the lives of our youth. It is fulfilling to know how youth are being encouraged to be their best selves while learning real life skills. The commission is mostly focused on first time youth employment and hearing their feedback of how programs that this commission supports is really exciting. I'm saddened that I can't fulfill my position any longer due to work conflicts and I hope that the person taking over finds just as much joy in this voluntary work as I did. If you have any questions about this position, please feel free to reach out to me. I'd be happy to answer any questions I can. Please contact the Village Clerk/Treasurer for my contact information.

Henriette Bullmer

Get Involved With Your Village

In addition to the two openings on the Joint Youth Commission, there are also openings on the Recreation Partnership Board, Tompkins County Youth Board, and for a Board of Zoning Appeals Member and Alternate. Please contact the Village Office if you are interested in serving on any of these Boards.

THE LEARNING WEB

The Learning Web is recruiting new intakes for 2016 who would be interested in finding a volunteer apprenticeship. Whatever your interests are we will work to find a mentor that can provide hands on experience in your field of interest. If you live in the Town of Ithaca, Village of Lansing, or Village of Cayuga Heights and would be interested in the program, please contact Isaac Piha at isaac@learning-web.org, or (607) 275-0122

Isaac Piha
CCEAP JYC Coordinator

TOWN OF LANSING RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Please check out this list of upcoming programs. Some are time sensitive so please register soon!

- **Adult Coed Volleyball** - This program has started and is a long running program for adults. It takes place in the Middle School Gym on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 – 9:30. Program runs through April 25th. Come out and get some exercise and have a lot of fun at the same time.
- **Recreation Fall Jump Around** – This is a really popular program that takes place on Wednesday's afterschool. Our students are bussed (one-way) to Jump Around Inflatables for 6 weeks. Program starts on October 12th and is for students in grades K-4. We are looking for several parent chaperones for this program. Please contact us for chaperone details. Students **MUST** be picked up by 5 PM at Jump Around Inflatables.

- **Fall Baking Class** – This program is an annual favorite and is for students in grades 3rd – 7th. The class takes place at the Lansing Community Center on Saturday October 22nd from 9 am – 1 pm. “Come and bake up some classic fall treats with your friends”.
- **Fall Gymnastics Program** – This has been one of our most popular long running programs and starts October 28th. The program is for students in grades K – 4 and takes place on Friday afternoons. The program takes place at Head-Over-Heels Gymnastics Center. Students are bussed to the facility after school and will return to the Elementary School at 5:30 PM. Registration is first come – first served!!
- **Open Bowling Program** – This program is for students in grades 3rd – 8th and takes place on Mondays after school at the Bowl-O-Drome. The program starts on November 7th and students will be bussed from the MS and the ES. ALL students will be returned to the Elementary School to be picked up by parents by 5:45 PM. This is recreational bowling for fun !
 - **SKI Program** – Our program will run as it did last year with bussing for grades 5th – 12th and the K – 4 program a (drive over) program by parents. Our prices are actually lower this year and the early discounted price date has been extended out to November 16th this year. This is another top favorite program for our students. It will be VERY IMPORTANT for our grade 5- 12 participants to register for the bus early! We will only have room for a little over 40 bus riders. This will be first come-first served. All of the details are listed on the registration form. Ski Club registration is done on-line directly with Greek Peak. Transportation is done with Lansing Recreation.

Please contact the Town of Lansing Parks and Recreation Department with any questions you may have regarding any of these programs. Registration forms are available at the Town of Lansing Recreation Office. Program flyer is available in the Town Hall foyer at 29 Auburn Road 24 hours a day.

Steve Colt, Town of Lansing Director of Parks & Recreation

HOUSING REPORT

Thank you Elvina for providing the following housing report:

Residential Sales in Tompkins County, 3/4 of Year

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Number of sales | 570 | 500 | 535 |
| Av. Sales Price,\$ | 236,000 | 245,000 | 251,000 |
| Av. Price/Sq. Ft, \$ | 125 | 132 | 129 |
| Av. Days on Market | 125 | 78 | 71 |
| Volume of Sales, \$M | 135 | 123 | 134 |

Houses were sold at record setting pace in New York State in August with 13,912 sales according to Report from NY State Association of Realtors. The state-wide median sales price increased 3.8% compared to August of 2015. Consumers have an optimistic outlook on housing at the end of summer home buying season, says Dough Duncan, chief economist at mortgage giant Fannie Mae. The optimism is based on confidence in the job market and more favorable expectations regarding their personal finances compared to a year ago. The Fannie Mae forecast calls for 4% overall growth of home purchases.

Have a Great Fall!

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Mayor Donald Hartill 272-7671
DLH13@cornell.edu
Deputy Mayor Gerry Monaghan 257-2367
gmonaghan22@yahoo.com
Trustee John O'Neill 266-8392
johnoneil5@aol.com
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke 272-4029
patithaca@aol.com
Trustee Ronny Hardaway 214-662-7463
rjhardaway@yahoo.com
BZA Chair Lynn Leopold 273-3457
Planning Bd. Chairman Mario Tomei 257-1921
Planning Board John Gillott
Lisa Schleelein
Deborah Dawson
Mike Baker

VILLAGE EMPLOYEES

Clerk/Treasurer Jodi Dake 257-0424
Code Enf. /Zoning Officer Marty Moseley 257-8363
Supt. of Public Works John Courtney 257-6280
MEO Nolan Hatfield 257-6280
MEO Chris Zavaski 257-6280
Electrical Inspector Floyd Ferris 592-5829
Fire Inspector Brian Quadrozzi 257-0424
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 cell-280-4893

VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES

Southern Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Water Commission.....Donald Hartill, Michael Newman
Tompkins County Board of Representatives, District 6.....Michael J Sigler
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)
54th State Senate District
188 State St., Rm 503, Capital Bldg.
Albany, NY 12247
(518)455-2366

N.Y. State Assembly Barbara Lifton (D)
125th State Assembly District
106 E. Court St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(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. Tom Reed
89 W. Market St.
Corning, NY 14830