

# Village Voice

Village of Lake Linden Newsletter

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Hello! Summer is here again and our annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration is right around the corner. I hope everyone has friends and relatives coming back to visit us to help make our Independence Day party a safe and successful one.

**4<sup>th</sup> of July:** Our Village celebration is once again presented by the Lake Linden Volunteer Fire Dept. They always do a great job with preparations, supported by the donations of many local residents and businesses. To lend your support please be sure to purchase a booster button on sale until and on the 4<sup>th</sup>. They are \$2 and go towards the great events taking place over the holiday. Also, if you see a firefighter, thank them for their hard work and dedication.

Events get under way on July 3<sup>rd</sup> with live music by Vigilance from 6:30 to 10:30pm at the new bandstand/pavilion in the Village park. This is followed by the often-imitated, never-duplicated fireworks display off the Village sands at dusk (approx. 10:30, listen for the siren). The following morning, the Lion's Club has a pancake breakfast at the Lake Linden Elementary School from 7:30 until noon. The Grand Patriotic Parade begins promptly at 9:30am and moves from 10<sup>th</sup> St. (bottom of the Calumet Hill) through town to 1<sup>st</sup> St. After that, games in the park begin and Tom Katalin will provide live music until 1:00 when there will be a veteran's service at the memorial in the park. The kids' races begin at 1:15 (fun for all ages!). \$700 in cash will be given out to the children so listen for the siren and make a dash for the tennis courts! At 3pm the grandstand contests start so if you fancy yourself a competitive eater or drinker come down and prove it! At 6:30pm the Bike Parade winds its way from St. Joseph Church to the Village Park. 1<sup>st</sup> prize is \$20 and every entrant gets a cash prize! Finally, the annual Street Dance at the Lakes Lounge starts at 6:30 and goes "til ya can't dance no more". Get out and celebrate but please be very careful with firecrackers and fireworks, especially in the park as there are a lot of little kids running around and we don't want anything to jeopardize their safety.

**Water Quality report:** Included with this newsletter is a copy of the 2007 water quality report as required by State regulations. It outlines the testing requirements and results for the year. If you have any questions about this report please contact the Village Clerk's office.

**Village Office hours:** Due to a staffing shortage we will be forced to close the Village office on Wednesdays for the balance of the summer. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Also, there are times when I cannot get to the phone or answer two lines at the same time. I want everyone to know I check and return messages as often as I can. Again, I am sorry for any inconvenience.

**Water bill delinquencies:** It has been a practice in the past that we have tried to work with residents who have had problems paying their water bills in a timely fashion. Because of recent issues that will no longer be continued. The ordinance states that after the 3<sup>rd</sup> delinquent bill is received and payment has not been made in full, a letter of notification is sent. This letter has the turn-off date and balance due. If payment is not received by that date, **in full**, a door hanger notice will be hung at the address to be turned off. 24 hours later, unless the account balance is brought to zero, the water will be turned off. Partial payments or payment arrangements will not be accepted.

The same goes for annual sanitation fees. Those who have not paid their annual fee will receive a letter stating that unless the fee is received in full garbage pick-up will be discontinued at that address. Dumpsters cannot be rented if there is a delinquent water bill or sanitation fee.

**Change on Water Bills:** Your water bills next month will have a different breakdown for the sewer charges. The \$10.00 charge under the S-1 category will be rolled into the base sewer charge. This will not result in a rate change. This is only a reallocation of that money. That \$10.00 charge had been for the debt retirement on the lagoon system on the Village Sands. As of May that system has been paid for. The addition to the base charge will be used to finance much-needed repair projects on the sewer system.

**Illegal Parking:** For about two months now the number one complaint has been that people are parking on the outside of the new curb bumpouts, particularly in front of the pharmacy and the laundromat. **This is not a legal parking area!** Incidents have decreased since they have been painted, but anyone found in violation will be ticketed. And please remember, there is no longer parking on Calumet Street on the east side of the 100 block (in front of the park). Parking for park visitors is available near the pavilion at the south end of Front Street or on MacDonald Street at the south end of the park and near the tennis courts.

**Village Hall Restoration:** We are very pleased to announce that once again we received a grant from the Americana Foundation in 2007 for \$35,000 for repair work on the Village Hall. This year, work will be concentrated on the bell tower, which is in very poor condition. This phase will concentrate on sealing the roof and exterior of the tower so that further weather damage can be prevented. Work will begin in late summer after bids have been let and contractors chosen for the task. We have now been granted \$109,000 over the past three years from the Americana Foundation for this worthwhile project and thank them wholeheartedly for their continued support.

**Lake Linden website:** The Village website, [www.lakelinden.net](http://www.lakelinden.net), has been updated to reflect up-to-date meeting minutes, newsletters, Village Hall information, and also has the 4<sup>th</sup> of July brochure. We update our own website so we thank you for your patience in getting the site updated. As always, questions can be directed via email through our website and will receive responses as soon as we are able.

**Village Council:** The newest Village trustee is Glenn Schuldt. He was appointed to the Council to fill the vacancy created by Bill Heide's resignation and should make a fine addition to our group. We would like to thank Bill for his years of dedicated service to the Village.

**Park Pavilion damage:** The vandalism that has been happening in the Village Park has reached an intolerable level. It will soon force more drastic action including locking the restrooms and/or further restricting access to the park and its facilities. Residents and regular users of the park, please let us know if you see anything like this taking place. Also, the park is **CLOSED** after 11:00pm during the summer. If anyone sees people in the park after 11:00, please call our anonymous tip line at 296-9912 to report it!

**Everyone have a safe and happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July week! Please be careful with fireworks!**

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Edward R. Fisher, President Pro-tem

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Robert A. Poirier, Village Clerk