

Village Voice

Village of Lake Linden Newsletter

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It seems that the long wait for some summer-like weather may finally be paying off as we have begun sweating just before the big 4th of July holiday. This year there will be no major construction projects to worry about downtown for Independence Day and we are looking forward to a great holiday festival!

Fourth of July Events: 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 4th. 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 Friday, July 3rd with live music by *The Edge* 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). Saturday 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 10th St. (bottom of the Calumet Hill) through town to 1st St. After that, games in the park begin and Tom Katalin will provide live music until 1:00pm 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. 1st prize is \$20 and every entrant gets a cash prize! Finally, the annual Street Dance at the Lakes Lounge starts at 6:00 and goes "til ya can't dance no more". Get out and celebrate but please be mindful of others in attendance. Firecrackers and fireworks are prohibited in the park by ordinance and fines can be imposed for their use. All animals must be leashed and under their owners control at all times. You must have "an appropriate device for the collection of fecal matter" as well. This, also, is established by ordinance and violation can subject you to fines. The Village Police, State Police and Sheriff's Dept. will be on patrol throughout the holiday weekend. So let's all be mindful of the little kids and their safety as we all enjoy the holiday.

Water Quality report: Included with this newsletter is a copy of the 2009 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.

New Animal Ordinance: The Village Council has passed an ordinance requiring that all pets be leashed and that owners/handlers clean up after them. The text of that ordinance is below:

SERIES 9000 - SAFETY REGULATIONS

An ordinance to control cats and dogs and clean up after all animals within the limits of the Village of Lake Linden and the penalties for violations thereof.

The Lake Linden Village Police Department, its authorized deputies and/or appointed agents can and will actively enforce this ordinance up to and including making a request of owners/handlers to present proper depositories as outlined in Section 2, subsection B below.

Chapter 9011 – Animals

SHORT TITLE: This ordinance shall thence be known as the "Village of Lake Linden Animal Ordinance".

PURPOSE: This ordinance is enacted to preserve and protect the public health, safety and general welfare of the residents of the Village of Lake Linden by requiring cats and dogs to be leashed and to compel owners/handlers to clean up after them.

SECTION 1: LEASH REGULATIONS

It shall be unlawful for any person to own any dog or cat that does not at all times wear a collar with a tag approved by the director of agriculture, or for any person except the owner or authorized agent, to remove any license tag from a dog or cat; or for any owner to allow any dog or cat, except working dogs such as leader dogs, when accompanied by their owner or his/her authorized agent, while actively engaged in activities for which such dogs are trained, to stray unless held properly in leash. (Adopted from Michigan Compiled Law, MCL 287.262, Sec. 2)

SECTION 2: SANITATION

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to permit any animal owned or harbored by him to deposit fecal matter in any place other than the premises where the animal is harbored or kept, unless such fecal matter is immediately collected and removed to the premises where the animal is harbored or kept.
- B. It shall be unlawful for any person to walk any animal on any property not owned by such person, whether public or private, unless such person has an appropriate device for the collection of fecal matter in his/her immediate possession. Said device must be disposed of in an appropriate trash receptacle or taken to the premises where the animal is harbored or kept.

SECTION 3: CRIMINAL PENALTIES

The Village of Lake Linden may commence and pursue criminal proceedings against responsible parties as defined herein to the extent permitted by law. The penalty for violation of this ordinance shall be a fine of up to \$100. Each separate violation of this ordinance shall be considered a separate offense.

Note that this ordinance applies to *all* pet owners while they are in the Village and not just resident owners. Also note that failing to have “an appropriate device for collecting fecal matter” (a bag) is a violation in and of itself. This is the actual text of the ordinance but if you would like a copy it will be available on our website very soon or at the Village Hall any time.

Annual Clerk’s Report: A recap of issues covered by the Village Council over the last fiscal year (3/1/2008 thru 2/28/2009), this report will soon be available on the Village website and is available now at the Clerk’s Office. Looking through this report will make one realize the numerous issues confronted by the Council during this past 12-month period.

Lake Linden 5K/10K Run/Walk: This inaugural event will be held on September 12th, 2009 at the Lake Linden Village Park. It is a non-profit race designed to promote health and fitness in the community. Food and a raffle are also part of the event and organizers are expecting upwards of 100 race-day participants. People of all ages (kids race, too) are encouraged to participate as you do not have to be a runner to enjoy this scenic race. Look for more information on brochures and posters as the event draws nearer.

Teen Center Project: Work continues on the teen center concept for the Village recreation area. An enterprise group from MTU has been working on a design and features of the structure are still being debated but are sure to include a covered pavilion large enough for an ice rink and an enclosed building with enough space for hosting many different events/interests. Residents will have a chance, through public forums, to provide input as the concept unfolds.

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