



# The Lakewood Ledger

Village of Lakewood - *Quality Living in a Natural Setting*

**Winter 2019**

## ***From President Phil Stephan***

Dear Neighbors,

Thank you for having the confidence to elect me as your Village President. Along with your Board of Trustees we have made great strides toward maintaining an elevated standard of living in Lakewood!

The Board is dedicated to providing the highest level of service that represent the values our residents view as important to their quality of life. Recently, the Board participated in a SWOT Analysis conducted by the Chief Administrative Officer with staff members. This exercise allowed the Board to identify the Village's internal strengths and weaknesses, as well as its external opportunities and threats. The overarching conclusions set the platform for moving forward as a team to create the standards and events that will shape Lakewood in the future months.

Some of the outcomes from these discussions and projects underway or completed include:

**Repairing Public Spaces** (RedTail Barn and Silo repair, Cleaning, evaluating and repairing stormwater systems, working with neighborhoods to improve subdivision entryways (The Reserve SSA5))

**Business Retention and Attraction** (Video Gaming at Golf Clubs, Travel Center at Routes 47 and 176, Marketing RedTail and receiving the Best in the Fox award for 2019)

**Improving Property Values** (Suspension of Impact Fees to attract home builders, Road reconstruction to fundamentally change the way surface water moves in the Village's flood prone areas such as Hampshire Lane)

**Instituting Green Initiatives** (Adopting the Village's first solar ordinance, Collaborating with the Crystal Lake Park District and McHenry County Conservation District to build park and trail amenities on Haligus Road)

**Enforcing Village Codes** (Adopting a Turnberry Lakes Ordinance, Adjusting village wide speed limits for continuity, Installation of speed radar signs on Lake Avenue)

**Improving Processes** (Creating the Village's first Social Media Policy, Capital Improvement Program, Standard Operating Procedures)

**Maintaining Financial Stability** (Creating the Village's first strategic Financial Policies and Plans, Obtaining a AAA rating from Standard and Poors, Refunding the 2010 Waterworks Bonds to the Village's lowest interest rate ever of 2.335% and adding funding capacity for future waterworks projects)

We have been busy these past six months and excited for what 2020 will bring!

As the holiday season approaches, I am reminded of all the reasons I have to give thanks. Serving as your President is one of them.

***Together we can build a better Lakewood***

## IN THE NEWS...

The Village of Lakewood is committed to the safety of its citizens. Having information readily available to the police during emergencies and providing the residents with safe routes is of utmost importance to the Village of Lakewood. These are two of the reasons the Lakewood Vehicle Sticker program was reinstated.

The proceeds of the sticker fees have recently been used for police vehicle maintenance, traffic signs and control devices. A recent traffic study along Lake Avenue was authorized by the Board and at the request of residents who were concerned with the 2 million cars that speed along Lake Avenue annually. The results did not merit a decrease in the speed of the road.

However, President Stephan with the advice and consent of the Village Board approved a solution that required the purchase of two speed radar signs. The results were immediate as the speeds which once were in excess of 40 miles per hour were quickly reduced to 30 miles per hour!



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### **COCOA AND COOKIES WITH SANTA!**

The Lakewood Police Department in cooperation with the North Pole, would like to invite the residents to visit with Santa and his helpers on **Saturday, December 7th from 11-1.**



Meet and greet your police officers, enjoy a cup of cocoa,

have a cookie, make a holiday ornament, and bring your list for Santa Claus.

This year Santa will be parking his sleigh on the rooftop at **RedTail Golf Club, 7900 RedTail Drive, Lakewood, IL 60014**

## HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

### **CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP**

Trees will be picked up by MDC Environmental Services on Fridays through January 2020

### **HOILDAY LIGHTS RECYCLING**

Don't throw away your tangled, frayed or burned-out holiday lights this year! In support of the Village's strategic plan goal to be green, mindful, and sustainable, the Village will offer recycling of holiday lights and extension cords. A receptacle is available at Village Hall through January 31, 2020.

Acceptable Items are: Mini-lights (also known as Italian lights), C7 Lights, C9 Lights, Rope Lights, LED Lights and Extension Cords. Special thanks to Elgin Recycling for partnering with the Village to promote sustainability in the community.

## HOLIDAY REFUSE PICKUP

**Unlimited Leaf Bag Pickup through December 6th**

### Thanksgiving

**Trash, Recycling & Yardwaste Pickup: Saturday, November 30th**

### Christmas Trash and Recycling Pickup:

**Saturday, December 28th**

### New Year's Trash and Recycling Pickup:

**Saturday, January 4th**