Changes ahead for Main Street

In August the Village Board agreed to move forward with the two-lane concept for Main Street beautification. In coming to that decision, they considered the results of the Traffic Trial, presentations on the reasons for narrowing Main Street, and both written and verbal input from residents and business owners.

**Patience.** Having decided upon a direction, everyone is anxious for implementation. However, patience is the order of the day. Staff has outlined a preliminary timeline that shows construction in 2008-09. There is much research, planning, and coordinating to be done. There will be many points for public input and board approvals.

There are multiple layers to be designed: civil engineering of the infrastructure, streetscape planning, and landscaping. There will also be multiple layers of people involved: professional consultants, Village staff, Main Street business owners, the public, and Village Board.

The first phase—schematic design—with sketches, samples, and a preliminary budget is projected to take until June 2006. Completing detailed designs is projected for the end of 2006. Developing the construction documents is allotted another six months, which puts bidding the project out into summer-fall of 2007.

Village staff experienced with prior projects know the value of thorough planning. If the timeline can be shortened without compromising the quality of the results, it will be.

“A town needs a heart. Without a heart, it is just a collection of subdivisions and strip malls, filled by busy people, connected by busy highways. ... What we are talking about here is resuscitating the heart of Lisle. The patient has been sick for a long time and it will take time to bring it back to health. Our choice is this: do we want to do the surgery to bring it back to life, or are we going to let it die?”

— Dick Lamb, resident, one of many speakers at the August 8th Workshop meeting
From the Mayor…

This column is being written just after Smile Days/Depot Days and I’m very appreciative of the support that was shown for the auction of the Benches of Lisle, which raised over $11,000 for community charities. Thank you to the community for that kind of support, and thanks to all who worked so hard to present the festival again this year.

Another success story occurred only a week beforehand, the CHARACTER COUNTS! annual 9/11 commemoration. The Lisle Community Character Alliance presented a great program, and the blood drive collected 60 pints, which were direly needed by health providers in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. The carwash also netted over $2,500 for charity. The kids have made this an outstanding community event.

Speaking of Hurricane Katrina, awareness of emergency response preparedness has been in the forefront of discussions across the country in the wake of this tragedy. I’ve received several inquiries recently about the Village’s own readiness, and yes, we do have an emergency response plan, maintained in close alliance with the DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Response, and mutual aid agreements throughout the County. The Village continually trains personnel in emergency response preparedness and we invest in various technologies and material to assist in the event of disaster. Since the law requires that any declaration of an emergency come from the mayor, I have participated in training sessions myself. I continue to be amazed at the planning efforts and dedication that go into preparing for the worst.

The Village Board gave direction this summer to pursue design work for improvements to Main Street, including the narrowing of the street from Ogden to Burlington. Please don’t think that downtown improvements are “on hold” just because you don’t see actual construction taking place. A great deal of effort in planning and engineering has to precede any physical changes, and we will be doing this preparation work for some time to come.

The Secretary of State’s Mobile Drivers Facility, here annually for two days in August, was again a successful venture. I look forward to having them back next year to provide license renewal and related services to our residents that are far more convenient to receive at Village Hall than in a local Secretary of State facility.

The Village’s 50th Anniversary Commission continues to plan a series of celebrations during the upcoming calendar year. I hope residents will make every effort to attend the events that will mark this historic period, to reflect on the elements that have made us the community we are so proud of, and to enjoy the celebration with friends and neighbors. Please watch for events and dates that will be announced soon.

I wish much success to our schools with their new year now underway. I hope the fall season is enjoyable to all.

Molly Farrell was among the youthful speakers. She spoke with firsthand knowledge about the Chicago Rehabilitation Institute.

9/11 Memorial Rally

Car wash raised $2,500 for Chicago Rehabilitation Institute to help teens from our area recover from spinal cord, back, and neck injuries.

Community members donated 60 pints of blood during the 2-day collection.
Citizens Police Academy

Dark winter evenings get you down? Do something interesting this winter.

Citizens Police Academy’s next session will tentatively begin on Thursday, January 12, 2006 and run for ten weeks through March 16, 2006. The sessions run 6:30-9:30 p.m. on consecutive Thursday nights, and again will be conducted in the Training Room of the Lisle Police Department. Contact Officer Bill Wise or Officer Jodie Wise at 630-271-4200 to request information or an application for the academy. Anyone interested is encouraged to apply this fall.

Broader age range. Participation has been opened to anyone 16 and older who resides in the village, or works or attends school in Lisle. They attempt to fill each session with a cross section of community representation. Previous academies were limited to people over 21. Due to increased interest, the 2005 academy opened up to 16 years and older and had several high school and college students.

Applicants will be screened by the Police Department, and have a criminal background check performed before they are accepted for the academy.

Sessions address many police topics such as department structure/organization, investigations, internet crime, domestic violence, crime scene processing, use of force situations, firearms demonstrations and scenarios, DUI enforcement, K-9 demonstration, as well as other areas that might interest the participants.

As always, the purpose of Citizens Police Academy is to develop positive relations between police and the community through education. Its goal is to create a nucleus of responsible, well-informed citizens, who have knowledge and appreciation for the challenges law enforcement face. It is also helpful for police to interact with members of the community to get their thoughts and insight into the profession. Lisle has used many of their ideas to improve our police department.

Village to celebrate 50 yrs.

During the upcoming year, under the guidance of the Village’s 50th Anniversary Commission, the community will celebrate its past and look to its future with a series of events. Although the commission’s planning is well underway, additional volunteers are welcome. To become involved, please contact Barbara Libby, Committee Secretary, by e-mail at blibby@villageoflisle.org or by phone at 271-4100.

Lisle’s early history

On June 23, 1956, ~950 residents of a two square mile area voted to incorporate as the Village of Lisle. Well before incorporation, Lisle had a rich history dating back to the early 1800s.

Originally, Lisle was home to the Potawatomi Indians. In 1816, the U.S. Government negotiated a treaty with the tribe to relinquish all claims and titles to the land. After statehood and the opening of the Erie Canal, people flocked to the area because of the fertile farmland. Here are some highlights of the early years:

1832—Two brothers, James and Luther Hatch, became the first official settlers in what is now Lisle.
1834—the first log schoolhouse was built and postal services offered.
1837—the DuPage Religious Society, which evolved into the First Congregational Church, was founded.
1840—Beaubien Tavern opened. Stagecoaches traveled from Aurora to Chicago on the Plank Road.
1863—Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad (now Metra) built a rail line through Lisle.
1883—Lisle Cemetery Association formed.
1890—Volunteer Fire Department organized.

More on Lisle’s history and the events planned to celebrate the Village’s Golden Anniversary in the next newsletter.

website: www.villageoflisle.org
The Village of Lisle offers FREE weekly pick up of loose leaves (not bagged) beginning the week of October 17, 2005 through the week of November 14, 2005.

Village crews will come through the entire Village each week and pick up leaves that have been placed in the parkway. If your leaves are not in the parkway at the time our crews pass your house, they will not be picked up until our crews return the following week.

We ask that homeowners adhere to the following guidelines when preparing their leaves:

- Place leaves on the parkway no later than 7 a.m. on the day of pickup (Monday).
- Leaves must be flattened and not bundled.
- Do not place leaves on the street, sidewalk, or driveway.
- Bags are not accepted.
- Leaves will not be collected after the week of November 14, 2005.

Main Street RR underpass

The Main Street vehicular tunnel under the railroad tracks is not a pretty sight. Water infiltrates and the concrete is deteriorating. Village of Lisle Facilities Manager Bill Glowienke has researched a plan to transform this eyesore. He and Community Development Director Catherine Schuster have obtained a grant from the West Suburban Mass Transit District to cover the first phase of the plan. They will seek additional sources of funding for the other phases.

Phase 1. Restoration
- Reduce or eliminate water infiltration via drain tile
- Channel any remaining water via a gutter system

Phase 2. Beautification
- Clean and paint the steel bridge
- Attach a stone façade to the north and south elevations
- Replace the guardrail with ornamental iron
- Add ornamental light fixtures flanking the entrances
- Spring 2007

Phase 3. Landscaping
- Develop designs for hardscape and grading; add trees and plantings

There would be some minor service interruptions for the pedestrian tunnel, and the vehicular underpass would be temporarily taken out of service for a few weeks during construction. Completion is expected by summer 2007.

Preparing to market old Village Hall site

What’s happening? Consultant S.B. Friedman continues to work with the Village Board and staff, and Lisle residents to finalize concepts for the best use of the old village hall site.

Analysis. At earlier meetings, S.B. Friedman employees shared their analysis of the market potential for downtown in terms of commercial and residential uses. Currently, downtown is primarily offices and service businesses. To grow downtown business, it will be important to capture commuters who travel through there on a daily basis, as well as attract others. It is important to make downtown Lisle a destination point, meaning people will deliberately travel to downtown Lisle to eat in restaurants, shop and socialize. On the retail side, there is a niche for specialty shops and commuter-oriented retail. The potential for more offices is limited. Demand is growing for suburban downtown condos.

Public speaks. On August 22nd, 50-60 people participated in a public workshop at the Lisle Hilton. They considered the full range of options and suggested desirable activity generators. Suggestions ran the gamut — include a public plaza with fountain; ideas for all sorts of specialty retail, even a movie theater; and allow heights up to five stories. Whatever goes there should serve as an anchor and catalyst for future development. Some concern was expressed that the size of the site is too small and more parcels should be assembled. Others felt that was not practical, but that the concepts from this site should be expandable to other sites. Mixed use with both commercial and residential seemed to be the consensus. Development of this site should be integrated with the beautification of Main Street.

What’s next? In the near future S.B. Friedman will be soliciting requests for qualifications (RFQ) to evaluate interested land developers, to be followed by requests for development proposals (RFP). Village of Lisle elected officials, after evaluating the RFP submissions from developers, will ultimately decide which proposed development best meets the need of our community. The goal is a beautiful, functional, and economically successful development, that fits in with the Village’s vision for vibrant downtown and will spark redevelopment elsewhere in the downtown area.
**Keep Halloween safe**

The Lisle Police D.A.R.E. and Crime Prevention Officer, Cindy McNaaney, reminds parents this year to caution their children about safety on Halloween.

Officer McNaaney urges parents to remember these Halloween hazards:

- Children become excited and careless and may run into the roadway
- Dusk is the time of poorest visibility for drivers
- Children may have trouble with loose costumes, bulky Trick-or-Treat bags, unsafe shoes that are too large for their feet, masks which reduce vision, and dark costumes which are hard to see in the dark
- Billowing flammable costumes close to open flames from Jack-O-lanterns or candles
- Foreign objects imbedded in unwrapped treats

Officer McNaaney recommends the following Halloween safety suggestions:

- Eliminate face masks because of poor visibility; instead, use face paint
- Wear light-colored costumes, rather than dark-colored, for motorist visibility
- Be sure that costumes are short enough in length to prevent tripping
- Parents should accompany young children
- Start trick-or-treating while it’s still light out, but bring a flashlight in case of delay
- Visit only homes that are familiar, stay in the neighborhood
- Only give and accept wrapped or packaged candy; examine it before allowing children to eat it

Officer McNaaney reminds parents that the recommended Trick-or-Treating time is between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Monday, October 31, 2005.

“Parents should know what route their children and their friends will take, who will be supervising them, and give them a specific time to return home,” she emphasized.

Please leave your porch light on if you intend to participate in the Trick or Treat program. Houses without porch lights on should not be approached.

**Use a can — save on yard waste bags**

When disposing of yard waste through BFI, you now have three options for packaging the materials. All require a yard waste sticker ($1.70 each).

1) trash can with a yard waste decal
2) kraft paper bag
3) tied brush bundles

For disposal of yard waste from a trash can (maximum 33 gallon capacity/ 60 lbs. weight), residents must affix a permanent yard waste decal to one side of the trash can. **The decal side of the can must face the street.** This indicates to the refuse truck driver that the can is yard waste and he should not stop his truck. Likewise, it tells the yard waste truck driver to stop for it.

**Yard waste decals.** BFI supplies long, rectangular shaped decals to Lisle residents at no charge. Decals may be obtained at the Village Hall Business Office, or by calling BFI at 964-3232.

What value is this to Lisle residents? Save the cost of yard waste bags, ~50¢ each. Also, bags sometimes get wet, rip, or fall apart, spilling grass or other contents. Avoid the mess!

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**2005 downtown holiday festivities**

**Lights of Lisle**

Luminaria & Community Tree Lighting
Saturday, Dec. 3rd

**Polar Express Train**
Sunday, Dec. 4th

**Once Upon a Christmas**
Sat. & Sun., Dec. 3rd & 4th
Lisle Station Museum
Future gateway signs

The Village is hoping to improve its public presence, both for economic development and community pride, through increased branding as “The Arboretum Village.” One aspect of this general marketing program is making the entryways to the Village more attractive and noticeable.

Since the major arterials into town are State and County roads, signs in the public rights-of-way must conform to their standards. Accordingly, the Village has contracted for a custom stone-veneered, lighted, breakaway monument-style prototype for $15,000. Staff has identified 11 sites, including the commuter station, for such signs. If approved, each additional site-specific sign would cost $4,000-6,000 plus site improvements.

Drought damages trees

With rainfall only about 2/3 of normal, 2005 has been tough on local trees and shrubs. Some have dropped their leaves prematurely; others will show the effects in future years.

Tree roots continue to grow during fall and early spring, even though branches may be bare. Be sure they have enough water. Evergreen trees continue to lose water through their needles or leaves during the winter months. Water them during winter thaws, if it has been dry.

County adding lane to west Maple Ave.

DuPage County is widening to five lanes the portion of Maple Avenue between Yackley and Benedictine Parkway. This will allow left turn lanes into Benet, Cascade Drive, BU’s western driveway, and Spring Bay Drive. As part of the improvements, new sidewalk will be installed along the south side of the road. Construction began in September and should be essentially complete by year end. R.W. Dunteman Co. is the general contractor for the $1.4 million project.

Did you know?

BFI yard waste pickups run from the 2nd Tuesday in March until the 2nd Tuesday in December. That means Dec. 13, 2005 is the last date for yard waste pickup until spring.

You can create maps of Lisle. The Village of Lisle Geographic Information System (GIS) has launched an internet application for the public to interact with geographic information and create maps. On the Village website, click the Quick Links dropdown list, then GIS Viewer.

Notary public services are available in the Business Office at no charge.

Temporary handicapped placards (up to 90 days) can be issued at the Business Office. A Secretary of State form must be completed by a physician and the applicant. Inquire at the Bus. Off., 271-4100.

Public Works maintains ~1,620 fire hydrants, 1,600 main line valves, and over 120 miles of watermain. There are over 5,800 individual customers connected to the Village water system.

Neighborhood meetings between Lisle citizens and units of local government continue, with the most recent held on October 6th at Tate Woods School. Residents of other areas will be notified via mailing when dates are confirmed for winter and spring meetings in their neighborhoods. Residents learn up-to-date information, get answers to their questions, and chat informally with officials and staff about local issues in a casual setting.

Curfew. Children under 17 years of age must be home by 11:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and by midnight on Friday and Saturday, unless accompanied by an adult.

Erosion control. As part of a stream bank stabilization program, water in the open drainage ditch behind the Maple Terrace Shopping Center has been channeled into 700’ of 48” pipe. This pipe drains storm water from much of the Oakview area. Previously, extensive erosion there was undermining adjacent property and impacting downstream water quality. The $350,000 project includes planting trees, shrubs, native plants, and ground covers to retain the re-contoured banks.

Clean tank. The water tank in Green Trails has emerged from its shroud with a shiny new face. It was sandblasted and painted, inside and out, this summer. Last resurfaced in 1991, this routine tank maintenance cost $325,000 which was paid from water revenues.

Workmen replace storm sewer pipes while widening Maple Avenue.
Sign up now for CodeRED® notification

The disasters on our Gulf shores make everyone more conscious of disaster preparedness. Here in Lisle at the local level, we have had an intergovernmental emergency preparedness team for a number of years. While no entity can prepare for all circumstances, they have prepared for a number of scenarios that the public doesn’t even want to think about.

When an emergency occurs, people want timely notification. The Village of Lisle has recently contracted for high-speed telephone emergency call-out services. The CodeRED® system gives local officials the ability to deliver pre-recorded emergency phone messages to targeted areas, or to the entire Village.

The contract is with Emergency Communications Network, Inc., of Ormond Beach, Florida, for its CodeRED® high-speed telephone emergency notification services. The CodeRED® system gives officials the ability to deliver pre-recorded emergency telephone notification/information messages at a rate of up to 60,000 calls per hour.

Jim Flaherty, Village of Lisle Emergency Management Coordinator, cautioned that such systems are only as good as the telephone database supporting them. “If your phone number is not in the database, you will not be called.” The CodeRED® system not only offers faster calling rates and improved message delivery, but it gives individuals and businesses the ability to add their own phone numbers directly to the system’s telephone database. Flaherty emphasized that this is an extremely important feature.

To ensure no one is omitted, Flaherty urges all individuals and businesses to log onto the Village of Lisle’s website and follow the link to the CodeRED® Residential and Business Data Collection pages. Those without Internet access may call the Village of Lisle’s Business Office at (630) 271-4100 during business hours with their information. Required information includes first and last name, street address (physical address, no P.O. boxes), city, state, zip code, and primary phone number. Additional phone numbers are optional.

In order to receive a call, you must be in the database!

Register now!

at www.villageoflisle.org and follow the links for CodeRED® or call 271-4100, M-F 8:00-4:00

Since the system is not capable of automatically entering a resident or business telephone number, the following are urged to register as soon as possible:

’all businesses’
‘individuals with unlisted phone numbers’
‘individuals who have changed their phone number or address within the last year’
‘individuals who use a cellular phone as their primary home phone’

Flaherty stated, “the CodeRED® system is a geographical-based notification system, which means that street addresses are needed to select which phone numbers will receive emergency notification calls in any given situation. The system works fine for cell phones too, but we have to have a street address.” People who have recently moved, but kept the same listed or unlisted phone number, also need to change their address in the database.

“CodeRED® gives those who want to be included an easy and secure method for doing so. The information will only be used for emergency notification purposes,” said Flaherty.

Questions can be directed to Jim Flaherty, Emergency Management Coordinator, at (630) 271-4227 or by e-mailing him at jflaherty@vil.lisle.il.us.

Comments are invited!

[Comments form]

Submitted by
Address
Daytime phone #
Date

website: www.villageoflisle.org
### New Village website

By mid-October, a new Village of Lisle website will go live. It will have a new look and offer a number of new features. It will contain more information that can be accessed more conveniently. Users will find it easier to navigate. Also, a site search function has been added. Viewers will locate the website under a new more recognizable name: http://www.villageoflisle.org.

In addition to more functionality and conveniences, the new village website complies with Section 508 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act. Section 508 works towards eliminating barriers in information technology to make available new opportunities for people with disabilities, and encourage development of technologies that will help meet these goals. As an example, village staff tested an image of the new website home page in a simulation to determine how it may look to colorblind viewers. This simulation showed little difference in the color appearance of graphics of the new website; encouraging to people accessing village information via the internet.

The project has moved forward under the leadership of Dennis Gilbertson, GIS Manager, and Harry Jackson, MIS Manager. The Technology Commission worked on this project from concept, beginning in spring 2004, through a recommendation for vendor selection in March 2005. Commission members who participated include Ed Paulson, Bill Ossler, Jim Arnold, Samir Basu, Bill Surma, and Vincent Lombardo. The contract was awarded to Vision Internet Providers at a cost of $75,000.

A group of 13 village staff members have been working with the vendor to implement the redesigned Village website. These 13 members represent each Village department and will have responsibility of maintaining website content. Staff has contributed ideas and solutions for a website that meets the needs of Lisle residents, businesses and other visitors.

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### The Scarecrow Scramble

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tot Run</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Run</td>
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<td>Walk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Run</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
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Participate in this *family event* on Saturday, October 22nd. It is a *walk/run with a twist*: it takes place after sunset. The course will wind through the slightly hilly paths of Community Park, gently lit for safety.

**Costumes** are encouraged. Prizes will be awarded for the three top male and female costumes.

The Scarecrow Scramble benefits two local community organizations, Lisle Community Character Alliance and Lisle Partners for Parks.

Pre-event registration is available at Lisle Park District Community Center and Old Second National Bank (3101 Ogden), as well as online at www.lislepartnersforpark.org.

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### Trick or Treat

**Monday Oct. 31st**

- at residences: 3pm - 8pm
- at downtown merchants: 2pm - 5pm

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### Village of Lisle

**925 Burlington Avenue**  
Lisle, IL 60532-1838  
(630) 271-4100  
E-mail: Lisle@vil.lisle.il.us