

THE LENOX TOWN HALL NEWSLETTER

June , 2009

WEST STREET

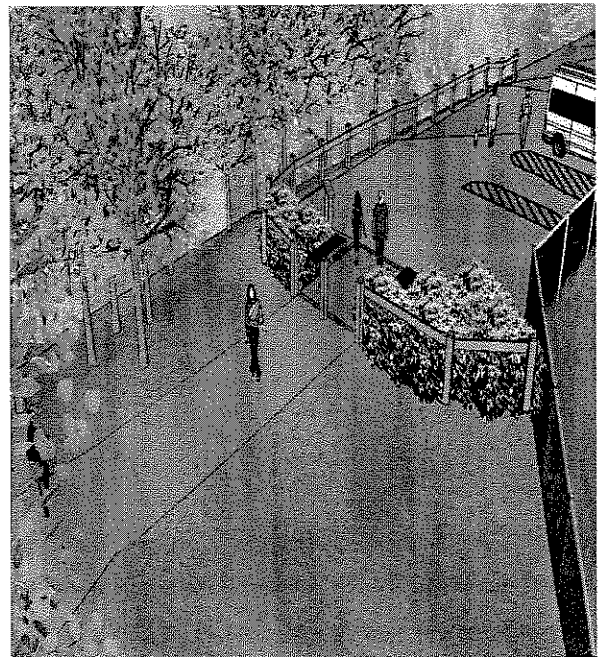
Public Mtg: June 22 @ 6:30

The Town is gearing up for the reconstruction of West Street. The goal is to improve road conditions, upgrade drainage, improve pedestrian and bicycle accommodations and still maintain the historic and cultural character of the area. Construction is scheduled to commence on October 2010. The estimated cost of construction is approximately \$5,300,000 with the State funding \$4,700,000 and the remainder of construction costs to be funded by the Town. There will be a public hearing this June 22nd, 6:30 at the Lenox Town Hall. Plans call for creating a uniform road width of 28 feet (currently a majority of the road is 29 feet with the western end narrowing to 25 feet) including the addition of bike lanes. The road work will extend to Tanglewood and allow for bike lanes on both sides of the road. A new sidewalk will be built to the entrance to Tanglewood. The upgraded and extended sewer line will give access to existing homes. Residents on a septic system will be able to hook into the sewer system. Any resident of West Street having questions concerning the proposed project please contact Jeff Vincent, Superintendent of Public Works, before the meeting, at 637-5520.

*Sketch of the proposed handicapped parking and new trail head at the top of Aspenwall Road.
(Sketch by Greylock Design)*

KENNEDY PARK

Our wonderful Kennedy Park will undergo some improvements this summer. We are designing a new parking space with easier access for disabled people and those with physical limitations. This location will be at the Trail Head by the water tower on Aspenwall Road. The new parking area will include an improved Trail Head with benches and a kiosk. Ornamental paving has been designed leading into the park. A new handicapped accessible trail will be constructed to the scenic overlook. We are also restoring Baker's Pond off West Dugway Road and dressing up the original trail system. The esthetic function of the park will be maintained for Lenox citizens and their guests to enjoy.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We depend on about 200 volunteers to work on different committees and boards. Choose from Cable Advisory Board, Community Center, Events Committee, Zoning Board and others. Appointments will be made at the end of June so please submit your application/letter of interest as soon as possible. We have an application form on our website — www.townoflenox.com.

Be an active community member!

SENIOR TAX WORK-OFF PROGRAM

As created by the Board of Selectman, this program makes it possible for senior volunteers to work up to 94 hours a year for the Town to receive a \$750 reduction on their tax bill. The tax credit now is \$8.00 an hour. Some positions available include filing library books, answering telephones, maintaining computerized records, supervising an after school homework program, transporting elders to medical appointments and performing a variety of routine office assignments. New this year is the need for attendants at the town's composting site on Saturday mornings. The applicant should be 60 years old and over, be a resident of Lenox for at least eight months a year and produce a current tax bill. Application forms are available at the Community Center. Call 637-5530 for more information.

LENOX VFW MAKES RETURN

Residents have welcomed back a veterans group as a new Veterans of Foreign Wars Post officially returned. The Conklin-Lane-Coakley VFW Post 12079 is in honor of these three Lenox war heroes: Marine 2nd Lt. F. Baxter Lane and Navy pilot Lt. Comdr. William F. Coakley—both of whom died during World War II and the Vietnam War respectively, and World War II Army Veteran Edward G. "Cap" Conklin who passed away eight years ago. Sean Ward, Lenox Police Officer and Veterans' Agent stuck with his effort to restart the VFW in town. He has also managed to enlist 40 former and new VFW members. This Conklin-Lane-Coakley Post has a diverse membership covering World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and both Gulf Wars. Mr. Ward further announced that the meetings of the newly re-established VFW will continue to be at the Academy on the first Tuesday at 7:00 pm of every month.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Eleanor Altrows is the new face around Town Hall. She comes to us courtesy of the jobs program sponsored by Elder Services of Berkshire County. Eleanor works 4 mornings a week assisting with general office work and crafting these new monthly newsletters. Welcome, Eleanor and thank you!