



2024 Senior of the Year Nominations

SENIOR WOMAN OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

1. **Patty Lindstrom** - I would like to nominate Patty Lindstrom for Senior Woman of the Year. Patty has been a Lombard resident since 1963. She went to school here, worked here, raised a family here, and is now retired here. Patty grew up on Maple Street where her first job was at the historic Main Street Dairy Queen. She went to Sacred Heart School, where she also taught religious education for over 8 years. She has been a devout member of Sacred Heart Church for over 50 years. For 27 years, Patty was the first face you saw when walking into Lombard Public Works. If you called about snow removal or a water main break, you spoke with Patty. While at the Village, Patty coordinated the very popular "Bring Your Kids to Work Day" and assisted in the "Travelling Equipment Show" events. She also volunteered at the Recycling Extravaganza and Cruise Nights for several years. Patty is the current Treasurer for the Lombard Service League, where she meets regularly to assist in fundraising events, such as the Soaring Eagle Trunk-or-Treat event, the annual Service League Luncheon, as well as Lilac Time events. Patty has always been one to help those in need. She has volunteered with First Things First, the Lombard Food Pantry, the Outreach House, Mutt Strut, The Salvation Army, and a local domestic violence shelter. Patty raised 5 children in Lombard with her husband, David. She made sure she was active in their schools and extracurriculars. She was on the PTA, she volunteered for Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts and attended their sports games and school events as a very proud mama. She is now a proud grandmother of 8, 4 of which reside in Lombard. Her best days are those she gets to spend with her family.

If you're ever looking for Patty, start with a local spot. Whether it's Babcock's or Shannon's for lunch, the Helen Plum Library with her grandkids, or working up a sweat and getting her steps in at the MMAC, Patty is bound to be out and about supporting a Lombard establishment. That truly shows her devotion to Lombard. If you need someone to attend a Lombard function, a charitable drive, or even a bar crawl, Patty is there, ready to go with a smile on her face.

Outside of the Village, Patty immediately raises her hand to help her friends as she did for me when my husband, a Village of Lombard retiree (Keith Surges) faced a terminal illness. She continues to support me almost 10 years later. Patty's husband was in a terrible motorcycle accident several years ago. I truly believe Patty saved his life by ensuring he received the best care possible, standing by his side, finding in-home care for him, the best rehab facilities, etc. so she could still be present when she was working at the Village. That's the

mark of a determined and resourceful woman and best of humanity when faced with the unthinkable.

Patty does so much for her community. She is an undeniable powerhouse, her name is recognizable by most in the Village of Lombard, she gives back in so many ways, and has a presence like no other, making her the perfect candidate for Lombard's Senior Woman of the Year.

**Two additional nominations were also submitted for Patty Lindstrom.*

2. **Cindy Ward** - Cindy Ward has been involved with community organizations in Lombard since she moved here over 25 years ago. She was an active member of the DuPage Theater committee, that along with many other residents, sought to preserve the movie theater. Cindy also served as a member of Lombard's Recycling Event which organized recycling efforts at Yorktown Center offered to residents. With the Lombard Historical Society and Garden Club she was a lead participant in the restoration of the highly visible Sheldon Peck Homestead native garden and continues to help with its maintenance. Cindy identified and assisted the Lombard Park District in applying for a ComEd Pollinator Grant. The results of that grant can be experienced in a walk through the wonderful pollinator garden at Terrace View Park. For the past six years, Cindy has organized and managed the annual Lilac Sale of the Lombard Garden Club. As part of her leadership, she introduced a process to continue the sale during the pandemic. The sale continues to be a popular feature of Lilac Time and assists in attracting visitors to the Village.

Cindy was born and raised in Ohio and moved to Illinois in the 1980s. Her interest in serving community organizations was reflected in her education – she is a graduate of Wheaton College and also in her career - parole officer with Cook County. In addition to Cindy's love of gardening she is also committed to helping out when and where needed and is a team player. She was a member of the Community Relations Committee at Helen Plum Library; helps to organize reunions of Wheaton College alumnae and a member of the local Sierra Club. Cindy may also be found at the MMAC at exercise class or with a weekly banjo group that often entertains at senior centers and nursing homes. Cindy's continuing commitment and leadership to these community efforts are the reasons we are nominating Cindy Ward for 2024 Senior Woman of the Year.

3. **Charlotte Maroon** - Charlotte is a graduate of The Lombard Police Citizens Academy. In that role She is a tireless volunteer wherever She is needed. Be it working double shifts at cruise nights or helping with traffic and parking control at

The Lilac Parade and any other events that needs volunteers. Charlotte has also collected and distributed clothing for the needy citizens.

She is also a Board Member of The Columbine Glen HOA. I think it's time for her to be recognized for all she does and for our Town to say Thank You.

SENIOR MAN OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

1. **Joseph Martinet-** I would like to nominate Joseph Martinet of 1018 Apple Lane. Every Thursday Joe walks the whole block bringing every house's garbage and recycling cans from the street to the house or garage. He rarely misses a garbage day. It doesn't matter if it is downpour rain or if it is snowing. Joe is always out there. He even wrote a letter to everyone stating he was joining a bike club on Thursdays, so the garbage cans will not be brought in as early as they normally are. I have also witnessed him shovel his elderly neighbor's driveway, walkway and sidewalk during all snowstorms. Our block participates in everyone putting a Christmas tree on their lawn during Christmas. On multiple occasions he has offered to help us. When our 2nd son was born, his wife made us a cake and he came over to deliver it for us. He also volunteers at his local church. When there is a pancake breakfast or carnival fundraiser, he spreads the word. We just had a block party yesterday. Just about everyone has their own Joe stories. All positive and all about how he helps them.

*Additional nomination for Joseph Martinet...

Joseph Martinet- I would like to nominate Joseph Martinet of Apple Lane for senior man of the year. To me, Joe is the perfect neighbor. He takes our trash cans to our homes after the trash men collect it every week unless he is out of town. He will let us know if he will be out of town so that we don't wonder why he didn't do it. Joe does this act out of the kindness of his heart but mostly he hopes to see us and have conversation with us and get to know his neighbors. He always asks about my girls and my job. He knows us all by name. Not only does Joe handle the trash cans, but he also helps deliver and set up our neighborhood Christmas trees the day after Thanksgiving for the subdivision. Joe also participates in the Cubs Scout pancake breakfast yearly at St. Pius. He always invites us to come. Joe is also a Veteran. I highly respect him and his strong morals and character. We had our block party over the weekend and many of us discussed nominating him for this award because of his positive impact on our lives, his service to our neighborhood, and his concern for our safety and happiness. Joe is not only my neighbor, he is my friend.