

Homer Glen Announces Its Portion of the I-355 Grand Opening Celebrations

HOMER GLEN, ILLINOIS - Veterans Day 2007 will soon hold special significance for the Village of Homer Glen as the town plans its final stages for the I-355 Veterans Memorial Tollway Celebration. The thoroughfare's grand opening celebration will be held on Veterans Day, Sunday, November 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Towns along the new extension are each planning their own celebrations. Homer Glen's portion will be held at the 159th Street ramp, on the roadway. Shuttle service from remote parking locations will transport attendees to the ramp. A trolley service will be on the highway to transport attendees to different event son the road.

"We're looking forward to a great celebration, both for our portion of the event and for all of the other towns that are participating," said Homer Glen Mayor Jim Daley.

Homer Glen's event will begin at 10:00 a.m. with the presentation of colors and the national anthem, followed by a speech by Major David McGuire, a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"We are doing our part to salute those who bravely serve our country," Daley explained. The town has enlisted the support of the Northern Illinois Chapter of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association to have representation from different wars from throughout American history.

Mitch Atkinson, founder of Fallen Heroes Memorial, is coordinating this portion of the event. "My goal is to have all of the wars represented --- from the Revolutionary War up until now," Atkinson explained, adding that the representation will be vehicles, soldiers or re-enactors. The entire display will cover 600 feet of roadway.

Homer Glen's portion of the celebration will highlight local businesses and include a food court, kids' area, safety town, classic car show, Homer Glen vehicles and community demonstrations.

For more information about Homer Glen's portion of the celebration, call 708/301-0632 or visit www.homerglen.org. Information about the entire celebration and all of the towns participating is available at www.illinoistollway.com.