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April 7
2009

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The Mayor's Corner...

Mid Term Review by Mayor Jim Daley

This May will be the half-way mark of my term in office as Mayor. It is an opportune time to **look back** on our successes and the foundation they provide for our future, as we **look forward** to new initiatives that require us to take action **today!**

Looking back... the past two years have gone by incredibly fast. With the help of the Board, the current administration has accomplished amazing things in a relatively short period of time. Following is a glimpse at what has been accomplished through the hard work of the Trustees, volunteer committees and staff. These accomplishments represent the strong foundation necessary as we move forward with our plans for a secure and successful future.

- Drainage projects: resolved several drainage problems impacting Woodbine, Farmview, and Creekview subdivisions. Completed engineering studies for flooding issues in Old Oak and Oak Valley subdivisions slated for construction this spring.
- Garbage contract: established first village-wide municipal contract for single family users resulting in resident savings, less impact on road infrastructure and increased recycling practices.

Program expanded to several multiple family communities.

- Developed our professional staff: the Village operates with one of the lowest per capita ratios in the State. Recent hires reflect a highly educated and proficient staff that works as a team providing quality service to our residents.
- Landmark Ordinances: adopted landmark lighting ordinance which protects the night sky as a natural resource; received state and national recognition. Adopted innovative Water Resource Ordinance incorporating 'best management practices' that encourages creative solutions to storm water management problems, resulting in improved water quality and ground water recharge.
- Special census: successfully completed special census approximately \$60,000 under budget resulting in increased revenues estimated at \$450,000
- Home rule: obtained home rule status that will allow for increased local governance.
- Annexation: annexation of Meijer property and Goodings Grove shopping plaza resulting in 20% increase of sales tax revenue.
- 1% sales tax: adoption of sales

tax increase creating new revenue stream to fund community development plan.

- Road improvements: 143rd street improvements, over 8 miles of road resurfacing; continued lobbying efforts for 159th St. widening, participation in 159th Street corridor study grant from Illinois Tomorrow
- Parks & Recreation: Completion of Stonebridge Park (5.4 acres, includes playscape, tennis, volleyball and basket ball courts, picnic pavilion); approximately 2.6 miles of trails slated for construction this spring; grants applied for additional park land in Erin Hills subdivision and additional 2.1 miles of trails extending Village's community bike trail to the Spring Creek Forest Preserve.
- Budget: All of the above was accomplished within budget in FY07-08 with a general fund operating surplus. We anticipate the same for FY 08-09 .

Looking Forward... while we are proud of our accomplishments, there is still much work to be done. As we continue to weather the challenges of the current economy the Village is taking action to secure our financial future



EARTH HOUR
Saturday,
March 28, 2009
8:30 - 9:30PM





MEET YOUR VILLAGE STAFF

STEVE WYDEVELD

As our first Chief Building Official, Steve Wydevelde has developed a team of professionals in the building department that by his example, provide excellent public service through team work, integrity and a passion for the job. Steve believes in "customer service" and instills a strong ethic for public service in his employees and a sincere desire to create a safer environment for all of us to live in.

Steve has worked hard to "raise the bar" for code compliance in Homer Glen. This past year, through his hard work and leadership, he has earned the Village an ISO rating of 2, which is a rare accomplishment for any community, let alone one that is so young.

Steve has his Bachelors of Science degree in Zoology with minors in Botany and Geography. He also has vast experience as a Land Developer, General Contractor, Building Inspector and Building Official. He has served on numerous committees, including the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), where he has served six years on their Fire Protection Research Foundation board and Fundamentals Technical Committee. He is currently the Chairman for the NFPA Building Code Development Committee. He is a Past President of the South Suburban Building Official Association and he served as a Commissioner for the Illinois Building Commission. He is one of only fifteen people nationwide to be a certified trainer for the National Home Builders Association. Steve was President of the Mokena Lions Club in 1999 and a 37 year member of the Masonic Lodge.

Steve has been married for 35 years to his college sweetheart, Laura, who is a speech-language pathologist. They have two beautiful grown daughters. Amber recently earned her Brokers License, and their younger daughter, Amanda, recently graduated with her Masters degree in speech-language pathology, following in her mother's footsteps. When Steve is not spending time with his family, he can be found snow skiing, golfing, playing tennis or softball, or relaxing at their home in Florida.

and plan for the fulfillment of the goals established by our various planning documents. I recently presented an Economic Stimulus Program to the Board for their consideration. As part of the Stimulus Program we have begun to identify elements of a Community Development Plan which will address many of the issues and needs facing the Village today. Following are a few of the initiatives that the Village will be working on over the next two years:

- Sanitary Sewer Extension: Extend an 18" sanitary sewer trunk line from Cedar Road to Gougar road providing development opportunities for over 500 acres along 159th street. Project will also include a 3 mile trail that can link the proposed I-355 trail to the Village's 'backbone' trail system. Sewer project will include a recapture of all costs.
- Park Development: Acquisition of a large parcel for a community park; few large parcels of open space remain in the Village.
- Village Hall: construct a Village Hall; upon becoming Mayor I inherited a lease for \$22,000/month that occupies potential space for retail uses.
- Ordinance update: Several ordinances require revision to reflect current development trends and village goals.

- Impact Fees: update impact fee ordinances to ensure development 'pays its own way'.
- Staff development: Continue to develop staffing to improve community services.
- Economic Development: Business retention and recruitment programming.
- Drainage: Watershed and drainage studies to assist in prioritizing capital projects.
- Road improvements: Continued lobbying efforts for 159th street widening.
- Continue to explore opportunities to protect the night sky and control light pollution in our and adjacent communities.

Today... Homer Glen is in the enviable position of successfully operating within a conservative budget and an anticipated surplus at the end of this fiscal year. The Village has no debt and has created additional revenue sources to better insulate the community from a downturned economy. We have a past that provides a foundation for our future plans and we are making decisions that will ensure our success no matter what the future brings. I suspect the next two years will pass equally as fast; but we are prepared to make the most of whatever comes our way.

Homer Glen Welcomes New Businesses

The Mayor and Village Board recently annexed the Goodings Grove Shopping Center and surrounding area to the Village bringing in 25 new businesses within Village corporate boundaries. We wish to welcome them to the Village and encourage our residents to shop at their stores and use their services.

Patronizing Homer Glen business is good business!

Aldi
 Aris Salon & Organics
 AT&T Store
 Bell Cleaners
 Chencho's Burrito Mexican Restaurant
 Chili's
 Coldwell Banker
 Discount Tire
 Dunkin Donuts
 First Community Bank
 Golden Sun
 Hallmark Surface's Inc.
 La Petite Academy

Pizza Mia
 Sport Clip Hair Cuts
 St. John Baptist Serbian Orthodox
 Super Cuts
 The Home Depot
 The UPS Store
 Tobacco City
 US Cellular
 Wendy's
 White Castle
 Goody's
 Hutchins Cleaners

In Memoriam

William D. Ward member of the Village Stormwater Task Force and an outstanding contributor to the Village as a resident and volunteer, passed away March 2, 2009.

Bill, a senior environmental scientist, was a volunteer member of the Storm Water Task Force offering his expertise as a water resources specialist during the time of updating the four Water Resource Ordinances. He participated in the Green Vision grant process, introduced the concept of Conservation Design, and brought experts in the field to make presentations at these workshops, along with his own presentations on the need for Stormwater resources and its effects on the environment. He was also involved with the Environment Committee in the Development of Ecological Inventories using Geographical Information System (GIS) grant and assisted as Collaborator.

We are fortunate to have had the opportunity to benefit from his knowledge and professional service.



Fiscal Responsibility

Paula J. Wallrich, Village Manager

Success is one of the many reasons the Village will be celebrating this Spring. April 17th will mark the Village's 8th anniversary of its incorporation and while there are many successes that we can be proud of, one of the most important accomplishments is the fiscal responsibility of the Village. The Village operates in the "black", even during these difficult economic times. Thanks to the fiscally responsible leadership of the Village since incorporation in 2001, Homer Glen operates without deficit or debt and without a municipal property tax. This is comforting news especially amidst the constant barrage of bad news about our economy. Spending is closely monitored and every attempt is made to maximize revenue potential.

One of the ways the Village maximizes its revenue potential is through grants. There is a strong history of applying for and receiving grants in the Village. In the early days after incorporation the Village received several planning grants that funded the Green Vision plan and the Long Run Creek Watershed Plan. We have also received several bicycle trail grants, totaling \$1,607,172 that will be used to construct over 2.6 miles of trails. This past year staff has written several more applications for trails that will add an additional 2.1 miles to the Village's system. Grants have also been received to purchase vehicles for public safety, build parks, solve drainage problems, plan for a trail along I-355 and construct road improvements. In total the Village has been awarded over \$3,565,575 in grant funding over the last several years. Staff is also working closely with our elected officials and governmental liaisons to maximize our participation in the President's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.

The Village also operates within a conservative budget. Every effort is made to curtail costs and investigate ways to operate more efficiently. For example, this year staff investigated joining a health insurance pool for employee health benefits. As a result, the village will save close to \$30,000/year in premiums. The Village also uses intergovernmental pools for risk management insurance.

The Village operates with minimal staffing. We currently employ 12 full-time employees to perform administrative, planning and building services for the community. In comparing staff size to other similar communities, Homer Glen has one of the lowest per capita staff ratios at 1 employee per 2089 residents; significantly lower than Lemont (1/1092), New Lenox (1/935), Lockport (1/894) and Frankfort (1/700). Cross training has allowed Village staff to work closely as a team in fulfilling the needs of the community despite a slow-down in development. Our staff represents some of the finest professionals in the area who work hard to provide quality service for our residents.

One of the greatest savings the Village realizes is the strong volunteer base that serves on the various committees for the Village. Each of these committees is fortunate to have hard working, dedicated residents who contribute their time and talents for the good of the Village. Many of the Village's ordinances, events and policies are created through the thoughtful research and analysis of these groups.

This past fiscal year the Village not only operated within budget but was able to transfer surplus funds into the capital fund for future public improvements. This fiscal year we again plan to finish within budget, including another surplus transfer to the capital fund. Through conservative spending and sound fiscal planning the Mayor and Village Board have provided a secure financial future for the Village.



FYI...

POOL SAFETY - Requirements for Pool Safety Barriers (fences)

The following guidelines should be followed for compliance with Homer Glen Ordinances and Pool Safety.

*Outdoor swimming pools, hot tubs or spas must have at least a 60" high barrier (fence) above grade, measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the pool.

*For an above ground pool, where the top of the structure is above grade, the barrier may be at ground level such as the pool structure or mounted on top of the pool structure.

*Access gates should be equipped to accommodate a locking device and open outward away from the pool, self-closing with a self-latching device.

*Latching devices should be located at a height of 54 inches from the bottom of the gate. The release mechanism should be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3 inches below the top of the gate, the gate barrier opening should not be greater than 1/2" within 18" of the release mechanism.



Resident Input Needed for Homer Glen Trail System

A Trails Open House will be held from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15th in the Village Hall Council Chamber to solicit public input for Homer Glen's Trails Master Plan. When completed, the plan will define a comprehensive network of trails that will link Homer Glen residents to businesses, schools, regional trails, and other recreational areas. The Trails Master Plan Task Force is seeking resident input that will be used in the development of the plan. Some of the topics addressed at the open house will be as follows:

- How will the trail system be used by residents?
- What destinations and trail connections are important to residents?
- What types of trail construction would residents like to see?
- Where do residents feel that trails are needed?
- What aesthetic qualities and amenities would residents like to see on the trail system?
- How should trail development be prioritized?

Please plan to attend the event and bring along your spouse, child, parent, or neighbor. Refreshments will be provided. For more information visit www.homerglen.org or call (708) 301-0632.



Water Issues in Homer Glen

Trustee Marcia DeVivo

Whether it is coming out of our faucets or flowing down the backyard stream, residents have been struggling with water-related issues in Homer Glen for many years. As Co-Chair of the Sewer and Water Task force along with Trustee Mary Niemiec, it has been our goal to investigate the high cost of water and wastewater treatment and make recommendations to the Village Board for improving service to Homer Glen residents. The task force monitors all rate proposals of Illinois American Water (IAW) and if necessary, provides testimony in opposition to any rate increases. The Village Board is currently evaluating its strategies for battling the continual rate increases and will

develop a plan that not only investigates the incremental cost increases but evaluates an acquisition strategy that will work toward long term fair water and sewer rates for our residents. The task force has been working toward a meaningful dialogue with Illinois American Water representatives that will put an end to the chronic rate increases for our residents. Unaccounted-for-water continues to be a contested issue between the Village and Illinois American and our residents are encouraged to report any water breaks, leaks or misuse to Village personnel. Residents are also welcome to attend the Sewer and Water Task Force meetings. Meeting times are posted on our website www.homerglen.org.

Another issue that has also caused problems for our residents is chronic flooding. Many of the flooding issues in Homer Glen have been inherited from either inadequate storm water planning prior to incorporation, manipulation of established drainage ways or poor maintenance practices of our detention basins and natural waterways. As co-chair of the Storm Water Task Force with Trustee Margaret Sabo, the issue of chronic flooding provided the motivation to create a new approach to storm water management. As a result of several years of analyzing best management practices and emerging trends in storm water management, the task force recommended a new storm water ordinance to the Village Board that was adopted last month. This ordinance follows a new philosophy of handling water where it falls and not merely sending it downstream to become someone else's problem. The ordinance was adopted for the purposes of protecting, preserving and providing proper maintenance of the Village's watercourses, lakes, detention ponds, floodplain and wetland areas. A copy of the ordinance can be found on our website:

<http://www.homerglen.org/Ordinances/OR09-003StormwaterWaterResourceMgmt.pdf>. The ordinance will provide the necessary guidance for new development to ensure that stormwater is properly managed in our community and if possible, assist in mitigating some of the existing drainage issues we are currently dealing with. The Village has undertaken several small drainage projects over the last few years and while they may solve the smaller flooding problems, a future drainage study of our watersheds will help determine our future stormwater needs. Flooding control remains a high priority for our Mayor and Village Trustees.

As chair of the Lower Des Plaines Ecosystem Partnership, I have learned to take a regional approach to flooding issues and have found success as we analyze individual drainage issues on a watershed basis. My work on the Long Run Creek watershed study provided a baseline for reviewing drainage and water quality problems that will assist us with many of our flooding problems. However, one of our greatest resources for addressing drainage issues is our residents who play an important role in minimizing many of our flooding problems. The maintenance of the Village waterways is often the responsibility of those property owners living adjacent to the creek bed; it is important that they keep these areas free of debris. Residents must not use the drainage way as a dumping ground for their grass clippings or landscape debris. This spring I will be working with volunteer groups to help educate property owners living adjacent to these waterways and assist them with the clean up of these valuable resources. Many of these waterways traverse through heavily populated areas making it critically important to maintain these areas in their natural state.

Here are several things you and your neighbors can do to clean up your stream and minimize erosion:

- ❖ Remove large obstructions and man-made litter from your stream.
- ❖ Never dump leaves, grass clippings or other organic matter near or into a stream. Illinois State statues prohibit dumping grass clippings and other wastes into creeks and streams.
- ❖ Never dump oils, grease or hazardous products in the stream.
- ❖ Do not place logs or other objects near the stream edge that could float away in a heavy rainstorm.
- ❖ Keep paved areas to a minimum near streams.
- ❖ Control runoff by improving drainage around your home.
- ❖ Plant and protect suitable vegetation along the streambank and adjacent areas.
- ❖ Do not channelize (straighten) or disrupt stream bottoms.



I look forward to helping our residents with their water problems-whether it be from the faucet or the most recent rainstorm.

Solving Homer Glen's Drainage Problems

Mike Salamowicz, Development Services Director

With the onset of spring comes the seasonal rains and this year is no exception. As of March 12th Homer Glen had already experienced 8.06-inches of precipitation this year, with 4.64-inches occurring in the past few days alone. In response to past year's rain events staff spent the winter completing engineering on several areas of chronic flooding. The Old Oak and Oak Valley subdivisions are two of the areas that will see construction this spring. Thanks to the assistance of **Representative Renee Kosel** the Village received a \$50,000 grant from Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity that will help fund these drainage projects. Work is also progressing on a project which will help relieve flooding on Hickory Avenue. Construction is anticipated to begin in April and be completed by the end of May. Additional storm relief projects constructed in the past year include projects in the Woodbine and Farmview Subdivisions. Completion of the Woodbine project was delayed due to a conflict with a Nicor gas main, however the project was ultimately completed and under budget. The Farmview project is approximately 80% constructed and is anticipated to be completed this spring

within the proposed budget. Both projects should help relieve flooding in the Woodbine and Farmview Subdivisions.

To address future storm water drainage issues the Mayor and Village Board recently adopted a new storm water ordinance. This is the first Homer Glen Stormwater Ordinance created by the Village to address concerns regarding stormwater management, flood plains, wetlands and soil erosion and sediment control within the Village. As part of the new ordinance the Village will be creating a Drainage Work Group that will include staff and drainage professionals that will work to address the Village's drainage issues. The Village is also investigating changes to the zoning ordinance which will address lot coverage issues and allowable areas of impervious material to ensure that adequate measures are taken to plan for these in future development.

Residents experiencing drainage issues are asked to fill out an "Issue to Resolve" form available on the Village's website or at the Village Hall.

Shop Homer Glen - The Benefits Add Up For Residents

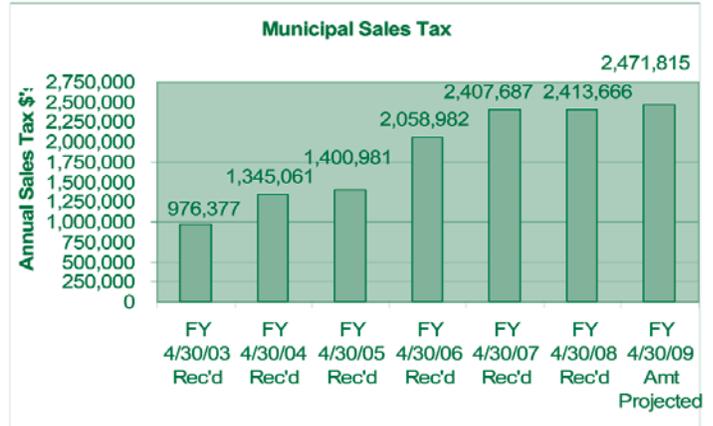
By Mary Niemiec and Laurel Ward
Co-Chairs, Homer Glen Community & Economic Development Committee

We encourage all residents to shop locally. Patronizing local businesses keeps your money close to home in many important ways. First, the Village of Homer Glen receives a percentage of the sales tax collected by local businesses. This money can be used to address flooding problems, make road and infrastructure improvements, and provide parks and trails for residents. As a village that does not impose a municipal property tax, sales tax revenue is a significant source of revenue for the village. The recent annexation of Goodings Grove businesses and the continued growth of our commercial base enable Homer Glen to operate without a property tax while providing additional services requested by residents.

Second, our local businesses are the ones that support our community. Commercial properties pay property taxes that support our schools, fire districts, and library. This reduces the burden on residential property owners. Our local businesses frequently are sponsors of local sports and non-profit groups. They donate time, materials and money to keep these programs operating and available in our community.

Third, shopping locally creates jobs, both permanent and part time. Many of these jobs are filled by residents including our teens saving money for college. The employees of our local businesses also are likely to spend money in Homer Glen going to our restaurants, buying gas, and purchasing goods which results in even more sales tax dollars coming back to us.

Next time you consider your shopping and dining options, think about patronizing Homer Glen establishments first. Your business will help Homer Glen merchants withstand this financial downturn and provide much needed revenue to our community. The money that you spend here stays here in many important ways.



Homer Glen sales tax revenues have experienced continual growth. If you would like more information pertaining to local government revenues go to the following Illinois Dept. of Revenue website: <http://www.iltax.com/LocalGovernment/>



**Keep Your Money
Close To Home --
Shop Homer Glen**

Planning for Commercial Growth

Lindley Ehlert, Village Planner

Commercial growth continues to dominate the Plan Commission agenda. The Commission conducted a public hearing on March 16th for the Castle Glen project. Located on the south side of 159th Street, west of Will Cook Road, adjacent to the recently opened Kenwood Liquors, the 36,830 s.f. commercial building has plans for a restaurant with outdoor seating area overlooking the Forest Preserve property. Owner Marge Adams has been aggressively marketing the project and hopes to break ground in 2010. Across the street from Castle Glen is Water Fall Glen, a 74,021 s.f. retail and office complex that is looking for Plan Commission review in April. This project is also claiming a new restaurant, Volare, an Italian Restaurant that has locations in downtown Chicago and Oakbrook Terrace that will also include some unique landscape features- a water fall. The development is hoping to coordinate its development with the adjacent 82 acres known as Oak Pointe that is expected to submit plans later this year.

Staff showcased the Village's economic development opportunities at the recent ICSC Idea Exchange/Alliance meeting held in Chicago. Staff met with area retailers and developers to discuss existing and future developments within the village. There was considerable interest in the opportunities along 159th street in light of the Mayor's recent announcement regarding a sewer extension that will provide service to over 500 acres along the 159th street corridor. The Village maintains a data base on development opportunities; if you are looking for opportunities or you wish the Village to include your property in our marketing, please contact Lindley Ehlert, Village Planner at the Village Hall. (lehlert@homerghen.org)





SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW

Neeloo Bhatti-McAndrew, former Homer Glen resident and member of the Village Environment Committee was a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change team awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007.

Neeloo Bhatti-McAndrew is the current Assistant Director of the University of Delaware Energy Institute, has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biochemistry, and M.E.S., M.S., and PHD degrees in Environmental Science, all from Yale University. Neeloo completed her post doctoral fellowship at Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois.

Neeloo was an invaluable resource to the Homer Glen Environment Committee, serving as an original member from 2001 to 2006 and instrumental in helping establish the goals and objectives of the Environment Committee

Although a very active and reliable member in all committee projects, Neeloo greatly contributed to the landmark Village Lighting Ordinance, the Green Vision of the Homer Glen Community, Community and Nature in Harmony Awards, and the Geographical Information System Grant (GIS) as a steering committee member.

We are very fortunate to have worked with Neeloo and extend our sincere congratulations to her on all of her outstanding achievements. The Village has benefited greatly by the volunteerism of our residents and the expertise they provide.



International Year of Astronomy and GLOBE at Night

The International Year of Astronomy 2009 is a global celebration of astronomy and its contributions to society and culture. It marks the 400th anniversary of the first use of an astronomical telescope by Galileo Galilei. The aim of the celebration is to stimulate worldwide interest, especially among young people, in astronomy and science under the central theme "The Universe, Yours to Discover".

Homer Glen will be participating in the 100 Hours of Astronomy project and GLOBE at Night. The aim of the 100 Hours of Astronomy project is to get as many people as possible to look through a telescope during April 2nd – 5th. The Village of Homer Glen Environment Committee has teamed with Homer Township to use the Trantina Farm for star gazing events. Local amateur astronomers will set up their telescopes on Friday, April 3rd and then again on Saturday, April 4th from 8 – 10 pm. The public is welcome and there is no charge.

In addition, residents and their children are encouraged to participate in GLOBE at Night, March 16th – 28th. This is a NASA sponsored program that uses public participation to track how bright the night sky is becoming. The program is simple and self explanatory. Locate the constellation Orion in the night sky, determine how many stars can be seen from the magnitude charts on the website and then enter the data. To promote participation, there will be public star gazing with telescopes at the Trantina Farm on Saturday, March 21st from 8 – 10 pm. Rain date of March 22nd.

As with all star gazing events, if the weather is bad or the sky cloudy, the events will be cancelled.

For more information on the GLOBE at Night program please go to www.globe.gov/GaN/



Residents, please join with Homer Glen's businesses and school districts for Earth Hour Homer Glen and turn off **non-essential** lights, both inside and out, for one hour on March 28th, between 8:30 and 9:30 pm. Register on the Village website to participate in Earth Hour at www.homerglen.org. and be added to the website of residents involved in Earth Hour.

Earth Hour is a World Wildlife Fund global event that brings awareness to climate change and light pollution, and reminds us that by working together, we can stand up, take responsibility and get involved in working towards a sustainable future.

Last year during Earth Hour, ComEd reported a power reduction of 7%. That is the same as two coal fired power plants off line for one hour, OR, one nuclear power plant off line for one hour, OR, 1.3 million pounds of CO2 not produced for one hour, OR, one million cars off the road for one hour. Log onto www.homerglen.org to see all of the Homer Glen business and residents participating in this years EARTH HOUR!

GRAND OPENING OF EAGLE ROCK COMMUNITY CHURCH



Mayor Daley recently participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony for EAGLE ROCK COMMUNITY CHURCH along with Pastor Ken Dignan and Pastor Henry Reyenga on Sunday, March 15. The new church building is located at 14367 W. 159th Street, Homer Glen.

LEEDS Certification and NAHB Green Building Workshop

Presented by Homer Glen Building Department

Thirty four area contractors, developers and residents were present March 5, 2009 for the presentation of the LEEDS (leadership in energy and environmental design) Certification and the NAHB (National Association of Home Builders) Green Building Guidelines workshop. The presentation led by Steve Wydeveld, Homer Glen Chief Building Official and Scott Chance, Commercial Plans Examiner gave the attendees first hand information regarding the Leeds rating system for buildings designed to guide and distinguish high performance buildings that have less of an impact on the environment. These building designs offer healthier environment for people working or living in them and also are more profitable than their conventional counterparts.

The NAHB Green guidelines are intended to serve as a tool kit for home builders and home builders associations to create new programs and help those programs flourish. The guidelines highlight ways in which a mainstream builder can effectively and holistically weave environmental concerns into new homes and provide tools for local associations and builders to create their own "green building" program.

If you would like information on these programs, please contact the Homer Glen Building Department at 708-301-1301.

Reminder...from Code Compliance Officer

The Village Ordinance 08-038 prohibits grass, weed growth and miscellaneous plant or vegetation growth in excess of eight inches, see our website for complete details.

Exceptions: any residentially-zoned property one acre or greater in size except any portion on such property cultivated with turf grass shall comply with the provisions of this Ordinance. For purposes of this ordinance, turf grass is defined as grasses that are spreading or stoloniferous in nature as opposed to a tufted ornamental grass, that endures regular mowing to form a dense growth of leaf blades and root.

Another exception is A-1 and A-2 zoned properties.

This Ordinance will be enforced, PLEASE CUT YOUR GRASS AND WEEDS TO AVOID FINES AND/OR PENALTIES!



Energy Saving Tips From Commonwealth Edison

Reduce energy use of your electronics, today's homes are filled with an alphabet soup of electronic equipment—TVs, PCs, VCRs, DVD players, to name but a few. Together, they use a significant amount of energy. Here are some of the ways you can reduce your energy use and save money on your energy bill.

- If you are not using a device, unplug it, or use a power strip with an on/off switch to fully power down. Be sure to unplug or switch off all nonessential devices before going out of town. One of the biggest energy uses for most home electronics is the power used while in "standby" mode.
- Battery chargers that are plugged in to the electric outlet use power even when not actively charging. After your cordless phone, portable music player or other portable device is recharged, unplug the energy charger. Power strips with an on/off switch work great for controlling multiple battery chargers.

*Remember when purchasing our electronics that those with ENERGY STAR® labels offer more energy efficiency.



FYI...

Create a Tree-Free Home

- Replace paper napkins with cloth napkins
- Use washable cloth towels instead of paper towels
- Purchase bleach-free toilet paper that is made from the highest post-consumer waste content you can find (80% minimum)
- Print documents on recycled paper
- Make notepads from your 1/2 page used paper
- Leave messages for family members/roommates on a reusable message board
- Make your own birthday cards and Christmas cards from recycled paper or once used cards.

By following some of these simple suggestions, you can significantly reduce your carbon footprint and help save our environment!

FYI...

Animals Disturbing the Peace Prohibited



With the onset of warmer weather, please remember ...Village Ordinances 08-058 states "Animals Disturbing the Peace - Prohibited. Stated under SECTION 3 of the Ordinance, "It is unlawful for owners to allow their animals to become public nuisances at any time during the day or night. In the event an animal is deemed a public nuisance, the owner of the animal shall be issued a citation by the Code Enforcement Officer or an authorized agent of the Village and be subject to the penalties described in Section 4" of said Ordinance.



FYI...



Renee Kosel

State Representative
Springfield (217)782-0424
Mokena (708) 479-4200

Homer Glen office hours:

First Tuesday of each month
9 AM to 11 AM

Homer Glen Village Hall
Council Chamber
14917 S. Founders Crossing
(east side of Village Hall)

A representative will be on hand to discuss any legislative concerns or issues you may have.

E-mail: rkosel@alo.com
WORKING TO SERVE YOU BETTER



SAVE THE DATE
**ANNUAL JULY 4TH
PARADE AND FESTIVAL
SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2009**

**PARADE AT 11:00
FOLLOWED BY
FESTIVAL AT
CULVER PARK**



Printed On Recycled Paper

Please remember to recycle!



Community and Nature . . . in Harmony

14933 S. Founders Crossing • Homer Glen, IL 60491

Village of Homer Glen Mission Statement

The Village of Homer Glen is committed to preserving, protecting, and enhancing our community's quality of life through responsible residential and economic development while utilizing sound fiscal management. We will strive to maintain open space, preserve our unique rural character, and safeguard our natural resources. The village encourages community involvement in order to maintain and cultivate a balance of family, agriculture, business, environment, and cultural diversity for present and future generations.

PRSRTD STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LOCKPORT, IL
PERMIT NO. 83

Village of Homer Glen Officials

Mayor

Jim Daley

Clerk

Gale Skrobuton

Trustees

Marcia DeVivo

Russell Knaack

Christopher Locacius

Mary Niemiec

Margaret Sabo

Laurel Ward

Village Board Meets

2nd & 4th Tuesday of the Month

Plan Commission Meets

1st & 3rd Monday of the Month

Please refer to our Website for weekly updates regarding meeting times and agendas

www.homerglen.org

To the Homer Glen Resident at: