

Village of HOMER GLEN

Calling All Citizens . . .

Census Workers Needed -
Contact Village Office (708) 301-0632

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (EMA)
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AND TRAILS
TASK FORCE MEMBERS NEEDED

SEE PAGE 8

Community and Nature . . . in Harmony

October 2004

INSIDE . . .

Special Census	1
Community Development	
Director Hired	1
General Election Calendar . . .	1
Letter From the Mayor	2
Homer Glen Welcomes	
New Businesses	2
I-355 Extension	2
Burn Safely	3
Homer Glen/Lockport	
Boundary Agreement	3
Land Day Celebration	4
Community & Nature	
in Harmony Awards	4
Homer Glen Welcomes	
International Teachers	5
Village Clerk Retires	5
New Village Clerk Appointed .	5
Voting Locations	5
Boundary Agreement	6-7
EMA & Committee Members	
Needed	8
1st Annual Homer vs. Homer .	9
Do You Know Who Owns	
Your Ponds?	9
Drag Race For Charity	9
Newly Approved Properties .	10
Road Construction Projects .	10
Significant Annexations	10
Community Expo	10
Flooding Issues	11
DiNolfo's Breaks Ground . . .	11
FYI	11
Meeting Calendar	12
Election Process	12

SPECIAL CENSUS - EVERYONE COUNTS

The Village of Homer Glen will be conducting a special census beginning in early November and lasting about six weeks. Since the Village was not incorporated during the last U.S. Census in 2000, the population number we are currently using is only an estimate. The purpose of this special census is to allow the Village to capture the full state revenues from Motor Fuel Income Tax and State Use Tax that is based on per capita (population) distributions. Approximately 38% of the Village's total revenue comes from these sources. Each additional person counted will provide the Village with nearly \$100 of additional revenue each year. Since the Village continues to operate without a municipal tax levy, these funds are very important in enabling the Village to continue to provide the best possible services to the community.

Census takers will be going door to door at various times of the day and evening to gather pertinent demographics consisting of only six questions pertaining to family member names, gender, race, marital status and ethnic origin. The Census Bureau will keep all information gathered confidential. This process should only take about five minutes to complete and can be conducted from your doorstep. The census takers do not need to enter your household. Many of them are professionals who have been collecting census information for municipalities throughout Northern Illinois. Census takers will be wearing official identification tags and colorful vests so residents can easily recognize them.

It is very important that all residents respond to the census. The success or failure of the special census depends on census takers being able to contact you. Please make sure that you are available during the month of November and provide the requested information to the census takers.

Applications are currently being accepted for census positions. Enumerators will be paid \$11.50 per hour and should be able and willing to work a 20-40 hour workweek. They will be required to pass a written test to verify that they can follow instructions, do arithmetic and perform in other areas. Crew leaders will be paid \$13.00 per hour and clerical positions \$8.75 per hour. A three-day paid training course will also be required. Applicants must be 18 years of age, have a valid driver's license and access to a working car.

Please help us to make this special census a success. Additional information and applications are available at the Village of Homer Glen office, 14331 Golden Oak Drive or by calling (708) 301-0632.

General Election Calendar

October 12-29, 2004:
In-person Absentee Voting at Village Hall or Township Office

November 2, 2004:
General Election

November 4, 2004:
Voter Registration Re-opens in Will County

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR HIRED

Jeff Harris was appointed as the Village's first full time Community Development Director effective August 23rd. Most recently, he was the Village Planner for Wheeling for five years and was previously Community Development Director for Darien.

Jeff also has substantial planning experience with DuPage County and

LaSalle County. He has his Master's degree in Geography/Urban Land Use Planning and received his Bachelor's degree from Carthage College in Wisconsin.

Jeff's duties include supervising all of the planning activities of the Village as well as economic development, building permits, and code enforcement.



**Russ Petrizzo,
Mayor**

Greetings,

Homer Glen has continued to make great strides in 2004 thanks in no small part to all the volunteers who continue to donate their time and energy to the Village. This year we have annexed over 250 acres of land into our village, have negotiated a boundary agreement with Lockport and we hope to welcome the start of construction of the long awaited I-355 extension by year's end.

I am once again proud to report that for the second consecutive year, Homer Glen has received an award and been recognized for *Excellence in Financial Reporting*. We continue to remain fiscally accountable to the taxpayers of Homer Glen and are committed to upholding the highest financial standards. As the state continues to cut additional funding to municipalities, we must be vigilant in our spending and be certain to collect all revenues due us.

As our village receives nearly \$100 per person, per year, from the state, I would like to remind everyone that it is imperative to participate in the upcoming Special Census and make sure that **"Everyone Counts"**. As we continue to operate without a municipal tax, this

revenue stream is vital to our ability to provide services to our residents as it provides over 30% of our total operating budget.

Our sewer and water task force is continuing to work with our State and Federal officials and Illinois American Water to review the rate increase process and determine what actions can be taken to allow for affordable sewer and water rates in Homer Glen. The task force is reviewing the process and documentation and will report their findings and provide recommendations to the Village Board.

Homer Glen has recently participated in two significant ground breaking ceremonies. We are pleased to welcome DiNolfo's Banquet Hall and Loyola Center for Health to our community. Construction should be complete by the spring of 2005 for DiNolfo's and the projected completion for Loyola is summer 2005.

Please remember that the revenue we receive from sales tax continues to be very important to our Village. I strongly encourage all residents to patronize Homer Glen businesses and keep your sales tax dollars here.

Shop Homer Glen!

Have a safe and happy Halloween and enjoy the upcoming holiday season,

Russ Petrizzo
Mayor

**HOMER GLEN
WELCOMES THE
FOLLOWING NEW
BUSINESSES:**

Adult Medical Associates
15929 S. Bell Road

Aqua Pools
13445 W. 159th Street

Bonfire Restaurant
15905 S. Bell Road

Butterfly Garden Learning Center
12546 W. 159th St.

European Imports Food & Deli
13017 W. 143rd Street,
Orland Oaks Shopping Center

Magic Nails
13019 W. 143rd Street,
Orland Oaks Shopping Center

Welcome to your new home -
Total Flooring
13412 W. 159th Street

I-355 EXTENSION RECEIVES OVERWHELMING PUBLIC SUPPORT

Recent public meetings were held by the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority for residents to voice their opinions concerning the proposed future I-355 extension in Will County and other changes and improvements to the Illinois State Tollway system. The extension will begin at I-55 in Bolingbrook and extend to Route 80 in New Lenox.

Homer Glen has supported this extension and is looking forward to the increase in commercial growth opportunities this will spur within our community. The tollway extension will also allow residents to avoid having to travel through downtown Lemont to reach I-55. As the roadway will abut Homer Glen's western border, it will offer convenience for our residents without extending into our town. We hope this

will also cut down on local traffic, which now cuts through our village using our local roads. Another benefit will be that the I-355 extension will help to accelerate funding for our major transportation arteries, 143rd and 159th Streets, that will support our commercial corridors.

Proponents have stated another of the many benefits will be open road tolling, which is purported to decrease traffic congestion and move traffic more efficiently, while steering truck traffic to the outside lanes to toll booths.

On September 30 the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority voted to approve the project and move forward. We could see construction begin as early as this fall or winter.

BURN SAFELY AND COURTEOUSLY THIS FALL

As we enter into the autumn season, the sights and smells of fall begin to overwhelm our senses; the chill of the air, the early sunsets and the smell of burning leaves. But for some, the burning of yard waste can be an unpleasant experience. The many residents who suffer from asthma and other breathing disorders can find the fall months to be a very trying time of year. The Village of Homer Glen would like to remind all residents to please be considerate of their neighbors and their own safety when burning leaves and other yard waste by following these simple tips:

- Notify your immediate neighbors when you intend to burn so that they may take steps to minimize any effects they may experience.
- Only burn landscape material that is completely dry to the touch.
- Never burn on any paved roadway or street or on any sidewalks or other public right-of ways.
- Keep fires at least 20 feet from any trees or shrubberies.
- Never burn grass clippings.
- Never burn when the wind speed is below 5 m.p.h. or over 15 m.p.h.
- Try to burn on sunny days rather than cloudy ones.
- Avoid burning on holidays.

There are six rules regarding burning which are enforced by Will County. The burning of trash, rubbish, garbage, general household waste and construction or demolition debris is prohibited. Never burn closer than 50 feet to any structure. You are required to have a quick means of extinguishing the fire available, such as a charged garden hose or fire extinguisher. An adult must be present at all times. Never leave the fire unattended. Only yard waste generated by your property may be burned on your property. The Village of Homer Glen will enforce these rules also.

We would like to suggest that residents explore the many alternatives to landscape waste burning. There are numerous products available today to help the homeowner

accomplish this task.

Mulching mowers thoroughly shred lawn clippings and dried leaves, which decompose within a few days and provide the lawn with valuable nutrients. Also, mulching kits that will convert your present lawnmower or lawn tractor to a mulching unit are available. Another inexpensive option is special mulching blades, such as Gator Mulching blades, that are designed to give a mower mulching capabilities without requiring a kit to be installed. Mulching helps reduce the amount of fertilizer needed, relieves the homeowner from having to dispose of the clippings and saves hours spent raking leaves in the fall.

Chipper/Shredders are also available from lawn and garden retailers at a reasonable price. They will grind up plant waste and tree clippings up to 1 ¼" in diameter into a fine mulch which can be used around trees and shrubs to provide frost protection in the winter and to provide nutrients to the soil in the spring.

Another alternative to burning yard waste is composting. Though it is more involved than simple mulching, it will provide your plants and other landscape shrubs with a constant source of food throughout the growing season. Composting turns house and yard waste into a fiber-rich, carbon-containing humus full of inorganic nutrients like phosphorous and potassium. It improves the soil properties for your plants by allowing oxygen and water to easily penetrate. Compost can be prepared in a pile or in a bin. For further information, visit the Village's website at www.homerglen.org.

Lastly, check with your waste hauler to find out if they have a yard waste program available. Many haulers have yard waste bins or bag programs. Homer Glen does not provide waste hauling services and residents contract for this service privately.

We hope all Homer Glen residents will take advantage of these tips on yard waste disposal and will be considerate of their neighbors when burning. Let's make this a safe and enjoyable fall season for all.

HOMER GLEN/LOCKPORT BOUNDARY AGREEMENT

The Village of Homer Glen and the city of Lockport recently entered into a boundary agreement. Both communities will have improved control of development on their respective sides of the border and developers will no longer be able to "shop the best zoning" for more lucrative building concessions between the two communities. The agreement also provides for sewer service from Lockport to certain western portions of Homer Glen. Both Homer Glen and Lockport will have substantial space for economic development in future years. A large portion of 159th Street and

the easterly portion of the I-355 interchange with 143rd Street is designated for Homer Glen. The boundary agreement will help both communities plan for future facilities and services.

Please see the centerfold (pages 6 and 7) to view a diagram of the border agreement.

Homer Glen previously approved a boundary agreement with Orland Park, and is working on agreements with New Lenox and Lemont.

VILLAGE OF HOMER GLEN LANDS DAY CELEBRATION

September 21, 2004

In conjunction with National Public Lands Day, the Village by proclamation established Homer Glen Lands Day. This important day was established to show support for recognizing and protecting significant areas in the natural environment. The Village Proclamation for this special day states: *The Village of Homer Glen was founded and incorporated in large part due to the desires of its citizens to preserve the unique and diverse components of the natural environment within the Village and to take steps to assist in the further protection and beautification of that environment.*

On Tuesday, September 21, 2004 a tree planting ceremony

took place at Hadley School to commemorate Homer Glen Lands Day. The planting of the tree represents one of Homer Glen's efforts in protecting and improving the natural environment of the Village. The process, which was witnessed by students of the Hadley School, is referred to as tree cycling. It involves transplanting trees because they are growing in the path of development or have outgrown their space. Such trees are relocated where they can continue to grow and be enjoyed by others.

The 15-year-old evergreen tree was originally purchased as a small Christmas tree by the Garrabrandt family of Homer Glen. With the donation of the tree from the Garrabrandts and the donation of planting services from Rick Gomez of Instant Shade, the Homer Glen Environment Committee was able to save the life of a healthy tree by coordinating the tree cycling.



Mayor Russ Petrizzo, Trustees Margaret Sabo and Dale Vogelsanger and Environment Committee members Cloyde Selby, Sue Steilen and Neeloo McAndrew pictured with award winners. Each winner was presented a plaque and yard sign for their contribution to beautification efforts in Homer Glen.

At the Village of Homer Glen meeting that same evening, eight *Community and Nature in Harmony Awards* were presented. The award was created to recognize individuals, businesses, community organizations and governmental agencies that through the preservation, restoration, and/or beautification of land within the Village of Homer Glen, have demonstrated commitment to the environment and in the process significantly contributed to community pride. This was the third year for the award program, which has generated much enthusiasm since its inception in 2002. The nominations were reviewed by the Homer Glen Environment Committee, and the following award winners were recognized:

2004 Community and Nature in Harmony Awards



Bob and Kathy Turner for beautifying their property and being an inspiration to others in their neighborhood.

Ron and Tracy Nietupski for planting trees, using a variety of methods for creating and preserving a wildlife habitat, and sharing their appreciation of nature with visitors on their property for more than 30 years.

Joe Burke, Pat Lyons, Shafer Suggs - Woodbine Sign Committee for initiating, volunteering, and coordinating a neighborhood project to landscape and beautify the entryway to the Woodbine subdivision.

Dan and Rich Schwartz Danrich Collision Center for beautifying the Danrich Collision Center property, maintaining a pond, and providing an example of landscaping in an industrial development.

Shady Oaks Cerebral Palsy Camp for a successful cooperative plan to preserve five wooded acres of the Shady Oaks Cerebral Palsy Camp now incorporated into the Stonebridge Woods residential development.

Rick Gomez Instant Shade for donation of services for the tree planting at Northwest Homer Fire Department during Homer Glen Lands Day 2003.

Tom Jay, Hunt Club Woods for beautification of a roadside by planting native prairie plants on the perimeter of the Hunt Club property and involvement in wetland restoration.

Tom Hahn and Greg Chentnik, Stonebridge Woods Development for establishing a tree nursery and preserving five wooded acres of the Stonebridge Woods development through a cooperative plan with the Shady Oaks Camp.

VILLAGE OF HOMER GLEN WELCOMES INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS

2004 Fulbright American Studies Summer Institute

For the 3rd consecutive year the Village of Homer Glen has hosted an American holiday celebration for high school teachers from around the world. Visiting the United States on a grant funded by the State Department and the Fulbright Commission, these teachers come to the U.S. to study American culture at The University of Illinois at Chicago. The focal point of their visit has been the 4th of July celebration beginning with the Homer Township Independence Day parade, a tour of the area and afterwards participating in a traditional American barbecue at the home of Dale and Kim Vogelsanger. Although this year the parade did not take place, the teachers had a wonderful time swimming, and cooking, eating and drinking typical American fare. As a memento of their trip, pictures were taken and each participant was presented with a Homer Glen t-shirt. In the evening they drove to downtown Chicago for the 4th of July firework display. It was a wonderful day and we enjoyed celebrating with these exceptional international teachers and sharing with them our experiences and observations about life in the United States and Homer Glen.

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

Belgium	Italy	Peoples Republic of China
Brazil	Israel	Romania
Czech Republic	Ivory Coast	Senegal
Ecuador	Japan	Spain
France	Korea	Turkenistan
Germany	Madagascar	Ukraine
Greece	Norway	Uzbekistan
Indonesia	Philippines	Yemen



Pictured with the International Teachers are hosts Trustee Dale Vogelsanger and wife, Kim, former Village Clerk, Christine Luttrell, Trustee Mary Niemiec, Trustee Brian Andrews and Village Manager, Dwight Johnson.

VOTING LOCATIONS IN HOMER TOWNSHIP

<u>Precinct</u>	<u>Polling Place</u>
01	Goodings Grove School Dist. 33C, 12914 W. 143rd St., Homer Glen
02	Northwest Homer Fire Station #2, 13010 W. 143rd St., Lockport
03	Reed School (Main Ent.), 14939 W. 143rd St., Lockport
04	Homer Township Highway Dept., 14400 W. 151st St., Homer Glen
05	Homer Glen Village Hall (N/W Ent.), 13031 W. 143rd St., Homer Glen
06	Harris Bank, 14831 W. 159th St., Lockport
07	Homer Fire Protection Dist. #2, 16131 S. Bell Rd.(East Ent.), Homer Glen
08	Homer Township Office, 14350 W. 151st St., Homer Glen
09	Goodings Grove School Dist. 33C, 12914 W. 143rd St., Homer Glen
10	Homer Township Hall, Cedar Rd. (S of 159 th St.), Lockport
11	Northwest Homer Fire Station #1, 16152 W. 143rd St., Lockport
12*	Founders Crossing Activity Center, 14718 S. Founders Circle, Homer Glen
13*	Homer Glen Village Hall (N/W Ent.), 13031 W. 143rd St., Homer Glen
14	Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church (Rectory) 14610 S. Will-Cook Rd. Homer Glen
15*	Marian Village (Front Parlor), 15624 Marian Dr., Homer Glen
16	Homer Twp. Public Library, 14320 W. 151st St., Homer Glen
17	Victorian Village Community Center, 14303 S. Independence Way, Homer Glen
18	Butler Elementary School, 1900 Farrell Rd. (East Ent.), Lockport
19	Stan's Reliable Nursery, 16464 W. 143rd St., Lockport
20	Our Mother of Good Counsel Church (N. Ent.), 16043 S. Bell Rd., Homer Glen
21	Homer Fire Protection Dist. #2, 16131 S. Bell Rd.(East Ent.), Homer Glen
22	Broken Arrow Golf Club, 16325 W. Broken Arrow Dr., Lockport
23	Homer 33C Administrative Office, 15733 S. Bell Rd., Homer Glen

NOTE: * Indicates a change in polling place from previous election or new precinct

VILLAGE'S FIRST CLERK SAY'S FAREWELL

Christine Luttrell, Homer Glen's very first Village Clerk, recently resigned. Chris has been an integral part of the village since before incorporation, was appointed the Village Clerk by the court in April of 2001 and was subsequently elected to the position by the residents in April of 2003.

The mayor, village board of trustees and staff express appreciation for the efforts of Ms. Luttrell in helping to establish the village, and wish to thank her for her tireless dedication and commitment to serving the residents of the Village of Homer Glen.

Although Chris has elected to step down as Village Clerk, she intends to stay active in the village and will remain on the Town Center Task Force.

NEW VILLAGE CLERK APPOINTED

Gale Skrobuton has been appointed as our new Village Clerk and Collector by Mayor Russ Petrizzo and the Village Board of Trustees. She was unanimously approved at the October 5th Village Board meeting. Gale has owned and operated her own business, Kee-Line Images since 1989 and has been involved in leadership positions in the community as a past president of the Homer Township Chamber of Commerce and a director of several organizations. She is currently coordinating the Village's special census project. An election for Village Clerk will be conducted April 2005.

The Village of Homer Glen would like to advise that we currently have openings for residents interested in becoming members of the below EMA, Environment Committee or Trails Task Force. Please contact the village office at 708-301-0632 for further information.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (EMA) MEMBERS NEEDED

Homer Glen's EMA is looking for additional members to add to their current team of ten volunteer members. The EMA's role is to assist the Fire and Police Departments in times of need or in emergency or disaster situations. They also train with other communities and provide assistance as required.

EMA meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at the Homer Fire station #2, 16131 South Bell Road. The 1st Thursday date is for general meetings and updates on current issues. The 3rd Thursday is delegated to training. Members receive training in a variety of important subjects, including CPR, First Aid, Weather Spotting, Radio Communications, Hazardous

Materials, Search and Rescue, Emergency Vehicle Operations and Vehicle Traffic Control.

The EMA has four vehicles; a communications van, a traffic unit car, a light truck and an equipment truck. The equipment truck and the traffic unit vehicle have recently been detailed with the EMA and village seals.

In cooperation with Homer Township, our EMA has acquired a weather monitoring system. With this system and their weather spotters they can now give the residents of Homer Glen earlier warnings to weather emergencies. They have been reviewing and creating

a emergency operation plan for the village that should be completed in the near future.



Back row: Allen Campbell, Dave Krivickas, Don Guinta, John Robinson, Larry Contrath, Stan Piotrowski
 Front row: Jim Riley, Calvin Trock
 The village would like to thank these volunteers for their hard work and dedication to help make Homer Glen a safer place to live and work.

Emergency Management Agency

John Robinson, EMA Coordinator - Larry Contrath, Deputy Coordinator
 Members: Allen Campbell, David Gaver, Lt. Don Guinta, David Krivickas, William Lionhood, Stanley Piotrowski, James Riley, Calvin Trock

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The Environment Committee of the Village of Homer Glen is seeking new members who would like to participate in activities related to the purpose, goals, and objectives of this committee.

Some of the activities that members have been involved in are: Green Vision of the Homer Glen Community, Homer Glen Marsh on Long Run Creek Grant, Ecological Inventories Using Geographical Information System (GIS) Grant, Community and Nature in Harmony Awards and tree planting for Homer Glen Lands Day, Sustainable Development Principles for Protecting Nature (Chicago Wilderness publication), NIPC Common Ground workshops, grant writing, and providing educational programs and materials for the community.

Your attendance is always welcome at the meetings, which are held on the second Monday of the month in the Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.



Pictured left: Mayor Russ Petrizzo, Trustee Dale Vogelsanger, Trustee Margaret Sabo, and Environment Committee member, Sue Steilen pictured with winners of the Community and Nature In Harmony Award.

TRAILS TASK FORCE

Homer Glen would also like to ask that anyone interested in becoming a member of our Trails Task Force, to please call the village office. The trails group is currently researching information pertaining to possible grants, location and types of trails available. The Trails Task Force meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the village's conference room.

GRANT WRITER WANTED

We also have need of anyone interested in researching and writing grants for various committees within the village. Please contact the village if you would like to volunteer your time.



1ST ANNUAL HOMER VS. HOMER TOURNAMENT

Residents and Public Officials from Homer Glen and Homer Township met with officials from downstate South Homer Township and the Village of Homer at the Shady Oaks Cerebral Palsy Camp early in September. Everyone met to participate in the 1st Annual Homer vs. Homer Tournament, which was held in conjunction with a pig roast fundraiser hosted by Shady Oaks camp.

Homer Township has been involved in many mix-ups with Homer and South Homer Township over the years. They would sometimes receive mail, phone calls, visitors and even semi-truck deliveries intended for our area. After Homer Glen incorporated, identities were even more confusing. One day everyone involved decided it was time to meet and the idea of having a playoff game for the right to the name of "Homer" was born.

We invited them to our Village and gave them the honors of selecting the game. Their game of choice was Bocce Ball. There were two divisions for the competition, the South Division consisting of teams from Homer and South Homer Township and the North Division, with teams from Homer Glen and Homer Township. Each division played within itself until the best team was decided. Mayor Russ Petrizzo's team won the right to represent the North Division while the South Division team consisted of Homer Mayor David Lucas, the Chief of Police and a group of Homer Trustees. The championship game was close all the way down to the last throw, but the South Division won and took home the trophy; a bust of Homer, the famous poet. A presentation followed with pictures being taken and each visitor was given a 2004 Homer Glen t-shirt, maps of the village and informational newsletters. Our downstate guests presented Mayor Petrizzo with a book of Homer history and 2 cases of soda from a local Homer bottler.

Village and Township officials have been invited to downstate Homer next year in early June, as part of their 150th Anniversary celebration, to avenge the loss. This time we will select the game to try and win back our trophy. Ice hockey anyone?

P.S. Since this was all tongue in cheek, we will not be changing our name!



Playoff teams: Pictured left to right. Homer Glen team: Mayor Russ Petrizzo, Kim Vogelsanger, not pictured: Chris Locacious, Mike Schaller and Mike Martino. Winning Homer South team: Homer Police Chief, Mayor Lucas and other Village Officials.

DO YOU KNOW WHO OWNS YOUR PONDS?

The Village would like to inform all residents that live in subdivisions with detention ponds that it is critical to keep possession of the ponds and to keep them in good working order. Recently, some detention ponds were seized by Will County and auctioned off at a tax scavenger sale. In these instances, the subdivisions that were served by these ponds, no longer had homeowner associations that were active, and subsequently, no taxes were paid on these properties. In most cases, the property taxes were very low, less than \$100 per year. These ponds are designed during the engineering process of the subdivision to control storm water and are critical in controlling flooding.

If auctioned off, there is never a guarantee that the new owners will keep the ponds attractive looking and in good working order. Find out who has possession of the detention ponds in your subdivision and make sure that they are being maintained and the taxes are paid and up to date. A good place to start is with your homeowners association. If you do not have an association, a search through the tax records can be conducted. Please contact the Village office or Will County tax assessor if you require more information.

DRAG RACE FOR CHARITY

Recently, Mayor Russ Petrizzo joined mayors from surrounding area communities to compete in a drag racing event for charity. The Sheriffs Challenge raised over \$20,000 for the Wish Upon A Star Foundation and the Illinois Special Olympics. Although it was Joliet that took home the trophy, it was Joliet police Cmdr. Richard Fonck, standing in for Joliet Mayor Art Schultz, who won the race.

NEWLY APPROVED COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

COMMERCIAL

Gas City - 151st & Bell Road - Construction scheduled to start fall of 2004

Creamery Ice Cream Parlor - 151st & Bell Road - Construction scheduled to start fall of 2004

Pepe's - Bell Road and 146th Commercial property located in Homer Senior Housing development, presently under construction

Walgreens - South side of 143rd, just West of Bell Road

Dinolfo's Banquet Hall - 159th street, East of Cedar Road, presently under construction

Loyola Center for Health - East of Cedar fronting Marian Village Senior Housing

RESIDENTIAL

King Drive Development - 135th & Lemont Road

Keane/Black Rock development - East of Erin Hills, South of Meath Dr.

Hunt Club Meadows - West of Haas Rd. & North of Rt. 6

Founders Crossing Senior Housing Project - Mix of residential & commercial - West side of Bell Road & 146th

Stonebridge Woods - 159th street just west of Parker Rd, Mix of residential and commercial

Messenger Woods - 159th street east of Cedar Rd - 72 homes on 30 acres

Significant Annexations

Goodings Grove Residential (September)

- Located just east and north of Home Depot shopping area
- 132 acres
- 364 dwelling units including 52 townhomes and 96 condominium units
- Will provide approximately \$1 million in fees for permits, park donation, and fire dept.
- Ultimate population of about 1,000 will provide about \$100,000 revenue annually.

Hunt Club Meadows (June)

- Located just west of Hass Road and north of Highway 6
- 75 acres
- 50 single family homes on 1 acre lots

Messenger Woods

- Located on 159th east of Cedar Road
- 30 acres
- 72 homes

COMMUNITY EXPO

On Saturday, September 25th, the Village of Homer Glen participated in it's 3rd annual Homer Township Community Expo. The village answered questions from residents, enlisted new members into our Emergency Management Agency, and displayed maps of the new boundary agreement with Lockport and the proposed new trails system. The major focus this year was to alert residents to the upcoming Special Census the village will be conducting in November. Job applications were also distributed for workers to

help us conduct the census.



*pictured left to right:
Village Clerk, Gale Skroboton and
CCIC members Lisa Martinez and
Patti Maska*

ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

There are many proposed projects on the planning docket for 143rd Street including possible lane reconfigurations at Goodings Grove School, a temporary traffic signal at Golden Oak Drive, and a study for a possible traffic signal at Parker. Since 143rd Street is under Will County control, all of these improvements are dependent on the Will County budget. We would like to thank our local Will County Board members for their help in moving these projects forward.

Another item of interest to area residents will be a study of the intersection of 151st Street & Cream Road for improvements or up-grades. Engineering has suggested the possibility of installing a "traffic-roundabout" at that location and also at 151st Street and Cedar Road. Roundabouts allow traffic to pass through the intersection safely without the need for stop signs. Significant amounts of traffic pass through that location due to the close proximity of the Homer Township Public Library, the Homer Township offices, Woodbine Golf Course and the Homer Sports Complex.

There is also a traffic study currently in progress for a possible traffic signal at the intersection of Meadowview and Bell Road across from the Junior High School and another at the intersection of Martingale and Bell Road by the new senior housing center that is being developed.

Also, please remember to comply with the new 25mph subdivision speed limits and always drive safely.

The Village of Homer Glen wishes to give thanks to A Touch of Green nursery for their generous donation of providing labor and materials for landscaping the villages two large entry signs at 135th & Bell and 159th & Will Cook Road.

The village also extends it's thanks to village residents Wally Fisher, John Robinson and William Vogelsanger for the installation of lighting for the 135th & Bell location.

Thank you all for helping us to beautify our entryways into Homer Glen.

FLOODING ISSUES

At a recent workshop, the Village Board discussed flooding and drainage problems within the Village. In response to resident complaints, nine subdivisions have been listed for possible projects including Cinnamon Creek, Farm View Hills, Hidden Cove, Meadowview, Oak Valley, Old Oak, Pebble Creek, Pine Hill Estates, and Woodbine. Priority will be given to

areas with repeated street flooding that restricts public safety access and to areas with actual home flooding. The next step will be to determine if feasible projects can be designed that will significantly solve the identified problems and then bring one or more of these projects back to the Village Board for approval. The Village will be working in partnership with Will County, Homer Township, and other agencies in developing these plans.

Conceptual approval was given by the Village Board to a plan allocating approximately \$100,000 per year over the next five years from the Village's Motor Fuel Tax Fund to help correct some of the more severe flooding problem areas. Motor Fuel Tax dollars can only be used to solve flooding problems relating to public street drainage and cannot be used to solve unrelated problems on private property.

DINOLFO'S BANQUET HALL BREAKS GROUND

DiNolfo's Banquet Hall broke ground in September and is scheduled to open in the spring of 2005. The facility is located at 14601 W. 159th Street and encompasses 10 acres. The banquet hall will be nearly 40,000 square feet, have five banquet rooms, and will accommodate up to 1,300 people.

As an additional feature, the facility will include an on-site wedding chapel. This will be a beautiful addition to our village and we wish to welcome them.



FYI . . .

Homer Glen News & Events

Happy Halloween

Homer Glen wishes everyone a safe Halloween. The Village Board recommends that for everyone's enjoyment and safety, all trick-or-treating on Sunday, October 31 should be between the hours of 2 and 6 pm. Remember to visit us at the annual Homer Township Halloween Party on Saturday, October 30 from 11 AM to 1 PM at Schilling School, 16025 Cedar Road. Children aged 0-10 are welcome to trick or treat. On the agenda: food, games, prizes and a costume party for all age groups.

Village Office hours have changed:

As of October 4th, office hours were changed to 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Building department hours will remain 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

When parking in your driveway, be considerate

of your neighbors and do not block the sidewalk. It is difficult for children who ride their bikes and parents when walking with children or pushing strollers. This creates hazardous conditions when trying to maneuver around the parked vehicle and is a zoning violation.

Underage liquor sales

The Will County Sheriff's Department has recently issued citations to six local establishments for selling alcohol to minors. Please be a responsible business owner and always remember to check that your patrons are of legal drinking age.

Vehicle Registration Ticketing

In the last newsletter we reported a problem some residents encountered who had not received vehicle registration reminder notices. These notices were not being mailed to some residents who had changed their ZIP code as it was considered a change of address and was not in the state database. You were encouraged to notify the state (as well as other important contacts) of your address change if your ZIP code was changed to 60491.

It has come to our attention that many residents have been issued tickets for the failure to purchase new license plate stickers. Many residents who have appeared in Will County court for this issue have verified that their cases were dismissed because of the ZIP code mix-up. If you have been issued a ticket, you may wish to look into this matter.

6 0 4 9 1 0 7 1

New Business Registration Ordinance

On May 18, 2004 the Village of Homer Glen Board of Trustees passed Ordinance No. 04-030 requiring that all businesses operating within the corporate boundaries of Homer Glen register with the Village. All businesses in existence and operating as of May 18, 2004 were required to be registered no later than July 1, 2004.

New businesses are required to register within 30 days after they begin conducting business in Homer Glen. Please be sure that your business complies with all zoning, sign, and other permit requirements.

The initial registration period is effective July 1, 2004 thru December 31, 2005 and run on a calendar-year basis thereafter.

The fee for this first extended registration period is \$30.00. The fee for late registration is \$60.00. The penalty for non-compliance is \$75 per day up to a maximum of \$750.

Not-for-profit entities and governmental bodies are not required to register, but the Fire Districts and Sheriff's Police have requested contact information for after-hours emergency use. No registration fee is required.

VILLAGE OF HOMER GLEN MEETING CALENDAR

Board of Trustees Workshop	1st Tuesday, Village Council Chamber	7:30pm
Board of Trustees Meeting	3rd Tuesday, Village Council Chamber	7:30pm
Communications and Civic Involvement Committee	2nd and 4th Monday, Conference Room	7:30pm
Emergency Management Agency (EMA)	1st and 3rd Thursday Homer Fire Protection Station #2, 16131 South Bell Road	7:00pm
Environment Committee	2nd Monday, Village Council Chamber	
Parks & Recreation Committee	4th Monday, Village Council Chamber	7:30pm
Public Safety Committee	3rd Monday, Village Council Chamber	8:00pm
Plan Commission	1st and 3rd Thursday, Village Council Chamber	7:30pm
Transportation Committee	1st Monday, Village Council Chamber	7:30pm
Zoning Commission	1st and 3rd Wednesdays, Village Council Chamber	7:00pm

Unless otherwise specified, meetings are held in the Village Council Chamber, 13031 W. 143rd Street. Agendas for the following week's meetings are posted each Friday, or not less than 48 hours prior to a given meeting, on the windows of the Village Hall and the Council Chamber:
www.homerglen.org

VILLAGE OF HOMER GLEN BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION PROCESS

Please be advised that on February 22, 2005 a Consolidated Primary Election will be held for contested races for candidates seeking election at the April 5, 2005 Consolidated Election for the office of Village of Homer Glen Trustee. Three (3) trustees will be elected to serve at large for four years.

File completed petition packets with the Village Clerk at 14331 South Golden Oak Drive, Homer Glen (Orland Oaks Shopping Center) during the filing period of December 6, 2004 thru December 13, 2004 only. The office will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. during this period. No petitions can be accepted during the January filing period.

Petition packets will be available at the Village Hall. A 2005 Candidates Guide is available at the State Board of Elections website. If you have questions regarding the election process, call the State Board of Elections at (312) 814-6440 or visit their website at:
www.elections.state.il.us.



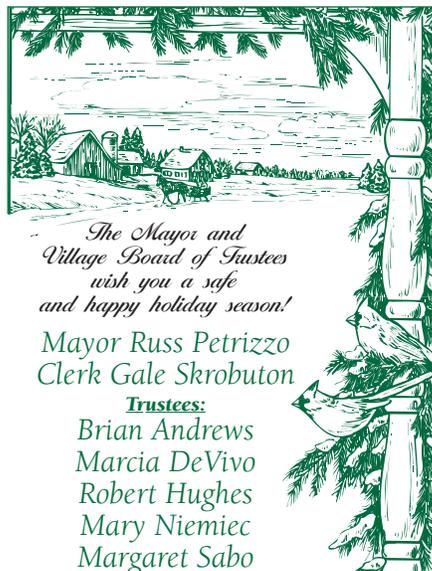
Community and Nature . . . in Harmony

14331 S. Golden Oak Dr. • Homer Glen, IL 60491

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

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.



*The Mayor and
Village Board of Trustees
wish you a safe
and happy holiday season!*

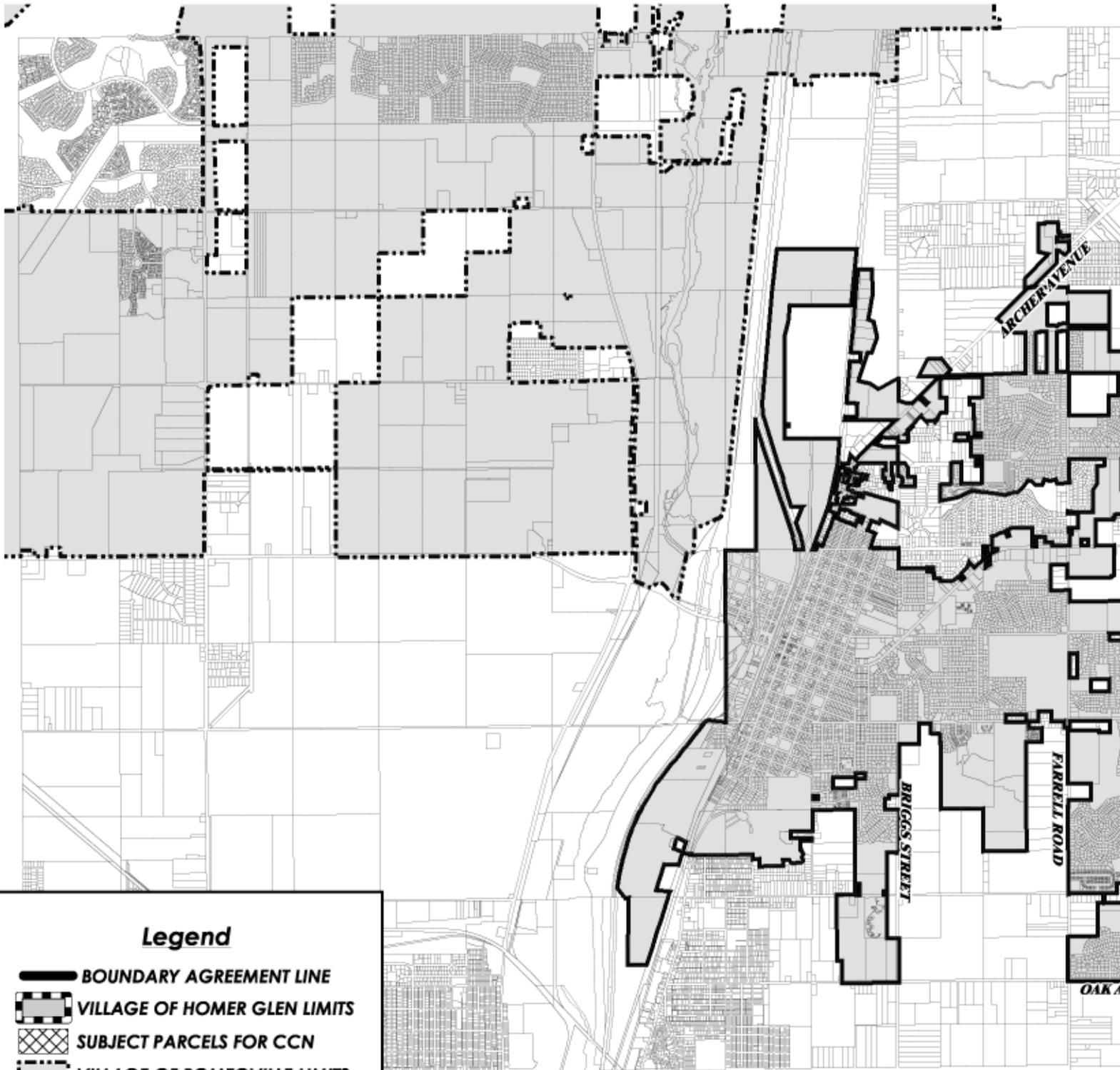
Mayor Russ Petrizzo
Clerk Gale Skrobuton

Trustees:

Brian Andrews
Marcia DeVivo
Robert Hughes
Mary Niemiec
Margaret Sabo
Dale Vogelsanger

To The Homer Glen Resident at:

LOCKPORT / HOMER GLEN BC



Legend

-  BOUNDARY AGREEMENT LINE
-  VILLAGE OF HOMER GLEN LIMITS
-  SUBJECT PARCELS FOR CCN
-  VILLAGE OF ROMEOVILLE LIMITS
-  CITY OF LOCKPORT LIMITS
-  EXHIBIT C PARCELS

M:\GIS\land\p\review\comprehensive plan\cmpl.apr

N BOUNDARY AGREEMENT

