

## MAYOR YUKICH'S BLOG

DATE: September 25, 2015

### VILLAGE HALL PARK (FORMERLY WOODBINE) OPENS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup>

On Thursday, October 1st, the Village Hall Park (former Woodbine property) 14240 W. 151st, will be open to the public for passive recreation, from dawn to dusk. Enter the park on the South side of the property, just East of the future Village Hall building.

The park will feature a stone trail that is over one mile in length as well as a picnic grove. This park is for passive recreation only (i.e. walking, jogging, flying a kite, etc.). Please follow the rules posted at the park. [The Village's media release announcing the park opening is attached.](#)

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The Village is working to promote and assist Economic Development every day! Here are a few highlights about new businesses moving into Homer Glen.

- **NEW LEASES SIGNED AT FOUNDERS CROSSING NORTH CENTER** – Great news! Leases are executed for two new businesses to open at Founders Crossing North Center on Bell Road. **Vahalla Vitamins**, a nutritional supplement retailer, currently located in Mokena, will open a second store in the 1,207 SF space next to Homer Glen's Open MRI business on Bell Road.

In addition, **Lighthouse Search Group**, currently located in the City of Lockport, will relocate to the 1,351 SF space at the northwest end cap, behind Pelican Harry's, just off Bell Road.

- **HOUSE OF MUSIC NOW OPEN AT BELL TOWER PLAZA** – The House of Music of Orland Hills is subletting a storefront space from The Dance Studio, located in the Bell Tower Plaza. The sublet space is an opportunity to expand the business in Homer Glen. The House of Music is a complete music store, retailing new, used and vintage instruments and offering music lessons for every ability level and age. The House of Music markets itself as the official home of the "First Lesson Free."

I hope that you join me in welcoming these new businesses to Homer Glen, in the months ahead, once they get settled in their new spaces.

### COMMUNITY AND NATURE IN HARMONY AWARDS

The Village's Community and Nature in Harmony Awards will be handed out at tomorrow evening's Village Board meeting. These awards are always an outstanding opportunity to recognize some of the great work happening in our community. I will highlight the list of award recipients in my blog next week.

## **WOODBINE AREA REGIONAL DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – SURVEY COMPLETION AND RETURN ENCOURAGED!**

The Village is continuing to work with the engineering firm HR Green on the completion of the Woodbine Area Regional Drainage Improvement Project plan and recommendations. The Village recently mailed out an informational letter and storm water survey to residents who live in subdivisions adjacent to the former Woodbine Golf Course property. The survey's results will be utilized by the Village to gain information and feedback from residents, who live in this area, about their storm water concerns and suggestions. If you received a survey in the mail, I urge you to complete the document and return it to the Village no later than Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **VILLAGE BOARD TO CONSIDER FOR ADOPTION THE FINAL DRAFT VERSION OF THE VILLAGE'S 159<sup>th</sup> STREET CORRIDOR PLANNING STUDY**

The Village has been working with consultant Houseal Lavigne to develop a 159<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Planning Study. The final draft document has been distributed and posted for Village Board review and consideration. A brief history of the planning process is provided below.

*With its access to I-355 and IDOT's road improvement plans, the 159<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor is positioned to contribute in a significant way to the Village's future economic development success. The 159<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Study is intended to offer a framework for decision-making, designed to enhance the future of the 159<sup>th</sup> Street Commercial Corridor. The values expressed in the Study focus on creating a distinct Homer Glen identity and incorporating best practices for future development. The overall goal is a 159<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor that is economically vital, welcoming to customers and attractive for businesses.*

*The 159<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Planning Study planning process incorporated a six-step work program that encompassed community outreach, analyzing existing land use and market conditions, developing preliminary plans, and preparing a final plan and policy recommendations. The participation of residents, business owners, property owners, and other stakeholders, from throughout the Village of Homer Glen, has been a focal point for the Study's planning process.*

*Village Consultant Houseal Lavigne set up a project website to facilitate community outreach and make involvement in the planning process easy. Residents could read project news, learn about upcoming meetings and workshops to attend, subscribe to a RSS feed, follow updates on Twitter and send feedback to the project team through the 159<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Planning Study project website.*

*Houseal Lavigne representatives presented the preliminary draft of the Planning Study at the Village Board meeting on June 24, 2014. At the June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, Village Board members were asked to forward any comments about the preliminary draft to the Village Manager which they did, and those comments were given to Village Consultant Houseal Lavigne.*

*The preliminary draft of the 159<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Planning Study was available for public review and comment from mid-June 2014 through the public hearing dates of October 22<sup>nd</sup> and November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The Village provided a link to the draft Planning Study on the Village website and a printed copy was available at the Village Hall counter. The public hearing was advertised via a published legal notice, announcements on the Village website, a postal mailing sent to stakeholders and a repeat notice emailed to those stakeholders for whom the Village has their email address. Additionally, the Village placed a ½ page ad in the Homer Horizon and published an informational article in the Chicago Tribune on October 31<sup>st</sup> and in the Homer Horizon on November 6<sup>th</sup> for the public hearing continuation date of November 12<sup>th</sup>.*

*In accordance with the Village's professional services agreement with the consultant, Houseal Lavigne has made appropriate revisions to the draft document, to produce the final version of the Corridor Planning Study for Village Board consideration. Because of the plans size, printed copies of the document, dated October 28, 2015, are available, for viewing, at Village Hall. Houseal Lavigne has added the Planning Study document to the project website, available at: <http://www.hlplanning.com/dnn/Documents/tabid/3289/Default.aspx>. The intention is that the 159<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Planning Study will be adopted as an addendum to the Village's Comprehensive Plan.*

### **LATEST COMCAST CHANNEL LINE-UP ADJUSTMENT**

Comcast has informed the Village of the latest channel line-up change that they will be instituting. The change is outlined in the attached letter from the company. **Comcast Letter Attached.**

### **SCHOOL DISTRICT 205 SAFETY AND SECURITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MEETING**

I attended a safety and security meeting at School District 205's East Campus last week that I wanted to provide an update about. There were 42 people in attendance at the meeting representing Homer Glen, Lockport, Crest Hill, all fire protection districts, police departments and the sheriff's office. Mayors from Lockport and Crest Hill joined me at the meeting.

The entire group received a comprehensive review of security improvements that the district has made at both the East and Central campuses. The list of improvements, all designed to protect our kids and the district's staff, was impressive.

The school district's staff also reviewed the types and numbers of safety drills that are performed at both campuses. I was impressed by the extent of safety precautions being taken.

The district staff also reviewed school violence prevention initiatives that they have instituted. They reviewed initiatives involving bullying prevention, school violence prevention and teen dating violence prevention. In addition, the staff discussed how they have instituted a new lanyard / I.D. badge program that has resulted in all students wearing I.D. badges.

Student assistance programs for drug and alcohol challenges were also briefly discussed. The school counseling staff reviewed programs that they make available to students and their families. In addition, the school district went over their communication procedures utilizing mass e-mail, mass texts and district website, twitter and facebook postings to get emergency information out to the community.

I think that it is important for the community to know that School District 205 has important safety and security measures in place to protect our kids. If you have any questions, please contact the district at 815-588-8300.

## **BUILDING PERMIT INFORMATION**

The Village has adopted a set of Building Codes to protect homeowners and the public against unsafe building practices, unscrupulous contractors and potential health and safety hazards. State legislation also mandates energy saving requirements and state contractor licenses for certain types of permitted work.

If you have any questions regarding what is required, in terms of Village building permits, please contact the Building Department at 708-301-1301. The Village staff will be happy to help!

## **SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Hickory Creek Watershed BioBlitz (Saturday, September 26, 2015). This free event, hosted by the Hickory Creek Watershed Planning Group, will allow participants to help sample and identify aquatic organisms in Hickory Creek. Register to attend or volunteer at <http://www.hickorycreekwatershed.org/bioblitz-2015/>
- Bi-Chamber Women in Business Networking Event (Wednesday, September 30, 2015). This event is being co-hosted by the Homer Township Chamber of Commerce and the Lemont Area Chamber of Commerce. The event will be held at Mullet's Restaurant at 14903 Bell Road in Homer Glen. To register, visit [www.lemontchamber.com](http://www.lemontchamber.com) or [www.homerchamber.com](http://www.homerchamber.com).
- Chamber of Commerce Business-After-Hours Event (Tuesday, October 6, 2015). This Chamber event will be held at Illinois American Water's Oak Valley Water Reclamation Facility at 16230 S. Bell Road. The event will run from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Chamber of Commerce "Night Under the Stars" Event (Friday, October 16, 2015). This fun filled evening of entertainment at Konow's Farm will feature the local band "Five Guys Named Moe". Visit <http://homerchamber.com/> for more information.
- Mike Hike 5K Walk/Run (Saturday, November 7, 2015). The Mike Hike, in memory of PFC Michael Olivieri, is always a great event. The walk/run is held in Homer Glen on portions of the Village's Heroes Trail. Go to [Mikehike5k.com](http://Mikehike5k.com) for more information.



# Media Release

## Village of Homer Glen to Open Village Hall Park for Passive Recreation on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>

Homer Glen, (September 24, 2015)

The Village of Homer Glen announced at their regular board meeting on September 23, 2015 that the Village Hall Park (formerly Woodbine Golf Course) will open to the public for passive recreation on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.

The park is located at 14240 W 151st St, Homer Glen, IL 60491. The park will feature a stone trail over 1 mile in length around a portion of the park property, amid a number of large ponds and natural grassy areas. Visitors to the park will have access to a picnic grove in which to relax with a great view of the park grounds.

"This property is one-of-a-kind", stated Mayor George Yukich. "I'm very excited to be opening the park for passive recreation for all Homer Glen residents to enjoy. This park will be a centerpiece of our community for years to come. Our Village is truly unique and this 103 acre park is just another example of what makes Homer Glen a great place to live," concluded Mayor Yukich.

Eventually, this property will be further developed into a community park with various recreational opportunities for residents to enjoy. The Village will be conducting a comprehensive park planning process, during which residents will be allowed to provide input and suggestions for the future Village Hall Park.

The Village encourages residents to e-mail ideas and suggestions on what they would like to see incorporated into the park property to [village@homerglen.org](mailto:village@homerglen.org) or to download the public comment form, from the Village's website, and use it to send suggestions to the Village of Homer Glen, Re: Future Village Hall Park Property, 14933 S. Founders Crossing, Homer Glen, IL 60491.

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**For additional information, please call Village Hall at 708-301-0632.**

**For Release September 24, 2015**



RECEIVED  
SEP 11 2015  
VILLAGE OF HOMER GLEN

September 4, 2015

The Honorable George Yukich  
Mayor  
Village of Homer Glen  
14933 S. Founders Crossing  
Homer Glen, IL 60491

RE: Change to the Comcast channel line-up in your community

Dear Mayor Yukich:

In Comcast's continuing effort to keep you updated and informed, I wanted to take this opportunity to provide you with information regarding a change to the Comcast channel line-up in your community.

Starting on November 5, 2015, *EWTN* will relocate from the Digital Starter package to Limited Basic. Customers subscribing to Digital Starter will continue to be able to view *EWTN* as Limited Basic is included with the Digital Starter package. The dial position for *EWTN* remains unchanged as a result of this relocation.

Customers will be notified in advance of this change. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information; I can be reached at (847) 789-1548.

Sincerely,

Yohan Fernando  
Senior Manager of Government Affairs

To receive programming notices like  
this one via email, please send an email to:  
[Comcast\\_GAChicago@cable.comcast.com](mailto:Comcast_GAChicago@cable.comcast.com)  
with the word **SUBSCRIBE** in the subject line of the email.