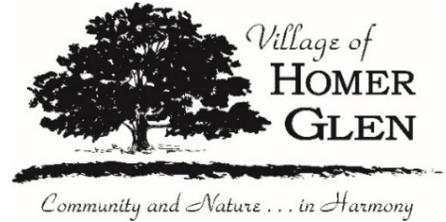


Mayor Yukich's Blog

March 24, 2016



Village Hires Firm to Create a Master Park Development Plan for the Village Hall Park

At the March 23 Village Board Meeting, an agreement with Planning Resources, Inc. (PRI) was approved for the creation of a Master Park Development Plan for the Village Hall Park, located at 14240 W. 151st Street.

Planning Resources, Inc. was chosen among the 18 firms that responded to the Village's Request for Proposals that was issued on December 15, 2015. The firm recognizes the strong need for community engagement on the proposed plan, the importance of incorporating the history of the land into the overall plan and the Village's desire to reduce the noise/light pollution on the neighboring subdivisions.

It is anticipated that the plan will be completed no later than October 31, 2016. Updates will be made available to residents through my Blog and the Village's website.

Draft FY 2016-17 Budget Now Available for Review

Finance Director Sawyers presented the proposed budget for FYE 2017 at the March 23 Village Board meeting. The budget document illustrates the Village's projected revenues, operating and capital expenditures and expected fiscal year end projections for the budget period.

A public hearing on the proposed FY 2016-17 budget will be held at 7:00p.m. on Wednesday, April 13 during the Village Board meeting held at 14917 S Founders Crossing. The Village Board will then consider approval of the proposed annual budget at their meeting on April 27, 2016.

The annual budget is adopted by ordinance and serves as the legal document that provides staff the authority to expend Village funds. Lastly, the budget document includes the Village's goals, and policies as approved by the Village Board.

The proposed budget document can be accessed [here](#).

International Dark Sky Week

The **attached** proclamation designates April 4 – 10, 2016 as International Dark Sky Week in the Village of Homer Glen. International Dark Sky Week was created in 2003 by a high-school student, Jennifer Barlow, in Midlothian, Virginia. The week's popularity has grown every year and is endorsed by the International Dark Sky Association. It is a week when people are encouraged to turn out their lights in order to observe the beauty of the night sky.

The goals of the week are to:

- Temporarily reduce light pollution and raise awareness about its effects on the night sky,
- Encourage the use of better lighting systems that direct light downward instead of into the sky, and,
- Promote the study of astronomy.

The Village of Homer Glen has recognized the night sky as a natural resource and has actively promoted the preservation of the night sky through an outdoor lighting ordinance, past participation in Earth Hour, and hosting Stargazing events at Trantina Farm. In 2011, the Village became an International Dark Sky community. Proclaiming April 4 – 10, 2016 as International Dark Sky Week is an opportunity for the Village to support and raise awareness for the need to continue to appreciate and protect a beautiful and valuable resource.

Village Hall Renovation Update

As you know, a contract was awarded to Troop Contracting Inc. for renovation work at the New Village Hall, located at 14240 W. 151st Street. Troop Contracting was the lowest bid received by the Village.

Troop Contracting, Inc. is a Certified Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Contractor who has done multiple high profile projects including the Village of Bolingbrook's Village Hall.

The Village has notified its Landlord and Property Manager of its "Intent to Terminate the Lease Agreement" at its current location by July 31, 2016.

If you would like to stay informed on the progress of the renovation work, please visit the **Village website**, where updates will be posted periodically.

Village Seasonal Employment Opportunities

The Village of Homer Glen is seeking to fill two full-time seasonal maintenance worker positions. Under the supervision of the Facilities Manager, this position maintains grounds of public property by performing the following duties: mows lawns, removes brush, trims and edges around walks, removes damaged leaves, branches, or twigs. Clears leaves and cleans grounds. Repairs fences, gates, walls, paints fences, signs etc. Cleans out drainage ditches and culverts and other duties as requested or assigned which are within the scope of the above duties.

Applicants must be 18 years of age, have a H.S. diploma or GED and possess a valid driver's license. Pay rate is \$10 per hour for approximately 40 hours per week from April 18 to October. Selected candidates will be required to pass a criminal background check, medical physical and drug screen.

Interested candidates must complete the application found on the Village's website www.homerglenil.org. Completed applications can be e-mailed to Heather Kokodynsky at hkokodynsky@homerglen.org or mailed to Village of Homer Glen, Attn: Heather Kokodynsky, 14933 S Founders Crossing, Homer Glen, IL 60491
Applications are due Monday, April 11.

Call for Sponsors for Earth Day~Arbor Day Event

The Village of Homer Glen is seeking exhibitors, sponsors, and donors to participate in the Village's Annual celebration of Earth Day~Arbor Day on May 21, 2016.

The event will be held on the historic Konow farm located at 16849 S. Cedar Road in Homer Glen. There is plenty of space and a variety of facilities for display options. In 2015, this free one day event featured more than 80 exhibits and fun activities for people of all ages. This year's event promises to be even better. Visit the **event website** for more information. Please contact the Village Hall at 708-301-0632 to inquire about sponsorship opportunities.

CMAP Bicycle Usage Survey

Residents of northeastern Illinois can provide input on bicycle usage at cmapbicycleusage.metroquest.com. CMAP will use this input to develop an analysis tool to help better determine the relative benefits of implementing different types of bicycle improvements.

Upcoming Events

BI-CHAMBER WOMEN'S MONTHLY NETWORKING EVENT

Join the Lemont and Homer Glen Women's Bi-Chamber Networking Group on **Wednesday, March 30, 2016 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.** as they present, "Women and Transitioning into 2016- New Beginnings for a New You!" The presentation will include a primer on the 2016 modifications to family law in Illinois, along with a brief summary of the 2015 maintenance guidelines. The event will be held at Mullet's Sports Bar and Restaurant, 14903 S. Bell Road in Homer Glen.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP OFF EVENT

Will County Land Use Department, Resource Recovery & Energy Division and the Village of Plainfield are hosting a Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Event. This event will be held on **Saturday, April 2, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the Village of Plainfield Public Works parking lot, 14400 S. Coil Plus Dr., in Plainfield. The event is open to Will County residents only. [Click here](#) for more information.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP OFF EVENT

Will County Land Use Department, Resource Recovery & Energy Division and the Village of Plainfield are hosting a Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Event. This event will be held on **Saturday, April 16, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the Lincoln-Way East High School Parking Lot, 201 Colorado Avenue, in Frankfort. The event is open to Will County residents only. [Click here](#) for more information.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY SHRED EVENT

Join the American Legion Auxiliary on **Saturday, April 30, 2016 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.** in the post parking lot (15052 Archer Ave in Lockport) for a SHRED EVENT. Bring your old personal documents to get rid of them permanently. We will accept the following documents: medical records, financial statements, credit applications, bank statements, documents with social security numbers or driver's license numbers, bank check, tax records and legal documents over eight years old, etc. **\$5 will be charged per box** to help fund projects for veterans and active military & their families.



**A Proclamation Designating April 4 -10, 2016
as International Dark Sky Week in the Village of Homer Glen**

Whereas, created in 2003, International Dark Sky Week has grown to become a worldwide event and a key component of Global Astronomy Month; and

Whereas, the nighttime environment is a crucial natural resource for all life on Earth, but the glow of uncontrolled outdoor lighting has hidden the stars, changing the nighttime environment; and

Whereas, before the advent of electric light, our ancestors experienced a night sky brimming with stars that inspired science, religion, philosophy, art and literature; and

Whereas, the common heritage of a natural night sky is rapidly becoming unknown to the newest generations; and

Whereas, we are only just beginning to understand the negative repercussions of losing this natural resource; and

Whereas, the Village of Homer Glen has become known for Stargazing since 2008 and educating the public on dark sky awareness; and

Whereas, the Village of Homer Glen, the Fourth International Dark Sky Community in the world, supports International Dark Sky Week.

Now Therefore, Be It Proclaimed by the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Homer Glen, that April 4-10, 2016 is designated as International Dark Sky Week in the Village of Homer Glen, Illinois.

Proclaimed March 23, 2016

George Yukich, Mayor

Attest:

Ann Holtz, Village Clerk