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Dear Neighbor:

“Steep Slope” Ordinance: A few years ago, and after extensive study by the Plan Commission and Village staff, the Village Board was prepared to adopt an ordinance providing for certain limits on construction on the “steep slope” properties in the Village. The properties involved are those on the Lake Michigan bluff and on our ravines, and the limitations relate principally to the proximity of new construction to the bluff or ravine edge. Existing structures are not affected. The goal of the legislation is to preserve the safety and effectiveness of the bluffs and ravines.

Although many Board meetings were held at which the proposal was discussed, without opposition, a significant number of property owners appeared at the final meeting to voice strong opposition to the proposal. It turned out that a circular had been distributed to at least some affected residents that, in the view of Village staff and others, seriously misrepresented the limitations and impact of the proposed ordinance.

In any event, the Village Board decided to defer action on the matter until such time as staff was able to prepare more detailed and specific explanations of the impact of the ordinance and its application to the affected properties. Although the press of other matters has delayed that activity, it has now been completed, and the “steep slope” proposal will be on the agenda of the Village Board meeting on April 18. Letters have been sent to all affected property owners to that effect, inviting all such owners to meet with staff, should they wish to do so, to discuss the specific application of the ordinance to their individual property.

There are pros and cons to all new zoning regulations. Perhaps because there had been no prior opposition, there were no supporters of the steep slope regulations speaking at the meeting when the matter was deferred. As always, the effects on private property and the value to the community need to be weighed and balanced, and the Board needs to hear all viewpoints. I hope that those interested – from both sides – can attend the April meeting.

Northwest Water Commission: Some months ago, the Village was contacted by representatives of the Northwest Water Commission with a request to discuss the possibility of Glencoe providing to the NWC some form of access through Glencoe to Lake Michigan water. The NWC currently provides water to its four member communities (Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove, Palatine and Wheeling). The water is purchased entirely from Evanston, and the Commission has expressed interest in obtaining alternate sources.

Discussions have been ongoing, with alternative options including construction of a new, larger water plant (on our current site) to provide water for Glencoe and the NWC members or, alternatively, construction of only an access facility and pumping station to move raw water to a processing facility in one of those suburbs. All plans would require installation of large new water main facilities running to the west.

Discussions are very preliminary. No conclusions have been reached as to what might work for the respective parties, and most importantly, whether Glencoe will receive sufficient benefits for it to consider the project. Such benefits could be very substantial. To assist in the analysis, the Village has recently taken steps to retain a consulting firm experienced in this area.

Final Notes: This is my last opportunity to provide the “President’s Message” in this publication, since my eight-year period as Village President will end with our May 16 Village Board meeting. My successor will be current Village Trustee Larry Levin, and I am confident that the Village will be in good hands under his leadership.

It is perhaps traditional for retiring political officeholders to spend some time listing the various specific “laws passed” and “benefits given” during their time in office. But since I do not consider myself a “politician”, or the Village Presidency a “political office” in the normal sense, I am not going to do that. (And I thank our Caucus system for my ability to be “non-political” – it is a hallmark of our community that deserves our full and constant support.)
What I would like to do is go back to my first “President’s Message” (April, 2005), and review what I offered then as “general goals for the conduct of business” during my term. Longer-term residents will recall that, when I took office, we had been through a period of some significant dissatisfaction with and distrust of our Village government. In part because of that circumstance, I identified those goals under three headings: “openness and candor”; “consideration and respect”, and “we and they”.

I believe that I can report to you that we have met those goals during the past eight years. With “openness and candor”, I pledged to you that we would keep residents informed on a timely basis on all matters of Village governance. Sometimes that has meant reporting on discussions perhaps prematurely (see left re: the Northwest Water Commission), but I have believed that, in a small community such as ours, too much information is better than too little.

“Consideration and respect” referred to what was then a somewhat frequent occurrence: public discourse carried out in a mean-spirited and vituperative manner. To a large degree, we have been able to avoid that kind of interaction in our Board meetings and other public events. (We have not been perfect – and we will see what happens at the “steep slope” meeting in April!)

“We and they” referred to the need to recognize that Village Board members were not a “they”, but rather a “we” – all of us, in Glencoe, working towards a common goal of making our community the best it can possibly be. Our Trustees have shared that goal, and I hope that those residents who have come before the Board, for whatever reason, have understood our mutual commitment to our community.

I hope you share my judgment that these goals have in fact been met.

Now on to a more personal note. I have been asked many times over the past eight years whether I have enjoyed being Village President. The answer is a definite “yes”. And I recommend it – or something like it – to everyone.

Now, before you conclude that the job has actually had negative mental effects, let me explain. It is very gratifying to be able to make a real contribution to one’s community. Some people prefer to devote their attention to larger governments, and perhaps larger issues – but those require not only political skills, but also a desire, or at least a willingness, to do real politics. Glencoe’s system, as I said earlier, allows those of us who would prefer not to campaign, fund-raise, cater to interest groups and otherwise do all those things which we see our real politicians do (in Illinois, of course, that could include jail time...), to make our own contribution to the community. It is a real positive, and brings to office, in my (self-aggrandizing?) view, just the kind of individuals I would want to see running the town.

In addition to making a contribution, the level of government at which we work insures also that one can make a difference. This applies whether in elected office, or as a member of a board or commission.

I would not want to say that there are no downsides to this kind of public activity. There is plenty of mundane, boring detail that must be addressed. And, unfortunately, one can not help but come face-to-face with that most unpleasant characteristic of our general citizenry (Glencoe folks being especially articulate at it): our amazing ability to convince ourselves that what is in our personal best interest is also what is best for – and in fact required by – the whole community. The hardest, although also perhaps the most interesting, part of the job is finding a proper balance between individual rights and interests on the one hand, and the “public good” on the other.

I have found that the positives far outweigh the negatives, and that is why I recommend that everyone consider similar service opportunities. In a community such as Glencoe, it is truly important to have as broad a spectrum of contributors as possible. We could not have become the kind of town we are without the help of our citizenry.

And that brings me to the “thank you” portion of this message. First, to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to make the kind of contribution I have been talking about. More specifically, to thank the individuals who have through their own contributions helped make the past eight years a worthwhile effort:

--- the ten people who have served as Village Trustees during this time: Keki Bhote, Deborah Cogan, Bruce Cowans, Larry Debb, Andrew Hayek, Joe Keefe, Larry Levin, Mitch Melamed, Ellen Shubart and Joel Solomon. Their willingness to contribute their time and their wisdom – and to do so in a collegial and cooperative manner – has been invaluable.

--- the too-many-to-name-here Glencoe citizens who have answered the call to serve on our various Boards, Commissions and Task Forces. One of the best aspects of this job has been the opportunity to meet and work with these men and women.

--- our highly professional Village staff. We are most fortunate in Glencoe to enjoy the services of well-trained and dedicated individuals whose contributions help make Glencoe the fine community that it is.

--- and, of course, our very special Village Manager. Paul Harlow has served the Village of Glencoe since 1975 (he’s never worked anywhere else!), beginning as a public safety officer, rising through the ranks to Chief, and becoming Village Manager in 2000. Those years of service have given Paul a unique knowledge of our community, its history and its culture. That knowledge – and Paul’s total commitment to our Village – have been major factors in any successes which I can claim for my tenure as Village President. (As you may know, Paul has advised the Village Board that he will be retiring before the end of this year. Perhaps the most important task facing our next Village President and Village Board will be selecting his successor.)

Those of you who have been regular readers of this column know that I usually end with another “thank you” – for “listening”. I’ll do that one more time – especially so if you are still with me in this extra-long column – today and for the last eight years as well. I’ve also tried to do my best to listen to you. I hope I have succeeded. ☛

Scott Feldman
The Glencoe Golf Club is your neighborhood gathering place for golf. Join us to take advantage of the best conditioned golf course on the North Shore, right in your backyard. The Club offers competitive greens fees, professional golf lessons, junior golf camps and club fittings. We also serve a full menu in our restaurant. We hope to see you this season enjoying the golf facility, the Academy and our special events.

The Glencoe Golf Academy offers private lessons, clinics and packages taught by PGA instructors. The Academy utilizes the latest in teaching technology: V1 video swing analysis and the Flightscope 3D Doppler Golf Simulator. Whether you are a beginner, an experienced golfer or a competitive player, our PGA teaching staff can design a program to help you achieve your scoring goals. Make this your year to learn to golf or improve your handicap!

Summer Junior Golf Camps begin the week of June 11 and offer a variety of skill levels to fit your child’s ability. Half-day as well as full-day camps are available. The camp program, taught by PGA instructors, includes training time on the golf course to teach course management and etiquette. Each participant will receive 5 FREE rounds of golf for use during the season to practice their new skills. Sign up today to guarantee your preferred week of camp.

We are excited to announce Hel’s Kitchen Catering as our new restaurant concessionaire. Hel’s Kitchen specializes in event catering and will be offering not only golf fare but themed dinners throughout the season. Enjoy the company of friends and family at a themed dinner on our outdoor deck overlooking the golf course. The themed dinners will be “prix fixe” and will feature a different cuisine each month.

Seniors will enjoy savings at the Club all year by becoming a member of the Senior Membership Program. This $25 membership will allow senior golfers, 60 years young and up, to play at a discounted rate every day of the week with some restrictions. Membership cards are now available, so start saving with your first round of the season.

Please visit our website for more information on all of our green fee rates, lessons packages, summer camps and special events.

We hope to see everyone out at the course this season!

Village Achieves Favorable Results on 2012 General Obligation Bond Sale

In December, the Village held a successful bond sale to finance Village-wide improvements as approved by Glencoe voters in the November election. The low bid was 1.8653% in true interest cost. The par amount of the bonds was $8,550,000. The underwriter bid a re-offering premium resulting in a deposit of $8,769,358 into the project fund. A number of factors contributed to this very positive outcome. First, interest rates in the tax-exempt market are at near-historic lows. Second, the bonds are bank qualified, meaning the underwriter could have re-offered the bonds to local banks that would purchase them because this status allows a deduction of carrying costs and interest expenses. Third, Standard & Poor’s affirmed the Village’s AAA credit rating. This rating indicates to investors that the Village of Glencoe has a strong financial condition, management and local economy. For additional information, contact the Finance Department at 847-835-4113.

Expanded 1st Floor Business Uses

At its January meeting, the Village Board approved an ordinance amending the Village Zoning Code to expand the types of businesses allowed on first floor spaces in the Village’s business districts. This change was the result of a recommendation from the Village Zoning Commission following six months of study and public hearings. Permitted ground floor uses were expanded to include bicycle repairs, dance/music/art instruction, exercise, fitness and yoga training studios, pet grooming services and tutoring services for children. The amended list of allowable uses is intended to be responsive to current economic conditions and the public’s desire for retail services, while balancing the long-term impact on the Village’s business districts. Residents or businesses interested in additional information are urged to contact the Building and Zoning Division at 847-835-4111.

Chamber Report

In mid-May, all Glencoe residents and businesses will receive the Chamber Community Guide, filled with valuable contact information for all Chamber members, Village services and organizations. It’s a “one-stop shopping” reference guide. Speaking of shopping, our stores will be full of new merchandise for spring. Remember, the holidays come early this year, and Mother’s Day, of course, is in May. For family entertaining and gift-giving needs, be sure to patronize Glencoe's shops and support all our local businesses.

Looking ahead to even warmer weather, the Farmers Market and Sidewalk Sale will return in June. The Chamber Board is also working on some new ideas for the summer, so you’ll want to read the Chamber column in the Community Guide and our article in the next issue of this newsletter, see our ads in the Pioneer Press and check our website as plans develop. In other words, “stay tuned!”
Capital Projects Update

**Storm Water Drainage Improvements:** Two major storm sewer improvements are scheduled for the 2013 construction season. Engineering design and permitting are underway for the anticipated bidding of the Harbor/Linden and Greenwood/Oakdale Basin Improvements in early spring. Both of these projects will involve the installation of new larger capacity storm sewer pipe intended to relieve the frequency and severity of flooding in these two basin areas. Residents who will be directly impacted by construction activity will be notified in advance. Construction on both projects is expected to be completed by fall.

**Maintenance Street Resurfacing Project:** The Village will continue the Maintenance Street Resurfacing Program in 2013. This program includes the grinding and removal of the top 2-3 inches of asphalt, some patching repairs to the roadway base and resurfacing with new asphalt. Staff is currently reviewing and inspecting the Village's street inventory to finalize those streets to be addressed in 2013. The Village will again be participating in a joint-bid with other area communities to achieve more favorable unit pricing. The resurfacing work is tentatively scheduled for summer completion.

**Residential Sidewalk Replacement:** Funding was also included in the 2012 bond issuance for residential concrete sidewalk replacement. The Village will initiate inspection of existing sidewalk conditions in early spring and will contract for removal and replacement of deteriorated and damaged sidewalks through a joint-bid with other area communities. The budget for the 2013 program is $100,000. Residents can report potential sidewalk replacement locations to the Public Works Department.

For more detailed information and regular updates on these projects, residents are encouraged to visit the Village website or contact the Public Works Department at 847-835-4111.

Get Ready for Spring Clean-Up

The Village will again offer the one-day Spring Clean-Up service in early May to provide an opportunity to dispose of items that are not generally included with normal garbage collection service. The dates for this year's Spring Clean-Up are:

**Wednesday, May 1**
for Monday & Tuesday
Primary Garbage Collection Days

**Wednesday, May 8**
for Thursday & Friday
Primary Garbage Collection Days

Look for more information about this popular Village service and a list of permitted disposal materials on the Village website. For more information, please contact the Public Works Garage at 847-835-4134.

Spring Fire Hydrant Flushing

The Public Works Department will be conducting annual fire hydrant flushing program between April 22 and May 10. The purpose of this important maintenance program is to ensure fire hydrants are fully operational and to remove accumulated sediment from the water main system. Some discoloration of water may occur during fire hydrant flushing. If you experience discolored water while fire hydrant flushing is underway, run your faucets until the water runs clear. For more information, including a schedule by zone, visit the Village website or contact the Public Works Water Division at 847-835-4183.

**Village Vehicle Stickers Available**

**Purchase Your Stickers Before April 15**

In early March, pre-printed applications will be mailed to owners of vehicles registered in Glencoe. The form lists vehicles requiring a Village-issued vehicle sticker. Review the application carefully. If the form is incomplete or inaccurate, please make the necessary corrections before returning the form to the Village. If you do not receive an application, contact the Finance Department at 847-835-4113. Also note that there is a discount if your vehicle sticker is purchased prior to April 15. The Public Safety Department will begin license enforcement on May 1. Village Ordinance requires that vehicle licenses be displayed and properly affixed to the passenger-side windshield.

The 2013 vehicle sticker design was created by third-grader, Elizabeth Walther. She submitted the winning entry in the Human Relations Forum’s Vehicle Sticker Design Contest, where children in K-8th grade were asked to draw a Family Services of Glencoe logo celebrating the organization’s 100th anniversary.

License Your Pet

Animal tag renewal fees are due by April 15. Tags for new pets are available at Village Hall’s Resident Services window during normal business hours or at the Public Safety window 24-hours a day. Tags issued in 2010 are good for the life your the pet; therefore, new tags need not be issued. Proof of a current rabies vaccination must accompany the renewal fee. For more information, contact the Finance Department at 847-835-4113.

Visit the Village Website for More News

- Exciting News from the Glencoe Community Garden
- Tuesday, April 9 Consolidated Election Information
- Sewer Back-Up? Call Public Works Before the Plumber
- Sewer Maintenance: Do’s & Don’ts
Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It is bittersweet to me that these are the last 500 words I will be writing as the President of the Glencoe Park District’s Board of Park Commissioners, since my six-year term ends in May. Before I get into what’s been going on and how we’ve been spending your tax dollars, I want to thank you for your support. It has been a privilege to serve you. And, I want to thank the Park District staff. What our staff lacks in size, it makes up for in dedication. So many of our employees have been with us for decades and still give it their all every day. Glencoe is a lucky town to keep all this talent.

Speaking of employees, the biggest buzz in the Park District is the hiring of Lisa Sheppard as Executive Director. The Glencoe News headline read, “Glencoe Park District Snags Gurnee Star Superintendent of Recreation.” Truer words were never written. Lisa’s accomplishments are many – both as an individual and as a member of the Gurnee team. Lisa is full of energy, ideas, and enthusiasm. She is anxious to meet absolutely everyone in Glencoe – so she’ll be around town, as well as at our events and programs. Lisa also makes history as the first female executive director. We are lucky Lisa is on our team as we head into our 101st year!

The Park District is in the process of taking a huge leap forward in serving you better with the rolling out of new registration software. This software moves us out of the 1970’s and into an age where you can register for classes with ease, while allowing our staff to track successes and improve program quality. Rolling out the software has taken hundreds of hours of staff training.

And speaking of new ventures, the park district is busy building a new and improved Friends Park. We should be well into the process by the time you are reading this letter. While this project may seem overdue to some of you, I hope everyone will feel it was worth the wait when you see the finished product this summer. It’s definitely the most exciting project that I have worked on during my term. I am counting the days until I can sit and enjoy watching kids of all ages take full advantage of our new park. I hope you are, too.

Last, but not least, I want to remind you to register your kids for at least one of our many camps. Building on the major success of last year’s camps, Cheryl DeClerck, Director of Recreation, and her dedicated staff have managed to come up with more new and exciting things for your kids to do this summer – and added more flexible options for session lengths. Make sure to check it out online or in our camp brochure.

My kids and husband are pretty excited that I’m retiring. But just because I won’t have a formal role does not mean I am going to stop caring. As long as I live in Glencoe, I plan to do my best to help the GPD to keep improving. I hope you all will, too.

Max Retsky
President, Board of Park Commissioners
It is a great honor to be chosen as Glencoe Park District’s new Executive Director. I come to the park district with over 20 years of progressive experience in park and recreation management, but more importantly, I come with a passion for parks and recreation and the impact it can have in a community.

I am committed to working together with our staff in a friendly and professional manner to provide quality programs and beautiful parks. We will strive to continue to enhance the quality of life in the community. As we look ahead, we plan to utilize citizens’ advisory groups to develop and improve park and recreation services. Maintaining existing programs, parks, and services is increasingly challenging in this current economic market; however, maintaining a level of excellence is a priority that the community should expect.

We will be focusing on customer service in 2013 through training and improvements in technology. These components will help improve our customer’s experience when registering and participating in park district programs or using a facility or park.

I would like to thank the Board of Commissioners for giving me this opportunity to lead the Glencoe Park District and the staff for their support. As I step into this new role, I am open to new ideas and suggestions. My goal is to be active in the community and work with all of you to meet your recreational needs. If you have any ideas, suggestions or questions, please contact me at 847-835-7530 or lsheppard@glencoeparkdistrict.com.

Lisa Sheppard,
CPRP
Executive Director
Glencoe Park District

RecTrac Registration Software Goes Live March 18

We are getting closer to the launch of our new registration software system, called RecTrac, on March 18, 2013. At that time we are also launching the online registration portion of the system, called WebTrac.

In order to register for programs after March 18, you will need to create a household account in the new RecTrac system. You can do so before the system is live, and in fact, we encourage you to do so now so there is no disruption to your online registration come March 18.

TO CREATE YOUR HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNT ONLINE:
Click the WebTrac registration link on our homepage at www.glencoeparkdistrict.com. Follow the instructions listed on the registration home screen to create your account. You will be asked to create a user name and password, then enter your household information. Once submitted, Park District staff will verify accuracy of the data and activate your account. You will receive an e-mail notifying you of the activation. NOTE: The review process is not automatic and may take 1-3 days.

TO CREATE YOUR HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNT IN PERSON, BY MAIL OR BY FAX:
Complete a Household Information Form, which can be found at the Takiff Center or downloaded from our website. Submit the form by mail, fax, or in person at the Takiff Center, and registration staff will enter your information to create a household account, allowing you to register for future programs in person, online, or by mail/fax.

Please be aware of the following important details that will impact registration for camps (if you have not already registered), as well as registration for spring/summer programs:

• 2013 Summer Camp, 2013-2014 ELC and GJK School Year, Adventures in Learning, and Children’s Circle registrations will continue after the new software goes “live.” If you registered prior to March 18, you will not need to resubmit registrations for these programs, which you are already enrolled in. Park District staff will transfer these registrations into the new RecTrac system.

• When we officially transition to RecTrac on March 18, you will no longer have access to your old online registration account. In order to register for programs after the launch date, either in person or online using the District’s WebTrac, you MUST create a new household account.

Park District staff will make every effort to assist you and your family with the software transition, as we want to make it a smooth process for you. Please contact the main registration office at 847-835-3030 if you have any questions.

New Plans for Park District Greenhouses

Beginning this year, the Park District Greenhouses will no longer be open for plant sales to the public. They will now be used primarily for growing plants for the Park District, village wide organizations, and as an educational learning center. There will be periodic events scheduled that will provide information on plants and growing techniques. For further information, visit the www.glencoeparkdistrict.com or e-mail Rick Bold, Director of Parks, at rbold@glencoeparkdistrict.com.
Looking Ahead to Summer 2013

Summer Camps

Glencoe Park District staff is looking forward to another great season of summer camp! This year brings back many favorite activities, special events, and field trips, as well as some exciting improvements.

Action Quest (formerly Action Camp) is now open to those heading into Grade 9 and features new activities and trips. This camp is the perfect option for those who want to attend overnight camp for a portion of the summer or are registered for summer school, as campers have the option to attend only 4-weeks of camp.

This year Sun Fun (Grades 1-3), Camp Adventure (Grades 4-5), and Action Quest (Grades 6-9) are all offering 4-week and 2-week session options so families who have vacations or other plans scheduled can still take part in camp for a portion of the summer. The 2-week option will be offered at the beginning and end of the regular 8-week summer camp season. Session I takes place June 10 - June 21 and will open for registration on June 3. Session II takes place July 22 - August 2 and will open for registration on July 10.

We are now offering a catered lunch service from Piero’s Pizza for campers aged 3 and older. Piero’s offers food choices such as pizza, chicken tenders, sandwiches, and salads. Lunches are delivered directly to the camp location. Save time and money with this great pre-ordered lunch program.

Registration for camps is going on now! Find more information online at www.glencoeparkdistrict.com or call 847-835-3030.

Tennis

Whether you are an experienced tennis player or a beginner taking your first swings on the court, we have lessons to help improve your game! Sessions are offered for youth and adults in both the morning and afternoon on various days of the week. Private and semi-private lessons are also available to accommodate busy schedules. Our week long youth tennis camps are now under new instruction at a reduced fee. Give your child a shot at a new sport this summer!

Registration for spring and summer sessions of tennis begins mid-March with the delivery of the 2013 Spring/Summer Program Guide. For more information, contact Kraig Owens at 847-835-7559 or kowens@glencoeparkdistrict.com.

2013 Summer Concerts at Glencoe Beach

Don’t miss these summer events for the whole family! These quality performances are guaranteed to entertain so join us ready to lay out a blanket in the sand, enjoy a picnic dinner, kick back and relax!

Concerts are held Sunday evenings on the pier at Glencoe Beach from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Glencoe residents and guests receive FREE admission to the beach with proof of residency starting at 6:00 p.m. on concert dates. Guests must be accompanied by a resident to receive free admission. Non-Residents receive discounted admission to the beach of $4/child and $5/adult.

For rain information, please call the Special Events Hotline at 847-835-7970 after 5:00 p.m. on the day of the concert.

Sunday, June 16 – Mr. Myers

Mr. Myers blends the tropical sounds of calypso and ska, the rhythms of reggae, and a little rock-n-roll with some favorite classic tunes to create their own special style of music - Caribbean Rock. Mr. Myers’ unique combination of musical styles may be difficult to define and perhaps challenging to play, but it never fails to entertain audiences everywhere, young and old.

Sunday, July 14 – Midwest Dueling Pianos

The young, energetic entertainers from Midwest Dueling Pianos perform an all request, interactive musical comedy show with music ranging from the songs of today to as far back as memories can take you!

Sunday, August 4 – The Flat Cats

The Flat Cats play a range of vintage and modern music rooted in the hottest swinging jazz and blues, contemporary classics, and timeless standards. Whether you choose to listen, tap your foot, or cut a rug on the dance floor, you are sure to be entertained!
Friends Park Redevelopment Update

The Glencoe Park District has been working with the community over the past four months to develop what we know will be a great new park and playground at Friends Park.

The new concept for Friends Park includes:

- 50% soft rubberized play surface / 50% engineered wood fiber
- Large, 5-12 year-old playground structure with slides and play panels
- Boat-themed, 2-5 year-old playground structure with slides and climbing areas
- 9 swings – including 4 tot swings; 4 belt swings and one handicapped accessible swing
- Large, rope “mountain” climbing structure
- Two newer playground elements: a Super-Nova and a Rock n’ Cross (searchable on YouTube)
- Small sand play area with built-in digger feature
- Expanded playground footprint and sightlines
- Seating plaza with benches
- New water fountain with bottle filler station and pet-level bowl

The District is in the final steps of planning and is very excited to see the project come to life. Over the next two months the District will be soliciting competitive “bids” and select a contractor to perform the renovation and installation of the playground.

The Park District has received terrific feedback thus far through survey responses, emails, phone calls, and in-person ideas at recent meetings and events. If you would like to share additional comments, do not hesitate to Lisa Sheppard, Executive Director, at 847-835-7530. Please check our website to see project updates and pictures of the conceptual plan.

Takiff Center Lighting Rebate Received

The Park District is happy to announce we have received a rebate of $4,700 from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for the new energy-efficient Takiff Center gym lighting installed in December 2012. For more information, please contact Steve Nagle, Director of Operations, at 847-835-7540 or snagle@glencoeparkdistrict.com.
Our school district is fortunate in many respects. One of the most important is the excellent working relationship among teachers, our administrative team, and the Board of Education. This relationship fosters innovative and excellent teaching in our classrooms. That relationship, based on mutual respect and trust, was evident in the negotiation of the District’s new teacher contract. The Board went into the negotiations bearing in mind that it wanted to maintain the productive and positive working relationship it has enjoyed with the Glencoe Education Association for many years. The Board set as a goal negotiating a contract which supports our children’s education and is in keeping with the Board’s responsibility to be good stewards with our community’s tax dollars. We have achieved that result.

Even before the schools opened last fall, all of the participants in the contract negotiations (teachers, our administrative team and members of the Board, together with the GEA’s counsel and the Board’s counsel) engaged in two days of training in interest-based bargaining. Interest-based bargaining is founded on the concept that everyone in the negotiating process works together to creatively reach a “win-win” agreement; that is, an agreement that meets the needs of all constituencies to the maximum extent possible. In contrast, conventional bargaining requires each side to stake out its position on each issue and win as many points as it can (more of a “win-lose” philosophy). It is characteristic of the relationship of teachers and our administrative team, and the cohesive working environment in our schools, that interest-based bargaining was the process both the Board and the GEA chose to use to negotiate our new contract. That process, undertaken in good faith by all during many, many hours of negotiations, successfully resulted in the new contract with our teachers and teacher associates.

In contrast to the strife (and strikes) we have seen at other school districts in recent months (and the resulting short-term contracts in those districts), our District has a five-year agreement that preserves and fosters the strong working relationship among our teachers, administrators, and the Board. The five-year contract will allow our District’s next superintendent adequate time to acclimate before plunging into the next contract negotiation. (Unfortunately, Dr. Crawford has indicated she will retire at the end of her current contract in June 2015.)

The new five-year contract provides 4.5% annual increases for teacher salaries and 3.75% to 4.75% annual increases for teacher associate salaries. These increases are in keeping with the length of the contract and allow the District to remain competitive in attracting the top teachers and teacher associates, which the District and our community have come to expect, and the raises are affordable for the District. Our salary costs for teachers and teacher associates during the five-year agreement are projected. When future retirements are taken into account the average increase is approximately 2.94% per year over current salary costs for teachers and associates, due in part to the cost savings made possible by a retirement incentive program. The new contract, including the new salary schedule, is anticipated to keep the District’s operating budget within existing taxing authority without the need to seek a referendum from the community to pay our teachers and teacher associates. Included in the contract are provisions, which offer appropriate retirement incentives for those teachers who so choose, while generating overall savings to the District in future years. The contract was ratified by the teachers and teacher associates in January and by the Board of Education in February.

In this climate of collaboration and respect we continue our efforts to educate the children of our community.

Sincerely,
Gary Ruben
Board of Education Member

Enrollment Projections: Every two years the New Trier Township school districts cooperatively work with demographer, Dr. John Kasarda, to update enrollment projections. In December 2012, this updated information was received and reviewed with the District 35 Board of Education. Based upon housing turnover, family migration rates, and the birth rate within the Village, it is anticipated that enrollment in Glencoe School District will continue a slow decline and then stabilize in the 2019-2020 school year. These enrollment projections are utilized by the Board of Education in planning for the future.
Summer Explorations 2013

Enriching and exciting courses await Glencoe students participating in District 35’s Summer Explorations. The summer school program is available each morning from June 16th through July 3rd. The majority of classes will be hosted at West School. Online registration for District 35 Summer Explorations will begin on Wednesday, March 13, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. Beginning on March 6th parents may visit http://summerschool.glencoeschools.org for a preview of the Summer Explorations catalog. Registration will end on Monday, April 22, 2013 at 3:30 p.m. Some classes have limited space and early registration is encouraged. If you have questions, please contact Nan Weiss-Ham at 847-835-7699 or weisshan@glencoeschools.org.

Music in Our Schools Month

March is designated as Music In Our Schools Month. Nationally, schools are celebrating music education and the importance of music education for all children. In the Glencoe schools, we are celebrating the work of our students and music staff through performances for students, parents, and the Board of Education. The annual second grade music program will be held on March 1st and students from West and Central Schools will perform at the March 11th Board of Education meeting. On March 15th Central School students will perform for their fellow students in Misner Auditorium and on March 21st the Glencoe Central and Winnetka Washburn 7th and 8th grade bands and orchestras will perform in a joint concert in Winnetka.

Learning and Service for Others

Opportunities to connect learning and service for others are seen throughout the school district. On February 14th South School students participated in a service project for The Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly in Chicago. After learning about Meals on Wheels the students decorated tissue boxes to be delivered with the meals. This twenty-minute activity was coordinated with Kindness Connection and supported by the PTO.

Fifth and sixth grade students participated in a "Literacy for All" program on February 15th. This day of service and learning included activities which supported those working to improve their literacy skills. Students made flashcards for children in area Head Start programs, book bags for Bernie’s Book Bank, and pencil bags for students in Armenia. This program coincided with the all-District book drive to donate collected books to Bernie’s Book Bank, Sheridan School in Elgin, and Johnson College Prep High School in Chicago. Kindness Connection and the PTO supported this Central School program.

Students, families, and community members are invited to South School on March 19th for the annual WE CARE FOR OUR WORLD service program. This one hour of service will be held from 5:00-6:00 p.m. with numerous activity stations available for volunteers throughout South School.

District Identified with Highest Financial Rating

District 35 has received a score of 3.9 placing it in the highest possible financial strength rating, Financial Recognition.

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has a “School District Financial Profile” to help monitor the finances of school districts and identify those in or moving toward financial difficulty. The Profile includes indicators that are individually scored and weighted in order to arrive at a “Total Profile Score”. The indicators include:

- Fund balance-to-revenue ratio
- Expenditure to revenue
- Days of cash on hand
- Percent of short-term borrowing ability remaining
- Percent of long-term debt margin remaining

Each indicator is scored and calculated annually, and the results are given a score of 4, 3, 2, or 1, with 4 being the highest category possible. Indicators are weighted and the sum determines a district’s overall “Total Profile Score.” If a district receives a score of 3.54 to 4.0, it is placed in the highest category of financial strength, Financial Recognition.

Geo-Thermal Project

The Board of Education is addressing the replacement of multiple heating and cooling systems at Central School. Although our maintenance staff has done a remarkable job with the aging equipment throughout much of the building, it is time for systems to be replaced. The Board has authorized the installation of a new geothermal heating and cooling system that will operate far more efficiently than our current systems. The project will cost a bit more than a conventional system, but the projected energy and operations savings are anticipated to repay that extra cost within 4.5 years. The geothermal system will also provide educational opportunities about sustainability and energy consumption for our students.

The new system will involve drilling 108 small diameter holes deep into the playfield north of Central School to hold underground piping. This piping will supply the near constant-temperature liquid to a system of pumps and air handlers that run throughout the building. When the work in the playfield is completed, the field will be returned to its normal appearance. The system will allow for each classroom to independently and simultaneously call for heating or cooling, allowing far better temperature control throughout the building. It will also provide a far quieter air handling system for classrooms.

Congratulations to Retirees

Congratulations to the following Glencoe School District staff members who are retiring during the 2012-2013 school year: Janet Berkley, Learning Support Teacher at West School; Susan (Friedman) Tarantur, Special Education Teacher at Central School; Anneliese Wawrzyniak, Secretary at South School; and Carol Wolfe, 6th grade Teacher at Central School. We extend our heartfelt thanks for their service to the District 35 students and school community and best wishes in their retirements.

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Local Postal Patron
Glencoe, Illinois 60022

Village of Glencoe
www.villageofglencoe.org | 847-835-4111

March
05........ Historic Preservation............................................... 7:30 p.m.
18........ Golf Advisory Committee........................................... 7:00 p.m.
20........ Human Relations Forum............................................. 6:30 p.m.
21........ Finance Committee............................................... 6:30 p.m.
21........ Village Board....................................................... 7:00 p.m.
27........ Plan Commission.................................................... 7:30 p.m.

April
01........ Zoning Board of Appeals.......................................... 7:30 p.m.
02........ Historic Preservation.............................................. 7:30 p.m.
15........ Golf Advisory Committee.......................................... 7:00 p.m.
17........ Police Pension Fund................................................ 7:00 a.m.
17........ Human Relations Forum........................................... 6:30 p.m.
18........ Finance Committee............................................... 6:30 p.m.
18........ Village Board....................................................... 7:00 p.m.
24........ Plan Commission.................................................... 7:30 p.m.

May
06........ Zoning Board of Appeals.......................................... 7:30 p.m.
07........ Historic Preservation.............................................. 7:30 p.m.
15........ Human Relations Forum........................................... 6:30 p.m.
16........ Finance Committee............................................... 6:30 p.m.
16........ Village Board....................................................... 7:00 p.m.
20........ Golf Advisory Committee.......................................... 7:00 p.m.
22........ Plan Commission.................................................... 7:30 p.m.

Glencoe Park District
www.glencoeaparkdistrict.com | 847-835-3030

March
10........ Preschool Princess Ball............................................ 5:00 p.m.
17........ Family Fun Fest..................................................... 1:30 p.m.
19........ March Showdown.................................................. 6:00 p.m.
19........ Regular Park Board Meeting.................................... 7:30 p.m.
12........ Spring Egg Hunt.................................................... 10:30 a.m.

April
16........ Regular Park Board Meeting.................................... 7:30 p.m.
19........ Earth Day Clean-Up............................................... TBD
25........ N.T. Urban Dash..................................................... 4:00 p.m.

May
11........ Springtime Cookie Decorating Party............................ 10:00 a.m.
21........ Regular Park Board Meeting.................................... 7:30 p.m.
22........ Summer Camp Open House.................................... 6:30 p.m.

Did You Know...
..the Memorial Day Ox Roast was a tradition in the 1950's and 1960's? Pictured at right is resident Larry Sinclair turning the spit over an open fire at the annual celebration in 1967. The picnic was held in the area that today is known as Kalk Park. The park was named in honor of long-time Parks Superintendent, Henry Kalk.

Information and photo provided by the Glencoe Historical Society

Please note that the above dates and times are subject to change; Check the respective websites for the most current information.
Kick off summer fun in Glencoe
It’s Glencoe Grand Prix Weekend, and that means non-stop fun for the whole family

Thursday, May 30th
JDRF Family Fun Ride
The JDRF Family Fun Ride offers families the chance to ride their bikes together in downtown Glencoe along side the pros that will be racing Saturday! Registration opens at 6:00 pm and the course is open from 6:30 to 8:00. The pros will be in their racing kits and eager to ride along the kids and engage in conversation.

During the evening, there will be music, food, raffles and more. Participation is free!
Voluntary donations will benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Friday May 31st
Goose Island 3.12 Mile Fun Run
Not into racing a bicycle? Now you can support the GEF by running in the inaugural 3.12 Mile Fun Run sponsored by Goose Island Brewing Company and Running Right of Highland Park.

Plan to have your family cheer you on at the finish and join you for the community dinner afterwards. Or, even better, run it with the entire family!
No timing chips, but the finish will feature a cross-country style-corral with PRIZES AWARDED and finishing results to be recorded and posted on-line.
On-line sign-up will begin on April 1st via active.com.

Friday May 31st
GEF Community Dinner
Get ready to celebrate summer in the best town on the North Shore! Attend the first ever GEF Community Dinner. Dinner will be served on beautiful Wyman Green from 6pm to 9pm with all proceeds benefitting the GEF.

Come meet and mingle with the pros racing Saturday and be sure to bring your cameras!
Grab the family and join us on the green for live music, delicious dinner and conversation.

All specific information for events can be found at www.glencoegef.org
Saturday, June 1st
Glencoe Grand Prix

Hard to believe this year's edition is our 7th! Where does the time go? Join us again for exciting amateur and professional bike racing.

Brought to us again by our title sponsor and valued GEF partner, AT&T, this year's event is sure to be another great time.

As always, spectators can enjoy the kid's area, eat lunch, listen to great music and have the kids participate in the time honored noontime kid races!

After seven years, we've got this event down, so all you have to do is come out and enjoy!

All details regarding the GGP can be found at www.glencoegp.org.

Saturday, June 1st
Block Party

When the racing is done, it is time to break out the air guitars and get busy!

The after party begins at 8:00 pm in Village Court Parking lot. Listen to the 80's cover band 16 Candles!

Back by POPULAR DEMAND, 16 Candles will put the exclamation point on this great Glencoe weekend.

While rocking out, enjoy some food, the 312 Beer Garden and other libations sure to fuel your dance spirit!

Grab your Member's Only Jacket and ladies tease your wall of bangs with Aqua Net and head out to the best night Glencoe has to offer!

The Glencoe Educational Foundation invites you to participate in our kick off to summer fun weekend!

Presented in association with our title sponsor, AT&T, it is our big fundraiser and this year we think we have a little something for everyone.

So be sure to save this insert and plan to spend the opening summer weekend in Glencoe having fun while raising money for our schools in Glencoe as well as Holden Elementary School and Johnson College Prep in Chicago.

Want to volunteer, donate, sponsor an event, or just have a question?
Please email us at information@glencoegef.org