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Dear Friends,

The State's 2016 draft budget proposed that the State take 50% of local government's portion of the state income tax receipts (referred to as the Local Government Distributive Fund or "LGDF") to pay the State's bills, and suggests that that property taxes be frozen. The LGDF was provided to local governments when the Illinois income tax was adopted in 1970 in return for local surrender of other taxing powers. For Glencoe, both taking 50% on LGDF, about $415,000 annually, and freezing property taxes would materially affect our ability to provide critical services, including police and fire protection, snow removal, refuse collection, infrastructure, water, sewer, and utility services among countless others.

The Civic Federation, an independent, non-partisan research organization, after a detailed review of the State's 2016 proposed budget said it "opposes the proposal to reduce by half the LGDF because many local governments are facing severe financial pressures due to pension burdens and other liabilities. The fiscal soundness of local governments is of critical importance to the State. Illinois must not fix its own fiscal crisis at the cost of other governments' fiscal stability."

Long before the State's financial crisis made headlines, Glencoe modeled efficient government, committing to using the smallest number of tax dollars necessary, continuously restructuring operations to improve efficiency, all while maintaining the exemplary levels of services our residents expect.

While the cost of materials continued to inflate, in response to the recession, Glencoe limited our budget's growth on average to 1.4% per year, and reduced staffing levels by 6%. Through local shared services and similar cooperative initiatives with other municipalities, we saved our residents many thousands of dollars per year. Making pension obligations a priority; we funded above the state required levels to avoid the type of crisis the State now faces.

Through constant efforts, the Village's share of annual property taxes fell from 20% in 1994 to 14% in 2014. Glencoe is a non-Home Rule, mature residential community, with no industry and modest retail sales. Thus, close to 58% of our budget comes from property taxes and the LGDF.

Loss of 50% of the LGDF is equivalent to the cost of four public safety officers or six public works employees. It is the equivalent of a 5% property tax increase. The State justifies its drastic suggestion by arguing that:

"[T]he amount of money transferred to local governments over the last decade has skyrocketed by 42%.” The trick is that 42% includes all the billions spent by the State on targeted programs for the State's largest cities, like Chicago. These funds aren't shared with Glencoe. Even the LGDF is a progressive tax distribution skewed toward larger cities. Our residents, on a per capita basis, pay a disproportionate share of State income tax. Since the LGDF is allocated back on a per capita basis, cities like Chicago, receive back far more dollars than their residents pay.

The State argues Glencoe does not need the LGDF because we can pay for services from our "large" cash reserves. As you know from prior newsletters, we don't have "large" reserves; your Village Board believes you should not be taxed unless the money is needed to fund services.

With respect to freezing property taxes, this would cut off our most important source of funds and transfer the decision on what services you want from your local Village Board to the State. The State argues that property taxes are already too high. This ignores that 86% of Glencoe property taxes go to governments other than the Village. Moreover, a major portion of the 14% of a property tax bill that the Village receives pays for the 280 unfunded mandates imposed by the State.

Unfortunately, our fastest growing expenses are those over which we have little or no control: more than 280 State-imposed unfunded mandates, which sometimes require us to increase your taxes and fees to pay for these requirements. Let us take just one example. Our Public Safety personnel do a superb job and deserve excellent pensions. But in 2001, the State mandated an extraordinary compounded 3% annual increase in these benefits, while reducing years of service necessary to retire from 35 to 30. Glencoe's pension contribution in 2001 was $570,000 compared to over $1,500,000 now. Over 41% of that increase is due to the 2001 changes alone. Since 2001 the percentage of Glencoe property taxes needed to fund pensions increased from 7% to 11%, leaving fewer dollars for other costs of government.

If we are to retain the service levels we have now, they will need to be paid for in some way. The State's actions put our local services in jeopardy, and does so in a way that does not create a long-term solution to fix the State's financial mess – only a short-term one that hurts local governments like Glencoe.

Perhaps the State should adopt Glencoe's commitment to a balanced budget based upon using the smallest number of tax dollars necessary, while still providing some exemplary level of government services and restructuring operations to improve efficiency. As the Civic Federation said: "Illinois must not fix its own fiscal crisis at the cost of other governments' fiscal stability."

I am continuing to work closely with the Northwest Municipal Conference and our legislators to advise them of the impacts of the State's proposals on the Village. I am hopeful that they will work to protect these critical funds to assure Glencoe is able to continue to provide the services our residents expect.

Sincerely,

Larry Levin
Village President
Meet the New Village Trustees

Trent Cornell

Trent Cornell has been a Glencoe resident since 2004 and lives with his wife Kim, son Carter (11), daughter Kate (7) and the newest member of the family, Brooklyn, a griffon-chocolate lab mix. Trent is an attorney for the Chicago office of Lathrop & Gage where he heads the business litigation practice and enjoys trial work as well as guiding businesses through growth and strategic decisions. Prior to being elected to the Village Board, Trent served as a Park District commissioner as well as a member of the Village’s Zoning Board of Appeals and Street Ends Taskforce. Trent’s goals as a new Trustee include focusing on fiscally responsible and open governance while taking into account escalating taxes as an important aspect in major decision-making. Further, he would like to see Glencoe maintain its character while also enhancing the offerings and revenue base that could be derived from a more robust downtown.

Peter Mulvaney

Peter Mulvaney has worked for the last 20 years on integrating environmental best practices into the design, construction and operations of large-scale water infrastructure systems. He currently works for Skidmore, Owings and Merrill leading their global water strategies and has recently joined the Energy and Utilities Division of West Monroe Partners. Prior to this he worked as the Assistant Commissioner at the City of Chicago’s Department of Water Management where he developed and passed municipal ordinances in storm water management and water conservation. Peter moved to Glencoe three years ago with his wife Lisa and two sons, Jack (10) and Samuel (7). Peter’s goals as a new Trustee include maintaining the Village’s outstanding history of fiscal responsibility, integrating principles of sustainability at all levels, and engaging more residents in public processes.

Jonathan Vree

Jonathan Vree is an investment advisor and principal with Gofen and Glossberg, LLC and has been managing investment portfolios for families and foundations for the last 18 years. Jonathan and his wife Amy have lived in Glencoe for four years and have three sons, Mason (10), Carter (7) and Emmett (5). He has been involved in the community through coaching his children’s basketball and baseball teams as well as participating on the board of the Evanston Art Center and previously as board member and treasurer for the Open Studio Project. As a Trustee, Jonathan plans to help ensure that the Village Board of Trustees does everything it can to maintain open and fair decision-making process while continuing to oversee that Glencoe remains a great place to live.

Annual Water Quality Report

Each year the Village’s Water Utility is required to provide all customers with an Annual Water Quality Report to let consumers know how well the Village’s drinking water meets established state and federal drinking water standards. All water customers are encouraged to review this report as it provides important details about the source and quality of the drinking water delivered to you in 2014. The 2014 Water Quality Report is available online at www.villageofglencoe.org/assets/1/documents/2014_CCR.pdf. You can request a printed copy of the “Village of Glencoe 2014 Water Quality Report” by contacting the Water Plant at 847-835-4183 or by stopping at the Residents Services Counter in the Village Hall.

Water Plant Update

The Village continues to review the long-term future of its water treatment plant located on Lake Michigan. Despite a comprehensive maintenance program that has ensured Glencoe’s water is the highest quality, the 87-year old plant will require significant investment in the coming years. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), modern water filtration plants and pumping stations typically have a life expectancy of between 60-70 years.

As such, the Village has been reviewing several alternatives to address the aging water treatment system infrastructure. This review process has been underway for more than two years. In March, Village staff presented the results of an extensive study prepared by Strand Associates, an outside engineering firm with expertise in water supply and treatment systems. Strand reviewed various alternatives—from rehabilitating the existing plant to building a new facility near or on its current location or located elsewhere (inland) in the Village, as well as options for obtaining water from a neighboring community.

While there is still significant work to be done in evaluating the options, the Village has begun the process of engaging the public in discussion in order to gather input and feedback on the options being considered. Please make note of the following opportunities to learn more about these options and provide your input.

Community Forum on the Water System Study: An Open Exchange of Information and Ideas
Hosted by the Glencoe Community Relations Forum

Monday, June 8 | Glencoe Union Church, 263 Park Ave. | 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 27 | Glencoe Public Library, 320 Park Avenue | 10:00 a.m.

Residents are encouraged to access information about the project including the full study developed by Strand Associates on a dedicated web page: www.villageofglencoe.org/news/wtpinitiative.aspx This web page will be updated regularly as additional information is developed. In addition, inquiries and comments regarding this project can be directed to the Village through a special email at waterplant@villageofglencoe.org.

For More Village News
Like us on Facebook and Follow us on Twitter!
The Glencoe Golf Club is your neighborhood golf course. Join us to take advantage of the best conditioned golf course on the North Shore—right in your backyard. Competitive daily greens fees, junior golf camps, private golf lessons and clinics are available along with a full menu for you to enjoy in our restaurant. We encourage everyone to come out and take advantage of our first class golf facility minutes away from where you live.

Summer junior golf camps begin the week of June 9th and offer a variety of skill levels to fit your child’s playing ability. Half day camps take place Tuesday-Friday. All camps are taught by PGA instructors and include training time on the golf course to teach course management and etiquette. Each participant receives 5 FREE rounds of golf at the completion of camp. Sign up today to reserve your preferred week of camp.

Make this your year to learn to golf or improve your score. The Glencoe Golf Academy offers private lessons, clinics and lesson packages taught by PGA instructors. Our PGA staff will design a personalized lesson program to help you achieve your scoring goals by utilizing the latest in teaching technology. Clinic dates and rates for all of the Academy programs are available online.

Juniors pay their age to play any day of the week after 6:00pm with a paid adult. All junior golfers, 14 years old and under, are welcome to join our NEW Junior Tee Time Program. Sign up for free at the golf shop and use your membership card to track your rounds played to receive prizes. Unlock additional prizes with the more rounds you play:

- 1st round played: Glencoe Golf Club golf ball
- 5th round played: Junior Golf Tee Shirt
- 7th round played: Hot Dog and Fries
- 10th round played: Junior Golf Hat

A new competition this year will be the Summer Solstice Shootout on Friday, June 19th. The first 9 holes will be transformed into a challenging Par-3 course featuring closest to the pin contests, a beat the pro competition, and hole-in-one contest with a chance to win $20,000!

Please contact the golf shop or visit our website at www.glencoegolfclub.com for more information or to register for any of our programs.

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

Green Bay Road Maintenance Resurfacing Project

A contract for the maintenance resurfacing improvement on Green Bay Road in the Village of Glencoe has been awarded to Peter Baker & Sons of Lake Bluff. This $1.14 million improvement project includes the milling and resurfacing of 1.6 miles of Green Bay Road from Park Avenue to Lake Cook Road. The scope of work for this improvement will also include base patching, some spot curb replacement and the construction of a new landscaped median just north of Park Avenue. Peter Baker will mobilize to begin work on June 1 and all work is expected to be completed by July 31, weather permitting. Green Bay Road will remain open to traffic during construction; however, bicyclists are encouraged to monitor conditions and utilize alternate routes as posted. Go to the Village's website this summer for regular construction updates at: www.villageofglencoe.org.

Public Works & Public Safety Open House

The Departments of Public Works and Public Safety will be hosting their Annual Open House on Saturday, July 25 from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. on Village Court. Children and adults will have the opportunity to meet department staff, learn more about Village operations and climb into various pieces of equipment during this interactive event. Enjoy free refreshments and souvenirs, and be sure to bring your camera!
Fourth of July Blood Drive

On Saturday, July 4th, the Glencoe Department of Public Safety will host a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Glencoe Fire Station. The blood drive is sponsored by LifeSource. Throughout the summer, LifeSource will be holding community blood drives at local fire stations to honor first responders as part of its “Everyday Heroes” campaign.

LifeSource officials recognize that firefighters and emergency medical technicians (EMTs) are often on the front lines of emergency situations, which in turn, helps them understand the importance of successful blood drives. Their hope is that the public recognizes the need for blood donations as well, and will be more likely to donate when blood drives are hosted at local fire stations.

The Fourth-of-July weekend is perfect for fun with family and friends; it is also one of the busiest times of the year for vehicular accidents which can strain community blood supplies. This makes the timing of the blood drive ideal. Summer months are difficult on the local blood supply because frequent donors are often occupied with other activities.

The Glencoe Department of Public Safety has not hosted a blood drive in several years. Due to the great need, we hope that July 4th will be an excellent time to partner with LifeSource and support the medical needs of the community.

Appointments for the blood drive are preferred, but all walk-ins are always welcome. Donors can schedule an appointment by calling LifeSource at 877-543-3768, or by visiting www.lifesource.org; please use group code GC32. Thank you for your support of this great cause.

Chamber Corner

It’s finally here—summer and all the pleasures it brings. With good weather, we can enjoy outdoor activities, and the Chamber will be sponsoring the Sidewalk Sale on Friday, June 26 and Saturday, June 27 in the uptown business district from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. both days. Please come to browse and buy quality merchandise at bargain prices from our Glencoe merchants and visiting vendors. In August, on Saturday, the 1st and Sunday, the 2nd, the Glencoe Festival of Art will return to Park and Vernon Avenues; this juried art fair features paintings, sculpture, photography, textiles and jewelry. Please put those dates on your calendar.

Also this summer, the Chamber is again sponsoring a series of raffles, designed to provide summer fun to the lucky winners. First, we are raffling off an Electra Retro “Townie” bicycle; see it at North Shore Community Bank; that one is orange, but the winner will be able to choose their favorite color. Then, we will offer Weber’s Big Green Egg; it will be at the Grand Food Center starting in June. Tickets for each Raffle are 1 for $10 and 3 for $25.

Let’s go to Greece! The Glencoe Chamber is sponsoring a trip, along with several other North Shore Chambers. While the trip, which features 4 days in Athens and 4 days cruising the Greek Isles, isn’t until October, you can learn more about it now and sign-up over the summer. Please contact Sally Sprowl, Chamber Executive Director, at glencochamber@yahoo.com or 847-835-3333 for more information and to receive a trip brochure.

Finally, the Chamber wants to inform you of one event that will not be returning to Glencoe this summer, the Farmers Market. The Chamber Board has decided to take a hiatus this season to explore options for our Market, and we fully intend to resume in 2016 with a new and improved market for our community. See the back cover for more information.

Mutual Aid Spotlight

The Village of Glencoe belongs to numerous different mutual aid organizations that have been established to assist during emergencies. The three largest of these organizations that provide police, fire and EMS services are the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) and Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS).

MABAS, a state-wide mutual aid system, was established in the 1960s to provide assistance for fire, EMS and specialized incidents. During ongoing emergencies, MABAS alarms can be utilized by member communities to receive assistance essential to responding to these emergencies including personnel, vehicles and equipment. The Village belongs to MABAS Division 3 which includes eighteen North Shore departments with a total of 40 fire stations and over 950 firefighters.

ILEAS was formed in 2002 to provide mutual aid for emergency response and combines resources for public safety response across the state of Illinois. If a need for statewide mutual aid exists, resources can be sent from ILEAS communities in an effort to assist the community or communities in need. ILEAS resources can be activated for incidents such as natural disasters and criminal issues among others.

Another police mutual aid organization of which the Village is a part is NIPAS. NIPAS was formed in 1983 and provides two primary services: a mobile field force and an emergency service team. These two services are utilized when an incident goes beyond the scope of what the affected community can respond to. For example, an emergency service team can be mobilized to deal with high-risk situations such as hostage or dangerous activity incidents.

For more information on these three mutual aid organizations, please visit their websites:

http://www.mabas-il.org/Pages/default.aspx
https://www.ileas.org/
http://www.nipas.org/
Dear Neighbors:
The Park District has been working on a new Master Plan for over a year. During that time, the Board received feedback from the community in many different ways, including focus groups, emails, phone calls, and public comments at Board meetings. I'm pleased to announce the final product was approved by the Board of Commissioners at its April 21 meeting.

I have often felt that the Master Plan should really be called a Master Study because it is a study of each park, summary of what the community wants, and ideas based on national trends and standards. The consultants plug those wants/ideas into each park area where it could work, and include all possible options for each specific park/area. It is a study of what could be, not what will be, which is completely different than a set of designs created for a park. That is why we call this a strategy moving forward. We are not committing to all ideas detailed in the Action Plan, but instead will explore all options and will look to the community for input prior to implementing any project.

In May, new Commissioners Lisa Brooks and Dudley Onderdonk were sworn into the Board. Both Commissioners bring a great deal of experience and excitement to the Board; I'm proud to welcome them to the Glencoe Park District. At the same time, we would like to thank our outgoing commissioners Hilary Lee and Bob Kimble for their service to the Glencoe Park District. Hilary has served on the Park Board for twenty years; she served as Board President twice and oversaw Takiff Center improvements and numerous park and facility projects over the years. Bob also served as President during his six years on the Board. He actively supported park projects during his tenure. Both Bob and Hilary will be missed.

Similarly, this month the Park District bids farewell to longtime Parks Director Rick Bold. For over thirty-seven years, Rick and his team have worked to ensure our parks and open space are beautifully maintained. We wish him well as he moves to his lake home in Wisconsin.

As the weather warms up, I encourage you to explore our beautiful parks, trails, and beach. We have a great line-up of summer programs and special events for you to share with your family, so remember to go out and play!

Sincerely,
Lisa Sheppard
CPRP
Executive Director

FROM THE PARK BENCH

Chris Leiner Hired as Director of Parks & Maintenance

Third Person in History to Hold Position at Glencoe Park District

The Glencoe Park District is pleased to welcome Chris Leiner as the new Director of Parks and Maintenance. Twenty-seven candidates applied for the position, which has only been held by two people in Glencoe Park District’s 103 year history. Rick Bold, the previous Director of Parks and Maintenance, retired following a 37 year career at the Glencoe Park District.

"With our Master Plan completed, Chris is joining the Park District at an exciting time. As a forward-thinking leader, Chris will bring a fresh perspective and enthusiasm to the Park District. I am confident Chris will quickly take the lead on many of our current and upcoming Master Plan projects," said Lisa Sheppard, Executive Director.

Chris brings effective oversight of capital project management, landscape/forestry, horticulture, mechanical maintenance, building services, and special projects/construction to the Glencoe Park District team. Chris comes to Glencoe from the Des Plaines Park District, where he served as the Assistant Superintendent of Parks and Planning. At Des Plaines, Chris was responsible for overseeing the daily park operations of 23 full-time staff members and 60 part-time staff members. He supervised projects at 52 park sites, including golf courses, playgrounds, community lodges, and athletic fields. Chris previously had progressive management positions at the Park District of Oak Park. He has a bachelor's degree in Business Management from the University of Phoenix and is a Certified Playground Inspector.
Meet Lisa Brooks

My family and I were fortunate to move to Glencoe over 20 years ago from West Rogers Park; prior to that we lived in Boston. This is by far the cleanest, easiest place I have ever lived. With so much within walking or biking distance - the lake, parks, a functional town, a fantastic library, and the train - it's easy to see why this is a sought after place to be. There are other communities along the lake that are similar, but I believe Glencoe distinguishes itself by being just a bit cooler (and I don't mean the temperature). I like to think the kids are polite, the adults think of others, the faith communities have some diversity and work together, and we are generous enough to welcome everyone to our beach. As suburbs go, Glencoe is a progressive, happy place.

While raising our three children here, my husband Danny coached AYSO soccer, Park District baseball and basketball. Our kids participated in, and worked for, Park District camps and classes. Our youngest is now off to college and we have the time to visit the beach year-round. We are constantly reminded what a truly amazing asset it is for our village. I often wonder how to encourage more of our residents to take advantage of the beach, at least to walk, canoe or kayak, even if swimming isn't their thing. I am a supporter of recreation and spending time outdoors.

Professionally, my work has been in publishing and product design. I became involved in the Park District by first participating in the Glencoe Beach and Lakefront Advisory Group. Joining the Park Board is a serious responsibility and I hope to bring balance and practicality to my role. There is a need for more resources for adults, for instance, I would like to see programs such as spin classes at Takiff. I also think everything the Park District engages in must be considered in terms of its environmental impact. Luckily, we have a new Master Plan that gives us direction as to what the community says it wants. Instead of watching from the sidelines, sometimes wondering why certain decisions are made and money is spent, I have the chance to influence the process and guide the Park District over the next four years.

Meet Dudley Onderdonk

Glencoe is a great place to live. It is truly one of America's special communities and I would like to help keep it that way.

I have a forty-year career in local government as an urban planner and public administrator. Now in semi-retirement, I have the time to use my knowledge and experience to give back to the community. I am passionate about the quality of life in Glencoe, which is already high and can reach even higher levels.

The Park District recently completed a major planning update and I am excited to make the plan a reality. As a citizen, I've participated in Park District Planning Advisory Committee meetings and served on the Glencoe Beach and Lakefront Advisory Committee but I know will be able to make a greater contribution as a Park Commissioner.

I am especially interested in encouraging sustainability by protecting our unique natural resources, promoting a healthy life style and improving park and recreation services to the community. The District can improve public decision making by providing a clear values based vision based on data, performance and community preferences. By thinking strategically, we can do a good job on our priority projects.

I want to make sure that our natural and cultural resources that make Glencoe special are carefully managed. I was born and raised on Chautauqua Lake, one of the Finger Lakes in SW New York State. I understand the importance of lake access, water quality, recreation, and civic engagement in protecting Lake Michigan. I served on the Glencoe Caucus, the Glencoe Sustainability Working Group, and as the Glencoe Municipal Adjudicator.

My professional background in Planning & Community Development includes working as a city planner/administrator in Park Forest, Gurnee and Oak Park in Illinois; Scottsdale, AZ and Rancho Palos Verdes, CA. I have a B.A. from Ohio Wesleyan, M.A. from Ohio State with post-graduate studies at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and Oxford University in England.

On the personal side, I am married with two grown children and six very active grandchildren. As twelve year residents of Glencoe, we especially enjoy Friends Park, the Green Bay Trail and the Glencoe Beach. My hobbies include bicycling, kayaking, travel and reading. My wife, Ann, graduated from New Trier and was raised in Winnetka.

Glencoe Beach

Right in your own backyard is Lake Michigan’s most beautiful spot on the North Shore, Glencoe Beach. The beach is ideal for group and family outings, work picnics, or summer camp groups!

2015 Beach Season Hours

PRESEASON
May 23-25 & May 30-31: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

REGULAR SEASON
June 5 - August 2: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

POSTSEASON
August 3-23, August 29-30, September 5-7: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Takiff Center and Green Bay Road Construction

Due to planned construction on Green Bay Road this summer, the Glencoe Park District is pro-actively seeking solutions to alleviate traffic jams outside the Takiff Center. At peak hours, users exiting the Takiff Center will only be allowed to make right turns. Parents of preschool and Kinder Korner campers will use the Early Childhood entrance, but left turns will not be allowed when exiting the Takiff Center. Turning restrictions will be in effect from 7-9 am and 3-6 pm on weekdays, June 1-July 30.

In order to further alleviate traffic issues, Glencoe Park District is moving the location of summer camp drop off and pick up for campers in Sun Fun and Camp Adventure to Park 6N, at the corner of Old Green Bay Road and Maple Hill Road. Campers will meet under a tent at Park 6N and will walk in groups to their camp location. In the event of severe weather, drop-off and pick-up will take place at the Takiff Center.

The Park District encourages camp families to enter Old Green Bay from the south in order to drop off kids on the east side of the street, and turn east on Maple Hill Road in order to avoid Green Bay Road at pick-up/drop-off. For more information about the construction on Green Bay Road, please visit the Village of Glencoe's website.

Central Park Task Force

Glencoe Park District is set to receive up to $1 million as a gift from Andrew Berlin in honor of his father, Melvin Berlin. The donation will be used to renovate ball fields and amenities at Central Park, which will be re-named Berlin Park in honor of Melvin Berlin. A long-time resident of the Glencoe community and former member of the Glencoe Park District Board of Commissioners (1973-1976), Melvin is strong pillar in the Glencoe community and a big baseball fan.

“The new park will be a great tribute to my father. The field represents his love of the Park District, the Glencoe community, and the great game of baseball,” said Andrew Berlin.

Central Park was pinpointed in the Master Plan as a renovation project to take place within the next one to three years.

A Task Force comprised of Central Park neighbors, Glencoe community members, Glencoe Baseball Association representatives, Glencoe Youth Services representatives, the donor (or designee) and staff members from District 35, the Village of Glencoe, and Glencoe Park District will meet to discuss field/park options and work on a conceptual design with landscape architects from Hitchcock Design. In pursuant with the Open Meetings Act, the Task Force meetings are open to the public and will allow time for public comment at the end of the meeting.

In addition to the Task Force, there will also be opportunities for the general public to give input on the plans as the Park District moves through the design process. A public input session will be held on July 16 at 7 p.m. at the Takiff Center to discuss design options.

Arch-KID-tecture

On Friday afternoons, the kids in Room 232 are talking about Frank Lloyd Wright. The kids are part of the Park District’s After-School Adventures program, and are spending the hours after school ends designing, painting and learning about the architectural legend. Artist Rino Liberatore is leading the discussion, along with friends from the Glencoe Historical Society, as part of the public art project sponsored by the Glencoe Historical Society to commemorate one hundred years of Frank Lloyd Wright in Glencoe.

For four weeks, the kids hop off the bus and begin working on the Park District’s Frank Lloyd Wright marker. The completed marker includes a mosaic of Froebel blocks, bright colors painted on the fiberglass sculpture, and a collage of children's house drawings.

The end result, titled arch-KID-tecture, will be on display in Glencoe throughout the summer.

Pets at the Glencoe Beach and Parks

Per Village Ordinance, pets are not allowed on Glencoe Beach May 15 through September 15.

Pet owners are encouraged to be courteous to others in the parks by abiding by the Village ordinance that requires pets to be leashed and owners to remove and properly dispose of pet excrement. Pets must not be left unattended.

Your cooperation in being a good neighbor allows everyone to enjoy our parks and beach.
Master Plan Approved

On April 21, the Board of Commissioners approved its Master Plan. The end result is a comprehensive Master Plan which identifies the highest needs in the Glencoe Park District and prioritizes action items consistent with the agency’s Mission, Vision, and Values.

"On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, and all those who have participated, we congratulate the Glencoe Park District community for embracing this journey with us," said President Hilary Lee. "We trust the community will benefit from its implementation."

The Glencoe Park District Comprehensive Master Plan documents a ten-year strategy to chronologically enhance the parks and facilities that make up the Park District's core business model. The plan builds on the existing park and facility network and skilled human resources by refining and focusing near-term capital improvements and service enhancements that respond to the needs of the community. Several key strategies were developed during the planning process, including implementing critical facility upgrades and additions at Takiff Community Center and the Park and Maintenance facilities; activating undeveloped and unprogrammed open spaces throughout the District; establishing a capital replacement plan and protocol to effectively maintain existing sites; seeking grant funding; improving connections to the Green Bay Trail; increasing walking, biking, and fitness opportunities throughout park sites; and providing features within parks and along trails that respond to Glencoe's active, aging demographic.

“We invite you to delve into the details of the plan to see first-hand how the outlined strategies blend the analysis of parks and facilities with the community's current and future needs, and the order in which the Glencoe Park District intends to undertake them. This plan is a strategy moving forward. We are not committing to all ideas detailed in the Action Plan, but instead will explore all options and look to the community prior to committing to implement any project,” said Lisa Sheppard, Executive Director.

To read the Master Plan, please visit http://www.glencoeparkdistrict.com/MasterPlan1.

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4th of July in Glencoe!

Throughout the day, the Park District will host patriotic games, music performances, and activities for all ages! Visit www.glencoeparkdistrict.com for more July 4th activities, including:

8:00 a.m. | 2-Mile Rotary Fun Run at the Glencoe Train Station
10:00 a.m. | Art Fair on the Village Green
10-11:30 a.m | Preschool & Family Games at Kalk Park
12-2:00 p.m. | Glencoe’s Got Talent at Kalk Park
2:00 p.m. | 4th of July Parade in Downtown Glencoe
6-9:00 p.m. | Music Entertainment Shout Out at Lakefront Park
9:00 p.m. | Fireworks Show Viewing at Lakefront Park

Fireworks at Lakefront Park

Please note, the Glencoe Beach will be closed on July 4th in order to safely shoot the fireworks off from the sand. Season tokens will be honored at Elder Lane Beach and Maple Street Beach in Winnetka on July 4.

Street Closures and Parking Restrictions
Hazel, Park, and Longwood Avenues will be closed on July 4. Parking will not be allowed on Hazel, Park, and Longwood from 10:00 p.m. on July 3 through 6:00 a.m. on July 5.

Trolley Service
A trolley will shuttle residents from the Glencoe Train Station parking lots to Lakefront Park beginning at 6:00 p.m. on July 4.

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MOVIES ON THE GREEN

Movies Start at Dusk
In case of inclement weather, movies will be shown in the Council Chambers of Village Hall at 8 PM.

June 6
BIG HERO 5

July 3
THE ROXTROLLS

August 7
PADDINGTON

Glencoe Public Library
Glencoe Chamber of Commerce
South School Ice Skating

Each January South School students enjoy a four-week ice skating unit. One day per week the classes walk to Watts Ice Skating rink for their physical education class. This Park District facility is adjacent to South School and provides an opportunity for some students to practice their skills and others a first-time experience on the ice. Physical Education teachers Cletus Short and Hilary Lee lead the classes with support from South School staff and parent volunteers. This unit will begin on January 15th and continue each Wednesday and Thursday through February 6th.

And in the blink of an eye 20 years have flown by. If we are fortunate there will be a time in our lives when we are afforded the opportunity to hold that one job or position that is unsurpassable. It was my good fortune to find such a lifetime occurrence in District 35. It has been a true pleasure and honor for me to work with the students, staff, and parents of our school community. During the past two decades no two school years have been the same, yet the support of the community, strength of the staff, and enthusiastic, genuine nature of our students have not wavered.

During this time it has also been my privilege to work with 27 Board of Education members. My sincere thanks to each one for their uncounted hours devoted to continually improving the District 35 schools and ensuring children are the recipients of a quality education. Collectively and individually these Board members have developed and maintained a climate of cooperation, integrity, and decorum. Their example has set the tone and provided a model for how our staff, students, and administrators interact with one another.

As District 35 transitions into a new era, it is with enthusiasm that we look to the future for it does indeed look bright. It is my good fortune to pass the baton to Dr. Catherine Wang. Catherine possesses the necessary strength, wisdom, and knowledge to lead this future journey. Under her leadership our school district will grow, develop, and remain a destination for families seeking unsurpassed educational opportunities for their children.

Additionally, I have been blessed to work with a strong administrative team, dedicated teaching staff, and committed support staff. I am most appreciative of their commitment and passion to advance the growth of District 35.

Thank you seems woefully inadequate to express my gratitude for all you have taught me during these 20 years. Please know I am most appreciative for the opportunities you afforded me to spend time with your families, witness your children’s growth, and be a part of a school community that is truly second to none.

Sincerely,

Cathlene Crawford

Congratulations to Retiring Staff Members!

Congratulations to District 35 staff members retiring at the close of the 2014-2015 school year. Deborah Bailey, 7th and 8th grade math teacher at Central School, has been a District 35 staff member for 26 years; Jill Moss has served as the West School Nurse for 22 years; Robin Fischer, 3rd grade teacher and academic support teacher at West School, has served in our District for 23 years; Deborah Silver has taught in District 35 for 22 years most recently serving as the reading specialist at West School; and Susan Hand, 3rd grade teacher and differentiation specialist at West School, has served in our District for 21 years.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to these individuals for their service to the District 35 students and school community and best wishes in their retirements.
Summer Explorations

The 2015 Summer Explorations program will be held at West and South Schools. The West School classes begin Wednesday, June 8th and continue through Friday, July 3rd. Due to renovations of the South School main entrance, the South School programs will begin on Monday, June 15th continuing though Friday, July 3rd. Community members are asked to be mindful of the student foot and bicycle traffic on these dates and during these hours. Glencoe Public Safety will assist with student dismissal at West School.

Move-In Days for a New School Year

Planning is already underway for the start of a new school year. The annual Move-In Day for District 35 students is scheduled for Monday, August 24th. Move-In Day provides students an opportunity to visit the school building, deliver supplies, and locate their new classroom and locker.

**Move-In Day Schedules**
- Central School: Monday, August 24th | 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.
- South School: Monday, August 24th | 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- West School: Monday, August 24th | 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 25th is the first day of student attendance (full day) in grades 1-8. The first day for kindergarten children is Monday, August 31st.

Welcome Mr. Sherman

Mr. Michael Sherman has joined the Board of Education beginning a four-year term of office. Mr. Sherman received his Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from the University of Florida and his Master of Art's degree in business administration from the University of Pennsylvania-The Wharton School. He is a Unit Procurement Leader/CPO at Kraft Foods Group. Mr. Sherman and his family have resided in Glencoe for three years.

Thank You Mrs. Shaw!

The Board of Education thanks Mrs. Nancy Shaw for her six years of service to the community and our school district. During her time on the Board Nancy served as both President and Vice-President and acted as a liaison to community organizations and representative for various committees. We thank Nancy for her uncounted hours of service and commitment to our school district.

Board of Education Members

On May 4, 2015 newly elected Board of Education members were seated. Mr. Gary Ruben and Mrs. Jean Hahn were reelected for four-year terms and Mr. Michael Sherman joined the Board for a four-year term.

The Board of Education also elected officers for the coming school year. Mr. Gary Ruben will continue to serve as the President of the Board and Dr. Marc Glucksman will continue to serve as the Vice-President for the 2015-2016 school year.

Director of Curriculum and Instruction Appointed

The Board of Education has approved the appointment of Christine Zelaya as the new Director of Curriculum & Instruction. Mrs. Zelaya began her career in the Chicago Public Schools as a 5th and 6th grade teacher (2000-2005) and Technology Coordinator (2005-2007). She then moved to Community Consolidate School District 59 in Arlington Heights as an Assistant Principal (2007-2010) and School District U46 as Principal of Sycamore Trails (2010-present). Mrs. Zelaya is completing her Doctorate in Educational Leadership from National-Louis University. Mrs. Zelaya joins us with strong experiences in the areas of technology, curriculum, and instruction. She is known for high quality work with adults while also maintaining the critical focus on the children. We look forward to her leadership as we support teachers to engage in meaningful professional development across our schools.

Mrs. Zelaya will officially assume her new duties in District 35 on July 1st when the Current Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Catherine Wang, becomes the Superintendent of Schools.

Board of Education Sets Future Meeting Dates

The Board of Education recently set meeting dates for the 2015-2016 school year. Board meetings are held in Young Auditorium at Central School and begin at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are open to the public and the agenda provides opportunities for public comments. Additional information such as agendas and approved minutes may be found via the school district web site: www.glencoeschools.org.

**2015-16 Meeting Dates**
- Monday, June 1, 2015
- Monday, July 13, 2015
- Monday, August 31, 2015
- Monday, October 5, 2015
- Monday, November 2, 2015
- Monday, December 7, 2015
- Monday January 4, 2016
- Monday, February 1, 2016
- Monday, March 7, 2016
- Monday, April 4, 2016
- Monday, May 2, 2016

Arbor Day Planting

The Village of Glencoe recognizes Arbor Day annually by planting a tree at a District 35 school. This year a Beijing Gold Tree Lilac was planted in front of Central School. Dr. Mollet and Central School students and staff thank Mr. John Houde, Building and Zoning Administrator for the Village of Glencoe, Mr. David Mau, Director of Public Works, and Mr. Phil Kiraly, Village Manager, for their time and efforts to make this event possible for our school community.
Staff Recognition

During the 2014-2015 school year the following staff members attained significant milestones in their District 35 careers. The following individuals celebrated their twentieth year of service to the school district: Marilyn Lobo, office support at West School and Jim Thelen, District maintenance staff member. South School Nurse, Fay Kovar celebrated her twenty-fifth year of service to District 35 and Kris Grant, 8th grade social studies teacher at Central School, celebrated 30 years of service. We congratulate each of these individuals and thank them for their continued contributions to our school district.

8th Grade Graduation

New Immunization Requirement for 6th and 12th Grade Students

Full Day Kindergarten Study

District 35 Receives Highest Financial Rating

On Tuesday, June 2nd, District 35 will honor the graduating class of 2015. The Commencement Ceremony will begin at 7:00 p.m. in Misner Auditorium. Following the graduation ceremony a reception will be held for family and friends from 8:00-8:25 p.m. The annual 8th grade student party will follow the reception and conclude by 10:25 p.m.

Our thanks to PTO Graduation Committee co-chairs, Amy St. Eve, Tamara Dempsey, and Debbie Schreier, and the parent volunteers who plan, prepare and chaperone the student party. Appreciation is also extended to Dr. Mollet, Mr. Kim, and the 8th grade advisors for their assistance and support.

Last Day of the School Year

The final day of the 2014-2015 school year for Kindergarten through 7th grades is Thursday, June 4th. Each district school will be participating in Field Day events and ending with an early dismissal:

- South School: 2:00 p.m.
- West School: 2:15 p.m.
- Central School: 2:25 p.m.

District 35 Receives Highest Financial Rating

In the 2015 Financial Profile Designation released by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), District 35 received a score of 3.9. This score places our school district in the highest possible financial strength rating, Financial Recognition.

The “School District Financial Profile” monitors the finances of Illinois school districts and identifies 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.

New immunization requirements for 6th and 12th grade students will begin in August 2015. The Illinois Department of Public Health has notified all public school districts regarding these new immunization requirements. All 6th grade students will be required to show proof of one dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MVC) received on or after 11 years of age. All 12th grade students will need to show proof of receiving two doses of MVC unless the first dose was administered after 16 years of age. The meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MVC) protects students against a severe form of bacterial meningitis, as well as other diseases caused by this bacteria.

Additional information regarding this new immunization requirement can be found at www.isbe.net/pdf/school_health/idph-menin-imm-parent-ltr-sy16.pdf or www.dph.illinois.gov.

New Full Day Kindergarten Study

District 35 has established a Kindergarten review team to gather information on state/local trends and national research on the topic of full-day Kindergarten. With the adoption of the Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards, our academic priorities have shifted as we consider learning progressions for our Kindergarten students. Additionally, we place a high value on the explicit learning which is required to support the social and emotional development of our children. We face the growing challenge of addressing all areas of development within our half-day Kindergarten program at South School. Our team will continue to review all information related to space, staffing and instructional routines as we pursue the opportunity for full-day Kindergarten at South School. We anticipate recommending a final decision for the 2016-2017 school year by December 2015.

Student Registration

It’s not too late to register for Kindergarten. If you missed the registration days held in February please contact South School for next steps. Families new to the Glencoe School District who wish to register their students should contact the school their child will be attending to obtain registration materials.

South School-Jen Schuer at 847-835-6411
West School-Nancy Boggs at 847-835-6611
Central School-Dawn Kaminiski at 847-835-7613

Residency Information

Parents of school age children who have either moved to a new home or have a lease that is expiring prior to the start of the 2015-2016 school year are asked to reestablish residency. Please contact the child’s school of attendance to provide updated residency information. This information is required for the school district to verify enrollment and complete class assignments for the coming school year.
Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Earlier this spring, we gave our best wishes to Suzy Cowen as she accepted a new position. Although we will miss her leadership and compassion, we are confident that Family Service of Glencoe (FSG) will continue to provide high quality service as the Search Committee conducts the process to hire our next executive director. FSG is steadfast and strong as we enter this season of transition.

As I reflect on my own tenure on the board of directors, one question has surfaced regularly that I would like to thoughtfully address here. In a small village like ours, news travels quickly because we are curious by nature and we often inquire because we genuinely care. Family Service of Glencoe takes the issue of confidentiality very seriously—it is a top priority as our clinical team prevents and treats emotional and psychological problems. The social work profession demands discretion. In addition to following the current HIPAA laws, we believe that it is both ethical and important to positive treatment that everything shared in a counseling session remains confidential. Through this understanding between client and therapist, trust is developed. Confidentiality encourages honesty and respect—the necessary ingredients for progress.

Our experienced clinical team is honored and humbled to walk alongside individuals and families in places of vulnerability. FSG has two office locations in multiple-use buildings to further protect the privacy of our clients. While no one should feel ashamed or afraid to ask for help, we want to remove any barriers that prevent people from seeking services. Individuals have the right to share or not share as they are comfortable.

Rest assured, client information is not discussed outside of the clinical team unless permission is received from the client. FSG’s board members (including myself as president) do not know the names or details of those served by the agency.

FSG has experts in anxiety, depression, grief, family and life transitions, substance abuse, eating disorders and addiction. We advocate diligently on behalf of Glencoe residents so that our village continues to be a great place to live and work. If we can support you or a loved one, please contact our office.

At the heart of our community,

Marilyn Perlman, Ph.D.
President, Board of Directors
Family Service of Glencoe
info@familyserviceofglencoe.org
847-835-5111
The Faces of FSG: Chuck Hutchcraft, LCSW

When did you know you wanted to be a therapist?
I worked in newspapers for over 30 years; the Tribune, Suburban Trib, and Pioneer Press, covering regional, business and environmental issues. At the same time, I became active as a volunteer with the Quaker group, American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). In 2001, a month after 9/11, the AFSC sent me to Colombia and Ecuador to look into the impact the war on drugs was having on people there. That was really a life-changing event. In the meantime, another determining factor in my career move, was that I started practicing Zen. I was ordained as a Zen priest in 2005. In that process, my teacher at the time got me interested in the psychological roots of Buddhism. I had long since determined that newspapers weren’t for me anymore. I did a lot of searching as to what I wanted to do, and decided to get my Masters in Social Work at Loyola. And it led to this.

How many years have you been practicing as a social worker?
I got my degree in 2008. I started working with the Lake County Health Department as I was getting my degree, on the Juvenile Justice Mental Health Initiative, working with youth who had been incarcerated. After I finished my degree, I worked in Peoria for a couple years at an agency, and have been in practice ever since.

Tell me about what you do at FSG?
I see children, adolescents and adults. My frame of perspective is attachment. There is a lot of research in this area, and so I pay a lot of attention to attachment histories when I work with folks, no matter what the age. I am trained in Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing (EMDR) and Sand Play therapies, which are very effective trauma-based therapies. Otherwise, my bent is psychodynamic. My therapy process is client-directed, which is basically being with the client, where the client is, and working right there in the moment.

Do you use meditation in your practice?
I offer to teach meditation to all my clients. The meditation stems from the Buddhist tradition, stemming back to before Buddhism was Buddhism. I say that because the meditation and insights it offers are basic to the human condition. The meditation practice helps us become attuned to our emotional and mental patterns. As this attunement develops we can begin to free ourselves from old patterns that no longer work for us. I think this is basic to therapy.

What is your favorite part about working at FSG?
FSG is more than just a resource for therapy. It works in a multi-faceted way, for the overall emotional/mental health of the community. Our partnerships with schools and other community organizations are pretty amazing. I’m finding it to be a warm, nurturing staff, and I’m so pleased to be a part of it.

What’s the best piece of advice you’ve ever received?
Not to assume anything about anybody.
Chuck teaches an ongoing drop-in meditation class on Friday mornings (9-10 a.m.) at the Takiff Center. Please join us as your schedule allows.

Seasonal Mindfulness
By FSG Therapist Joan Merlo, LCSW
joan@familyserviceofglencoe.org

Nature and its majestic seasons can be a powerful mirror of some of the dynamic cycles of struggle, growth and transformation in our lives. Take the time to notice, be mindful, and let it speak to us.

More than any other season, spring evokes a sense of movement and change. The word itself literally means to leap forward. With cycles of melting and freezing (and rain and mud), followed by new sprouts of life emerging, spring can inspire us to work on making needed changes in our inner and outer worlds.

By slowing down and more consciously noticing and breathing in spring’s fresh air, and the many seasonal sights and sounds of renewal, we are practicing a kind of mindfulness—immersing ourselves in the present, and taking some time to simply “be.”

Purposeful, quiet moments in nature and allowing our senses to be carefully attentive, develops our capacity to “tune in” to the richness of the “here and now.” This skill of trained or regulated focus in the present moment is at the heart of mindfulness. It is a practice which can calm us, guide us, and give us energy to become more keenly attuned and deeply insightful as we connect to our surroundings, ourselves, and our relationships to others.

Consider dedicating special time to take a reflective nature walk or simply pause intentionally as you do your spring cleaning. Open your windows and enjoy the warmer air, the longer brighter days, and you may suddenly notice the first blossoms coming into view …

Ask yourself a few centering questions—What new is growing in you and in your loved ones? And how can you best de-clutter, simplify, and make time and space to nurture what you feel is most important in the growing season ahead?

Connections for a Happier and Healthier You
Connection to others is a basic human need. Relationships give purpose and meaning to our lives. Being social and authentic encourages close relationships. Over the years, studies repeatedly show that social connection can boost your immune system and increase overall physical and mental health. FSG’s 2014 needs assessment survey revealed that 30% of Glencoe respondents feel they lack an adequate social support network.

To build a social support network, experts advise seeking out enjoyable activities rather than turning to social media like Facebook and Instagram. When we engage in pursuits that make us feel fulfilled, we naturally forge relationships with others who are likeminded. Glencoe affords many opportunities for social interaction.

Our small town offers book groups, social clubs, sporting events, architectural tours, gardening clubs, lectures, cooking classes, movie discussions, and a litany of other pursuits. You can find information by contacting these organizations:

- Glencoe Public Library: www.glencoepubliclibrary.org
- Glencoe Social Club: www.glencoesocialclub.com
- Glencoe Park District: www.glencooparkdistrict.com
- Glencoe Historical Society: www.glencoehistory.org
- Chicago Botanic Garden: www.chicagobotanic.org

How can we reach out to others? It doesn’t take much. Call an elderly neighbor to ask about her grandkids who live in another state. Stop to chat with a neighbor who is in his yard when you are outside playing with your kids. Say hello to the person you always pass on the street when you are out walking your dogs. When you look people in the eye and smile, you are telling them, “I see you. You matter.”

Connections keep us healthy and happy. Through social interactions we grow as individuals and develop a supportive social network to help us in life’s challenges.

This spring and summer, we encourage you to seek out your passions and share them – and yourself – with others.
Preparing Your Child for Sleep-Away Camp

Going away to overnight camp is a rite of passage for many kids. And while many children eagerly look forward to this time away from home each summer, other kids may find it to be emotionally overwhelming.

Making new friends and fitting in socially, being homesick and coping away from the support of Mom and Dad are typical concerns. Reassuring your child that their apprehensive thoughts are normal is a great place to start.

For kids who are planning on attending sleep-away camp for the first time there are some things you can do ahead of time to help prepare them to ensure they have a fun and enjoyable experience their first time away. The following are tips from FSG therapist, Kathy Livingston, LCSW:

Begin with practice sleepovers. Choose a relative, family friend or your child's best friend's house to help your child adapt to being away from home at night. Many kids have never had to share a bedroom before and at camp will have to share a cabin with several other children. Consider planning a slumber party to expose them to how group living may feel.

Review the camp's brochure or website. Or even better yet, visit the camp itself. Fear of the unknown is terrifying for many first-time campers. Let them see what the camp looks like and where important things like the dining hall, bathrooms and bunks are all located. The more familiar your camper is with the setting and schedule the more he will know what to expect.

What if I start to miss Mom and Dad? Make sure your child knows whom she can talk to if she's feeling blue or homesick. Counselors are on hand to help kids with these normal feelings and many camps have a social worker on staff.

Get them involved in the packing. Work off the list provided by the camp and make sure that clothes have been worn and washed and are comfortable. If your child is attached to a sentimental item, such as a stuffed animal or blanket, make sure that clothes have been worn and washed and are comfortable. If your child is attached to a sentimental item, such as a stuffed animal or blanket, make sure that clothes have been worn and washed and are comfortable. If your child is attached to a sentimental item, such as a stuffed animal or blanket, make sure that clothes have been worn and washed and are comfortable.

Teach your child how to handle clothes and toiletries. Explain what to do with dirty laundry. Show them how to carry their toiletries to the bathroom in a basket. Keep toiletries and belongings simple and easy to use.

Meet other kids before camp. If you know other kids in your area that are going to the camp, have a get together prior to camp. If you don't know anyone ask the camp if there are kids going from neighboring communities and call them to meet them before camp starts. Having at least one familiar face in a sea of strangers can be incredibly comforting.

Connect through letters and care packages. Write a letter ahead of time so there is a letter waiting for them when they arrive at camp. And always respond to their letters and send care packages in a timely manner, so that your child is never left waiting while children around them receive letters and packages. When packing, be sure to include stamps, stationery and envelopes for your child to use to keep in touch. And if email is an option, use it! Each camp will have its own communication guidelines and protocol.

Stay positive. Despite feeling your own anxiety over the separation never discuss how much your child will be missed back home. Children take direction from their parents' confidence, so you don't want them to feel that you are anxious, too. Keep your conversations positive and express enthusiasm and confidence in your child and excitement for them to experience a new environment and make new friends. Share your own experiences from camp if relevant.

While anxious now, your camper will likely be singing a different song and dance after their summer camp experience and come home with a new sense of independence.

Looking for more advice on helping your new camper adjust and feel at ease about their upcoming summer adventure? Kathy is happy to offer additional help and guidance. For more information, contact Kathy at kathy@familyserviceofglencoe.org or by calling 847-835-5111.

Playground Politics

You and your preschooler are enjoying a beautiful summer day at the park or the beach. She sees some friends from school and excitedly runs over to join them. As they play, you observe another child snatch a swing out of your daughter's hands. Your child is told she can't play with the group.

Is this bullying?

A spate of recent articles tells us that bullying is happening at younger and younger ages. In fact, there’s even a new term for it: relational aggression. Social scientists define relational aggression as physical or psychological acts that are intentionally harmful, usually involving an imbalance of power. Two boys fighting over a swing who end up in a tug-of-war? That’s most likely healthy conflict that happens in parks and preschools everywhere. Young children are impulsive and active. Fights over playground equipment are typical behaviors, and kids learn how to problem solve, take turns and compromise through these types of everyday conflicts. When the intent is to exclude, humiliate or harm a child, it is defined as bullying.

Isn't bullying an “older” kid problem? Not necessarily. Psychologists and researchers are noticing that children as young as age three can be involved in bullying behaviors. How can young children learn this kind of behavior? Experts believe a number of factors are responsible. Television programs are rich in rude behavior and disrespectful language. Making fun of others passes for entertainment in some shows. Another factor, experts say, is that young children often imitate behaviors they’ve observed. If children see parents, siblings or friends acting as bullies, they might try it out for themselves.

What can parents do to support and protect their kids? Observe your child when he plays at the park or beach. Find out what is happening – is the conflict simply two kids that want the same toy at the same time? Or is one child trying to exclude or harm another? Give your child some tools to use when told she can't play. Using words to say, “I don't like that” or “stop it” can sometimes be enough. Ignoring the bully can also be effective. Telling an adult should always be an option for young children.

What are some signs that your child might be the victim of bullying? Some children don't want to go to school or activities that they’ve previously enjoyed. Other kids complain about stomach aches or headaches prior to school or a playdate that may be stressful. Some children become more withdrawn, or will verbalize that someone is bothering them.

Parents should also consider if their child's behavior is bullying. Does your child have little empathy for other children's feelings? Is she aggressive toward children and adults most of the time? Does he want to in control all the time or feel that he's always right? Remember, all young children demonstrate these traits given certain situations. If your son or daughter seems locked in to this kind of behavior and you feel it is a pattern, or if you’re getting feedback from teachers and other parents, it could be time to reach out to a professional.

FSG offers Parent Consultations to help you evaluate behavior and address your concerns. For more information, contact kathy@familyserviceofglencoe.org.
Glencoe Farmers Market TuneUp

For many years the Chamber of Commerce has coordinated a market in the downtown business district as an opportunity for residents to purchase fresh produce, flowers, and other items directly from area farmers. The market has operated on Saturday mornings from June to October in various locations, most recently on Village Court between Village Hall and Grand Foods. Historically, an outside market manager has been contracted with to oversee operations and to recruit and sustain weekly vendors.

This year there will not be a Farmers Market in Glencoe. The Chamber of Commerce Board, in consult with Village staff, recognizes that the current model for the Farmers Market needs a “TuneUp” due to low turnout of both vendors and residents. It is for these reasons that a Chamber of Commerce subcommittee has been formed to study the situation in order to improve the market for next year.

As part of this process we want to hear from you! Please visit the Glencoe TuneUp website or mobile app www.glencoetuneup.com to participate in the Farmers Market poll and share your comments. This feedback will help to shape the Farmers Market in 2016.

It is recognized that the Farmers Market is an asset to the Village not just for purchasing locally grown fruits and vegetables, but also as an opportunity for residents to come together weekly. This interaction reinforces the small town character that makes Glencoe unique. Thank you for your patience this year and we look forward to providing you with a new experience in 2016!