



# COMMUNICATOR

Publication Designed & Edited By: Joseph Klotz

## New Village Hall On The Horizon

Residents of Hodgkins must now go to the old Carlson Plywood building in order to purchase their stamps and pick up their Village Stickers - at least temporarily.

That's because the Village Hall has moved to that location during construction of the new Village Administration Building.

That's right, the Village Hall, currently located at 8990 Lyons Street, is slated to be demolished. In its place, a newer facility, better able to meet the needs of a growing Hodgkins will be constructed.

"We are starting to outgrow our building," said Village President Noel B. Cummings.

The current Administration Building was constructed in 1965 at a cost of about \$75,000.00. It housed the village offices, a postal sub-station and, until 2001, the Hodgkins



Artist's Rendering of Possible Design

Police Department.

The design phase is just beginning, so only a few details about what the new Administration Building will look like are available. It is estimated,

however, that the new facility will be ready to open by mid-2009.

In the meantime, Village residents will have to take care of their village business at what used to be the Carlson Plywood building, 8890 67th Street. This property, purchased by the Village a few years ago, also serves as headquarters for Hodgkins Public Works Department.

The Village Hall closed April 16th - 18th in order

to make the big move, reopening for business in their temporary location on Monday, April 21st.

You can contact the Village Hall Office at:

579-6700



## VILLAGE STICKERS VEHICLES AND PETS

Village stickers will be available on May 1, 2008. The new stickers are valid for a two year period beginning in June 2008 through May 31, 2010.

Many residents have come in the receive their new stickers starting back in December and have been advised they can get their new ones in May.

All residents are required to have a valid Village sticker displayed on their vehicles. Beginning July 1, 2008 anyone who does not have a sticker displayed will be issued a warning ticket.



*Remember, the Village Hall has been open for business at it's temporary location since April 21st.* You may receive your sticker at the Village Hall's temporary location, 8890 67th Street. You must present the clerks with a valid registration card for the vehicle.

Also, if you have a pet, don't forget to update your pet's license. Pet license's are available at the Village Hall and cost \$2.00. The fine for an unlicensed pet is \$25.00, so don't delay. For further information, please contact the Village Hall at (708) 579-6700.

## SPRINGTIME IS HERE HELP CLEAN UP PARKWAY DEBRIS

The Village offers a wonderful FREE service of picking up debris that residents discard. It has been requested in the past that if a resident has a large home project that may required the use of the Village truck that you make that request to the Village Hall. The board at this time would like to request that if you have debris that needs to be picked up on the weekend, that you not discard this until Sunday night.

Many time residents discard garbage on the parkway on Friday and Saturday and it has to wait until Monday morning to be picked up. Please



Public Works Foreman Dennis Folkerts picks up bags of lawn clippings off the parkway

refrain from discarding these items on the parkway until late Sunday night. This will leave the parkways clean and clear for the weekend.

A call to the Village Hall on Monday morning will also assist in making sure that these items are picked up. Contact 579-6700 to let the girls in the office no that you have items on your parkway.

Also, please remember to bag your lawn and grass clippings in recyclable paper lawn bags. We will not pick

up lawn clippings in plastic bags, due to landfill regulations and the problems that plastic causes in the compost process.

HODGKINS VILLAGE  
OFFICIALS

CONTACT ANY OF THESE  
OFFICIALS BY TELEPHONE AT:

HODGKINS VILLAGE HALL 579-6700

Village President  
Noel B. Cummings

Village Clerk  
Claude Sexton

Trustee  
Tom Christopher

Trustee  
Don Cuttill

Trustee  
Ernest Millsap

Trustee  
Vicky Moxley

Trustee  
Larry Rice

Trustee  
Paul Struve

Village Comptroller  
Melody Salerno

Deputy Clerk  
Sharon Wells

Village Attorney  
John T. O'Connell

Village Prosecutor  
Pat Rogers

# MESSAGE FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT



VILLAGE OF HODGKINS PRESIDENT  
NOEL B. CUMMINGS

Everyone who lives in Illinois knows that there are only two seasons. The winter season is over and we are finally entering the next season, the Construction Season!

All across Illinois, especially in our area, the unmistakable signs of "construction season" have manifested themselves. The frequency with which orange cones, pothole patching crews, detours and lane closures have manifested themselves is undeniable, and the Village of Hodgkins is no exception.

In Hodgkins, we look forward to the construction of the new Toyota Dealership at the corner of 67th Street and LaGrange Road. Consequently, in preparation for this new project, it will be necessary to close Burma Road. The opening of the new road will allow our residents to safely access 67th street without the need to dodge muddy potholes. More information on this project is on Page 11.

We have received many compliments from our residents for the great job the our Public Works personnel did in keeping our streets clear and free of snow and ice during this past long winter. They worked very hard and long hours this winter to help keep our roads safe and drivable.

As the weather turns nice we hope our citizens can enjoy all of the positive attractions of our Village. The shopping mall, Park District and Library are great assets for our village. Many of our residents enjoy daily walks around town, so greet them with a smile and a wave and help keep our community friendly.

The Village wishes to thank each and every one of our residents for their patience and understanding during the construction at 67th street and the start of the new Village Hall in the upcoming year. Have a safe and great summer.

Village President,

*Noel B. Cummings*



# CAUTION ALERT NOTICE

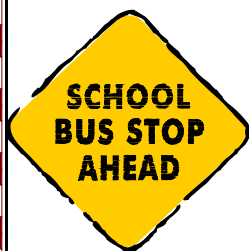


SCHOOL IS STILL IN SESSION!  
PLEASE WATCH FOR CHILDREN

AS THE NICE WEATHER ARRIVES PLEASE WATCH FOR CHILDREN OUT PLAYING

- PLEASE BE CAUTIOUS AND OBSERVANT AS YOU DRIVE IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS
- LOOK FOR CHILDREN IN THE AREA
- WATCH FOR SCHOOL BUS TRAFFIC
- PAY ATTENTION TO CROSSING GUARDS
- PLEASE OBEY THE SCHOOL SPEED ZONES

WE APPRECIATE YOUR HELP IN KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE.



## PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY



### EXCESSIVE GRASS AND WEEDS

The spring time rains will soon have many of us cutting our lawns twice a week. The beautiful green lawn is getting plenty of water and, with that, growing like crazy. In between the thunderstorms we will find ourselves in that familiar situation - trying to get another cut in before the next storm arrives.



can be found in violation of this ordinance and sighted. The village ordinance reads, in part:

“It shall be unlawful for any owner, lessee or occupant, or any agent, servant, representative or employee of such owner, lessee or occupant having control of any lot or part of a lot, to... within two hundred feet of any building occupied as a residence, allow or maintain

Some residents though are lacking in attempting to keep their lawns and the areas surrounding their homes and businesses neat. The Village does have an ordinance against grass and weeds left to grow to tall or becoming unsightly. Any resident or business

on any such lot or part thereof any growth of weeds to a height over ten inches...”

Any residents with questions about this ordinance should please contact the Village Hall.

# DOG COMPLAINTS WILL PROMPT ACTION



Every year we receive numerous complaints from residents who are concerned about dangerous and vicious dogs in the community. As you are aware the Village has discussed different options on how to deal with the issue of these dogs, and dogs that might intimidate our residents.

The Village board strives to protect our residents against possible dog attacks, while at the same time protecting the rights of law abiding dog owners in our community.

We have directed the Police Department to aggressively investigate reports of "Dangerous Dogs" and incidents involving intimidation to anyone on a public street or sidewalk.

As a dog owner, you are responsible for the actions of your pet. It is your responsibility to make sure that your pet cannot scare or intimidate a citizen walking on the sidewalk or in the street.

Pet owners are reminded to make sure their pet has a current

**REMEMBER:**  
As a dog owner, you are responsible for the actions of your pet.

Village License. This includes Dogs, Cats or other animal. See below for the ordinance requiring all pets to be licensed. In the past our police department have not enforced this ordinance. We have instructed our

Officers to enforce and investigate any violations of this ordinance.

You should be aware that your pet can scare or intimidate a law abiding resident who is simply walking down the sidewalk. Even if your yard is fenced in, a dog can give the appearance that it is dangerous by the mere action of barking and running toward a person or child. If you have a problem with your pet, it is your responsibility to



make sure that the animal cannot get close enough to justify "reasonable fear", as defined in the ordinance.

We remind all pet owners that it does not matter how big your pet is, it is still your responsibility to ensure that your pet cannot threaten or harm the general public.

**VILLAGE OF HODGKINS ORDINANCE: 5-3-1  
ANIMAL CONTROL**  
**DANGEROUS DOG OR OTHER ANIMAL**  
**A dog or other animal which shall cause annoyance or reasonable fear of bodily injury to any person by attacking or threatening to attack such person.**

## **PET LICENSE REQUIRED FOR ALL PETS**

**ORDINANCE: 5-3-2A** - License Required, Fee: Every owner of a dog or other animal within the limits of the Village shall report to the Village Collector annually within thirty (30) days after January 1 in each year, his or her name and address, and the name, breed, color and sex of each and every dog owned or kept by such person, and obtain a license for such dog. Such person shall pay the Village Collector the sum provided for in Section 3-1A-1 of this Municipal code for each dog. (1979 Municipal Code S18.33)

## POSTAGE STAMP INCREASE TAKES EFFECT MAY 12, 2008

On May 12, 2008 the United States Postal Service will adjust prices for mailing services – First-Class Mail, Standard Mail, Periodicals, Package Services, and Special Services. The average increase by class of mail is at or below the rate of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

A First-Class Mail stamp will be 42¢. Customers can continue to use the Forever Stamps that they have purchased prior to May 12 at 41¢, even after



Mail letters, such as square greeting cards.

the price change. The Postal Service estimates that they will have 5 billion Forever Stamps in stock to meet increased demand before the price change. Forever Stamps are widely available through Post Offices, Contract Postal Units, consignment locations, Automated Postage Centers, vending, and at The Postal Store.

There will also be a 62¢ stamp available shortly after May 12 for 1-ounce nonmachinable First-Class

## WEST NILE VIRUS STILL AROUND?

The West Nile Virus is a mosquito-borne disease that can cause encephalitis, and inflammation of the brain. The virus was detected during the late summer of 1999 in New York City. In early 2001, West Nile Virus became a reality in the Chicago area.

Due to its transmission cycle with migratory bird and mosquitoes the virus has rapidly spread across 27 states including Illinois. The virus was not detected in Illinois until late summer of 2001.

### How can residents help reduce the number of mosquitoes in our Community?

1. Eliminate standing water where mosquitoes breed.
2. Inspect and change the landscape of your property to eliminate any standing water (remember that in warm weather mosquitoes can breed in any puddle of water).
3. Empty standing water from boats, trailers, toys, wheelbarrows, and flowerpots (turn them over when not in use).

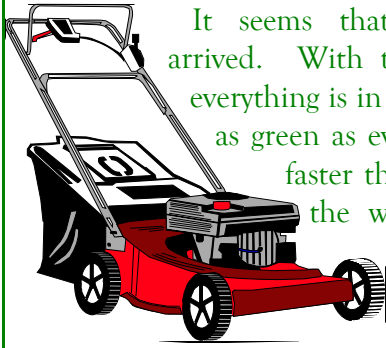
### How Can You Protect Yourself From Being Bitten By A Mosquito?

1. Inspect all windows and door screens, making sure they are but tight.
  2. Try to stay indoors at the times when mosquitoes are most prevalent; (Morning, Dusk and Early Evening)
  3. When outdoors, cover up with long pants, and a long sleeved shirt
  4. Use insect repellents, repellent deters mosquitoes from biting when applied properly to exposed skin and clothing.
- For more information about protecting yourself against mosquitoes, you can log onto the internet at; [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) or you can write to :

COOK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
1010 Lake Street, Suite 300  
Oak Park, IL 60301  
Phone (708) 492-2035

*This article submitted by Public Relations Chairman:  
Trustee Don Cuttill*

## Springtime Means... Green Beginnings



It seems that Spring has finally arrived. With the long awaited rain everything is in bloom and the grass is as green as ever. It also is growing faster this time of year due to the weather conditions we have been having. We've seen just the right amount of sun and rain to make the chore of mowing the lawn a weekly if not sometimes, twice a week event.

Remember that there are Village Ordinance's that require all residents to keep their yards in order. Failure to keep the lawn cut and weeds and debris under control could cost you a citation. Our homes, yards and surroundings are a reflection on the community as a whole. Please be sure to keep your lawn looking good by keeping it cut.

Public works would like everyone to remember too, that all debris such as grass clippings, leaves and small tree limbs are to be placed in a PAPER bag and placed on the parkway. They **can not** and **will not** accept any lawn debris in plastic garbage bags. Please help out by using the correct bags. Remember also, that large clean up projects can be assisted by the use of the Village Truck. You must contact the Village Hall to make these arraignments.

## RESPECT 'OLD GLORY'



Do you know the basic American Flag etiquette? There are certain standards that should be followed in reference to the handling and displaying of the American Flag.

An American flag hanging from your residence should fly from a staff that angles out from the front wall.

When the Flag is displayed horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be at top and to your left.

When displaying the flag with other flags it will be to the right of a single flag and in the center of a group of flags and slightly higher.

Never let the flag touch the ground, floor, water or anything else beneath it. It should always be flown free and proudly.

When your flag has become worn and tattered from flying in the breeze, it should be destroyed properly and respectfully. Residents of Hodgkins can turn their flags into the Hodgkins Police Department. The flag will then be disposed of properly at a ceremony offered by the American Legion Post #1941.

Please remember, the American Flag is a symbol of our freedom. It should be treated with honor and flown with pride. They should not be discarded as normal garbage.

## PUBLIC WORKS PERSONNEL APPRECIATED

Dear Mayor Cummings  
Board of Trustees:

I have had many residents and also people from outside of the Village to speak with me in reference to the way our streets have been cared for this year with the snow, etc. Everyone has been amazed that our streets are so clean and nice to travel on and keep talking about other towns they have to travel

through and how bad their streets are.

My response to this has been we have some very caring special public workers and I would like to say, "thank you", to all for a job well done from myself and the others that have spoke with me in reference to this.

Thankful Resident, *Shirley R. Drenning*

## VILLAGE OF HODGKINS

# EMERGENCY SERVICES & DISASTER AGENCY



ESDA COORDINATOR  
ALLAN MILLS

Spring has arrived, with summer not far behind. Along with the nice warm spring weather comes thunderstorms and even tornadoes. Severe weather can strike with little or no warning. Be alert to changing weather conditions.

Residents are encouraged to seek shelter during *Tornado Warnings*. A shelter can be your basement, a neighbors basement, an interior room with no windows or a designated building within our community.

### TORNADO WATCH

This is issued by the National Weather Service when conditions are favorable for the development of tornadoes in and close to the watch area. Their size can vary depending on the weather situation. They are usually issued for a duration of 4 to 8 hours. They are normally issued well in advance of the actual occurrence of severe weather. During the watch, people should review tornado safety rules and be prepared to move to a place of safety if threatening weather approaches.

### TORNADO WARNING

This is issued when a tornado is indicated by the WSR-88D radar or sighted by spotters. People in the affected area should seek safe shelter immediately. Warning can be issued without a Tornado Watch being already in effect. They are usually issued for a duration of around 30 minutes.

The only designated Tornado Shelter for the Village of Hodgkins is the Hodgkins Park District building located at 8997 Lyons Street. The facility has a partial basement in the main gymnasium area that is used as a shelter. Park District employees will open the facility during non-business hours in the

event of a Tornado Warning.

When reporting to the Park District you should inform the staff that you are there to seek shelter from the storm. Please keep in mind, there are rules that need to be followed while at the Park District.

The Pleasantview Fire Protection District monitors weather conditions for our area. However, the tornado warning sirens are activated by the Cook County Emergency Management Agency.

When you hear the Tornado warning siren it is important to remain calm and proceed to a safe place. If you choose to leave your residence, the designated shelter for our Village is the Park District building.

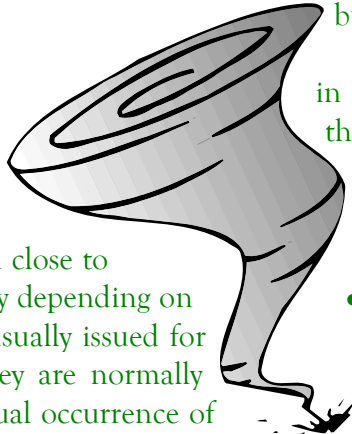
The staff of that building will ask that you stay in the designated area until they are sure every thing is Ok and the severe weather warning has expired.

### WHAT TO DO DURING A STORM:

- Listen to NOAA Weather Radio or to commercial radio or television newscasts for the latest information.
- Look for approaching storms.
- Look for the following danger signs:
  - **Dark, often greenish sky**
  - **Large hail**
  - **A large, dark, low-lying cloud (particularly if rotating)**
  - **Loud roar, similar to a freight train**

If you see an approaching storm with any of these danger signs, be prepared to take shelter immediately. Hodgkins Emergency Services personnel receive the same notification that you, the resident, receives when it comes to severe weather.

When the sirens are heard, ESDA personnel will proceed to the Park District and assist the Park District employees in preparing for any number of residents who may be seeking shelter there. Please keep in mind, our emergency personnel will not have time to report to the shelter, go out and pick up residents, and get back to the shelter before





# TORNADO FACTS:

There are a variety of severe weather hazards that affect Cook County, including lightning, damaging winds, large hail, flash floods and tornadoes.

Tornadoes pose the greatest severe weather threat to life and property in Cook County.

Tornado season in Cook County is from mid March through June, but tornadoes have occurred in every month of the year. They are most frequently seen from mid afternoon through the early evening.

Most tornadoes move from the southwest toward the northeast, but they sometimes move east or southeast. Tornadoes usually move at speeds of 30 to 40 mph, but they can move as fast as 70 mph. Most Cook County tornadoes produce wind gusts of 50 to 120 mph and last only a few minutes. Also, there are tornadoes that are large, violent and long-tracked with wind gusts of over 200 mph that can occur in Cook County.

Illinois averages 28 tornadoes per year. In 1999 there were 94 tornadoes in Illinois. This the second highest ever, behind 110 tornadoes in 1998. 46 tornadoes occurred in April 1996, and 45 of them occurred on one day - April 19. This was the largest number of tornadoes to ever touch down in Illinois in a day and the most ever for the month of April.

Tornadoes are not the only severe weather threat in Illinois. Nineteen people have been killed by lightning in the last 10 years and dozens more have been injured. Most lightning casualties occur in the summer between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Most victims are outdoors under a tree, in an open field, near a vehicle or near a building.

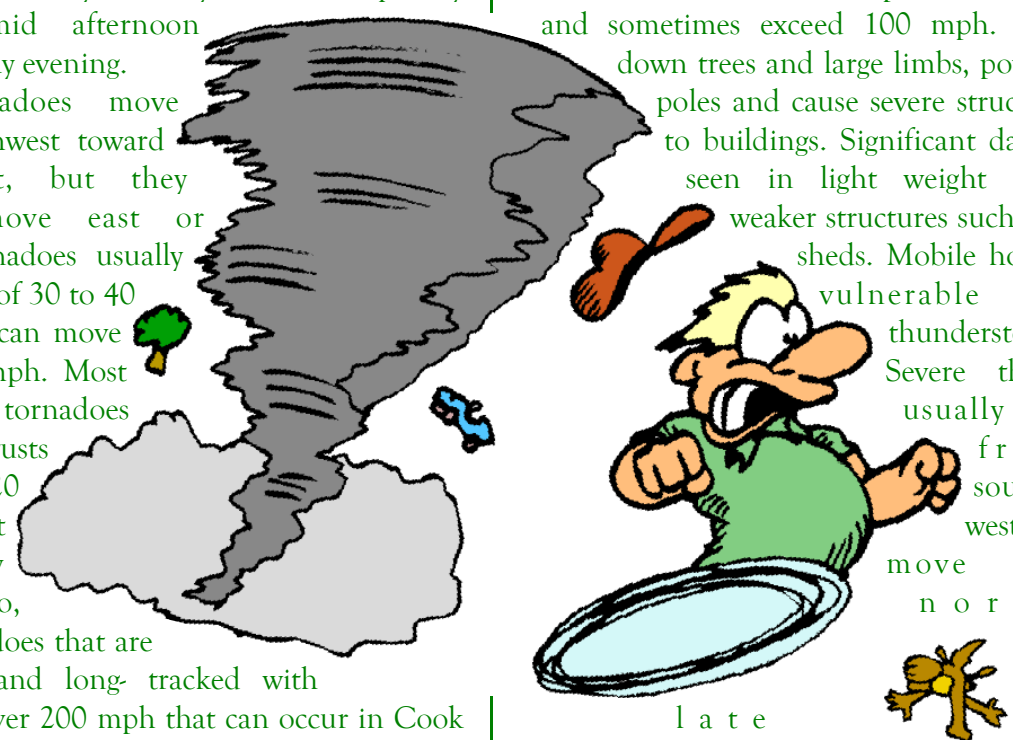
Floods and flash floods are the number one

severe weather killer in the United States. Sixteen people have died in floods in Illinois in the last decade. Most flood casualties in Illinois occur in vehicles when people try to drive across flooded roads. Flash floods are most frequent in mid to late summer, but they can occur anytime.

Straight line or downburst winds from severe thunderstorms often reach speeds of 50 to 80 mph and sometimes exceed 100 mph. These winds down trees and large limbs, power lines and poles and cause severe structural damage to buildings. Significant damage can be seen in light weight buildings or weaker structures such as barns and sheds. Mobile homes are also vulnerable to severe thunderstorm winds. Severe thunderstorms usually approach from the southwest or west, but can move from the northwest particularly in mid to late

Damaging winds often are preceded by a dark low-hanging row of clouds on the leading edge of an approaching storm, known as a shelf cloud.

Large hail can also accompany severe thunderstorms. Hail rarely causes injuries in Cook County but it can cause millions of dollars in damages to crops, vehicles, roofs of buildings and homes each year.



*Information provided by the:  
Cook County Emergency Management Agency*



## IMPORTANT ISSUES ABOUT COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS

No doubt you've begun seeing more and more of those funny, squiggly little light bulbs protruding out of light fixtures wherever you go.

Don't worry you aren't hallucinating, they really look like that. They are called compact fluorescent lamps (CFL), and they are one way, according to environmental advocates, that average people can contribute to reducing emissions and helping the environment.

A compact fluorescent lamp (CFL), also known as a compact fluorescent light bulb (or less commonly as a compact fluorescent tube [CFT]) is a type of fluorescent lamp. Many CFLs are designed to replace an incandescent lamp and can fit in the existing light fixtures formerly used for incandescent.

The purchase price of a CFL is higher than that of an incandescent lamp of the same luminous output, but this cost is recovered in energy savings and replacement costs over the bulb's lifetime. Like all fluorescent lamps, CFLs contains mercury, which complicates the disposal of fluorescent lamps and poses a health risk when they are broken.

Modern CFLs typically have a lifespan of between 6,000 and 15,000 hours, whereas incandescent lamps are usually manufactured to have a lifespan of 750 hours or 1,000 hours. Usage, however, effects the lifespan of the lightbulbs.

The life of a CFL is significantly shorter if it is only turned on for a few minutes at a time: In the case of a 5-minute on/off cycle the lifespan of a CFL can be up to 85% shorter, reducing its lifespan to the level of an incandescent lamp. The US Energy Star program says to leave them on at least 15 minutes at a time to mitigate this problem.

As with all fluorescent lights, CFLs also generate some higher electrical frequencies which both

radiate from the light unit itself, and transfer along the interconnecting electrical wiring. This is not generally considered to be a significant problem, but it can result in electronic interference with some other devices.

Incandescent light bulbs give light almost immediately upon the application of voltage. CFLs take a moment to brighten up, and can take much longer in very cold temperatures. Coupling this with the shorter life of CFLs when turned on and off for short amounts of time may make incandescent bulbs more attractive for things like outdoor and/or motion-activated lighting.

Broken fluorescent lamps inside a house or an office do pose an environmental hazard beyond that of broken glass, especially to infants, young children, and expectant mothers. Like other fluorescent lamps, broken CFLs release mercury vapors, and require special handling to clean up. The EPA warns against vacuuming,

s u g g e s t i n g instead that individuals vacate the room and open windows for fifteen minutes to allow any mercury vapor to air out, then clean up the breakage while wearing protective gloves, and use double plastic bags for all broken pieces. They also suggest using duct tape to pick up small pieces. It is important to note that the amount of mercury released by one bulb exceeds even the most lenient state level for acute exposure.

While CFLs may be accepted by some municipal landfills, ComEd encourages customers to properly dispose of burned out or broken CFLs to prevent the release of mercury into the environment by taking advantage of local recycling options for CFL disposal. ComEd is partnering with Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) and Ace

*(Continued on page 12)*

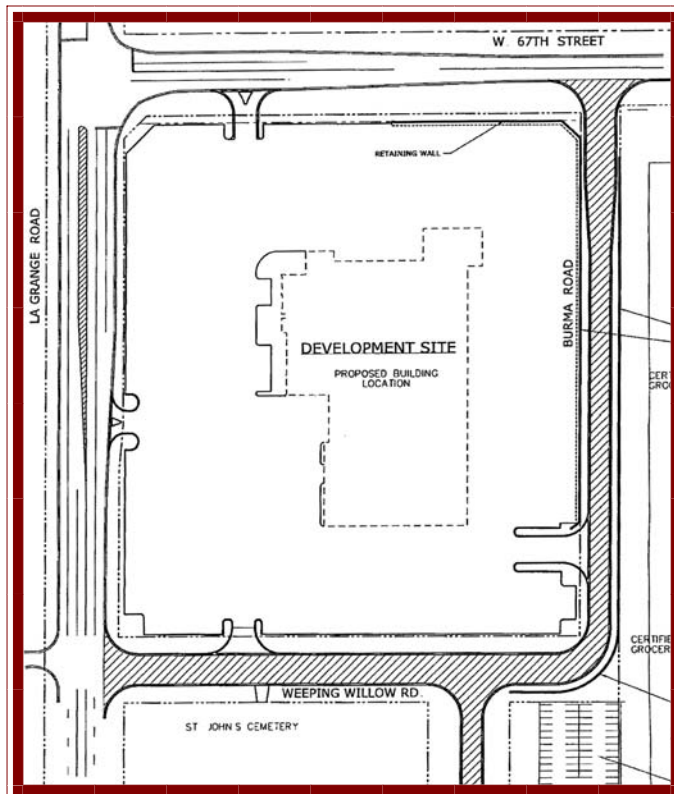


## NEW CONSTRUCTION WILL BRING SAFE NEW ROAD

The construction project for the Continental Toyota Dealership located at 67th and LaGrange Road has begun. The first phase of this project is to complete the new road that will connect Weeping Willow Ranch to 67th Street. The diagram to the right illustrates how the roadway will be configured.

During this construction phase, residents of Weeping Willow Ranch will have LaGrange Road as their only means of entering or exiting the ranch. It is imperative that residents of Weeping Willow Ranch use **“extreme caution”** when traveling to and from LaGrange Road. Signs are posted to remind everyone to only exit to Northbound LaGrange Road. If you need to go south, please use a turn around area north of Weeping Willow Road, such as Stone Woods or Sundown Meadows.

Safety is our concern during this construction phase. The Village has worked very hard getting this project approved and making the necessary changes to provide a safe new roadway for our residents.



### NOTICE: SEIZED AUTO AUCTION

The Hodgkins Police Department will be conducting a Auction of 3 Motor Vehicles. These cars were seized pursuant to State of Illinois Statutes and have been forfeited and awarded to the Hodgkins Police Department.

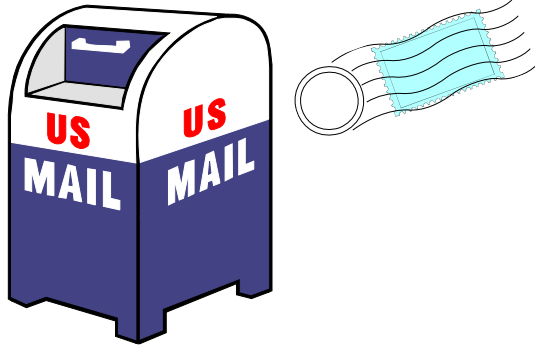
These vehicles are not in very good shape and will be sold “AS IS” and with “NO WARRANTY”. For more information, stop by the Hodgkins Police Department and request a Vehicle Information Sheet. Upon request, we will hand out a information sheet containing basic information and the starting bid amount on each vehicle. The vehicles will be available for a physical inspection 2 hours before the bids are to be turned in.

Sealed Bids To Be Opened at 11:00 am on Monday May 12, 2008

**2002 CHRYSLER CONCORDE LX  
1995 PONTIAC FIREBIRD  
1995 DODGE INTREPID 4-DOOR**

VILLAGE OF HODGKINS  
8890 W. 67th Street  
Hodgkins, IL.60525

Village Hall Hours:  
Monday-Friday 8:00 - 5:00  
Phone: (708) 579-6700  
Fax: (708) 579-6707

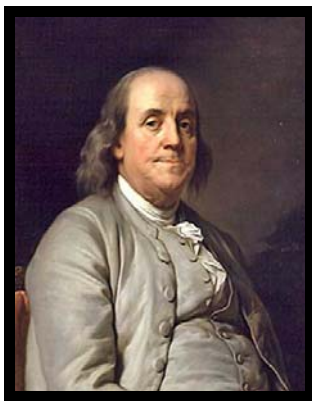


*Don't forget the Postal  
Services we offer.!!*

Presort  
Standard  
U.S. Postage Paid  
LaGrange, Illinois  
Permit No. 506

## VILLAGE OF HODGKINS "INCORPORATED IN 1896"

BE AT WAR WITH YOUR VICES, AT  
PEACE WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS, AND  
LET EVERY NEW YEAR FIND YOU A  
BETTER MAN.



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

## CFL BULBS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Hardware to conduct a pilot CFL recycling program where 148 participating local Ace Hardware stores in northern Illinois will accept used CFLs from ComEd customers through June 2008 and properly dispose of them in IEPA-approved recycling facilities. You can find approved facilities by going to the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County's website:

<http://www.swancc.org/>  
or by calling them at (847) 724-9205.

You can expect to see CFLs on store shelves in increasing number in the coming months and years. On December 19, 2007 President George W. Bush signed the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. One of the provisions of the energy bill called for the old-fashioned incandescent light bulb to be phased out of the US market beginning in 2012.