

# The Villager

The Village Of Hazel Crest Community Newsletter

March & April, 2016

Hazel Crest Village President Vernard Alsberry Jr. and the Village Board of Trustees are urging all Hazel Crest residents to participate in...



## A Ceremony Honoring American Servicemen And Women Who Gave Their Lives In Defense Of The Nation During The Vietnam War

Vernard Alsberry, Jr.  
President

Marlon D. Rias  
Village Clerk

Donna M. Gayden  
Village Manager

### Village Trustees

Ben Ramsey

Mary Grant

Pat Jackson

Sandra Slayton

Kevin Moore

Susan Pate

### Village of Hazel Crest

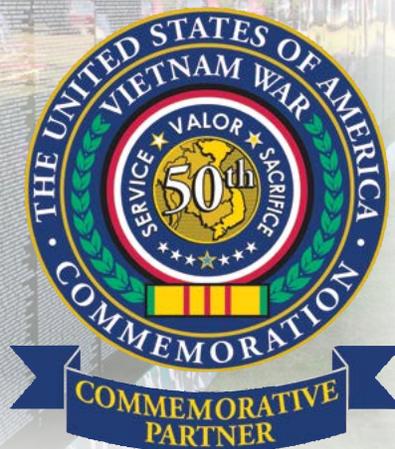
Phone:  
(708) 335-9600

Fax:  
(708) 335-9622

3000 W. 170th Place  
Hazel Crest, Illinois  
60429



The Village of Hazel Crest

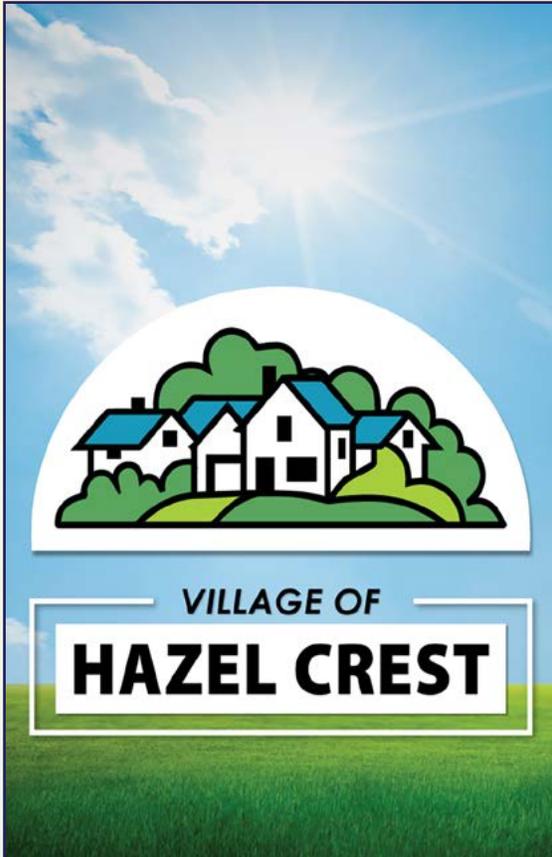


The Village of Hazel Crest is a proud commemorative Partner of the Vietnam War Commemoration, to learn more about the Commemoration, please visit [www.vietnamwar50th.com](http://www.vietnamwar50th.com).

Saturday, May 7, 2016 • Begins At 10:00 AM  
Village Of Hazel Crest, 3000 W. 170th Street  
A Presentation Will Be Made With Speeches And Awards

# Local News & Events

## Hazel Crest Launches Smartphone App As Free Tool For Residents



The Village of Hazel Crest is proud to announce the launch of a Municipal Smartphone Application. The Hazel Crest “App” is a free, interactive tool allows residents to keep informed regarding local events and emergencies, share opinions with village officials and staff, and stay connected with Hazel Crest community.

The app includes directories of village departments, area organizations, and elected officials. Application forms allow users to ask questions of Village staff or sign up for the email newsletter. The App’s touch-to-add calendar gives residents the ability to add events directly to their personal calendar. Additionally, the App allows users to submit a service request directly to Public Works. Is a street light out? New graffiti appeared ? Nasty pothole spilled your java ? Report all of it using the

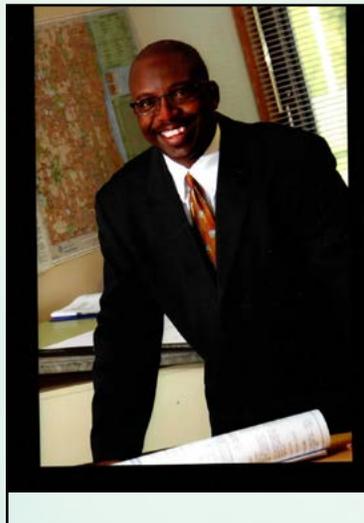
smartphone app complete with the issue’s GPS location and a photo.

“We wanted to build a comprehensive tool that goes far beyond just service requests and push notifications. The Village of Hazel Crest Municipal Smartphone App allows our residents to really connect – they can send in questions, keep track of current events, and report issues,” said Village President Vernard Alsberry Jr.

The Village of Hazel Crest app is available on both Apple and Android devices, including tablets. To download, go to iTunes or Google Play and search “Village of Hazel Crest”.

Search Village of Hazel Crest in the iTunes store and on Google Play to download the Village of Hazel Crest app.

## Elliott Eldridge Hired As New Inspectional Services Director



Elliot Eldridge has joined the Village of Hazel Crest as the Director of the Inspectional Services Department. A graduate of the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Architecture and trained in Construction Technology at Purdue University, Mr. Eldridge has worked extensively in municipal government plan review, municipal code enforcement, International Building Code coordination and inspection operations. An architect who has worked with world renown firms Murphy/Jahn as well as Barnett and Smith, Mr. Eldridge is eminently qualified to assess, review and enforce all Village of Hazel Crest building codes in the contest of our municipal planning and zoning requirements. Eldridge was previously named Employee of the Year for Outstanding Customer Service and has more recently worked as a consultant to LCM Architects as an Accessibility Specialist providing ADA compliance advice to commercial developers.

# Local News & Events

## A Note from President Vernard Alsberry, Jr

Dear Friends,

The Village of Hazel Crest will be hosting a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial — The Moving Wall — which will arrive on May 4, 2016 and shall be displayed on grounds near the Hazel Crest Municipal Center from May 5 through May 9, 2016.

The Wall contains the names of American who gave their last measure of devotion to the nation during the Vietnam War. As of Memorial Day 2015, there are 58,307 names. These are names of military personnel who were wounded in Vietnam between 1957 and 1975 and ultimately died of their wounds.

The Village has reached out to the Township Supervisors, VFW Posts

and American Legion Posts across the Southland to make this event one that is shared by all residents. Vietnam Veterans who have not received the specially designed Lapel Pin issued to Vietnam era veterans are asked to visit the Moving Wall during the above mentioned dates to receive their lapel pins and a certificate of appreciation for his or her service to the nation.

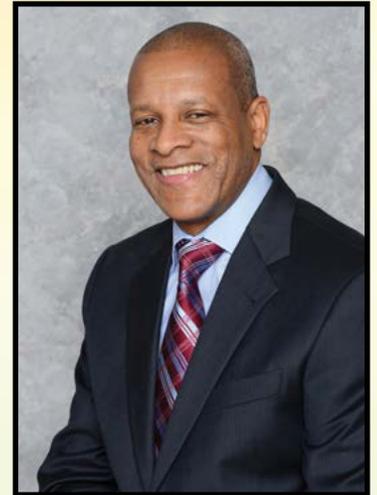
Organizations and individuals interested in volunteering to assist as a participant or sponsor of the Moving Wall event please contact the Village of Hazel Crest Director of Community and Business Affairs Carolyn Carter by email: [ccarter@villageofhazelcrest.com](mailto:ccarter@villageofhazelcrest.com) or by telephone at 708-335-9600, Extension 106.

Sincerely,

*Vernard Alsberry, Jr.*

Vernard Alsberry Jr.

Village President of Hazel Crest



**President  
Vernard Alsberry, Jr.**



## Celebrating Earth Day

The Village of Hazel Crest will be celebrating Earth Day and contributing to the preservation and beautification of our community by sponsoring a Village Clean-Up Day on Saturday, April 23. Residents interested in helping pitch in for a few hours of general hands-on cleanup work are asked to come to the Village Senior Room at Village Hall at 9:00 AM. **The Village has also made a special arrangement to pick up television sets for free disposal for residents who place the television at their curb on April 23rd.** Other electronic devices (now prohibited from regular trash disposal) may be placed in special electronic collection boxes located at Municipal Center & Fire Station 2 at 170th at Dixie Hwy. Please refer any questions to Carolyn Carter at 335-1600, ext. 106.

## Additional New Hours For The Front Desk At Village Hall

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday  
and Friday  
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Tuesday  
8:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Every 1st and 3rd Saturday  
Of The Month  
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

# Local News & Events



**Hazel Crest Area Chamber of Commerce**  
3000 W. 170th Place • Hazel Crest, Illinois 60429  
Phone/Fax: 800-316-9092 • Email: hazelcrestacoc@yahoo.com

Dear Business Owner,

We are excited about the Village of Hazel Crest and all that it has to offer. In our efforts to revitalize the Hazel Crest Area Chamber of Commerce. We want to invite you to join us!

The Hazel Crest ACOC works to represent and advance its business community, striving for consistent integrity, fairness and cooperation to promote and improve the economic climate and image of Hazel Crest businesses.

The Hazel Crest ACOC members will receive information and reports relevant to business operations from our village government. We will work together to improve the business community and establish relationships within our own community. We will

host social functions, seminars and summits where business owners will have the opportunity to network with other business owners and take part in discussions that will further the interest of the businesses and business owners with the Village of Hazel Crest.

Membership fees are based on the size of your business and the number of employees that you have. Our Chamber's Board of Directors is comprised of volunteers who care about the business community in our Village and surrounding areas. Please join in and help us, as we strive to promote the true potential of the Businesses within the Village of Hazel Crest.

Sincerely,

Irma Holloway  
Hazel Crest ACOC President

## Hazel Crest Welcomes New Businesses To The Village

Please join us in welcoming the following new businesses in Hazel Crest. Stop in and say hello and shop Hazel Crest First.

Facility Safety Services Inc.	3330 W. 170th (2F)	Serenity Day Spa	17512 Carriageway Dr. (C)
New Beginnings Academy	18225 Fountainbleau	South Suburban Cardiology	3649 W.183rd (104)
Flavor Brunch	17575 S. Kedzie	Our Treasures	3416 W. 183rd
Future Kids of America	17504 Carriageway (A)	Zetta Ribs & Chicken	17093 Jodave
Zmedi Healthcare	17400 S. Kedzie (106)	Citadel Estates-Hazel Crest	3701W.183rd
The Wright Way of Thinking	17310 Poe	Liz's Cafe' Convenience Shop	17306(8) Kedzie
Dixie Market Inc.	2014 W.170th	Studio 306	17577 S. Kedzie (306)

# Senior Citizen Police Academy

On Friday March 4, Police Chief Mitch Davis welcomed our senior residents to the first session of the Senior Citizen Police Academy (SCPA of Hazel Crest. Chief Davis gave an overview of the SCPA program and explained the areas of topics that will be discussed during the six week program.

Participants of the SCPA will have a better understanding of law enforcement and crime prevention methods. Please call the Hazel Crest Police Department at 335-9636 for additional information.

## Session 2 - Crimes Against Seniors

Personal Safety, Identify Theft, Scams, Con Games and Elder Abuse

## Session 3 - Law Enforcement Agency Operations

911 vs Non-Emergency Calls, Patrol Division and Officer Safety

## Session 4 - Investigations

Fundamentals of Investigations, Crime Scene Processing and Gangs and Narcotics Units

## Session 5 - Court Services, Incarceration and Alternative Programs

Court Proceedings, Jail vs Prison and Diversionary Program

## Session 6 – GRADUATION CEREMONY



# Senior Commission News

The Senior Commission invites all seniors to their monthly meeting on the first Friday of every month. The next senior meeting is April 1st. The seniors will show off their culinary skills by providing a pot luck lunch. All Sessions will meet in the Senior Room. For additional information, please call the Village of Hazel Crest Police Department at 708-335-9636.

- MONDAY – Yoga 11:00 AM to 12:00 Senior Room  
Bid Whist and Chest 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM – Senior Room
- TUESDAY – Spanish Class 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM – West Meeting Room
- WEDNESDAY – Bingo 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM, West Meeting Room
- THURSDAY – Yoga 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM – Senior Room  
Keno 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM – Senior Room

# Black History Month Program In Hazel Crest Akoben – “Sound the War Horn”

The Hazel Crest Youth Commission, presented the Black History Program on February 27, 2016 at the Senior Room in Village Hall. The theme this year was “Akoben”. Akoben is an Adinkra word that means “Sound the War Horn”. The phenomenal program highlighted the band and choir from Hillcrest High School and also new band RForceone Productions. There was also a showcase of talent that was performed by many Hazel Crest residents including local singers, a mime, rap artists Jamaal and Larry, Bobbie Hutchins and a dynamic Motivational Speaker — Yusef El-Ali. The Youth Commission is delighted to have organized such a magnificent event and looks forward to a bigger and better event next year. We would like to thank all of the participants and residents who were able to attend the event.



# Meet Your Hazel Crest Pace Van Team

The Village of Hazel Crest offers a Dial-A-Ride service to senior citizens 60 years of age and older and to all disabled residents regardless of age.

The PACE van operated by the Village includes a wheelchair lift for residents with disabilities. The van will take seniors to and from the Village's Senior Center, to medical appointments, grocery stores, and many other destinations within a close distance from the Village borders. Eligible citizens in need of a ride may call (708) 335-9600, Ext. 118.

## Willie Pryor - PACE Van Senior Driver



Willie Pryor

Willie Pryor, often called Mr. Willie, is a Senior PACE van driver. Mr. Willie has been driving the PACE van since 2008. Mr. Willie has trained three drivers, worked as our only driver for years and worked as the dispatcher for our PACE Van service. Mr. Willie is a retired Customer Service Trainer and CDL Examiner for American Airlines. He

enjoys taking care of our residents as seen here with Gerald Burke. Mr. Burke often comments how the Hazel Crest PACE van service provides excellent service and does a terrific job.

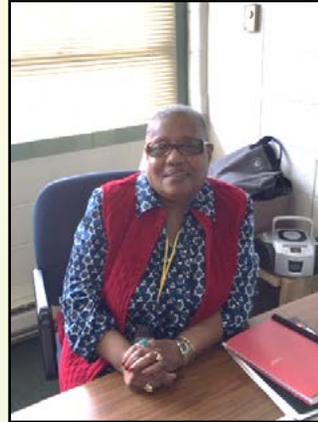
## Marvin Young - PACE Van Driver



Marvin Young

Marvin Young has been a PACE van driver since January 2015. Mr. Young takes pride in keeping the PACE van clean inside and out and keeping a professional personal appearance. Mr. Young retired after working for years as a professional limousine chauffeur flowing 25 years as a vehicle operator for the CTA. Mr. Young considers himself as a "people person".

## Erma Steele - PACE Van Dispatcher/Coordinator



Erma Steele

In January 2011, Ms. Steele enrolled in a work program with Age Options for seniors. The purpose of the program was to reintroduce seniors back into the work force, offer free training and help find employment. Ms. Steele trained as a Dispatcher/Coordinator for Hazel Crest for years and when the program ended in January 2015, Ms. Steele accepted a position with Hazel Crest as a PACE van Dispatcher/Coordinator.

## Bubble Buddy Laundromat

17302 S. Kedzie Avenue  
Hazel Crest, Illinois

HOME OF THE \$1.00 WASH

Hottest Dryers In The South Suburbs

Free Wi-Fi

Open Late!

Special  
Discount For  
Seniors

Free Pick Up and Delivery on  
All Your Wash & Fold Needs!!

# Local News & Events

## Twenty-Sixth Annual C.F. Stradford Awards Ceremony

Giving God the Glory (GGG) Ministries proudly announced that its Executive Director — The Reverend Gloria J. Randolph — was honored at the 26th Annual C.F. Stradford Awards Ceremony on February 23, 2016 at the Parkway Ballroom in Chicago. For the past 26 years, the Cook County State's Attorney's office has been recognizing distinguished attorneys, judges and others within the African-American community with the C.F. Stradford Award. Cornelius Francis Stradford was a pioneering civil rights attorney and co-founder of both the National Bar Association and the Cook County Bar Association.

Stradford Award recipients are selected based on the following criteria:

- Leadership, Honor, Integrity, and Fairness
- Community Involvement and Activism
- Charity and/or Pro Bono work
- Youth Involvement and/or Mentorship Programs

Gloria J. Randolph, an outstanding Hazel Crest resident of 42 years, has actively dedicated her life to being a Christian, wife, mother, grandmother and an exceptional



community leader. Rev. Randolph, often called “Reverend Glo” because of her bright spirit and glowing smile, is a founding member of the Pacesetters Homeowners Association and has worked with the Village to develop a mentoring program for young ladies to help them build their self-esteem and personal image. Congratulations Rev. Glo!

## Hazel Crest Appoints News Public Works Director - Jeff Hon



The Village of Hazel Crest recently appointed Jeff Hon to fill the position of Director of the Public Works Department. Jeff, formerly employed by the Village of South Holland, comes with over thirty-three years of public works experience under his belt. Starting fresh out of high school in 1980 as a part-time employee, Jeff steadily

worked his way up the ladder from pushing a broom to the Director position. Along the way, Jeff studied to increase his knowledge and experience of public works

management by gaining accreditations in Snow and Ice Management, Confined Space Safety and the National Incident Management System, to name a few.

Mr. Hon also has seventeen years of experience working as an on-call Firefighter/EMT/Paramedic and member of the Vertical Rope Rescue and Hazardous Materials Mitigation teams. This experience has proved crucial when dealing with emergency situations.

Mr. Hon is committed to provide outstanding leadership to the Public Works Department by developing the skill sets of each staff member and improving all delivery of services provided by the Public Works Department. The residents, customers, business owners and visitors of the Village of Hazel Crest deserve nothing less than the best and he feels that it is his duty to provide it.

# A Message From The Inspectional Services Department

The Inspectional Services Department's mission is to protect the integrity and value of village property while protecting the health and safety of the people living in, working in or visiting any structure within Hazel Crest. Our Inspectors are trained to make sure all buildings are in compliance with the most current version of the International Property Maintenance Codes, the International Building Code and the additional ordinances enacted by the Hazel Crest Board of Trustees.

Why property maintenance? One of the most important obligations that a municipality has to its residents is to protect their health, safety and welfare. That is why municipalities have a Police Department, Fire Department, Building Department, Health Department and in our village — an Inspectional Services Department. It is easy to understand the role of police officers and fire fighters because we are aware of their presence every day. The Inspectional Services Department, although more obscure (except to those who require building permits) is also an important necessity of municipal government.

It is the Inspectional Service Department that has a major role in keeping the all property in our village structurally

sound and visually pleasing. Hazel Crest maintains a great reputation as a desirable community because it is clean, well-kept and attractive to those who visit or reside here. Inspectional Services are also the most controversial issue in our village because everyone wants to maintain universally high property values while no one likes to be told what to do with their property. Our Inspectors tread as lightly as possible through these issues each day with the greatest care, but in the end, no one likes to get a warning or ticket for violating the property maintenance codes.

If you receive a letter of violation from the Building, Fire or Inspectional Services Departments, makes sure that the violations are abated before the indicated date of compliance. If you have problems meeting that compliance date, be sure to contact the department that issued the notice and explain the problem and ask for an extension. Failure to abate the violation or receive an extension, could subject you to the fines mandated by the village ordinance. Our goal is not to collect fines. Our goal is to maintain a great community by making sure improvements or corrections are made before fines are necessary to enforce compliance. Feel free to contact us with your questions or concerns at (708) 335-9600 Ext. 700.

## Our Treasures Consignment & Resale

3416 W. 183<sup>rd</sup> Street, Hazel Crest, IL 60429

708.914.4966



*Shop*

New and nearly new,  
ready-to-wear, brand name  
and designer clothing for  
men, women and children.

*Sell*

Consignors receive 50%  
of what they sell.



Donate your unwanted treasures.

# GRAND *Opening* CELEBRATION

Saturday, May 14, 2016  
1pm - 3pm

Refreshments  
Prize Drawings  
Discounts

Ribbon Cutting with  
Mayor Vernard Alsberry Jr.



# Local News & Events

## Please Be Aware Of Resident Compliance Responsibilities

**General Home and Yard Maintenance:** Residents are expected to maintain private property by keeping lawns and parkways mowed, trees trimmed, homes and garages neatly painted, and electrical and plumbing systems in working order. Weeds and grass must not exceed eight inches in height. Homes with grass taller than eight inches will be ticketed.

**Parking:** Motorists may not park on or block a sidewalk at any time. No vehicle, including RV's, boats, or trailers, may be parked on grass or on any other unpaved surface. Non-operating vehicles may not be left on Village streets or in driveways. Owners of inoperable or abandoned vehicles are subject to issuance of warnings, citations, towing, and in some cases, arrest, based on existing Village ordinances.

**Building and Home Business Permits:** Residents should check with the Department of Fire, Rescue and Inspectional Services before constructing any home additions, garages, patios, fences, or other structural additions or alterations. The Village staff will help assure that your project is done correctly the first time so that your property will be an asset to you and your community. Home businesses may not operate in the Village without a business permit.

**Contractor Registration:** All building contractors doing business within the Village are required to register. A resident wishing to hire a contractor should check with the Department to ensure that the contractor is registered and reputable.

**Home Sale and Rental Inspections:** To safeguard the values of all properties, the Village requires pre-closing inspections on the sale of all residential and commercial properties. The inspection will be conducted by the Department of Fire Rescue & Inspectional Services.

**Vehicle Stickers:** Every vehicle which is registered to an address in the Village of Hazel Crest must have a current Village vehicle sticker. Stickers go on sale on December 1 and must be displayed by January 31. New residents must display Hazel Crest stickers within 30 days after moving to the community. Stickers are to be placed on the lower passenger side front windshield; all stickers from other communities or previous years must be removed. Officers can write vehicle sticker citations on private as well as public property.

**Mailboxes and Recreational Equipment:** Before placing mailboxes or other structures on the parkway, approval must

be received by the Public Works Department at 335-9600. Basketball hoops and other types of recreational equipment are not allowed in front or side yards. Contact the Department of Fire Rescue & Inspectional Services for regulations about requirements for this type of equipment.

**Village Court System:** Traffic tickets involving standing or parked vehicles are adjudicated through the Village court which meets at 9:00 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month.

**Animal Regulations:** License tags are required and are renewed May 1 of each year. Tags will be issued only upon a veterinarian's proof of inoculation. There is a limit of two pets per household. In order to facilitate residents' enjoyment of parks and walkways, Village ordinance requires that animal owners clean up after their pets if exercising them outside their own property.

**Refuse Collection:** By ordinance, each home must have garbage removal service. Containers must have tight-fitting lids and be kept in the rear of the house until at least 7:00 p.m. on the evenings before collection. Please help keep the Village free of litter by being conscientious about refuse disposal.

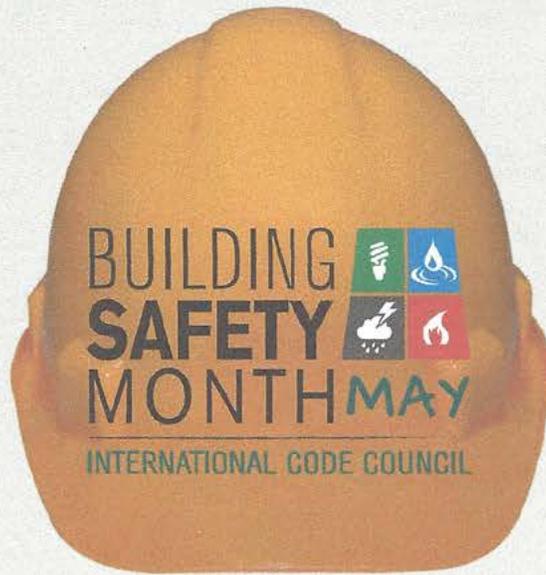
**Alarm Permits:** All security/fire alarm systems operating within the Village are required to have an annual alarm permit. Applications are available at Fire Station #2.

**Burning:** Outdoor burning of any kind is not permitted within the Village.

**Watering Restrictions:** Between May 15 and September 15, an odd/even watering ban is in effect.



# May Is Building Safety Month



## Resilient Communities Start with Building Codes



WEEK ONE

Don't Get  
Burned—  
Build to Code



WEEK TWO

Bounce Back  
Faster from  
Disaster—  
Build to Code



WEEK THREE

Water Safe,  
Water Smart—  
Build to Code



WEEK FOUR

Save Energy—  
Build to Code

Presented by the International Code Council



[www.buildingsafetymonth.org](http://www.buildingsafetymonth.org)

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Support  
Building Safety  
Month

# Village Calendar APRIL



- 1 Senior Commissioners Pot Luck
- 2 Apple Tree HOA
- 4 Beautification Commission Meeting  
Courtyards of Stone Creek HOA Meeting
- 6 Veterans Commission Meeting
- 7 Community Relations Commission  
Hazel Crest Proper HOA  
Senior Citizen Police Academy Graduation
- 9 Coffee with the President  
Highland Civic Assn
- 11 Open Lands Commission Meeting
- 12 Village Board of Trustees Meeting
- 16 Pottawatomie HOA Meeting
- 20 Chateaux HOA Meeting
- 21 Clergy Commission Meeting
- 23 Stonebridge Civic Assn Meeting  
Earth Day/Village Clean Up Day
- 26 Village Board of Trustees Meeting

- 11:00 AM – Village Senior Room
- 9:00 AM – Fire Station II
- 6:30 PM – Fire Station II
- 7:00 PM – Grande Prairie Library
- 7:00 PM – Fire Station II
- 5:30 PM – Fire Station II
- 7:00 PM – Fire Station I
- 10:00 AM – Village Senior Room
- 9:30 AM – Village Meeting Room West
- 10:30 AM – Village Meeting Room West
- 6:30 PM – Fire Station II
- 7:00 PM – Village Board Room
- 9:30 AM – Village Senior Room
- 7:00 PM – Fire Station II
- 5:00 PM – Fire Station II
- 10:00 AM – Fire Station II
- 9:00 AM – Village Senior Room
- 7:00 PM – Village Board Room

Planning & Zoning Commission  
*Commission Meets As Needed*

Fire & Police Commission Meeting  
*Commission Meets As Needed*

## 2016 Brush Pick-Up Schedule

**Zone I:** Highlands, Apple Tree, Homewood Gardens, Chateaux, Village West, Stonecreek and Dynasty Lakes  
April 4, June 6, August 1 & October 3

**Zone II:** Pottawatomie Hills, Twin Creeks, Pacesetter, Stonebridge and Carriage Hills  
April 1, June 13, August 8 & October 10

**Zone III:** Hazel Crest Proper and East of Tollway  
April 18, June 20, August 15 & October 7

## VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS

Board meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Village Hall Board Room, 3000 W. 170th St. The public is invited to all meetings.

### VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Vernard Alsberry

### VILLAGE CLERK

Marlon D. Rias

### VILLAGE MANAGER

Donna Gayden

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mary Grant  
Patricia Jackson  
Kevin Moore  
Susan Pate  
Benjamin Ramsey  
Sandra Slayton



Village of Hazel Crest  
 3000 W. 170th Place  
 Hazel Crest, Illinois 60429

POSTAL CUSTOMER

HAZEL CREST, ILLINOIS 60429



## Let's Learn Children's Academy, Inc.

*We support the wings so your little one can soar!*

17660 Kedzie Avenue

Hazel Crest, IL 60429

**708.960.4045**

We are a Christian Based program that provides the highest enhanced quality of care for children ages 6 months to 6 years old. **We are open 7 days a week from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm.** We are currently enrolling for our **SATURDAY AND SUNDAY PROGRAM**. We would love to invest in your child's **FUTURE** today. Limited space is available.

**Register Today!!!**

### ***\$50.00 off Registration Fee***

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

We offer a multiple child discount of 20% off each additional child with this coupon. Coupon must be present at the time of enrollment. Promotion valid for one year from date of enrollment.

Coupon expires 8/31/2016