



## Center City Neighborhood Association Danville, Illinois

Do not place in mailboxes.

May 23, 2008

Dear Neighbors:

The meeting of May 1<sup>st</sup> had a guest speaker, Tracy Stebbins, speak about code violations. He reminded us what to be on the look out for, such as graffiti, abandoned vehicles, and trash in yards. After the discussion we began our normal business. The May activity day was set for the 10<sup>th</sup> so we reserved the PrideGrows trailer.

Activities chosen for the day were a trash clean up and brush clearing. There were at least 12 people assisting with various duties including Alderman Jerry Askren. Trash clean up hit all of the alleys from Gilbert to Vermilion and the streets as the Spring task following our Fall clean up. The previous clean up day was in this past October and covered the exact same area. Last October's clean up day had two teams, one team picked up trash from Gilbert to Franklin and the other team worked Franklin to Vermilion. At the November meeting a recap was given detailing the efforts. On May 10<sup>th</sup> a team cleaned up overgrown vegetation behind several homes on the odd numbered side of Walnut St and a lot on Franklin St. Fortunately the neighborhood association provides the effort and the City provides the haul away. Thank you to everyone who helped.

At the May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting we also voted and placed the neighborhood appreciation sign at 1201 Walnut. This was in recognition of the great efforts those neighbors are doing to better the neighborhood. We also saw a prototype neighborhood association member sign. These signs will be available for us to place at our homes in order to indicate our membership to the association.

### **Center City Agenda**

Enter through the north gymnasium doors.

June 5, 2008, 7 pm, Garfield Elementary School

- 1) Introduction of New Members
- 2) Member Comments
- 3) Topic: 5 Steps to a Healthy Home
  - a. Keep it Clean
  - b. Keep it Dry
  - c. Keep it Pest Free
  - d. Keep it Safe
  - e. Keep it Ventilated
- 4) Vote for Sign Placement
- 5) Suggestions for Next Meeting
- 6) Suggestion for Next Social Activity



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Dear Neighbors:

I wanted take a moment to explain the difference between a Neighborhood Association and a Homeowners Association. There are a significant number of identifiable differences.

*A **homeowners association** is the legal entity created by a real estate developer for the purpose of developing, managing and selling a community of homes. It is given the authority to enforce the covenants, conditions, and restrictions and to manage the common amenities of the development. It allows the developer to legally exit responsibility of the community typically by transferring ownership of the association to the homeowners after selling off a predetermined number of lots. Most homeowners' associations are non-profit corporations, and are subject to state statutes that govern non-profit corporations and homeowners' associations.*

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*A **neighborhood association** is a group of residents, business representatives, and other interested citizens that devote their time and energy to improve and enhance a well-defined, geographic area that they and others live. The neighborhood association meeting, like the earlier town meetings, is a place to meet neighbors, exchange ideas, prioritize projects, propose solutions, and implement plans for the neighborhood. Most neighborhood associations are concerned with issues that affect the quality of life in the community. This can include issues such as zoning regulations or traffic improvements as well as events that strengthen neighborhoods. Sponsoring neighborhood festivals, block parties, crime prevention activities and upgrading neighborhood parks are important projects for neighborhood associations.*

Our neighborhood association was formed in July 2007 and covers the area bounded by the following streets: Walnut, Voorhees, Gilbert, and English. The name for our association is Center City. This name was chosen because of the fact that our area is located about equidistant from any other place in Danville, either north, east, or south. Within minutes using Gilbert, Voorhees, or Vermilion we can be just about anywhere in the same amount of time. This is a great strength that our area has to offer. Many more strengths have been recognized and I continually hear reports from people outside of the neighborhood of how great this area is becoming.

This year the members are meeting once a month on the first Thursday at 7 pm. These meetings last approximately 1 hour and are a chance for us to discuss neighborhood issues and successes. Several events are being planned as social activities and work events. These activities allow us a chance to bond with each other.