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PARTNERS NEWS

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Partners for Clean Air Coalition Announces Grand Prize Winner of New Toyota Prius

*"Green Pays on Green Days" Program Recognizes
Citizens and Companies for Clean Air Efforts*

(Chicago, IL) --- The Partners for Clean Air selected Leona Benak of Elk Grove Village as the winner of the 2008 Toyota Prius hybrid at the Green Pays on Green Days grand prize drawing. The Green Pays on Green Days program, ran by the Partners for Clean Air and administered by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA), is a public education initiative that encourages Chicago area residents to join the fight against air pollution by committing to do "just one thing" for cleaner air.

Benak was one of 44 finalists invited to a closing ceremony that took place at the Notebaert Nature Museum in Lincoln Park. The grand prize Toyota Prius was donated by Toyota Motor Sales and Your Chicagoland Toyota Dealers.

"Green Pays on Green Days is a great way to educate people in the Chicagoland area about the impact we all have on air quality," said Doug Scott, Director of the Illinois EPA. "Many people don't realize the difference small changes in daily behavior can make."

The message seems to be getting through. Benak sent her daughter and son-in-law to the drawing on her behalf while she stayed home with her grandchildren. When the ceremony's emcee Meteorologist Brant Miller of NBC5 Chicago called her to tell her she'd won and asked what "one thing" she did this summer to promote cleaner air, she did not hesitate in responding that she adjusted her thermostat to use less air conditioning.

The Illinois EPA and Partners for Clean Air have sponsored Green Pays on Green Days since 2002. The 2008 program ran from May 30 through September 2 and received a record 37,597 entries from Chicagoland residents. Finalists' names were drawn each day local air quality was forecasted to be good (or "green," according to the national air quality index). All 44 finalists were chosen randomly and the names of the 41 finalists in attendance were placed in the grand prize drawing for a chance to win the Toyota Prius.

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Also honored were the many corporate sponsors of the program: Corn Products International, Abt Electronics, Archer Daniels Midland, BP America, Inc., Exxon/Mobil, Midwest Generation, Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation, Walgreens, Motorola Inc., ComEd and Exelon Company, Regional Transportation Authority, Jewel-Osco, Abbott, Coca-Cola Enterprises, 3M, The Museum of Science and Industry, American Lung Association of Illinois, City of Chicago Department of Environment, Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, Brookfield Zoo, Lincoln Park Zoo, E.W. Inman, Illinois Corn Growers Association and IKEA Bolingbrook & IKEA Schaumburg.

To achieve the greatest air quality benefits, Green Pays on Green Days targets individuals in areas that do not meet national ambient air quality standards. The contest was open to residents in Cook, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will counties in Illinois who pledged to take "green actions" to reduce air pollution.

Green Pays on Green Days has been funded for seven consecutive years by financial and product contributions from numerous Illinois businesses and organizations.

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For more information about Green Pays on Green Days or Partners for Clean Air, visit www.cleanteair.org or call Kim Kuntzman at 217-785-8911. A complete list of Green Pays on Green Days finalists is attached.

GREEN PAYS ON GREEN DAYS

2008 Finalists

Leona Benak, Elk Grove Village

Dan Page, Round Lake

Sarah Busen, Chicago

Steve Ruebart, Chicago

Randy Haehnel, Oswego

Susan Smith, West Chicago

Jim Bromiel, Naperville

Jung H. Kim, Park Ridge

Javier Salazar, Chicago

Gina Pecoraro, Woodstock

Carlos Cordova, Chicago

Susan Schillerstrom, Downers Grove

Dave Smith, Chicago

Nina Nazifi, Oak Lawn

Juana Orta, Chicago

Linda Baloun, Wheeling

Victoria Mullally, Grayslake

Elizabeth Gigler, Palos Hills

Susan Giannone, Roselle

Kate Lang, Elk Grove Village

Mark Lehrer, Elmhurst

Rebecca Weinreis, Aurora

Larry Petersen, Des Plaines

Valie Ellis, Chicago

Roger Franz, Mundelein

Deborah Canale, Villa Park

Lisa Sachs, Harvard

Margaret Bauman, Aurora

Edith Williams, Chicago

Bill Mietelski, Naperville

Glen Shelton, Joliet

Sue Kardaras, Chicago

Debbie Clark, Bloomingdale

Edward Konrad, Aurora

Nancy Rosman, Skokie

Joe Kaczmarczyk, Chicago

Donna O'Connor, Wheeling

Glenn Thompson, Chicago

Matthew Bartosik, Chicago

Arnold Stein, Elmhurst

Brian Davis, Arlington Heights

Richard Shelton, Cresthill

Tanya Anderson, North Aurora

Brad Heurung, Mokena