

# Homer man completes 15-year journey to partner at Westchester CPA firm

Fagan credits family for success, looks forward to mentoring others

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Homer Glen resident Timothy Fagan was promoted this month to partner at Westchester-based certified public accounting firm Legacy Professionals, marking the culmination of a journey that started 15 years ago, right after college.

The Hickory Hills native and Nazareth Academy alum attended Marquette University in Milwaukee, graduating in 2004 with a bachelor's degree in accounting and finance. A campus career fair during his time there turned fateful, with Fagan bumping into several older Marquette acquaintances who were at the fair representing Legacy.

"I talked to them, submitted my resume and was really fortunate to land a position," said Fagan, a married father of two whose family moved to Homer in 2008.

Legacy Professionals provides audit, accounting and tax services to employee benefit plans, labor organizations, non-profit organizations, gov-

ernmental entities, medium-sized corporations, partnerships and sole proprietorships, according to information provided by the firm. With headquarters in Westchester, Legacy also has offices in Schererville, Indiana and Edina, Minnesota. The company has about 150 employees, including 28 partners and principals, almost all of whom joined Legacy right out of college, said Timothy Cibulka, the firm's managing partner.

"We're excited to bring Tim into the partnership," Cibulka said. "He's a great asset to our firm."

Joining their ranks is a milestone and realization of a what feels like a lifetime goal, Fagan said.

"I've been here for 15 years, and I've been working for this accomplishment for 15 years," he said, noting he started with Legacy in January, so the promotion fell right on his 15-year anniversary. "It feels somewhat similar to when I passed the CPA exam. It's very satisfying and rewarding. I'm really thankful and humbled."

Fagan is an office reviewer and audit partner at Legacy. In terms of audits, he is focused on employee benefit plans, labor unions, nonprofits, small businesses and



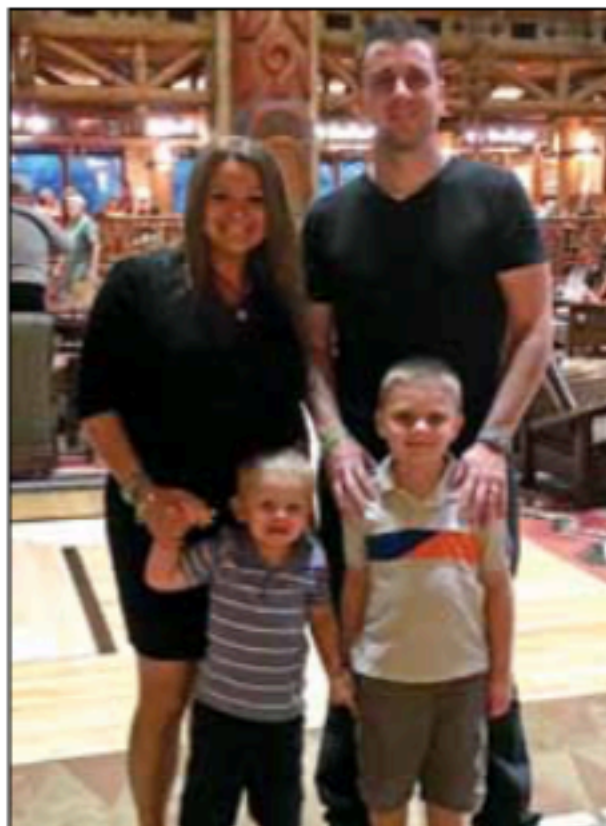
**Pictured is Homer Glen resident Timothy Fagan, who earlier this month was promoted to partner at Westchester CPA firm Legacy Professionals.**

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government entities, he said. As an office reviewer, he is charged with overseeing firmwide quality control and the implementation of best practices. Fagan is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Illinois CPA Society, serving on the latter's Governmental Report Review Committee.

Fagan said becoming partner would not have been possible without his wife, Christine, with whom he has two sons, Michael, 5, and Sean, 2.

"It could never have been done without my wife's work, her taking such good care of my family and me," he said. "My family and kids are by far the most important thing to me. They are my drive."



**Tim Fagan; his wife, Christine; and their sons, Michael, 5, and Sean, 2. Fagan credits his family as his drive to succeed.**

The family are parishioners at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Orland Park, and Fagan is involved with Michael's local soccer, T-ball and basketball teams. The family decided to set roots in Homer after looking for homes throughout the southwest suburbs and are big fans of the area, Fagan said.

Serving as partner will bring with it more respon-

sibilities but also more opportunities to mentor up-and-coming employees, Tim said.

"I really enjoyed teaching other people and helping them with their careers," he said. "My real hope is that when some of our younger employees make this milestone in their career, they'll look back and say I was helpful in their journey."