City of Crystal Lake, Illinois
CITYLETTER



# CULVERT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

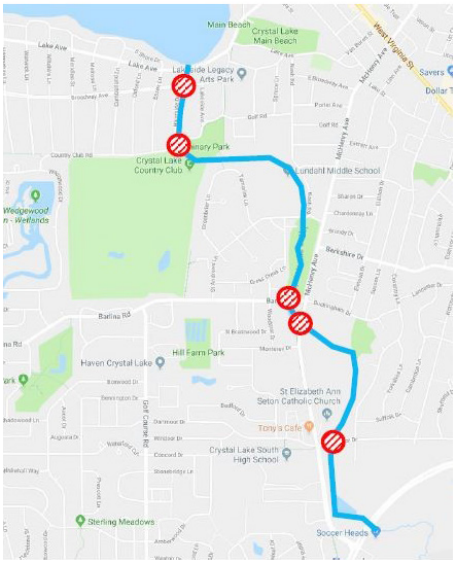
**WHAT IS THE PROJECT?** Crystal Creek flows from of Crystal Lake and passes under roads through culverts. These culverts will be removed and replaced. **The roads will need to be closed during construction (approximately 3-4 weeks).**

**WHERE ARE THE CULVERTS LOCATED?** Along Crystal Creek at Broadway Avenue, Country Club Road, Barlina Road, McHenry Avenue, and Dartmoor Drive. Each of these roads will be closed during construction. **McHenry Avenue will not be closed at the same time as Barlina Road and Dartmoor Drive.**

**WHY IS THIS PROJECT NEEDED?** The culverts are 50-75 years old. The culverts are beyond their useful life.

**WHEN WILL THE PROJECT OCCUR?** The contractor anticipates starting the project in April 2019. The road closures of Barlina Road, McHenry Avenue, and Dartmoor Drive will occur in the summer when school is not in session. Roads will be closed during construction to ensure a faster and safer project.

**Culvert Improvement Project Area**




**Continued on page 2**

## Inside:

Culvert Project **Areas**

Coffee with **the Chief**

Three Oaks **Marina**

**Continued from page 1**

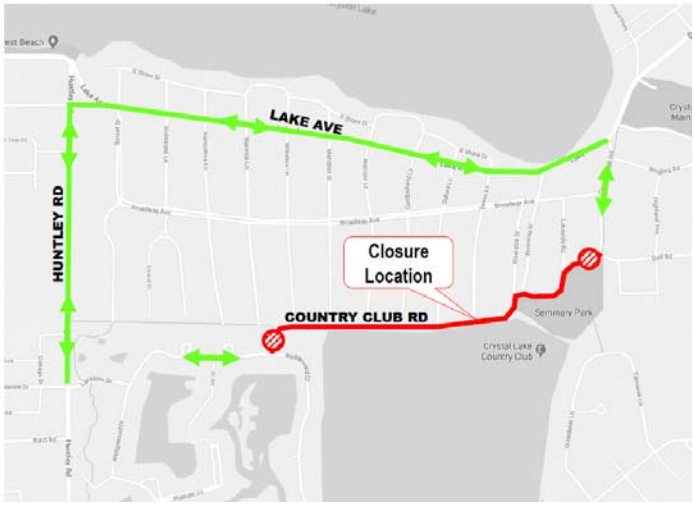
**HOW WILL YOU KNOW WHEN THE ROADS WILL BE CLOSED?**
Message boards will be placed along roads to be closed notifying the public of the date of the road closure. Information will also be posted on the City's webpage at www.crystallake.org. Once you are on the site, click "Our Community" then "Road Construction Projects". Also, follow the City on Facebook or Twitter or sign up to receive project updates by sending your email address to construction@crystallake.org.

The maps on this page show the closure location in red and the detours marked by a green arrowed line.

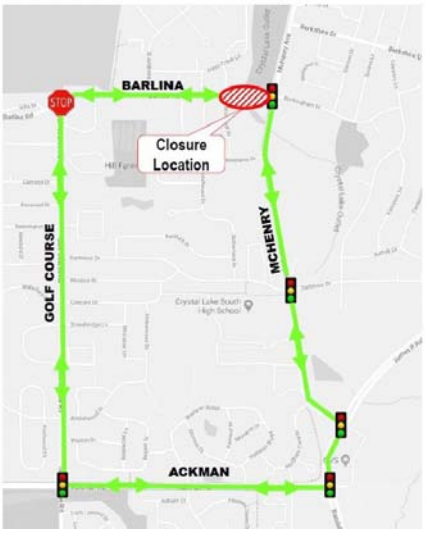
**Broadway Avenue Culvert Detour Route**
**Estimated Closure April/May**



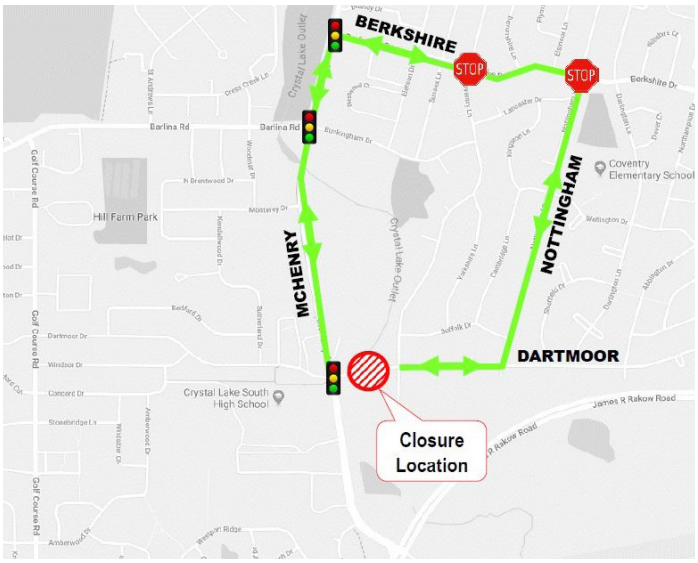

**Country Club Road Culvert Detour Route**
**Estimated Closure April/May**



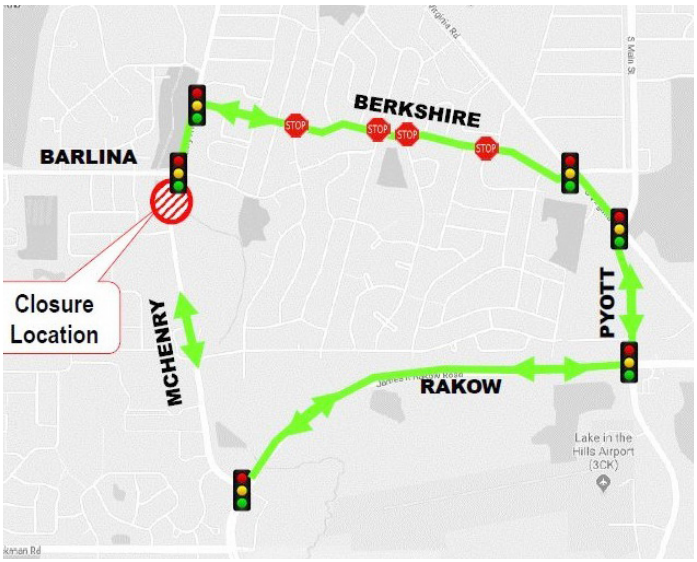

**Barlina Road Culvert Detour Route**
**Estimated Closure June/July**




**Dartmoor Drive Culvert Detour Route**
**Estimated Closure June/July**




**McHenry Avenue Culvert Detour Route**
**Estimated Closure July/Early August**



# FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

## STROKE WARNING SIGNS

A stroke is a medical emergency. Recognizing and responding immediately to the warning signs of a stroke and calling 911 can greatly improve survival and recovery. Time is brain function!

**Warning signs:**

- Weakness: Sudden loss of strength or sudden numbness in the face, arm, or leg, even for a short time.
- Trouble speaking: Sudden difficulty speaking or understanding or sudden confusion, even if temporary. Drooping of the mouth often occurs with speech difficulties, even if temporary.
- Vision problems: Sudden vision trouble, even if temporary.
- Confusion: Sudden unexplained explained confusion or repetition of phrases.
- Headache: Severe headache. Sudden and unusual headache.
- Dizziness: Sudden loss of balance especially with any of the above signs.

Before treatment can begin, a suspected stroke patient must have a CT scan to determine the type of stroke. About 10% of strokes are due to bleeding, and are treated differently than those strokes caused by blockages (about 90%). A patient has three hours to begin treatment before permanent brain damage occurs.

While waiting for an ambulance, keep the patient calm and reassure him or her. Do not give anything by mouth.

## CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES

On Sunday, March 10, 2019 it will be time to turn your clocks ahead one hour. This is a great time to ensure your smoke and carbon monoxide (co) detectors are working. Make it a tradition that when you change your clocks for Daylight Savings Time to also change your smoke and CO detector batteries. Working detectors – on every level of your home – can buy your family valuable time to escape from a fire or a dangerous level of carbon monoxide.

Smoke detectors save lives! Smoke detectors that are properly installed and maintained play a vital role in reducing fire deaths and injuries. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke detectors to give you time to get out.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, 60% of fire related deaths occur in homes with non-working smoke detectors or no smoke detectors.



Additional Safety Tips:

- A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire. Install smoke detectors in every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. Install detectors on every level of the home.
- Replace your detectors if they are 10 years or older.
- Create an escape plan and meeting place with your family and practice the plan with all family members.

*Information provided by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)*

# POLICE DEPARTMENT

## National Social Work Month




March is nationally recognized as Social Work Month, a designation officially signed by the White House in 1984.

Social workers play an integral role in the communities they serve and are often behind the scenes, aiding in a person's well-being and success.

Each year, a theme is selected highlighting contributions of social workers or to bring focus to a cause such as poverty, mental illness, HIV/AIDS, homelessness, and violence prevention.

This year's theme, Elevate Social Work, has a focus on education with a goal to inform the public and local communities on the various aspects of the profession.




In support of National Social Work Month, our next segment of Coffee with the Chief will feature guest speakers from local social work services who have played a supportive role in police operations.

The program will provide information about social work services provided to the community and the link between those services and the Crystal Lake Police Department.

Coffee with the Chief is scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2019, from 6pm to 7pm at the Crystal Lake Police Department, 100 W. Woodstock Street. Seating is limited. Please R.S.V.P. with Officer Eddie Pluviose at (815)356-3731 or email at epluviose@crystallake.org.

## Crime Stoppers

Crystal Lake Crime Stoppers pays cash rewards of up to $1000.00 for information leading to the arrest and filing of criminal charges against offenders. Let's continue to help keep Crystal Lake a Good Place to Live and Work.

Crime Stoppers 1-800-762-STOP (7867). Caller ID is not used.

Crime STOPPERS

## Happy St. Patrick's Day

The Police Department asks everyone to celebrate safely and drink responsibly on St. Patrick's Day. We encourage you to delegate a designated driver or use a paid mode of transportation such as Lyft, Uber, taxi, or public transportation. There are many safe transportation options: drunk driving is not one of them. Help keep our roads safe.



Additional Crystal Lake Police Officers will also be on the roads to crack down on drunk driving.

**Officer Ed Pluviose - (815) 356-3731 or by email at epluviose@crystallake.org**

**Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620**

# THREE OAKS RECREATION AREA

**5517 Northwest Highway Crystal Lake, IL 60014**
**Information Hotline: (815) 356-2447**
**Rainout Line: (815) 506-9333**
**Website: threeoaksrecreation.com**
**Follow Three Oaks on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!**

## Employment Opportunities

- We are looking for Lifeguards at Three Oaks Recreation Area.
- There are also openings for Administrative Interns and a GIS Intern to work at City Hall for the summer season in addition to Public works Seasonal Laborers.
- More information is available on our website at www.crystallake.org under Human Resources Department Employment Opportunities or click on the "How Do I" tab and "Job Opportunities".




## Park Partners

While not open in April, you can reach out directly to our partners for information and reservations in 2019.

**Alpine Accessories**
(Stand-Up Paddleboarding)
(847) 854-4754
www.aaboardhouse.com
www.alpineaccessories.com

**Quarry Cable Park**
(Wakeboard Park)
(815) 893-0036
www.thequarrycablepark.com

**The Cottage on the Beach**
(Beach Concessions)
(815) 459-7520








## Marina Opens for the Season Saturday, April 13th at 6:30 a.m.

Beginning April 13, 2019, the Marina will be open every Saturday and Sunday from 6:30 a.m. until sunset. As in previous years, the last boat rentals leave the docks 90-minutes prior to sunset.

During April, only "powered" boats are made available as water temperatures are colder and unsafe for human-powered watercraft (canoes, kayaks, sailboats). Typically, these watercrafts are made available in mid-to-late May.

### Fishing Boats

Our fleet of 12' and 14' Mirrocraft aluminum fishing boats come equipped with trolling motors and 12-volt batteries.

Rental Rates (2-hour minimum)
12' fishing boat: $25 (Crystal Lake resident discount: $22)
14' fishing boat: $28 (Crystal Lake resident discount: $24)

### Watercraft Rental Guidelines

All Marina rentals are available on a first-come-first-served basis as no reservations are accepted. Three Oaks Recreation Area provides all required life jackets and seat cushions free with rentals - life jackets must be worn at all times. Customers are required to remain in the watercraft as access to the islands and shorelines are prohibited. Minimum age of 18 required to rent a boat. Minimum age requirement for use of watercrafts is listed below:

| Fishing Boat | Pontoon | Sailboat | Kayak | Canoe | Paddleboat | Swan Paddleboat |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18 | 18 | 18 | 15* | 15* | 13* | 13* |

* All minors require parent/guardian signature who will remain on site for the entire rental period.

### Fishing at Three Oaks Recreation Area

We are a popular destination for anglers who value clean water, great visibility, well-stocked lakes and our "Catch & Release" fishing environment. No outside boats are allowed on the lake and only electric trolling motors are used on our fishing boats. Anglers have the options of taking out one of our fishing boats into the 300+ acre South Lake or enjoying over 1.5 miles of shoreline fishing.

### Fishing Guidelines

Illinois fishing licenses are required and available for purchase at the Marina during rental hours. No "live bait" allowed (defined as aquatic bait, minnows or leeches) although night crawlers are allowed and available for purchase. Contrary to Illinois State Law, the taking of smaller fish (or any lake creature) and using them as bait for larger fish is not allowed.

### Hiking Trails

Our West Trail (.75 miles) and East Trail (.5 miles) are available for you to enjoy and take in the spring air while watching the park environment come back to life after a long winters rest.

# NEW BUSINESSES

**Smoothology**, located at 67 E. Woodstock Street in Downtown Crystal Lake, offers smoothies, deli wraps, flatbread pizzas and quesadillas.

**Aroma Coffee and Wine,** located at 77 E. Woodstock Street in Downtown Crystal Lake, is the premier location for a morning cup of coffee and an evening glass of wine.

**Cut It Out Scrapbook**, located at 19 Crystal Lake Plaza, helps you preserve your memories so that you can relive and remember them forever! Items include custom laser cuts, tools, storage, albums, and adhesives. They also offer fun and relaxing scrapbooking classes. The 4,800 square foot store is packed full of great scrapbook supplies and contains enough space to accommodate small parties.

**Illinois Bone and Joint** opened a physician and rehab clinic located at 815 COG Circle, Suite 1. Illinois Bone and Joint Institute is one of the largest independent physician-owned orthopedic practices in the US treating both children and adults. The Crystal Lake location is a rehabilitation clinic offering joint care, pain management, podiatry and sports medicine services.

# CURBSIDE ELECTRONICS COLLECTION EVENT: WEEK OF MARCH 18 – 22, 2019

Prairieland Disposal will be conducting curbside electronics collection during the **week of March 18-22, 2019**. Residents may set out a maximum of five (5) electronic items, including a limit of one (1) TV or one (1) computer monitor. The electronics will be collected on the resident's regularly scheduled collection day.

The following table details which items may and may not be set out for electronics collection:

| Accepted Electronics Items | Items NOT Accepted |
|---|---|
| One Television or One Computer Monitor | Air Conditioners |
| Cell Phones, Telephones and Tablets | Appliances |
| Cameras | Batteries |
| CD Players | Battery Operated Children's Toys |
| Computer Drives | Coffee Makers |
| Cords and Cables | Computer Disks |
| Electronics Mice and Keyboards | Dishwashers |
| Fax Machines and Printers | Hair Dryers and Hair Irons |
| Holiday Lights | Humidifiers |
| Modems | Liquid or Chemical Waste |
| Paper Shredders | Microwave Ovens |
| Satellite Receivers | Packaging Materials |
| Scanners | Refrigerators |
| Stereos | Smoke and Fire Detectors |
| Video Game Consoles | Water Softeners |

Please contact Prairieland Disposal at (847) 381-9300 with any questions regarding the electronics collection event. The fall electronics collection week will occur on September 9-13, 2019.

## Sustainability Committee Position Vacancies

The Crystal Lake Sustainability Committee has openings for two vacant positions. The Sustainability Committee focuses on environmentally friendly initiatives for the City of Crystal Lake and is currently accepting applications. Applicants must either be a Crystal Lake resident, or applicants must show proof of employment in the City of Crystal Lake. Those interested in applying to become a member of the Sustainability Committee can fill out an application located on the Crystal Lake website at www.crystallake.org , under "Your Government", and the "Sustainability Committee" subsection.

Please submit completed applications to Nick Hammonds, Management Analyst, at City Hall, located at 100 W. Woodstock Street, or via email at nhammonds@crystallake.org. For questions or additional information regarding the Sustainability Committee, please call City Hall at (815) 459-2020.

# FIRE HYDRANT FLUSHING Q&A

**How many fire hydrants are there in the City of Crystal Lake?**
There are over 3,000 fire hydrants in the City, and the Water & Sewer Division flushes out each hydrant, and the attached underground pipes, annually during the Spring.

**Why are hydrants flushed every year, isn't it wasting water?**
There are two main reasons fire hydrants are flushed every year. First and foremost, to ensure hydrants are operating properly and there is sufficient water flow and pressure for the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department if needed. Second, is to flush naturally occurring sediment out of underground pipes connected to fire hydrants.

**How is a fire hydrant is turned on? Where is the water coming from?**
Each fire hydrant you see is connected to an underground pipe carrying water. It is the same water coming into your home or business. A hydrant wrench (see below) is used to open a "port" where the water comes out, similar to the faucet in your home. The same wrench is used to turn the "operating nut" located on the top of the hydrant. The operating nut allows water to come up the barrel and flow out of the openings, similar to your faucet's hot and cold knobs.



*Hydrant wrench*

**How does Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department use a hydrant to fight a fire?**
Water comes out of a fire hydrant at the same pressure you experience in your home. However, firefighters require adequate pressure and high volume to fight fires. In order to have enough volume, firefighters will open the large cover and connect a hose from the hydrant to their fire engine. The fire engine contains a pump, increasing water pressure. The firefighters then connect smaller hoses to the engine which are used to actually fight a fire.

**During hydrant flushing will I see any changes to my water service?**
During flushing, water may become temporarily discolored due to material being removed from water mains. The water is safe to drink, but may stain clothes washed during flushing. Please limit washing laundry during this time, but if this is not possible, the City offers Rover, a chemical that can be used as a cleanser in laundry to remove iron stains, free of charge.

**If a car were to strike a hydrant, would the water really "gush out" like it does in the movies?**
Normally, no. As long as a hydrant is off, water should not "gush out" if struck. All fire hydrants you see around the City are "dry barrel hydrants" which means there is no water sitting in the upper portion of the hydrant when it is turned off. The valve controlling the flow of water is actually below ground and there is a long stem connecting the valve to the operating nut. Near the base of that valve are weep holes. When the operating nut is used to turn the hydrant off, it opens those weep holes and allows the water to drain out of the hydrant and the stem. Incidentally, this is also a very important mechanism to avoid water freezing in the hydrant during colder months.



*Fire hydrant flushing by City of Crystal Lake Water & Sewer Division*

# SPRING 2019
# HYDRANT FLUSHING SCHEDULE*

**SECTION 1 – MARCH 18TH – MARCH 22ND**
North of Route 176 and East of Route 14
East of Terra Cotta Road and North of Crystal Lake Avenue

**SECTION 2 - MARCH 25TH – MARCH 29TH**
South of Route 176 to Route 14
East of Main Street to Route 31 (South of Crystal Lake Ave)
East of Route 31 and South of Route 14 to Walmart

**SECTION 3 - APRIL 1ST – APRIL 5TH**
South of Route 176 to Route 14
East of Route 14 to Main Street

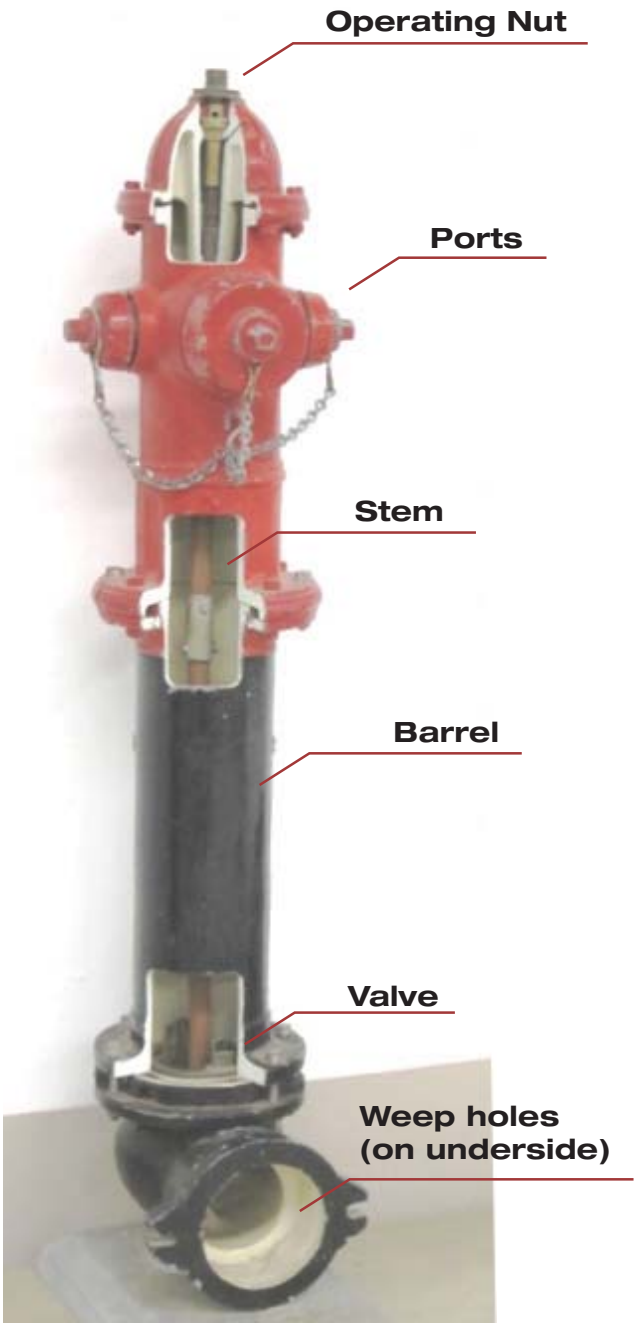
**SECTION 4 – APRIL 8TH – APRIL 12TH**
South of Route 14, East of McHenry Avenue to Route 31

**SECTION 5 – APRIL 15TH – APRIL 19TH**
West of Route 14 & McHenry Avenue North of Barlina Road

**SECTION 6 – APRIL 22ND – APRIL 26TH**
South of Barlina Road to Alexandra Boulevard
West of McHenry Avenue and West of Randall Road

**SECTION 7 – APRIL 29TH – MAY 3RD**
South of Alexandra Boulevard to Miller Road
West of Randall Road

*Subject to weather conditions



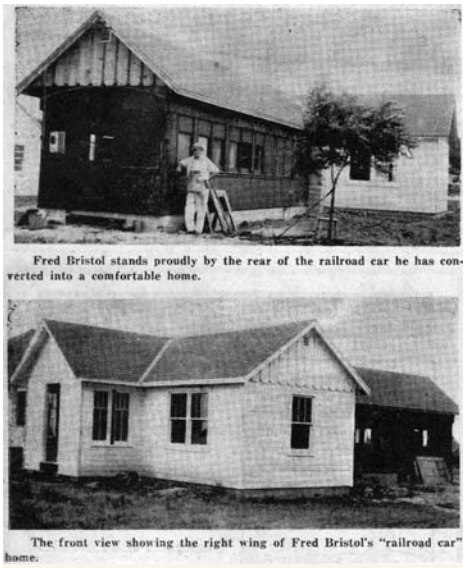
BY DIANA KENNEY

# THIS HOUSE WAS ONCE A TRAIN

Perhaps one of the most unusual beginnings to a home in Crystal Lake belongs to a house on John Street. The initial structure of this house originates from a train car.

Back in the late 1940s, Fred Bristol, a retired Chicago & Northwestern Railroad signal man, had a stroke. His family wanted to find a small place where Fred and his wife Mabel could live comfortably in their retirement years. In 1947, Fred and Mabel purchased a vacant lot on John Street, right near the railroad tracks. Money was scarce, so Fred and his family got creative and came up with an idea of how to build an affordable retirement home.

Through his connections with the railroad, Fred was able to acquire an old wooden train car "coach" which was no longer being used. The $250 coach was 9' wide by 55' long. Fred and his former co-worker, "Smokey" Joe Ober (see August, 2018 City Newsletter), labored for five Sundays removing nine tons of iron with an acetylene torch to make the coach house-ready.



Fred Bristol stands proudly by the rear of the railroad car he has converted into a comfortable home.

The front view showing the right wing of Fred Bristol's "railroad car" home.

*Crystal Lake Herald, August 26, 1948*




*The Bristol House, 2019*

Plans for the new house, which included a partial basement, were drawn by Fred's son, Ralph Bristol, who was a draftsman by trade. During the summer of 1948, a foundation for the house was dug, and the stripped down coach was hoisted into place to become the start of the Bristol's house. The coach was set the long way from front to back on the lot. With the coach in place, and with the help of his son Ralph, son-in-law Warren Turner, and a host of friends, Fred Bristol's new "train house" began to take shape.

Two rooms were built on either side of the coach to form a "T" or cross-shape. One of these rooms was the sitting room. The other was a bedroom. The kitchen and bath and a storage room were in the back of the coach. An entryway was added to the front. The coach's windows were removed and many were replaced with standard windows, while others were boarded up. The entire house was then sided to give the appearance of a modern ranch house. The total cost to complete the home was $3,500.

The Bristol's retirement years were right on track, as Fred and his wife lived the rest of their lives in their unique and cozy "train house."

About the Author: Diana Kenney is Executive Director of Downtown Crystal Lake/Main Street, is an appointed member of the City of Crystal Lake's Historic Preservation Commission, and is President of the Crystal Lake Historical Society.

# Depositing Snow on Public Streets

While winter weather is winding down, there is still potential for snow events. When removing snow from sidewalks and driveways, please keep in mind that it is a violation of City Code to place snow from your private property onto a public roadway. More specifically, Chapter 451-2 states, "No person, firm or corporation shall shovel, plow or otherwise remove snow from private property and deposit it upon the streets or public rights-of-way of the City; except owners of property within the downtown business area, herein defined, may shovel, plow or otherwise remove snow from the public sidewalk and deposit it upon the street or public right-of-way within the downtown business area." Violation of this ordinance may result in a fine.

The City thanks you for your cooperation and helping to keep our streets safe and drivable!



# CALENDAR | March 2019

## Tuesday, March 5
- City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m. (City Hall)

## Wednesday, March 6
- Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:30 p.m. (City Hall)

## Tuesday, March 19
- City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m. (City Hall)

## Wednesday, March 20
- Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:30 p.m. (City Hall)



# City of Crystal Lake, Illinois

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Cameron Hubbard

Haig Haleblian

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Nick Kachiroubas

**City Manager**

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911

**All Other Departments**

**(Non-Emergency)**

815-459-2020

www.crystallake.org

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*City of Crystal Lake*

*100 W. Woodstock Street*

*Crystal Lake, IL 60014*

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**Visit www.crystallake.org/residents/enews-sign-up to receive the newsletter by e-mail only.**

# WE VALUE YOUR OPINION

The City of Crystal Lake values the opinion of its residents. If you have any concerns or comments about the City Letter, please express them in the space provided below. (If you need more space, please attach a separate piece of paper). Clip this and mail to: City Letter, City of Crystal Lake, 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL 60014. Questions or comments can also be sent to comments@crystallake.org.