City of Crystal Lake, Illinois
CITYLETTER



INDEPENDENCE DAY FESTIVITIES

Kicking off the Independence Day festivities will be the Annual Lakeside Festival, held on the grounds of the historic Dole Mansion beginning Thursday, July 1st through Sunday, July 4th. The Festival features live music, food booths, midway games, carnival rides and fun family atmosphere. The event is made possible thanks in large part to many hardworking volunteers and sponsors, and it is the largest fundraiser for Lakeside Legacy Foundation's year-round programs and events.

The City of Crystal Lake, in keeping with tradition, will be again celebrating with its much anticipated parade and fireworks. The Independence Day parade will kick off on Sunday, July 4th at 1:00 p.m. at City Hall following its traditional 1.8 mile route from City Hall (100 W. Woodstock Street), continuing down Dole Avenue and finishing at the Lakeside Festival Grounds.

The festivities will conclude with the City of Crystal Lake sponsored 2021 fireworks show on Sunday, July 4th. The fireworks will launch from the namesake Crystal Lake at dusk near Main Beach. The fireworks again promise a great show for the entire family to enjoy.

We wish you and your family a safe and happy 4th of July!

Lakeside Festival Schedule

Thursday, July 1st	3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Friday, July 2nd	Noon to 11:00 p.m.
Saturday, July 3rd	Noon to 11:00 p.m.
Sunday, July 4th	Noon to 10:00 p.m.

For additional information, visit www.thedole.org or call (815) 455-8000.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

SUMMER BICYCLIST SAFETY

With school being done for the year, expect an increase in outdoor activities. Bicycling is one of the most common summer activities for both young and old alike. It is important that people of all ages wear their helmet and understand proper fit. A simple fall to the ground regardless of speed can cause a significant brain injury.



LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

The Law Enforcement Torch Run is an event which takes place each year where hundreds of local, county, state, and federal law enforcement officers take part to help bring awareness and raise funds for the Special Olympics Illinois. This year, the flame of hope will make its way through Veteran Acres in Crystal Lake on June 5, 2021, from 8:00 a.m. to noon. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Officer Sal Alfano at (815) 444-5956 or by email at salfano@crystallake.org.

Every participant must complete and return a Registration Form to Officer Sal Alfano by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 4, 2021.



SUMMER DRIVING TIPS FOR A COOL SUMMER

Warmer weather attracts many types of roadway users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorcyclists. While they all have the same rights, privileges and responsibilities as every motorist, these road users are more vulnerable because they do not have the same protection as a car or truck.

It is important to leave more of a distance between you and a motorcycle because a motorcycle is a much lighter vehicle, and is able to stop in much shorter distances. Please remember to use your turn signal. Doing so will allow others to anticipate your movement and find a safe lane position.

As a driver, always be mindful of pedestrians. Distracted walking is becoming part of the distracted traffic epidemic. Keep a sharp eye out for pedestrians. If you encounter a pedestrian at a crosswalk, even if it is not marked, you should yield the right-of-way.

The City of Crystal Lake has several traffic control signals in place for crosswalks. When activated, you as a driver are required to stop for a pedestrian who enters the walkway.

Officer Sal Alfano - (815) 444-5956 or by email at salfano@crystallake.org

Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620

FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

OBTAINING YOUR RECREATIONAL BURN PERMIT

Visit the City's website and follow these steps to obtain the fillable permit form:

www.crystallake.org

- How Do I?
- Apply For...
- Burn Permit

Once the form is completed and signed, it can be sent to the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department for processing.

Mail:
Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department
100 W. Woodstock St.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014



E-mail: fpb@crystallake.org

Please contact the Fire Rescue Department at (815) 356-3640 if you have any questions.

CAMPFIRE SAFETY

There's nothing quite like grilling out on a warm summer day, or sitting around a campfire making s'mores on a cool summer night. But mishaps can happen easily if caution is not taken. Use the below campfire and grilling tips to keep safe this summer!

- Make sure you have your 2021 Recreational Burn Permit from the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department. There is no fee for the permit.
- Clear away any dry sticks, leaves, and low, overhanging branches.
- Do not start a campfire within 25 feet of any structure.
- Have water nearby and readily available in case the fire needs to be extinguished quickly.
- Avoid burning on dry or windy days. Wind and a dry atmosphere make it easier for open burning to spread out of control.
- Never let children or pets run near or stand too close to a fire.
- Never use gasoline or other flammable/combustible liquids to start or accelerate a campfire.
- Make sure the fire is completely out before leaving it unattended.
- If your clothes catch fire, stop, drop, and roll while covering your face with your hands until the fire is out. Treat any burns immediately by running the burn under cool water for 3-5 minutes before covering with a clean, dry cloth. Seek medical attention if necessary.

LIFE JACKET SAFETY

When should a life jacket be worn?

- Small children and weak swimmers should wear life jackets anytime they are near water.
- When in oceans or open water.
- When boating or during water-based sports.
- When around cold water and ice.

Other life jacket tips:



- Make sure the life jacket is U.S. Coast Guard-approved (look for the stamp inside the life jacket)
- Check the label on the life jacket for size and weight limits
- Check all buckles for proper function and discard any jacket with torn fabric or loose straps
- Put it on and practice swimming in it

Sources: *www.redcross.org*

CRYSTAL LAKE FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT
(815) 356-3640

2021 VEHICLE STICKERS

City of Crystal Lake 2021 vehicle stickers will be on sale beginning June 1, 2021. Stickers may be purchased online, by mail, or by using the City's payment drop box. Below are five options that are available for purchasing vehicle stickers.

1. Online: Vehicle sticker purchases can be completed by visiting www.crystallake.org. You will be required to enter the online purchase pin from your renewal form. The Finance Department is available by phone at 815-459-2020 if you have lost your renewal form or have trouble locating your pin.
2. By Mail: Return your renewal form and payment by mail using the self-addressed envelope provided with your preprinted form or by mailing your renewal form and payment to the City of Crystal Lake, Attn: Finance Department, 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL 60014.
3. Payment Drop Box: Return your renewal form and payment using the City's payment drop box that is located in the parking lot at City Hall.
4. Satellite Locations: Bring your renewal form and payment to any one of the City's satellite locations listed on the insert that is included with your renewal notice. Satellite locations may not accept preprinted renewal forms that have been changed or modified. A convenience fee may apply.
5. In-Person: Bring your renewal form and payment to the Finance Department window in City Hall.

A valid sticker must be displayed on all vehicles registered in the City. Residents who do not receive a preprinted form will be required to show proof of ownership, i.e. Illinois registration showing current Crystal Lake address and a driver's license. Blank forms are available on the City's website at www.crystallake.org.

July 15th will be the last day to purchase vehicle stickers at the regular price. After July 15th, prices will increase.

Senior citizens, age 65 and older (with proof of age), are able to purchase one vehicle sticker for $1.00 per person.

Residents are required to display a current City sticker on the lower passenger side of their front windshield. All funds generated from the sale of vehicle stickers are used in the City's street resurfacing and reconstruction program. Valid vehicle stickers also allow for free parking at the Three Oaks Recreation Area.

Please contact the Finance Department at 815-459-2020 or finance@crystallake.org if you have questions regarding vehicle stickers.

Vehicle stickers available at the following remote locations June 1, 2021 through July 15, 2021.

- Crystal Lake Currency Exchange, 3 Crystal Lake Plaza
- Crystal Lake Bank & Trust (Two Locations), 70 N. Williams Street and 5100 Northwest Highway
- Julie Ann's Frozen Custard, 6500 Northwest Highway
- Fast Eddie's Car Wash & Detail Center, 485 Pingree Road
- JC Licht (Formerly Lloyd's Paint N' Paper), 73 N. Williams Street
- Three Oaks Recreation Area (Marina), 5517 Northwest Highway
- Jewel Food Store, 6140 Northwest Highway

Only Passenger and Senior vehicle stickers (indicated as "PAS" and "SRPAS" in the Class section of the pre-printed form) with no changes are available at these remote locations.

A convenience fee may apply. Pre-printed forms only accepted at these remote locations.

	06/01 to 7/15	7/16 to 9/30	10/1 to 5/31
Passenger/Trucks with B Plates	$10.00	$15.00	$22.50
Motorcycle/Mopeds	$10.00	$15.00	$22.50
RV Plates	$14.25	$21.38	$32.07
Trucks with D Plates	$20.00	$30.00	$45.00
All other	$30.00	$45.00	$67.50

THREE OAKS RECREATION AREA

Three Oaks Recreation Area staff is excited for the 2021 season! We hope park guests enjoy all the amenities the park has to offer this year. For your information, the Marina and Swim Beach will follow all guidelines from federal and state health agencies, including the Illinois Department of Public Health and the McHenry County Health Department. Any changes or updates will be posted on the Three Oaks Recreation Area website and Facebook page.

Marina

- The Marina is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to sunset, and Saturday and Sunday from 6:30 a.m. to sunset, weather permitting.
- We have our full fleet of boats available at the Marina building, including kayaks, canoes, peddle boats and fishing boats.

Swim Beach

The Swim Beach is open from 10:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. daily (weather permitting) through July 31, 2021, and from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. beginning August 1, 2021.

2021 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Boat rentals are first come, first serve. Advanced registration will not be taken.
- Watercraft other than those provided at the Marina are not allowed. This is to protect against any invasive species.
- Dog are allowed on walking trails only and must be on a leash.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Three Oaks Recreation Area is currently hiring lifeguards for the 2021 season. Applicants are not required to have American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification upon hire, but it must be obtained to begin the season. Please visit the City of Crystal Lake website at www.crystallake.org. Positions are listed under the Human Resources Department, Employment Opportunities.

PICTURE SUBMISSIONS

The City encourages park guests to submit pictures taken enjoying the park. With permission, submissions received will be featured on the Three Oaks Facebook page and in the City Newsletter.



Photo Credit: Sue Wright



Photo Credit: Kate Agnes Jensen



Photo Credit: Carly Droste

5517 Northwest Highway
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
www.crystallake.org/threeoaksrecreation
Email: threeoaks@crystallake.org
Information Line: (815) 356-2447
Rainout Line: (815) 506-9333

Follow the City of Crystal Lake and Three Oaks on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!

THE HOUSE OF KIRCHBERG

BY DIANA KENNEY

Chicago's "House of Kirchberg" was a jewelry store that opened in 1867 by German immigrant, Edward J. Kirchberg. After surviving the Great Chicago Fire, the store was re-established on State Street. At one time, it was the largest jewelry store in Chicago, featuring three stories of fine jewelry.

Eventually, ownership of the jewelry store was passed down to Kirchberg's son, Edward Jr. It was this second generation Kirchberg who eventually came to Crystal Lake. Edward Jr. married Mary Elizabeth Kearins in 1897. The couple had twelve children, 10 sons and 2 daughters. The family first lived in Chicago and then Wilmette, where most of the children were born.

The three oldest Kirchberg sons (Kearins, Theodore, and Anthony) enlisted for service in the U.S. Expeditionary forces, fighting in Europe during WWI. During the war, Mary Kirchberg not only had three sons fighting overseas, but four of her brothers were also on active duty!

Soon after the war ended, Edward and Mary moved to Crystal Lake. They purchased a former hotel building on the southeast shore of the lake, on today's Leonard Parkway. The hotel building was made available as a home after a disastrous fire demolished the main structure of the Leonard Hotel. The remaining portion of the hotel was divided into three similar, but separate, homes which resembled triplets.



Three homes (all with the same distinct roofline) were once attached and part of the Leonard Hotel. The Kirchberg's home was on the right. The white house in the center is the only one of the triplets still standing.



Edward commuted to Chicago and continued owning and operating the successful House of Kirchberg jewelry store. Several of his sons worked in the family business with their father. Edward and Mary Kirchberg were devoted believers in God, Country, and Family. They were active members of St. Thomas Catholic Church.

From the beginning, Edward Kirchberg became an active member of the Crystal Lake community. He was one of the first directors of the Crystal Lake Country Club, which started in 1922 at the Dole Mansion.

Perhaps Edward Kirchberg's many contributions to our community is best seen through his vision and building of the El Tovar Theatre, now known as the Raue Center for the Arts. In October 1928, The Crystal Lake Theatre Building Corporation received its charter from the State of Illinois, and the directors elected their first president, Edward Kirchberg. The enterprise was initially capitalized at $100,000 through the sale of common and preferred stock. According to early newspaper articles, Edward Kirchberg personally and practically unaided, sold most of the stock in the corporation to local citizens. Edward's enthusiasm for the project, and tenacity at securing the necessary funds enabled the beautiful El Tovar Theatre to be built.

During WWII, four more of the Kirchberg sons served our country. In addition to the blue star service banner at the Kirchberg's house, Mary proudly wore a pin her husband, the jeweler, made her displaying four blue stars.



On Friday, March 12, 1943, Mary Elizabeth Kirchberg passed away. Four years later, Edward Kirchberg passed away at his home on Leonard Parkway. Although Edward Kirchberg (and his house) are gone, current Crystal Lake residents should be reminded and grateful to him for his vision to build the beautiful theatre on Williams Street, which we now know as the Raue Center for the Arts.

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.

NEW BUSINESS

Antojitos La Fonda
35 Berkshire Drive, Unit 10

Visit Crystal Lake's newest restaurant for authentic Mexican fare - featuring empanadas, burritos and lobster tacos.



DOWNTOWN CRYSTAL LAKE FARMERS MARKET OPENS JUNE 5TH

The Downtown Crystal Lake Farmers Market has been serving our community for more than a quarter century. The market brings customers to our historic downtown district, which is home to over 180 locally owned businesses.

Downtown Crystal Lake Farmers Market is open every Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Depot Park (Woodstock & Williams Streets) from June through September. Our traditional market offers a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, baked goods, eggs, meats, plants, flowers, honey, olive oils, syrup, jams, jellies, and so much more!

The Downtown Crystal Lake Farmers Market is a member of the Illinois Farmers Market Association and is an authorized participant in the Farmers Market Nutrition Program and Northwestern Medicine Farmers Market Coupon Program which help provide fresh fruits and vegetables to those in need.

Additional information about the Downtown Crystal Lake Farmers Market is available at: www.downtowncl.org or (815) 479-0835.



STORM WATER TIPS: RAIN GARDENS

Did you know you can create a rain garden in your yard? Rain gardens are depressed areas in your landscaping to collect rain water and allow it to soak into the ground. The area is then planted with native grasses and/or flowering perennials. Rain gardens also help filter out pollutants while providing food and shelter for butterflies, song birds and other wildlife. Not sure where to start? Just type in a search engine "How to build a residential rain garden."

CALENDAR | June 2021

Tuesday, June 15

- City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m. (City Hall)

Wednesday, June 16

- Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 p.m. (City Hall)



City of Crystal Lake, Illinois

MAYOR

Haig Haleblian

COUNCILMEMBER

Ellen Brady
Cathy A. Ferguson
Brett Hopkins
Cameron Hubbard
Mandy Montford
Ian Philpot

City Clerk

Nick Kachiroubas

City Manager

Gary J. Mayerhofer

Police/Fire/Ambulance Emergency Only

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/your-government/communications/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.