City of Crystal Lake, Illinois
CITYLETTER



New Businesses Around Crystal Lake

Off the Vine - 129 N. Main Street - Opening Soon!
A new neighborhood wine shop, offering retail wine from around the world. Including a small selection of specialty beer and liquor, as well as retail merchandise like wine glasses, decanters, wine openers, and books on wine.

Whispering Hills - 8109 S. Illinois Route 31 - Now Open!
Whispering Hills expanded and updated their retail center. Customers will find a selection of garden décor, fountains, statuary, and an expanded offering of annuals, perennials, groundcovers, naturally grown vegetables, herbs, fruit trees, and other edible plants. There is also a new line of maintenance free poly outdoor furniture.

Rookies All American Pub & Grill -
72 N. Williams Street - Now Open!
A family-friendly sports bar and grill known for their burgers and drinks is opening its sixth location in Downtown Crystal Lake.

Rosie's Gluten Free Sweets -
5150 Northwest Hwy, Units 7 - 9 - Opening Soon!
This bakery is dedicated to providing a safe place for enjoying products free of gluten and peanuts. Offering a wide variety of breads, cakes, cupcakes and cookies. Along with specialty items like friands, a European specialty, and vegan friendly cakes, cupcakes and cookies that are not only gluten free, but dairy free!

Boot Barn - 4423 Route 14 - Now Open!
Opening its second Illinois store location in the Twin Ponds Shopping Center. Boot Barn offers the latest styles in cowboy boots, hats, and clothing, including brands like Carhartt, UGG, and Free People. This store specializes in a wide variety of boots including work boots, dress boots, and casual boots. Boot Barn has grown from a single store, opening in 1978, to over 220 stores in more than 30 states.

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FUN THINGS TO DO THIS SUMMER IN

Crystal Lake



Three Oaks Recreation Area

Three Oaks seems to never run out of fun things to do! Swim, play a sand volleyball game, go fishing, wakeboard or enjoy a leisurely lunch overlooking the water, there is a little bit of everything here! The marina also offers plenty of kayak, canoe, paddle boat, and row boat options.

Downtown Crystal Lake

Take a stroll in Downtown Crystal Lake and enjoy outdoor dining at one of our outdoor dining areas in Depot Park or Brink Street Market. While Downtown, don't miss out on the many downtown community events, locally owned and operated shops or one of the many tasty dinning destinations.





Weekend Farmers Markets

Crystal Lake has two fantastic farmers markets that can be visited on the weekends: Crystal Lake Farmers Market at Depot Park on Saturdays or the Dole Farmers Market+ on Sundays. Find your weekly produce needs or discover something new that you don't see in the grocery store.

Crystal Lake Main Beach

No better way to spend a hot summer day than with your toes in the sand or cooling off in Crystal Lake's namesake lake. Spend an evening watching the sunset while enjoying music at the park every Tuesday night at 7pm.





Parks and Recreation

Crystal Lake offers a wide range of public parks, with a range of activities. Explore miles of shady trails at Veteran Acres Park. Visit Lippold park to watch a baseball game, play disc golf, or play a round of mini golf at the recently renovated mini golf course.

The Prairie Trail

A portion of the 25 miles Prairie Trail runs through Crystal Lake and offers a great weekend activity for bikers and walkers. The full trail runs from just south of the Wisconsin border, all the way to Kane County, bike or walk it all if you're looking for a summer goal or challenge!





Raue Center for the Arts

When the summer heat becomes too much, or you're looking for something fun to do indoors this summer, don't forget about The Raue Center. The Raue offers a wide range of shows, performers, musical guests, and even standup-comedians!

FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Summer Safety Reminders!

It's officially summer and the yard work and outdoor projects are in full swing! Sometimes these projects can pose dangers we would never even think of. Here are some tips to help keep you and your home safe while working on your home this summer.

Properly use and store gasoline
Gasoline should only be used as motor fuel, not as a cleaning agent or to break down grease. Do not keep gasoline indoors; it should be stored in a container sold strictly for gasoline, tightly sealed, and kept in a detached garage or shed.



Carefully dispose of rags with paint and stain
The oils commonly used in oil-based paints and stains release heat as they dry. If the heat is not released in the air as the rags dry, the heat is trapped, builds up, and can cause a fire. Never leave cleaning rags in a pile. When you're finished using the rags, take them outside to dry, keeping them well away from the home and other structures. Put dried rags in a metal container, and ensure the container is tightly covered. Fill the container with a water and detergent solution to break down the oils. Keep containers of oily rags in a cool place out of direct sunlight and away from other heat sources.

Use/store flammable and combustible liquids with care
Flammable and combustible liquids should not be used near an open flame. If you spill liquids on your clothing, remove your clothing and place it outside to dry. Wait until the clothing has dried before laundering. Keep liquids tightly capped or sealed in their original containers. Never store the liquids in glass containers.



Inspect grills to ensure they're in good working order
Inspect your grill carefully and ensure it's free of grease or fat buildup. Clean out any nests, spider webs, or other debris. For propane grills, check the gas tank hose before the first use of the year.

Keep debris well away from your home
Every year, wildfires burn across the U.S., with more and more people living in communities where wildfires are a real risk. Dispose of branches, weeds, leaves, pine needles, and grass clippings to reduce fuel for fire. Remove leaves, pine needles, and other flammable material from the roof, gutters, and on or under the deck to help prevent embers from igniting your home. Remove dead vegetation and other combustible materials, especially within the first five feet of the house. Move construction material, trash, and woodpiles at least 30 feet from the home and other outbuildings.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Kiddos! We need your help!

National Night Out is right around the corner! The annual event is tentatively scheduled for August 3, 2023. What is National Night Out without our annual National Night Out T-Shirt design contest? If you have a Crystal Lake Elementary School District 47 student in 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade, we need their help!! The attached image is last year's design winner. We are seeking a shirt design that ties the Crystal Lake Police Department with the Crystal Lake Community. You have until June 30th to turn in your design to Officer Stolzman at kstolzman@crystallake.org. The winner will receive a special plaque from the Police Department!



The Crystal Lake Police Car Show is Back!

On Sunday, September 10, 2023, the Crystal Lake Police Department will host a car show to benefit McHenry County Police Charities. The mission of McHenry County Police Charities is to provide positive interaction and a Christmas to those children in McHenry County that are less fortunate and may not have a Christmas otherwise. Money donated will go directly to "Shop with a Cop", held in December. Come out to the Dole Farmers Market+, and enjoy a mix of restored classics, muscle cars, exotics, and much more!

Beginning at 9:00 a.m., you can enter the Dole Mansion's north lawn at the intersection of Ringling and Highland Avenue. We ask that you make a $20 donation upon entering the north lawn, cash preferred. Space is limited; please contact Officer Stolzman at kstolzman@crystallake.org with any questions.

Coffee With the Chief

On Tuesday, June 13, 2023, between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., come over to City Hall, located at 100 W Woodstock St., for Coffee with the Chief! This is an excellent opportunity to have coffee and talk with Chief Black. In addition, we will have Crystal Lake Police Detectives educate the public regarding ruse burglaries and common scams affecting the community. Reserve your seat by emailing Officer Kristiana Stolzman at kstolzman@crystallake.org Hope to see you there!

Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620

Officer Kristiana Stolzman - (815) 444-5956 or by email at kstolzman@crystallake.org

Follow The CLPD on Facebook to stay up to date on the latest news, events, and safety tips!

Bike With Your Neighbor

The City of Crystal Lake's Sustainability Committee, in partnership with the Crystal Lake Park District, will be hosting the annual Bike With Your Neighbor Event on Sunday, June 11th! The event is free to biking enthusiasts of all ages and includes a bike rodeo for younger riders, multiple routes of varying difficulties, prizes and more! The event begins and ends at Crystal Lake Main Beach and will run from noon to 2:30 p.m.

Downtown Receives Main Street America Accreditation

Downtown Crystal Lake has been designated as an Accredited Main Street America™ program for meeting rigorous performance standards. Each year, Main Street America and its partners announce the list of accredited programs to recognize their exceptional commitment to preservation-based economic development and community revitalization through the Main Street Approach™.

In 2022, Main Street America programs generated $6.2 billion in local reinvestment, helped open 7,657 net new businesses, facilitated the creation of 29,174 net new jobs, catalyzed the rehabilitation of 10,688 historic buildings, and leveraged 1,528,535 volunteer hours. On average, for every dollar that a Main Street program spent to support their operations, it generated $24.07 of new investment back into their downtown communities.

Collectively, 2 million people live or work within the boundaries of designated Main Street America districts. An estimated workforce of 1.1 million people contribute their skills and expertise to advancing the missions of these historic downtowns and commercial corridors.

Downtown Crystal Lake's performance is annually evaluated by Illinois Main Street, which works in partnership with Main Street America to identify the local programs that meet rigorous national performance standards. To qualify for Accreditation status, communities must meet a set of rigorous standards that include commitments to building grassroots revitalization programs, fostering strong public-private partnerships, nurturing economic opportunity for small businesses and entrepreneurs, and actively preserving historic places, spaces, and cultural assets.

Water Quality Report

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) is the federal law that protects public drinking water supplies throughout the nation. Under the SDWA, EPA sets standards for drinking water quality and with its partners, implements various technical and financial programs to ensure drinking water safety.

The Crystal Lake Public Works Department is committed to providing safe water to our customers, and we are strong supporters of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The Crystal Lake Annual Water Quality Report is available with the link below. El Informe anual de calidad del Agua de Crystal Lake esta disponible en:

https://www.crystallake.org/home/showpublisheddocument?id=22231

If you would like a paper copy mailed to your home, please call: (815) 356 - 3614.

Construction Projects

The City of Crystal Lake Public Works Department will be ramping up operations of multiple construction projects across the City. To stay up to date on all of these projects, or to learn more, visit https://bit.ly/3VYvA2I. The City will be providing additional updates on Facebook as well.



THREE OAKS RECREATION AREA

Park Hours
6:30 A.M. - Sunset

Open Water Swim

Open Water Swim (OWS) sessions at the Lake House Swim Beach are held on Saturday mornings from 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m., weather permitting.

Open Water Swim is described as distanced swimming beyond the boundaries of the regular swim beach on select dates and times only. This is a special session that is in addition to the regular swim beach operation hours. All skill levels are welcome!

Registration and check-in begins 60 minutes prior to scheduled start times. The Open Water Swim fee is $5.00 each session, per participant.

Open Water Swim Dates
June 3, June 10, June 17, and June 24
7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Boat Rentals

Row Boat Pricing - Rental rates are for 2 hours

	Regular Rate	Resident Discount	Regular Add Hour	Resident Add Hour
12' Combo	$28	$22	$12	$10
14' Combo	$31	$24	$14	$12

Watercraft Pricing - Rental rates are for 1 hour

	Regular Rate	Regular Add 1/2 Hour	Resident Rate	Resident Add 1/2 Hour
Canoe	$14	$6	$10	$6
Kayak	$14	$6	$10	$6
Paddle Boat	$14	$6	$10	$6
Manual Pontoon	$40	$20	$35	$15

Scuba Zone

General Rules

- The minimum age to dive is 12 years of age. Divers 12-17 years of age must be accompanied by a certified dive instructor or a certified parent/legal guardian during the entire length of the dive.
- Divers are required to use a Dive Flag at all times when in the Scuba Zone.
- Each diver must present an active diving certification card along with a photo ID.
- Registration, check-in, and the daily dive fee must be completed before entering the water.

Facility Amenities

- Easy-access walkways from the parking area.
- Secured, fenced area for equipment.
- Private changing rooms.
- Three training platforms with buoy markers.
- Submerged concrete culverts for training.
- Rinse/shower station.
- Picnic area.
- Beach access and private dock access to scuba diving area.

Hours

Marina
6:30 a.m. to Sunset, weather permitting

Swim Beach
10:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., weather permitting

Scuba Zone
8:00 a.m. to Sunset, weather permitting

The Marina, Swim Beach, OWS and Scuba Zone may close at any time due to inclement weather. This includes, but is not limited to, high winds, anticipated thunderstorms, heavy rainfall, cold temperatures, severe weather, or if our lightning detection system sounds. To stay informed on weather conditions at Three Oaks, please check our Rainout Line at 815-506-9333.

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

2023 Street Resurfacing

The 2023 Street Resurfacing Program is underway. This year's program will include the locations shown in the table. Our resurfacing program is structured to have concrete work at all locations completed before any asphalt work takes place. This includes spot curb replacement and updating any sidewalk ramps that are not up to current ADA standards. Once the concrete work is completed in one area, the contractor temporarily fills in any holes in the pavement with stone, and moves onto the next area. Once all concrete work is complete, approximately 4 weeks later, asphalt work begins. The existing asphalt surface is removed, if needed, the stone base is repaired and compacted, and then the asphalt layers are installed. The asphalt portion of the work typically only takes 4-5 days, and the road can be driven on within a few hours of installation. With proper maintenance, the new pavement surfaces should last for up to 20 years.

if you have any questions you can email Jason MacNally at jmacnally@crystallake.org or visit https://bit.ly/41lrEeh.

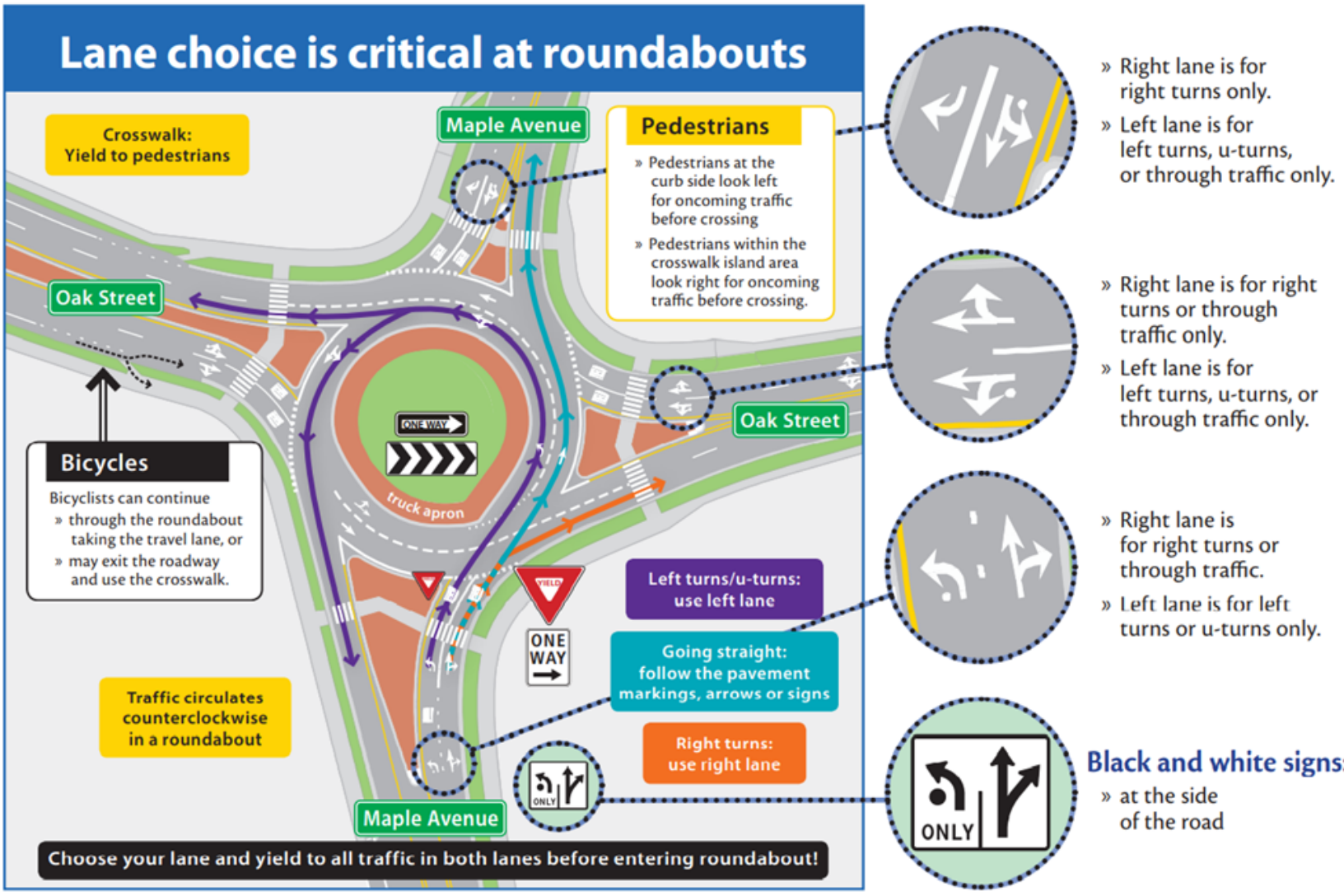
Street Name	From	To
Hunter Trail	Alexandra Boulevard	Swanson Road
Rolling Hills Drive	Alexandra Boulevard	City Limits
Alexandra Boulevard	Rolling Hills Drive	Swanson Drive
Quail Way	Rolling Hills Drive	Hunter Trail
Grouse Way	Alexandra Boulevard	Hunter Trail
Gander Lane	Alexandra Boulevard	Rolling Hills Drive
Gander Court	Gander Lane	Cul Du Sac
Congress Parkway	Federal Drive	Exchange Drive
Congress Parkway	Exchange Drive	Pingree Approach
Federal	Congress Parkway	Truck Entrance South
Kings Gate Lane	Village Road	Miller Road
Caledonia Lane	Mooreland Lane	King Gate Lane
Moorland	Village Road	Kings Gate Lane
Goldsboro Lane	Village Road	Andover Lane
Queensport Drive	Village Road	Andover Lane
Sandalwood	Amberwood	Dovercliff
Whitehall Way	Dovercliff	Boxwood
Dovercliff	Amberwood	Amberwood
Dartmoor Drive	Cul De Sac (West)	Virginia Road
Dartmoor Drive	Virginia Road	Cul De Sac (East)
Caroline Alley	Caroline Street	Center Street

Roundabout Reminders

Roundabouts are becoming a more common intersection type, in place of traditional intersections across the country. As this trend continues and Crystal Lake constructs its first two roundabouts this summer along Congress Parkway, it is essential to understand why communities are shifting to roundabouts and how to drive in one. Traditional intersections with stop signs or traffic signals can lead to severe crashes from right-angle, left-turn (T-Bone), and head-on collisions. These collisions become more severe as the speed of the vehicles increase. Roundabouts help alleviate both of these concerns. When all drivers travel in the same direction when entering a roundabout, the severity of the crash is reduced. Also, when traffic slows to yield before entering the roundabout the, vehicle speed is reduced which helps to alleviate high-speed collisions.

While roundabouts are becoming more commonplace in the county and surrounding area, they are still new to some drivers. When driving through a roundabout, proceed with the following steps:

1. Slow down. Obey traffic signs.
2. Yield to traffic on your left already in the roundabout.
3. Enter the roundabout when there is a safe gap in traffic.
4. Keep your speed low within the roundabout.
5. As you approach your exit, turn on your right turn signal.
6. Yield to pedestrians and bicycles as you enter and exit.



CENTENNIAL ARBOR DAY PARK

DIANA KENNEY

Arbor Day is a holiday to honor and celebrate trees. Ways to celebrate include planting trees, caring for them or educating the public about the importance of trees. Trees improve air quality and provide a habitat for wildlife. Arbor Day is traditionally celebrated on the last Friday in April. The first American Arbor Day was established in 1872 by Julius Sterling Morton in Nebraska City, NE. Planting trees was a family tradition, as fifty years after Arbor Day started, Morton's son Joy founded the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, IL.

In 1972, representatives of each of Crystal Lake's five garden clubs formed a committee to develop a way to commemorate 100 years of Arbor Day. Their idea was to create the city's first mini-park. Marianne Clark, of Countryside Garden Club, was a native of Germany. She explained how in Europe there are many tiny parks scattered among residential neighborhoods. These parks were created so groups of neighbors could walk to the park, visit with each other and simply enjoy nature. The goal of the committee was to create a similar mini-park at the corner of Route 176 and Illinois Street on a lot the City of Crystal Lake owned. City Council endorsed the plan, and the committee's work began!

The committee consulted with a visiting professor of architecture from Berlin and Woodstock architect Andy Kuby. Plans were developed and fundraising began. The first donation received came from Mayor Anthony Wujcik. It was quickly followed by pledges of cash and plant material from local businesses and residents. The garden clubs also contributed funds with proceeds from their annual flower sales. More than a hundred different businesses and individuals donated to the project.

Work on the mini-park progressed throughout the Fall of 1972. A dedication and ribbon-cutting was held in late October. Surrounded by politicians (naturally), Marianne Clark cut the ceremonial ribbon. By then, the sidewalks leading into the park and several benches were already installed. Many trees and bushes had also been planted.

The mini-park project was entered into the Sears Environmental Improvement Program awards competition. This national competition spotlighted projects across the nation, with awards being made regionally. A group of judges visited the developing mini-park site and reviewed detailed plans about the project. In the Spring of 1973, it was announced the mini-park project had been awarded $100 from Sears & Roebuck. Although the money was appreciated, the greater value in the award was the national recognition and Sears showcasing the Crystal Lake mini-park project.

To celebrate Arbor Day 1973, several new trees were added to the park. Garden club members and neighbors from Illinois Street joined forces to select and plant flowers in their new park. The Centennial Arbor Day Park at the corner of Route 176 and Illinois has truly been a community project. To this day, the neighbors continue to plant flowers in the Spring and walk to the park to sit, visit and enjoy the beauty of this neighborhood treasure.



The Park at 176 and Illinois

About the Author: Diana Kenney is an appointed member of the City of Crystal Lake's Historic Preservation Commission, and President of the Crystal Lake Historical Society.
To contact Diana email info@cl-hs.org.

New Metra Concessionaire

Coming soon to the Downtown Crystal Lake Metra Station, Breaking Bread Catering and Deli will be taking over concessions operations. Breaking Bread will provide coffee, pastries, and sandwiches for Metra train riders Monday through Saturday. Whether you are stopping in before catching a train, or walking through Depot Park and the Historic Downtown, Breaking Bread will be offering to-go options from inside the station. Breaking Bread will be available on weekdays from 6:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., and will be closed on Sundays.



The Quarry at Three Oaks Events







CALENDAR | JUNE 2023

Thursday, June 1
Historic Preservation Commission, 7:00 P.M

Tuesday, June 6
City Council Meeting, 7:00 P.M

Wednesday, June 7
Planning and Zoning Meeting, 7:00 P.M

Tuesday, June 20
City Council Meeting, 7:00 P.M

Wednesday, June 21
Planning and Zoning Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, June 21
Sustainability Committee Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

All Meetings at City Hall, 100 W. Woodstock Street

City of Crystal Lake, Illinois

MAYOR
Haig Haleblian

COUNCILMEMBER
Ellen Brady
Brett Hopkins
Cameron Hubbard
Mandy Montford
Ian Philpot
Denise Smith

CITY CLERK
Nick Kachiroubas

CITY MANAGER
Eric Helm

Police/Fire/Ambulance Emergency Only
911

All Other Departments (Non-Emergency)
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www.crystallake.org

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100 W. Woodstock Street
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

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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 www.crystallake.org.

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