City of Crystal Lake, Illinois
CITYLETTER



HIGHLIGHTS FROM NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

Johnny Appleseed Festival: September 30, 2023

The legend of Johnny Appleseed has been alive in Downtown Crystal Lake for 30 years. This year's event on Saturday, September 30th, promises to be the biggest and best! Yes, that's 30 years on the 30th! Thousands of families attend the festival to celebrate the season, community, and enjoy a variety of apple-flavored delights. This family-friendly event contains history, art, music, and culture.

Named in honor of the historic orchardist and nurseryman, the Johnny Appleseed Festival includes fun for all ages. It is held the last Saturday of each September in honor of Appleseed's a/k/a John Chapman's birthday (9/26/1774). Activities include wagon rides, children's games, face painting, dancing, and even Johnny Appleseed himself, to tell stories of seeding orchards in the frontier days of 1812-1845. The petting zoo, Corner Corral inflatables, and pumpkin train are back by popular demand. Hours for the festival are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Special Guest Johnny Appleseed impersonator, Steve McPhail, will return this year. He has been seen walking among the festival guests sharing historical information about sowing apple seeds on the frontier through 1845 to form orchards and establish nurseries. In addition to growing fruit trees, Johnny Appleseed/John Chapman created legal boundaries to establish land claims on the frontier.

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THE HUSKIE CONNECTION

DIANA KENNEY

Many Crystal Lake residents can claim to be Northern Illinois University alumni (myself included). But only one (former) Crystal Lake resident, Walt Lorimer, can claim to help name the school's mascot, "The Huskies."

According to the school's website, Northern's mascot wasn't always "The Huskies." Originally, NIU teams were known as "The Profs," probably referring to the school's former role as a teacher's college. During the 1920s, they were known as "The Cardinals ." In the 1930s, some referred to the athletic teams as the "Evansmen" in honor of the school's coach and athletic director, George "Chick" Evans.

The website goes on to say, "Finally, in 1940, a four-man committee consisting of Evans, Harold Taxman, Walter Lorimer and Harry Telman (all members of the Varsity Club) was appointed to search for '...a term with a trifle more dash'. After much debate, an agreement was reached and reported in the January 25, 1940, Northern Illinois student newspaper that from now on, the word 'Huskies' will be used to indicate our athletic squads."

Walt Lorimer remembers it differently. In a 1996 letter to the University, Walt shares his recollection of the naming of the mascot. Lorimer writes, "I graduated from NI in March 1940. The intercollegiate teams (all male, I believe) were called 'The Big Red.' I felt the team name was completely inappropriate. The football team didn't consist of midgets, but with two exceptions, none of the players were especially big. Also, the name 'Big Red' didn't allow for a mascot."

Lorimer continues, "So I wrote a column in the student newspaper voicing my unhappiness with our name and requesting that the students send in their suggestions. I promised that at the end of three weeks, I would tally the results and announce it to the student body. Lo and behold, there were no entries, no suggestions, no response at all."

Walt recalled, "A friend of mine in Crystal Lake had a beautiful husky dog. The dog seemed like a pure wolf to me! The dog was beautiful. I knew huskies were certainly northern dogs, and we needed a Northern mascot. So, I announced that "The Huskies" had won the contest for the team name."

Walt did not recall being appointed to a committee with Evans, as the school website indicates. He wrote, "I personally did not like Chick Evans, the football coach, which I'm sure didn't bother him because he probably didn't even know who I was."



Walt was well-known in Crystal Lake, however! Walter Lorimer (CLCHS Class of 1936) was born October 28, 1918, in Chicago. His parents were William Lorimer Jr. & Ella Josephine Healy. In 1929, the Lorimers built the large white mansion facing the lake at 615 Lake Street. Walt was an excellent student (National Honor Society) and athlete. In high school, he was on the Football, Basketball, and Swim teams. He was best known for his leadership on the Track team, setting many school records. After high school, he attended Northern, where he wrote for the school newspaper and competed in track.

After graduating from DeKalb, Walt attended Harvard Law School before entering the United States Navy in June 1942. During the War, he was skipper of USS-SC702 in the South Pacific and later a legal officer at the Naval Supply Depot in Oakland, CA. After the War, Walt finished his law degree at Harvard, then moved his family out to Los Angeles, where he made a career of practicing law in the entertainment industry.

Regardless of which naming story (or some variation) of the Northern Illinois Huskies mascot is true, we do know that Crystal Lake's Walt Lorimer had a hand in the naming. And there is certainly a Huskie Connection to Crystal Lake.

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.

THREE OAKS RECREATION AREA

Park Hours
6:30 A.M. - Sunset

September Hours Update

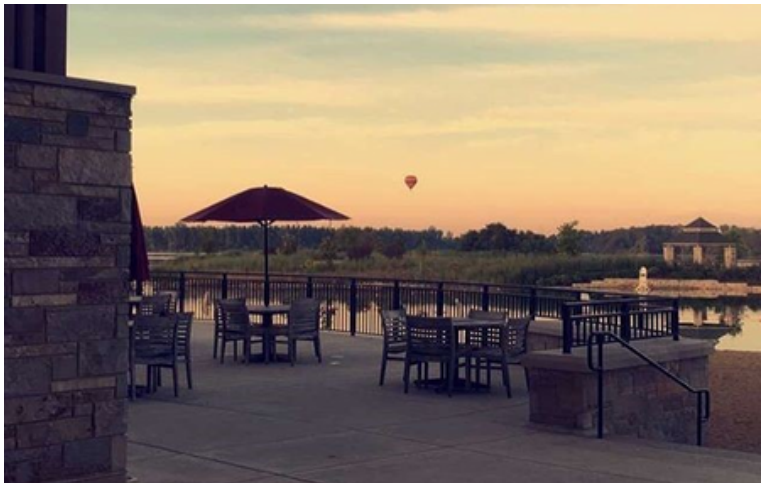
After Labor Day, the beach will be closed for the rest of the season. In addition, the Marina will be open only on Saturdays and Sundays after Labor Day weekend. Please check the City of Crystal Lake website for September marina hours.



Host Your Event at Three Oaks!

People remember Three Oaks for being that fun place to go with your family, the beach you spent summer days at, or having that particular fishing spot. However, Three Oaks can host more significant events as well! Let the beautiful lake and the incredible views be the backdrop for your wedding, fundraiser, or other unique events. Before you begin sending out the invites for your event, please contact the City Manager's Office at (815) 459-2020 Ext. 4288 or the visit the City of Crystal Lake website at: www.crystallake.org/three-oaks-recreation/pavilion-rentals.

Lake House Patio Available for Rental



The Lake House Patio will be available for reservations beginning the day after Labor Day. Reservations for the Lake House patio can be booked through mid-October. Rental of the patio for events such as weddings will also grant access to the beach. Catering is allowed at events, however grills and tents are not allowed at this rental location.

This location can accommodate sixty guests; for all other questions regarding the rental of the Lake House patio or any other pavilion rentals, please visit the City website at www.crystallake.org/three-oaks-recreation.

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

The Marina, Swim Beach, and Scuba Zone may close anytime 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.

FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month — a time to raise awareness of this stigmatized and often taboo topic. We use this month to shift public perception, spread hope, and share vital information with people affected by suicide. The main goal is to ensure that individuals, families, and friends can access the resources to discuss suicide prevention and seek help.

Suicidal thoughts, much like mental health conditions, can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, or background. Suicide is often the result of an untreated mental health condition. Suicidal thoughts, although typical, should not be considered normal and usually indicate more serious issues.

Suicide Warning Signs

Recognizing the warning signs is key to preventing suicide. Seek help if you or someone you know is experiencing any of the following signs :

- Talking about feeling trapped or in unbearable pain.
- Expressing being in pain or being a burden to others.
- Giving away prized possessions.
- Acting anxious or agitated.
- Sleeping too little or too much.
- Withdrawing or feeling isolated.
- Increasing the use of alcohol or drugs.
- Showing rage or extreme mood swings.
- Exhibiting daring or risk-taking behaviors.
- Showing lack of interest in future plans.

Crisis Resources

- If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis, call or text 988 immediately. This new number will allow people to quickly connect with support during a crisis, 24/7, no matter where they live.
- If you are uncomfortable talking on the phone, you can chat the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988lifeline.org.
- You can also text NAMI to 741-741 to be connected to a free, trained crisis counselor on the Crisis Text Line.
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-273-8255.

Fire Rescue Open House

Save the Date! The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department invites all ages to Fire Station One for a free day of fun and learning on October 7! The open House will also have fire safety demonstrations, blood pressure checks, interactive safety stations, apparatus display, snacks, games & more! More information to come!



Johnny Appleseed Festival (Continued)

Historic records prove John Chapman traveled in threadbare wardrobe and rarely wore shoes. He was an animal rights activist, vegetarian, and a member of the Church of Swedenborg. Chapman would spread his philosophy along with his apple seeds from Massachusetts to Pennsylvania, Ohio and into the Midwest.

Another reason to attend this festival is the Great Ball Race Raffle which will be held at 3 p.m. with a Grand Prize of $1,000! The Great Ball Race features brightly colored, numbered balls rolling down the hill on Brink Street with the fastest ball winning $1,000 for its owner. Other prizes are also given.

Downtown Crystal Lake features unique shops, restaurants, arts, culture and family-friendly fun. You can find more information and discover why Downtown Crystal Lake / Main Street has been designated as an Accredited Main Street America program at www.DowntownCL.org.

DOWNTOWN CRYSTAL LAKE

25 W. Crystal Lake Avenue, Crystal Lake, IL 60014

(815) 479-0835

www.DowntownCL.org

Info@DowntownCL.org

Curbside Electronics Recycling

LRS will be conducting curbside electronics collection during the week of September 11-15, 2023. Residents may set out a maximum of five electronic items, including a limit of one TV or one computer monitor. The electronics will be collected on residents' regularly scheduled collection day. LRS will conduct the next electronics collection week in March 2024. The following table details which items may and may not be set out for electronics collection.

Acceptable Electronic Items	
One Television or one Computer monitor	Fax Machines and Printers
Cell Phones, Telephones, and Tablets	Holiday Lights
Cameras	Modems
CD Players	Paper Shredders
Computer Drives	Satellite Receivers
Cords and Cables	Scanners
Electronic Mice and Keyboards	Stereos and Video Game Consoles

Items NOT Accepted	
Air Conditioners	Hair Dryers and Hair Irons
Batteries	Humidifiers
Appliances and refrigerators	Liquids or chemical waste
Battery Operated Children's Toys	Smoke and Fire Detectors
Coffee Makers	Packaging Materials
Computer Disks	Microwaves
Dishwashers	Water Softeners

The next Electronics Collection event will take place in March of 2024.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Coffee With The Chief

Join the Police Department this October for another engaging Coffee With the Chief session with our very own Chief Black! While the exact date and topic are under wraps for now, you will not want to miss this very informative discussion! Be the first to know by following us on Facebook. We'll share all the details, including the event's schedule and topic. We look forward to sharing a cup of coffee with you soon!

National Night Out - Thank You!

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for National Night Out! A big shout out to our generous sponsors including Farmers Market+ at the Dole, Ed's Rental, Eby Graphics, Ultra Strobe, Home Depot, and Crime Stoppers. Thank you to Star 105.5 for providing fantastic music during the event. We also want to express our appreciation to all other vendors, local first responder agencies, and our community for coming together and making National Night Out a tremendous success.

As we look back on the unforgettable moments shared during National Night Out, we're reminded of the strong sense of unity within our community!

Child Passenger Safety Week

Every day, parents and caregivers nationwide transport young children to school, daycare, and more using car seats and boosters. Shockingly, nearly half of these safety devices are installed incorrectly, potentially jeopardizing your child's safety during travel.

A child's age, weight, and height are essential factors in choosing the proper safety harnesses, making it crucial to stay updated on the latest regulations and recommendations. From September 17-23, we focus on child passenger safety, emphasizing that properly installed car seats and boosters provide a straightforward way to enhance your child's safety. When used correctly, these seats can reduce the risk of fatal injuries in a crash by up to 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers.

Selecting the appropriate car seat is critical. A rear-facing car seat is vital for children between 5 and 40 pounds. Once they surpass this weight range, a forward-facing seat can be used, typically after age 2. As your child outgrows the forward-facing seat, transitioning to a booster seat is ideal. The booster seat elevates your child to ensure proper fit of the adult lap belt and shoulder belt.

Don't hesitate to contact the Crystal Lake Police Department for a car seat inspection to ensure your child's safety on the road.

Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620
Officer Kristiana Stolzman - (815) 356-3673 or by email at kstolzman@crystallake.org

Follow The CLPD on Facebook by scanning the QR code to the right and stay up to date on the latest news, events, and safety tips!

McHenry County Green Guide

If you are looking to dispose of "hard to get rid of" items that are not collected with standard garbage and recycling services, McHenry County College publishes a yearly guide of locations to help. The McHenry County Green Guide provides resources for the recycling of items such as batteries, appliances, lightbulbs, electronics, and much more. Be sure to take advantage of this great county-wide resource. For more information, visit the McHenry County College website and search 2023 McHenry County Green Guide, or you can use the following link to access the document: https://www.mchenry.edu/green/green-guide-23.pdf. A version of this document is also available in Spanish.

The Quarry at Three Oaks Events







CALENDAR | SEPTEMBER 2023

Monday, September 4
City Hall Offices Closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 5
City Council Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, September 6
Planning and Zoning Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

Thursday, September 7
Historic Preservation Commission, 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, September 13
Public Arts Commission, 8:00 A.M.

Tuesday, September 19
City Council Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, September 20
Sustainability Committee Meeting, 6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, September 20
Planning and Zoning 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)
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: https://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 www.crystallake.org.

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