City of Crystal Lake, Illinois
CITYLETTER



Citizen Police Academy

We are excited to announce our next Citizen Police Academy! The Academy is a free 11-week program that provides a working knowledge of the Crystal Lake Police Department. The Academy consists of classes, discussions, and demonstrations of the Department's operations and divisions. The Department uses this educational program to enhance community safety, increase positive communications, and foster a partnership between the public and the Police Department.

Enrollment is open to all, with priority given to Crystal Lake residents and those working in Crystal Lake. Participants must be at least 17 years of age, pass a criminal background check, sign a waiver, and sign a hold harmless agreement. Complete the Citizen Police Academy Application and email it to Officer Kris Stolzman at kstolzman@crystallake.org or (815) 356-3673 for questions. The application deadline is January 16th—email applications to Officer Stolzman.

Classes will begin on February 1, 2024, and will proceed once a week, every Thursday, until April 11, 2024. Class times will be from approximately 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

In addition, those interested in volunteering with the Crystal Lake Police Department must attend the Citizen Police Academy.

Applications can be picked up in our Police Department lobby at 100 W. Woodstock Street or accessed by using the following link: https://bit.ly/CLPDCitizenAcademy.

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Safe Winter Driving Tips

As winter arrives, adjusting your driving habits for road conditions is crucial. Ensure your vehicle is winter-ready by regularly checking tire pressure, brakes, and fluid levels. When driving on icy or snowy roads, maintain a safe distance from other vehicles and reduce speed. Be particularly vigilant for ice patches, especially on bridges and overpasses, as these areas tend to freeze more quickly and can be especially hazardous. In case of a breakdown, please stay in your vehicle and call 9-1-1 for assistance.

Shop With a Cop

On Sunday, December 3, 2023 several officers from Crystal Lake and other surrounding agencies took part in the annual Shop With a Cop event. Shop With a Cop gives underprivileged children from McHenry County a positive interaction with law enforcement officers by spending time together Christmas Shopping. Shopping is followed by breakfast with the children, officers, and Santa! Thank you to all sponsors, volunteers, and officers for helping make all of these children's Christmas merrier.

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 and Instagram to stay up to date on the latest news, events, and safety tips!

Curbside Electronics Collection Event: March 4-8

LRS will be conducting curbside electronics collection during the week of March 4-8, 2024. 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 September 2024. The following table details which items may and may not be set out for electronics collection.

Please contact LRS at (847) 381-9300 with any questions regarding the electronics collection event.

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 Toys	Smoke and Fire Detectors
Coffee Makers	Packaging Materials
Computer Disks	Microwaves
Dishwashers	Water Softeners

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

New and Expanding Businesses

The Crystal Lake Junction
Located at 88 Railroad Street, the Crystal Lake Junction adds a variety to the Crystal Lake restaurant scene by serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner. In the morning they offer breakfast sandwiches, pastries, espresso drinks, and coffee. For the lunch and dinner crowd, choices include Mediterranean inspirations, burgers, protein bowls, and "wacky" grilled cheeses alongside alcohol-free mocktails and picture worthy milkshakes!

Pots and Pies Bakery
Pots and Pies recently expanded at 67 E Woodstock Street, adding a new Indoor seating area. Chef Auriane offers made from scratch pies, cookies and other delicious pastries.

416 Pilates
A movement studio offering mat Pilates, bodhi suspension training, reformer, and MELT classes. 416 Pilates recently opened a new Downtown Crystal Lake location at 58-1/2 N. Williams Street.

Clearly CRYSTAL LAKE

CLEARLY CRYSTAL LAKE CORNER

MCHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE EXPANSION

McHenry County College's new Foglia Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation (CATI) is set to train the next generation of skilled workers.

This new state-of-the-art facility, set to open this August, features open-concept classrooms outfitted with the latest technology and equipment used in industry applications. Classrooms and labs are built for hands-on learning where students work on industry-standard HVAC units, CNC machines, welders, computers, and technology. The center plans to address the continuing need for skilled talent to fill roles, by welcoming an estimated 427 students in all programs, resulting in over 70 new graduates per year. Collaboration with local manufacturers will also offer more opportunities for current worker skill enhancement, apprenticeships, internships, and product development.

Featured programs include classes in: Automation, Robotics, Mechatronics, HVAC, Network Security, Precision Machining, and Welding.

Building Features:

- Approximately 45,000 square feet of classroom and laboratory space for hands-on learning.
- The building will feature the latest technologies in geothermal systems, 3D printing, and welding.
- Three computer labs, three outdoor labs, and two classrooms.
- MCC Incubator Lab—will provide opportunities for networking, prototype, and design development for startup businesses.
- MCC Maker's Lab—open to faculty, students, and the community.
- The building is planned to be LEED Gold level.

Foglia CATI is more than a building. It represents opportunities and resources for those looking to start successful careers in the skilled trades, change careers, or increase their value to current employers.

View the construction live feed using the following link or QR code: https://bit.ly/MCCLIVEFEED







FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Fire Fighter Cancer Awareness Month

January is Fire Fighter Cancer Awareness Month. This campaign is aimed at increasing fire fighter and public awareness about cancer risks firefighters face, and identifying steps to mitigate those risks.

Occupation-related cancer is one of the leading causes of line-of-duty deaths for firefighters. According to data from the International Association of Fire Fighters, between January 1, 2002, and December 31, 2021, occupation-related cancer was responsible for 65% of the career line-of-duty deaths for firefighters. When compared to the general U.S. population, firefighters are 9% more likely to be diagnosed with cancer and have a 14% higher risk of dying from cancer.



Adopt a Hydrant

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department needs your help this winter. Residents and business owners can help by “Adopting a Hydrant” nearby and clearing the snow away, leaving at least three feet of space around the hydrant. If an emergency involving a fire were to occur, crews need to be able to access the closest fire hydrant. Inaccessible hydrants can lead to a delay in fighting fires. A delay, no matter how small, can have a significant impact when it comes to a fire, as a fire doubles in size every minute.

Life-Saving Award

During the morning hours of June 6, 2023, the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department responded to a call involving an unconscious man who was unresponsive and not breathing. Upon arrival, the crew was able to implement various life-saving tactics and their swift actions led to the patient stabilizing and achieving a self-sustaining heartbeat. The patient then made a successful recovery. on November 21, the responding crew members were presented the Fire Rescue Department’s Life-Saving Award by the resident they saved on June 6.



Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department
(815) 356-3640

THREE OAKS RECREATION AREA

Park Hours
6:30 A.M. - Sunset

Join The Team!

Applications are being accepted to join us this upcoming 2024 season! Seasonal Lifeguards, Cashiers, and Marina Attendant roles are available.

For position details, visit the City of Crystal Lake Human Resources Employment page and complete an employment application today!

Pavilion Rentals Now Open

The City is taking reservation requests for the 2024 season beginning January 2, 2024. Reservations are made online on a first-come, first-served basis, so we encourage you to set your date and submit your reservation request very soon!

Reservation requests can be submitted through the online portal at registration.threeoaksrecreation.org which can be found on the City's website.

Important Note: Your pavilion will not officially be reserved until it has been approved by staff and full payment has been received. All deposits and rental fees must be paid within 24 hours of your pavilion request approval. If all payments are not received within 24 hours, the reservation will not be accepted.

All pavilion details and related FAQ forms are available on our website under the Pavilion Rentals tab. Should you have any questions, please contact City staff at (815) 459-2020 ext. 4288.

Guest Photo Submissions

Submit your photos of Three Oaks! With permission, we will post your pictures to the Three Oaks Facebook page, and if selected, we will showcase your photographs right here in the City Newsletter. Please email your photos to: threeoaks@crystallake.org.

Photo By: Patti Bunworth Yoho



Photo By: Susan Wright



OUR MISS KNOX

DIANA KENNEY

Mary Florence Knox (she was always known as "Florence") was born November 11, 1895, in McHenry County. She was the oldest of nine children born to Michael and Mary Ann (Doherty) Knox. The Knox family lived on a 160-acre farm northeast of Crystal Lake near the intersection of Route 31 and Edgewood Road.

Florence attended the Terra Cotta School for grades 1 through 8, then McHenry (Landmark) High School for grades 9 through 12. She graduated in 1912. Her graduating class had nine graduates.

After graduation, Florence attended DePaul University and the National College of Education to acquire credits equal in number to a bachelor's degree. Meanwhile, she had enough credentials to teach the lower grades in the county's rural school system. Her pay rate started at $35 per month. Between 1912 and 1921, Florence taught for seven years in six different rural schools of McHenry County: Lincoln, Burton's Bridge, Miller-Lowe, Holcombville, McManaman, and Terra Cotta.

In August 1921, Florence was hired by Crystal Lake Elementary School District 47 to teach junior high students with three other teachers: Elizabeth Yackley, Vera Haligus, and Nettie Teckler. At that time, Crystal Lake had one elementary school building, one junior high building (both on Paddock Street), and one high school (on Franklin Street). There were two separate school districts (155 and 47), but they shared one superintendent, H.A. Dean. Although the high school had a principal, Mr. I.E. Wold, the elementary and junior high buildings (known together as Union School) were directly supervised by H.A. Dean.



One of many class photos taken throughout Florence Knox's teaching career. This was Miss Knox's first year teaching at Union School (1921-22).

During her second year with District 47, Florence switched to teaching 4th-grade students. She would remain a 4th-grade teacher until 1964, when she retired!

Leon J. Lundahl was hired by District 47 in 1926 to be a teacher and principal of the junior high school. It wasn't until 1928 that a principal was named in the newspaper for the elementary school. That principal was Florence Knox, who also continued teaching 4th grade. This dual role continued for four years before Mr. Lundahl was named principal of all grades at Union School (1st through 8th grades).

For the 1933-34 school year, Florence's annual salary was $1,200 per year. She was one of the highest-paid teachers. Leon J. Lundahl received a salary of $1,750 as principal and teacher.

School superintendent H.A. Dean died three years later, and Lundahl was named Superintendent of District 47. He also retained his title of school principal. Lundahl's salary increased to $2,400 per year with his additional responsibilities.

By all accounts, Miss Knox was an excellent teacher. Students both feared and adored her. She was strict but kind--always providing encouragement and discipline as needed.

When Florence Knox retired in 1964, Leon Lundahl said, "She is a teacher who devotes her complete effort to helping children acquire the fundamentals, to establish good study habits, and to develop right attitudes toward good conduct. We shall miss her greatly."

The Crystal Lake Historical Society currently has a display at the Colonel Palmer House entitled "Our Miss Knox." Over two dozen class photos of Miss Knox's classes are on display, along with quotes about Florence Knox from family members, friends, former students, and fellow educators. Stop by the Colonel Palmer House on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays to learn more about "Our Miss Knox."

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.

Quarry Corner Events

Happy New Year! It's a NEW year and it is time for a NEW look; one that pays homage to the memories of the Quarry past! It goes without saying that the Quarry was an important part of the community even before becoming what it is today. The Quarry loves hearing stories from patrons about fishing, gathering with friends and working in the original Quarry. Please send the Quarry Cable Park your photos and/or memories to ride@thequarrycablepark.com. We look forward to another fun and exciting year!



Slidewalk Sales in Downtown

Join us in Downtown Crystal Lake from January 25 – 27 for Slidewalk Sales. Show the support for our local small businesses and slide into savings Downtown. Did you know that in 2024 The Downtown Crystal Lake Organization will celebrate it's 28th anniversary as a Main Street community? Downtown Crystal Lake is accredited through Main Street America. Only a small percentage of Illinois Main Street programs have earned this national designation.

The Downtown Crystal Lake organization is dedicated to preserving and revitalizing Crystal Lake's historic downtown district. For more information please visit DowntownCL.org. Shop Local this winter!

CALENDAR | JANUARY 2024

Monday, January 1
City Hall Closed

Tuesday, January 2
City Council Meeting 7:00 P.M. (Cancelled)

Wednesday, January 3
Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting 7:00 P.M.

Thursday, January 4
Historic Preservation Commission Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

Tuesday, January 16
City Council Meeting 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, January 17
Sustainability Committee Meeting 6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, January 17
Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting 7:00 P.M.

All Meetings at City Hall, 100 W. Woodstock Street

City of Crystal Lake, Illinois

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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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Crystal Lake, IL 60014

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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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