City of Crystal Lake, Illinois
CITYLETTER









National Night Out

Join the Crystal Lake Police Department for National Night Out on Thursday, August 8, 2024, in Downtown Crystal Lake. This family-friendly event from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. includes:

- K-9 demonstration
- Free bicycle helmet sizing and giveaway (while supplies last)
- Touch-a-Truck display
- Free face paint & balloon artist
- Free t-shirt giveaway (while supplies last)
- Fun activities and giveaways from local businesses & more

Back to School Safety

With the start of a new school year approaching, it's crucial to prioritize safety in school zones and around school buses. Here are some key reminders:

- **School Zones and Crosswalks:** Be vigilant and adhere to posted speed limits in school zones. Watch out for pedestrians, especially children crossing streets.
- **School Buses:** It is illegal to pass a school bus that is stopped with its stop sign extended and lights flashing, whether you are approaching from

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behind or from the opposite direction. According to Illinois State Statute (625 ILCS 5/11-1414), drivers must stop before meeting or overtaking a school bus on any roadway or property designated for school bus stops.

Vehicle Parking Restrictions & Notifications

City parking regulations aim to enhance public safety and traffic flow, especially for pedestrians and those with special needs. Please note:

- **Prohibited Parking Areas:** Parking on sidewalks or parkways is unlawful under City Ordinance 496-101.
- **Street Parking Restrictions:** No vehicles are allowed to park on City streets between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. unless permission is granted. Visit frontlinepss.com/crystallake for permission details.

These updates from the police department are intended to ensure a safe and enjoyable environment for all residents and visitors.

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

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

World Water Week

World Water Week takes place from August 25 - 29, 2024 and this year's theme is Bridging Borders: Water for a Peaceful and Sustainable Future. World Water Week has been held every year since 1991 and focuses on global water issues.

Participate in discussions ranging from food security and health to agriculture, technology, biodiversity, and the climate crisis. In 2023, there were 15,000 participants worldwide from 193 countries and territories.

World Water Week primarily takes place in Stockholm Sweden, but also allows for free online participation across the world. To learn more or sign up to attend World Water Week online, visit: https://www.worldwaterweek.org/.

Downtown Car Show

Downtown Crystal Lake is teaming up with Cars and Caffeine to host a one-day car show in Downtown Crystal Lake. It's free to stroll and enjoy, while car entry fees benefit the Crystal Lake community. Head Downtown between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 1st to see up to 200 cars on display on Williams Street and Grant Street. Whether or not you're a car enthusiast, it'll be a sight to see and fun for the whole family.

Self-led History Walk

Downtown Crystal Lake and the Crystal Lake Historical Society teamed up to create a history walk throughout Downtown. QR codes are displayed in the windows of ten buildings, each leading to photos and stories of the building's past. August is the final month that they will be displayed! You can find a list of all of the buildings at downtowncl.org/historic-preservation-month.



FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Matches & Lighters Are Tools, Not Toys!

Children are naturally curious and often learn best through play and exploration. Due to this curiosity, it is important to ensure your home is safe from potential fire or injury hazards that may occur due to an accident with matches or lighters.

According to NFPA research, between 2014 and 2018, playing with fire is estimated to have been the cause of 4,960 home structure fires each year. These fires resulted in 50 fatalities and 398 injuries. The most common area of origin for home fires caused by playing with fire is the bedroom. Children aged ten and under are attributed to setting more than four out of five home structure fires, as a result of playing with fire. Research indicates that younger children are more likely to set fires in homes, while older children/teenagers are more likely to set fires outdoors.

Tips on how to prevent fires started by play:

- Always keep matches and lighters out of the reach of children. Store matches and lighters up high, preferably in a locked cabinet.
- Do not let children play with lighters, matches, or other fire sources.
- Supervise children closely, and make sure they stay away from fire sources such as lit candles, cigarettes, bonfires, and stoves.
- Teach children to never touch matches or lighters. Tell children to go get an adult if they find matches or lighters. Remind children to not pick them up to show you the lighter/matches.
- Explain to children that matches and lighters are tools for adults only, not toys.
- Lead by example! Make sure that children always observe you using fire sources (i.e. matches, lighters, campfires) correctly and safely.

Sources: NFPA.org, and Mass.gov



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2024 THEME:
SMOKE ALARMS: MAKE THEM WORK FOR YOU!

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department (815) 356-3640

Follow the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department on Facebook for safety tips, events, and community updates!

THREE OAKS RECREATION AREA

Park Hours
6:30 A.M. - Sunset

Change in Hours of Operation

Marina
August 1 - 11 Daily: 6:30 a.m. to Sunset
August 12 - 30 Weekdays: Closed
August 17 - 31 Weekends: Open at 6:30 a.m.

Swim Beach
August 1 - 11 Daily: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
August 12 - August 30 Weekdays: Closed
August 17 - September 2 Weekends: 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

The beach will close for the season after Labor Day, Monday, September 2, 2024.

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

Curbside Electronics Recycling

Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS) will be conducting curbside electronics collection during the week of September 9-13, 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 March 2025. A list of items that may and may not be set out for electronics collection is available on the City's website.

Please contact LRS at (844) 633-3577 with any questions regarding the electronics collection event.

Raue Center Night Owl Bike Ride

The Raue Center for the Arts is hosting its first annual nighttime bike ride for adventurous night owls on Saturday, August 3, 2024. The ride will begin at 10:00 p.m., starting and ending at 100 W. Woodstock Street in the City Hall parking lot. Day-of registration is $35. Children 12 years and under can participate and register to ride for $15.

A majority of the ride will take place on designated bike routes, lanes, and paths. The route is approximately 20 miles. There will also be a shorter, family-friendly route, which is 9.5 miles. The route may change based on current path/street conditions and road construction.

Visit https://www.rauecenter.org/night-owl-bike-ride/ for additional details!



TO CATCH A THIEF

DIANA KENNEY

A string of unsolved burglaries during the summer and fall of 1939 had McHenry County Sheriff Lester "Doc" Edinger frustrated as to how to catch the elusive thief. Although he had suspects, Edinger needed physical proof, such as a photograph, to prosecute and put the culprit away. One victim of these burglaries was Dr. Edmund L. Brunswick, who lived near the intersection of Route 176 and 31.



Dr. Brunswick

Edmund L. Brunswick was born May 24, 1886 in Chicago. After attending medical school, he practiced medicine in Chicago for over 20 years where he was well-respected as a physician, surgeon, researcher and inventor.

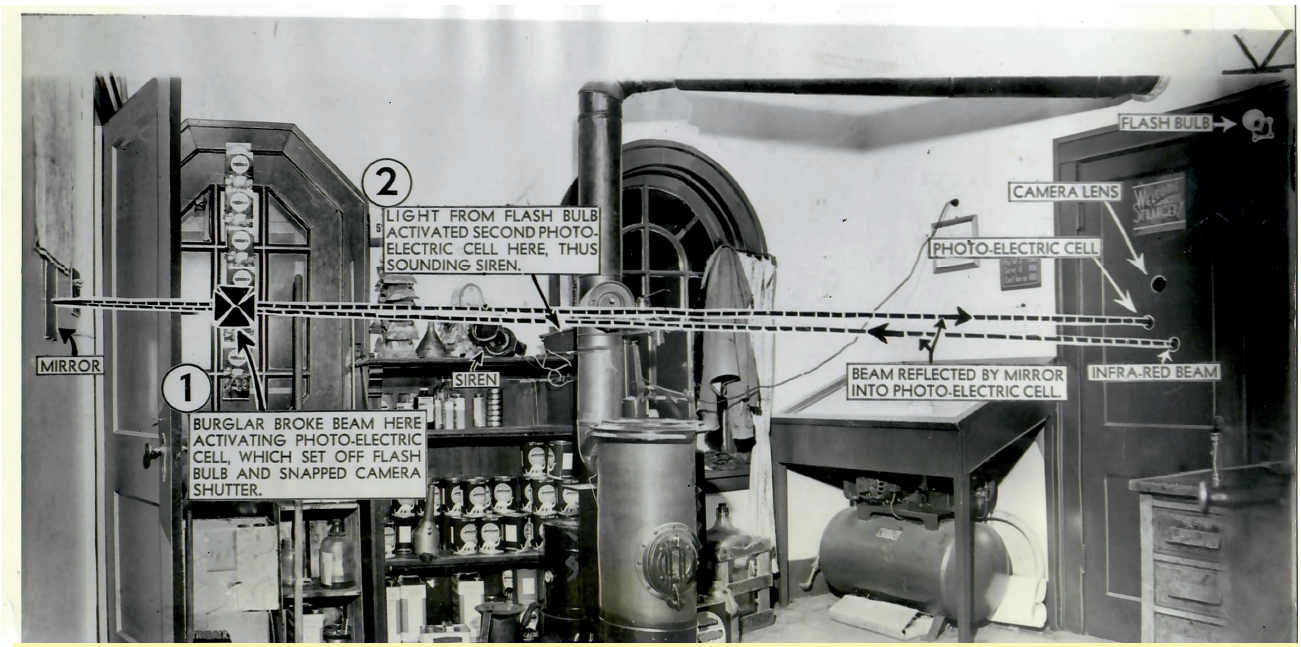
In May 1927, Dr. Brunswick and his wife Helen purchased a 17-acre triangular piece of land at the northeast corner of Route 176 & 31. In those days, both highways were gravel roads. The Brunswicks improved their land by building a large, modern country home and landscaped the yard around the home with rock gardens and a pond. Additional buildings were added to the remaining acres including two large circular hen houses and a garage. In 1931, Dr. Brunswick built an additional structure to house a satellite medical office, as he was now seeing patients in both Chicago and Crystal Lake.

Dr. Brunswick received offers from several large oil companies to put a gas filling station at the triangular point of his property, but in 1935, Dr. Brunswick decided to build the station himself. The Herald reports, "The station will be one of the finest ever. A new feature will be that each pump will have a cash register which will permit gasoline to be purchased in any quantity. This type of pump is regarded as the last word in efficiency and is new on the market."

On August 15, 1939 McHenry County Sheriff Edinger was called to investigate three separate burglaries in Crystal Lake, Woodstock and Harvard. The Crystal Lake burglary was at the Brunswick gas station where small change and cigarettes were taken. One week later, the station was broken into again. Several cartons of cigarettes, a radio and other items were stolen. The thefts continued for the next several months, but the Sheriff could not catch the thief.

Dr. Brunswick decided to take matters in his own hands. He went to his workshop, and in a few days was able to design a camera trap. Brunswick rigged up the shutter of his camera to a photo electric beam—an electric eye—and installed it in the gas station. A second electric cell was rigged up in another part of the station. This one was attached to a siren. When the flash bulb went off, it set off a shrieking siren. The combination of flash bulb and siren scared the thief away, but not before snapping a photograph of the culprit.

The trap worked and on November 7th, the thief was caught on film, enabling Sheriff Edinger to identify the man and make the arrest. And that is how Dr. Edmund Brunswick helped the local Sheriff to catch a thief.



The above photo-diagram shows the intricate plan, employing an electric eye, camera, and flash lamp, devised by Dr. Brunswick to trap the thief.

About the Author: Diana Kenney is President of the Crystal Lake Historical Society. To contact Diana, email info@cl-hs.org.

CLEARLY CRYSTAL LAKE CORNER

McHenry County College's New Foglia Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation (CATI) is set to Train the Next Generation of Skilled Workers

Foglia Center, a new state-of-the-art facility is ready to open and accepting students for Fall 2024 classes! The new facility features open concept classrooms outfitted with the latest in 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 these 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.







Building Features:

- Approximately 45,000 square feet of classroom and laboratory space for hands-on learning
- The building features 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

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. If you are interested in learning more or enrolling in CATI programs and classes, go to: https://www.mchenry.edu/cati/.

Featured programs include classes in:

- Automation, Robotics, and Mechatronics
- HVAC
- Network Security
- Precision Machining
- Welding



Crystal Lake Youth Commission

The City Council approved the formation of a new Youth Commission in May 2024 to study, investigate, plan, implement and advise the City Council on matters related to youth. In particular, the Commission is charged with recommending policies, programs and services that empower, support and inform youth; that create a family friendly community; and that enable and encourage youth to be productive members of the community.

The Crystal Lake Youth Commission is committed to advocating for youth by providing them the opportunity to learn, lead and serve through community outreach, service projects and establishing youth-adult partnerships.

The Youth Commission will hold its first meeting in the Fall of 2024 and the City is seeking interested applicants from the community. Applicants must be age 16 to 20 years old and attend Crystal Lake Central High School, Crystal Lake South High School, Prairie Ridge High school, Haber Oaks, Crystal Lake Private High schools, home school (in Crystal Lake), or McHenry County College.

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact Nick Hammonds, Deputy City Manager, at (815) 356-3675 or nhammonds@crystallake.org to obtain an application.

The Quarry

Come out and catch a breeze on The Quarry's patio with a refreshing drink in hand or try your luck on the wakeboard cables, Tuesday-Sunday. If this heat is giving you a fever, turn it into "Disco Fever" at the upcoming Disco Party on Friday, August 23 at the Quarry. Bring on the glitz and glamour and find your perfect sequins or bell bottoms and come dance the night away to a mix of your favorite disco hits mixed with new music from the DJ who will keep you dancing all night long.

August also promises an array of energetic premium live music nights. Welcoming back the Mackenzie O'Brien Band on Saturday, August 3, Pino Farina on Saturday, August 10 and an exciting new tribute night to U2 with live band, Without U2 on Friday, September 6. Find tickets linked on The Quarry's website under Live Music and Community Events at, www.thequarrycablepark.com. Lawn chairs welcome on the beach with general admission tickets.

CALENDAR | AUGUST 2024

Thursday, August 1
Historic Preservation Commission Meeting
3:00 P.M.

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

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

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

Wednesday, August 21
Sustainability Committee Meeting
6:30 P.M.

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

Tuesday, August 27
Economic Development Committee Meeting
8:00 A.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 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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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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