

City of Crystal Lake, Illinois CITY LETTER



CRYSTAL LAKE'S VETERANS MEMORIAL

BY DIANA KENNEY

Each November 11th, citizens from across the nation observe Veterans Day by celebrating and honoring America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and service to our nation.

Historically, November 11th was originally known as Armistice Day, and is the anniversary of the official end of World War I. It commemorated the armistice which was signed in the Forest of Compiègne, France. An order was issued for all firing to cease. The armistice took effect at eleven o'clock in the morning – "the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month." The word "armistice," means simply a truce.

After World War II, there were many new veterans who had little or no association with World War I. Therefore as years passed, the significance of the name of this holiday changed. It was not until 1954 when President Eisenhower called on all citizens to observe the day by honoring servicemen who fought in all of America's wars. The name of the holiday was then officially changed to "Veterans Day", and is celebrated each November 11th to honor all veterans.

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Thirty years ago, a group of community-minded citizens approached City Council with a proposal to organize a committee to build a veterans memorial on public property in Crystal Lake. Unlike the statue in Union Cemetery which honors Civil War veterans, the proposed memorial would honor veterans of all wars. City Council member, Walt Herrick, agreed to serve as the city liaison to the committee.

The first meeting was held in January, 1988. The group voted to name itself the "Crystal Lake Veterans Memorial Commission (C.L.V.M.C.), and elected its officers as follows: Fred Kittredge (Chairman), Bill Proctor (Secretary/Treasurer), Buck Pearson, Leo Ziemba, and Bob Koch (Directors). Additionally, the following committees were established: Site Selection, Design, Public Relations, and Fund Raising. Bob Wilbrandt agreed to serve as legal counsel and to initiate efforts to incorporate as a not-for-profit organization.

The Site Selection committee quickly went to work and determined the park near the downtown train station as the most preferable location for the proposed memorial. The committee noted the site's central location and accessibility as primary reasons. The memorial would be located on city property at the northwest corner of Main and Woodstock Streets.

Meanwhile, the Design committee was working to establish criteria for the memorial. Items considered included shape, style, durability and maintenance of selected building materials, accommodation of pedestrian traffic, incorporation of an American flag, and "should be viewed when a person faces west, but constructed in a such a way that it is pleasing to the eye from all directions." Local architect, Mark Elmore, helped to put these ideas to paper.



Fred Kittredge, WWII veteran, was a former commander of American Legion Post #171



A groundbreaking ceremony was held in June, 1989 with Chairman Fred Kittredge, Mayor Carl Wehde, and Councilman Walt Herrick turning the first shovels of dirt.

The Fundraising committee enlisted help from civic and community organizations throughout the city including the Crystal Lake Kiwanis, Jaycees, Lions, Rotary, Masonic Lodge, Boy Scouts, Downtown Association, Chamber of Commerce, and Green Twig Garden Club. Local military organizations supporting the project included American Legion Post 171, American Legion Auxiliary, V.F.W. Post 6004, and Viet-Now Chapter. These organizations made donations, hosted fundraisers, and provided services which the Publicity committee was happy to acknowledge to help increase community awareness of the project.

By the end of 1988, the design, site plan, and flag pole placement had all been approved, and production of the memorial began. Fundraising efforts continued as the goal of having the memorial paid for, constructed, and in place by Veterans Day, 1989 approached quickly.

The dedication service on November 11th (Veterans Day) was attended by citizens, politicians, and military personnel. The unveiling of the memorial was performed by service members of the United States Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. Music was provided by both the 4th U.S. Army Band and Crystal Lake Central High School Band. The traditional format of speeches and acknowledgements were made, with the ceremony being capped off with the American Legion Post Firing Squad Salute, Taps, Laying of the Wreaths, Benediction, and Retiring of the Colors.

The bronze plaque on the face of the monument reads, "No honor is greater than to Serve your Country. This memorial is placed here to express our Thanks to all persons who have served in the Military Forces."

The Crystal Lake Historical Society possesses the original meeting minutes, correspondence, documents, photos, programs, etc. from the Crystal Lake Veterans Memorial Commission. These items are available for viewing at the Colonel Palmer House. We wish to acknowledge and thank our member, Joan Dorsch, for retaining these records, and donating them to the Society so that our entire community will forever remember the hard work and accomplishment of this dedicated group of community-minded citizens.



The memorial was placed on its foundation in October, 1989.



Completed memorial – November 1989

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.

TRIM THE FAT AND CEASE THE GREASE

During the upcoming holiday season, it is important to remember that fats, oils and grease don't just clog your arteries; they can clog the City's "arteries" too. Grease can cause significant problems in the City's sewer lines and increases the potential for failure in the system. When a clog develops in the sanitary sewer, the line is surcharged behind the clog and can result in sewage overflowing into basements, roadways, or other low-lying public areas. These backups can create an environmental and health hazard depending on where the discharge point is located.

Grease is a byproduct of cooking from meat fats, lard, oils, shortening, butter, margarine, food scraps, baked goods, sauces, and dairy products. When washed down the sink, grease sticks to the insides of sewer pipes (both on your property and under the street). Over a period of time, it can build up and block entire portions of your home's plumbing system. Remember, garbage disposals may allow table scraps to fit in the drain, but do not prevent grease from sticking in the sewer.

The best way to prevent fats, oils and greases from clogging your sewer is to never put these materials down the drain. Here are some helpful tips:

- Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets.
- Scrape grease and food scraps from trays, plates, pots, pans, utensils, grills and cooking surfaces into a can or the trash for disposal.
- Do not put grease down garbage disposals. Put baskets/strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids, and empty the drain baskets/strainers into the trash for disposal.
- Speak with your friends and neighbors about the problem of grease in the sewer system and how to keep it out.

The Public Works Department needs your help to prevent grease buildup in the City's sewers. If you have any questions, or would like more information about the hazards of fats, oils and grease in your sewer system, contact the Public Works Department at (815) 356-3614.





FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

COOKING SAFETY

For most people, the kitchen is the center of activity, especially around the holidays. From preparing family recipes to decorating cakes and cookies, everyone enjoys being part of the preparations. So practicing fire safety in the kitchen during this joyous time is important, especially when there is a lot of activity and people at home. Remember, by following a few simple steps you can enjoy time with your family and friends and keep yourself and your family safe.

Thanksgiving by the Numbers:

- In 2013, Thanksgiving Day was the leading date for home cooking fires with 1,500 fires - 230% above the average number of fires per day.
- Unattended cooking was the leading contributing factor in cooking fires and fire deaths.
- Cooking equipment is the leading cause of home structure fires and associated civilian injuries and was the third leading cause of home fire deaths.

Cook with caution:

- Be on alert! Do not cook when you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol.
- Stay in the kitchen while frying, grilling or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains AWAY from your stovetop.

If you have a small grease or cooking fire:

- On the stovetop, smother the flames by sliding a lid over the pan and turning off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

For a safe Holiday:

- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee can cause serious burns.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, or bags.
- Be sure cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them regularly.

Have activities that keep kids out of the kitchen during this busy time. Kids can get involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done outside the kitchen.





Crystal Lake Police Department

Think Safety for the Holidays

Last year, Illinois saw the highest increase in traffic crash related fatalities in almost a decade. If the trend continues, the State is on track to surpass last year's total. Before you start celebrating "Blackout Wednesday", "Black Wednesday", or "Drinksiving", plan ahead and be responsible. Know your limit, have money for paid transportation, or have a designated driver. Remember, one of the effects of alcohol is impaired judgment.

The Police Department encourages all motorists to do their due diligence during the Thanksgiving week.

Additional Crystal Lake Police Officers will be on the roads for traffic and DUI enforcement all through the Thanksgiving week. Be safe, and help keep others safe. Buckle up and Don't Text and Drive.

We Are Thankful

The Crystal Lake Police Department is thankful for its citizens and businesses. Through our collaboration, you have played an integral part in enhancing the quality of life to those we serve. Whether it's through our events, such as: Back-to-School Backpacks and Supplies Giveaway, Special Olympics Illinois, Coffee with the Chief seminars, Citizen Police Academy, or National Night Out, your support has contributed in making Crystal Lake a Good Place to Live. Thank you!

Upcoming Event

The Police Department will join forces with Safe Kids McHenry County and Anderson Volkswagen to conduct a child safety seat check event on Saturday, November 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Anderson Volkswagen, 5213 Northwest Highway, Crystal Lake. This free event is aimed at educating parents and caregivers on proper seat installation. Before you start your Thanksgiving travels, come see us. No appointment is needed. For more information on this event, contact Officer Ed Pluviose.



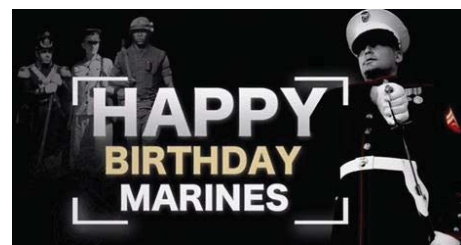
Officer Rossow (Crystal Lake PD), one of the department's certified Child Passenger Safety techs, using a mannequin to demonstrate to an expectant parent what to look for when fastening a child into the child seat.

Veteran's Day

The Crystal Lake Police Department wishes every Veteran in our community a Happy Veterans' Day.



Happy Birthday Marines



The Department wants to acknowledge the Marines who will be celebrating their 242nd Birthday on the 10th of November. Happy Birthday and Semper Fidelis.

Officer Ed Pluviose - (815) 356-3731 or by email at epluviose@crystallake.org

Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620

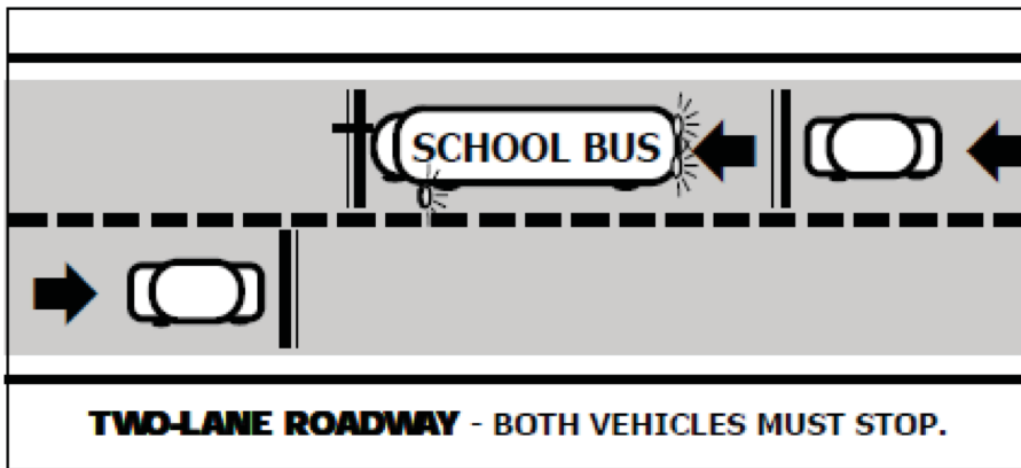
SCHOOL BUS SAFETY REMINDER

This is an important reminder that school is in session, and school buses are still hard at work transporting kids to and from school. Please be careful around bus stops. The riskiest part of the ride is the bus stop!

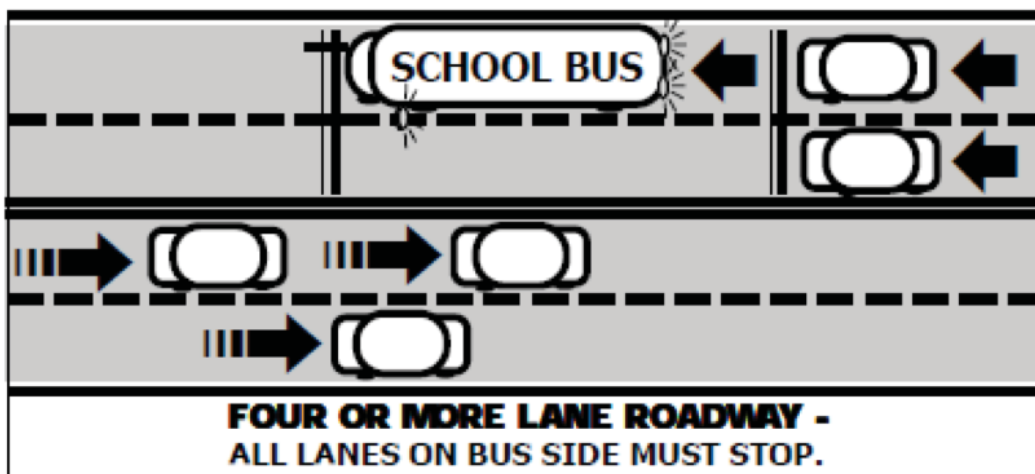
- Most children killed in bus-related accidents are either getting on or off the bus. They are killed by the school bus or by motorists illegally passing a stopped bus.
- When driving through neighborhoods, be aware of school buses and take caution when you see one. The bus will stop at some point, and children exiting or boarding the school bus may be crossing the street.



When a school bus is traveling on a two-lane street and is stopped to pick up or drop off children, the vehicles in all lanes must stop. All vehicles must remain stopped until the bus' stop arm is fully retracted and its warning lights stop blinking. Vehicles should stop at least 20 feet away from the bus to allow children to cross the street safely.



When a school bus is on a four-lane road with at least two lanes traveling the opposite direction, only those lanes of traffic traveling in the same direction as the school bus must stop. School bus routes are designed so that children will not be required to cross four or more lanes of traffic to reach their residence.



Please use caution and drive carefully when you see a bus or when you see children at a bus stop.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 2nd, at 9:00 a.m.
\$14 per person

Old Towne Hall, 54 Brink St.
Downtown Crystal Lake

Ticket price includes:

- Hot, buffet breakfast
- Cuddly, stuffed animal & goodie bag for each child
- One-on-one time with Santa Claus
- FREE photo with Santa
- Music & Entertainment

Tickets available November 1st at Dalzell Jewelers, Heisler's Bootery, or online:
www.DowntownCL.org



Festival of Lights Parade



Friday, November 24th at 7:00 p.m.
The Festival of Lights Parade is the traditional start to the holiday season, as Santa Claus comes to town!
The evening is filled with lights, music, pageantry, and a little holiday magic!

For parade map and additional information, visit: www.DowntownCL.org

The Christmas Tree Ship

Sunday, November 19, 2017 at 1PM
Park Place, 406 W. Woodstock St., Crystal Lake

As the holiday season begins, join us for a spellbinding historical journey presented by Rochelle Pennington, an award-winning author of two books detailing one of the most well-known shipwrecks of the Great Lakes. The beloved ship and crew which delivered holiday evergreens to the citizens of Chicago each Christmas season was sunk in the Great Storm of 1912. It went to the bottom of Lake Michigan fully loaded with Christmas trees. You will be captivated with century-old photographs, artifacts and little-known facts surrounding the story of The Christmas Tree Ship.

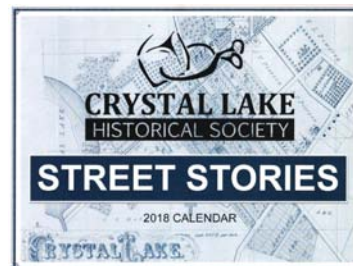


Christmas wreaths, garlands and other holiday items will also be available for sale. Proceeds benefit the projects of the Crystal Lake Historical Society.

Tickets (\$5 members / \$8 non-members) available online:
www.cl-hs.org

2018 "Street Stories" Calendar

Stroll through the pages of this beautiful calendar to view vintage and current images of various Crystal Lake streets. Learn and enjoy stories about the street origins and individuals associated with each featured street.



- Calendars are available for sale (\$10) onsite at:
- Crystal Lake City Hall, 100 W. Woodstock St., Crystal Lake
 - Heisler's Bootery, 50 N. Williams, Crystal Lake
 - KaleidoScoops Ice Cream & More, 53 N. Williams, Crystal Lake
 - Colonel Palmer House, 660 E. Terra Cotta, Crystal Lake

Also available online at: www.cl-hs.org

SHOP SMALL



The Saturday after Thanksgiving is the Small Business Saturday. Make plans now to “Shop Big at Small Shops” in Crystal Lake!

Follow “I Shop Crystal Lake” on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for information about special holiday activities, trivia and business offers.

TOP FIVE REASONS TO SHOP CRYSTAL LAKE DURING THE HOLIDAYS....

5. Crystal Lake retailers have everything you need this holiday season – home goods, toys, books, tools, apparel, electronics and more!
4. Two-thirds of every dollar spent in Crystal Lake stays in the local economy.
3. Festival of Lights Parade on Black Friday in Downtown Crystal Lake – shop & see Santa at his house downtown.
2. There are wonderful and unique stores and numerous restaurants in Crystal Lake – you’ll be hungry with all the shopping you’ll be doing here.
1. “Local supports Local” – Shopping Crystal Lake supports local businesses who provide important products and services to residents.



SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

Saturday, November 25th

Support the locally-owned businesses in Downtown Crystal Lake. This year, we will be offering some extra fun and service on Small Business Saturday!

Need some help wrapping your gifts? Bring your purchases to Suran Built (30 N. Williams Street) on Small Business Saturday. For a free-will donation, the elves from Senior Care Volunteer Network will be wrapping gifts, while the Crystal Lake Public Library will offer bow-making classes. Stop for a few minutes, enjoy some light refreshments, and learn more about the services of these community partners.

Even though the Saturday after Thanksgiving is the “official” Small Business Saturday. We think EVERYDAY should be Small Business Day! Make plans now to “Shop Big at Small Shops” in Downtown Crystal Lake!

For additional information: www.DowntownCL.org



Three Oaks Recreation Area

5517 Northwest Highway
Crystal Lake, IL 60014; (815) 356-3782;
www.threeoaksrecreation.com
(815) 356-2447 - Hotline
(815) 506-9333 - Rainout Line

Thank You to ALL of Our Guests for Visiting Three Oaks Recreation Area!

Thank you for a great 2017 Season! We want to thank our incredible team of Marina Attendants, Lifeguards, Managers and Security Assistants for their contribution and dedication to making the Three Oaks Recreation Area a fantastic experience for all of us. In addition, we would like to extend our appreciation to the staff at Culvers, The Board House, The Quarry Cable Park and Duke's On The Water for their contributions and services. Walking trails will remain open through the winter. For more information and updates throughout the winter season, please visit www.threeoaksrecreation.com or "Like" us on Facebook.



Matt Bach, Unofficial State Record for Rock Bass from May 9th- 1.14 pounds. State Record is 1.10 from 1987.

CALENDAR

NOV
2017

Wednesday, November 1

- Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:30 p.m. (City Hall)

Saturday, November 4

- *Puzzle Palooza, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. (The Racket Club)

Tuesday, November 7

- City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m. (City Hall)

Friday, November 10

- Lunch & Learn: The History and Value of Your Family's Heirlooms, 12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. (Colonel Palmer House)
- City Hall Closed (In Observance of Veteran's Day)

Wednesday, November 15

- Library Board, 7:00 p.m. (Public Library)

Saturday, November 18

- Child Safety Seat Check, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Anderson Volkswagen)

Sunday, November 19

- The Christmas Tree Ship, 1:00 p.m. (Park Place)
 - o Visit www.cl-hs.org for tickets and information

Tuesday, November 21

- City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m. (City Hall)

Thursday, November 23

- Happy Thanksgiving!
- City Hall Closed (In Observance of Thanksgiving)
- Harvest Fest Community Food Drive, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. (Hobby Lobby Crystal Lake)

Friday, November 24

- City Hall Closed (In Observance of Thanksgiving)
- **Festival of Lights Parade, 7:00 p.m. (Downtown Crystal Lake)

Saturday, November 25

- **Small Business Saturday (Downtown Crystal Lake)

Saturday, December 2

- **Breakfast with Santa, 9:00 a.m. (Old Towne Hall)

Sunday, December 3

- Kiwanis Santa Run for Kids 5k, 9:00 a.m. (Raue Center for the Arts)
 - o For more information and to register please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/santaruncl>
- *Santa's Workshop (craft making, sweet shop, games and Santa visit) 2:00-4:00 p.m. (Grand Oaks)
 - o This event sells out, please register early.

*Please visit www.crystallakeparks.org for more information and to register.

**Please visit www.DowntownCL.org for more information and tickets.

Event and meeting dates subject to change

City of Crystal Lake, Illinois

MAYOR

Aaron T. Shepley

COUNCILMEMBER

Ellen Brady
Ralph M. Dawson
Cathy A. Ferguson
Brett Hopkins
Cameron Hubbard
Haig Haleblian

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
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Crystal Lake, IL 60014

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Go green by signing up for the City's Newsletter electronically.

Visit www.crystallake.org/residents/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.
