What’s New?

We Want to Hear from You!

The Crystal Lake Police Department strives to provide all citizens with the highest level of service possible. In order to accomplish this goal we would like to have your input on the job that we are doing. Please take a few minutes to complete this anonymous survey. Thank you! Survey Link: www.surveymonkey.com/s/267H396

Economic Development

National clothing and home goods retailer Burlington Coat Factory will open a 58,411-square-foot store that will employ up to 100 people in the Commons of Crystal Lake Shopping Center that is anchored by Jewel Osco.

“We are thrilled to open a new Burlington in the Crystal Lake community,” Tom Kingsbury, chairman and CEO of Burlington Stores, said in a news release.

“We’re excited for Burlington Coat Factory to join the Crystal Lake business community,” Crystal Lake Mayor Aaron Shepley said in a statement. “The city has been working with Burlington Coat Factory for the past year to secure a location in Crystal Lake. The Brixmor Property Group has done an excellent job in working out a long-term deal for Burlington Coat and they have a bright future here in Crystal Lake.”

The mayor also praised the efforts of city staff members and hinted at more new businesses coming to the city this year.

“Burlington Coat is one of a number of new retailers that will be joining the Crystal Lake market in 2015,” he said in the statement. “The arrival of the Burlington Coat Factory is the result of a conscious effort on the part of the city to develop meaningful relationships in the business community.”
The Raue House

The Raue House, located at 25 W. Crystal Lake Avenue, is 114 years old, and quite remarkably, has had only two owners! Title records show that on May 4, 1900, Benno Raue purchased the lot from Fred C. Goodwin for $475. A September 20, 1900 Nunda Herald newspaper snippet reads, “The excavation for the foundation of Ben Raue’s new house has been made. The residence will cost about $2,000 and will be built by day labor with Clarence Paine as foreman.” The house was completed in 1901.

The Raue House is classified as a Free Classic Queen Anne styled house. Many of the architectural features have been lost or covered up through the years; however, some features still exist. For example, towers placed in a front façade corner are a common Queen Anne feature. These are often round, such as that found on the Raue House. The front gable dormer and side gables of the Raue House once featured oculus windows with heavy cardinal keys. From inside the attic, the window on the west appears round while from the outside it is square, hinting that at least one of the originals remains. The rear elevation of the house features three gabled dormers, typical of the Queen Anne style.

The Raue family prided themselves in staying current with the times. In keeping with this desire, the Raues made a decision to replace many of the original windows with vinyl windows. Several of the original windows do remain, however such as in the kitchen and throughout the basement. The wood siding of the house has been covered with aluminum. While these alterations are not in keeping with standards for historic preservation, they were made decades ago, by the one and only family who ever owned the house.

Benno (Ben) Raue, Sr. was born April 16, 1866 in Germany. Ben learned the watchmaking trade in Germany and immigrated to the United States in 1883. After arriving in America, he first worked in New Jersey, then Connecticut, and in 1889 came to the Elgin area to work for the Elgin National Watch Co.

In 1892, he married Dora Brown of Cary Station. Their first child, Ethel, was born in Elgin in 1893. Soon after Ethel’s birth, the family moved north to Nunda.

In 1893, Ben opened a jewelry business in the front of Freye and Senne’s Hardware Store, located on the west side of Williams Street. In later years, his business evolved into a hardware store.

The Raue family lived on Brink Street in downtown Nunda until they built their new home on Crystal Lake Avenue. Ben and Dora Raue had three more children after they moved to Nunda: Benno, Jr., Leone “Tone” and Lucile. None of the children married and there are no living direct descendants.

Ben Raue was an active member of the Crystal Lake community. He served as a member of the Board of Education for many years. He served as Mayor of Crystal Lake for two terms (1923-1927). The first street paving was done during his term as mayor. Ben Raue was a member of the original Park District Board, and its first president. During that
time, the Recreation Building was built at Main Beach and the area was set aside as the public beach, which residents still enjoy today.

Ben Raue owned and operated Raue Hardware Store until he retired at the age of 89 years. He organized the first Businessmen’s Association in Crystal Lake (the forerunner of the Chamber of Commerce). Ben was president of Home State Bank for many years.

The Raue family worked hard for their money. They were very frugal and invested wisely. As each family member died, generous contributions were made to their favorite charities. By the time Lucile Raue died in 1994, the family estate was worth several million dollars.

Lucile Raue, the last of the Raue family members, passed away on Thanksgiving Day, 1994. Her generosity in life extended after her death. Her will directed funds to numerous charities, employees, former employees, and friends. Lucile directed her attorney to use the remainder of her estate to benefit the Crystal Lake community.

Over $2 million was initially donated to the Crystal Lake Civic Center Authority, which purchased and renovated the old El Tovar/Showplace Theatre on Williams Street. This is now known as the Raue Center for the Arts. The Raue family home was deeded to the Historic Downtown District of Crystal Lake (Main Street), the current owner. On the corner of Williams and Brink Streets stands the 21-foot four-faced Raue Memorial Clock. The Raue clock is a fitting tribute to a watchmaker’s family.

The Raue House was the seventh structure to receive landmark designation in the City of Crystal Lake. To be eligible for landmark designation, a structure must be located within the corporate limits of the City, be over fifty (50) years old, and must be either historically or architecturally significant. Although architecturally the Raue House has received numerous alterations, the historical significance of the house remains. The Crystal Lake community owes so much to Ben Raue and his family. It was appropriate for the City of Crystal Lake to landmark the Raue family home, and protect it for the future, so that it may continue to stand as a symbol and reminder of the Raue family’s contribution to our community.

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.
Move Over. It’s the LAW....

Help Protect Those who Protect Others

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Crystal Lake Police Department are calling on you to help put an end to roadside fatalities among law enforcement officers.

As of December 2014, 114 law enforcement officers have been killed in the line of duty - 47 of those fatalities being traffic-related. For the second year in a row, traffic-related incidents are the leading cause of death for law enforcement officers. From 2003-2012, there were 672 on-duty law enforcement officers killed in such incidents. Law enforcement officers put their own lives at risk when they step onto the side of the road to conduct traffic stops, help motorists, or investigate crashes.

To address the heightened danger involved in these roadside stops, every State has enacted “Move Over” laws, requiring motorists to change lanes and/or slow down when approaching stopped emergency vehicles.

These laws can only save lives if:
• Motorists are aware of them;
• Drivers obey them; and
• Law enforcement officers enforce them.

In a 2007 survey, about 7 out of 10 Americans had never heard of “Move Over” laws. In 2013, 46 law enforcement officers were killed in traffic-related incidents. We don’t want one more law enforcement officer to be killed in the line of duty by motorists who don’t move over.

Moving over to give space to emergency personnel isn’t just a courtesy - It’s the Law.

Review these facts about the “Move Over” law so you can do your part to protect those who protect you. It’s not just a law—it’s the right thing to do.

Q1) I’ve never heard of the “Move Over” law – what is it?
A1) Laws vary from State to State, but in general: When an emergency vehicle using any visual signal is stopped or parked on or next to a roadway, drivers approaching the emergency vehicle should (1) make a lane change into an available lane not immediately adjacent to the emergency vehicle; or (2) if unable to safely make a lane change, slow down to a reasonable speed for existing weather, road, and vehicular or pedestrian traffic conditions.

Q2) How do I know if my State has a “Move Over” law?
A2) All 50 States have enacted “Move Over” laws, but very few Americans know they exist! Don’t be one of the 71% who is unaware of these laws. Visit www.DrivingLaws.AAA.com to find out your State’s law.


The law requires drivers to slow down and move over a lane for any emergency vehicle with flashing lights.

Q3) If I violate the “Move Over” law, what is the penalty?
A3) Fines for violations of the “Move Over” law vary from State to State, but can be as high as $500. In some States, violation of the law is punishable by jail time as well.

*In Illinois If found guilty of an offense, you can be fined a minimum of $100 and a maximum of $10,000.

*If the violation includes damage to vehicles or another person, your driving privileges will be suspended from 90 days to two years depending on the severity of the injuries and if you are a repeat offender.

Examples of violations would be:
• Failure to reduce speed or change lanes when you see a police officer on traffic stop on the shoulder of the roadway.

Q4) Is it really that unsafe to drive next to a law enforcement officer stopped on the side of a highway? Yes. Making a traffic or emergency stop on the side of our Nation’s highways is one of the most dangerous things law enforcement officers do in the line of duty.

Q5) Why am I hearing so much about this law now? Is it new? No. In fact, the first “Move Over” law originated in South Carolina in 1996 after a paramedic was struck and killed while responding to a crash. Since then, every State has enacted such laws, including Hawaii, which in 2012 became the 50th and final State to enact “Move Over” legislation.

Please remember to drive safe and pay attention to what is going on around you when driving. Avoid distractions that may lead to accidents and traffic violations. Proceed with caution around emergency vehicles and in work zones.

Crystal Lake Police Department
Non-Emergency
815-356-3620
Or on the case of an Emergency: 9-1-1

www.CrystalLake.org
Smoke alarms are a key part of a home safety plan and a fire escape plan. During a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you an early warning so you can get outside quickly. Your ability to get out of your house rapidly during a fire depends on advance warning from smoke alarms and advance planning.

Smoke alarms that are properly installed and maintained play a vital role in reducing fire deaths and injuries. Having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a fire by 50%. Almost two thirds of home fire deaths result from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

### Installing your Smoke Alarm:

- Install smoke alarms inside and outside each bedroom and sleeping area.
- Install alarms on every level of the home and in the basement.
- Place extra smoke alarms in large homes.
- Use interconnected smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month.
- There are two kinds of alarms. Ionization smoke alarms are quicker to warn about flaming fires. Photoelectric alarms are quicker to warn about smoldering fires. It is best to use of both types of alarms in the home.
- Place smoke alarms on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet from the stove.
- People who are hard of hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

### Maintaining your Smoke Alarm:

- Test smoke alarms at least once a month using the test button.
- Make sure everyone in the home understands the sound of the smoke alarm and knows how to respond.
- Follow manufacturer’s instructions for cleaning to keep smoke alarms working well.
- Smoke alarms with non-replaceable 10-year batteries are designed to remain effective for up to 10 years. If the alarm chirps, warning that the battery is low, replace the entire smoke alarm right away.
- Smoke alarms with any other type of battery need a new battery at least once a year. If the alarm chirps, warning the battery is low, replace the battery right away.
- Follow manufacturer’s list of batteries on the back of the alarm or manufacturer’s instructions when replacing batteries. Manufacturer’s instructions are specific to the batteries (brand and model) that must be used. The smoke alarm may not work properly if a different kind of battery is used.

### Planning your escape:

- Make a home escape plan with everyone in your household together. Walk through your home and look for two ways out of every room.
- Make sure escape routes are clear of debris and doors and windows open easily. Windows with security bars or grills should have an emergency release device.
- Plan an outside meeting place where everyone will meet once they have escaped. A good meeting place is something permanent, like a tree, light pole, or mailbox a safe distance in front of the home.
- Make sure someone is assigned to infants, older adults, and family members with mobility limitations or children who do not wake to the sound of the smoke alarm to assist them in an emergency.
- Get outside and stay outside when a smoke alarm sounds.

Continue planning and practicing home fire escape plans and make sure everyone in the home can be awakened by the sound of the smoke alarm.
Perhaps you have seen the blue road signs identifying the Silver Creek and Sleepy Hollow Creek watersheds. These signs were developed by community volunteers and constructed by Crystal Lake City employees. Community members in southeastern McHenry County began meeting in 2010 to participate in a new planning opportunity to protect and improve water quality and watershed health in the Silver Creek and Sleepy Hollow Creek Watersheds. Both of these watersheds are located adjacent to one another in southeastern McHenry County and are home to over 23,700 people. The two watersheds include 30 square miles of land, five streams totaling almost twenty miles in length, and several lakes. In December of 2011, a Watershed Action Plan was adopted and implemented to provide for the following:

- Maintain/achieve healthy surface waters
- Protect groundwater quality and quantity
- Protect and restore natural areas and increase native species diversity
- Increase public awareness, knowledge, and implementation of watershed protection practices, and
- Establish an ongoing community participation group

The community participation group is now known as the Silver & Sleepy Hollow Creeks Watershed Coalition. As part of this community participation group, the City of Crystal Lake regularly attends quarterly meetings to report and discuss issues and concerns associated with both of these watersheds. City personnel, trained in environmental monitoring, regularly collect monthly and quarterly water samples from Sleepy Hollow Creek and Silver Creek. The Sleepy Hollow Creek samples are collected from six locations, from the City’s north wastewater treatment plant to an area just west of the Fox River. The Silver Creek sample is collected near the southwest boundary of the Oakwood Hills Fen Nature Preserve. Both watershed samples are used to document and manage several constituents commonly found in the watershed. The six samples collected from Sleepy Hollow Creek are analyzed in the City’s wastewater laboratory, while a separate sample from Sleepy Hollow Creek (coalition volunteer) and Silver Creek is sent to the Fox River Water Reclamation District in Elgin for analysis, and is used as part of the ongoing Fox River Study and Implementation Plan.

Local residents can participate and receive more information by contacting the Environmental Defenders of McHenry County (EDMC) or going to the Silver Creek and Sleepy Hollow Creek website (www.silversleepyhollowwatersheds.org). The Silver Creek and Sleepy Hollow Creek Watershed Action Plan can also be downloaded at this web site.
The City of Crystal Lake is accepting applications for temporary summer employment in the Divisions listed above. Many different seasonal positions are available for 2015. For more specific descriptions, please see our website at www.crystallake.org and look under employment.

**Public Works Laborers**
Applicants must be 18 years old with a valid Illinois driver’s license. Previous maintenance and painting experience a plus. Work is generally performed outdoors. Positions will work Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Hourly rate is $8.25.

**Lake Patrol**
This is seasonal work, providing lake patrol services to customers using the lake at the Three Oaks Recreation Area. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, have ability to swim and have experience operating various boats and motors. Hourly rate $8.25.

**Lifeguards**
This is seasonal work, providing life saving services to customers using the beach at the Three Oaks Recreation Area. Some employees may be asked to teach water safety and swim classes. Applicants must be at least 16 years of age and have American Red Cross Certification for Lifeguard and First Aid as well as CPR/AED for the professional rescuer. Ideal candidates will also possess extensive swimming experience, preferably high school or club swim team. Experience performing lifeguard duties and any equivalent combination of training a plus. Hourly rate $9.00.

HOW DO I APPLY?
Visit www.crystallake.org to download an application. Submit completed application to: City of Crystal Lake, Human Resources, 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL 60014. EOE
In Algonquin Township, section 9 covers 640 acres of land. Back in 1785 the federal government surveyed this six-mile square segment set forth as part of the Land Ordinance allowing the first pioneers to purchase land for $1.25 an acre.

Original Land Patents registered at the Chicago Land Office in 1843 tell us those early pioneers included William Allen, Wesley Hickox, Adoniram Joslyn, David Joslyn, Nelson Slater, John Thomas and Martin Thrall. These eight families started farms of 40, 80 and 160 acres and records tell us those properties changed little over the next 100 years. Agriculture and the individual stories of these farm families is both interesting and of significant historical significance.

As the region developed, road improvements would become necessary and farmers in Section 9 uncovered areas of gravel under their plows as Crystal Lake lies within an outwash plain that extends from Woodstock to Algonquin. Those discoveries led to hand-digging of gravel and hauling it to area road projects by wagonload. Many years later ownership of those early farms started to change, including into the hands of commercial interests like Consumers Commercial Sand and Gravel Company.

The next most significant chapter in the history of Section 9 started in September 1991 when the Regional President of Vulcan Materials presented the City of Crystal Lake with a proposal allowing them to mine under Three Oaks Road in exchange for the deed to all 500 acres of the site. After a great deal of discussion a forward thinking community and City Council had a vision for the future.

In October 2010 Three Oaks Recreation Area opened to the public and has received thousands of visitors who fish, hike, swim, boat, and picnic. While the land is being used differently today, we take the same stewardship responsibilities of early pioneer farmers and carry it forward to future generations.
Scuba Diving Facility
Construction started in September on the new above-ground park improvements for the Scuba Diving facility slated to open to the public in 2015. Paved walkways, beach entrance, shoreline improvements, rinse stations, changing facilities, piers and other amenities have been added.

Quarry Wakeboard Area
The first phase for the 32-acre facility on the North Lake started last Fall. The restaurant and patio along with 80-space parking lot were well underway by late December. The developer, Copley McGinnis Group LLC, said the site is expected to open in 2015.

Park Hours
February hours are 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. daily

Picnic Pavilion Reservations
Accepted Monday through Friday during normal business hours; 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, 100 West Woodstock Street

Marina
Scheduled to open Saturday, April 11th

City of Crystal Lake Website
www.crystallake.org

Follow Us On
There’s still time to plan your New Year’s Resolutions!

For successful resolutions, start small and work towards a common goal. Getting healthier is a great goal, here are some steps on how to get there.

1. **Eat better.** Crystal Lake features some great grocery stores and specialty foods retailers that offer fresh, un-processed food options.

2. **Workout.** Joining a gym or taking a few workout classes can improve your health, your self-esteem and reduces stress. Stop in at any of the Crystal Lake fitness centers today!

3. **Find Motivation and Support.** The most difficult thing with resolutions is sticking with them- use social media, friends or set mini goals to help you stay motivated. Good luck!

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Supporting Crystal Lake businesses invests money back into our local economy, as these merchants live and shop in our community. Independent stores re-circulate 55.2% of revenues compared to 13.6% for national retailers.
Residents can now use 2-1-1
Number connects McHenry County callers with basic human needs

MCHENRY - McHenry County residents now can dial 2-1-1 for human service needs, health resources and other support.

The United Way of Greater McHenry County has worked for nine years to bring the service to the area, and on Thursday they announced that McHenry County will be the 19th county in Illinois to offer 2-1-1.

2-1-1 is a 24/7, non-emergency number that connects callers with basic human needs such as food, shelter, rent and utility assistance. It also provides information on Medicare and Medicaid, medical information and other physical and mental health resources. The service is also available for job support and for people with disabilities.

“It gives you a live body to talk to to get questions answered on where you can go to get help,” said Dave Barber, retired executive director of United Way of Greater McHenry County. “It’s something that’s really going to be a bonus to the community.”

The announcement comes as Illinois remains one of the least covered 2-1-1 states in the country. Illinois and Arkansas are the only two states where 2-1-1 reaches less than 20 percent of the population.

In 2003 legislation passed in Springfield to implement 2-1-1 in the state, but it was vetoed by then Gov. Rod Blagojevich and put on hold in 2004. It wasn’t until 2009 that three pilot sites – Bloomington, Greater St. Louis, and the Quad Cities – were chosen to begin implementing the service.

Several counties in central Illinois have since acquired the service, and United Way in Kane, Kendall and Lake counties are expected to begin using 2-1-1 in the near future.

“The greatest thing that 2-1-1 can do is track unmet needs,” said Karen Zangerle, executive director of PATH Crisis, which provides 2-1-1 service to central and northern Illinois. “So often unmet needs are anecdotal in nature. Our sophisticated system allows us to track the unmet needs and track the reason of the unmet need.”

2-1-1 will cost United Way roughly $66,000 a year for service in McHenry County. The McHenry County Community Foundation also contributed $7,300, which covered the additional costs.

“2-1-1, I think, in 10 years will be as well known as 9-1-1,” said Zangerle. “It will provide a new social utility by being able to access a live voice and a human heart.”

*Article printed in the NorthWest Herald on April 12th, 2013*
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.

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