

Grayslake Record



Follow the Village



December 2019

**PROTECT
YOURSELF
BY ALWAYS
LOCKING
YOUR
VEHICLES,
INCLUDING
IN YOUR
DRIVEWAY**

ENJOY HUGE SAVINGS IF YOU BUY YOUR 2020 POOL MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

Aquatic Center 2020 memberships are now on sale for only **\$65!**

This a \$25 savings from a full price membership (\$90)!

Offer expires after December 31, 2019!

To register today, visit www.swimgrayslake.com and click

"Membership Registration".

Need help registering? Please contact the Grayslake Aquatic Center by calling 847-223-POOL (7665).

Aquatic Center 2020 Employment Opportunities

Keep an eye out this month for information on employment opportunities for the upcoming 2020 swim season! The Village will be hiring lifeguards, swim instructors, admissions attendants, concessions attendants, managers and more! Employment information will be posted at www.swimgrayslake.com.

Green Package Curbside Composting Program Initiated!

The Village's Green Package curbside composting program has been initiated. This program includes a dedicated 35-gallon cart for organics, collected year round, in addition to residents' current trash and recycling carts. For more information (including costs), or to register for the Green Package program, please visit the "Residents" tab at www.villageofgrayslake.com.

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Reminders

Water & Sewer Bill Payment Options

Residents have six options to pay their water and sewer bills:

1. Electronically
2. Automatic debit
3. By phone (1-844-463-8922)
4. By mail
5. In person at Grayslake Village Hall
6. Drop box at Village Hall

For additional information regarding water bill payment options including auto-debit enrollment, please visit www.villageofgrayslake.com, "Water & Sewer Services", under the Residents tab or contact the Request for Service System at 847-223-8515.

Mailbox Replacement Policy

Unfortunately, during the Village's snow and ice removal operations, mailboxes may be damaged either from a direct hit from a snow plow or from wet snow from a snow plow. The Village has a mailbox replacement policy for properly placed mailboxes that are damaged as a result of snow and ice removal operations.

For information, please contact the Request for Service System at 847-223-8515.

From the Mayor...

In recent years the Village has been successful in attracting businesses to our local economy. This includes national firms like AbbVie, SAIA, Okabe, FedEx and an office/distribution center for Medline. Many smaller companies have also joined the economy by building new buildings, redeveloping existing properties or filling vacant spaces. Today we have very little available commercial building space.

While attracting new businesses is an important ongoing goal, the retention of major employers is also very important. When major businesses leave jobs are lost and economic activity is adversely impacted. Importantly for our residents, vacant buildings can pay less property taxes than when they were occupied, shifting more of the property tax burden to, primarily, homeowners. In today's environment other towns and states actively try to lure successful businesses away from their current locations. Often these communities or states offer lucrative financial and other incentives. Meeting this competition takes continuous effort and, on occasion, the use of incentives. Providing these incentives, when needed, can require support from our fellow taxing districts.

The Village has taken steps to prevent departures of a number of major employers. Recently, the Village asked our school, park, fire and library districts to help keep Harger Inc. in Grayslake. Harger Inc. is a long-time Grayslake manufacturer employing 80 people. The business is interested in expanding its facility by 30% and adding 20 new full-time jobs. Wisconsin was actively offering significant financial incentives to Harger Inc. Fortunately the company preferred to stay in Grayslake if the financial arrangements made it possible. While we did not come close

to matching the Wisconsin offer we were able to offer sufficient local and state incentives to retain Harger and gain the further benefits of the facility's expansion. The local incentives, which were combined with the state incentives, were in the form of a temporary property tax reduction and some Village non-property tax funds. The retention of the expanding Harger would not have been possible without the assistance of the Grayslake Area Public Library District, Grayslake Community Park District and Grayslake Fire Protection District. These districts helped our local economy through their participation. Thanks to their help Harger Inc. will pay more in property taxes long-term and all of our taxing districts will have more non-homeowner financial resources. Our residents will not have to assume the greater tax burden created by a vacant building.

Continued economic development is essential to support residential property values. Businesses provide employment opportunities and products/services locally and create opportunities for other existing companies. Importantly, non-residential tax base is retained or added offering the opportunity for homeowner property tax relief. Meeting the competition for this economic development will be a continuing challenge.

If you wish to contact me, please send me an email at mayortaylor@hotmail.com.

Sincerely,



Rhett Taylor, Mayor

Senior Center

The Grayslake Senior Center at 50 Library Lane offers a variety of programs and activities for active independent adults 60 plus. A few of our regularly scheduled programs include Exercise with the Lake County Physical Therapy, Hatha Yoga, Trivia Fun, Tai Chi, Living History with Westlake Academy students, Bingo, Pokeno, Bridge and many more. In addition to those programs, we have various socials, educational presentations, head/neck massage etc. Please view our newsletter at www.villageofgrayslake.com for the calendar of events. We have a fitness room and billiards room available during our operating hours. For more information, call 847-543-1041 or follow us on Facebook.

Garbage and Recycle Can Exchange Program

Beginning January 1, 2020, registration will be open for the 2020 garbage and recycle can exchange programs. Registration for the program is between January 1 and February 15, 2020. Residents opting to exchange their garbage may choose one of three sizes:

90-gallon (\$22.82 / month)

65-gallon (\$20.35 / month)

35-gallon (\$16.97 / month)

Residents may also choose a **FREE UPGRADE** for their recycle can size from 65-gallon to 96-gallon.

The exchange of the can(s) takes place in March and the rate change will take effect on April 1st. The exchange is for residents who would like to have either a smaller or larger can size. For more information or to register for the exchange program after January 1st, please contact 847-223-8515 or visit www.villageofgrayslake.com/r4s.

Village Announcements

Grayslake Arts Alliance

Area arts organizations are invited to submit news of their upcoming events and any flat pieces of art for consideration to be displayed in two new public display cases in Grayslake. The two cases are located in Centennial Park on Center Street, across from Village Hall. They were developed by the Grayslake Arts Alliance, with money provided by the Village of Grayslake. The cases are the first phase of a series of cases that will form an Art Trail that will wind its way through the village showing off and promoting the arts in Grayslake.

Materials can be dropped off on the second floor of the Grayslake Heritage Center, 164 Hawley Street, Grayslake. For further information, you may also email the Grayslake Arts Alliance at grayslakeartsalliance@gmail.com, or call Maureen Fisher Rivkin at 847-609-4838.

Waste Management Holiday Delay

Due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays, garbage and recycle service will be delayed by one day on Wednesday, December 25 and Wednesday, January 1, 2020.

Volunteers Needed: PADS Lake County

PADS Lake County is looking for volunteers at the United Protestant Church, 54 S. Whitney Street, Grayslake. PADS Lake County is a community-based organization that provides support, resources and shelter to individuals and families experiencing a housing crisis. If you are interested in volunteering please call 847-689-4357, 847-223-8131 x17, email pads_at_upc@hotmail.com or visit the Contact Us section on www.padslakecounty.org.

Holiday Tree Pick-Ups

The Holiday Tree Pickup Program will take place on the following dates: Friday, January 3rd, Thursday, January 9th and Thursday, January 16th.

Lake County Folk Club Concert

Sunday, December 15th at 7:00 p.m. at the Grayslake Heritage Center and Museum. Vocal harmonies and masterful instrumentation make the Bittersweet Christmas Band an act not to be missed!

Tickets: general audience: \$18, seniors: \$15, Folk Club members: 13.

Part-Time Snow Plow Operators Needed

The Public Works Department is seeking part-time snow plow operators for this winter season. This position is on-call and has an hourly wage of \$30. CDL and snow plow experience is preferred.

Please download an employment application at www.villageofgrayslake.com (Government tab, employment section).

Stories of Grayslake

In 2020 Grayslake will have 125 years of history. The Grayslake Historical Society is requesting that residents and friends of the community help preserve the stories that make the village memorable. New, old, present, past Grayslakers are asked to write at least 500 words about an event, organizations, business or neighborhood. The memory can have a theme. The story is to start with some family history to set the scene. To ensure quality, editing may be done. Send submission to charenehan@aol.com or mail to the Grayslake Historical Society, P.O. Box 185, Grayslake, IL 60030 before 12/31/2019. The stories will be published in book form.

Giving Trees, Santa, Turkeys and More at the Grayslake Heritage Center & Museum

- **Wednesday, December 4th from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. - Search and Share Genealogy:** Share your genealogy triumphs and trials on the first Wednesday of each month with the Grayslake Historical Society's Search & Share Genealogy discussion group.
- **Sunday, December 8th from 1:00 - 3:00 - Grayslake Historical Society's Annual Holiday Open House:** Join the Society for children's crafts, refreshments and music at the museum. The Warren Township High School Alumni Choir will perform, and Mr. and Mrs. Claus will be available for photos in the Society's vintage sleigh.
- **Wednesday, November 13th at 7:00 p.m. Center Street Now and Then:** The Grayslake Historical Society will use images new and old to share the history of various buildings on the north side of Grayslake's main street. The audience will be encouraged to share their memories.
- **7th Annual Grayslake Giving Trees:** Throughout the month of December. Enjoy a display of holiday trees decorated with flowers, crowns, fire trucks, a prom dress and even a telescope. Support local organizations and get into the holiday spirit.
- **Saturday, December 28th at 10:00 a.m. - The Town Turkey:** Have you seen wild turkeys wandering around Grayslake? Families are welcome to join us at 10:00 a.m. as we read "The Town Turkey" and do a turkey-themed activity.
- **Sounds, Smells, & a Smokestack: Remembering Grayslake Gelatin,** an exhibit exploring the history of Grayslake Gelatin Co. For more information, visit us at www.grayslakeheritagecenter.com, call 847-543-1745, or email Michelle Poe at mpoe@villageofgrayslake.com. For more information on the Grayslake Historical Society, visit www.grayslakehistory.org, call 847-223-7663 or email Charlotte Renehan at charenehan@aol.com.

Programs for All Ages @ the Grayslake Area Public Library

The Apollo Program to the Moon: History & Legacy - Wednesday, 12/4 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Michelle Nicols, Director of Public Observing at the Adler Planetarium will discuss the history of the development of Apollo, the science learned from the moon landings and an overview of the decisions made during and after Apollo that have had a ripple effect on U.S. space exploration right up to the present day.

Winter Challenge For All Ages - 12/16/19 through 2/16/2020: Enter our winter challenge and see what you can read and create this winter! Visit www.grayslake.info for details.

CLC James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts

Are you looking for the perfect gift? Tickets are still available to these upcoming events at the JLC!

Ruth Page Civic Ballet's *The Nutcracker* - Saturday, December 14 at 1:00 and 5:00 p.m.

Heart By Heart - Friday, February 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Switchback - Tuesday, March 17 at 7:30 p.m.

To receive weekly updates about our season, text JLCEMAIL to 22828. Call the JLC Box Office at 847-543-2300 or www.cicillinois.edu/tickets for the entire list of events.

Lake County Fairgrounds Events

- Obenauf Auction: Saturday, December 14 from 9:00 - 4:00 p.m. For more information please visit www.obenaufauctions.com.
- Great Train Show: Saturday, December 28 & Sunday, December 29 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Visit www.greattrainshow.com for more information.
- Northern Illinois Sport Show: Thursday, January 16 - Sunday, January 19, 2020. For more information visit www.osgshows.com.
- 2020 Craft Beer Festival: Save the Date: Saturday, February 22, 2020. Presented by Lake County Fairgrounds & Event Center.

Village Elected Officials

Mayor

Rhett Taylor

mayortaylor@hotmail.com

Trustees

Shawn Vogel

trusteevogel@hotmail.com

Ron Jarvis

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Kevin Waldenstrom

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Elizabeth Davies

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Adam Shores

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Heather Nicodemus

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To see our major meeting schedule, please visit www.villageofgrayslake.com.