

Grayslake Record



Follow the Village



March 2020

Reuse-A-Shoe

The Reuse-a-Shoe program offered through the Village of Grayslake and SWALCO provides citizens with the opportunity to recycle unwanted shoes. Instead of throwing away shoes, recycling will mean that 95% or more of all shoe materials will be reused. The program is available at the Grayslake Public Works facility, 585 Berry Avenue (Mon-Fri 7-3:30; Sat 8-12). All shoe contributions must be in a pair and tied/connected to its pairing shoe.

Free Textile Recycling

Spring-time is coming and it's time to clean out closets, cupboards or other household items you no longer need. You can recycle the textiles you no longer need at the Grayslake Public Works facility, 585 Berry Avenue (Mon-Fri 7-3:30; Sat 8-12). Some of the items accepted for textiles and clothing include blouses, shirts, coats, jackets, dresses. For a full list of accepted items please visit www.villageofgrayslake.com. About 95% of the materials collected will be repurposed or recycled.

Seasonal Employment Opportunities

The Village is currently accepting applications for seasonal employment for the Public Works Department and the Esper A. Petersen Foundation Family Aquatic Center. Information on these opportunities can be found below:

Lifeguards and Swim Instructors

The Village is seeking candidates for seasonal employees for lifeguards and swim instructors for the summer 2020 season. The starting wage for swim instructor positions and lifeguard positions is \$11.25 +/- per hour. Applicants must be at least 16 years of age for swim instructor and for lifeguard.

Interested applicants should submit a Village employment application to Village Hall, Attn: Zack Smith, 10 S. Seymour Avenue, or by email to zsmith@villageofgrayslake.com. An employment application is available at www.swimgrayslake.com. Applications should be submitted by March 31, 2020.

Seasonal Public Works Crew Member

The Village is seeking qualified candidates for Public Works seasonal positions working from approximately May 15th to August 15th. The positions are for 40 hours per week starting at \$12.00 per hour with the opportunity for overtime. Typical duties for these positions include landscaping, painting, litter removal, tree trimming, and other general maintenance. Applications are available at www.villageofgrayslake.com and should be submitted no later than Friday, April 3, 2020 to Village of Grayslake, Attn: Jennifer Hess, 10 S. Seymour Avenue or to jhess@villageofgrayslake.com.

Census 2020

Census 2020 is right around the corner! Beginning in the middle of March, residents will be able to be counted towards the Census. The Census is used to determine government funding and political representation, and helps municipalities and school districts plan for the future. For the first time ever, the Census can be completed online.

To find out more information on the 2020 Census, including what information will be requested and when residents can enumerate themselves, please visit the Census 2020 page on the Village of Grayslake website under the Government tab.

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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.

Senior Citizen Electricity Surcharge Rebate

Beginning April 1st, eligible individuals should submit copies of their past electric bills dated April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020 at the Village Hall, 10 S. Seymour Avenue.

The Village's senior citizen electricity surcharge rebate reimburses individuals 65 years of age or older (as of April 1, 2019) for the amount of electricity surcharge paid on their electric bill during the previous year, not to exceed \$20. A valid driver's license or ID card is required. Past electric bills will be accepted April 1, 2020 - April 30, 2020.

From the Mayor...

A healthy and growing business community is an integral part of a successful community. In addition to creating job opportunities and providing products and services locally new business development adds to the non-residential property tax base. This gives local taxing districts the opportunity to lower property tax rates to homeowners and long-time businesses. When property tax rates are lowered a community is better able to compete for new economic development.

For those reasons towns throughout the nation are actively seeking new business growth and the competition has been intense for some years. In the world as it is today to compete effectively communities must employ various types of inducements when competing with other communities for new businesses or to discourage the departure of larger employers. These can include, but are not limited to, sales tax rebates, property tax abatements, construction of public improvements or other incentives. While these types of incentives are not always required, a town's unwillingness to consider their use can make a town uncompetitive and businesses will go elsewhere. This only increases the property tax burden on the residential tax base.

While many of our new businesses have not required incentives, the Village has selectively employed various incentives over the last 15 years that have brought or retained businesses. As a result we have very little unoccupied business spaces. Recently Grayslake won a competition for a new company that will occupy one of the few unused buildings in town, a long vacant and deteriorating manufacturing facility. Sheet Metal Supply, LTD has chosen Grayslake for their expanding business. They will be refurbishing the vacant building at 150 Pine Street in the Grayslake Village Center. In addition to improving the building and

site the company will bring 30 new full-time jobs to Grayslake. To win this competition the Village agreed to a 50% rebate of new sales taxes generated by the business up to \$175,000.

In recent years our economic development program has been successful in bringing significant new businesses to our economy and tax base. These include SAIA LTL Freight, Okabe Company Inc, First Draft Grayslake, 129 Center Cut, expansion of the Northwestern Medical Campus to name just a few. Retaining existing major employers and encouraging expansions of key businesses have also been a focus. Working cooperatively with the Grayslake Community Park District, Grayslake Area Public Library District and the Grayslake Fire Protection District lead to the retention of Harger, Inc and a 30% expansion of that business, 80 jobs retained and the will creation of 20 new jobs. Additional tax base will also be created.

For a number of years the Village has worked to develop new sites for economic development. Recently development began on the 640-acre Cornerstone of Grayslake business park. The first tenant, at 1.4 million square feet, will house an office/distribution center for Medline. Grayslake won a competition with Indiana, Wisconsin and another Lake County site. This new anchor tenant will help create more shovel-ready business development sites.

Communities need to work together to succeed in today's economic development competition. So far Grayslake has competed successfully but we will need to stay at it in the future.

Sincerely,



Rhett Taylor, Mayor

Senior Center

The Grayslake Senior Center has a wide variety of activities for adults 60 and older. Whether you prefer to spend your time socializing, exercising, playing games, or enjoying our lunches, we have an activity for you. We also have a fitness room with two treadmills, two recumbent bikes, an elliptical, a Nu Step & weight machine. Visit the Village website at www.villageofgrayslake.com to view all of the events in the monthly newsletter. Check the newsletter for the upcoming March 2020 Census Mixer. Stop by for a tour or call 847-543-1041 for additional information.

Grayslake Bars and Prohibition!

Where were people drinking in Grayslake during Prohibition? Leo and Josephine Angey, owners of the Grayslake Hotel, got in trouble with the law in 1931 and 1932 for selling alcohol during a weekly cattle auction. According to the newspaper “the sheriff got complaints from wives who said their husbands either did not come home or came home in such a state that they spurned their evening meal for their beds.” Learn more at the Grayslake Heritage Center and Museum’s latest exhibit Grayslake Bars and Prohibition, 164 Hawley Street.

Sidewalk Replacement Program

The Village’s 50/50 sidewalk program is for residents interested in replacing the sidewalk adjacent to their homes. Once spring begins, the Village contracts for the replacement of the sidewalk and invoices the property owner 50% of the cost upon completion.

If you are interested in participating in this program or need additional information, please call the Village at 847-223-8515 or visit www.villageofgrayslake.com.

Village Announcements

Smart 911 Services

Make sure that your family is safe in every situation. New Smart 911 services are now available to all Grayslake residents. This is a free service that allows individuals and families to sign up online and create a profile that provides key information to 911 call takers during any emergency situation.

Information that can be included on the safety profile includes household members, medical conditions, emergency contacts and property details.

This service saves critical time and has been proven to save lives by enabling first responders to know exactly where they are going and who they are looking for in the event of an emergency. Creating a profile today is just one more way to keep your family as safe as possible.

To register your household today, please visit www.smart911.com.

Basement Flood Prevention Tips

- For basements that use a sump pump, it is a good idea to have an extra battery powered pump in the event of a power outage.
- If the location of the floor drain permits, an uncapped standpipe may be installed in the floor drain. Never cap a standpipe or floor drain.
- For basements with window wells, make sure drains work and be sure to clear all leaves and debris. Window well covers for basement windows may also help.
- Downspouts with above ground opening should be extended away from the foundation.
- If water accumulates next to the outside walls of your home, consider relandscaping to direct the water away.
- Consider routine inspection or rodding of the sewer lines at your home. Root intrusion from trees is often the cause of a sewer line blockage.
- If you notice leaf or small branch debris obstructing a catch basin or street storm sewer, you can try to remove it to allow the water to flow through.

Volunteers Needed: PADS Lake County

PADS Lake County is looking for volunteers. 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.

Garbage and Recycle Can Exchange

For those who enrolled in the exchange program, Waste Management will exchange the can(s) on your regular service day during the first two weeks of March. If you live in an area where multiple cans are at the street on your service day please indicate your numerical address on your can to ensure the proper can is exchanged by Waste Management.

March at the Grayslake Heritage Center and Museum

Hands-on Gelatin, Speakeasies, a Musical Duo, a Wine Walk and more! Upcoming events and exhibits include:

- **Wednesday, March 4 at 2:00 p.m. Search and Share Genealogy:** Join the Grayslake Historical Society. New and experienced genealogists can share their latest research and get advice at this monthly discussion group.
- **Saturday, March 7 at 10:00 a.m. Make Slime! Workshop:** Join us and our friends at the Busy Brains Children's Museum as we create and play with a fun, sticky slime made out of gelatin. What flavor will your slime be? Be sure to visit our exhibit "Sounds, Smells, and a Smokestack" & the Busy Brains Children's Museum after the workshop.
- **Wednesday, March 11 at 12:00 p.m. - Prohibition, Before and Beyond: A Boozy History of Grayslake:** Grayslake Historical Society member Jane Trump will share the story of Grayslake's spirited past, from saloons of the ragtime era through the long (mostly) dry spell of Prohibition, up to today's vibrant bar scene.
- **Saturday, April 4, 3-6 p.m. - Shop 'n' Swirl Wine Walk:** Stop by the Heritage Center to pick-up your map & wine glass, then visit 15 businesses for shopping & wine tasting. Limited tickets available: \$25. Proceeds to Grayslake Heritage Center Foundation.
- Saunter on over to our newly opened exhibit **Grayslake Bars and Prohibition** located on the second floor of the Heritage Center. Learn about Grayslake's ban on alcoholic beverages and how its townspeople reacted to this sobering change.

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.

March Happenings at the Grayslake Area Public Library

Wednesday, March 4 from 7-8:30pm - A Beginner's Guide to Zero Waste Living: The average person in the United States sends 4.5 pounds of trash to the landfill every day. Gather tips on reducing waste while saving money and improving your health!

Sunday, March 8 from 3-4 p.m. - Those Were the Days Radio Players: Experience the bygone days of radio with this talented troupe as they perform old-time radio scripts from the 1930s to the '50s, with live sound effects and music. Free performance, all ages welcome!

CLC James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts

Ladysmith Black Mambazo: Saturday, March 7 @ 7pm: Five-time Grammy Award-winning group has mesmerized audiences worldwide.

Switchback: Tuesday, March 17 @ 7:30pm: An evening of spellbinding Irish music with a slight bluegrass resonance.

Jazz Ambassadors: The U.S. Army Field Band - Saturday, March 28 @ 7pm FREE! This inspiring, patriotic band will be performing their tribute, "The Greatest Generation".

To receive weekly updates about our season, text JLCEMAIL to 22828. Call the JLC Box Office at 847-543-2300 or visit www.clcillinois.edu/tickets for more information.

Lake County Fairgrounds Events

- Northern Illinois Boat Show: Thursday, March 5 - Sunday, March 8. Adults: \$8, Seniors \$6, Veterans, \$6, Children under 12: free. For more information visit www.illinois-boatshow.com.
- Lake Co RV Show: Friday, March 27 from 11am-7pm, Saturday March 28 from 10am-7pm and Sunday, March 29 from 11am-5pm. Free admission and free parking. For more information visit www.rvoutletshow.com.
- Spring Arts & Crafts Show: Saturday, April 4 from 9am-4pm & Sunday, April 5 from 10am - 4pm. \$5 admission, free parking. For more information visit www.stepbystepromotions.com.

Elected Officials

Mayor

Rhett Taylor

mayortaylor@hotmail.com

Trustees

Shawn Vogel

trusteevogel@hotmail.com

Ron Jarvis

trusteejarvis@hotmail.com

Kevin Waldenstrom

trusteewaldenstrom@hotmail.com

Elizabeth Davies

trusteedavies@hotmail.com

Adam Shores

trusteeshores@hotmail.com

Heather Nicodemus

trusteenicodemus@hotmail.com

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