

# Grayslake Record



December 2022

## The Holiday Season Takes Over Grayslake

Lights are all aglow in the Grayslake Village Center! Be dazzled by over 150,000 lights illuminating not only Center Street, but all of historic downtown Grayslake.

While you visit the lights, take a stroll to view the decorated windows of the businesses participating in the 5th Annual Holiday Window Competition hosted by Visit Grayslake and the Grayslake Heritage Center & Museum. Stop in the charming stores for unique gifts or grab a bite to eat at the many dining options in the Village Center!

The fun continues into Gelatin Park where the newly expanded ice skating rink will be open for winter fun as temperatures allow. Follow Grayslake Village Center on Facebook to learn more about holiday happenings for the entire family!



## 2023 Aquatic Center

### Memberships on Sale Now!

Get your 2023 aquatic center membership for only \$70 now through December 31, 2022. Don't miss out on the lowest price for the 2023 pool season! Memberships make great holiday gifts for all of your family and friends! Register today online at [swimgrayslake.com](http://swimgrayslake.com) and click on the "Memberships" tab. For questions or to get help with registration, you can contact the aquatic center via email at [swim@villageofgrayslake.com](mailto:swim@villageofgrayslake.com) or by calling (847) 223-7665 (POOL).

## Aquatic Center Employment Opportunities

The Esper A. Petersen Foundation Family Aquatic Center is now accepting applications for lifeguards, swim instructors, admissions attendants, concessions attendants, managers and more for the 2023 season! Please visit our website at [swimgrayslake.com](http://swimgrayslake.com) and click "Employment Opportunities" under the Facility Info tab for more information and to complete an employment application today!



ESPER A. PETERSEN FOUNDATION  
FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER

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## Reminders

### **Green Package Winter Service Reminder**

**As a reminder, on December 1 the Green Package curbside composting program returned to its winter service schedule. This service schedule runs through March 30. During this time, your organics cart will be collected every other week by Waste Management on Tuesdays only. The full winter service schedule is available on the Village's website.**

### **Garbage & Recycle Can Placement Reminder**

**Residents are reminded to place their garbage and recycle cans and yard waste out for pick-up no earlier than 6:00 p.m. on the night before their regular pick-up day. After refuse is picked up, garbage and recycle cans must be placed either on the side or back of the house or inside the garage per Village ordinance.**

### **Winter Parking Regulations**

**Pursuant to Village Ordinance, parking on Village streets is prohibited during periods where snow removal is underway. Vehicles may be ticketed and/or towed at the owner's expense. Residents with disabled vehicles should contact the Grayslake Police Department at (847) 223-2341.**

## **From the Mayor...**

Often I write here about how important a strong and growing business community is to Grayslake. Each business provides products and services for our residents, provides jobs, creates opportunities for other businesses and generally increases economic activity in our community. In the Grayslake Village Center the offerings of our restaurants, retail and service enterprises increase visits to our historic downtown and strengthens the vitality of that area, as well as the entire village.

Economic development can also create demand for Grayslake homes by helping to increase property values. New businesses add to the local non-homeowner tax base, thus supporting our schools and other independent local taxing districts. This new tax base increases the financial resources to these governments and provides an opportunity for lower property tax rates for homeowners by increasing and diversifying the tax base.

Recently, I had the opportunity to present and discuss the importance and benefits of economic development with Grayslake Community High School District 127, Community Consolidated School District 46, the Grayslake Community Park District, the Grayslake Fire Protection District and the Grayslake Area Public Library District. The presentations highlighted the many ways the Village has worked individually and collectively with some of our local districts, to encourage new business projects in Grayslake. For some projects these efforts have included various types of financial incentives that typically amount to 10% - 15% of the private project investments. The effort has

retained local businesses, encouraged new business tax base, supported redevelopment of vacant properties, and added new businesses in the Grayslake Village Center. Some businesses included in the presentations were First Draft, the Butera shopping center redevelopment, 129 Center Cut, Light the Lamp Brewery, Medline, FedEx, Harger Inc. and Sheet Metal Supply. Our community is now benefitting from each of these businesses and their contributions to Grayslake.

I would like to thank the elected officials of each of these districts for welcoming these presentations on this important topic. Additionally, I would like to thank the local districts for their previous intergovernmental participation. Villages must compete for business, and this includes competing with other communities and in some cases, states. If we want Grayslake to obtain these benefits, we will need to win the competition. The presentation had the title, **Everyone's Business: Economic Development in Grayslake**. The title conveys the importance of working together to carefully add to our local economy and tax base. The districts I recently visited have agreed to participate in a new working group of elected officials to explore opportunities for more cooperation for well-conceived business investments in Grayslake. We will start this in 2023. Until then, I wish you and your family a fantastic holiday season and a Happy New Year.

**Sincerely,**



**Rhett Taylor, Mayor**

## Grayslake Giving Trees

Visit the most cheerful room in Grayslake! There are more Giving Trees than ever in this year's Grayslake Giving Trees display, stop by to see trees decorated by local organizations to showcase their mission or this year's theme, "Santa's Workshop." Simply enjoy the trees or vote for your favorite! Votes are \$1 per ticket and the organization with the most votes keeps the entire profit from their tree. The Grayslake Giving Trees are on display at the Grayslake Heritage Center & Museum through January 9, 2023.



## Holiday Window Decorating Competition

It's time for some cheer as the 5th annual Holiday Window Decorating Competition is back! Businesses in Grayslake's Village Center have decorated their windows for the holidays, and YOU get to vote for your favorite! You can cast your ballot in person at the Grayslake Heritage Center & Museum, or online by visiting <https://pollunit.com/polls/grayslake>. Stroll the streets of the Grayslake Village Center to find your favorite decorated window and be sure to vote by the deadline on January 1, 2023!

# Village Announcements

### Village of Grayslake Employment Opportunities

The Village of Grayslake is seeking qualified candidates for the following two full-time positions:

- Planning and Development Coordinator
- Public Works Laborer

Interested candidates should submit a complete employment application (available on the Village website), along with any other relevant documentation to Chris Sparkman, Assistant Village Manager, via email to [csparkman@villageofgrayslake.com](mailto:csparkman@villageofgrayslake.com) or by mail to Grayslake Village Hall, marked Attn: Chris Sparkman, 10 South Seymour Avenue, Grayslake, IL 60030.

All positions open until filled. The Village of Grayslake is an equal opportunity employer.

### Grayslake Park District Winter Fun Coming Soon!

Temperatures may have fallen, but things are certainly heating up at the Grayslake Park District. On December 6, 2022, the Park District will launch their digital Winter Program Guide and the community will be able to browse and register for over 200 programs. From Parent & Tot classes to Active Adult (50+ years) trips, the Park District has an opportunity for you!

In addition to their winter programming, the Park District will be offering nearly a dozen special events within the next few months, including Santa Visits at the Park District Rec Center, Family Dodgeball, a Daddy/Daughter dance, and a Mother/Son dance! To register for these programs today and #FindYourFun, please visit the Park District's website at [www.g!pd.com](http://www.g!pd.com)!

### Enroll Your Home in Smart911 Today!

Smart 911 is an online service that allows all Grayslake residents to create an online profile that provides key information to 911 call takers during an emergency situation. Enrolled residents can also receive alerts and notifications of weather, traffic, and other emergencies happening in the community. This service saves critical time and has 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 emergency situations. Creating a Smart911 profile is just one more way to keep your family as safe as possible, and is free, private and secure for all Grayslake residents.

Register your household by visiting [smart911.com](http://smart911.com) and click "Sign Up Today".

## 'Tis the Season! Be sure to check online for the latest updates about Grayslake Heritage Center & Museum hours and programs.

- **Search & Share Genealogy.** Share your genealogy triumphs and struggles with the Grayslake Historical Society on the first Wednesday of every month at 2:00 p.m.
- **Exhibit Spotlight.** Friday, December 30 @ 1:00 p.m. Tune into Facebook Live for this month's Exhibit Spotlight!
- **Holiday Open House.** Sunday, December 11 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Join the Grayslake Historical Society for their annual Holiday Open House. Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus will be available for photos in the Society's vintage sleigh from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Enjoy children's crafts from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. and live music from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- **Chris Vallillo Concert.** Sunday, December 18 @ 7:00 p.m. Join the Lake County Folk Club at Village Hall as they host singer/songwriter and folk musician Chris Vallillo. His music has a timeless quality about it, with one foot in the past and one foot in the future. Perhaps the archaeology degree Vallillo earned at Beloit College helped him see the important little details of life which imbue his songs with a sense of history. Tickets are \$18/general public, \$15/seniors, \$13/Folk Club members.
- **Take Home Kit.** December 17-18. Visit the Heritage Center to pick up a hands-on activity for kids. Thank you to **Orthodontic Specialists of Lake County** for sponsoring this free children's activity.
- **Busy Brains Children's Museum.** Busy Brains Children's Museum is back at the Grayslake Heritage Center & Museum! Stop by their pop-up location this holiday season from December 28 - January 6 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Extended hours on December 29 (9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.) & a special event on December 30. Visit [busybrains.org](http://busybrains.org) for more details.

For more information, visit [www.grayslakeheritagecenter.com](http://www.grayslakeheritagecenter.com) or call (847) 543-1745.

For more information about the Grayslake Historical Society, visit [www.grayslakehistory.org](http://www.grayslakehistory.org) or call (847) 223-7663.

### Happenings at the Grayslake Area Public Library

#### Community Blood Drive |

**Wednesday, December 28 from 1:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

Give the Gift of Life! Vitalant will be on-site during this high time of need. Donors will receive a complimentary shirt. Teens 16+ can donate with a signed parental consent form. Walk-ins will be accepted depending on availability; appointments are advised! Call (877) 258-4825 or log on to [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org) using code ORD0173G.

For more information on the Grayslake Library, please visit [www.grayslake.info](http://www.grayslake.info) or call (847) 223-5313.

### CLC James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts

#### Join us at the James Lumber Center!

Exciting events are coming to the JLC!

#### **Ruth Page's *The Nutcracker*.**

Saturday, December 17 @ 1:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.  
The quintessential and beloved family classic returns for our annual holiday tradition.

Website: [jlcenter.clcillinois.edu](http://jlcenter.clcillinois.edu) | Phone: (847) 543-2300

Box Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### Lake County Fairgrounds Events

- **Santa's Rock 'N' Lights |** Friday 11/18 - Sunday 1/1.  
For more information call (224) 757-5425.
- **Grayslake Antiques & Flea Market - Holiday Market |** Saturday 12/10 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and Sunday 12/11 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
\$7.00 admission and free parking.
- **Great American Train Show |** Saturday 12/17 & Sunday 12/18 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. For more information call (224) 500-4159.

### Elected Officials

#### Mayor

Rhett Taylor mayortaylor@hotmail.com

#### Trustees

Ron Jarvis trusteejarvis@hotmail.com

Kevin Waldenstrom trusteewaldenstrom@hotmail.com

Elizabeth Davies trusteedavies@hotmail.com

Lalena Zoe Magnetta trusteemagnetta@hotmail.com

Laura Dias trusteedias@hotmail.com

Pradip (Pete) Sahu trusteesahu@hotmail.com

To see our major meeting schedule, please visit [www.villageofgrayslake.com](http://www.villageofgrayslake.com)