

THE ANCHOR

Village of Fox Lake Newsletter

A message from Mayor Schmit



As summer ends, and we look forward to the fall, the changing colors, and holiday gatherings with family and friends, I would like to talk about some of the changes that have occurred the past year.

Nancy Koske, after decades of service to our community as a school board member and president, mayor and trustee of the village has retired. Her contribution to our town cannot be measured and she will be missed. Some of her accomplishments are listed in the Anchor Award section of the newsletter. On a personnel level I am going to miss our discussions, her advice, and her wealth of knowledge.

Clerk Amy Driscoll has been appointed to take the trustee seat left vacant by Trustee Koske's retirement. Amy did a wonderful job as clerk, is an accountant by trade, and committed to making Fox Lake the best it can be. She is a thoughtful person that is a welcome addition to our board.

In This Issue

Message from
Mayor Schmit
page 1-2

Koske receives
Anchor Award
page 3

Village appoints
new administrator
page 5

Cyber threat
information
page 6

Ice rink to open
soon
page 8

Fox Lake Rocks
and Promote Fox
Lake
page 9

Special event
updates
page 10

Fox Lake Santa
House
page 11

Continued on page 2...

Village Hall
offices closed

Nov. 25 & 26
Dec. 23 & 24
Dec. 31

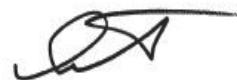
From the desk of Mayor Schmit (continued)...

public dock, walking and hiking trails, enhanced playgrounds and many other amenities. We have applied for grants, and have already received a grant for a band shell from the Fox Lake Lions Club.

The cost of additional land acquisition, further demolitions, construction, relocating and building new roads, design and engineering costs are being determined. The village receives parks impact fees from new residential development, has an annual land acquisition budget item, receives an externality fee from the water treatment plant on Rollins Road and can dedicate funds from video gaming to finance the expansion.

The goal is to accomplish the expansion without any tax increase, and continue to repair roads, provide events, and maintain all the services that the village provides. If the

finance department determines that the expansion can be accomplished without a tax increase, there will be three public meetings to receive feedback from our residents and make sure that we are meeting the wishes of our community. After receiving feedback, the final design will be completed and a referendum will be created and our community will decide if the plan will be implemented. Over the course of the next few months, more details will be provided. I hope to see you all at the Festival of Lights parade on November 27.



Donny

As always, you can reach me at (847) 587-3943 or at schmidt@foxlake.org.

New businesses anchored in Fox Lake

Thank you to all businesses for making Fox Lake your home. Please remember to shop local and take a moment to welcome our newest businesses.

Lucy's Hydroponics - 7 S. Route 12

- Indoor garden supply store specializing in horticultural lighting fixtures, nutrients and maintenance tools for growing plants, indoor vegetable gardens, medical marijuana, herbs, and everything in between.

The Playground Resort - 278 E. Grand Ave.

- Outdoor beer garden with rooftop seating next to Pug Mahones Irish Pub & Grill.

Fox River Customs - 129 S. Route 12

- Truck, Jeep and car conversions, along with custom wheels, rims and all types of accessories.

Stellar Results Realty - 9 E Grand Ave. Unit A

- Stellar Results Realty assists in home-buying and selling providing personalized, honest service.

Rustic Resolve - 13 E. Grand Ave.

- Handmade wreaths, home decor items, and craft supplies.

Let's Make Memories - 145 Sayton Rd. Unit A

- Providing event space for special occasions, meetings, and gatherings.

Best Bargain Bin - 107 Towne Centre

- New home goods, clothing, and shoes at discounted prices.

Fox Lake Barber Shop & Salon - 21 S. Route 12

- Haircuts and salon services at great prices.

Rise and Shine Wellness - 17 W. Grand Ave.

- Massage therapy and wellness coaching

Safeway Transportation Services - 96 Honing Rd.

- Safeway Transportation is dedicated to serving the educational community with safe and reliable transportation.

Northshore Clinical Covid Testing - 1390 S. Route 12

- Free rapid and PCR testing.

Center for Covid Control - 5 E. Grand Ave.

- Free rapid and PCR testing.

Edward Jones - 7227 State Park Rd.

- Edward Jones is a financialservices firm dedicated to serving the needs of individual investors.

Stop by and support these local businesses!

Interested in opening a business in Fox Lake? Call Economic Development Director Donovan Day at (847) 587-3942 or email day@foxlake.org.

First female mayor of Fox Lake, Nancy E. Koske, receives the Anchor Award

Nancy Koske, a longtime leader and champion of the region, was presented with the Anchor Award for her dedicated service to our community.

Koske was elected as Fox Lake's first female mayor in 2001, and served in that capacity until 2005. During her time as mayor, she was also on the Executive Committee for the Council of Mayors and is known for many impactful accomplishments.

Mayor Koske established the village's first tax increment financing (TIF) district, filled a once-vacant Lakeland Plaza, established a cooperative water and revenue agreement with the Village of Volo, renovated and expanded several village buildings including the village hall and police station, and constructed a new 911 dispatch center. She was instrumental in enhancing the Fox Lake Parks and Recreation Department through additional programming and expansion of village parks – including purchasing and developing our current Lakefront Park. She also secured grant funding from the late Senator Adeline Geo-Karis to build the village's skate park.

Nancy Koske served several boards for the Village of Fox Lake. She was a member of the District 114 School Board from 1989 to 1997, and then served as president of the board from 1997 to 2001.

In 2007, Nancy Koske was elected to trustee where she provided sound insight and candor in decision-making. She served in this role until August 2, 2021. During her tenure as trustee, she was the village's chamber of commerce liaison and established many programs for the chamber including the Senior Fair, Fox Lake Boat Show, and Picnic in the Park. In 2011, she received the Chamber Member of the Year Award.

In addition, she spent countless hours volunteering and organizing the annual Grant High School Gala, raising funds for community children.

Thank you, Nancy, for your many years of service and dedication to Fox Lake and the entire region.



Senator Adeline Geo-Karis and Mayor Nancy Koske

Here's where to find village information

The Village of Fox Lake utilizes a number of communication platforms to share information with residents and guests including:

- Village of Fox Lake Facebook Page
- Fox Lake Parks and Recreation Facebook Page
- GO Fox Lake Facebook Page
- Fox Lake Farmers Market Facebook Page
- Village of Fox Lake Instagram
- Village of Fox Lake Twitter
- Village of Fox Lake website
- E-Anchor (weekly e-newsletter)
- Anchor (print newsletter)
- Nixel (emergency notification system)

Nixel, the village's newest communications platform, allows those registered to receive information from the village through phone, email, and text.

Register now to receive information through Nixel and learn more at www.nixle.com. Information can be received online and through email. Residents can also receive messages by phone as part of their text messaging plan, otherwise standard text message rates apply.

Learn more at www.nixle.com/consumer-faqs/ or email: support@nixle.com.

Village appoints new administrator

Following an extensive search and recruitment process of more than 70 candidates across the country, the Village Board unanimously selected Deb Waszak and approved her appointment. She started her new role with the village on August 16.

Deb comes to Fox Lake after serving approximately 12 years nonconsecutively as Chief of Staff for the City of North Chicago where she oversaw 128 staff and managed a budget of \$40 million. During her tenure there, she recruited and stabilized the city's executive management team after significant turnover and improved team dynamics, morale and results which allowed for over \$1-million in budget reductions through leveraging technology, outsourcing, negotiating concessions, and consolidating with other municipalities while maintaining service levels. She also worked to grow and diversify commerce by expanding communications and incentives. There are currently three \$40+-million projects underway

in the city due to her efforts. She also implemented a Congressionally-recognized summer youth employment program.

She served on various boards including the External Advisory Council for the Rosalind Franklin University Innovation and Research Park, Lake County Honor Flight and is a trustee for the National Museum of the American Sailor Foundation.

Deb has a bachelor's degree from Lake Forest College, a master's degree from Carnegie Mellon University and is a credentialed manager (ICMA-CM) through the International City/County Management Association.

Contact information for Deb:
Email: waszakd@foxlake.org
Office: 847.587.3968
Mobile: 224.212.0014

“Pardon our dust” improvements are underway

Construction season is still in full swing in Fox Lake. These projects will improve our infrastructure and walkability in the village.

The Nippersink Boulevard project spans from Oak Street to Grand Avenue and includes reconstruction of existing pavement, storm sewer improvements, street parking improvements, a new retaining wall, and bike path connecting Lakefront Park to the downtown area.

Watermain installation, pavement reconstruction, storm sewer improvements and a culvert replacement is underway on South Holly Avenue.

Pavement rehabilitation and reconstruction is in progress at Hickory Cove, Cedar Street, Elm Avenue, Shore Cove and North Shore Drive.

Phase II of the water and sewer interconnect project continues and includes the installation of water main, sanitary sewer, and force main as well as construction of a new lift station spanning from Riverside Island Drive to State Park Road and ends at the Tall Oaks Treatment Plant. At completion, Tall Oaks will be taken offline and all flow will go to the Northwest Regional Treatment Plant on Rollins Road.

Sidewalk installation continues on the west side of US-12 from Kings Road to West Grand Avenue. This will promote walkability throughout the village's US-12 corridor.

All projects are scheduled to be completed by the end of the year. Motorists are advised to remain alert and attentive to all signs, barricades, and traffic controls and reduce speed when approaching and traveling through work zones.



Retaining wall construction at Nippersink Blvd.

Prep your mailbox for the winter season

While out in the yard raking and blowing leaves this fall, if you have a mailbox in the right-of-way (out by the street) take a few minutes to check the condition of your mailbox and post.

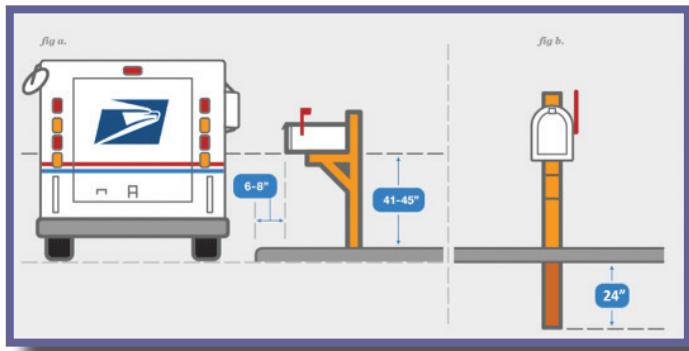
Over time, screws loosen/break, and posts rot. If the mailbox moves when shaken, the mailbox and/or post may not withstand standard winter snow removal operations and should be repaired or replaced before winter.

The most common reason why a mailbox and post is damaged during the winter is not from physical contact with a plow, but the deteriorated condition of the mailbox and/or post combined with the impact of snow being thrown from plows off of the street.

Tips to help your mailbox this winter season:

1. Dig deep - make sure your mailbox mount is installed at least two feet into the ground, encasing it in cement for extra support (call 811 to locate any utilities);
2. Bolster your box - opt for thick metal posts over wood. Brick and stone surrounds boost visibility and better protect your box (check local

- homeowner's associations, postal, and village ordinances before re-designing);
3. Go for the big reveal - shovel your mailbox after a heavy snowfall, aiming for at least 2 feet in each direction;
4. Put some bling on it - boost visibility with reflective flags and markers;
5. Seek postal help - request a variance from your local post office. Though post office stipulations advise your box must be located between 6 to 8 inches from the curb face/street edge, setback variances are possible. You may also consider changing to a drop-box or mail slot.



United Way offers 2-1-1 service

United Way's 211 is an open and accessible place with the answers to some important questions in Lake County. In fact, it's Lake County's free one-stop-shop for help and can be accessed three ways:

- Call 1-855-677-5253 toll-free;
- Text your zip code to 898211
- Visit www.211lakecounty.org

Examples of how 211 can help:

- Your electricity was just turned off because you couldn't pay the bill, 211 can help find a way to catch up on your payments.
- Your grandmother can no longer live alone. You wish you could take care of her, but you work all day. Call 211 to learn how to find a caring, safe place for her to live.

- You just got a new job but are not sure how to get there; 211 can send you transportation resources that can help.

This service is always open, always confidential, and always free. 211 helps individuals, families, and providers to navigate and connect with a wide range of services such as mental health services, crisis counseling, supplemental food programs, shelter and affordable housing options, employment and education support, financial support, and more.

2·1·1

United Way of Lake County

Beware of cyber threats in a complex digital world

While computers and the Internet offer great benefits, they also offer cybercriminals opportunities to steal personal information. Cyber crooks have shown they can keep up with the fast-paced growth of technology. They constantly develop new tools and methods to trick and exploit people through computer and Internet use.

“Malware” is a broad term for the many forms of malicious software designed to disrupt, harm, or hijack a computer system or data. Secretly installed without your knowledge or consent, malware programs can damage your privacy and the security of your computer or mobile device. They can capture your personal information in a variety of ways and secretly send it to identity thieves.

Computers and mobile devices are commonly infected with malware through email attachments, downloads, and links within emails, instant messages, or pop-up windows.

Warning signs of malware include:

1. Slow or sluggish computer performance;
2. Computer crashing;
3. Repeated error messages;
4. Seeing new icons on your desktop;
5. Your online search result pages show only ads.

The more aware you are of cyber threats, the more prepared you will be to avoid them. Become cyber secure by:

1. Creating strong passwords, or passphrases, that are at least ten to 12 characters long and include a combination of capital and lower case letters, digits, and special characters;
2. Changing passwords frequently;
3. Not using the same password for multiple accounts;
4. Not opening emails from unknown senders;
5. Never emailing financial information or your social security number;
6. Only downloading software or email attachments from trustworthy sources;
7. Limiting what you share on social networking sites and increasing your privacy settings on these sites;
8. Logging out of accounts when they are not in use;
9. Using a pop-up ad blocker;
10. Never inserting unknown flash drives into your computer.

The digital world is here to stay. Proactively managing cyber risk ensures the best online experience available.

Our Fox Lake Police Department takes this seriously. For questions please call (847) 587-3100.

Let's bring more joy to those in need this holiday season

Once again, the Village of Fox Lake is requesting assistance providing holiday gifts to local children in need through the Angel Tree Tag Program.

In order to participate, visit the Fox Lake village hall at 66 Thillen Dr. and select your Angel Tree Tag.

Tags will arrive at Village Hall on Friday, November 12. Please return the gifts unwrapped by Friday, December 3 at noon. Staff from the Salvation Army will pick up all gifts from village hall for distribution and wrapping.

Please help support a local child and family in need.

For questions, please call village hall at (847) 587 - 2151.



Fall leaf burning season has begun

As fall comes to a close and winter approaches, you may have questions about how to properly dispose of leaves. For some, that means questions regarding burning leaves on property.

There is no state law or regulatory ban on leaf burning in Illinois. Local laws and ordinances govern landscape waste.

When a local government allows the burning of leaves, for an example, those leaves may only be burned on the site where they fall to the ground or are generated from.

A ban or regulation of burning by specific times and months could be set in place by the local government. The Village of Fox Lake has opted to establish rules for leaf burning.

The Village of Fox Lake municipal code in Section 5-2-1 allows for the burning of leaves between April 1 and June 1, and then again in the fall from September 1 to December 1.

Please do no rake or blow leaves into the streets or your neighbor's property. Additionally, please keep leaves from storm sewer grates as this could cause flooding.

For questions regarding leaf burning please call (847) 587-2151.



Leaf and yard waste pickup reminders

Yard waste service is weekly from mid-April through November 30 on your scheduled pickup day. For pick up, place your container or bags of yard waste at the curb by 6 a.m. away from all obstacles.

Place yard waste in 32 gallon containers (no more than 50 lbs.) or brown paper bags. Stickers are required and can be purchased at Val's Fresh Market in Fox Lake. Stickers are not required if you subscribe to the yard waste program.

Acceptable items include grass clippings, leaves, branches (broken into manageable length) and brush. Please remember branches must be cut, bundled and tied at 50 lbs. max weight and 4 ft. max length.

Non-acceptable items include dirt, stone, concrete, and limbs larger than 3 inches in diameter.

Christmas trees will be picked up during the first two

weeks of January free of charge. Simply haul your Christmas tree to the curb.

Please follow these guidelines to ensure proper disposal:

- Only live Christmas trees will be accepted;
- Remove all lights and decorations;
- Remove all tree stands.

For questions about yard waste service or upcoming Christmas tree pickup, please call Waste Management at (866) 570-4702.



Winter reminders from public works

With winter fast approaching, public works has a number of reminders and information to share.

From the Public Works Department - Streets Division:

- The Street Division is responsible for removing snow from approximately 60 miles of streets, eight Metra parking lots, six village parking lots, and numerous sidewalks;
- As a reminder, Route 12 and Route 59 belong to and are maintained by the Illinois Department of Transportation;
- Rollins Road is maintained by the Lake County Division of Transportation. Wilmot Road is maintained by the McHenry County Division of Transportation;
- Village ordinance requires no parking on village streets after a 2 inch or more snowfall and until snow plowing operations are completed. This includes not only the initial pass of a snow plow but also returning to widen the full width of the street;
- After an accumulation of snow, the street division will display temporary “No parking for street cleaning” signs. These are yellow with black lettering. Vehicles not in compliance will be towed;
- Please refrain from allowing children to play in snow piles.

From the Public Works Department - Local Water and Sewer Division:

- We are asking residents to “adopt” their hydrant and keep the area around them free of snow. Having a hydrant clear and visible will help the Fire Department and the Water & Sewer Division in case of emergencies;
- When temperatures are severely cold, run the cold water faucet at a minimal rate. In extremely cold weather, leave cabinet doors under sinks open;
- Locate your home’s main valve so you can shut off the water temporarily if a line does break;

If your pipes do freeze:

- Use a hairdryer set on low, heat lamp, or light bulb to gradually warm and thaw the frozen pipe.
- Be cautious, and never place a heat source near combustible material.
- Too much heat in one spot can burst the pipe, so be sure to evenly distribute the heat over a large area.

For questions, please call the Public Works Department at (847) 587-8570.

Fox Lake ice rink to open soon

Fox Lake’s ice rink located at the Community Garden Green (17 E. School Ct.) will open when temperatures are cold enough to build ice until too warm to operate. Hours may vary due to weather and rink conditions. Rules, regulations, and the status of the ice rink is available at www.foxlake.org and the Village of Fox Lake Parks and Recreation Facebook page. The ice rink will be open when a green flag is present. The rink is closed when a red flag is present. Please keep in mind, the ice rink is unsupervised. State mandates regarding COVID-19 must be followed.

For questions about the outdoor ice rink, please call (847) 587 - 2151.



Rocks offer engaging art projects for the community

Have you heard about Fox Lake, IL Rocks?

Founder Susan Stark started the Facebook page Fox Lake, IL Rocks in August 2017 with the idea of creating a family-friendly engaging community art project. Susan painted custom rocks for many Fox Lake special events to add a unique touch to our programs.

The purpose of Fox Lake IL Rocks is to share rock art and spread smiles throughout Fox Lake and beyond through random acts of kindness.

To participate in Fox Lake, IL Rocks, simply create art on a rock and leave it for someone to find.

If you find a Fox Lake, IL Rock you may either keep it or re-hide it. If you do find a rock, make sure to post a picture showing that you found it by tagging

the Fox Lake, IL Rocks Facebook page.

With over 1,000 Facebook group members, rocks from Fox Lake have been found and re-hidden across the entire country.



Good luck and have fun decorating, finding, hiding, and re-hiding rocks.

Remember to put on the back of rock: "Facebook Page Fox Lake IL Rocks" and invite others to join this engaging activity.

Thanks for starting Fox Lake, IL Rocks, Susan. You rock!

We are all gratitude to the volunteers promoting Fox Lake

Promote Fox Lake is a local area non-profit organization dedicated to beautifying and promoting our community.

This organization is built by volunteers who dedicate countless hours to Fox Lake through village plantings and planting maintenance, hosting community clean-ups through Fox Lake Shines, community art and murals, sponsorship of various events and programs, local business promotion and hosting of an annual Earth Day event.

Promote Fox Lake also sponsors our holiday light display coordinated to music at the Community Garden Green (17 E. School Ct.).

This year's light show will be even better than years prior with an enhanced design, additional arches, and even more lights.

In partnership with Soundwave Entertainment, Promote Fox Lake encourages guests to tune into 89.9 FM to listen to the holiday songs coordinated to the lights at the Community Garden Green.

The light show at the Community Garden Green will



kick off the evening of the Festival of Lights winter market, parade, and tree lighting held on November 27, 2021.

Going to the light show at the Community Garden Green? Be sure to tag your photos with @promotefoxlake and #foxlakeil.

Thank you, Promote Fox Lake! The village is greatful to have a strong community group dedicated to making Fox Lake an even greater place to live, work, and play.

If you are intersted in volunteering with Promote Fox Lake, please email Michael Lescher at michael@lescher.com.

Upcoming special events

The Village of Fox Lake has a variety of special events to close out 2021. All dates for 2022 events will be posted early next year. Additional event information including registration forms can be found at foxlake.org. For questions, please call the Village of Fox Lake Parks and Recreation Department at (224) 225-1404.

FOX LAKE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

NOV
27

Winter Market

Time: 2 - 6 p.m.

Location: Community Garden Green
artisan market, food, and music

Festival of Lights Parade

Time: 4 p.m. (lineup at GCHS)

Time: 5 p.m. (parade starts)

Location: Grand Avenue

Tree Lighting

Time: Following parade

Location: Millennium Park

Santa's Cottage

Time: Following parade

Location: Millennium Park

DEC
12

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PARTY

Time: 1 - 3 p.m.

Location: Lakefront Park Building (71 Nippersink Blvd.)

Kids' activities include holiday crafts, games, treats and more! Annual coloring contest where judging will take place and prizes awarded.

DEC
31

NOON YEAR'S EVE FAMILY DANCE

Food/Drinks/Entertainment

Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Location: Lakefront Park Building (71 Nippersink Blvd.)

Celebrate the new year! There will be dancing, food, and a new year's count down at noon. Registration required.

FEB
12

MOTHER/SON DANCE & FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE

Mother/Son Dance

Time: 4:30 - 6 p.m.

Location: Lakefront Park Building

Father/Daughter Dance

Time: 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Location: Lakefront Park Building

Come dance the night away! There will be food, dancing, and activities for this year's red carpet-themed dance. Registration required.

FEB
20

SPECIAL OLYMPICS POLAR PLUNGE

Time: Plunges begin at 1 p.m.

Location: Lakefront Park

The 2022 Polar Plunge event benefits Special Olympics, Illinois. Spectators and participants are both welcomed. Register at www.plungeillinois.com. For questions please call (847) 209-1247.



Fox Lake Santa House Schedule 2021

The Fox Lake Santa House is located at Millennium Park
Grand Ave. & Rollins Rd.

NEVER a charge for visits with Santa or Pictures (With your camera)

SATURDAY November 27th PM After Parade

SUNDAY November 28th Noon to 3 PM

FRIDAY December 3rd 6 PM to 8 PM

SATURDAY December 4th **CLOSED ****

** First Saturday in December is **Always Pet Pics @**
Nature Feeds in Spring Grove (Next to Post Office)
Come get pictures of **pets and/or kids in Santa's Sleigh**
Help support "Helping Paws" in Woodstock

SUNDAY December 5th Noon to 3 PM

FRIDAY December 10th 6 PM to 8 PM

SATURDAY December 11th 11 AM to 3 PM

SUNDAY December 12th **CLOSED**

Fox Lake Children's Holiday Party

FRIDAY December 17th 6 PM to 8 PM

SATURDAY December 18th 11 AM to 3 PM

SUNDAY December 19th Noon to 3 PM

Email santa-for-the-kids@comcast.net



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foxlake.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

Village of Fox Lake

66 Thillen Drive
Fox Lake, Illinois 60020
www.foxlake.org

Village Hall Hours

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday

Village Officials

Mayor Donny Schmit

Trustees

Jeff Jensen	Brian Marr
Bernice Konwent	Danice Moore
Ron Stochl	Amy Driscoll

Village Administrator

Deb Waszak

Village Contact List

Emergency	911
Village Hall.....	(847) 587-2151
(Includes Administration & Finance)	
Community Development	(847) 587-3176
Police Dept (non-emergency)	(847) 587-3100
Public Works.....	(847) 587-8570
Parks and Recreation	(224) 225-1404
Northwest Regional Treatment....	(847) 587-3694

The Anchor is the official newsletter for the Village of Fox Lake.

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STAY CONNECTED

Stay up to date with village news through social media. The Village of Fox Lake is on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook using the handle @foxlakeil.

Updates can also be obtained via email in our weekly e-newsletter - the E-Anchor.

News and updates can also be found on the village's Website at www.foxlake.org.

For more information please contact the village at (847) 587-2151.