



# The ANCHOR

VILLAGE OF FOX LAKE NEWSLETTER

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## FROM THE DESK OF THE MAYOR

Summer is nearly over and we will soon experience the changing of the seasons and the magic of Fall in Fox Lake. The changing of the seasons is one of the many reasons I love living in Fox Lake. In this newsletter, I am going to address some of the topics that the Board and I have been asked about recently.

I grew up in Fox Lake and one of the many things that has changed during my lifetime is the economy of the region. When I was growing up, the economies of Fox Lake and the region were primarily based on three industries: tourism, agriculture and mining. When I was a little boy there were farms and corn and bean fields throughout the region. I used to swim in a gravel pit that became the Dominic's grocery store. The entrance to the State park had a gravel pit on each side of the road and I was afraid when we drove down that road because the pits seemed so deep. One of those pits is now a subdivision called Vern's Landing.

Tourism was a major source of revenue during that time. There were small hotels, restaurants and resorts all around the lakes. I would like to speak about each industry, none of which are currently flourishing. Farm fields have become homes and businesses. The resorts, small hotels and restaurants are private homes. The gravel pits have been filled and are now subdivisions and business complexes. Outside of the gravel pits to the north, which are reaching the end of their useful life, there is no longer mining in Fox Lake. Our revenues are now generated by sales and services.

The Village has NOT been approached by any interested parties about creating a new gravel pit, either inside or outside of the Village limits. People have voiced concerns about a new pit to the Board and I, but again, we have not been approached.

We have vigorously pursued a hotel for the Village, and a few times we have come close to acquiring one, but have not yet been successful in our efforts. We are still pursuing a hotel, however, a new form of tourism has gained popularity over the past several years; short term rentals/ Air B & B's/ VRBO. Several years ago, this new form of tourism began operating in Fox Lake.



## FROM THE DESK OF THE MAYOR

*(Continued)*

There were no regulations at the time, and as such we experienced issues with noise, the amount of people and general disruption to residents nearby. Since we are a resort community, and short term rentals were being widely advertised, the Board wanted to address the short term industry sooner rather than later. It would be much more difficult to address and regulate at a later date.

In March of 2015, the Village Board had its first meeting to address short term rentals. One of the requirements the Board created in order to operate a short term rental was the obtainment of a special use permit. Conditions were set for each special use permit specific to the property, and if these conditions were not met, the permit would be revoked. Many of the resorts and restaurants of years past are now short term rentals. To date, we have had only one serious violation of the special use permit conditions, which was addressed the following day, and there has not been a repeat incident at that location. As the industry evolves, we continue to update the special use requirements. Among other stipulations, we limited the number of special use permits for short term rentals. The industry has also changed from renting out "Animal House" party rentals to family vacation rentals. We will continue to adapt to the changes in the industry.



The Lakefront Park Expansion is progressing on schedule. Each week I see the progress made and I cannot wait for the project to be completed. It will be a wonderful addition to the town for our residents. Pending the weather this winter, the opening of the park is scheduled for Memorial Day 2024. Our goal is to provide a park that we can all be proud of; one that meets the needs of residents of all ages.

The Village Board and I have made the effort to be as transparent as we can be. On the Friday before a board meeting, by 5:00 P.M., the village board agenda is available for all to see on the Village website under Agenda & Minutes.

Be sure to check out the upcoming events on the Parks & Recreation page of the newsletter. I hope to see you out at the Festival of Lights. You can contact me at 847-587-3943 or at [schmitd@foxlake.org](mailto:schmitd@foxlake.org).



Donny

# Welcome to TOWN

Check out these new,  
local businesses!

**Randolph Hotel**  
115 / 117 Nippersink Blvd

**Black Lung Brewery**  
115 Nippersink Blvd

**Sauce N Toss**  
1 Nippersink Blvd

## *Coming Soon!*

**Aroma Hill Dispensary**  
1298 US 12

**Midwest Customs LLC**  
4 Forest Ave

## *Updates*

**McDonalds**  
40 S Rt 12

McDonalds is in the process of building a new location that will provide better services, including an indoor play place.

The fast food restaurant is scheduled to re-open by the end of the year.

**Dairy Queen**  
2 South Rt 12

Dairy Queen is undergoing major renovations and will soon be a year-round destination for cool treats and ice cream cakes. The business is set to re-open by the end of the year.

**KK'S Pretty Paws**  
32 W Grand

KK's Pretty Paws will now be providing services from a new location at 32 W Grand.

## TRAVEL SAFELY through Fox Lake and the state of Illinois

On January 01, 2020 cannabis became legal in the state of Illinois. With the legalization came changes to Illinois law. Illinois residents must be at least 21 years old in order to use, possess, and buy cannabis. While possession of cannabis is now legal, Illinois residents can only possess up to 30 grams of cannabis flower, 5 grams of cannabis concentrate (oils or wax), and 500 milligrams of THC within cannabis infused products such as edibles. All cannabis or cannabis products must be purchased from a dispensary to be considered legal.

Transportation of cannabis is legal inside a vehicle; however it must be transported in a secured, sealed or resealable, odor proof, child resistant container that is inaccessible to the driver or passengers. It is illegal to smoke, vape, or consume cannabis in motor vehicles, or any public spaces. Driving under the influence of cannabis has always been illegal and remains illegal. Driving while impaired can result in a DUI arrest.

The Fox Lake Police Department would like to remind residents to drive safely, drive sober, and follow all traffic laws while traveling through the Village of Fox Lake and the State of Illinois.



The Community and Economic Development department is open for business and ready to serve the residents and businesses in our community. Fox Lake is an amazing place to work and live. The goal of the department is to encourage positive development while maintaining our small town charm and to provide all residents, business owners and other interested parties with excellent and efficient services.

Not only does Fox Lake's location on the Chain O' Lakes make this a perfect destination for your future, the Village actively works with residents and business owners to improve our neighborhoods and business developments. The Village offers programs to help individuals make their dreams of owning a successful business come true with programs like the Façade Grant Program – which allow businesses to receive reimbursement funds to upgrade their storefront

If you would like to learn more about this program or others, please contact the Community and Economic Development Director, Dusty Hosna, at [Hosnad@foxlake.org](mailto:Hosnad@foxlake.org) or 847-587-3968.

**FREE**

# FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS

AT THE FOX LAKE DISTRICT LIBRARY

September 13: Minions the Rise of Gru  
September 20: Puss in Boots: The Last Wish  
September 27: Super Mario Bros  
October 4: The Little Mermaid (Live Action)  
October 11: Addams Family (2019 Animated)



7:00 p.m.  
SHOWTIMES

# SPRING YOUTH SPORTS

SOCcer & T-BALL COMBO • AGES 3-5  
BASKETBALL SPEED & AGILITY • AGES 6-8

SESSION #1  
SEPT 20 - OCT 18

SESSION #2  
NOV 1 - DEC 6

Youth Sports classes are \$57 per child for each session. Registration forms can be found on the Village of Fox Lake website under Applications & Forms.

## BRUSH PICK UP TO CONCLUDE FOR THE SEASON IN NOVEMBER

Weather permitting; brush pick up is scheduled to end for the season on Friday, November 10, 2023. Brush will continue to be picked up every Friday until early November; however, due to other work, holidays, and inclement weather, pickups may be delayed from time to time.

### *Friendly reminders:*

- Branches must be trimmed by the home owner, not a tree service.
- Limbs must not exceed six feet in length.
- Limbs must not exceed six inches in diameter.
- Limbs must be neatly stacked at the curb.
- Piles are not to exceed 4'x6'.

Yard waste, tree trunks, logs, weeds, and dirt do not qualify as brush. Brush piles that do not meet the criteria listed above will not be collected. To schedule a pick-up, please contact Public Works at (847) 587-8570.



# OPEN GYM

📍 Lakefront Park Building

**MONDAY +  
WEDNESDAY:**  
GRADES 8  
& UNDER

**TUES,  
THURS, + FRI**  
HIGH SCHOOL  
& UP

Participants 17 and younger must have a parent/guardian signed waiver form to participate. Waivers can be found on the Village of Fox Lake website under applications & forms.

## FACILITY RENTALS

Need a place to host a business or club meeting, birthday party, shower, or family gathering? Try renting out one of the Village of Fox Lake's indoor facilities.

The Fox Lake Community Center and Lakefront Park Building offers a large space for parties or gatherings of up to 150 people.

Rental fees may vary depending on weekend or weeknight rentals as well as residency. For more information please visit the Village of Fox Lake website or call (224) 225.1404.

## FALL HYDRANT FLUSHING

Beginning the week of October 9th and concluding on or around November 17th, the Fox Lake Sewer and Water Department will be flushing fire hydrants. This is to ensure hydrants are in good working order in the event of an emergency, as well as to help flush sediment out of the distribution system. Signs will be posted in each area before flushing begins.

Flushing will occur between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please DO NOT do laundry on the days hydrants are flushed in your area. Flushing stirs up rust which can discolor your clothes. If there is any discoloration in your faucet water after flushing is completed in your area, run only the cold water (preferably from a bath tub, slop sink or outside spigot), until the water runs clear.

If you have any questions or issues during flushing, please call the Fox Lake Sewer and Water Department at (847) 587-3506 (M-F 7:00-3:30 p.m.) or email [turnert@foxlake.org](mailto:turnert@foxlake.org)



# MAKING WAVES AT FOX LAKE FISH FEST

The Fox Lake Fish Fest is not merely an annual event; it's an embodiment of tradition and community engagement. At the heart of the festival's success is the Mayor's Fish Fry which was held on Friday, August 11th. This year we saw over 300 attendees who gathered to enjoy good food, great company, and the talented voice of David Allen Mehner who delighted the crowd with songs from the 50's, 60's, 70's, doo wop, Motown, Frankie Valli and Sinatra. On Saturday, youth gathered for the annual youth fishing derby where over 30 kids competed for trophies for the smallest fish, most fish, biggest fish and ugliest fish.

The day concluded with the annual Cardboard Boat Races, capturing the essence of innovation and friendly rivalry. Teams put their engineering skills to the test by constructing seaworthy vessels using cardboard and duct tape. The event showcases a fusion of artistry and engineering as participants let their imagination run wild, resulting in boats of various shapes, sizes, and designs.



## DR. BOHDAN RUDAWSKI OF FOX LAKE ANIMAL HOSPITAL RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS ANCHOR AWARD



The Village of Fox Lake would like to recognize the Fox Lake Animal Hospital and Dr. Bohdan Rudawski for their compassionate and exceptional service to our community. The Fox Lake Animal Hospital has served the community and the Chicagoland area for more than 30 years. Dr. Rudawski has led his skilled staff in their care of pets for both routine and emergent situations. He assisted the Fox Lake Police Department on numerous occasions where animals were discovered to be in need of emergency services.

The Fox Lake Animal Hospital has always been a place that the Fox Lake Police Department could request assistance from, no matter what time of day or night. Dr. Rudawski opened his doors when the police department located a dog that had jumped from a second story window and fallen on an asphalt driveway below. The owner was not in the area and unable to provide for the dog. Although it was outside their hours of operation, the Fox Lake Animal Hospital answered our call for help and responded to care for the dog until it could be returned to the owner.

There was another instance when a resident was at work and a fire started inside of their home. The fire department rescued two large breed dogs that were in distress and needed immediate care. Dr. Rudawski quickly created space at his facility to provide an oxygen chamber for the dogs to be treated within. The dogs were reunited with their owners due to his quick action.

The Fox Lake Police Department recently started the process of creating a Therapy K9 program. Dr. Rudawski graciously offered his services for the continuous care of this future therapy dog as it serves the citizens of Fox Lake. Due to the continued support that the Fox Lake Animal Hospital and Dr. Bohdan Rudawski have offered the police department, we have been able to reunite caring owners with their pets and prosecute criminals due to their mistreatment of animals.

The Fox Lake Animal Hospital and Dr. Rudawski are valuable members of our community and have provided an exemplary service for Fox Lake citizens and for these reasons we would like to recognize Dr. Bohdan Rudawski with the Fox Lake Anchor Award.



## WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

### Installation Nears Completion

You may have noticed the new signage being put in in around town. Over the last few years the Village has been working on evaluating signage needs and improvements. With input from the public, we unveiled a new branding style in 2019. Since then, the Village has been working on budgeting and permitting to implement the new signage. Recently, the Village went out to public bid to start the first phase of the signage installation. This consists of over 20 new signs throughout the Village, including new Welcome to Fox Lake entryway signs and a monument sign at the corner of US-12 and Grand Avenue. The new signage is highly anticipated, and will solidify the Village's branding efforts. Work began in late August and will continue through the end of September.

## Washington St



## REVITALIZATION OF WASHINGTON STREET

Back in May, the Village Board approved a contract to reconstruct Washington Street from Rollins Road to County boundaries at Moulis Terrace. Construction started in late June and includes a new roadway, sidewalks/multi-use paths, and decorative lighting.

The project was bid at \$2,008,149.12 and is expected to be completed by the end of September/ early October. Reconstruction through the Lake County division of Transportation on Washington Street from Moulis Terrace to RT 59, which includes an intersection reconstruction, is set to begin this fall.

# DANGERS OF VAPING

Vaping amongst teens in the U.S. is one of the biggest health concerns facing up and coming adults. According to the FDA and CDC, more than 1 in 4 High School and Middle School age students use e-cigarettes, more commonly referred to as vapes, every day. Vaping remains a top concern for the FDA. An overwhelming 85% of current users use flavored vapes such as fruit, candy and other desserts.

A CDC study showed 99% of all vapes sold in the U.S. contained nicotine. Nicotine use can prohibit an adolescent brain from developing properly. Each time a new memory is created or a new skill is learned, stronger connections – or synapses – are built between brain cells. Young people's brains build synapses faster than adult brains. Nicotine changes the way these synapses are formed.

The most common call officers receive in the school is for students caught vaping in the bathrooms. In the state of Illinois, it is illegal for any person under the age of 21 to possess or consume tobacco products. Students who are found in possession or consumption of a product containing nicotine could be subject to court appearances, fines and community service.

Consistent use of nicotine will cause a person to become dependent on the drug. When a person is dependent on (or addicted to) nicotine and stops using it, they experience withdrawal symptoms. Nicotine withdrawal symptoms include irritability, restlessness, feeling anxious or depressed, trouble sleeping, problems concentrating, and craving nicotine. Teens may turn to vaping to try to deal with stress or anxiety, creating that vicious cycle of dependence to nicotine, but little do they know, nicotine addiction is a source of stress.

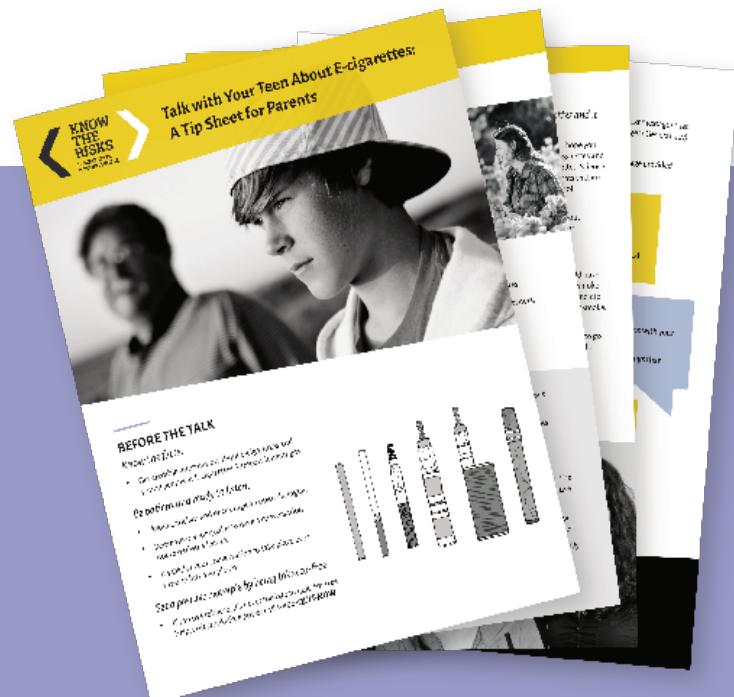
Scientists are still learning about the long term effects of vaping. Some of the ingredients in e-cigarette aerosol are harmful to the lungs. For example, some e-cigarette flavorings may be safe to eat but not to inhale because the gut can process more substances than the lungs can. Children and adults have been poisoned by swallowing, breathing, or absorbing e-cigarette liquid through their skin or eyes.

Nationally, approximately 50% of calls to poison control centers for e-cigarettes are for kids 5 years of age or younger. Let your child know that you want them to stay away from all tobacco products, including vapes, because they are not safe for them. Seek help and get involved.

Talk to your child or teen about why e-cigarettes are harmful for them. It's never too late.

Get the "Talk with Your Teen About Vapes" tip sheet for parents. Start the conversation early with children about why vapes are harmful for them.

➔ <https://shorturl.at/brRS3>





# Upcoming EVENTS



Looking for more  
Parks & Recreation  
events? Follow us  
on Facebook!  
[/VFLparksandrec](https://www.facebook.com/VFLparksandrec)



Start the fall season with music, a petting zoo, hayrides, children's activities, pumpkins, crafts, food vendors and more. With its vibrant atmosphere and festive spirit, Fall Festival promises unforgettable fun for everyone!



Join the Village of Fox Lake on the Community Garden Green for pumpkin carving, live entertainment, a Halloween costume contest, crafts and food vendors. Pumpkin Carving is \$3 per pumpkin. Participants are encouraged to light their pumpkins for the pumpkin wall display. Pumpkin pick-up is Sunday, October 8, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



# SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR

A graphic featuring a hand holding a red megaphone on a blue background. The megaphone is pointing towards the text "SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR".

THURSDAY,  
OCTOBER 19  
10:00 a.m. to  
3:00 p.m.  
LAKEFRONT  
PARK  
BUILDING  
71 Nippersink Blvd.,  
Fox Lake, IL

The Senior Resource Fair caters to the needs and interests of the senior community bringing together a multitude of resources and services tailored to enhance lives. Attendees can explore an extensive range of exhibitors offering information on healthcare, financial planning, emergency assistance, a Medicare 101 informational program and more. This event is free to attend.

## MURDER MYSTERY DINNER & SHOW

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20  
5:30 p.m.  
📍 Maravela's Banquet Hall

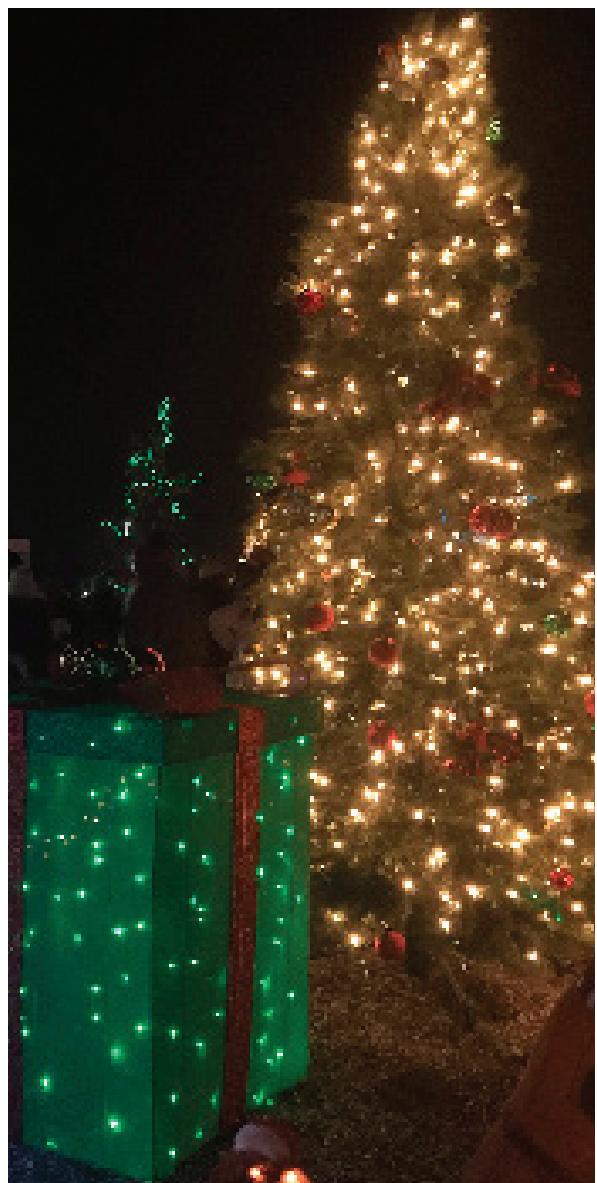
A graphic featuring a fork, a plate, and a knife arranged in a triangular shape on a red background.

The walking dead have never been this much fun! Join us for a murder mystery show that thinks outside of the coffin. This show has it all, high drama, comedy, a love story and zombies, of course! The ticket includes a buffet style meal and an interactive Murder Mystery Show where tables work together to solve a murder. Doors open at 5:30 and the show begins at 6:00 p.m. Please visit [www.foxlake.org](http://www.foxlake.org) for more information.

A graphic for a Halloween event. It features a large orange jack-o'-lantern face on the left and the text "HALLOWEEN HOWL" in large black letters on the right. Below that is the text "MONDAY, OCTOBER 23 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m." and the location "📍 Fox Lake Police Department (301 Route 59)".

HALLOWEEN  
HOWL  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 23  
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
📍 Fox Lake Police Department (301 Route 59)

Come celebrate Halloween and meet members of the Fox Lake Police Department and Public Works Department. Enjoy treats, hot dogs, children's activities, hay rides and hot chocolate. This is a free event. Halloween costumes are encouraged for both children and parents!



This cherished event brings the Village's youngest residents together in a joyous celebration of the holiday spirit. From visits with Santa Claus himself to captivating storytelling sessions and creative craft stations; this event has something for everyone.

# Contact INFORMATION

## Village of Fox Lake

66 Thillen Drive  
Fox Lake, Illinois 60020  
[www.foxlake.org](http://www.foxlake.org)

## Village Hall Hours

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

## Village Officials

Mayor Donny Schmit

## Village Clerk

Michelle Runnion

## Trustees

Bernice Konwent	Brian Marr
Jeff Jensen	Debra Vander Weit
Ron Stochl	Amy Driscoll

## Village Contact List

Emergency .....	911
Village Hall .....	587-2151
Community Development .....	587-3176
Police Dept (Non-emergency) .....	587-3100
Public Works .....	587-8570
Parks and Recreation .....	(224) 225-1404
Northwest Regional .....	587-3694

All phone numbers are (847) area code, except for Parks and Recreation, which is (224).

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\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*\*  
POSTAL CUSTOMER  
FOX LAKE, IL 60020

# STAY CONNECTED *with the Village of Fox Lake*

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, or can also be found on the Village's website at [www.foxlake.org](http://www.foxlake.org).

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

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



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