



# FOX RIVER GROVE QUARTERLY

A newsletter for and about the Village of Fox River Grove

WINTER 2014

## Village News

### Holiday Hours

The Village Hall will be closed the following days for the Holidays. Please use the drop box for any payments or correspondence.

- Wednesday, December 24th and Thursday, December 25th
- Wednesday, December 31st and Thursday, January 1st

### New Utility Bill Payment Options Coming Soon

We are pleased to announce that the Village will soon provide our residents with the option to make credit or debit card payments - both online and in person - free of charge (no convenience fee).

Once the system is active, you will be able to make online payments by clicking on the Payments button on the home page of the Village website - [www.foxrivergrove.org](http://www.foxrivergrove.org). Look for updates on the status of this new payment option on future utility bills. This new payment system will complement our existing payment options:

- **Auto Pay:** Have your utility bill amount automatically withdrawn from your checking or savings account on the due date. You will continue to receive a card each billing cycle showing your current charges. However, it will clearly say "Auto Pay" near the due date field.

Because payment is automatic there are never postage costs or penalties for late payments. If interested in auto pay, please complete the form on our website, or stop by Village Hall.

- **Mail/In Person:** You can always mail a check to the Village Hall, put a payment in the drop box outside Village Hall, or pay in person during business hours.

## Join The Fox River Grove Tree Lighting!

Santa will be coming to Fox River Grove on Saturday, December 6th. He's planning on arriving by fire truck (his sleigh is in for a tune-up) at Algonquin Road School.

While you're anxiously waiting to see him and get your photo taken, there will be lots of activities and entertainment beginning at 2:00 p.m. Be sure to enjoy the Electric Train Ride, music, entertainment, crafts to make and hot chocolate and cookies to eat!

At 5:00 Santa will make his way to the outdoor tree and light it. Sounds like great fun! Mark your calendar now so you don't miss out.



## Norge Ski Club's Winter U.S. Cup Tournament

Get ready for Norge Ski Club's 2015 Winter U.S. Cup Tournament which is scheduled for January 24th & 25th featuring International and U.S. ski jumpers competing for points and cash. Fox River Grove is the 3rd stop on the 2015 International 5-Hills Tour which wraps up on the 108 meter hill in Westby, Wisc. on January 31st.

The tournament starts at Noon on both days and includes Junior Hills on Saturday and the Large Hill both days. Presale Admission Buttons will be on sale through local merchants and online ([www.norgeskiclub.com](http://www.norgeskiclub.com)) in December.

### Related News:

USA Ski Jumping named four Norge Ski Club athletes to the 2014/15 U.S. Men's Team on October 29th, 2014.

The new USA members are:

- Michael Glasder (Cary IL)
- Kevin Bickner (Wauconda IL)
- Casey Larson (Barrington IL)
- and resident A.J. Brown (Fox River Grove IL).

For more information go to:

<http://www.usaskijumping.org/>



# The President's Letter



Welcome back, Winter!

And you thought it was going to be a mild winter. Fooled again! But to put to rest the most asked question this Fall, yes, we have purchased much more salt than we did last year and we have ordered a new snow plow truck to replace one that must date back twenty years or more.

Now, about the businesses in town. I am sure that I am not telling you something you do not already know, but to acknowledge the event, the New China restaurant has re-opened to great applause. In fact, New China and El Sombrero Mexican restaurant are filling up on the weekends and bringing throngs of customers back to town. Come out, enjoy a good meal, and join the fun.

Speaking of food, I know some of you will delight in hearing that Little Caesar's pizza store is about to open in Stone Hill shopping center. We're happy to welcome them!

In the parks, we are very excited to announce that the Parks Commission and the Village Trustees have worked together to fund a large shelter which will be built in Picnic Grove Park in the Spring. It will be a great place to schedule a family gathering next Summer.

I have been asked about the area across the street from our waste water treatment plant where the Village has acquired three parcels for the possible use to expand the plant. The Village is at the point where the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency will set the timing for that expansion and it appears now that that date is many months away. In the meantime, there will be no more purchases.

Hope to see you at our school's holiday performances this season.

Robert J. Nunamaker  
President, Village of Fox River Grove

## News From The Rec Council

### Pre-K through 4th Grade Basketball Programs

As the winter months approach, we have a great way for your kids to stay active, learn new skills and meet new friends. Through our "FRG Hoops" basketball program, children ages Pre-K through 4th grade will learn the game of basketball and improve their skills through fun filled drills and games. For all the details and to register, visit [www.frgc.org](http://www.frgc.org). **Registration opened November 17th and will close December 31st.**

We are looking for coaches! If you are interested in being a head coach for the Pre-K/Kindergarten level OR the 1st/2nd grade level, please let us know. Along with helping the kids in our program, you'll receive the benefit of a FREE registration and volunteer fee refund.

### Adult Men's Basketball League

The Rec Council offers a Men's Adult Basketball

## Cross Country News

Our Fox River Grove Middle School Cross Country team had an outstanding season this year.

Our amazing kids, ranging from 5th to 8th grades, made it to the Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA) State Finals. On October 11th, at the IESA Sectional meet, the Girls team finished in 1st place and the Boys team finished in 3rd place. On October 17th, they headed to the State Competition in Normal, IL. They traveled on a school bus accompanied by their coaches with parents following proudly behind.

The Boys team finished 8th, led by Alex Sepeczi, who finished 5th in a time of 11:05. He was followed by Maxum Caesar, Joey Drage, Nick Lemanski, Adam Caesar, Sam Stehno and Lucas Durlacher. It was an impressive finish for a team with only one

league on Sunday mornings from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m. at the FRG Middle School. The first two games are FREE and then there is a small fee per game after that. Interested players can show up on any Sunday morning or contact the Rec Council via their website at [www.frgc.org](http://www.frgc.org).

### Rec Council Seeking Public Relations (PR) Assistant

Are you - or is someone you know - looking to become involved in our community, meet and work with fantastic fellow "Groovers", and share your communication talents...all while helping to make a positive difference in the lives of kids?

We are looking for someone to help with our organization's PR efforts. And there's an added bonus... this role (along with certain FRG Rec Council positions) entitles you to one FREE registration refund (base fee and volunteer fee) per sport! If you are interested in learning about this GREAT OPPORTUNITY, please contact us via our website at [www.frgc.org](http://www.frgc.org).

8th grader. The other members of the team are Drew Sepeczi, Jacob Felix, Peter Wallis and Andrew Zilch.

The Girls team finished 4th, led by Allison Drage, who finished 5th in a time of 12:10. She was followed by Hanna Pocijewski, Samantha Gagliano, Cate Krupa, Madison Fath, Maddey Borzych and Abby Sturtecky. Allison is only a 7th grader and will be back next season. The other members on the team are Charlie Heick, Claire Wallis, Maggie Werner, Vicki Wilson, Jolene Gagliano, Rylee Adams, and Lydia Koss. The 4th place finish is the highest ever for the Girls Cross-Country team.

The teams this year were coached by co-head coaches, Dave Baker and Cheryl Geary, along with Ken Felix, Joe Bajorek and Magalie Baker. Congratulations to each of them!

## Unused And Expired Medicines

Have you ever wondered what to do with medicines you no longer need or are expired? Did you flush them down the toilet thinking that was a safe way to dispose of them?



Unfortunately, flushing down the toilet or drain is a source of pollution. Because sewage treatment plants are not designed to process drugs, they are released into streams, lakes and groundwater thereby impacting fish and other aquatic wildlife.

The Fox River Grove Police Department is now a free drop-off location for medications. They can accept pills, salves and liquid medications, with or without labels, for safe disposal at the Police Department. They cannot accept sharps, needles, IV bags or thermometers.

## News From District 3 PTO

Fox River Grove's PTO has been hard at work planning fundraising events for the school year. Hopefully, everyone will put them on their calendars and help raise funds!

- December 5-7: The "Five Below" stores in Crystal Lake, Algonquin and Schaumburg will give 10% of all sales back to our local schools!

- January 19-24: **Breaking Bread Catering & Deli**, 638 Northwest Highway, in Cary, (847) 516-2223. During this six day timeframe, mention the FRG Fundraising program and 15% of your sales will be donated back to our schools!

- January 31, from 5:30 - 7 p.m., **KIAGA Gymnastics**, 28039 W. Northpointe Parkway, Lake Barrington, (847) 381-6141. It is \$10 per child and KIAGA will donate \$5 back to our schools.

- February 17, 18, 19, **New China Restaurant**, 308 Northwest Highway, (847) 639-5525. Order anytime open to close and mention the FRG Fundraising program and 15% of your sale will be donated back to our schools!

Be sure to mention the FRG PTO Fundraising and thank them when you are at these places!



## Preventing And Avoiding Frozen Water Pipes

Listening to the “weather people” lately, it looks like we may have a very cold and snowy winter. Here are some tips to help with your water pipes.

• **Power Outage:** If the power goes out and you are no longer receiving a water supply, the potential for your pipes to freeze is even greater. The best thing to do is shut off the main water supply valve (coming into your home), then to open all taps so that the remaining water in the pipes trickles out and leaves no pressure in the system.

• **Existing Homes:** Assuming that your home’s heat system doesn’t fail, it is the water pipes that are located in outside walls, or in floors over unheated spaces, such as garages, that are in danger. Bathrooms over a garage are a common source of trouble.

If you have an attached garage, keep your garage door closed. Unheated garages can be twenty or more degrees warmer than the outside temperature, and even if you don’t have water pipes over the garage, keeping it closed will keep the adjoining rooms of your home warmer, too. Get in the habit of checking that the door is closed before you retire for the evening!

If your home has water supply lines running on the outside walls that you have access to, insulate the pipes with pipe insulation or pipe heaters, available at most hardware stores.

If you’re vacationing for the holidays, never turn your heating system off, or set the thermostat below 55 degrees. Regardless of how well insulated, unless there is a source of heat for the pipes, they can freeze if the temperature of the room drops low enough.

Typically, frozen water pipes occur in unused rooms whose heat has been shutoff, and from vacant homes and commercial buildings whose thermostats have been turned down or off. Arrange to have someone check on your home frequently if you are away for a prolonged period during the winter.

If you have a pipe that freezes every year, try installing a louvered grille or some source of air flow between the room that frequent freezing occurs in and a heated room. This will allow some heated air to get to the pipe and keep it warm. When insulating, look for small holes to the outside that let cold air access to the pipe. Some expanding foam will do a nice job of sealing out the breeze.

As an additional precaution during especially cold periods, you can leave one of your faucets, farthest from the supply of your home’s water, open and running slightly. If the water is running, the pipes will be less likely to freeze. It might be a waste of water, but in an extreme case it is a better alternative than a frozen or busted pipe.

## Snow and Ice Control in Fox River Grove



When the weatherman forecasts snowy conditions, our Public Works Department makes every effort to ensure that the snow is removed curb to curb and that the streets are salted to ensure safe travel for motorists. The Village will continue its salt conservation efforts again this year, so please allow more time when you are traveling and drive cautiously.

Vehicles should not park on the street during a snowfall to allow the plows access to the roads. During the months of November through March, after a two-inch snowfall, Village Ordinance prohibits parking on all Village streets from the time snow starts falling until 12 hours after it stops.

The Village encourages all residents to be a good neighbor and shovel their sidewalks.

### Other Snow Tips

- Village ordinance prohibits the shoveling or blowing of snow into the street.
- When shoveling your driveway, push the snow to the left side as you face your home. This will help to prevent the snowplow from dragging more snow across the front of your drive.
- Remove all rocks, stones, posts and other decorative objects from the road easement. These items are difficult to see with snow cover and can damage a snowplow.
- If you don’t have a curb on your street, consider adding reflecting rods at your street edge and reflectors to your mailbox.

**Businesses** -- Village Ordinance #2003-13 requires business owners or occupants of the building to remove snow and ice from all sidewalks abutting their businesses within 24 hours of its accumulation. Your cooperation promotes public safety and

## Cary-Grove Food Pantry

The annual Season of Giving is here and the food pantry needs your help! There are many families in need, and the food pantry supplies are getting very low.



Food Pantry Donations Needed

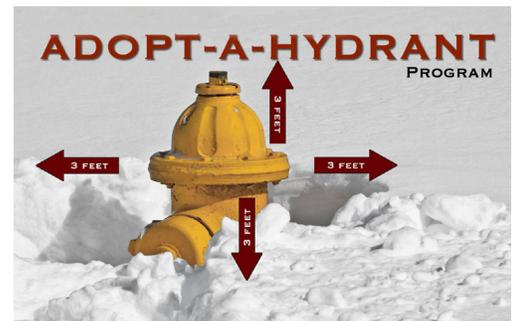
Items in great demand are pancake mix and syrup, canned fruit, macaroni and cheese, pasta, soap, and personal hygiene products.

Cash is also appreciated to help replenish the shelves and buy perishable items. This is a great opportunity for you and your families to help others. Please consider donating!

encourages customers to visit your establishment. Please be sure to keep your area safe and clear of snow. During a major snowstorm, try to maintain a four-foot path along your front sidewalk. Excessive snow plowed up over the curb onto business sidewalks will be hauled away by the Village once all the streets are cleared.

### Salt Safety

When using salt or other chemicals to melt snow and ice on your drive or walkway, please use it sparingly. This run-off ultimately ends up polluting our valuable water resources.



### Adopt A Fire Hydrant

With winter approaching, the Fox River Grove Fire Protection District is encouraging residents and businesses to “Adopt-a-Fire Hydrant” in your neighborhood. Make it a priority to uncover your fire hydrant after every snowfall and plowing, and clear a path approximately three feet around the hydrant. This will help our firefighters save time, life, and property in the event of an emergency.

### Check Your Outside Faucets

As part of your winter clean-up (storing the patio furniture, cleaning up the yard, putting away the hose) be sure to check your outside faucets for any

## Business Roundtable

The annual Business Roundtable will be March 12th, 2014. President Nunamaker will discuss downtown redevelopment, new and old businesses in town, PEDC initiatives and recommend a local business for notable community participation.

Local residents and business owners are encouraged to attend. The program will include a presentation and open forum for questions and answers. Other Village officials will also be present. There is a cost for the box lunch. Reservations are required. Call the Chamber at (847) 639-2800.



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 305 Illinois Street, Fox River Grove, IL 60021  
 Phone (847) 639-3170 • Fax (847) 639-9876  
 www.foxrivergrove.org  
 village@foxrivergrove.org

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 Layout - Chris Erbach

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*President*  
 Robert J. Nunamaker

*Trustees*  
 Thomas Anderson  
 Suzanne Blohm  
 Joanna Colletti  
 Steve Knar  
 Andrew Migdal  
 Michael Schiestel



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ◆ **Tree Lighting**.....December 6th .....Algonquin Road School  
 Get your photo taken with Santa Claus, ride the electric train and enjoy some crafts!
- ◆ **Holiday Concert** ..... December 11th .....FRG Middle School  
 The Chorus entertains the community at 7 p.m.
- ◆ **Holiday Concert**.....December 15th .....Algonquin Road School  
 Enjoy the kindergarten, first and second graders' winter concert at 2:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Holiday Concert**.....December 17th .....Algonquin Road School  
 Third and fourth graders perform at 2:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Holiday Concert**.....December 18th .....FRG Middle School  
 The Middle School Band performs for the community at 7 p.m.
- ◆ **CGA Chamber Annual Dinner** .....January 23rd .....Onion Pub  
 Includes dinner, a silent auction and some networking at this very fun event!
- ◆ **Norge Winter Jump** .....January 24th & 25th .....Norge Ski Club  
 Come cheer on the International and Jr. National Jumpers!
- ◆ **CGA Chamber Community Showcase**.....March 7th .....Cary-Grove High School  
 Check out what is new with many of our local businesses.
- ◆ **FRG Business Roundtable** .....March 12th .....Village Hall  
 Listen to Village President Nunamaker's updates about Fox River Grove.
- ◆ **Annual Parks Fundraiser**.....April 25th .....To Be Announced  
 The annual fundraising event for our parks will be in April. Mark your calendars!



### Thank You American Legion

Thank you to the Frank H. Nagel Jr., American Legion Post 119 for donating funds for new flags along Route 14 in honor of Veterans Day. The Village greatly appreciates your service to our Country and our community.

**Village Hall hours: Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Visit the Village of Fox River Grove web site at [www.foxrivergrove.org](http://www.foxrivergrove.org) for all the latest information on events, regulations, policies, etc.