

### From Mayor Soliman



Dear residents,

I am glad that our winter is behind us, and that we are finally enjoying some nice spring weather. I would like to thank all of our employees for their tremendous effort and a job well done in dealing with a very cold and challenging January and February. I hope that you are looking forward to a summer filled with many activities and well deserved vacations with your family. Please be safe in all of your travels.

With the municipal elections behind us, we certainly want to thank Alderman Tom Inman for his 12 years of service to the City of Crest Hill and wish him good health in all of his future endeavors. We welcome Alderman Joe Kubal as our newest member of the City Council. We wish him good luck and much success as Alderman of Ward 4. We also welcome our newest Police Officer, Mr. Corey Panozzo, who was sworn in on March 27, 2019 as our 30th Police Officer. We wish him a long, healthy, and safe career with the City of Crest Hill. We are also planning to hire two more police officers during this fiscal year.

We are also proud and excited to welcome Fuller's Car Wash and Speedway Café to the City of Crest Hill. Both new businesses are currently under construction and are planning to be open for business in the Fall of 2019. Both Fuller's Car Wash and Speedway Café will be a tremendous asset to the Larkin Avenue and Weber Road corridor. We are looking forward to welcoming many other businesses and employment opportunities to this corridor and our City.

We hope that everyone received their Property Tax Rebate Check in March. If by chance you have not, please contact City Hall so that we may assist you. I am also proud to report that at our April 15, 2019 City Council meeting, the City of Crest Hill received recognition for excellence in its governmental accounting and financial reporting practices. The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) awarded our City a Certificate of Achievement for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year that ended April 30, 2018. This is the fourth year in a row that our City has received this most prestigious award, which is the highest form of recognition in government accounting and financial reporting. I offer my congratulations to our Treasurer's Office on this achievement and thank them for their hard work.

As we continue to make improvements to our aging infrastructure needs, our major road project for 2019 will be Pasadena Avenue from Oakland Avenue to Hawthorne Street. Due to the many water main breaks in this area, this project will address a complete rehabilitation of the roadway, and the installation of a new water main. We are also excited to announce that we began construction of our new Public Works Facility in the 2100 block of Oakland Avenue. This 40,000 square foot facility is long overdue and as our City continues to grow this modern facility will be a tremendous benefit to our residents and our employees for many years to come. Due to careful financial planning, this facility will be built without any tax increases to our residents.

This Memorial Day we will be celebrating our 31st Anniversary of our Veterans/Police Memorial Garden. Please join us on Monday, May 27, 2019 at 2:00 pm to honor our Veterans and slain Police Officers for their sacrifice.

As always, I hope that his newsletter is informative to you. I am looking forward to another year of growth and prosperity for the City of Crest Hill that will improve the quality of life for all of our residents and visitors. Please feel free to contact me at (815) 741-5123 with any comments or suggestions that you may have.

*Raymond R. Soliman*  
Mayor

# CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

**Vicki Hackney**  
**City Clerk**  
815-741-5100

City Clerk's Office Hours: Monday through Friday  
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## ANNUAL LICENSE RENEWALS

All annual license renewals will be mailed out in the month of May. License renewals are due by June 30, 2019. As a reminder, any resident that operates a business from their home is required to obtain a Home Business License and pay an annual fee of \$25.00. Please contact the Building Department at (815) 741-5106 to make sure your home business meets the requirements to operate in a Residential District. Also, any resident or business that has a burglar alarm protection device must obtain a license from the Clerk's Office. A Burglar Alarm License is needed if it automatically transmits a signal, message or warning to the Police Department telephone or a signal which once verified by a central receiving unit results in a call to the Police Department. The fee for the Burglar Alarm License is \$50.00 for the first year and a \$20.00 renewal fee every year after. For further information or questions regarding annual licenses please contact the Clerk's Office at (815) 741-5100.

## FILE OF LIFE EMERGENCY CARDS

Medical emergencies can happen anytime. When they do, there is confusion, panic and urgency. Paramedics arrive on the scene with no information about the person in need. The File of Life Emergency Card provides information such as medical conditions, allergies, medications and who should be contacted in the event of an emergency. The card is completed with all this information and placed in a magnetic pouch that can be displayed on your refrigerator. The File of Life Emergency Card is recognized by first responders which allows them to

immediately begin the best possible treatment. The File of Life Emergency Cards are available at City Hall at no cost to residents. For further information or questions please contact the Clerk's Office at (815) 741-5100.

## MEDICINE DROP OFF BOX

Residents are invited to drop off their unwanted prescription medications in the Green Drop Box located in the foyer of City Hall. Medications can be dropped off Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Please black out any personal information on the containers before dropping them in the bin. Acceptable items are prescription medications – both liquid and solids, over the counter medications and pet medications. Non-Acceptable items are sharpies (needles), aerosol canisters and inhalers.

## ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

Will County offers a free electronic drop-off program. All electronic items are accepted at the drop-off locations. Please note a limit of 2 televisions per vehicle are allowed per visit and please remove all batteries from items before drop off. Go to [willcountygreen.com](http://willcountygreen.com) for a list of drop-off locations, days and hours of operation.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### DEVELOPMENT IN MOTION

**Scott R. McMaster**  
**Economic Development & Zoning Manager**  
815-741-5107

### SPRINGING INTO DEVELOPMENT

The spring and summer months will be full of activity throughout the City of Crest Hill. New developments will start taking shape while others are forming behind the scenes – all to make the Crest Hill community a better place to live, work, and shop.

Weber Road around the library will once again come alive with the addition of a new Speedway gas station. This

facility will be located at the corner of Weber Road and Patrick Drive, just north of the library. Expected to break ground this spring, Speedway will offer a café, convenience center, and gaming as well as several bays for filling your tank. The developers at Speedway are hopeful to have construction concluded and be open for business by Labor Day.

A few minutes down the road at 1804 Larkin Avenue will stand another new development. Fuller's Car Wash, who purchased the location in 2018, is getting set to erect a brand new state of the art car wash. Fuller's Car Wash, whose brand is well recognized throughout the Chicago-land area, will offer \$3 Express Wash with free vacuum bays. This car wash is sure to bring more attention to Crest Hill and should be open for business before the end of 2019.

### **AMAZON CONTINUES TO GROW**

The Amazon Sort Facility located on Division Street and Churnovic Lane has decided to expand its operation indoors. A \$22 million conveyor extension will be added onto an already sophisticated and efficient operating system inside the nearly four hundred fifty square foot building. This addition will allow for smaller packages to be sorted and sent out to reach their destinations much faster.

In Illinois, Amazon has invested over \$3 billion and created over 12,000 full-time jobs (with competitive pay and benefits). The online mega-giant also has indirectly created over 13,000 jobs and help support 73,500 small and medium sized businesses, developers and authors by growing their business with Amazon. Since 2015, Amazon has launched five fulfillment centers across Will County in Joliet, Romeoville, Monee, and right here in Crest Hill.

What's more? In October 2018, Amazon announced an increase in minimum wage to \$15 for all its employees. This wage comes on top of its industry-leading benefits that include comprehensive healthcare, 20-week paid parental leave, and Amazon's innovative Career Choice program, which pre-pays 95% of tuition for courses in high-demand fields.

If you are looking for a great part-time job or a career

change, Amazon invites you to stop in and fill out an application at 16825 Churnovic Lane or [www.amazon.jobs](http://www.amazon.jobs).

### **STRONG BUSINESS GROWTH**

Crest Hill continues to be one of the up and coming locations for local business. In 2018, the City of Crest Hill welcomed 51 new businesses that brought along nearly 200 new jobs. Although those numbers are hard to top, Crest Hill staff continues to work on bringing quality businesses and jobs to the city and hopes to announce a significant amount of new businesses in 2019. Stay tuned for what's ahead!

*Please make sure you support your community by supporting its local small businesses.*

### **FROM THE BLUE LINE**

**Ed Clark**  
**Chief of Police**  
815-741-5115

### **MOVE OVER LAW**

Illinois has experienced the tragic loss of several brave Law Enforcement Officers in recent months. Trooper Christopher Lambert January 12, 2109. Trooper Brooke Jones-Story March 28, 2109, Trooper Gerald Ellis-March 30, 2019 are recent examples. These deaths involved a lack of awareness, and could definitely be avoided.

Law Enforcement Agencies have stepped up efforts to crack down on drivers who do not follow Scott's Law, formally known as the, "Move Over" Law.

The law is very simple, when you are approaching a stationary emergency vehicle or any vehicle with flashing lights, that is on the roadway or shoulder of the road you are to:

- Slow down
- Change lanes , if possible
- Proceed with caution

*Please do your part to keep our roadways safe and remind friends and family to remember "Scott's Law".*

## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Known as The 100 Deadliest Days for drivers, the stretch between Memorial Day and Labor Day can be extremely dangerous for drivers of all ages. Memorial Day weekend is typically considered the start of summer, where people all over the United States will be celebrating with cookouts, barbecues, parties and plenty of alcohol.

When most people think of hitting the road to travel over a long weekend, they think of the dreaded traffic. Travelers can certainly expect to see a spike in traffic, with some trips expected to take 50 to 100 percent longer than average. While the frustration of traffic can be very real, not all Memorial Day statistics are so innocent.

Data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) shows that an average of 400 people are killed in traffic accidents and similar incidents during Memorial Day weekend. Drink responsibly--it's not just a slogan.

As families and friends gather together to enjoy Memorial Day, the food and booze can often flow freely. According to the NHTSA, 44 percent of traffic fatalities over Memorial Day weekend involve alcohol.

You can still have plenty of fun over Memorial Day weekend--you just want to make sure you are doing so responsibly.

Here are some simple steps you should remind yourself and your friends to follow:

- Plan ahead. Make sure you have a ride home or have a place to crash ahead of time.
- Limit the alcohol. If you're a host, play it smart. Keep your guests safe and limit the amount of drinks you provide.
- Keep the food coming. Whether you're a party host or guest, make sure you have plenty of food and snacks throughout the festivities.
- Report drunk drivers. If you're on the road, leaving a restaurant or bar, or any other place and notice a drunk driver, report it!

The statistics don't lie. Memorial Day weekend can be extremely dangerous for travelers hitting the road. Do your

part to keep the roads safe and make sure your holiday weekend is memorable for all the right reasons.

This Memorial Day, commit to only driving 100 percent sober, because buzzed driving is drunk driving.

## EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

By enrolling in the Smart Message - Community Alert Network, you can now stay connected by receiving up to the minute Emergency Alerts from the City of Crest Hill regarding immediate or pending threats to public safety or property, where immediate notification is necessary.

Examples include evacuation recommendations, boil orders, water main breaks, and crime alerts.

As a Resident of Crest Hill, you can also elect to receive Announcements, Notices, and Public Safety Non-Emergency information sent to your home phone, work phone, texted to your cell phone, or emailed to you between the hours of 6 am and 9 pm. You can select how you receive the information based on the contact information you provide during the sign up process. Examples include:

- Announcements - May inform you of scheduled water and sewer repairs. Messages may also inform you of scheduled street closures, resurfacing projects, and parking bans.
- Notices - May consist of community information regarding upcoming festivals, changes in garbage pick-up, and community press releases.
- Public Safety Non-Emergency Information - May include messages from local officials with information about crime prevention information, public safety events, neighborhood crime alert information, and fire hydrant testing.

NOTE: This notification system will not notify you of severe weather that may be near, for that information several other applications are best for you, including television, weather radios and many phone applications.

To sign up, please go to <https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736723475#/login>

Click on "sign up" at the bottom of the page

## MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Please join us as we celebrate the 31st Anniversary of our Veterans/Police Memorial Garden. Our solemn ceremony will be held on Monday, May 27, 2019 at 2:00 PM as we honor our Veterans and our slain Police Officers for their commitment, dedication, and sacrifices to our Country and our City. Anthony Catella, Veteran United States Army and a member of the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery Memorial Squad, will be our guest speaker. Our musical selections will be performed by the Frankfort Brass Band. The ceremony should last approximately 1 hour and refreshments will be served following the program.

## LIDICE MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Please join us as we celebrate our 77th annual Lidice Memorial Ceremony, Sunday, June 9, at 11:00 AM at the Prairie Avenue/Hosmer Lane Memorial Garden. This solemn ceremony honors those who perished in 1942 during World War II when the Village of Lidice, Czechoslovakia was destroyed. The City of Crest Hill and Phillips, Wisconsin are the only two communities in the United States that commemorate this tragedy. The ceremony should last approximately 1 hour and refreshments will be served following the program.

## POTHoles POP UP EVERYWHERE

Spring weather brings us much desired relief from a long cold winter. Spring also means it's time for pothole repairs to get into full swing. Members of Crest Hill Public Works fill potholes at various times throughout the year. However with spring rains and warmer weather, pot holes become a major concern for the City's roadways.

Potholes form when water enters cracks in the road surface, expanding and damaging the surface as it freezes. Cars further damage the roadway forming a pothole that only increases in size without attention.

During winter months, Public Works crews make routine repairs throughout the city using a cold mix asphalt to fill in potholes. The cold mix asphalt is ideal for making pothole repairs because it retains its corrective properties during long periods of storage. Also, it is not necessary to heat this material prior to use. Crews begin using hot mix

asphalt during warmer months when asphalt plants are in operation and the material is available.

If you spot a pothole that needs attention, please contact Public Works at 815-741-5108. Crewmembers are usually able to make repairs within two business days.

## IMPROPER STORMWATER HOOKUPS

During the rainy season, many sanitary sewers throughout the city become overloaded by rainwater resulting from the improper connection of sump pumps, and gutters and/or downspouts. Please remember that City Ordinance 15.21 makes it illegal to direct any storm or rainwater to flow directly into the sanitary sewer system. Property owners should pump this clear water either onto the ground or in the stormwater collection system.

If you would like to remove an illegal connection into the sanitary sewer system, the City offers a 50/50 cost-sharing program where residents may receive a reimbursement of up to 50% of the cost (\$4,000 maximum).

Interested residents should contact the Building Department for more information on the program. The Utilities Department is available to help property owners determine if their building contains an improper connections and how to identify it.

## CREST HILL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Crest Hill Area Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to making Crest Hill a great place to live, work, play, worship, learn and conduct business. Please show your support by attending monthly luncheons, business after hours or any other upcoming special event. For more information about the Crest Hill Area Chamber of Commerce and how to get involved, please call 815-836-8089 or search for us on Facebook.

*City of* CREST HILL  
*Illinois*

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

### **Emergency: Police, Fire or Ambulance DIAL911**

Illinois Poison Center	800-222-1222
<b>Police Department</b> (Non-Emergency)	<b>815-741-5115</b>
<b>Fire Department</b> Lockport Plainfield	<b>815-838-3287</b> 815-838-3287 815-936-5335
White Oak Library	815-725-0234
Lockport Park District Crest Hill Office	815-838-3621 815-741-2964
JULIE (Underground Locator)	800-892-0123
ComEd	800-334-7661
Nicor	888-642-6748
AT&T	800-ATT-2020
Comcast	866-594-1234
Allied/Republic Services	815-723-3200
Joliet Animal Control	815-725-0333

## WILL COUNTY OFFICES

Will County Land Use Dept.	815-727-8430
Will County Office Building	815-222-5515
Will County Clerk	815-740-4615
Will County Treasurer	815-740-4675
Will County Health Dept.	815-727-8480

## SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Services Center of Will County	800-892-1412
Illinois Dept. on Aging	800-252-8966
Illinois Dept. on Aging (after hours)	800-252-8966
Will County Sheriff's Police TRIAD	815-727-5678
AARP	312-458-3631
Medicare	800-633-4227
SHIP- Senior Health Insurance Program <i>(free consulting for alternative Medicare plans)</i>	800-548-9034

## VETERANS

Metro Veteran Center	708-383-3225
Veterans Assistance of Will County	815-740-8389
Hines Hospital	708-202-8387
US Dept. of Veteran's Affairs	800-827-1000



### MAYOR

Raymond R. Soliman  
815-726-5846

### CITY CLERK

Vicki Hackney  
815-741-5100

### WARD 1

John Vershay  
815-726-4049  
Scott Dyke  
815-726-7905

### WARD 2

Claudia Gazal  
630-915-7449  
Barbara Sklare  
815-725-0479

### TREASURER

Glen Conklin  
815-355-1579

### WARD 3

Tina Oberlin  
815-953-4257  
Marco Coladipietro  
815-940-4156

### WARD 4

Nate Albert  
815-791-7495  
Joe Kubal  
630-441-8052

The City Update is published for residents and businesses of the City of Crest Hill.

Please address comments to the Office of the City Administrator, City Hall, City of Crest Hill, 1610 Plainfield Road, Crest Hill, IL 60403. Comments can also be sent to [webadmin@cityofcresthill.com](mailto:webadmin@cityofcresthill.com) or you can call 815-741-5100. City Hall hours: M-F 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.