

The Forest View

VIEWS FROM THE DESK OF...

We are days away from saying goodbye to 2020. How long have we all been waiting to say that?! Even still, I wanted to spend a few moments reflecting on this extraordinary year.

2020 has challenged all of us – both personally and professionally. The stresses we endured at home, whether it be caring for loved ones, worrying about the job security of friends and family, or managing remote learning for our children, seemed magnified by our inability to enjoy our normal outlets for R&R. Our workplace was not immune to the hardships of 2020, either. I look back now and laugh at my suggestion to staff in mid-March, after announcing the closure of our City facilities, that with any luck we'd all be "back to normal" in a few short weeks! How wrong I was.

Despite these challenges, City staff persevered. Not only did you continue to provide exemplary service to the community at a time when they needed us most, but

you did so in part by finding new and creative ways to do your jobs. The ingenuity exhibited across our organization will unquestionably benefit us in the years ahead. In many ways, I look at where we are today and I see a stronger, more resilient organization. While none of us asked for this crazy year (and none of us likely want to see another such year again!), it is in times of adversity that character is revealed, and this workforce stepped up in remarkable ways to meet the moment.

So while we all celebrate the end of 2020 and look forward to a more prosperous (and normal!) 2021, I leave this year with a profound sense of pride and gratitude to work with all of you. Your efforts this year have been inspiring. Thank you, again, for all that you do for our organization and the community. I hope you enjoy these final days of the holiday season and have a very Happy New Year. See you in 2021!

Take care,

Jason

IN THIS ISSUE:

- 2.... Birthdays, Growing Families
- 3.... New Employees, Welcome!, Library
- 4.... Think Healthy Challenge



BIRTHDAYS

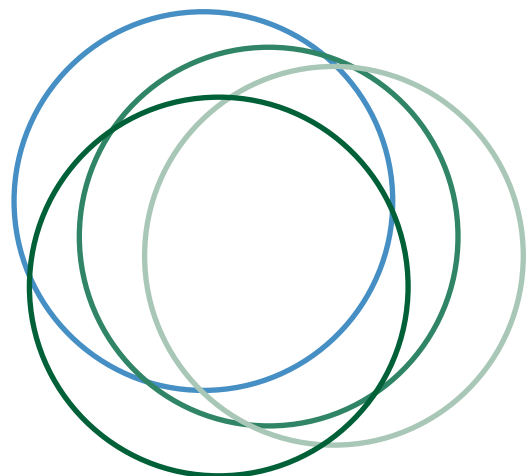
Brian Pogachnik	PW Sanitation	01/02	Rob Crawford	PW Sanitation	02/22
Molly Schoenherr	Library	01/06	Aaron Dalzot	PR Admin	02/23
Cory Kazimour	Fire	01/07	Erik Blomberg	Police	02/24
Billy Clifford	Fire	01/11	Liss Rogoz	Police	02/24
Craig Lepkowski	Police	01/13	Kevin Zelk	Police	02/27
Brian Acello	PW Sanitation	01/14	Becky Pocasangre	PW Admin	03/01
Tricia Schwall	Senior Resources	01/20	Ray Spetz	PW Sanitation	03/03
Paul Daizovi	Police	01/22	Jim Shaw	IT	03/04
Rob Brown	ComDev	01/23	Matt Brugioni	PW Streets	03/05
Joy Beyda	Police	01/26	Susan Simms	CROYA	03/06
Joyce Bettinger	OCM	01/28	Michelle Frigo	Library	03/06
Cathy Czerniak	ComDev	01/31	Chris Freund	PW Fleet/Eqpt	03/06
Bryan Debaets	PR Forestry	01/31	Dave Biddle	PW Water Plant	03/08
Matt Jakob	Police	02/01	Kevin Cronin	Fire	03/10
Jim Shelton Iv	PW Streets	02/01	Conrad Christensen	Police	03/10
Catherine Grey	CROYA	02/04	Chris Wheeler	Library	03/14
Samantha Hiller	Fire	02/05	Krystal Medina	Police	03/16
Mike Thomas	PW Admin	02/07	Russell Kluchka	Fire	03/18
Billy Knesley	PR Forestry	02/08	Dan Rice	Fire	03/19
Ashley Molinari	Police	02/11	Lisa Moulton	PR Admin	03/24
Brian Joyce	PW Engineering	02/13	Rick Day	CROYA	03/25
Brian Esmon	Police	02/16	Cam Burrell	IT	03/26
Ralph Davila	PW Engineering	02/18	Billy Loyd	PW Bldg Maint	03/27
Dani Spann	PR Parks	02/19	James Gluth	Fire	03/31

GROWING FAMILIES

Courtney & **Jim Lockefer** (PW Admin)

Brooke Eloise

November 29





Joy Beyda has joined the Police Department as a Records Clerk. Joy previously worked at Cancer Treatment Centers of America.

On her down time, Joy like to read, do arts and crafts, and sew!



Jake Mattson is the Streets Department's new Maintenance Worker. He graduated from Lake Forest High School and continued his education at Western Michigan, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Recreation.

Jake enjoys spending time with his wife, Amy and his two daughters, Hailey and Caroline!



Katherine LaCivita is the newest member of the Fire Department, joining as a Firefighter/ Paramedic. Katy has been a paid on premises firefighter with Lake Forest since May.

On her days off she enjoys rock climbing, ice hockey and hiking!

THE LIBRARY

Service Updates

As of December 15, the Library is open online, by phone, and for Foyer Pickup of items placed on hold. Please check www.lakeforestlibrary.org for current services and hours.

Virtual Events

The Library has a full slate of virtual events for children, teens, and adults that you can join on Zoom, Facebook Live, and Instagram Live. Highlights this winter include Cake Decorating with Bon Vivant Cakes, Martin Luther King Jr. in Chicago, Saturday Social Hour, Raising Anti-racist Children, and DIY Craft and Creativity Kits. To register, visit www.lakeforestlibrary.org/events.

Upcoming Library Programs:

Nonfiction Reading Program: Read between the Ravines www.readbetween.org

Sign up for updates on the Capital Improvement Project

The Library is planning engagement opportunities to update the public on the Capital Improvement Project and hear community feedback. For details, and to sign up for notifications of upcoming events, visit www.lakeforestlibrary.org/imagine.



Michelle Frigo has joined the Children's Library as a new children's librarian. Previously she worked as a Youth Services Librarian at Northlake Public Library and Franklin Park Public Library.

Michelle enjoys spending time with friends and family, running, and cooking new recipes.



Participate in the four-week challenge by adding small changes on a daily basis to eat a balanced diet!

January 18 - February 14

Complete the challenge:

150 servings = 60 Think Healthy points

Finish reporting by February 21

Record on your desktop or mobile device
assethealth.com/thinkhealthy