

### **Joy's Remarks to Crystal Lake Park District**

My name is Joy Burney, a lifelong resident of Crystal Lake. My family moved here in 1959. I grew up, as did many of us in this room, enjoying our parks and the happiness they've brought. Not just to me, but my three kids and now two grandchildren. How lucky I am, to be from Crystal Lake. What a treasure our namesake lake is, the crown jewel of the Crystal Lake Park District. Just take a look out the window, that lake is amazing!

So I have to ask you, Crystal Lake Park Board, what on Earth are you up to? Four of you live on or 1 block off the North Shore. It appears your agenda is to make OUR lake your personal playground. Firing Mr. Puma, who'd had a stellar career as the Park District attorney and replacing him with Eric Anderson, outgoing board member? Eric Anderson, who just happens to live on the North Shore? By the way, Mr. Puma charged \$270 per hour for his legal counsel. Eric Anderson? His rate is \$420 an hour. That's OUR money, people!

I ask each of you, how do you want to be remembered? For creating your own private lakefront, where you're free to do whatever you want? Or maintaining the integrity and mission of the Crystal Lake Park District, to bring recreation to all our community. The lake belongs to all of us...not just the lucky few who happen to own a home on our beautiful Crystal Lake.

I'm quoting here from your mission statement, under the heading Integrity: "The district acts with honesty and integrity to build trust and transparency with our community, board and staff".

I'm asking you to stop the backroom shady deals that reek of an old boys' club. Treat your elected office with the respect and dignity it deserves. You represent us, a community of over 40,000. Do what's right. Create a legacy your children and grandchildren will be proud of. Mr. Heisler, I don't know you. But I voted for you based on your name. Heisler is synonymous with Crystal Lake. Your father and grandfather have created a business bearing your name that is widely respected and recognized. I bought our babies' first walking shoes there. I bought my 96 year old mother-in-law's orthopedic SAS shoes from Heisler's. Don't disgrace your good name, Mr. Heisler. Do what's right, Crystal Lake Park Board, instead of this shameful path you've started down.