



At this time, we would like to make the community aware that a former employee of the Grayslake Area Chamber of Commerce was indicted by the FBI for embezzlement of funds from the chamber of commerce while the chamber employed her. Karen Christian Smith's employment with the chamber of commerce ended October 14, 2019.

The chamber of commerce fully cooperated with all law enforcement agencies and will continue as the case concludes. The FBI took over the case in January 2020 and through the investigation the chamber was tasked by the FBI to keep their involvement confidential.

The Chamber hired Maribeth Hamm as the Executive Director of the Grayslake Area Chamber of Commerce in November 2019 and she currently serves in this capacity. The chamber has grown to over 185 local businesses and has added 6 new board members under her strong leadership and creativity. New procedures have been put in place to prevent this from happening in the future.

The chamber has a full slate of events scheduled for the community in 2022. We just concluded a successful Arts Festival and Wine Tasting on 6/18. Additional events include our 5k Race and Family Fun Run 7/16, Street Dance 7/23, Summer Days, 8/19 & 20, Craft Beer Festival 9/17, Downtown Trick or Treating 10/30, and the Tree Lighting and Holiday Festival 11/26. In addition, the chamber scholarship program gave 6 graduating seniors \$2,000 each this year!

On behalf of the Grayslake Area Chamber of Commerce looks forward to seeing you at these events in 2022!