



Committed to our future.
Inspired by our past.

Photo – Submitted by
Shaggy Patel,
ItascaFest (p9)



The Village News



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Mayor's Message



Mayor Jeff Pruyn

By the time you read this, we will have already celebrated Memorial Day, the kick-off to Itasca's summer of fun. After two long years, I am proud to announce that our annual summertime traditions are returning to Itasca in full. Father's Day weekend, we welcome back the Illinois Saint Andrew Society for one of the most unique and well-known festivals in the Midwest, the annual Scottish Highland Games! We will then celebrate our nation's independence with a concert and the best fireworks display in the state (I may be a bit biased). July would not be complete without ItascaFest. For more than 30 decades, the Lions Club has hosted this annual community celebration. More information on these and other events can be found on pages 6 & 7 of the newsletter.

While I usually wait until the end of my message to thank everyone, I thought it appropriate to begin by expressing my gratitude for everyone's patience and understanding during this year's construction season. It seems that no matter where you go in Itasca, there is some sort of roadway project happening. Many have asked me why these projects had to occur at once. The simple answer is COVID.

Because of the pandemic, the Village was forced to push back two major construction projects in 2020 and 2021 due to staffing shortages and deferred funding. The North-side drainage improvements were originally scheduled for 2020. And the Village was ready to begin reconstruction of Bloomingdale Road in 2021, when federal grant dollars were deferred.

We already had rescheduled the North-side drainage project for this year, when we were able to secure a grant through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, to cover 75% of our construction costs associated with the Bloomingdale Road project. Around the same time, the Village also applied for and obtained a \$3.7 million-dollar forgivable loan to facilitate the replacement of lead lines for all homes without any direct costs to the Village or residents.

Although we would have preferred to space these projects out, moving forward now guaranteed that we could secure nearly \$6 million in outside funding for these local projects. So, while this season of construction destruction has certainly been inconvenient, I assure

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Mayor's Message Continued...

you, the pain will be worth the gain. These investments in our infrastructure will serve to preserve and enhance the quality of life for residents, businesses, and visitors alike.

Road construction is not the only transportation issue Itasca is facing. The Village received notice from Canadian Pacific Railway of its intention to merge with the Kansas City Southern Railroad. The proposed combination of these two railroads would create the single longest continuous freight line from Mexico to Canada. Not only will there be more trains, but the train lengths are expected to exceed 2 miles in length. Itasca is doing everything it can to minimize the impacts of this merger. We have brought together several affected communities to oppose this merger. Follow our progress at www.stopcpkc.com/.

The Village Board and staff have also been busy meeting with

developers and current business owners to encourage development in the community. Earlier this year, we met with Holladay Properties to discuss the redevelopment of 115 & 125 W. Orchard Street. This would be Holladay's fifth Illinois luxury apartment building and would include a first-floor restaurant space. The Village has also encouraged the expansion of current businesses, such as Church Street Brewing Company, which will be operating a beer garden at Hamilton Lakes this summer. The board also approved a zoning certificate for Undici Gelato at 400 E. Orchard to serve specialty gelato and espressos. I encourage all of you to patronize these businesses so that they may grow and thrive.

As always, many exciting things are going on in the Village. Be sure to check out the rest of the newsletter to learn about events, programs, and projects going on around town. Have a great and safe summer!

Administrator's Message

Carie Anne Ergo

Over the past several months, the Village Board and staff have been working hard to prepare the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget, which runs from May 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023. The budget prioritizes funding for one-time capital improvement projects, as well as ongoing Village operations, including:

- Police and 9-1-1 services
- Roadway, sidewalk, park, and parkway maintenance
- Water distribution and sanitary sewer service
- Trash, recycling, and yard waste removal
- Stormwater management
- Building and construction safety
- Economic development
- Planning, zoning, and code enforcement
- Nature Center operations and maintenance
- Special Events

After two years of significantly depressed revenues due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Village is pleased to see major revenues stabilize and begin to rebound. A key indicator of economic vitality is increasing sales tax and income tax revenues – both of which have risen more than 20% over the past year and are trending to exceed pre-pandemic levels next year.

Over the past two fiscal years, the Village used excess reserve dollars to avoid cutting services in the wake of significant revenue losses. Fortunately, the Village received approximately \$1.3 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to assist in covering some of the lost operating revenue from the COVID pandemic. This funding, along with conservative spending, has allowed the Village to balance the Corporate Fund Budget for the first time in two years and maintain a 60% reserve.

Another key indicator of a healthy economy is home values. Itasca's

home values continue to outpace ALL of its adjacent neighbors. In fact, at \$375,000, Itasca's average home value as of April 2022 is 10% to 22% above our neighboring communities.

That brings me to the question that everyone always wants to know. What does this mean for our property taxes? In December 2021, the Village filed its property tax levy, which will be due in June and September of this year. The average home will see a slight increase of about \$16 per year.

Below you will find the tax breakdown for an average home in Itasca with a value of \$375,420. Your breakdown may vary depending on your location and other taxing districts. You can check your property tax breakdown by visiting www.dupagecounty.gov/propertyinfo/propertylookup.aspx.

Itasca Tax Distribution by Assessment Year for a Home Value of \$375,420

Tax Body	2020	2021	2021 Distribution
District 10	\$2,623.33	\$3,077.29	34.698%
District 108	\$2,675.28	\$2,535.23	28.586%
Itasca Fire District	\$1,173.64	\$1,220.97	13.767%
Itasca Park District	\$582.47	\$521.57	5.881%
VILLAGE OF ITASCA	\$398.87	\$415.18	4.681%
Itasca Library District	\$276.99	\$290.31	3.273%
College of DuPage	\$251.99	\$254.49	2.870%
County of DuPage	\$191.68	\$198.15	2.234%
Forest Preserve District	\$143.55	\$146.96	1.657%
Addison Township Road District	\$110.19	\$114.12	1.287%
Addison Township	\$73.74	\$76.41	0.862%
DuPage Airport Authority	\$17.63	\$17.98	0.203%
Total Tax Bill	\$8,519.36	\$8,868.66	

Administrator's Message Continued...



The FY 2023 Budget also includes several large-scale capital projects that are driven by the need to improve infrastructure in the Village, including Bloomingdale Road Reconstruction, North-side Drainage Improvements, and Lead Service Line Replacement, among others. The Village secured more than \$6 million in non-local funds through competitive grants, which significantly lowers the burden on Itasca residents and businesses.

As always, staff and I are here to help you. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to give us a call at (630) 773-0835.

IPD Survey

The Itasca Police Department, in partnership with our community, is committed to ensuring public safety through law enforcement, education, and exceptional service, while performing with the highest level of integrity and assuring all individuals dignity and respect. The Police Department wants to hear your view regarding the quality of policing in Itasca and how we are meeting these commitments.

Please take a few moments to complete a short, confidential survey. This survey aims to measure resident and business perceptions regarding various issues relevant to the Itasca Police Department. To participate in the survey, use this QR code or visit www.itasca.com/ps2022.



Seasonal Jobs Available at Park District

Itasca Park District offers great part-time and seasonal jobs. They are looking for community builders of tomorrow to get started this summer and throughout the year. Join a team that strives to provide our community with fun, exciting, and meaningful experiences with classes, programs, and camps. They are now hiring for front desk reception, fitness center staff, building supervisors, camp counselors, waterpark cashiers, and lifeguards. Visit: www.itscaparkdistrict.com for more information.

Thank You Trustee Kathy Linsner

After three years of dedicated service as Village Trustee, Kathy Linsner has stepped down from the Village Board. Mayor Pruyne stated, "It has been a true honor and privilege to serve with Trustee Linsner. She has been an asset to the community in moving us towards a better tomorrow and her knowledge and insight will be greatly missed." Please join us in wishing Kathy the best in her future endeavors.

Welcome New Trustee Brendan Daly



Brendan Daly

On May 10th, Brendan Daly was sworn in as Village Trustee.

Brendan and his wife Elizabeth have been residents of Itasca since 2008 and 2005, respectively. They have three children, Charlotte, Penelope, and Fiona, who were all born and raised in Itasca. According to Brendan, "Itasca is a great place to live and raise our three children. We love the people and small-town environment, while still having access to

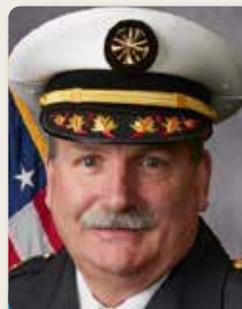
anything we could possibly need."

Brendan attended the University of Illinois (C-U), earned a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, and later obtained an MBA from Elmhurst College. Brendan was a member of the Itasca Plan Commission for three years, two as its chair. He was also very involved in the Knights of Columbus, where he served as Grand Knight for two years. Brendan is currently a Major Construction Projects Manager at Holcim, a global cement manufacturing company.

Please join us in welcoming Brendan to the board.

New Hires, Promotions, & Retirements

Welcome Chief John Schneidwind



John Schneidwind

On May 9th, John Schneidwind was sworn in as the new Fire Chief of the Itasca Fire Protection District. Chief Schneidwind comes to Itasca Fire from the Schaumburg Fire Department, where he served for many years in various roles and ranks, most recently as a battalion chief. The experience and enthusiasm that he brings to the table, along with his strong community focus

and commitment to the well-being of the district and its members, will positively guide the district for many years to come.

Downtown Plan Update

Village staff and its primary consultant, the Lakota Group, have completed the Downtown Itasca Strategic Action Plan update. The final draft plan was presented to the Plan Commission for review on February 16th, and received final approval at the March 15th Village Board meeting.

Over 300 members of the community participated throughout the planning process, which included two Community Open Houses, group and individual interviews, and feedback received through the plan's website.

The 2022 Downtown Strategic Action Plan will replace the

previous one adopted almost two decades ago in 2003. The 2022 Downtown Strategic Action Plan has four principal goals: one, business and housing growth; two, redevelopment, improvement, and conceptual massing of opportunity sites; three, transportation and mobility improvements; and four, identifying and formulating implementation and funding strategies.

The 2022 Downtown Strategic Action Plan is available online at www.itasca.com/downtownplan. If you have questions on the Downtown Plan Update, please contact Mo Khan, Village Planner, at mkhan@itasca.com.



– Follow us on Twitter: [@ItascaMeans](https://twitter.com/ItascaMeans) and on Facebook: [Itasca Means Business](https://www.facebook.com/ItascaMeansBusiness)

The Village of Itasca is proud to be a premier destination for all types of businesses and would like to extend a warm welcome to the following companies who recently received Village Board approval to operate in our town:

Undici Gelato & Espresso Bar – 400 E. Orchard St.

Sure to be a family favorite, Undici Gelato & Espresso Bar offers homemade gelato, coffee, espresso, and more. Open Fridays & Saturdays from 5:00 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays from noon to 5:00 p.m. stop by Undici's for a sweet treat.

Redco Food Service Equipment – 1340 Ardmore Ave.

Redco Foodservice Equipment is a manufacturer's representative and distributor of commercial foodservice equipment. The business will be relocating its operation from Carol Stream to Itasca. To learn more about the company, visit their website at www.redcofoodequip.com.

Engineering Enterprises Inc. – 555 Pierce Rd., Suite 105

Engineering Enterprises, Inc. is an award-winning engineering firm providing services to public agencies throughout northern Illinois. Their expertise includes water, wastewater, transportation, stormwater management, construction management, land development review, surveying, and municipal consulting. To learn more about their company, visit their website at www.eeiweb.com.

John Robert Powers – 1125 N. Prospect Ave.

John Robert Powers is a Performing Arts Academy for individuals interested in professional modeling, acting, dancing, and music. Famous alumni include Josh Duhamel, Brenda Song, and American Idol Season #1 Runner-Up Justin Guarini. To learn more about their company and the classes offered, visit their website at www.jrpnycicago.com.

Connor Manufacturing Services – 500 Park Blvd., Suite 820

Established in 1913, Connor Manufacturing is a leading global manufacturer of precision metal stampings, metal fabrication, and wire components. With its global reach and more than 100 years of success, Connor Manufacturing has established manufacturing facilities and resource centers in Southeast Asia, Mexico, and China, in addition to its North American presence. To learn more

about their business and the services offered, visit their website at www.connorms.com.

Takachiho America – 500 Park Blvd., Suite 285W

Takachiho America is the North American subsidiary of its parent company headquartered in Japan. Takachiho America focuses on motion control solution products and technology business development. Its motion control solutions services include design consultations, development and customization of product components, and preparation for mass production. Its business development sector assists technology companies in expanding their market by offering market research, opportunity identification and technology education, and patent research.

To learn more about their business and the services offered, please visit their website at www.takachiho-america.com.

Engineering Packaging Solutions – 1095 W. Hawthorn Dr.

Engineering Packaging Solutions provides secondary packaging and conveyor solutions to its clients. Their clients include those in the food, beverage, pharmaceutical, personal products, and electronics industries. To learn more about the company and its services, visit their website at www.engpaksol.com.

Schindler Elevator Corp. – 500 Park Blvd., Suite 700

Schindler Elevator Corporation is the North American operating entity of the Switzerland-based Schindler Group. Schindler is one of the leading global manufacturers of elevators, escalators, and moving walks. Schindler employs over 6,000 people in more than 160 locations in North America. To learn more about the business and the services offered, visit their website at www.us.schindler.com.

Home Instead 205 – 810 N. Arlington Heights Rd., Suite 1

Home Instead 205 provides personalized in-home care that allows individuals to age in place safely and maintain independence while receiving care and assistance when needed. Home Instead 205 provides various in-home services, including personal care, Alzheimer's Care, hospice support, chronic illness, home helper and companions, and transportation. To learn more about their business and the services offered, visit their website at www.homeinstead.com/location/205 or call them at (847) 327-0181.

Business Spotlight

The Village of Itasca is proud to be the home of Synegen Inc., which celebrated its 20th business anniversary in 2021! Synegen was founded in 2001 and has been headquartered in Itasca since 2013 in the Hamilton Lakes Business Park at 1 Pierce Pl., Suite 110W.

Syngen is an end-to-end provider of tailored enterprise technology solutions and has the technical sophistication, experience, and expertise to guide clients to their best-fit technology. Technology solutions range from developing custom enterprise software and mobile applications to the implementation, integration, and customization of industry-leading platforms such as Salesforce.com and Totara Learn.

Syngen has a reputation for excellence and development. As your business evolves, so will their recommendations, services, and technologies. They deliver updates, upgrades, new systems, and integrations as you need them to ensure that their partnership is always as up to date as your tech stack. Due to their industry expertise, Synegen won the Totara Award for Top-Seller North America in 2021! Celebrating two significant achievements in the same year is noteworthy.

If you are a business seeking a business advantage through the strategic application of technology, contact Synegen to see how they can support your goals. Synegen's strategic partnerships with companies like Salesforce, Totara Learn, and Amazon Web Services can give you that business advantage needed for continued and growing success.

To learn more about Synegen, visit their website at www.synegen.com or their LinkedIn company profile at www.linkedin.com/company/syngen-inc. To contact them about the services provided, emails can be sent to info@synegen.com.



If you are a small business owner in town and would like to be featured in our next edition, please contact commdev@itasca.com with your information.

ItascaFest 2022

ItascaFest is back for 2022! Please join the Itasca Lions and the Village to celebrate the return of ItascaFest to Washington Park, July 7th – 10th. Be sure to save the dates and lookout for unlimited ride specials beginning June 25th.

Fest hours:

- Thursday 6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
- Friday 6:00 p.m. – Midnight.
- Saturday Noon – 12:00 p.m.
- Sunday Noon – 11:00 p.m.
- ***Bingo 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. - Friday and Sat. only*

Over the four days of the fest, nearly 40,000 visitors will enjoy food, fun, and music! All the entertainment is family-oriented and mainly provided free of charge. Proceeds from this event aid the Lions with donations to causes such as the blind, hearing impaired, and handicapped and foster many local youth and senior citizen programs.

Please consider becoming a Friend of the Fest to help keep this local tradition going. Donations to the Lions support the Lions donation goals and benefit local community needs. By making a generous donation as one of three levels of “Friend of the Fest,” you will ensure the event’s success before rides are even set up or, bands take the stage.

All residents who become a “Friend of the Fest” will have their name prominently displayed on the Itasca Lions community sign located at Irving Park Rd and Walnut St. If you would like to become a “Friend of the Fest,” please fill out the following form,

enclose your check made payable to the Itasca Lions Club, and return it to Itasca Lions Club.

Itasca Lions Club
Attn: Robert Chvalovsky
P.O. Box 106
Itasca, IL 60143



“Friend of the Fest” Donation Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

- Contribution amount:**
- Gold Cup = Donations of \$100**
 - Silver Cup = Donations of \$50**
 - Bronze Cup = Donations of \$25**

Thank you for supporting ItascaFest and making a difference for the people we serve.

Celebrate Our Community

To register for a library event, please call (630) 773-1699 or visit www.itascalibrary.org. Events are in-person unless otherwise noted.
To register for a Park District event, please call (630) 773-2257 or visit www.itascparkdistrict.com.



Wed., June 8th

Hoo Goes There?

Itasca Library
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Birds from the Springbrook Nature Center will be at the library for this presentation by Wings and Talons. For all ages. Registration is required.



Wed., June 8th

Itasca Outdoor Concert Series

Usher Park
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Come enjoy a free outdoor family concert this summer.
Band: Throwback Juke Box.



Fri., June 10th

Under the Stars with Firefly Family Theatre

Itasca Library
10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

Come to the library for an interactive family program, including puppets, music, and movement. Geared to ages 6 & under. Registration is required.



Thurs., June 16th

Atypical Globetrotting

Itasca Library
7:00 p.m.

Get insider information so that you can travel like a pro. Registration is required.



Fri., June 17th

Dad's Day Storytime

Itasca Library
10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

Celebrate Father's Day with a storytime for kids and dads. Geared to ages 6 & under. Registration is required.



Fri., June 17th

Highland Games

Hamilton Lakes
1:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Join the largest Midwest Scottish Festival. This family-friendly outdoor event is a chance to explore Scottish culture without buying a plane ticket.



Sat., June 18th

Highland Games

Hamilton Lakes
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Join the largest Midwest Scottish Festival. This family-friendly outdoor event is a chance to explore Scottish culture without buying a plane ticket.



Sat., June 18th

Flock Party

Springbrook Nature Center
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Flock Party is an open house event to meet the birds living at Springbrook Nature Center up close and personal.



Tues., June 21st

Outdoor Teen Bags Tournament

Itasca Library
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Join the library for bag games and summer treats on the library's east lawn. For tweens/teens entering grades 6 - 12. Registration is required.



Tues., June 21st

Summer Park Parties

Peacock Park
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Beat boredom this summer and party in the park with the Itasca Park District. Join them for games, crafts, music, and more!



Wed., June 22nd

Itasca Outdoor Concert Series

Usher Park
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Come enjoy a free outdoor family concert this summer.
Band: Sunfallen.



Thurs., June 30th

Family Blanket Fort Night

Itasca Library
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Listen to a story and build a blanket fort to read in with your family! For all ages. Registration is required.



Mon., July 4th

4th of July Celebration

Hamilton Lakes
4:00 p.m.

Join us on July 4th at Hamilton Lakes, as Itasca hosts the largest fireworks display in the Chicagoland area. The celebration starts at 4:00 p.m. with fireworks beginning at 10:00 p.m.



Wed., July 6th

Itasca Outdoor Concert Series

Usher Park
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Come enjoy a free outdoor family concert this summer.
Band: Soda.



Thurs., July 7th

ItascaFest

Washington Park
6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Come enjoy food, live music, entertainment, and a carnival.
Band: Petty Cash.



Fri., July 8th

ItascaFest

Washington Park
6:00 p.m. – Midnight

Come enjoy food, live music, entertainment, bingo, and a carnival.
Bands: Animation and Jimmy Nick, and Don't Tell Mama.

Celebrate Our Community



Sat., July 9th

ItascaFest
Washington Park
Noon – Midnight

Come enjoy food, live music, entertainment, bingo, and a carnival.
Bands: Throwback Jukebox, Eliminator, & 7th Heaven.



Sun., July 10th

ItascaFest
Washington Park
Noon – 11:00 p.m.

Come enjoy food, live music, entertainment, and a carnival.
Bands: Brass from the Past and ARRA



Tues., July 12th

Ice Cream with Cops & Firefighters
Usher Park
11:30 a.m.

Enjoy ice cream, fun, and games with the Itasca Police Officers and Firefighters. Free ice cream is provided by the Itasca Bank & Trust.



Wed., July 13th

Family Space Camp
Itasca Library
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Train like an astronaut through crafts, challenges, and activities for all ages. Registration is required.



Wed., July 13th

Summer Park Parties
Washington Park
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Beat boredom this summer and party in the park with the Itasca Park District. Join them for games, crafts, music, and more!



Wed., July 13th

Summer Movie in the Park
Washington Park
8:30 p.m.

Take the whole family out to the movies, put the kids in their pajamas, bring blankets, and don't forget the snacks. Movie: *The Goonies*.



Thurs., July 14th

Board Game Night
Itasca Library
7:00 p.m.

Learn the rules of a new board game in a non-stressful environment for ages 18 & older. No registration is needed.



Tues., July 19th

Chicago Scavenger Hunt
Itasca Library
7:00 p.m.

Come to the library for an interactive virtual exploration of Chicago's neighborhoods. Registration is required.



Wed., July 20th

Itasca Outdoor Concert Series
Usher Park
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Come enjoy a free outdoor family concert this summer.
Band: The Rockin' Fendershirts.



Thurs., July 21st

iPad Basics
Itasca Library
10:00 a.m.

Bring your iPad, Apple ID, and password. Registration is required.



Tues., July 26th

Landscaping for Wildlife
Itasca Library
7:00 p.m.

Lake County Forest Preserves will share the benefits of designing native habitats. Registration is required.



Thurs., July 28th

Survival Skills
Itasca Library
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Do you have what it takes to survive beyond the beaten path? For teens/teens entering grades 6 - 12. Registration is required.



Wed., August 3rd

Itasca Outdoor Concert Series
Usher Park
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Come enjoy a free outdoor family concert this summer.
Band: The Beatelles.



Tues., August 16th

Summer Park Parties
Itasca Water Park
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Beat boredom this summer and party in the park with the Itasca Park District. Join them for games, crafts, music, and more!



Wed., August 17th

Itasca Outdoor Concert Series
Usher Park
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Come enjoy a free outdoor family concert this summer.
Band: Howard & the White Boys.



Thurs., August 25th

iPad Intermediate
Itasca Library
10:00 a.m.

Bring your iPad, Apple ID, and password. Registration is required.

Highland Games



The annual Scottish Festival & Highland Games is returning to Aye-tasca. The Illinois Saint Andrew Society is proud to present one of the most unique and well-known festivals in the Midwest. This outdoor family-friendly event

is a chance to explore Scottish culture without buying a plane ticket. The festival will be held June 17th & 18th at Hamilton Lakes in Aye-tasca.

Purchase tickets in advance at www.eventbrite.com/e/2022-scottish-festival-highland-games-tickets-292582621497.

Wings and Talons Flock Party



Join Wings and Talons for their second annual Flock Party on Saturday, June 18th, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.! Flock Party is an open house event to meet the birds living at Springbrook Nature Center up close and personal. Volunteers will be on hand working with the raptors, answering questions, and hosting some activities. Keep an eye on the Wings and Talons Facebook page for more details. www.facebook.com/WingsAndTalons. Can't wait until June to see the birds? Drop by anytime the nature center grounds are open, or email info@WingsAndTalons.org for more information.

Itasca Outdoor Concert Series



Join the Park District for six free outdoor family concerts this summer on June 8th & 22nd, July 6th & 20th, and August 3rd & 17th! You, family, and friends will enjoy music from a variety of bands from the Chicagoland area. Don't forget your lawn chairs

and a picnic basket. Get ready to hear some great music.

Performances will be canceled if there is inclement weather. Check out their website at www.itascaparkdistrict.com and Facebook page for cancellations. This event series is sponsored by the Village of Itasca & Itasca Park District.



Fourth of July

Join us on July 4th at Hamilton Lakes, as Itasca hosts the largest fireworks display in the Chicagoland area. The Independence Day celebration begins at 4:00 p.m. with numerous food vendors serving a variety of picnic-style food items and Church Street Brewing hosting a beer tent offering a variety of craft beers.

Live music begins at 7:00 p.m. with the Pat McKillen Band taking center stage. Maggie Speaks performs at 8:00 p.m. and will be joined by Randall Hall, formerly of Lynyrd Skynyrd performing such hits as "Free Bird", "Sweet Home Alabama," "Gimme Three Steps," "Call Me the Breeze," "What's Your Name," "Swamp Music," and "Simple Man". The fireworks show, choreographed to music and played on a concert quality sound system, begins at 10:00 p.m. Admission to the event is free; on-site parking is \$25.00 per car. Come early and enjoy the park. Hamilton Lakes is located west of O'Hare Airport at the intersection of I-390 and Park Boulevard.

Summer Camp Registration is Open

The Park District is looking forward to having a blast with friends and enjoying a summer full of fun! They have planned many activities that campers are used to experiencing, such as visits to the Itasca Waterpark, nature-based activities, in-house special events, and field trips!



Summer Camps are available for children ages 2 to 14 years. Register your child today online or at the Itasca Rec Center.

Enjoy the Pool



Pool season officially began Memorial Day weekend. Make sure you and your family can safely enjoy all the themed events and activities happening all summer long by signing up for swim lessons. Check out www.itascaparkdistrict.com for all your water fun needs.

Park District Receives Museum Grant



Itasca Park District received confirmation from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources that it was approved to receive a \$375,000 Capital Museum Grant for the Springbrook Nature Center. Under this grant, the district will make the following improvements: new exterior interpretive signage for the birds of prey mews, new roofs

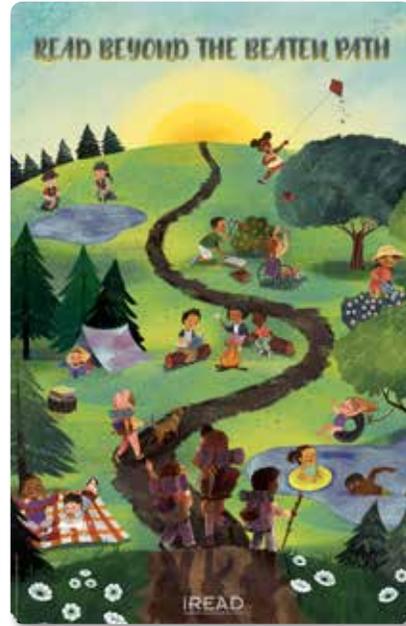
for the bird mews, two new hands-on interactive displays focused on the creek, woodland, wetland, and prairies, new birds of prey interactive exhibit, two boardwalk section replacements, new side entrance signage and replacement of the entrance sign. The total projected budget for these improvements is \$550,000. In addition to the grant, the Village will be contributing \$100,000, the Itasca Park District \$50,000, and other local private and community groups will be providing \$25,000.

Green the Scene

Keep Itasca beautiful and wildlife-friendly by not littering! When you finish a drink or a meal, please dispose of your trash rather than leaving it on a bench or on the ground. Also, make sure when disposing of your regular refuse, lids are secured so that winds do not blow your trash out of your garbage receptacles. With everyone pitching in, we can keep Itasca looking pristine!



Summer Reading Clubs



Join one of the *Read Beyond the Beaten Path* Summer Reading Clubs at the Itasca Community Library. Read and earn fun prizes! Registration begins Tuesday, May 31st.

Adult Reading Club: Get a prize when you sign up and earn chances for grand prizes after you finish three books. Each person who reads at least three books will be able to enter drawings of their choice and earn additional entries after each book is read. Prizes include gift cards to local businesses.

Youth and Teen

Reading Clubs: Children and teens from birth through high school can earn prizes for reading or listening to stories. In addition, visit the library regularly to spin the prize wheel and enter weekly drawings. Help kick off summer reading this year by chalking the library's walks during the first week of the club (May 31st - June 6th). Stop by the Youth Desk anytime during that week and pick up a bag of chalk to help decorate the sidewalks outside the library.

Each day of the Summer Reading Club, Rusty the Raccoon will be hidden somewhere in the Youth Department. The first child/teen to find him each day can claim a prize at the Youth Desk. For more information about Summer Reading Clubs or other summer programs at the library, call (630) 773-1699 or visit www.itascalibrary.org.

Summer Cover Photo

Summertime Fun



This edition's cover photo was submitted by resident Shaggy Patel, who took this photo during ItascaFest. He submitted the photo because he thought "it was a great picture of Summerfest, with the color of the sky and the

free air show." If you, like Shaggy, have a great photo of what life is like in Itasca and would like to have it considered for our newsletter, please submit it to deputyclerk@itasca.com, along with details of who/what the photograph is of, when it was taken, and its meaning.

Look Twice – Save A Life

Riding a motorcycle is adventurous and an exhilarating experience. However, the reality is that motorcycle riding can be very dangerous if proper precautions are not taken. Whether driving in a car or on a motorcycle, keep everyone safe this summer by following the safety guidelines below:



- **Making Left Turns** – Before turning left, LOOK TWICE to ensure no motorcycles are coming. You're conditioned to look for cars and trucks, so it is easy to overlook an oncoming motorcycle if you are not actively looking for one.
- **Pulling Out** – Before pulling out from a parked position, LOOK TWICE by turning your head and looking for oncoming motorcycles. Motorcycles need more room and space to stop suddenly.
- **Changing Lanes** – Motorcycles can easily fit in the blind spots of your mirrors. Put your blinker on and LOOK TWICE. Turn your head and look to ensure no motorcycles are in your blind spot.
- **Sharing a Lane** – Don't share a traffic lane with a motorcycle. Even though a motorcycle is smaller than a car or truck, they are lawfully entitled to their entire lane.
- **Don't Follow Too Close Behind a Motorcycle** – A motorcycle needs more room than a car or truck to stop. Keep a good distance behind a motorcycle, leaving enough room for you to stop.

Summertime Grilling

Warm weather is here, and there is nothing like the taste of freshly cooked food on the grill. Just remember these safety tips when grilling so that you can be sitting in your lawn chair instead of an E.R. waiting room!



- Move the grill away from siding, decking, or other things that can catch fire.
- Do not squirt starter fluid into a grill that is already lit.
- If you use a gas grill, ensure your tank or gas connections are secured and not broken or corroded.
- Stay with the grill the entire time you're cooking.
- Use long-handled barbecue tools when cooking on the grill.

Check Out These New Looks

Library Website

The Itasca Community Library's new website will be coming soon. It will have a clean, updated look. It's also mobile-friendly. Along with the new website, you will find a new library catalog, events calendar, and online room reservation system. The new library catalog has a user-friendly design that makes it easy to find items, place holds, and see what's available from your library. Find what you're looking for at itd.swanlibraries.net.

The new events calendar makes it easier to find and sign up for the library programs you're looking for. You can search for programs by age group, program type, or even room. Check it out for yourself at itasca.librarycalendar.com/events.

The library also has a wide variety of rooms available for individual/collaborative work, study, meetings, and other events. There are four study rooms with a capacity of four people and three meeting rooms with varying occupancy capacities. All rooms are free of charge and available during regular library hours and can now be booked online. Individuals and small groups may use a study room for up to two hours and can extend their stay if no one else is waiting and if the room isn't reserved. This new system shows which rooms are available during hours of operation, making it easier to plan accordingly. Make a meeting or study room reservation at itasca.librarycalendar.com/reserve-room. For more information, call the library at (630) 773-1699.



Fire District Website

Did you know that the Fire District has a new website? Visit and interact with them online at www.itsascafd.org. They are also on Facebook (Itasca Fire District), Instagram (@itascafire66), and Twitter (@itascafire).

Small Cell Wireless Facilities Update

What are those new utility poles going up? They are small cell installations. Small cells are wireless transmitters and receivers designed to provide network coverage to smaller areas. 5G is expected to deliver the speeds consumers require for the applications and technologies they use every day.

The Illinois General Assembly passed the Illinois Small Wireless Facility Deployment Act in 2017 to permit small cell deployment in the state. The act severely restricts the power of municipalities to regulate wireless communications and, in particular, where such equipment can be located. In September 2018, a Declaratory Ruling passed by the FCC introduced new rules that limit the ability of municipalities to control where small cells may be installed and operated.

While much of today's wireless communication and technology is out of the Village's control, the Village has been proactively amending its street lighting standards for residential areas since 2021. The new light poles in residential areas are now required to lower the mast arm from 25' to 20' and use a more decorative pole. If you have further questions on the Small Cell Wireless Facilities, please contact Vijay Gadde, Community Development Director, at vgadde@itasca.com.



2022 Construction Update

As most residents know, it has been very challenging to navigate around town this past winter and spring due to the many infrastructure projects going on.

The largest of these projects is the Northside Infrastructure Project (Elm Street Storm Sewer), which began last fall. This project includes the installation of new storm sewers, watermain, curb/gutter, and pavement. This project was planned to be constructed through the winter, with restoration occurring in spring/summer to allow residents time to enjoy the improvements over the late summer and fall. Watermain installation was recently completed between two boring pits on Walnut at Line St. and north of the METRA railroad crossing. Nicor relocated gas mains and service lines within this project to accommodate the new infrastructure.

A second infrastructure project affecting travel is the Lead Service Line Replacement project. Initially, the Village had planned to complete the project in two phases with funding from the Illinois



Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA); however, with less lead found in Phase I, the Village Board unanimously voted to move into Phase 2 and has received approval from the IEPA for funding. As of May, all lead

service lines have been removed from Phase 1, and restoration is nearing completion. Our contractor, Joel Kennedy, will begin focusing their efforts on the Phase 2 area.

Another infrastructure project that began this spring, was the 2022 Roadway and Maintenance Program. This project, primarily located on the north side of the Village, has focused on grinding/overlaying pavement with additional curb and sidewalk repairs. We will also perform some patching at various locations around the Village during this project.

The last major infrastructure project currently underway is the Bloomingdale Road Reconstruction Project. This project will entail a new roadway with curb and gutter from Irving Park Rd. west to Addison Township Highway Department's jurisdiction. The pavement from the Village jurisdiction to the west will be overlaid to Rohlwing Rd. It will also include a few storm sewer improvements. The Township's portion of paving will be reimbursed to the Village, thanks to an intergovernmental agreement.

The projects mentioned above have additional information available at www.itasca.com under the Government, Public Works, Active Projects tab. While the Village understands travel concerns during these projects, we look forward to having improved infrastructure that will guide us into the future. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact Public Works at (630) 773-2455.

Ruse Burglaries

Did you know it takes a burglar eight to twelve minutes to be in and out of your home or that a short conversation with someone at your front door can swindle you out of your life savings? Or that it takes just seconds for a burglar to smash the window of your parked car and grab your backpack or purse? It doesn't matter where you live; crime can happen anywhere.



As the weather gets warmer, ruse burglaries become more common. A ruse burglary occurs when a homeowner is distracted by an individual having a seemingly legitimate business purpose at their front door or in the front of the home. While the homeowner is preoccupied, a second subject enters the residence at a different location and removes valuables. Property that is easy to conceal, such as jewelry and cash, are typically taken, and criminals often target senior citizens.

Three elements need to be present for a crime to happen – desire, ability, and opportunity. If everyone remains vigilant, at least one of the elements will not be present, and the crime can be prevented. Although the Police Department frequently patrols residential neighborhoods, officers may not know of concerns unless reported. Work with the police, neighbors, friends, and family to stay “in the know” and report suspicious or criminal activity. Be sure to share information about what is happening so others can be on alert as well.

As a reminder, the Police Department has partnered with Ring through the Neighbors app to make it easier for residents to share surveillance video with law enforcement when a crime occurs. The app allows its users to share photos, videos, and information related to local crime and safety incidents so that fellow residents can stay informed.

You do not need a Ring device to join Neighbors. Anyone with a smartphone can download the Neighbors app to receive updates and have the option to post photos or videos from any device. The app is available free on iOS, Android, and FireOS devices. Spread the word and always report criminal activity or emergencies by calling 9-1-1 as soon as possible.

Don't Be Waldo! Be Seen

Seconds count in an emergency. While our firefighters and paramedics are very familiar with the streets and neighborhoods, finding the exact location of a residence depends on a plainly visible address. To ensure that first responders can find you and your house, make sure that your house address is at least four inches high and half an inch in diameter and contrasts with the color of your home. Remember, if you cannot see it from the street, neither can they!



The Village News
is the official publication
of the Village of Itasca.

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Jeff Pruyn

Village Clerk
Jody Conidi

Trustees
Jeff Aiani
Brendan Daly
Dino Gavanis
Ellen Leahy
Frank Madaras
Patrick Powers

Village Administrator
Carie Anne Ergo

**Village Departments
and Taxing Districts**

Village Administrator
773-0835

Village Clerk's Office
773-0835

Community Development
773-5568

Public Works
773-2455

Wastewater Treatment Plant
773-5571

Police Department Non-Emergency
773-1004

Police Department Emergency
9-1-1

Itasca Chamber of Commerce
773-2949

Springbrook Nature Center
773-5572

Library
773-1699

School District #10
773-1232

Park District
773-2257

Fire District Non-Emergency
773-1223

Fire District Emergency
9-1-1

O'Hare Noise Hotline Complaints
(800) 435-9569



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IPD Safety Vest Donation

**HELP HEROES OF
UKRAINE**

The Itasca Police Department recently joined with the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police in supporting Ukraine's fight against Russia. The department donated used body armor vests and received the following thank you from the Help Heroes of Ukraine organization.

"On behalf of ourselves and the organization Help Heroes of Ukraine, we would like to sincerely thank you for the amazing response to our Request for Vests. To date, more than 750 vests have been donated to provide protection to the Territorial Defense Forces, citizen combatants, and ordinary citizens of Ukraine. While some of your donations are "seeing active duty," others are providing protection for the mother who finds it necessary to "suit up" simply in order to go out in search of groceries for her family. This effort grew into something larger than we anticipated and included not only donations of vests, but of other protective gear and financial assistance. Financial contributions have been used to pay for the shipping of vests, as well as to respond to requests from orphanages, those housing refugees, and those sheltering in regions ravaged by shelling.

To quote Saint Mother Teresa, "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love." Thank you for the great love you have expressed for humanity, for peace, and for the people of Ukraine by contributing to this cause."

**Thank you to all the contributing editors
of the newsletters, especially:**



Schedule of Monthly Meetings

Monday:

No Meetings Scheduled

Tuesday:

1st Tuesday - Board of Trustees - 7:00 p.m.*

3rd Tuesday - Board of Trustees - 7:00 p.m.*

Wednesday:

3rd Wednesday - Plan Commission - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday:

3rd Thursday - Historical Commission - 7:00 p.m.

Friday:

No Meetings Scheduled

*Committee of the Whole immediately after