



Committed to our future.
Inspired by our past.

WINTER 2019



The Village News



2019 Volunteer of the Year (p4)



Holiday Recycling (p5)



Community Events (p6 + p7)



Readying for Winter (p10)

Mayor's Message



Mayor Jeff Pruyn

It seems I cannot go anywhere these days without someone asking me when the Village Board will vote on Haymarket's proposal to convert the Holiday Inn-Itasca into a drug and mental health treatment facility. As much I like to provide residents definitive answers, in this case I cannot.

The Haymarket proposal has generated more interest in our community than any other in recent memory. Itasca has always prided itself on being accessible to its residents and businesses – and this issue is no different. The Village is committed to giving every voice an opportunity to be heard through the Plan Commission process first.

Once the Plan Commission has heard all testimony, it will deliberate and provide a recommendation to the Village Board for review and a final vote. I cannot tell you how long this process will take, because right now I, like each of you, am experiencing this proposal through the Plan Commission meetings.



While Haymarket continues to captivate the community's attention, Bridge Development Partners has been quietly making progress on one of the region's largest industrial projects. The old CBS tower fell in July paving the way for a three-building, 741,000-square-foot industrial complex, plus nearly 8 acres of retail development along Rohlwing Road. The industrial buildings are expected to be completed in 2020 and will create new opportunities for business growth in our community.

As our community has grown and changed, we continue to hold tight to traditions that define us. Perhaps no season has more traditions in Itasca than the Christmas season. Pages 6 and 7 are filled with opportunities for our community to come together to celebrate the holidays. Children can take a ride on the Polar Express. Families can enjoy the Combined Church Choir Christmas Concert. Santa and Ms. Claus make several trips to town each year to visit our children. And for more than 50 years, the Lions Club has been "Lighting the Way" on Christmas Eve with its luminaria.

Continued on page 2 >

Mayor's Message Continued...

In addition to celebrating, this community comes together during the holidays to give back to those who are less fortunate. Throughout the month of December, scores of residents stop by Village Hall to hang donated hats, mittens and scarves on the tree in the lobby. Hundreds of new unwrapped toys will be dropped off at the Library and Park District for Toys for Tots sponsored by the Itasca Fire District.

Of course, Itasca doesn't stop caring on January 1st. Organizations like Itasca Cares, the Itasca Food Pantry, the Itasca Lions Club and many more serve those in our community in need throughout the year.

I feel blessed to be part of this amazing and generous community. On behalf of the entire Village Board and staff, thank you for allowing us to serve you and have a happy holiday season.



#ItascaMeansBusiness

Bridge Development has recently begun construction on the approximately 60-acre site at the southeast corner of Rohlwing Rd. & Devon Ave. Bridge Development will deliver over 740K SF of Industrial/Warehouse Building along with a 7.6 Acre Retail Development along Rohlwing Rd.

Quadrangle Development received approval from the Village Board to develop the 5+ acre vacant site at the southwest corner of Arlington Heights Road and South Thorndale Ave for Walgreen's Options Care. This investment by Quadrangle Development & Walgreen's Options Care shows why Itasca is a premier destination for businesses.

As our world becomes increasingly interconnected the need for large capacity data centers arise. The Itasca Village Board proudly approved a development of such a data center to be located at the Hamilton Lakes Business Park at 755 Pierce for Raging Wire. This facility will provide the data storage need for many businesses both local and national.



Administrator Message

Greetings neighbors,

You may have noticed that Itasca's water tower, website and newsletter have been updated with a brand-new look. And while it seems to have popped up overnight, this project began more than 18 months ago, when the Village Board approved hiring a professional design consultant to review and update the Village's brand identity.

As our world becomes increasingly interconnected, cities and towns face increasing competition for businesses, residents and visitors. It's not surprising then, that communities across the globe have begun taking a page from the private sector to better define their brand identities. In fact, our neighbor to the north made a big splash in 2018 when it announced it would sponsor the Bahamas Bowl to promote its "Maker's Wanted" brand.

Now, Itasca has no plans to sponsor national football games, but we did realize the time had come to update our brand identity to better communicate Itasca's strengths.

Trustees Leahy and Madaras headed up the update effort, which began with interviews and focus groups including of residents, business leaders and community partners. Nearly everyone agreed that Itasca's location and access to transportation options – interchanges, O'Hare, Metra, etc. – was a key strength that should be highlighted.

The new logo sandwiches Itasca literally "in the middle" of an icon that, when pieced together, suggests a highway interchange. Each of the four quadrants point to Itasca as the place to be – similar to a Google pin or map marker.

As a nod to Itasca's love for tradition, the logo uses a traditional typeface and gold and blue muted jewel tones that are rich, classic and timeless. The logo also recognizes the significance of parks and preservation to our community – as abstract illustrations of flowers and butterflies can be seen in the design.

Finally, one hundred percent of this redesign project was funded through Hotel/Motel tax dollars. A big thanks to Mauge Inc., who was chosen through a competitive selection process, to lead Itasca through the rebranding process.

Keep Up to Date on Village News

Stay up to date on the latest Village news, such as the Haymarket Proposal or the Village's sidewalk replacement project, by visiting the Village's website at www.itasca.com or follow us on Facebook.

Changes at Village Hall

As with the changes in the season, so are there changes at Village Hall. This past November, the Village's AP Clerk of 21 years, Shirley Collins recently retired. Shirley was responsible for ensuring the Village paid its bills each month, including payroll for the Village's employees. We wish Shirley well and hope she enjoys a long and restful retirement with her husband Doug.

In addition, the Village said farewell to Pam Lindfors. After working for Itasca for over three decades, Pam decided to retire in September. Her presence has been felt by those of us at Village Hall, as well as the many residents she frequently spoke to about their water bills. Jake Sheldon is our new, part-time Utility Billing and A/R Specialist, and will be responsible for sending out invoices, including your monthly water bill. If you have any

questions about either of those topics, please reach out to Jake at jsheldon@itasca.com or (630) 773-0835.

The Village would also like to say congratulations to Sergeant Mike Shrader and Officer Matt Ruehl, who both recently retired from the Itasca Police Department. Officer Matt Ruehl retired after 18 years of service and Sergeant Shrader retired after 21 years of service. The Police Department thanks them both for their years of dedicated service and wishes them the best in their future endeavors.

Lastly, the Village would like to wish Fred Maier a happy retirement. After working for the Village for 40 years, Fred has officially retired from his position of part-time Environmental Service Coordinator.

And as one door closes, new ones open...



The Village is pleased to announce the hiring of its new Village Planner Mo Khan. Mo holds two bachelor's degrees in Urban Studies/Planning and History from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and is currently obtaining his Master's Degree in Community & Economic Development from Penn State University. Mo has over 5 years of municipal planning experience and is looking forward to applying his knowledge and experience to help Itasca continue to be a great home for both its residents and businesses. In his personal time, Mo enjoys cooking for family and friends and considers himself a "professional home chef." He also is an avid football fan, both American & English, rooting for the Minnesota Vikings, Nebraska Cornhuskers, and Aston Villa!



We are also pleased to introduce Jessica Spencer as our Administrative Services Manager. In this new role, Jessica will be overseeing the Finance and HR departments. She holds a master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Illinois at Springfield and a certificate in Public Sector Labor Relations. In addition to Jessica's 6 years of experience in state and local government, she has over 10 years of experience in the private sector working for a government focused engineering firm and in financial services. She looks forward to working with the staff, elected officials, and residents of the Village of Itasca. In her personal time, Jessica enjoys taking her 2-year-old daughter Maddie to the park and farmers' market with her husband Keith.

Citizen Police Academy



The Itasca Police Department is seeking applicants for the Citizen Police Academy. This highly interactive program meets weekly and is designed to give participants a working knowledge of their police department. The academy also helps to improve communication between the Itasca Police Department and the community served. Areas covered include crime scene investigation, traffic enforcement,

crime prevention, investigations, and a multitude of other related topics. Ride-alongs in police vehicles will also be available to those individuals wishing to participate. This free program will meet on Wednesdays from January 15th through March 11th from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Participants must be at least 18 years of age and either live or work within the Village of Itasca. Applications are available at www.itasca.com under the Police Department forms section. Enrollment is limited to 20. For further information, please contact Sergeant Jim Duda at (630) 228-5756.

2019 Volunteer of the Year



On Thursday, September 26th, 2019, volunteer Robert “Gus” Gosanko, was one of the recipients awarded the 2019 Volunteer of the Year Award at the DuPage County Chiefs of Police meeting.

He was then honored for this achievement at the Village Board meeting on Tuesday, October 1st.

Gus has been an invaluable volunteer within the Village of Itasca since the inception of the Volunteer Program in 2006. Over the course of 13 years, Gus has given generously of his time, easily clocking over 2,000 volunteer hours for the Village of Itasca.

Gus began his career with the Itasca Police Department when he decided to participate in the Citizen Police Academy. Gus was one of the first to enthusiastically sign up for the class, but quickly learned that the class might be cancelled due to not having the minimum number of participants. That didn’t stop this determined individual, as within one week he had diligently recruited more than enough people to participate, enabling the academy to take

place successfully. Gus continues to use his recruiting talents and to this day has been instrumental in convincing many of our past and present volunteers to enthusiastically participate in our very successful Volunteer Program.

In addition to his recruiting talents, Gus has assisted in numerous village events, volunteering to direct traffic during the annual Subaru Auto Show, numerous road races and the highly attended Green Day Event. He has also represented the Village of Itasca at the Chicago Auto Show for the last ten years.

As an original member of the Itasca Volunteer Program, Gus was instrumental in getting the program going with his enthusiasm and dedication to his community. He consistently performs his volunteer duties the way he was taught during training and this dependability along with his great personality has assisted in getting our police officers to accept new volunteers more readily. All these traits make Gus a great ambassador for the Village of Itasca.

When asked about his years as a volunteer, Gus replied, “It’s one thing being a volunteer. However, it’s really a SPECIAL thing being a volunteer for Itasca, ‘the Greatest Small Town in the USA.’”

Gus not only volunteers at the Itasca Police Department, but he is also a war veteran who volunteers regularly at the local VFW, hosting the many ceremonies held in Itasca for the VFW, including a Veterans Day ceremony in honor of all veterans at Usher Park. Additionally, he never misses the opportunity to work the VFW booth at the four-day Itasca Fest, National Night Out, and any other special events that occur in his beloved Village.

The Itasca Police Department is very proud of Gus, at the age of 83, who is not only a great citizen of our country, a dedicated volunteer in our Village of Itasca, but is clearly a great example of a tremendous human being and very deserving of the Volunteer of the Year Award.

Itasca’s Holiday Lights Recycling Drive

The Village of Itasca has partnered with Elgin Recycling for their 9th Annual Holiday Lights Recycling Program. The recycling program will run from Monday, November 25, 2019 until Friday, January 31, 2020. The drop-off collection box will be in front of the Itasca Police Station at 540 W. Irving Park Road. Residents can drop off their old holiday lights at any time in the labeled receptacles in front of the Police Department. Lights that will be accepted for this program are: Mini lights (or Italian lights), C7 lights, C9 lights, rope lights, LED lights, extension cords, etc. Please DO NOT include lawn ornaments or other holiday decorations. The collection is specifically for lights and cords.

Year after year, residents find themselves testing bulbs and replacing fuses; when that doesn’t work, the strings of lights often end up in the garbage. With this program, Itasca can now divert all holiday lights that would normally end up in a landfill as recycled goods. One strand of lights here and there may seem as though it doesn’t help, but these small contributions helped last year be extremely successful.

For more information about The Holiday Lights Recycling Program please visit www.itasca.com or track Itasca’s progress at www.elginrecycling.com.

Naughty or Nice?

A Guide to Holiday Recycling

For those looking to dispose of their holiday wrappings and decorations, Republic Service has created a “Naughty or Nice” list to answer your recycling questions.

Naughty (not recyclable items)

- ✗ **Bubble wrap** (consider reusing)
- ✗ **Foam peanuts**
(Some UPS stores will accept and re-use)
- ✗ **Ribbon and bows** (consider reusing)
- ✗ **Anything on the tree**
- ✗ **Sticky gift labels**
- ✗ **Gift bags if coated, laminated, dyed**
- ✗ **Metallic wrapping paper**
(consider reusing)
- ✗ **Soiled disposable tableware**

Nice

- ✓ **Gift boxes**
- ✓ **Tissue paper**
- ✓ **Shoe boxes**
- ✓ **Gift bags** (if paper)
- ✓ **Holiday cards/envelopes**

Christmas Tree Disposal

With a little imagination, your Christmas tree can be used for a multitude of purposes after the holidays are over. Before disposing your tree, cut thin slices of the trunk to create a blank wood canvas. You can then use these canvases to make an art project such as an ornament or you can varnish the piece to make a drink coaster. You can also use the branches as winter mulch for plant beds.

If you do not wish to repurpose your tree, Republic Services will pick up Christmas Trees (no artificial trees) on your regular garbage day during the first two weeks of January. All trees must be free of ornaments, garland, lights, tinsel, etc. Trees should be placed in the parkway next to your garbage with the trunk facing the street. Wreaths, garland, and natural décor will not be picked up. Residents should contact Republic Service at **(847) 981-0991** with any questions about tree pickup or holiday service.

Make Recycling a Part of your Holidays

The holiday season is upon us, which means holiday cards, family gatherings, presents, and beautiful decorations. However, it also can mean a lot of waste; but it doesn't have to. Many of the things you use around the house can find a second life after the holidays. You can find plenty of DIY projects that help you find a new use for many of these items. Whether it becomes an added flare on a gift or a part of a brand-new holiday decoration, there's a way to recycle old decorations and keep them out of a landfill. Many of these ideas were obtained from www.kidspot.com.



1. Use old holiday cards to make a banner. Brighten up any room with a garland of pretty shapes, made from festive greeting cards. Stamp out pieces with a shaped paper cutter or cut out your own unique designs, then join them all together with a needle and thread.
2. Make pine needle potpourri. You may be cursing the fact that your house is littered with little remnants of your live Christmas tree or wreath – but it's time to use that to your advantage. Gather up all that greenery (which may be turning a little brown) and turn it into a delicious scent that will waft through your house and remind you of the fabulous festive season that just passed.
3. What is everyone's favorite thing to eat during the holiday? Batches upon batches of freshly baked cookies! All that baking is bound to leave you with a ton of eggshells. But don't throw them away, eggshells are great for starting seedlings and fertilizing soil. Use the eggshell and carton to make seedling pods which can be planted in spring.



Celebrate Our Community



Wed. / December 4th
DIY Tie-Dye Wrapping Paper
 Itasca Community Library
 7:00p.m.

DIY one-of-a-kind wrapping paper.
 Registration is required.
 For high school students and adults.



Thurs. / December 5th
Holiday Cook Up a Good Book
 Itasca Community Library
 4:00p.m. - 4:30p.m.

Combine storytime with a cooking class.
 Registration is required.
 For ages 4-8 years with a caregiver.



Sat. / December 7th
Polar Express Storytime Train
 Itasca Train Station
 Various Times

Join Santa for a magical train ride.
 Registration required.



Sat. / December 7th
Ugly Sweater Party
 Springbrook Nature Center
 6:00p.m. - 8:00p.m.

You supply the sweater or shirt,
 and we'll supply the decorations,
 cookies, and more. For ages 11-15.
 Registration required.



Sat. / December 7th
Family Christmas Concert
 St. Luke Lutheran Church
 7:30p.m.

The choir will perform
 traditional Christmas carols.



Mon. / December 9th
Itasca's Night with Santa
 Itasca Community Library
 5:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.

Festivities kick off with Santa arriving
 in the library at 5:30 p.m. Enjoy Peacock
 Middle School Choir and holiday crafts.



Tues. / December 10th
House Decorating Contest
 Itasca Park District
 6:00p.m.

Must register to participate.
 Contact
Steve@itascaparkdistrict.com



Tues. / December 10th
Make & Take
Holiday Essential Oils
 Itasca Community Library
 7:00p.m.

Relax with us as we chat about
 dōTERRA essential oils.



Wed. / December 11th
Holiday Hoopla
 Itasca Park District in the Lounge
 6:00p.m. - 7:30p.m.

Let's get together for holiday crafts,
 games, music, and a snack!
 For ages 5-11 years. Fee: **\$20/\$25**



Thurs. / December 12th
Holiday Cook Up a Good Book
 Itasca Community Library
 4:00p.m. - 4:30p.m.

Combine storytime with a cooking class.
 Registration is required.
 For ages 4-8 years with a caregiver.



Thurs. / December 12th
Santa Visit
 Itasca Park District
 Various Times

Your kids will love to have Santa
 visit their very own home.
 Registration required. Fee **\$25**



Fri. / December 13th
Santa's Workshop
 Springbrook Nature Center
 5:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.

Visit with Santa, enjoy cookies,
 hot chocolate, and make crafts.
 Free family event! Dogs are welcomed to
 attend on Friday from 7-8 p.m.



Sat. / December 14th
Santa's Workshop
 Springbrook Nature Center
 11:00a.m. - 1:30p.m.

Visit with Santa, enjoy cookies,
 hot chocolate, and make crafts.
 Free family event!



Sun. / December 15th
Breakfast with Mrs. Claus
 Itasca Park District
 10:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.

Get ready for some holiday cheer as
 families enjoy a yummy breakfast and
 special visit with Mrs. Claus! Music,
 crafts and holiday stories. **\$10** per person



Mon. / December 16th
Reindeer Rock
 Itasca Park District
 6:00p.m. - 7:30p.m.

Kids will enjoy a fun winter evening of
 reindeer games, crafts, and snacks.
 For ages 3-7 years. **\$15/20**



Mon. / December 16th
Staying Relaxed this Holiday
Season with Meditation
 Itasca Community Library
 7:00p.m.

Zelma Chamberlain, M.Ed and long-
 time meditator, will present meditation
 techniques to face seasonal stress with
 grace and equilibrium.

Celebrate Our Community



Tues. / December 17th

Christmas Storytime
Itasca Community Library
10:00a.m. - 10:45p.m.
Registration is required.
Geared to ages 3-6 years.



Thurs. / December 19th

Holiday Cook Up a Good Book
Itasca Community Library
4:00p.m. - 4:30p.m.
Combine storytime with a cooking class.
Registration is required.
For ages 4-8 years with a caregiver.



Thurs. / December 19th

Hot Cocoa & Popcorn Bar
Itasca Community Library
6:30p.m. - 7:30p.m.
Registration is required.
For teens in grades 6-12.



Mon. / December 23rd

Crafty Kids Ornaments
Itasca Community Library
10:00a.m. - 11:00a.m.
Registration is required.
For kids in grades K-2



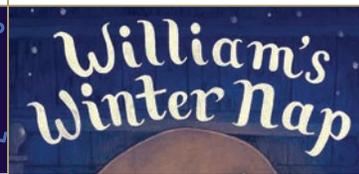
Tues. / December 24th

Christmas Luminaria Event
5:00p.m.
Please place your lighted
candles on the porch.



Tues. / December 31st

New Year's Eve Countdown
Itasca Community Library
11:15a.m. - 12:01p.m.
Registration is required.
For families.



Wed. / January 8th

William's Winter Nap StoryWalk®
Springbrook Nature Center
1:00p.m. - 1:45p.m.
Take a walk as you read a
book at this storytime at the
Springbrook Nature Center!



Polar Express Story Time Train

Join the Park District for one of Itasca's favorite holiday events! Meet at the Metra Train Station in Itasca on Saturday, December 7th and board the train to Elgin and back for a fun-filled trip. Enjoy a story, chocolate milk, cookies, and a special visit from Santa! You MUST pre-register for this event.

28th Family Christmas Concert

The Combined Church Choir of Itasca will present their 28th Family Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 7th. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. with the concert starting at 7:30 p.m. St. Luke Lutheran Church, 410 S. Rush in Itasca is hosting this year's performance. The choir performs traditional Christmas carols as well as selections from Handel's Messiah. The audience will be able to sing along with holiday favorites. All proceeds benefit the Itasca Food Pantry, Itasca PADS, Itasca Walk in Ministry and the Itasca Community Outreach Team. Over \$90,000 has been donated to Itasca charities through the years. Tickets will be available at the Itasca Community Library mid-November and at the door. Adults are \$10, children 3-12 are \$5.00 and under 3 are free. This holiday tradition is a way of helping our community through music. For more information call (630) 773-8518.

Itasca Lions Club Christmas Luminaria

Once again, the Itasca Lions Club is pleased to spread joy and happiness this holiday season. The Itasca Lions are proud to continue the tradition of the Christmas Luminaria, which started in Itasca back in 1960 by Boyd and Barbara Hindman. Luminaria have their origin in Mexico and it was the Hindmans who lit the first Christmas Eve Luminaria in the area. The tradition of candle-lit bags lining the walkways and streets on Christmas Eve is symbolic of the "Lighting of the Christ Child's way home".

The Lions will be assembling the bags and will distribute them to the homes in the village on Saturday, December 7th. Please light your candles at 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, December 24th (Rain Date is 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Day). In 2018, a drone was used to take pictures and a video of the Luminaria as it appears from above and this may be done again in 2019. All pictures and videos will be made available for public viewing after the event. The Lions of Itasca appreciate any and all donations for the luminaria. Thanks to the kindness and generosity of the residents, luminaria donations have allowed the Lions Club to continue their mission of helping those in need."



Ice Rink

The ice rink will be open at the Waterpark Parking Lot this winter. Skating is free! It is safe to skate when the green flag is flying. For skating condition alerts, sign up for text or email notifications at itascaparkdistrict.com/notifyme or call the hotline **(630) 616-7558**. Ice Rink address: 100 N. Catalpa.



Decorating Contests

There is something magical about seeing lights, garland, and ornaments adorn a tree. That is why the library invites you to come tour the library in December and marvel at the beautiful holiday trees decorated by various local groups and organizations. This year's theme is Bloom with Holiday Cheer to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Itasca Garden Club. Participate either in-person or online by casting your vote for the best decorated tree. The top three contestants will receive cash prizes. Cash prizes are courtesy of Itasca Bank & Trust Co. and Saint Luke Christian Day School.

For those wishing to channel their inner Clark Griswold, the Park District invites you to enter your house in its Holiday House Decorating Contest. Email your name, address and phone number to Steve at Steve@itascaparkdistrict.com to register your home. Free entry and prizes awarded! Free entry and prizes awarded on Tuesday, December 10th!

Youth Winter Reading Club: *Curl up with a Good Book* (Preschool-Grade 8)

Register starting Friday, December 20th

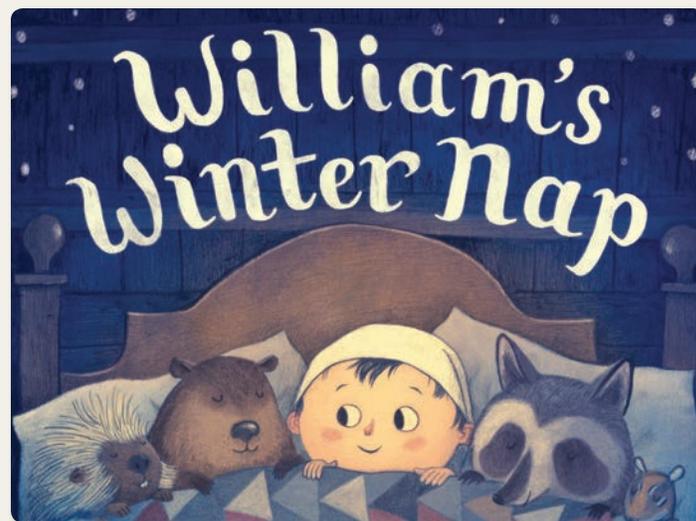
The library encourages you to read this winter by joining our *Curl up with a Good Book* Winter Reading Club. Read for at least eight hours any time between December 20th – February 3rd to earn prizes. To be a part of the Winter Reading Club or for more details, please visit the Youth Desk.

Take a StoryWalk® this Winter!

The library has teamed up with the Itasca Park District this winter to present a StoryWalk®, a fun way to combine reading and exercising. The StoryWalk® this winter will feature Linda Ashman's picture book, *William's Winter Nap*, and it will be at the loop right next to the Springbrook Nature Center starting in late December. This project is sponsored by the library, the Itasca Park District, the Friends of the Itasca Community Library, and the Friends of Springbrook Nature Center of Itasca. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont, and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library. Take the StoryWalk® on your own time, or join us for the following program:

William's Winter Nap StoryWalk®

Wednesday, January 8th, 1:00 - 1:45 p.m.



Take a walk as you read a book at this storytime at the Springbrook Nature Center! After you take a StoryWalk® together outside, you'll have other fun winter-themed stories and activities to share (geared to ages 3-6 years). Please meet at the Springbrook Nature Center at 12:55 p.m. Register for this program at www.itascalibrary.org or by calling the library at **(630) 773-1699**.





Holiday Gift Ideas

Give an Itasca Park District Fitness Membership, Recreation Gift Certificate, or a leaf on the Park District Giving Tree! The Park District has trips for all ages, sports galore, nature programming, competitive dance and gymnastics teams and more. Visit www.itascaparkdistrict.com for details. Register online too!



Holiday Shopping – Itasca Style

Residents are encouraged to shop, dine, and take advantage of holiday events in Itasca this winter! We have wide variety of locally owned and operated businesses, all of which can provide a personalized and unique experience for all. Shopping in the community offers the convenience of traveling shorter distances to make purchases and can provide the added benefit of meeting and getting to know the owners of Itasca businesses. It also helps keep sales tax dollars within the community, helps business thrive, and helps provide revenue to support Village services such as emergency services and road maintenance.

Remember many of our local businesses contribute to our community in various ways, through sponsorships, hosting fundraisers, and other enriching events which makes Itasca a wonderful place to live and work; so let's support them this holiday season by shopping locally. To see what Itasca has to offer, please visit the Village's website at www.itasca.com and search "Itasca Business List" to see a list of all the businesses in town.

Preparing for Winter: Outdoor Faucet and Sprinkler Winterization



If you haven't done so already, it is time to winterize your lawn irrigation systems, outside hose bibs, and faucets.

Lawn irrigation systems require a backflow preventer per the Village's Cross Connection Control Ordinance. If your backflow preventer is located outdoors, remember to remove and store it someplace warm for the winter. Allowing it to freeze is a costly mistake. Remember where you stored it, as you will need to give the backflow preventer to your lawn irrigation contractor or plumber next spring to reinstall it.

The Illinois Plumbing Code requires that your backflow preventer be tested immediately upon reinstallation of your backflow preventer every season. Annual tests must be performed by a certified tester and be submitted to the Village of Itasca's Cross Connection Control Program contractor, BSI, for compliance. Any questions can be directed to the Village of Itasca Public Works Department at **(630) 773-2455**.

Get Fit This Winter

Get fit this winter at the Itasca Fitness Center! Drop-in classes include Pilates, Seniors in Motion, Boot Camp, Zumba, Aqua Aerobics, and more. Visit itascaparkdistrict.com/aerobics. The Park District has 9 treadmills with cable and internet access. Personal Training is available 7 days per week. Hope to see you at the Itasca Fitness Center!

Enjoy the outdoors at the Barking Lot Dog Park and Ray Franzen Bird Sanctuary on Rohlwing Road open everyday sunrise to sunset!



Readying for Winter

Public Works is ready for another snow season. To prepare residents, the Village has put together some of the most frequently asked questions that the Village receives regarding snow plowing.

Q: When does the Village begin spreading salt and plowing streets?

A: When a snowstorm begins, the initial salt application is used to prevent icing conditions which leads to a more effective snow removal operation. Plowing generally begins when snow becomes more than two-inches deep and when freezing temperatures indicate that no melting will occur.

Q: Why does my driveway get plowed in when a snowplow truck passes by my house?

A: While it's frustrating to shovel your driveway only to have the plow come by and push snow back at the base, it is not feasible to plow the street so that your driveway remains completely "snow free". Plows push snow toward the curb, so with no barrier curb, a driveway opening will of course accept more snow.

To minimize snow deposits left at the end of your driveway, try the following tips: leave snow in place for the last foot of your driveway, until the Village's snowplowing is complete. Or when shoveling the end of your driveway, place the snow to the right (as you face the street). Snow piled on the left side adds to the amount that can be spread into the driveway.

How can I keep snow out of my driveway?



Using this method to clear snow will reduce the amount of snow that accumulates at the end of your driveway!

Q: What rules do I need to follow during a snow event for safe snow removal?

A: There are a couple local ordinances that are enforced during the winter months in order to remove snow efficiently and safety as possible.

Safe Winter Driving Reminders



The Itasca Police Department urges you to use caution when driving in the winter and follow these safety tips:

- Slow down! Ice and snow make roads more dangerous and require additional time to stop. Bridges are usually the first surfaces to freeze.
- Give snowplow operators ample room to maneuver. Their fields of vision are often restricted, especially during snowstorms, and they may have difficulty seeing other vehicles and pedestrians.
- Try to avoid traveling in inclement weather. Share your travel route with others if you must drive in bad weather.
- Keep an emergency kit in your car, which includes emergency jumper cables, flares or reflectors, windshield wiper fluid, shovel, ice scraper, blankets, flashlights, energy bars, water, kitty litter (for traction) and a first aid kit.
- If you become stalled, stay in your car, don't overexert, and put some sort of bright marker on your antenna or windows. If your car is still running, make sure the exhaust pipe is clear and only run the car long enough to stay warm.

U.S. Census 2020 – April 1, 2020

Once a decade, America comes together to participate in a national census. Your response to the census is important because it decides how many seats Illinois gets in Congress, how much of \$675 billion in federal funding is distributed to Illinois, DuPage County and Itasca, impacts future plans for community services, schools and roads, and decides how boundaries are drawn for congressional, state legislative and school districts.

Most residents will receive their invitation to respond to the census by mail in March. You can respond to the census from anywhere, at any time either online, by phone, or by mail. Residents who do not respond to their invitation will receive reminders and eventually a home visit from a census worker. If someone visits your home and you are unsure of their identity, check their ID for a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark or call **(800) 923-8282** to speak to a Census Bureau representative. Census workers will NEVER ask for your social security, bank or credit card information, or money. If the person does not work for the Census Bureau, call the Itasca Police Department at **(630) 773-1004**.

Carbon Monoxide: The Invisible Killer

Moving into fall and winter, it is highly recommended to have your furnace inspected by a qualified technician to make sure the unit is working properly and has the proper venting required by code. Malfunctions or defects in either could possibly result in carbon monoxide leaking into the structure which can lead to deadly results. It is important to understand what carbon monoxide is and how to protect you and your family from carbon monoxide poisoning.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, tasteless, colorless gas that often goes undetected, striking victims caught off guard or in their sleep. More than 400 people in the U.S. die from unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning every year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. More than 20,000 visit the emergency room, and more than 4,000 others are hospitalized.

Where is CO found?

CO is found in fumes produced any time you burn fuel in cars or trucks, small engines, stoves, lanterns, grills, fireplaces, gas ranges, gas dryers or furnaces. CO can build up indoors and poison people and animals who breathe it.

What are the symptoms of CO poisoning?

The most common symptoms of CO poisoning are headache, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. CO symptoms are often described as “flu-like.”

What should I do if my CO detector activates or if I think I am sick due to CO?

The Itasca Fire District recommends that everyone exit the structure and then dial 9-1-1. Fire District personnel will respond with the necessary meters to check for dangerous CO levels. Additional questions regarding CO can be directed to the Fire District at **(630) 773-1223**.

This information provided by the National Safety Council along with the Centers for Disease Control websites. Additional information can also be found on their respective websites.

How can I prevent CO poisoning in my home?

- Install a battery-operated or battery back-up CO detector in your home and check the battery when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall. Replace your CO detector every five years.
- Have your chimney checked or cleaned every year. Chimneys can be blocked by debris.
- Have your heating system, water heater, and any other gas, oil, or coal burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year.
- Make sure your gas appliances are vented properly. Horizontal vent pipes for appliances, such as a water heater, should go up slightly as they go toward outdoors
- Never patch a vent pipe with tape, gum, or something else.
- Never use a portable gas camp stove indoors or a gas range or oven for heating.
- Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal – red, gray, black, or white – gives off CO.
- Never use a generator inside your home, basement, or garage, or less than 20 feet from any window, door, or vent.



SWAN Libraries App

Did you know the library catalog has a new app? Check your account, place holds, and even scan barcodes of books you find while you're out and about! Go to your app store and look for SWAN Libraries.

Itasca Waterpark

The Itasca Waterpark replacement project is being re-bid. The bid opening is in January of 2020.

Demolition and construction will begin in August of 2020.

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

Mayor

Jeff Pruyn

Village Clerk

Jody Conidi

Trustees

Jeff Aiani

Dino Gavanis

Mike Latoria

Ellen Leahy

Kathy Linsner

Frank Madaras

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



Village of Itasca

550 W. Irving Park Rd.

Itasca, IL 60143

630-773-0835

itasca.com

CARRIER ROUTE PRESORT

PRESORT
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ITASCA, IL
PERMIT NO. 14

**ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER**

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:

2nd Wednesday - School District #10 - 7:00 p.m.

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

3rd Wednesday - Peer Jury as Scheduled

Thursday:

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

Friday:

No Meetings Scheduled

*Committee of the Whole immediately after