



Winter 2014

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

Mayor

Jeff Pruyn

Village Clerk

Melody Craven

Trustees

Jeff Aiani

Marty Hower

Mike Latoria

Ellen Leahy

Frank Madaras

Lucy Santorsola

**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	773-1004
non-emergency	
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	773-1223
non-emergency	
Emergency	9-1-1

O'Hare Noise Hotline

Complaints	800-435-9569
------------	--------------

The Village News

Committed to our future ... inspired by our past

Message from the Mayor



Mayor Jeff Pruyn

It should come as no surprise that O'Hare is once again the world's busiest airport. Just about any resident of Itasca knows from recent experience that the number of flights has increased and so too has airplane noise. This is mostly the result of the O'Hare Modernization Plan (OMP), the opening of new runways with flight paths over Itasca, and the limited use of two diagonal runways, which directed airplane traffic away from Itasca. We now have more flights over Itasca and planes are at lower elevations.

In fact, the City of Chicago is only about half way through its plan for O'Hare Modernization. Additional new runways are currently under construction and others are planned. These new runways will certainly lead to new airplane traffic over areas of Itasca that previously have not had any.

The Village of Itasca is not just accepting this condition. The impacts of an expanding airport are the reason that Itasca became a member of the Suburban O'Hare Commission (SOC) prior to my election as a Village Trustee in 1995. We were concerned then with the quality of life in our community, and we have the same concern today. However, in the past we always dealt with the potential for increased traffic and noise. Now we are dealing with the reality! Further, we continue with the goal to minimize these impacts and work with

our surrounding communities and the City of Chicago to make O'Hare Airport a better neighbor.

Through our membership in SOC and other groups like Fair Allocation in Runways (FAiR), we are being advised on potential strategies with the greatest chance of success at mitigating the airplane noise. Additional efforts include lobbying our state and federal officials and working with the FAA and the City of Chicago on the "art of what is possible." We recognize that the FAA needs be concerned about the safety of air travel and the travelling public. We are asking that they also keep in mind our concerns about noise. We wish to work together for a balanced use of all the runways, versus eliminating the use of a particular runway which will just impact someone else or another community. In this way, we will come together, and not be at odds. I strongly believe that only by working together will Itasca residents see positive results.

The airport is an important economic engine for this region and for the Village of Itasca. We benefit from being close enough to the airport to attract quality businesses, and we want the airport to be a source of local pride. At the same time, we also want O'Hare Airport and its operator, the City of Chicago, to be good neighbors and work with us to develop strategies, policies, and practices that address our quality of life, including the reduction of noise, especially at night.

We hope that the New Year ushers in prosperity and good health for all.

Sincerely,
Mayor Jeff Pruyn

Water/Sewer Rate Update

In 2008, as part of the planning for our new \$35 million wastewater treatment plant, the Village conducted a detailed study and implemented its current water/sewer rate structure. The adopted rates were based on best available data at that time including water usage, future growth projections, debt obligations and projected operating costs. In 2012, when significant rate increases from the City of Chicago were passed along through the DuPage Water Commission, the Village adjusted its rates accordingly, publishing its current 2012-2016 structure to reflect the increased supply costs.

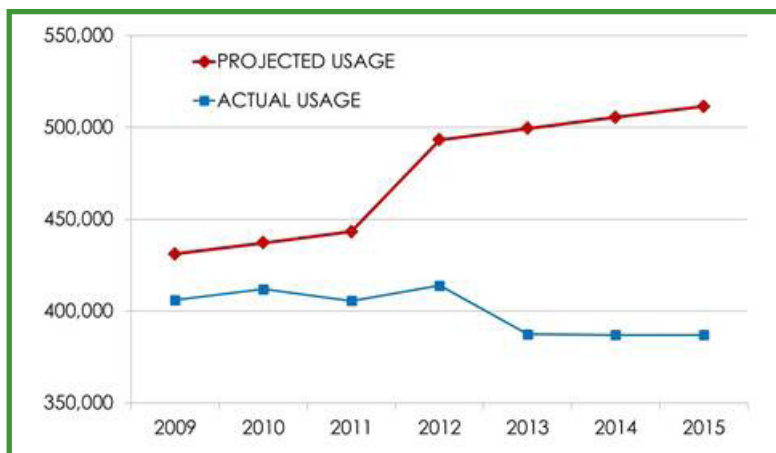
Our new treatment plant also came online in 2012, and after a full year of operating expenses, an updated rate study was conducted in 2013-14. It was determined that key assumptions from the initial 2008 rate study, in particular the projected water usage, varied significantly. Water conservation efforts, coupled with the economic downturn that negatively impacted growth projections, resulted in actual 2013-14 water usage being 19% less than 2006 usage, and 24% less than the 2008 projections used to develop the current rate structure (see graph). This has resulted in an annual revenue shortfall of \$1.4 million less than projections these past two years. A survey of other DuPage County municipalities revealed that many other towns are struggling with similar water usage drops over the past five years.

The costs to operate the water and sewer system have matched the 2008 projections fairly well, so this required revenue must be distributed over a smaller volume of water usage. The recent revenue deficits have resulted in the fund balance reaching uncomfortably low levels, and must be addressed. The Village Board has studied this matter very carefully, and is reluctantly yet proactively taking a measured approach to closing this revenue gap over the next few years by implementing modest increases over the previously published rates.

Starting January 1, 2015, water and sewer rates will increase 2.5% over the previously published rates. The Village has also committed to conducting detailed annual reviews of water usage and system operating costs in order to assess the need for future adjustments. Currently projected rates through 2018 are shown in the chart below, and reflect the best available data and projections through August 2014.

Water	2015	2016	2017	2018
1" service	\$8.20	\$9.45	\$10.20	\$10.95
2" service	\$10.75	\$12.00	\$13.00	\$14.00
4" service	\$22.00	\$23.65	\$24.20	\$26.05
Rate per 1,000 gal	\$8.77	\$9.41	\$10.13	\$10.90

Sewer	2015	2016	2017	2018
Monthly Minimum	\$9.85	\$11.15	\$11.60	\$12.50
Rate per 1,000 gal	\$8.20	\$8.99	\$9.68	\$10.42



Itasca Veterans of Foreign Wars North DuPage Post 5167

The Itasca VFW Post 5167 is a proud veteran's organization that provides support to all of America's veterans and performs various military ceremonies and color guards. We are also very involved within the Itasca community helping support and volunteer whenever needed. Our current members include veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan. We are always looking for new members to join our proud post.

If you are interested or would like further information about our VFW Post and how we serve our veterans and community, please stop by one of our meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Itasca Community Library conference room, 500 W. Irving Park Road; or feel free to contact Commander Michael Long at (847) 909-4119, or Quartermaster Carl Lostracco at (630)773-2423. We look forward to seeing you.

From the Desk of the Administrator

Personnel Changes

This past September our Police Chief of 11 years, Scott Heher, retired and Deputy Chief Robert O'Connor was promoted to Chief. Scott's 30 year career was one of distinction. He was and is a true professional. His efforts in our police department will have long lasting positive effects. Chief Robert (Bob) O'Connor now takes over the reins. Bob has been an Itasca police officer for 32 years; the last eight as Deputy Chief; and brings his own perspectives and vision for the department. I am sure that in his tenure as Chief of Police, he will leave his mark on the department as well. The Village has also promoted Sergeant Barry Kauther to Robert O'Connor's former Deputy Chief position. Together with Deputy Chief Myles, they will make an excellent team protecting the citizens and businesses of our community.

Elgin-O'Hare Expressway and O'Hare Modernization

Could more activity happen in such a small geographic area? Moving into 2015 we expect to continue to work with the Tollway on their I-390 project along Thorndale Avenue. There are a million and one details to coordinate on a project as massive as this one,

including our utilities that are in that area, traffic flow, and the aesthetics of the corridor. Information about this project can be found on our website at www.Itasca.com.

As for O'Hare Airport, in the spring of 2014 we experienced the changes in the use of the runways and the impact it is having on our neighborhoods. The Village continues to advocate to our state and federal governments and agencies for changes to those operations to fairly distribute the flights and to make operations of the take-offs and landings quieter. If interested in advocating for changes to how the airport operates, we suggest looking into a group called "FAIR" (Fair Allocation In Runways) Coalition. The Village has agreed to join with this group, as many of our interests are aligned.

2015 Budget

The Village's budget year is May 1st through April 30th, but preparations for the approval process start all the way back in October. Not unlike a household budget, we have certain expenditures that are set and beyond that, we have to prioritize what we want to get accomplished. And, as with most of our personal budgets, we have to be mindful of our expenditures and be very selective on what we invest in. One of

our key investment areas is always our infrastructure; roads, bridges, sidewalks and storm water management. This past year, we rebuilt the Maple Street Bridge (it looks fantastic). This coming year, we are planning to do a storm water relief project off of Washington Street near St. Luke's, which will help hundreds of residents by reducing the incidences of street flooding in that area.

But, villages are not immune to the broader economy or the factors that raise the costs of doing business. Here is but one example. Last year's harsh winter has led to much higher prices for salt, raising the per ton cost from \$ 52.31 per ton to \$ 112.06 per ton. The Village normally buys 2,000 tons of salt each year, which equals a cost increase of \$ 119,500.00 for next year's budget. Another example is the Emerald Ash Borer tree infestation. A single house may have one tree that will get infected and need to be removed; we have hundreds. In 2015 alone we plan to expend over \$25,000 in tree removals and another \$20,000 in tree replacements. These increased costs now must be balanced against all other costs and the expected revenues.

Evan Teich
Itasca Village Administrator

Itasca: Celebrating 125 years!

In 2015, the Village of Itasca will commemorate 125 years of incorporation, and plans are underway to host events throughout the year to honor our heritage and celebrate Itasca.

The 125th Planning Committee is working with various local organizations and taxing bodies to incorporate special activities observing this anniversary. A signature anniversary event will be held at the end of August at the Itasca Depot Historical Museum.

To capture and preserve memories that are integral to the Village of Itasca, the 125th Planning Committee is inviting residents and businesses to share your images of Itasca through the decades. If you have a digital photo you would like to share with the 125th Planning Committee editorial team for possible inclusion in publications, flyers, and promotional materials, please forward them to Itasca125@itasca.com.

Check the Village of Itasca website often for additional information. Don't forget to friend "Village of Itasca, IL" on Facebook, as we will be updating both the website and Facebook page as plans are being made.





Follow the Itasca Park District
on Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest!

The Itasca Park District will have new Registration Software beginning December 1st. Park District Residents will need to bring proof of residency (Driver's License and Utility Bill) and proof of children (Birth Certificate, Report Card, etc.) to their first registration if not done prior to December 1st. Online Registration will be available beginning January 8th.

The Ice Rink will be open at the Waterpark Parking Lot!

Skating is free! It is safe to skate when the green flag is flying. Please call the hotline 630/616-7558 for skating conditions. Address: 100 N. Catalpa

Free! Santa's Workshop

Fri Dec 12 from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Sat Dec 13 from 11:00 am - 1:30 pm

Nature Center

Visit with Santa, enjoy cookies, hot chocolate and create fun holiday crafts!

Santa Visits

Sun Dec 14 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Fee: \$25

Your kids will be very excited to see Santa in their very own home! Children can share their holiday wish list. Santa will stay at each home for 15 minutes. Park District Residents only.

Reindeer Rock

Mon Dec 15 6:00 - 8:00 pm Fee: \$15/\$20

Itasca Rec Center

Are you ready for a fun winter evening of reindeer games, crafts and snacks?

Ages: 3-7 yrs

Gingerbread House Decorating

Tue Dec 16 6:00 - 8:00 pm Fee: \$20

Itasca Rec Center

Come and decorate a pre-baked gingerbread house! Enjoy juice and cookies while listening to Christmas carols. Families are invited to work together.

Holiday House Decorating contest

Tue Dec 16 6:00 pm

Itasca Park District and Village of Itasca Residents: show us your best outdoor holiday decorating!

Email your name, address and phone number to Angela at AMalone@itascaparkdistrict.com to register your home.

Supper with Santa

Fri Dec 19 6:00 - 7:30 pm

\$10 per children, \$5 per Adult

Itasca Rec Center

Get ready for some holiday cheer as children enjoy supper with Santa Claus! We'll read 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, make crafts and enjoy a treat!



Holiday Drop & Shop

Sat Dec 20 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Itasca Rec Center

Fee: \$25 first child/\$15 per additional sibling

Take care of your last-minute Christmas shopping with ease! Drop off your kids for a fun afternoon of lunch, a visit with Santa, Christmas crafts, a candy cane hunt, a holiday movie and more.

Ages 3yrs+

Holiday Gift ideas: give a Fitness Membership, Recreation Gift Certificate or a leaf on the Park District Giving Tree!

Itasca Historical Society 21st Annual Tea

Sunday, February 22, 2015

Itasca Park District Building - Iris Room

This year, the Itasca Historical Society 21st Annual Tea will feature Rick Pickren performing "Songs of the Lonesome Prairie." Through historical anecdotes and traditional songs accompanied by guitar, banjo and harmonica, he weaves a tapestry of history and song into a unique educational experience.

Doors open: 1:15 pm

Mini-sandwiches, cookies and tea: 1:30 pm

Program: 2:00 pm

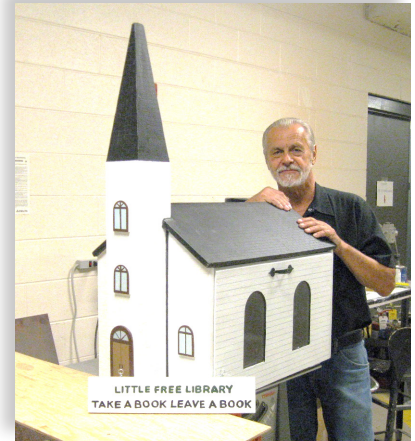
Ticket Price: \$15.00

Tickets available at the Park District and Itasca Library

Village of Itasca

Tuki Sathaye, Library Director

Phone: (630) 773-1699 • e-mail: tsathaye@itascalibrary.org



Little Free Library

The Little Free Library is a box full of books where anyone may stop by and pick up a book and, if you'd like, bring back another to share. It's a great way to foster the love of reading and a sense of community. Look for Itasca's very own Little Free Library located by Starbucks on Walnut Street. The library was created by Wayne Mankowski at Itasca Public Works and will be cared for by the Friends of the Itasca Community Library. Take a book, leave a book, and enjoy!

Itasca's Night with Santa

Tuesday, December 2, 5:30-8:00 pm

Join the Village of Itasca at the Library for the annual Village Holiday Celebration! The festivities will kick off with Santa arriving at the Library at approximately 5:45 pm. Activities include music by the Peacock Middle School Choir and holiday crafts. View Christmas trees decorated with this year's theme of "Traditions from Around the World" by community groups in Itasca.

Each family that attends will receive a commemorative ornament (while supplies last). The Itasca Police Department will collect new and unwrapped toys for local families in need. Collections will also be taken of winter wear for all ages, and food and non-perishable donations for the Itasca Food Pantry.



Village of Itasca Schedule of Monthly Meetings

Monday:	Plan Commission Review – 6:30 pm preceding the third Wednesday of the month	Thursday:	1st Thursday – Historical Commission (as needed) – 7:00 pm 3rd Thursday – Historical Commission 7:00 pm
Tuesday:	1st Tuesday – Board of Trustees – 7:00 pm 2nd Tuesday – Committee of the Whole – 7:00 pm 3rd Tuesday – Board of Trustees – 7:00 pm 4th Tuesday – Committee of the Whole – 7:00 pm	Friday:	No Meetings Scheduled
Wednesday:	2nd Wednesday – School District #10 – 7:00 pm 3rd Wednesday – Plan Commission – 7:00 pm 3rd Wednesday – Peer Jury – as Scheduled		

Itasca Lions Club Luminaria Program

Once again, the Itasca Lions Club will be delivering Christmas Luminaria candles and bags to every home in Itasca, a tradition since 1960. The luminaria tradition has its origin in Mexico and is a beautiful tradition which involves lining all the streets in our town on Christmas Eve with the candle-lit bags. Bags and candles will be delivered the first weekend in December. The Lions invite residents of our town to participate in the beautification of our town by lighting the luminaria in front of their home beginning at 5:00 pm on Christmas Eve. The Lions, with assistance from Itasca Public Works, take care of lighting the luminaria in the main streets.

The Lions of Itasca appreciate any and all donations for the luminaria. The Club supports Lions Club International and Illinois causes, mostly oriented around vision and hearing needs, as well as numerous Itasca organizations.

Sand for the luminaria bags will be available at the Itasca Park District parking lot, 350 E. Irving Park Rd. starting in mid-December.

The Village of Itasca 2015 Dog Licenses are due January 1st

Village of Itasca ordinance requires that all dogs residing within the incorporated limits of Itasca have a valid dog license affixed to their collar.

The fee for this license is \$3.00 and can be obtained at Village Hall – Administration desk located at 550 W. Irving Park Road, beginning December 1st. Proof of rabies vaccination is required. Remember: should your dog become lost, the Village tag worn by your dog will expedite a safe and happy reunion with your lost pet.

Itasca's Holiday Lights Recycling Drive

The Village of Itasca has partnered with Elgin Recycling for their 4th Annual Holiday Lights Recycling Program. The recycling program will run from Friday, November 28, 2014 until Friday, January 31, 2015 and will have the drop-off collection box in front of the Itasca Police Station at 540 W. Irving Park Road. Residents can drop off their old holiday lights at anytime 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.

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 the previous 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.

Family Christmas Concert

On Saturday, December 6th, the 23rd Family Christmas Concert will take place. St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, 524 N. Rush Street, will host this year's event.

Doors open at 7:00 pm, with the concert starting at 7:30 pm.

The Combined Church Choir of Itasca will perform a number of traditional, favorite carols. The audience will be invited to join in singing some of the songs with the Choir, and children will have the chance to sing along with the orchestra. The Handbell Choir from St. Peter's will also perform two selections.

A reception upstairs in the school building will follow the concert. The Itasca Garden Club will design and make the table decorations, which will be available for purchase for a nominal donation.

The concert has become a tradition to start the holiday season for 22 years.

Over \$85,000 has been raised and donated to Itasca charities; the Itasca Food Pantry, the Itasca Walk In Ministry, the Itasca PADS site and the Itasca Community Outreach Team (ICOT) have all been supported in the past.

Tickets are being sold at the Itasca Community Library, at the local churches and will be available at the door.

Cost for adults is \$10 each, children 3-12 are \$5.00 each and children under 3 are free.

For more information, please call 630-773-8518.

Hat and Mitten Tree

The holiday season is fast approaching. It's that time of the year again ... time for giving thanks and spreading joy.

The Village Hall has a "Hat and Mitten Tree" up in the lobby. Our goal is to collect as many "new" winter hats, gloves, scarves and other cold weather wear (for all ages) and distribute them to those in need.

Please bring in something to hang on our "Hat and Mitten Tree" during business hours (M-F, 8:00 am-4:30 pm) from December 1st through December 31st, and help to make someone's winter a little warmer and their holidays a little happier.

ITASCA

CELEBRATE THE COMMUNITY

~ Traditions From Around the World ~

December 1st - 31st, 2014

	Dec. 2	Dec. 3	Dec. 6	Dec. 6
	Night with Santa Itasca Library 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Curiosity Club: Libraries Around the World (Grades K-2) Itasca Library 4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	Polar Express Storytime Train Itasca Train Station Family Event Itasca Park District	Family Christmas Concert St. Peter's Catholic Church 7:30 p.m. Tickets available at the Itasca Library Contact Linda Aiani at 630-773-8518
	Dec. 8	Dec. 9	Dec. 12	Dec. 13
	Christmas Storytime (Geared to ages 3-6) Itasca Library 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Winter Holidays Around the World (Grades 3-5) Itasca Library 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Santa's Workshop Have cookies, hot chocolate, make crafts and visit with Santa. Free Family Event Springbrook Nature Center 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Itasca Park District	Santa's Workshop Have cookies, hot chocolate, make crafts and visit with Santa. Free Family Event Springbrook Nature Center 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Itasca Park District
	Dec. 14	Dec. 15	Dec. 15	Dec. 16
	Visits from Santa Fee: \$25.00 Park District Residents Only 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Youth Winter Reading Club Begins Itasca Library	Children's Book Discussion <i>Take Me Out to the Yakyu</i> by Aaron Meshon (Grades 1-3) Itasca Library 4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	Bilingual Spanish / English Storytime (Geared to ages 2-6) Itasca Library 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
	Dec. 16	Dec. 16	Dec. 17	Dec. 18
	Gingerbread House Decorating Contest Fee: \$20.00 Itasca Park District 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	House Decorating Contest Must register to participate Contact: AMalone@itascaparkdistrict.com	Teen Craft Club: Holiday Crafts From Around the World (Grades 6-12) Itasca Library 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Kids Cooking Club: Treats From Around the World (Grades 3-5) Itasca Library 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	Dec. 19	Dec. 20	Dec. 20	Dec. 21
	Supper with Santa Fee: \$10 per child / \$5 per adult Itasca Park District 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Holiday Drop & Shop Fee: \$25 for first child / \$15 for additional Itasca Park District 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Polar Express Storytime Train Itasca Train Station Family Event Itasca Park District	Santa Calling Free! Sign up by Dec. 18 Itasca Park District
	Nov. 17 - Dec. 12	Dec. 1 - 31	All Month Long	All Month Long
	TOYS FOR TOTS  Sponsored by Itasca Fire Protection District Collections for new unwrapped toys will be taken at the Itasca Library and Itasca Park District. Itasca Fire Department 630-773-1223	Mitten & Hat Tree Hang winter wear donations for needy children on the Village of Itasca's Mitten and Hat Tree located in the Itasca Village Hall.	Itasca Food Pantry Collection of Food & Household Necessities Itasca Food Pantry 336 W. Center Street, Itasca Drop off items Saturdays 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Itasca Walk-In Ministry Monetary donations taken to give compassionate, effective, non-duplicated emergency assistance to people in need within our community. IWIM 630-467-0133

Most programs listed above require registration. Please call the Library or Park District to register.



Village of Itasca
630-773-0835
www.itasca.com



ITASCA
COMMUNITY
LIBRARY

Itasca Community Library
630-773-1699
www.itascalibrary.org



Itasca Police Department
630-773-1004
www.itascapolice.com



Itasca Park District
630-773-2257
www.itascaparkdistrict.com

Itasca Appoints Deputy Chief Robert O'Connor as Chief of Police

Robert O'Connor was sworn in as the Village of Itasca's newest Police Chief on Monday, September 15 at the Itasca Village Hall. A ceremonial swearing-in took place at the September 23 Village Board meeting, where Chief O'Connor was surrounded by family, friends, colleagues from other police and fire departments, Itasca police officers, and many residents and business leaders.

"The large attendance at his swearing-in is a testament to Chief O'Connor," said Village President Jeff Pruyn. "He is well respected by the officers, other village staff, and the community."

Known to officers and friends as "O.C.," O'Connor is a 32-year veteran of the Itasca Police Department. He has a Bachelor's of Arts in Criminal Justice from Governor's State University and is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute at the University of Louisville in Louisville, KY. For the last eight years he was the Deputy Police Chief for Operations for Police Chief Scott Heher, who retired in early September. Pruyn recommended O'Connor as Police Chief after a series of interviews. The Village Board unanimously supported the decision.

"I am fortunate this opportunity presented itself to me," said O'Connor. "I have spent my entire career with the Itasca Police Department and I'm proud to have been selected as its Police Chief. I'm thankful to my predecessors for the opportunities they afforded me and to those with which I have had the honor of serving. I am looking forward to leading this outstanding organization in the coming years."



Chief O'Connor with his wife Annette, daughter Shannon, son-in-law Keith, and granddaughter Scarlet at the ceremonial swearing in.

Sergeant Barry Kauther Promoted to Deputy Chief

On October 21, 2014, Sergeant Barry Kauther was officially sworn in as the new Deputy Chief of Operations for the Itasca Police Department. Kauther began his career at Itasca in August of 1989 after completing his bachelor's degree in Political Science, with a minor in Police Administration, (University of Wisconsin, Superior) and Law Enforcement Certificate (Chippewa Valley Technical College, Eau Claire, Wisconsin).

Over his 25-year career, Deputy Chief Kauther has held several positions and been responsible for various programs at the Itasca Police Department. He has received two Medals and six Letters of Commendation from the Itasca Police Department, a Commendation from DuMeg (DuPage Metropolitan Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Enforcement Group), and was the 2001 DuPage Juvenile Officers Association Officer of the Year. IDOT presented Kauther with an Achievement Award for 100 DUI arrests from 2001 to 2006 and he has received numerous letters and awards from AAIM (Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists) for his continued efforts to keep intoxicated motorists off the road.

During his tenure as Detective in the Investigations Unit, Kauther received many letters of appreciation for interagency cooperation and assistance on various types of cases ranging from telephone harassment to theft, homicide to drug trafficking.

As a Sergeant and Watch Commander, Kauther was the Field Training Program Supervisor, responsible for the in-house training and acclimation to the department of new IPD officers. This is a 15-week process that requires patience, foresight, a firm grasp of every rule and regulation as well as the ability to communicate with other Field Training Officers and new officers. Kauther was also the Supervisor of the IPD Internship Program, a 12-week program providing interested college students with exposure to police operations while earning college credits.

Deputy Chief Kauther said, "It's truly an honor and a privilege to be selected to the new position. I know it's never easy to fill a vacant position when there are several qualified candidates. I have been very fortunate during my career and I want to thank my wife, family, the mayor, Village Board and Chief of Police for their support and encouragement. I



look forward to the new challenges and working with a great group of sergeants and detectives who will make the transition more manageable. I also look forward to working more closely with the different department heads and to keep Itasca a great place to live, work and visit."

Deputy Chief Kauther brings a wealth of intellectual and professional knowledge to the Deputy Chief of Operations position. He is always challenging himself to be the best at whatever task he is involved with.

I am looking forward to having Deputy Chief Kauther serve in this capacity and keeping the residents of Itasca at the forefront of his everyday decisions.

Chief O'Connor

Update on Elgin-O'Hare / IL Rt. 390 Construction

In late 2013, the Illinois Tollway initiated the construction of the \$3.4 billion dollar widening and extension of the Elgin-O'Hare Expressway, which previously ended at Rohlwing Road. The new toll road will be known officially as IL Rt. 390. While the Village of Itasca did not want the road that will ultimately be built, we identified several goals to make it the best project possible for our residents and businesses. Our main goal was to have our interests represented in the design and construction of the project. Other goals include providing for a public transportation component, minimizing the disruption of the quality of life, preserving access along Thorndale at Park Boulevard, Arlington Heights Road, Prospect Avenue, enhancing access at Rohlwing Road, addressing environmental concerns, including stormwater management, and providing economic development opportunities.

The Village has been successful in achieving many of the above-listed goals. We were a leading influence on several major decisions and reversals of policies related to architectural and aesthetic enhancements, certain monetary policies, and in preventing a Tollway Authority maintenance yard from being constructed in Itasca. There is space within the design to allow for a future public transportation component (although no funding for that component is currently available). The Tollway's plans include direct access for the Hamilton Lakes Business Park, and access at Park Boulevard, Arlington Heights Road, and Prospect, as well as better connectivity to Rohlwing Road. Regarding stormwater management, at the Village's insistence, the Tollway is replacing a large culvert that currently runs under Thorndale Avenue near Park Boulevard that will alleviate some flooding issues that affect residential properties in the area. We worked in cooperation with the Tollway to

make sure Village utilities and road infrastructure are not negatively impacted by the Tollway's project, ultimately saving Itasca taxpayers money. The Village continues to work with the Tollway and its designers to enhance the corridor by ensuring all warranted sound walls are constructed, to upgrade the new traffic signals and light poles, and to plant additional landscaping in certain areas to help shield our community from the elevated toll road.

In 2015, Itasca residents and businesses can expect even more construction through Itasca. Eight of the eleven anticipated construction contracts, worth an estimated \$350 million, will be underway, including work on the second half of the Rohlwing Road bridge over IL Rt. 390, main line work to elevate the toll road from I-290 east towards Wood Dale, work at Park Boulevard going under the main line, work at Arlington Heights Road going under the main line, associated ramp and frontage road work, and the construction of a new roadway in the Hamilton Lakes Business Park: Hamilton Lakes Drive. The construction phase of this project through Itasca is anticipated to last until late 2017.

The Village continues to be involved in this project as an advocate for its residents and businesses. We are able to address concerns and to answer questions. We are also providing regular construction updates on our website (www.itasca.com), and via email or text alerts. To receive these email or text alerts, please go to <http://www.itasca.com/list.aspx> to register.

We recognize the construction of IL Rt. 390 greatly impacts many residents who live directly adjacent to the project, as well as our businesses, and other property owners. The Village Board and staff will continue to negotiate and work with the Tollway to get the best results for our community.

Plowing Safety

The winter season is here. Soon the snow will fall and travel will become more challenging. The dedicated men and women of our Public Works Department will be out in force keeping our roadways as clean and safe as possible. We would like to remind everyone to use extreme caution around the plow trucks.

Here are a few tips to ensure everyone's safety this winter season:

- When loaded with salt, our trucks can weigh in excess of 10 tons, and on slick pavement require longer than normal stopping distance. Please make sure you are at a safe distance when pulling out in front of a plow truck.
- When following a plow, allow plenty of distance to stop your vehicle. Plow trucks make frequent stops and back up with little warning. Remember, if you cannot see the side view mirrors on a plow truck, our drivers cannot see you.

- The Village's main defense against slick pavement is rock salt. Our plows are capable of spreading a twenty foot pattern of salt behind and to the sides of the truck. We use shielding to deflect this pattern. However, occasionally rock salt can damage nearby vehicles or come in contact with pedestrians. Please keep this in mind and remain at a safe distance when near a plow truck. Also, please do not pass a plow truck. Take a few extra minutes and allow us to clear your path.

The Public Works Department's snow and ice control operations boast an excellent safety record. By following these few tips, you can help us continue to provide safe and effective snow removal.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.

If you have any questions, special needs and/or concerns please contact us at 630-773-2455. Office hours are Monday through Friday 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

Preventing Frozen Pipes

Frigid nights can quickly turn to a major home maintenance disaster because of frozen water pipes. In cold and warmer climates alike, pipes freeze for a combination of three main reasons: quick drops in temperature, poor insulation, and thermostats set too low. Both plastic and copper pipes can burst when they freeze, and even a small crack in a pipe can spew up to 250 gallons of water a day, causing flooding, serious structural damage, and the immediate potential for mold. Frozen pipes are largely preventable by taking a few simple precautions.

Your Best Bet: Don't Let it Happen

There are a number of preventative steps you can take to keep your pipes from freezing. Here are a few simple tips:

Before the Cold

You can prepare by protecting your home during the warmer months:

- Insulate pipes in your home's crawl space and attic.
- Heat tape or thermostatically controlled heat cables can be used to wrap pipes. Be sure to use products approved by an independent testing organization, such as Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., and only for the use intended. Closely follow all manufacturer's installation and operation instructions.
- Seal leaks that allow cold air inside near where pipes are located. With severe cold, even a tiny opening can let in enough cold air to cause a pipe to freeze.
- Disconnect garden hoses and, if possible, use an indoor valve to shut off and drain water from pipes leading to outside

faucets. This reduces the chance of freezing in the short span of pipe just inside the house.

When the Mercury Drops

Even if you've taken the right preventative steps, extreme weather conditions can still harm your pipes. Take these steps when temperatures fall:

- A trickle of hot and cold water might be all it takes to keep your pipes from freezing. Let warm water drip overnight, preferably from a faucet on an outside wall.
- Keep your thermostat set at the same temperature during both day and night. You might be in the habit of turning down the heat when you're asleep, but further drops in the temperature – more common overnight – could catch you off guard and freeze your pipes.
- Open cabinet doors to allow heat to get to un-insulated pipes under sinks and appliances near exterior walls.

Before You Leave

Traveling in the winter months might be good for the soul, but don't forget to think about your pipes before you leave. What can you do?

- Set the thermostat in your house no lower than 55°F (12°C).
- Ask a friend or neighbor to check your house daily to make sure it's warm enough to prevent freezing.
- Shut off and drain the water system. Be aware that if you have a fire protection sprinkler system in your house, it may be deactivated when you shut off the water.

If Your Pipes Freeze

Despite your best preventative measures, pipes may still freeze. Don't panic, and take the following steps:

- If you turn on your faucets and nothing comes out, leave the faucets turned on and call a plumber.
- Do not use electrical appliances in areas of standing water - You could be electrocuted!
- Never try to thaw a pipe with a torch or other open flame because it could cause a fire hazard. Water damage is preferable to burning down your house.
- If your water pipes have already burst, turn off the water at the main shutoff valve in the house; leave the water faucets turned on. Make sure everyone in your family knows where the water shutoff valve is and how to open and close it. If a friend or neighbor is watching your house, they should also know where the shutoff is and how to open and close it.



Itasca M.A.R.K.E.T.

Save the date
Saturday, June 13, 2015 • Usher Park

Celebrity Chef at Walnut Street Deli

Gary and Linda from the Walnut Street Delicatessen had a celebrity chef cooking in their kitchen earlier this year. On Wednesday, October 1st, Guy Fieri from *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives* was in their kitchen preparing a specialty meal as part of a promotion. Gary and Linda were able to watch Guy cook and got to sample what was prepared. They have added some of his dishes to their lunch menu at the Deli. Guy also sampled one of Gary and Linda's specialty items – the Artichoke Focaccia. Guy said it was delicious.

The Walnut Street Deli relocated from Walnut Street to the Jewel-Osco Corporation Building at 150 Pierce Road in Itasca several years ago, and is celebrating its 24th anniversary in Itasca this November. Stop by between 6:00 AM and 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday to wish them a Happy Anniversary, and sample some of their many specials. You can order the Artichoke Focaccia and other items by calling them at 630-250-7040.



Village of Itasca

Ross Hitchcock, Director of Public Works

Phone: (630) 773-2455 • e-mail: rhitchcock@itasca.com

Cooking Oil Collection Program: Recycle your Cooking Oil into Bio-Fuel this Thanksgiving!

We are proud to announce cities around DuPage County are teaming up with Chicago Biofuel to keep cooking oil out of the drains this holiday season. This recycling program returns to Itasca on Saturday, November 29th from 9:00 am until noon, when the big day for turkey frying is over!

FOGs (fats, oils and grease) cause 57% of the sewer backups in communities, costing taxpayers money for the sewers to be fixed and cleaned, not to mention causing homeowners an expense when it backs up into their home. FOGs become more of an issue around the holidays, particularly after a deep-fried turkey Thanksgiving. Please

save your liquid oils in the containers you bought them in, milk jugs or 5 gallon buckets and bring the oil to the collection site on Saturday. This year we will be keeping the containers along with the cooking oil. Please be sure that the used cooking oil is not contaminated with other oils or fluids.

This program is a win-win. FOGs are kept out of drains and landfills, and are recycled into bio-fuels by Chicago Biofuel. Please drop the containers of oil off the Saturday after Thanksgiving at the Itasca Village Hall, 550 W. Irving Park Road in Itasca, or at one of the drop-off locations throughout DuPage County.

**Downers Grove
Glen Ellyn
La Grange Park
Roselle
Wheaton**

**Elmhurst
Itasca
Naperville
Villa Park
Winfield Township**

For more information on other locations, please check the SCARCE website at: www.scarcecoed.org.



DuPage County Residents Urged to be Mindful of Water Quality this Fall and Winter

The changing season brings the inevitable need for yard clean-up, and DuPage County is encouraging its residents to think about water quality when they take on these chores.

All DuPage County residents live in a watershed, meaning most everything entering storm drains eventually runs into rivers or streams. In autumn, leaves are oftentimes blown or swept into storm drains and waterways and can become a source of water pollution. Once they reach waterways, leaves decompose and release phosphorous into the water, which can result in algae blooms and decreased oxygen for fish.

However, pollutants are not the only problem. Leaves can also build up along curbs, gutters and storm drains, which blocks stormwater runoff from entering this drainage infrastructure. Should a major weather event occur, this can lead to localized flooding.

You can help to keep excess leaves out of storm sewers and waterways by engaging in a number of activities.

Start a compost pile or add leaves to an existing one. While the organic debris is not ideal for aquatic life, composted leaves and other organic materials are an excellent resource for fertilizing your garden in the summer months. It provides necessary nutrients, while also reducing the need for chemical fertilizers.

Leaves can be chopped into small pieces using a mulching mower, which will decompose directly on lawns. The leaf pieces can also be collected and spread around flowerbeds and shrubs as mulch.

Brush and Yard Waste pick-up continues through the last Monday in November.

Yard Waste, including leaves, must be placed in biodegradable paper bags or a reusable container no larger than 34 gallons clearly marked "Yard Waste" weighing a maximum of 50 lbs.

Brush must be bundled with biodegradable twine with a maximum weight of 50 lbs. Each bundle must

be in neat manageable piles, with cut ends facing the street, placed on the parkway. Branches and limbs can be up to six inches in diameter and no longer than four feet. Larger branches and tree trunks must be handled by homeowners.

The Village of Itasca does not provide pick-up for unbundled brush piles.

Please note: Refuse, recycling and brush/yard waste may not be placed out at the curb before 4:00 pm on the Sunday prior to trash pick-up.

All empty refuse containers must be removed from the curb by 10:00 pm on the day of pick-up.

For more information, visit:

www.dupageco.org/EDP/Stormwater_Management/Water_Quality/42729/.

We would like to hear from you!

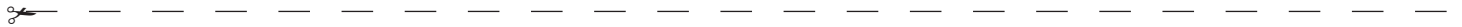
As a resident of Itasca, my comment or question is ...

Please drop off or mail to:

Village of Itasca, 550 W. Irving Park Rd., Itasca, IL 60143

Please include your name, address, and telephone number if you require a response.
or e-mail us at feedback@itasca.com

Winter 2014



Village of Itasca
550 W. Irving Park Rd.
Itasca, IL 60143
630-773-0835
www.itasca.com

CARRIER ROUTE PRESORT

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

**ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER**