



FALL 2016

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

The kids are back in school, the days are getting shorter, and another summer is coming to a close, so I thought I would provide some updates on matters we have

been working on this summer.

IL Rt 390

By now many of you have seen the progress being made on Thorndale Avenue. The Tollway expects the westbound traffic to actually be using the new elevated portion soon! The eastbound traffic will stay at ground level until they build the elevated portions. Please use caution as the traffic patterns change on a frequent basis, and the Village has attended to several accidents in that area. Keep in mind that as of July 5th the Tollway has been collecting tolls for the portion of the road west of I-290.

Com Ed Poles along IL Rt 390

There is no new information on the proposed project to install 150' high poles along IL Rt 390 from Prospect Avenue west to the Village of Hanover Park. Com Ed has not filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) for the approval to install these poles. The Villages of Itasca, Elk Grove, Roselle, Hanover Park and Schaumburg continue to oppose this project.

O'Hare Noise

The Village of Itasca, through the Suburban O'Hare Commission and the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission, fostered a 6-month trial of an overnight rotational runway plan recently approved by the FAA. This plan has the airport rotating which runways are used during the late night hours during a one-week period. The

idea is to spread the noise from the use of runways from 11pm until 5:30 am from just the longest runway(s) to all runways thereby providing relief to those living under the runways frequently used. The village sent all residents a flyer with directions on how to log your feedback. This feedback is critical to the next stage of analysis to see if the rotation plan did indeed reduce the noise. I am hopeful this type of rotational plan becomes permanent and its expanded to other times of the day.

New Water Bills

Starting in June the Village changed its water bills from a small postcard to an 8 1/2 x 11 paper sheet delivered in an envelope. Over the past several years we have received many complaints that the postcards were either never delivered or got lost in other pieces of mail like magazines. The new style allows us to avoid these issues, and provides the opportunity to add messaging like the calendar of special events (included in the June mailing).

Upcoming Festivals

I hope to see you at our upcoming special events this season. Oktoberfest is approaching on September 9th and 10th located in Downtown Itasca on Orchard Street. The NFL Kick-Off event is also on September 11th under the tent on Sunday. The Itasca International Craft Beer tasting will occur on October 7th and will benefit the Itasca Food Pantry, Walk-In Ministry, and Friends of Springbrook.

I hope you have a wonderful fall.

Mayor Jeff Pruyn

VILLAGE OF ITASCA

Evan Teich, Village Administrator

Phone: (630) 773-0835 • e-mail: eteich@itasca.com

Support Continuing Appropriations for State-Collected Local Revenues

Certain revenues are specifically collected by the state for distribution to local governments, including Use Tax, Motor Fuel Tax, video gaming, casino, and Wireless 9-1-1 Surcharge revenues. In 2015, due to the state budget impasse, local governments went nearly six months without receiving these critical revenues. The state argued that without a budget in place, it lacked the authority to distribute these revenues.

Although the local revenues were eventually restored late last year through the adoption of legislation, new appropriation authority is necessary to prevent a repeat of this crisis at the start of every fiscal year on July 1. Municipalities throughout DuPage County, including the Village of Itasca, are urging the General Assembly and Governor to protect local revenue by making state-collected local revenues continuing appropriations, meaning an approved state budget would not be needed to ensure the distribution of these revenues. Because these revenues are specifically collected for distribution to local governments, they have no impact on the state budget. Rather, they are needed to provide public safety and infrastructure to residents and businesses, and without them, municipalities may be forced to cut services, raise property taxes, or layoff critical staff to cover this loss.

ITASCA'S LARGEST TAILGATE PARTY



comcast

NFL Red Zone

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

The Bears vs Texans game will be featured on the large blow-up screen.

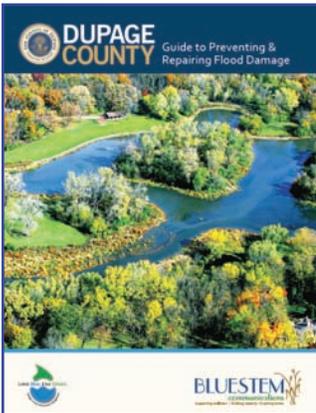
Other TVs will have different games - one television dedicated to NFL Red Zone showing "Every Touchdown From Every Game."

The concealment and carrying of any firearms is prohibited at this event under law.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Nancy Hill, Community Development Director

Phone: (630) 773-5568 • e-mail: nhill@itasca.com



Residential Flood-Proofing Guidebook Available

DuPage County Stormwater Management recently released a Flood-Proofing Guidebook intended to help homeowners resolve common localized flooding issues from both underground and overland sources. Developed in partnership with Bluestem Communications, the guidebook helps homeowners identify the source of their flooding, as well as various ways to combat this flooding. Depending on the type of flooding incurred, solutions range from installing overhead sewer systems to nature-based solutions. The guidebook also includes resources for during and after a flood. For a copy of the guidebook, go to: http://www.dupageco.org/EDP/Stormwater_Management/52627/

OPEN

for Business

Itasca Means Business!

The Village of Itasca is proud of its business community and would like to extend a warm welcome to the following companies which recently received Village Board approval to operate in our town:

AmLED Technologies, Inc.
1035 Hilltop Dr.
(LED Light Fixture Design and Manufacturing)

John A. Guerrieri DDS, Ltd.
421 W. Irving Park Rd.
(Dental Office)



Lead-Based Paint and Contractor Requirements

Was your home built before 1978? If that is the case, your home may still have lead-based paint. The hazards of lead-based paint have not gone away. While doing work on your home, lead paint dust can spread easily.

The EPA requires that contractors be *Lead-Safe Certified*. Contractors needing to meet this certification include, renovators, electricians, HVAC specialists, plumbers, painters, and maintenance staff who disrupt more than six square feet of lead paint. To protect your family and loved ones, make sure to hire a contractor who is *Lead-Safe Certified* by the EPA.

KELLY MILLER CIRCUS

Wed Sept 14th • Show times 4:30 and 7:30
Advance Discount Tickets available at:
Park District • Library • Village Hall

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Nancy Hill, Community Development Director

Phone: (630) 773-5568 • e-mail: nhill@itasca.com

Safe Use of Portable Generators

Portable generators are useful during power outages or when remote power is needed, but they can also be dangerous. To remain safe, be aware of the inherent hazards associated with the use of portable generators, including carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning from the toxic engine exhaust, electric shock or electrocution, fire and burns, and noise and vibration hazards.

Generators can produce high levels of carbon monoxide within minutes if used in confined spaces. Carbon monoxide cannot be seen or smelled. Even if you do not smell exhaust fumes, you may still be exposed to CO. Do not operate the generator indoors or within five feet of any door, window or other opening into the building. Make sure the generator has three to four feet of clear space on all sides and above to ensure proper ventilation. If you or others exhibit symptoms of CO poisoning, such as headache, dizziness, nausea, or tiredness, get fresh air immediately and seek medical help. Do not re-enter the area until trained personnel have determined that it is safe.

Generators pose a risk of shock and electrocution, especially if they are operated in wet conditions. If you must use a generator when it is wet outside,

protect the generator from moisture by operating it under a canopy-like structure that is open on four sides, on a dry surface where water cannot reach it, or puddle or drain underneath it. Never manipulate a generator's electrical components if you are wet or standing in water.

Never attach a generator directly to a structure's electrical system unless a qualified electrician has properly installed a transfer switch. Always plug electrical appliances directly into the generator using the cords supplied by the manufacturer or other grounded (i.e. three-pronged) heavy-duty cords. Never use frayed or damaged extension cords.

Generators get hot while in use and remain hot for long periods after use. Fuels can ignite when spilled on hot engine parts. Before refueling, shut down the generator and allow it to cool. Store and transport gasoline or other fuels in approved containers that are labeled according to the contents. Keep fuel containers away from flame-producing and heat generating devices, such as the generator itself, water heaters, cigarettes, lighters, and matches. Never smoke near fuel containers. Vapors can travel long distances to ignition sources.

The excessive noise and vibration produced by a generator can cause hearing loss and fatigue. Keep portable generators as far away as possible from work and gathering areas. Wear hearing protection if this is not possible.

When using a portable generator during a power outage, it is important to remember that they can be dangerous if used incorrectly and to utilize these safety steps.

If you decide to purchase a permanent generator, contact the Village of Itasca, Community Development Department for a permit and a list of conditions.



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		

VILLAGE OF ITASCA

Tuki Sathaye, Library Director

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



On the Same Page Community Read 2016

The Itasca Community Library is partnering once again with the Roselle and Bloomingdale public libraries for *On the Same Page*. Join us for programs related to the books chosen for this year; on the right is a list for the Itasca Community Library. A full list of programs at all three libraries can be found in the Itasca Community Library's fall newsletter. Most programs require registration, unless otherwise noted. Register at itascalibrary.org or by calling 630-773-1699.

Book selection for adults: *The Coast of Chicago* by Stuart Dybek

Book selection for children: *The Sixty-Eight Rooms* by Marianne Malone



The Itasca Community Library now has a self-checkout machine! Check your account and check out your materials with ease and speed. The machine will walk you through the steps needed, but any library staff member will also be happy to help you.

Adult Book Discussions

Beyond the Library Book Discussion
Wednesday, October 5, 7:30 p.m. at Eaglewood Resort and Spa
The Coast of Chicago by Stuart Dybek

Paging Through History
Monday, October 17, 7:00 p.m.,
Chicago by Studs Terkel

Evening Book Discussion
Tuesday, October 25, 7:00 p.m.
Remembering Marshall Field's by Leslie Goddard

Morning Book Discussion
Wednesday, October 26, 10:30 a.m.
The Coast of Chicago by Stuart Dybek

Adult Programs

Chicago Style Garnishes
Thursday, October 6, 7:00 pm

Chef Maddox will be making Chicago-style giardiniera, quick mustard piccalilli, and other great toppings for your dogs, beefs, and burgers. Recipes and samples will be available.

Richard J. Daley: The Man, His Times, and the City He Loved
Wednesday, October 12, 7:00 pm

Historian Jim Gibbons presents the life of the man referred to as "Hizzoner." Chicago underwent tremendous changes during his administration. For better or worse, Richard J. Daley set the bar by which all mayors are measured.

Chicago's Movers and Shakers
Monday, October 24, 7:00 pm

Chicago is the city of broad shoulders. Michael Stachnik will shed some light on some of the people who made it so; the best and the worst are all part of the history of Chicago.

Remembering Marshall Field's: An Illustrated Lecture
Tuesday, October 25, 7:00 pm

Author Leslie Goddard will discuss the 160-year history of Marshall Field's & Company using photographs from museums, as well as private photographs from former employees and shoppers.

Youth Programs

The Sixty-Eight Rooms Book Discussion (Grades 3-6)
Monday, October 3, 6:30 pm-7:15 pm

Free copies of the book are available at the Patron Services Desk one month prior to the discussion.

Mad Scientist Club: The Science of Art (Grades 1-4)
Thursday, October 6, 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

If you love to learn, create, and explore, join us at Mad Scientist Club, a hands-on program based on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) concepts.

Drop-In Little Hands Art (Geared to ages 2-6)
Fridays, October 7 through 28, 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Join us for a new art experience each week with projects that will enhance fine motor skills and the creative process. No registration is required.

Visit our new website with Online Registration at www.itascaparkdistrict.com • 630-773-2257



Online Registration is now available.
Visit itascaparkdistrict.com and click "Register Now."



Download the Park District Mobile App on Apple or Google Play. Check out classes and events and register for programs from your phone!

2016 Gold Medalist Finalist

The Itasca Park District has been named a 2016 Gold Medal Finalist through the National Recreation & Parks Association! The park district is competing with three other park district finalists from across the nation with a population of 30,000 or less. Itasca has won this prestigious award previously in 2003 and 2009. The winner will be announced at the National Conference on October 6th.

Tour of Wars

Sat September 24th 1-3 pm
at the Depot Museum

A special World War II video tribute will be premiered featuring videos of local Itasca veterans. Spend an afternoon traveling through history then head over to the Nature Center for the Springbrook Celebration at 3 pm!

Springbrook Celebration!

Sat Sept 24 3-5:30pm
at the Nature Center

Celebrate nature at the Springbrook Nature Center! Enjoy music, wine and beer tasting, nature walks, crafts, games, s'mores and more!

A Duck Race in the creek will be held for a prize package including Eaglewood Resort Golfing, Itasca Country Club Social Membership, 2017 Family Season Pool Pass, One-Year Fitness Membership (Individual or Couple) and more.

Raffle Cost:

\$10 per Duck, or 3 for \$25.

This is a fundraising event for Friends of Springbrook Nature Center. All proceeds will go to Youth Nature Programming and Exhibits.

Pre-Registration fee:

\$15 per adult/\$10 per child, At the event: \$18 per adult/\$12 per child Each ticket includes one Duck Raffle chance.

Sponsored by:



Family Fun Nights

Fridays Oct 7th, Nov 4th and Dec 8th
from 6-8 pm



Bring the family out for games, crafts, treats and make some great family memories!

Register for **WIBA** Youth Basketball League by Oct 16th!

Visit: www.itascaparkdistrict.com/sports for info on many more sports classes and camps!

Itasca Halloween Celebration

Sat Oct 29th 1-3 pm at the Nature Center
(Rain Location: Itasca Rec Center)

Free pumpkin decorating, bounce house, pony rides and more. This event is sponsored by the Village of Itasca.

Screech Cinema

Sat Oct 29th 6:30-8:30 pm

Bring the family out for a fun Halloween movie at the Nature Center. We'll watch "Monster House" starting at 7pm. Enjoy a fire at the fire ring with hot chocolate and marshmallows - all free!

Preschool and Jr. Kindergarten Enrichment classes are held at the Nature Center. Register your child for a great educational experience that ties preschool into nature!

Sign up for text or email alerts at www.itascaparkdistrict.com/notifyme. Choose from specific lists with news from Waterpark, Ice Rink, Soccer Teams, Dance and more!

Visit the Depot Museum for the Fall Exhibit: "Itasca's Heroes." Always free admission!

Stop by for Depot Dollar Days to make a different craft every Tuesday from 11 am to 4 pm in September and October. Suggested donation: \$1.

Seniors! Try this shortcut to find programs and trips just for you: www.itascaparkdistrict.com/seniors

Host your birthday party or celebration at the Itasca Rec Center or Nature Center. Call 630-773-2257 for the options and details.

“LEAVE” It Out of the Streets, Sewers and Streams

The changing season also brings the inevitable need for yard cleanup. We are asking for all Itasca residents' help in keeping leaves out of our streets and storm sewers. When raking your yard and parkway, please take a moment when there are no cars in the street to rake up and remove the leaves from the curb line.

Everything entering Itasca's 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 stop storm water runoff from entering the storm drains. Should a major weather event occur, this can lead to localized flooding.

Itasca residents 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.

In Itasca, Yard Waste Pick-Up is every Monday from April through November. Yard waste must be in biodegradable paper bags or a reusable container clearly marked “Yard Waste.” Branches must be a maximum of 4 feet in length and 4 inches in diameter, and placed neatly at the curb. When a holiday falls on a Monday, pick up will be on the Tuesday following the holiday.

- If recycling leaves on your property is not an option, residents may bring leaves to DuPage Yard Waste (1195 W. Washington St., West Chicago) for a fee. To transport, collect leaves in a secure and properly sealed paper bag to ensure they do not blow into storm sewers or streams.

For more information on water quality, visit: www.dupageco.org/EDP/Stormwater_Management/Water_Quality/42729/.

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

We are proud to announce communities around DuPage County are once again working to keep cooking oil out of the drains this holiday season. This recycling program returns to Itasca on Saturday, November 26th 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 on Thanksgiving. Please save your liquid cooking oils and other FOGs 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 accepting the containers, but will also have a collection bin, in case you wish to keep your FOGs container for next year. Please be sure that the used cooking oil is not contaminated with other non-biodegradable oils or fluids. When bringing the cooking oil for recycling, please make sure that it is warm enough to pour. Cool November evenings can cause the oil to partially or fully congeal, making it difficult to pour the oil out of the container.

This program is a win-win. FOGs are kept out of drains and landfills, and are recycled into bio-fuels by Chicago Biofuel into biodiesel. Please drop the containers of oil off the Saturday after Thanksgiving at the Itasca Village Hall, 550 W. Irving Park Road in Itasca from 9:00 am until noon.

For information on other locations and year-round collection locations, please check the SCARCE website at: www.scarcecoed.org.

VILLAGE OF ITASCA

James Burke, Itasca Fire Protection District Chief

Phone: (630) 773-1223 • e-mail: jburke@itasca.com

Itasca Fire Protection District Financial Snapshot (Part 1)

The following article has been divided into two parts that will be published in the next two village newsletters. The intent of these articles is to give our residents a view of the District's financial situation that exists today and what is projected several years down the road.

History

The Itasca Fire Protection District has been in existence for over 100 years. During that time many changes have occurred within the department. One of the biggest changes was the move to a full-time/combination department in the early 1980s. This was done primarily due to increased call volume and training requirements required by the State of Illinois.

Since that time the District has further evolved today into a completely full-time department consisting of 24 shift personnel, 3 Chief Officers, 1 Director of Fire Prevention and 2 Administrative staff. Shift personnel are split between three shifts consisting of 8 personnel per shift. To supplement our initial alarm response The Itasca Fire District has been part of an automatic aid plan for many years now with the Wood Dale Fire Protection District.

Both districts serve as a "backup" to each other in the event they are tied up on one call and a second call comes in. Each district also responds automatically to each other on any reported structure fires, vehicle entrapment or any calls deemed "high hazard." The similar size and staffing of both districts makes this partnership the most cost-effective way to deliver services to the residents of both districts.

Funding and Revenue

As a Fire District, 95% of our funding comes from you the taxpayer in the form of property taxes. The other 5% is from various fee based billing. Every year the District submits a tax levy request to DuPage County. The total levy amount is largely based on the District's Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV). The amount of any increase is limited by the County tax cap (5%) or the CPI, whichever is lower. By comparison, the CPI over the past ten years has averaged 1.86% annually.

Since 2009 the District's overall Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) has been steadily declining. In the time period from 2009 to 2014, the District's overall EAV declined by 32%. What this means is that the cost to provide essential services continues to rise faster than our ability to levy the needed tax. The end result is our annual budget has been essentially the same for the past several years. Ultimately, what this means is less revenue to provide vital services to the residents in the years ahead.

District Needs

During the timeframe from 2009 to 2014, the District has been able to "weather the storm" by:

- Making tough budget cuts;
- Putting off much needed capital improvements to our 45-year-old station;
- Delaying the replacement of our aging apparatus;
- Using existing reserve monies;
- Securing grant monies;
- Developing stronger relationships with neighboring Fire Districts to reduce costs

In assessing the needs of the District for the next several years, it has become apparent that even with all of the efforts noted above that our operating expenses are going to outpace our ability to generate the needed revenues. In the next newsletter we will share in detail the specifics of the District's financial picture and proposed solutions. Questions can be forwarded to Fire Chief James Burke at jburke@itasca.com or by phone at (630) 773-1223.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Itasca International



Craft Beer Tasting

5TH ANNUAL CRAFT BEER TASTING

October 7 from 6-9pm at the Itasca Holiday Inn. We feature craft beers and ciders from microbreweries both locally and internationally.

Responsibly Limitless Tastings and tasting glass for \$35 on line at www.itasca.com/craftbeer or \$40 at the door.

Designated drivers are free!!
Must be 21 to attend or purchase tickets.

The proceeds from this event will benefit the Itasca Food Pantry, Walk-In Ministry and Friends of Springbrook. \$40 at the door.

Stay in Itasca!
Special \$79
Holiday Inn Room Rate!

Please join us for the 9th Annual Itasca Oktoberfest

FREE
ADMISSION



FREE
PARKING

Oktoberfest

Friday, September 9, 4:00 pm - 11:00 pm
Saturday, September 10, 3:00 pm - 11:00 pm
Downtown Orchard Street

Friday, September 9

- Tapping of the first keg with Mayor Pruyn
- Johnny Wagner Band from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM
- Kids Korner 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Saturday, September 10

- Jimmy's Bavarians 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM
- Johnny Wagner Band from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM
- Kids Korner 3:30 PM to 6:30 PM



Authentic German Food:

- Meatballs in a mushroom cream sauce
 - Spaetzle
- Roast pig with red cabbage
 - Bratwurst
- Knockwurst and sauerkraut
 - German potato salad
 - Pretzels

Kids Menu

- Hotdogs
- Hamburgers

German hats \$2 .00 ea. All proceeds go to the Itasca Walk-In Ministry and the Itasca Food Pantry.

Gift tent selling authentic German articles operated by the Itasca Food Pantry and Walk -In Ministry

For more information visit our website at www.itasca.com

The concealment and carrying of firearms is prohibited at this event under law.

School Safety

The Itasca Police Department is committed to making your child's commute to and from school a safe one. Below are some tips that address the most common Back to School safety issues. Remember these safety rules as school begins and throughout the year.

When schools are opening in the morning and closing in the afternoon, the areas around them are very busy and crowded. Adhering to posted signage in the areas that surround the schools is extremely important. At each school and in neighboring areas, school crossing guards will be out to ensure the safety of the children walking to and from school.

What Parents and Residents Can Do

For parents and local residents, here are some guidelines to make school zones and neighborhood areas safer for our children:

- The biggest safety concern each year is speed in the school zones. When pulling up to the school, watch your speed; it is 15 MPH.
- Be extra vigilant in school zones and residential neighborhoods watching for bikes coming from driveways or behind parked cars.
- Always refrain from using your cell phone while driving. All cell phone use is prohibited while driving in a school zone.
- Remember that seatbelts ARE A MUST – for you and any children/passengers in your vehicle.
- Stop at all posted stop signs and in school zones when flashers are blinking, and yield to pedestrians.
- Don't block crosswalks; this forces pedestrians to go around you, possibly into the path of moving traffic.
- Don't double park; it blocks visibility for other children and vehicles.



- Make sure children are careful when opening car doors. Children should always get in and out of your vehicle through the rear curbside door.
- Carpool to reduce the number of vehicles at the school.
- Never pass a school bus from behind, or from either direction on an undivided road, if it is stopped to load or unload children.

Most importantly, if you see something, say something. If you see something suspicious, call 911. The Itasca Police Department will respond immediately.

What We're Doing

As your Police Department, here are some things we will be doing to ensure the safety of all of the children as they return to school:

- Officers will be at school locations at the beginning of the school year to monitor speed and adherence to posted signage.
- Officers will be at schools at the beginning and end of the school day when available.

- Itasca Community Service Officers and Volunteers will be out to assist crossing guards.
- Officers will do random drop-ins at all schools.
- Speed trailers will be placed in key areas to make motorists more aware of their speed in school zones.
- When we receive complaints of cars passing buses illegally, marked police vehicles will follow those bus routes.

Getting back to school is an exciting time. By exercising a little extra care and caution, drivers and pedestrians can safely co-exist in school zones. Parents, residents and the Itasca Police Department working together can make 2016-2017 another safe school year for local children.

Police Department Welcomes New Hires

The Itasca Police Department is pleased to introduce two new Officers - Officer Keith Endres and Officer Anders Langlo. Both probationary officers recently graduated from the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy on June 17th. They are now completing an intensive 15 week field training program before achieving solo patrol status.



Officer Keith Endres and Officer Anders Langlo

Officer Endres, #235 was sworn in on March 1st, 2016. Keith's family includes his two supportive parents, a twin brother, and an older and younger brother. Prior to being a police officer, Keith managed two Giordanos pizzeria's. He loves playing baseball and golf in his time away from work.

When asked about joining the department, Officer Endres said "It has been my dream to serve and protect. Now I get to serve and protect an amazing community."

Officer Langlo, #236, had his swearing-in on March 15th. His family joined him, including parents James and Mary, and brother Erik who is a freshman in college. In his free time, Anders enjoys traveling. He also enjoys the outdoors, especially camping, fishing and hunting.

Officer Langlo states, "I could not be happier to have joined the Itasca Police department. I am excited to serve in such a great community."

The Itasca Police Department welcomes Officer Endres and Officer Langlo and wishes them long and successful careers.



Record Clerks Rhonda Mendicino and Tom Krol

Tom Krol joined the IPD Records Division on July 18th, 2016. Tom has been married 24 years to his wife Julie and has two daughters, Amberly (14) and Caroline (11). Born in Chicago, Tom has been an Elk Grove Village resident since 1992. Prior to joining the department, Tom was an Investigator with the Illinois Secretary of State Police from 1988 until he retired in 2014.

Tom States, "I am proud to serve the people of Itasca as a Police Records Assistant".

Tom is a Lifelong Cubs fan and should fit in very well at the department.

Rhonda Mendicino joined the IPD as a Records Assistant on July 27th, 2016.

Rhonda enjoys cooking big "Italian" family dinners on Sundays. She loves riding motorcycles with her husband and friends and also being outdoors and playing golf. Rhonda and her husband have been married for 4 years and together have a large blended family - 3 sons, 2 step daughters, 2 daughter-in-laws and recently they have been blessed with 2 grandsons (18 mos & 3 mos)

Rhonda states, "I am honored to be part of the Itasca Police Department supporting our community."



Chris Bennett Retires

After 36 years, **Chris Bennett** is retiring from the Itasca Police Department. Chris was hired on September 17th, 1979, and has served in various positions including dispatcher and Community Service Officer. For the last 22 years, she has been the full time Assistant for the Records Division.

We asked Chris to tell us a little about her career at the IPD and what she is looking forward to in her retirement:

"I have lived in Itasca my whole life - I like to say: "born, raised, stayed". I still even have my folk's phone number that we had when I grew up. I have had a full career starting in dispatch in 1979 and was a 911 dispatcher even before there was such a thing as 911. I was the last dispatcher to sound the fire whistle before they took it off the roof of the old village hall. During my career I served under four chiefs. In 1994 I went into Records. I have enjoyed the technology side of my job even with the challenges that it sometimes brings but what I enjoy the most is helping customers and fellow employees.

My husband and I are not leaving the area as the better majority of my huge family is close by. We have travel reservations already made, including a tour boat on the Mississippi that goes from LeClaire, IA up to Dubuque. Afterwards we are going to enjoy Galena for several days. We also have plans to enjoy several festivals in the Wisconsin Dells. We enjoy Cantigny and can now go whenever we wish to enjoy the park, McCormick Mansion and the Division 1 Museum. We have another cruise (#11) on our bucket list that goes up the New England coast into Canada. When not traveling, I will be again able to enjoy crafting and have already joined the Itasca Senior Club."

We wish Chris and her family well.



Chris Bennett

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

Fall 2016



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**