



# THE VILLAGE NEWS

COMMITTED TO OUR FUTURE ... INSPIRED BY OUR PAST

## SPRING 2017

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**GREEN DAY 2017 on Sat., May 6<sup>th</sup>**  
See page 7 for more details!



**Ray Franzen Bird Sanctuary Project-  
Itasca's first Dog Park!**  
See page 9 for details!

## Message from the Mayor



*Mayor Jeff Pruyn*

**H**appy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed the Holidays. Spring is upon us and I for one am happy about the temperate

winter season.

One of the major achievements of 2016 was the Village review and issuance of over 1,000 building permits. This included the construction of the Residences at Hamilton Lakes luxury apartments community, the new American Academy of Pediatrics headquarters, and new church for St. Peter the Apostle, a longtime Itasca institution. In addition, the Village has welcomed more than 20 new businesses to our community.

Near the Metra station, Itasca residents will see small Innova electric vehicles. This is a driving service targeted towards train commuters and Itasca workers. One of these cars will be sponsored by the Village and will feature a “wrap” that will advertise all five of Itasca’s hotels. It will encourage the idea of “Work, Play, Stay, Itasca.”

Last year, ComEd proposed their West Central Reliability Project to install steel poles up to 170 feet in height along the south side of Thorndale. Due to overwhelming

criticism from several communities including Itasca, ComEd has postponed pursuing this project until March 2018. The Village Board will continue to voice our opposition to the project and keep our residents updated.

The outlook is good for the 2017 construction season. A 16-unit townhome development is planned along Rohlwing Road, near Medinah Woods, and the Village is making improvements to the paths in the Springbrook Nature Center. Also, all major Elgin O’Hare construction through Itasca is scheduled to be finished by the end of the year.

Lastly, I’d like to thank Melody Craven for her service to the community over the last 8 years as Village Clerk. Late last year, Melody announced she would not be running for another term. With her term coming to an end, my fellow members of the Village Board and I are sad to see her go. Melody will continue to serve as a Village employee. Please stop in to Village Hall and say hello to her and thank her for her dedication to her community!

I wish you all a wonderful spring season! Visit our website, [www.itasca.com](http://www.itasca.com), to keep updated.



## From the Desk of the Administrator

### O'Hare Runway Usage

The Village is working with other surrounding communities to seek a new testing period for a nighttime runway rotation plan at O'Hare. You may recall that a test was conducted this past summer/fall and those results concluded that there was a reduction in the reliance on the use of 3 of the 6 runways available from 10 pm-6 am and a reduction in the impact to certain communities (Itasca included) when other runways were in use. The test also showed that better results could be achieved with some modifications. Our group offered a comprehensive list of those factors to the Chicago Department of Aviation for their review. These suggestions include opening up nighttime operations to all six runways in a rotation, having those runways designated as the primary runway either for departure or arrival whether in east flow or west flow, allowing the long runways to be used but adhering to usage procedures, prioritizing the start of the nightly Fly Quiet procedures and protocols as early as possible every evening and to reduce or eliminate those operations that deter the tower from implementing the plan. This last item is the most complicated,

as it encompasses many factors at the airport. One of the most important factors is safety.

These suggestions, if taken and implemented, provide for a fair distribution of nighttime/overnight usage of the runways at O'Hare. They do not eliminate flights or usage and they do not eliminate the need for certain planes to use certain runways at certain times for operational or safety issues. Again, our goal is to spread out the usage to as many runways so that residential areas under runway corridors receive some relief and preferably predictable relief.

### Intersection improvements

The intersection of Irving Park Road and Catalpa Avenue is under construction to install a new permanent traffic signal, replacing the signals hanging from wires. The Village along with the Library, School District, and Park District have previously identified the need for better safety at this intersection. The Village obtained a million dollar grant from the state and federal governments to improve several streets and intersections. The plan also includes a new protected pedestrian crossing along Irving Park Road at I-290.

### State Budget

The Village receives over 25% of its revenues either through or from the state of Illinois. Itasca receives its share of the state portion of the sales tax (1%) generated from within our corporate boundaries (we also have a ½% sales tax which they collect and remit to us) and apportionments (long established formulas) from the state income tax, motor fuel tax, and corporate replacement taxes. The state collects these taxes and distributes them. They are currently at least one and half months behind in distributing the income tax, and from time to time they fall behind in other payments. This is inevitable when you are \$8-12 billion behind in your payments.

Along with all other Illinois communities, we have stressed the need for the state to adopt a budget and adopt a serious plan to address the state's financial issues without passing those costs on to municipalities like Itasca.

### Village Budget

Currently staff is working on a draft budget for Village Board review. Budget approval is expected in May.

## From the Desk of the Village Clerk

Melody Craven, Village Clerk • Phone: (630) 773-0835 • e-mail: mcraeven@itasca.com

### Clerk's Farewell Message

In April, I will be retiring as Itasca Village Clerk. I have had the pleasure of serving in this position for the past 8 years and will continue to be part of the Village staff as I have for the last 21 years. A great big thank you to my co-workers, fellow Village Board members, and Itasca residents who have supported me over the years, especially Jake Lawrence, Deputy Village Clerk. I am confident that the Village Board will continue to keep the best interests of both Itasca residents and businesses in mind. I trust that the new incoming Village Clerk, Jody Conidi, will be a welcomed addition to our elected officials. As lifelong Itasca residents, my husband Jeff and I have enjoyed growing up and raising our family here and being involved in our community. Thank you again.

### Election

The Consolidated Election is Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The following offices in the Village of Itasca are up for election:

• **Mayor** • **Village Clerk** • **Village Trustee (3)** • **Library Trustee (3)**

Polls will be open from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm. For information on Early Voting, go to: <http://www.dupageco.org/Election/Docs/54652/>

### Spring Fling

This year's Spring Fling, the ultimate Easter event for families in Itasca, will be on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. The candy hunt starts at 11:00 am sharp and pictures with the Easter Bunny begin at 10:30 am. The festivities will be held at the Springbrook Nature Center at 130 Forest Ave, Itasca, IL.

### Memorial Day/Parade

Join Itasca residents for the Memorial Day parade, organized by the Itasca Park District, on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:30 am. The parade starts at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church parking lot located on Catalpa Avenue. A memorial service will be held immediately following the parade at Usher Park, courtesy of the VFW Post #5167. Any group wishing to participate, please contact Katie Manheim at the Itasca Park District by May 5<sup>th</sup> at (630) 773-2257.

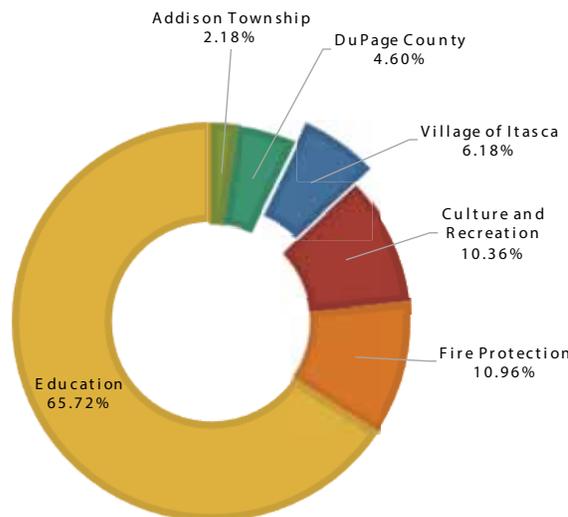


## Village Property Taxes at a Glance

The Village of Itasca provides a range of services to its residents and business community. These services include, but are not limited to: police protection, street and roadway maintenance, refuse removal, public improvements, planning and zoning, engineering and inspection, water and sewer utility service and general administrative services. To pay for all this, the Village obtains revenues from a number of sources, including property taxes. The 2015 property tax levy accounted for 15.3% of the Village's total revenues expected for 2016. Sales tax, non-home rule sales tax, utility taxes, service charges, licenses, fees, state income and motor fuel taxes, and several other revenues sources make up the balance. The Village uses the money it receives from property taxes for three basic purposes: police protection, public safety pensions and debt service on public improvements. The owner of a residential property in Itasca having an equalized assessed value of \$91,100 (approximate market value of \$415,000) will pay the Village about \$463 in property taxes as a result of the final 2015 levy (payable in 2016). Of this amount, \$188 is for police protection, \$125 is for funding public safety police pension, and \$150 is for debt service on bonds issued for public improvements. This estimate assumes only the standard homeowner exemption when determining taxable value. Homeowners may also be eligible for the senior citizen exemption, senior freeze or other property tax exemption offered by the DuPage County Assessor's Office. These programs work to provide further relief towards the annual tax bill.

**Other Taxing Districts** – Within and including the Village of Itasca, there are 21 separate and independent taxing districts. They include the DuPage County governments, Itasca Community Library, Itasca Fire Protection District, five (5) public school districts, three (3) park districts, and three (3) other tax districts, plus Addison and Bloomingdale townships. With the exception of the Village and the library, the taxing districts in Itasca do not share common boundaries. As such, not all of the 18 tax levies appear on every tax bill for an Itasca property owner. Typically, there are 12 or 13 districts on each individual tax bill.

**Village's Share** – The pie chart located in this section shows the breakdown of property taxes for the Village of Itasca in Addison Township from the 2015 tax bill (payable in 2016). The Village is to receive \$2.8 million or 6.18% of the total. The percentages vary depending on the area of the Village and the taxing districts included. For more information on property taxes, please visit [www.dupageco.org](http://www.dupageco.org) or for other financial information, visit the website at [www.itasca.com](http://www.itasca.com), or contact the Finance Department at (630) 773-0835.



## 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:

- Alpha Reading Center**, 810 N. Arlington Heights Rd. (Learning Center)
- Aries Global Logistics**, 1037 Hawthorne Dr. (Freight Forwarding)
- St. Regis Manufacturing**, 1612 W. Glenlake Ave. (Trophy & Award Manufacturer)
- Bobby Polarek State Farm**, 413 W. Irving Park Rd. (Insurance and Financial Services)

## Want to avoid paying late water bills?

The Village offers several different payment options for residents to pay for their water/sewer bill. Customers can opt to pay online through the Village's website, [www.itasca.com](http://www.itasca.com), or by using direct debit through their bank account (no service fee). Online payment is secure, available 24 hours a day for convenience and is provided at a small convenience fee of 2.35% (2.85% if taken over the phone or at Village Hall) for using a credit card. For direct debit, funds for payment of a utility account will be withdrawn on the 18<sup>th</sup> of the month, thus avoiding late fees. For any questions please contact Utility Billing at [waterbill@itasca.com](mailto:waterbill@itasca.com).



## Deputy Chief Kauther Completes Command Training

The Itasca Police Department is proud to announce the recent graduation of Deputy Chief Barry Kauther from the School of Police Staff and Command (SPSC) at Northwestern University. Deputy Chief Kauther successfully completed the ten-week Staff and Command program held in Evanston, Illinois, from September to December 2016. This program, which was implemented by the Center for Public Safety in 1983, has graduated over 16,000 students both nationally and internationally. Deputy Chief Kauther was a student in SPSC Class #400 which accommodated a total of 30 students for the ten-week period.

The SPSC provides upper-level college instruction in Leadership, Human Resources, Employee Relations, Organizational Behavior, Applied Statistics, Planning and Policy Development, Budgeting, and Resource Allocation. Each student is academically challenged through written examinations, projects, presentations and quizzes in addition to a staff-study paper. Upon successful completion, students may be awarded a total of six units of

undergraduate credit from Northwestern University.

The Center for Public Safety was established at Northwestern University in 1936 with the specific goal of expanding university-based education and training for the Law Enforcement Community. Since its inception, the Center has broadened its original objective and now provides a variety of courses and programs in the area of Police Training, Management Training, and Executive Development.

Deputy Chief Kauther joins the majority of the Itasca Police supervisory personnel who have previously graduated from the SPSC. This training prepares our supervisory personnel to be at the forefront in police decision-making matters. The Itasca Police Department prides itself on providing its members with the most contemporary, Federal and State approved training courses by recognized organizations such as North East Multi-Regional Training (NEMRT), Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA), Suburban Law Enforcement Academy (SLEA), Southern

Police Institute (SPI), and Northwestern University's Center for Public Safety (NUCPS).

Director O'Connor stated "The Itasca Police Department will benefit immensely from Deputy Chief Kauther having attended this prestigious curriculum. The advanced management course prepares law enforcement executives for twenty-first century policing in the areas of policy development, crime reduction, training and technology advancements."

A cornerstone of Deputy Chief Kauther's policing philosophy is the promoting of open communication, allowing ideas and information to be shared between police officers and the community.

"I am very proud of Deputy Chief Kauther's professional achievement, as he continues to provide the residents of Itasca with a safe environment in which to live, work, and play," said Director O'Connor.



## Tax Scams / Consumer Alerts

If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. In recent years, thousands of people have lost millions of dollars and their personal information to tax scams and fake IRS communications.

**Remember:** The IRS doesn't initiate contact with taxpayers by email, text messages, or social media channels to request personal or financial information. In addition, IRS does not threaten taxpayers with lawsuits, imprisonment or other enforcement action. Being able to recognize these telltale signs of a phishing or tax scam could save you from becoming a victim.



## New Design of Illinois Drivers License and ID Cards

A significant change to improve the design and issuing process of Illinois' driver's licenses/ID cards began last year.

Beginning in late June 2016, through a gradual rollout, Driver Services facilities throughout the state implemented central issuance with the new card design. By the end of July 2017, all Driver Services facilities will have transitioned to central issuance.

Safe Driver renewal applicants will receive by mail their new driver's license with the upgraded security features.

Applicants visiting Driver Services facilities will no longer be issued a new permanent DL/ID card at the end of the application process. Instead, they will leave the facility with a temporary secure paper document, which is valid for 45 days and will serve as their DL/ID for driving purposes and proof of identification. For air travel, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) states that it will accept the temporary document in conjunction with the old DL/ID to board an aircraft until the permanent card arrives in the mail. Therefore, the facility employee will return the old DL/ID card back to the applicant after punching a hole in it.

Meanwhile, the applicant's information will be sent to a centralized, secure facility in Illinois. After fraud checks have been conducted to ensure the applicant's identity, a higher quality, more secure DL/ID will be printed and sent via U.S. mail within 15 business days to the applicant's address. Central issuance allows for better identity theft prevention by allowing the office to investigate possible fraud before applicants receive their DL/ID. In addition, the design of the DL/ID card has been upgraded with important features that over-the-counter technology cannot produce.

Further information regarding the central issuance process as well as the physical changes to the DL/ID can be found at: <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/>.

## Itasca Police Department Congratulates New Detectives

**Officer Kalilh Esmael** was promoted to the Itasca Police Department's Investigations Division in January 2016. Detective Esmael joined the Itasca Police Department in April 2012.

During his time with the Department, Detective Esmael has been assigned to several positions including Firearms Instructor, Rapid Deployment Instructor, TCCC – Tactical Combat Casualty Care Instructor, and Rescue Task Force Instructor. He assisted in candidate background investigations, liquor license backgrounds, criminal investigations, and field investigations.

Detective Esmael is a member of the Illinois Drug Enforcement Officers Association and the Illinois Tactical Officers Association.

Director O'Connor stated, "Detective Esmael demonstrated the tenacity for his new assignment while serving in the patrol division. Detective Esmael brings to his new appointment the skills required to solve complex cases and bring closure for the victims of those crimes."

When asked about his new position, Detective Esmael stated, "As I begin my new assignment, I look forward to working with my fellow officers in serving the community in my new capacity."

Detective Esmael is assigned to the day shift and can be reached at [kesmael@itasca.com](mailto:kesmael@itasca.com). Congratulations Detective Esmael.



**Officer Dan Kaltenbach** was promoted to the Itasca Police Department's Investigations Division in January 2017. Detective Kaltenbach joined the Itasca Police Department in September of 2008.

During his career, Detective Kaltenbach has held the positions of Evidence Technician, NARCAN Administrator/Instructor, Range Master/Firearms Instructor, Rapid Response/Active Shooter Instructor, Tactical Combat Casualty Care Instructor, and Rescue Task Force Instructor.

Detective Kaltenbach serves as a member of the United States Coast Guard Reserves and belongs to the Illinois Tactical Officers Association and Illinois Drug Enforcement Officers Association.

Director O'Connor stated, "Detective Kaltenbach applied his law enforcement skills every day while serving in the patrol division. Dan is self-motivated and strives to provide excellent service to those he encounters. Dan brings his can do attitude to investigations and strives for continuous professional improvement while serving the community."

When asked about his new position, Detective Kaltenbach stated, "I would like to thank Director O'Connor, Deputy Chief Kauther, and Deputy Chief Matuga for giving me this opportunity. I am looking forward to starting my new position as Detective and further assist the Village of Itasca by investigating and solving crimes."

Detective Kaltenbach is assigned to the day shift and can be reached at [dkaltenbach@itasca.com](mailto:dkaltenbach@itasca.com).

Congratulations Detective Kaltenbach.



## "Tip a Cop" Fundraiser

Benefiting the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Illinois  
Buona Beef, 1170 N. Arlington Heights Rd., Itasca  
April 15 • 11:00 am – 7:00 pm



## Home Improvement Permits

In the spring homeowners begin to think about and prepare for home improvement projects.

Homeowners are reminded to obtain permits for certain interior remodeling and building projects, including kitchen and bathroom renovations, roofs, fences, driveways, decks, patios, sheds, swimming pools, and lawn sprinkler systems to name a few.

A building permit gives you legal permission to start construction of a building project in accordance with approved drawings and specifications. The Village of Itasca encourages homeowners to discuss your plans with a Building Inspector before beginning construction to determine whether you need a permit.

Please contact the Community Development Department at (630) 773-5568, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday, to discuss your construction plans and for information on the building permit application, submittal requirements, and review process. Building permit information and forms and contractor requirements are available on the Village's website at [www.itasca.com](http://www.itasca.com) under the "Community Development" tab.

## Picking-Up Pet Waste Prevents Stormwater Pollution

Proper pet care waste disposal is important to stopping the spread of disease and pollution. For example, if you fail to pick up your dog waste, it is then a contributor to stormwater pollution. Dog waste is full of bacteria and parasites that may be a threat to human health and the environment as a whole.

Merely picking up after your dog can prevent up to 23 million fecal coliform bacteria. It can also decrease the amount of disease spread through contaminated water sources. This seems trivial, but it is a serious risk, considering dog waste is said to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> largest contributor to pollution in urban watersheds. A small effort, such as carrying around a bag to pick up after your dog, can make a big change in eliminating the number of pollutants in our waterways.

### Remember:

- Dog waste is one of top contributors to pollution, and is not an issue to be overlooked.
- On walks, carry a bag with you to pick up after your pet.
- In your own lawn, either pick up dog waste or utilize a service that removes it for you.

## Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map Update

DuPage County has been working for many years to update Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for the entire county, including the maps that cover Itasca. In 2015, DuPage County, in cooperation with the State of Illinois and FEMA, issued preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for public review and comment. The public comment period ended in early fall 2015, and close to 500 comments were received from property owners, residents, and municipalities, including from the Village of Itasca. Due to the nature and extent of the comments received, DuPage County determined that some areas on the preliminary maps needed to be restudied and remodelled.

However, because of the regulatory freeze put into place by the federal government in January, the next round of preliminary floodplain maps may not be available for some time.

The Village is optimistic that when the updated preliminary maps are made available for additional public comment, they will have a more accurate depiction of the 100-year floodplain.

## Memorial Day Parade

Step-off will be on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. A Memorial Service provided by V.F.W. Post #5167 and a picnic will follow the parade at Usher Park. Parade awards will also be announced.



## Backflow Preventers Inspection Program

Every drinking water system in Illinois must have a cross connection control program, also commonly known as a backflow prevention program. Backflow prevention devices are designed to protect the public water supply from contamination from customer's plumbing systems. Backflow prevention devices are required on all residential properties with irrigation systems. Many commercial and industrial businesses also are required to have backflow prevention devices. It is a Village and state requirement that EVERY backflow device be inspected annually by a certified backflow tester. For backflow preventers on the exterior of a property in Itasca, such as those for pools and lawn irrigation systems, all testing must be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup> of every year, regardless of the initial testing date.

The Village of Itasca has contracted with Backflow Solutions Inc. (BSI) to manage our backflow inspection program, and they are the primary point of contact for backflow inspections within the Village. BSI can be contacted at (800) 414-4990 or online at <http://bsiprograms.com/>. Backflow prevention inspectors as part of their service shall submit inspection results to BSI via its website.

Residents and property owners with known devices will receive a notification and reminder directly from BSI Online that testing is due. Once the annual inspection is complete, the testing company will enter that information directly into BSI's online reporting system. Failure to comply with Village and state requirements to test backflow prevention devices annually may result in fines and, in extreme cases, water shut off.

If you have any questions regarding the program please contact Mike Subers, Utilities Superintendent at (630) 773-2455 or BSI at (800) 414-4990.



## GREEN Day 2017

The Village of Itasca, in cooperation with DuPage County, will host a GREEN Day recycling event this year on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at the METRA Parking Lot on Irving Park Road in Itasca from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm. While we will be accepting electronic waste again this year, **we will be limiting the number of tube (CRT) televisions/computer monitors to one per car.** Thanks to the support of DuPage County, we will be accepting paper, including documents for shredding. Please note that this is offered to residents and in-home businesses only. If you have large volumes of paper documents that need to be destroyed, please contact International Paper, located here in Itasca.

Along with electronics and paper, we will also be accepting fabric, used bicycles, American Flags, eye glasses, hearing aids, prescription medications, used motor oil, used antifreeze, automotive batteries, scrap metal, fire extinguishers, books, school & office supplies, cell phones, ink jet cartridges, keys, clothing buttons, safety pins and cooking oil. We will accept the cooking oil in the containers, or the containers can be dumped out so that you can take the containers back home.

We will NOT accept hazardous household waste or paint. If you have paint to be disposed, please contact Earth Paint, located at 147 Front Street in Wood Dale, who can be reached at (262) 724-6864.

Each year, Fellowes, Inc. has provided personal paper shredders to a few lucky attendees. These will be distributed to random participants throughout the day.

For more information, please visit the Village website at [www.itasca.com](http://www.itasca.com), or e-mail [fmaier@itasca.com](mailto:fmaier@itasca.com) with any specific questions.



## Itasca Fire Protection District #1 – IFPD Financial Snapshot – Part 2

In the previous newsletter we provided an overview of the IFPD history and discussed the challenges being faced by the District now and in the future. In this edition we will provide an overview of the District finances, both past and future projections.

### Financial Overview

Since 2007 the District's tax revenues have seen minimal increases as a result of the fall in property values caused by the recession. During this same time, despite continued cost reductions by the District and the implementation of charges for emergency services, cost increases for fuel, equipment, benefits, wages, etc. have outpaced the small increase in tax revenues. As a result, the District has been running a deficit since FY2013.

That deficit has meant the District has had to draw on its cash reserves to meet annual operating expenses for the past three fiscal years.

Let's take each part of the budget, **Revenue, Operating Expenses and District Reserves** separately and provide additional detail to help you gain a deeper understanding of the Districts finances.

### Tax Revenue

The District is for the most part dependent on tax revenue and in fact **95%** of the District revenue comes from property tax, which is based on Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) of the property, roughly equal to 33.3% of its market value.

The District's ability to increase tax revenues is limited by the following:

- The **Property Tax Extension Limitation Law** (PTELL) of 1991 limits the annual **increase** in tax revenues for taxing Districts to 5%, or the Consumer Price Index (CPI), whichever is lower, regardless of change in the Districts Equalized Assessed Value (EAV)
- **New** growth of taxable property within the District

What has happened since 2009 is:

- The CPI has increased on average only 1.86% per year
- The total EAV of the District has gone down over 30% from \$711 million in 2009 to \$484 million in 2015 and there has been limited new construction in our district.

Both of the above events have combined to provide minimal increases in the District's current tax funding. Even if the EAV of the properties of the District is projected to increase back to 2009 values, the PTELL, combined with the low CPI, would mean that it would be many years before the District would see any significant tax revenue increases.

### Operating Expenses

Since 2010 the District has been reviewing and reducing expenses where possible to gain operating efficiencies and lower expense. Examples of the reductions that have been made are:

- In conjunction with the Union, changed our health insurance provider and plan structure producing a cost savings of 30% to the District
- Reduced our command staff by one full time position
- Partnered with the Village of Itasca to "share" our Fire Prevention Director who also works as a Village building inspector, reducing our wage costs
- Partnered with the Village to share IT personnel, fuel cost, etc.
- Developed intergovernmental agreements with neighboring Fire Districts for shared service so that response time to our residents is not impacted
- Combined paramedic and fire training sessions with Wood Dale FPD to share training costs
- Applied for and received over \$500,000 in federal grant monies for equipment and personnel over the last four years

### District Reserves

Per Illinois state guidelines the District is expected to keep a minimum of three months operating reserves to offset unplanned interruptions in tax revenues and provide funding for disasters or emergency repairs to vehicles, building, etc.

Reserve funds have been depleted as they were used to meet normal operating expenses which have put the District in the position of potentially falling below state guidelines in the near future.

### Future Projections

As we project out the next eight years, using past data and trends, the District is facing an annual deficit in 2024 of \$1.3 million if we do not take action in the near future.

### Recommendation

After many months of deliberation, the District Trustees and Command staff believe the best way to avert a significant shortfall is to approach you, our taxpayers, and ask you to consider a tax increase. The District has adopted a referendum to appear on the ballot on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Approval of this referendum would allow the District to continue operations uninterrupted, maintain existing service levels and implement several much needed improvements to our existing fire station. **To be clear, the proposed referendum is not to increase staffing nor is it to replace our Fire Station**, but rather to continue the high level of services that you expect from the District with our current staff and station house.

### Cost to the taxpayer

The cost to the taxpayer would be:  
for every \$100,000 of market value = \$65.00



# Itasca Park District

Maryfran Leno, Executive Director • Phone: (630) 773-2257  
e-mail: maryfran@itascaparkdistrict.com



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

## Park News

Let's get ready  
for summer!

**Waterpark  
Passes** are on sale  
beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>!



Register for Summer Day Camps, Sports &  
Nature Camps now!

**Jr Kindergarten is adding 4<sup>th</sup>  
& 5<sup>th</sup> day options this fall!**



Keep your Preschoolers engaged in learning  
this summer while taking advantage of  
the beautiful outdoors at the Springbrook  
Nature Center with our **Summer Preschool  
Programs**. Register now!

Don't miss one of Itasca's best events of the  
year-the Itasca Memorial Day Parade! Step-  
off will be on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.  
A Memorial Service provided by V.F.W. Post  
#5167 and a picnic will follow the parade  
at Usher Park. Parade awards will also be  
announced.

Check out these upcoming events at the  
**Depot Museum**: Hop to It! on Apr 13<sup>th</sup>,  
Spring has Sprung on April 25<sup>th</sup> and M is  
for Mom on May 9<sup>th</sup> for ages 3-6. Register  
for programs online or at the Itasca Rec  
Center.

Remember a special celebration or special  
person with a Leaf, Acorn, or Stone on the  
Itasca Park District Giving Tree. Visit:  
[www.itascaparkdistrict.com/givingtree](http://www.itascaparkdistrict.com/givingtree).

Hold your party at the Itasca Rec  
Center, Nature Center, or Waterpark.  
Call 630-773-2257 to reserve your date!

### Ray Franzen Bird Sanctuary



The Itasca Park District won an OSLAD  
grant in early 2015 for the Ray Franzen Bird  
Sanctuary project on Rohlwing Road by the  
Softball Complex. The \$363,500 grant was  
suspended and was recently reinstated.

The amenities include Itasca's first dog  
park, a nature-based play area, shelter, grill,  
boardwalk and habitat restoration!

The project is beginning soon and is  
expected to be completed this fall with a  
projected cost of \$800,000.



Washington Park and Country Club Parks  
have recently reopened after renovations  
including Itasca's first two parks with solid  
turf surfaces. Shelters were added to both  
parks.

### Adult Eggstravaganza

Wed, Apr 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm

Don't miss this free adult egg hunt at  
the Itasca Rec Center! Hidden eggs will  
contain gift certificates and coupons to local  
businesses, park district services and candy!  
Free babysitting included!

### Eggstreme Teen Night

Thu, Apr 6<sup>th</sup> 8:00 pm Free!

"Tweens and Teens come to Washington  
Park for an "eggcellent" Easter Egg Hunt!  
Hundreds of eggs will be hidden throughout  
the park and will contain candy, a gift card,  
or a ticket for a grand prize!

### Free! Spring Fling

Sat, Apr 8<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am-12:30 pm  
at the Springbrook Nature Center

Enjoy a free candy hunt at 11am, pictures  
with the Easter Bunny, snacks, crafts and  
more! Bring a basket to collect your goodies.



### Bunny Tea Party

Sun, Apr 9<sup>th</sup> 12:00-2:00 pm

Fee: \$25/\$35

We'll play games, decorate cupcakes, and  
build our very own stuffed bunny, complete  
with a hand-designed t-shirt!



### Water Egg Hunt

Wed, Apr 12<sup>th</sup> 6:30-7:30 pm

at the Eaglewood Pool \$8

Ages: Birth-14yrs

Register by Apr 10<sup>th</sup>

### Senior Scramble

Thu, Apr 13<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm Age 60+

Come out and remember what it was like  
to be a kid! This candy/prize hunt will have  
eggs with coupons, candy or possibly a prize  
including gift cards. Bring a flashlight and  
bag for your treats!

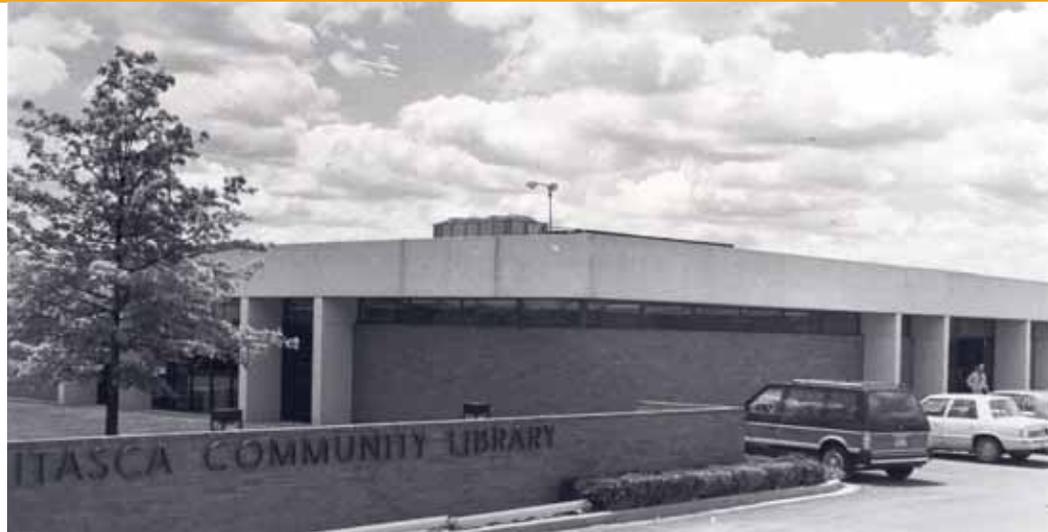


# Itasca Community Library

Tuki Sathaye, Library Director • Phone: (630) 773-1699 • e-mail: [tsathaye@itascalibrary.org](mailto:tsathaye@itascalibrary.org)



Itasca Community Library will be celebrating its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Libraries today are continually changing their roles to meet the needs of the community, and our library is no different. We are always coming up with new ways to engage you, entice you into the library, and surprise you with our services. Keep up with everything we have to offer by visiting our website [itascalibrary.org](http://itascalibrary.org).



Join us for the following programs in honor of our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary:

## Birthday Storytime (geared to ages 3-6 years)

*Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-10:45 am*

The library is turning 90 years old! Help us celebrate with a birthday-themed storytime. Registration is required.

## Library 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party

*Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2:00-4:00 pm*

Join in the celebration to commemorate Itasca Community Library's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Share in the festivities by competing in a local history quiz. Kids can participate in crafts and other fun activities. Enjoy cake, refreshments, and special giveaways. Michael Stachnik, our local historian, will be available to answer any questions pertaining to the history of Itasca. No registration is needed.



## NEW! Get your passport at the library

The library is now a Passport Acceptance Facility. We accept appointments for applications anytime a staff passport agent is available, up to one hour before closing. You must supply your own photo. Call (630) 773-1699 or visit [itascalibrary.org/services/passport-services/](http://itascalibrary.org/services/passport-services/) for more information.

## Milk and Dairying: Keys to Itasca History

*Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 pm*

Enjoy Itasca resident Gerald Danzer's stories of the early days of our village and the farms, dairies, and cheese factories that made up much of what is now Itasca. Copies of Professor Danzer's book will be available for purchase. Registration is required.





## District 10 Education Foundation

**D**istrict 10 Education Foundation (D10EF) will proudly host its Second Annual Gala on April 7, 2017 at the Westin Northwest in Itasca. In partnership with the Itasca Bank & Trust, the gala will be a memorable event for community organizations and businesses to celebrate the work of our educators and children. The evening will feature a four-course gourmet meal, dancing, amazing raffles, and the opportunity to network with Itasca-focused businesses and residents. All are welcome to purchase tickets at the D10EF website, [www.d10ef.org](http://www.d10ef.org).

With a fundraising goal of \$35,000 for the year, the foundation has so far raised over \$14,000 at its annual Trivia Night. Attending or sponsoring the gala will help us reach our goal! Sponsorship information is also available on the D10EF website under the “Ways to Give” tab.

D10EF awards grant money for educational programs, technology, activities and other resources that are beyond the scope of public school funding but can otherwise enhance District 10 students’ educational experience. A 501(c)(3) not-for-profit and tax-exempt organization, the D10EF raises money through donations from individuals and businesses, as well as through community events.

In the past two years, D10EF has donated \$33,637 in classroom grants between Benson, Franzen, and Peacock Schools. These classroom grants have provided 6 iPad Pros and charging stations, several Mimeo-Teach units, Quaver Digital Music curriculum, Foundations Supplementary Reading System, as well as technology for a digital recording studio.

D10EF is made up of volunteers from many walks of life, including community members, business leaders, educators and parents. Please consider joining our effort by volunteering time, donating funds or attending events. We are also looking to diversify our board, so consider becoming a board member. If you’re interested in making a donation or volunteering, please email [district10ef@gmail.com](mailto:district10ef@gmail.com).

## Itasca Garden Club

**T**he Itasca Garden Club meets monthly in the Itasca Park District Building Iris Room at noon on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month from September through May. They meet informally in June for a field trip and this year will be visiting Ball Gardens in West Chicago. The March 28<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held in the evening at the Itasca Public Library and the community is invited to attend. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 pm and the program begins at 7:00 pm. Landscape architect Laura Christensen will share her experiences in designing and gardening on her own property for the past 25 years. The club’s yearly flower sale is on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Orchard Church parking lot at 716 E. George St. Preorder forms will be available at the Library and Park District building in mid-March.



## Village of Itasca Schedule of Monthly Meetings

<b>Monday:</b>	No Meetings Scheduled	<b>Wednesday:</b>	2nd Wednesday – School District #10 – 7:00 pm 3rd Wednesday – Plan Commission – 7:00 pm 3rd Wednesday – Peer Jury – as Scheduled
<b>Tuesday:</b>	1st Tuesday – Board of Trustees – 7:00 pm, Committee of the Whole immediately after 3rd Tuesday – Board of Trustees – 7:00 pm, Committee of the Whole immediately after	<b>Thursday:</b>	3rd Thursday – Historical Commission – 7:00 pm
		<b>Friday:</b>	No Meetings Scheduled



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

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

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Jeff Pruyn

**Village Clerk**

Melody Craven

**Trustees**

Jeff Aiani

Marty Hower

Mike Latoria

Ellen Leahy

Frank Madaras

Lucy Santorsola

**ECRWSS  
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**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

**We would like to hear from you!**

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

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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. E-mail us at [feedback@itasca.com](mailto:feedback@itasca.com).