

# Village of Island Lake Newsletter: July 2023 Mini-Newsletter



**From Mayor McLaughlin**

**Welcome summer!** While you're enjoying outdoor activities, *please be vigilant.* Watch out for kids on foot or on wheels, for walkers and runners, for bicycles and motorcycles and for construction and landscape workers and vehicles.

**Thank you to those who are sprucing up and improving their properties.** It puts our best foot forward when people and businesses look for a place to call "home".

**Our Grocery Store Quest continues.** Our demographics, plus the abundance of grocers in surrounding towns—Aldi in Volo, McHenry, Crystal Lake and Lake Zurich; Jewel in Wauconda, McHenry and Crystal Lake; Woodman's in Volo, for example—makes attracting a store to Island Lake a challenge.

**The trustees and I continue to seek and encourage new businesses.** We have been approached about uses like semi-truck parking, semi-truck driving school, self-storage facility, RV storage and a gas station (in the former Island Foods location on Rte. 176). What we hope to attract are retail businesses to serve our residents and bring much needed revenue. The dispensary originally projected for a spring/summer opening now expects to open in the fall (in the former Blackhawk Bank location in Westridge Mall), due to delays in with their craft growing facility in Huntley.

**The Senior Lofts 55+ housing** is preparing the site on Beech Street for its groundbreaking and expects to be ready for occupancy in August of 2024.

**2023 Events Calendar is on our website and updated periodically.** The **4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade** (on Tues., July 4) will kick off from the Westridge Mall, route through the Westridge subdivision and end at the Village Hall where there will be a family picnic. Watch for details on our website for **Lake Fest on July 7, 8 and 9** featuring the carnival and Bella Cain, Two Beer Tommy and Hi Infidelity bands; **Fireworks** on July 15\*—rain date July 16; **National Night Out** on Aug. 1; **Oktoberfest** on Sept. 22 and 23; and much more.

**Road work season is here.** See the Public Works & Water column for the Island Lake road projects. Also, be aware that a Darrell Road detour is expected to begin on July 5 due to the construction of 3 roundabouts. Go to [www.darrellroadproject.com](http://www.darrellroadproject.com) for project updates.

**Finally, welcome aboard, Police Chief Paulus!**

## **Public Works and Water, Director Chris Carlsen**

**2023 Road and Curb Projects** Roads slated for repaving include: Portsmouth Drive from Wimbledon Drive to Plymouth Lane. Small section on Hale Court, Debden Drive from Hale Lane to Newport Drive, and Porten Road from Wayside Drive to Vista Drive. Curbs will be repaired as needed during the road repaving projects.

**High Water Use Due to Leaks** *A leaking toilet is a major culprit for high water usage.* It can run through water very quickly—unnoticed by the homeowner—and result in unanticipated high water bills. Replace the Flap Valve at the bottom of your toilet tank every 1-2 Years to help prevent leaks. Also, as your outside water usage increases during warmer weather, check your pipes, hoses and spigots for leaks. *Turn off hoses and spigots after use.*

**Water Restrictions** *If water restrictions are in effect, we will post at entrances to subdivisions on and on our website.*

**Annual Water Quality Report** The Village of Island Lake Annual Water Quality Report for 2022 is available for viewing online at [Villageofislandlake.com/administration/water-department/2022-Annual-Water-Quality-Report](http://Villageofislandlake.com/administration/water-department/2022-Annual-Water-Quality-Report). This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water. Please call the Village Hall at (847) 526-8764 if you would like a paper report delivered to your home.

## **Public Meetings**

**Village Board:** 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs.\* of the month, 7:00pm

\*No meeting the 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs. in Nov. & Dec.

**Planning and Zoning Commission:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. of month, 7:30pm as needed

**Parks and Lake Commission:**

1<sup>st</sup> Mon. of month, 6:30pm as needed

**Emergency Management Agency:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday\*, 7:00pm as needed

\*No meeting July, Aug., Nov. & Dec.

**Police and Fire Commission:**

1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of month, 7:30pm as needed

**Historical Society:** 1<sup>st</sup> Mon. of month, 7:00pm

**Interested in serving on a Village Commission?** Go to our website; click on the Job & Village Commissions tab for an Interest Form.

## **Contact the Village:**

Village office: 847-526-8764

Public Works & Water: 847-526-8767

Official website of the Village of Island Lake: [www.villageofislandlake.com](http://www.villageofislandlake.com). Click on the **Contact Us** link in the blue toolbar on the left and select the department you would like to reach.

Visit our website for a directory of Village and Community Contacts.

## **Assorted Information**

- Parade and Picnic: July 4
- Lake Fest: July 7, 8, 9
- Fireworks: July 15\*  
\*Rain date July 16
- Secretary of State Mobile Unit: July 18 at Village Hall
- National Night Out: Aug. 1
- Oktoberfest: Sept. 22, 23
- Visit the Events page on our website for the 2023 Events Calendar

## Police Department, Chief Jennifer Paulus

**Important PSA for Parents: Snapchat Safety!** Does your minor child use Snapchat? You should know that



Snapchat has a secret picture vault in their application where kids can hide pictures. *Speak frankly with your children about your concern for their safety and the dangers of taking and sharing photos unwisely.* Drug photos, nude photos, party pictures, and much more can be hidden in the secret vault. As parents, it's a good idea to check this vault. These types of pictures are often used as blackmail by predators and those who wish to do children harm in sextortion schemes—an all too common occurrence these days. You might be saving a life (your child's or someone else's child) by checking.

1. *Open the Snapchat application* on their phone (yellow icon with a white ghost) to open the main picture-taking page. You should see a live image ready to take a photo. 2. *Click on the icon* that looks like two playing cards (below or beside the “take a picture button” [large circle at bottom of the screen]). 3. *Click on the MY EYES ONLY BUTTON* (one of the labels along the top of the photos “SNAPS, CAMERA ROLL, MEMORIES, and MY EYES ONLY”). 4. *Ask your child for the PIN* if the keypad pops up requesting one. *See parental pin extraction techniques for further help if needed.* 5. *View the vault.* You may see photos that put your child at risk.

Also, be aware that you are still not seeing the private disappearing snap chat messages they send back and forth to each other.

**Leave the fireworks to the professionals!** In an effort to maintain the safety of residents and visitors to our community, the Island Lake Police Department has instituted a zero tolerance policy towards illegal fireworks. Annually, thousands of people in the U.S. are treated in emergency rooms for fireworks related injuries. Two-thirds of these injuries—and in some cases death—occur between June 16 and July 16. Also affected are those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, including combat veterans, and pets. *Officers will be vigilant in enforcing the fireworks laws.* Citations will be issued with fines ranging from \$25 to \$750. All illegal fireworks will be confiscated and destroyed properly.



**The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday is one of the biggest days of the year for property fires.** *Be aware that if you set a fire as a result of illegal or unsafe fireworks use and it causes property damage or injury, your homeowner's insurance may not protect you. Don't miss the Village's spectacular display on July 15<sup>th</sup>.* (Rain date: July 16<sup>th</sup>.)

## Building and Code Enforcement

**Summer...when thoughts turn to barbeques, boats and BUILDING.** Here are a few notes and reminders for the busy summer building season.

**Permits are required for most work.** Go to our website on the forms tab to find *Building Depart. Information* [www.Villageofislandlake.com/forms/building-dept-information-2-2022](http://www.Villageofislandlake.com/forms/building-dept-information-2-2022) and *Building Permit Application* [www.Villageofislandlake.com/forms/building-permit-application-5-2023](http://www.Villageofislandlake.com/forms/building-permit-application-5-2023).

**Permit processing can take up to 20 business days.** All paperwork and the new, \$50 permit application fee

must be included for the application to be accepted. *Lead time for scheduling inspections is 48 hours.* Orange permit cards must be displayed in the window. *Fines apply for starting work without a permit.*



**Are you using the good weather to clean up your property?** Thank you for those who have cleaned up. The purpose of Code Enforcement is to prompt those who need a reminders. If code violations are resolved 14 days from the date of citation, fines do not apply. Respect your neighbors and your property. Clean up.

## Parks and Lake Commission



**Parks and Lake Commission seeks volunteers for Adopt-A-Park Program** to commit to regular park clean-up activities which may include cleaning up trash, weeding/mulching, and noting the condition of playground equipment, reporting graffiti or vandalism, fallen trees or other hazards. Make a difference in your community and meet new people. Scan the QR code for information.



**Channel Park for the Native Buffer Demonstration Project Grant and Mutton Creek Shoreline Stabilization Project:** Watch for a public meeting in late summer to explain these huge conservation efforts.

**The risk of harmful algae blooms (HAB) in the lake increases with hot weather, geese and drought.** Obey beach closure signs. Check our website and marquees for updates. *WHEN IN DOUBT, STAY OUT.*