While we are enjoying a relatively mild winter, I look forward to the next few months, when cold, dark winter nights fade and a new season approaches. The Village of Lisle is also undergoing changes, many of which were reviewed in my annual State of the Village address. I am pleased with the major new developments that are currently underway: our low debt and high bond rating; increases in operating efficiencies; new sustainable programs and communication enhancements. While highlights from the address are included in this issue, the entire address can be seen on the Village’s website, villageoflisle.org and on Cable TV Channels 10 and 99.

I am happy to welcome new Village Trustee Brad Hetlich and I look forward to working with him. He was a valuable member of the Planning and Zoning Commission and I know he’ll be equally valuable in his new role. I am also proud to congratulate the Little Teens with Character, recipients of the 2012 Community Spirit Award. I just can’t say enough about these young people who volunteer so much of their time for many valuable projects in Lisle. They give me hope that today’s youth will become responsible leaders of tomorrow.

This issue of Neighbors is all about pets and I share the enthusiasm for animals. My wife and I adopted our dog Charlie when he was one week away from being euthanized at a Chicago shelter. Now four years old, this part cairn terrier/Basset-Griffon is a wonderful part of our family and a constant source of fun. Whether on squirrel patrol, chasing his favorite toy or snuggling in our laps, Charlie lives life to the fullest and we are thankful we rescued him in the nick of time. I also want to give a special shout out and thanks to Bart the Village’s police dog and handler Officer Bill Wise for their efforts to keep our community safe.

We have many wonderful pet related businesses in Lisle, including All Pet Pantry, Groomingdale’s, Hand ‘N’ Paw, Lucky Dog Day Care and a number of veterinary clinics. Organizations like Collie Rescue, West Suburban Humane Society and Wolf and Strays-along with hundreds of dedicated volunteers—work hard to give pets a chance at forever homes. While pets tug at our hearts, pet related businesses are also good for the local economy. I encourage you to support the businesses and organizations which help make this community a nicer place for pets and people, too.

Speaking of our local economy, do you have Cabin Fever? If so, a Lisle restaurant is the place to be! During the next few months, Lisle restaurants are offering many special dining activities, including themed events, live entertainment and dining discounts.

Events include Seafood and Prime Rib Buffets, Crab Fests, Big Band Nights, Dueling Pianos, Family Nights, Trivia Nights and more. There’s something for everyone! Not only will you have a great time, you will be ‘dining local,’ which is always appreciated. Visit villageoflisle.org/dining for a list of events.

As the days grow longer, I invite you to join me in taking a few moments to reflect on the many positive changes that are in the making—both for the season and this wonderful community.

Mayor Joe Broda
Highlights from the State of the Village address

Mayor Joe Bresda delivered the annual State of the Village address on Thursday, January 17, during a Chamber luncheon held at the Hilton Lisle. Speaking to a crowd of more than one hundred people, Mayor Bresda reviewed the municipal highlights of the year 2012. The theme of the address was “Rising to Meet the Challenge.”

New Developments

Multiple new developments have transformed vacant land into productive use. DuPage Medical Group’s new 100,000 square foot state-of-the-art cancer and medical facility opened on the I-88 Corporate Corridor. The group also leased an additional 75,000 square feet on Ogden Avenue. DuPage Medical Group employs 610 people at its Lisle location, making it a major Lisle business.

Arborview Landmark, a new residential development, located at the DuPage Medical Group facility, is under construction. It will feature 310 upscale apartments in condominium style amenities.

Construction on the new 20 acres, 185,000 square feet, Universal Technical Institute’s Midwest Campus is underway on the I-88 Corporate Corridor. It will be a premier, accredited technician educational institution when finished.

Artor Trails, one of the largest new residential developments in the area, will soon break ground on 60 acres that has been owned by Master for more than thirteen years. The development will offer 163 single family homes, open space, trails, a pond and wetland. The Village welcomed 39 businesses to the community and is reaching existing businesses through Retention and Anniversary Programs.

Village Finances

The Village’s low debt ($5.8 million) and high bond rating of Aa3 (Moody’s) are positive outcomes of careful fiscal policy. The Village has utilized volunteers, obtained $1.4 million in grants and continually seeks ways to operate more efficiently. Recent changes at the Village’s Police Department allow the Village to share local emergency service resources, and their Community Service Unit (CSO) has introduced part-time employees to handle non-emergency calls to better allocate the resources of police officers.

Expanding Communications

A new quarterly CityView with the Village Board enables the community to connect with officials more conveniently. The Village is now using more than a dozen ways to communicate with the public. The Village also expanded its use of social media and is encouraging people to “Shop Local” through a variety of initiatives such as the FOR FREE! and Cabin Fever Relief campaigns.

Increasing Sustainability

Electrical aggregation provides residents with a source of sustainable energy and an estimated cost savings of $100 per year. Now larger carts encourage residential recycling. Recycling events have diverted 182,000 pounds of electronics from landfills.

Award-winning PrairieFolk Pond continues to attract people into Downtown Lisle. An increasing number of groups are touring the pond to learn about sustainability, enjoying the site’s amenities and visiting Downtown Lisle shops and restaurants.

Awards & Accolades

- Transportation Project of the Year (Short Street Bridge)
- Excellence in Financial Reporting (third year in a row)
- Honor Award for Environmental Stewardship (PrairieFolk Pond)

- Top Towns In Which To Live
  (West Suburban Living Magazine)

Time to get out and clean up—
yard waste collection begins March 26

One sign that spring is approaching is the start of the Village’s annual curbside yard waste collection service. Republic Services will begin collecting yard waste on Tuesday, March 26. Yard waste includes leaves, grass clippings, branches, brush and other organic material. Branches and brush refuse must be handled, using biodegradable bags measuring no larger than 4 in length and 18 in diameter, with one yard waste sticker attached. Other yard waste should be placed in approved paper yard waste bags or in a rigid container, no larger than 15 gallons, clearly marked, “Yard Waste,” with one yard waste sticker attached. Yard waste in plastic bags will not be accepted.

Welcome new Village Trustee Brad Hetlich

Brad is President of Hetlich Financing Solutions Inc, which provides financial consultation and lending services to a variety of businesses. He served on the Village’s Planning and Zoning and Ogden Avenue Master Plan Commissions. Brad has also been actively involved in numerous community organizations including the Lisle Rotary Club, Eyes to the Skies Festival, Scarecrow Scramble, Junior Achievement and was Chair of the Chamber’s Government Affairs Committee. Brad, his wife Cathy and their three children have resided in Lisle for five years.
Meet Bart, the Village of Lisle Police Dog

Meet the Lisle Police Officer behind badge #499: Bart the Police Dog! Bart is a six-year-old male German shepherd who was born in the Netherlands. He has been serving as a member of the Lisle Police Department for five years. His partner, Officer Bill Wise, received special training to learn how to work with him. Bart lives with the Wise family, which also includes two other dogs:

Bart is a "double purpose" police dog. He can detect the following drugs and their derivatives: marijuana, cocaine, heroin, ecstasy, and methamphetamine. He can also perform building and article searches; evidence recovery; tracking and area searches; obedience; crowd and aggression control. He has demonstrated his skills at local grade schools, attended DARE graduations, block parties and other community events.

Bart primarily uses his sense of smell to search large areas or buildings and track a suspect or citizen if they flee from a crime scene or get lost in a large area. Bart can also apprehend and subdue suspects if they actively resist or run from officers.

To keep his skills sharp, Bart undergoes training every other week and his North American Police Work Dog Association Certificate must be renewed annually. Bart is also a certified SWAT K9 and a member of the IACP Canine Response Unit, which allows him to help neighboring communities as needed. Bart once helped locate more than 21 kilos of cocaine that was hidden inside of a bag and he recently assisted in recovering several pounds of marijuana and weeds, almost $20,000 in cash.

The Village is proud of Officer Wise and Bart and thanks them for their continuing service to this community.

Village News Briefs...

Mark your calendars for Sustainable Saturday!

Spring cleaning just got a little easier! Bring your unwanted electronics, car or boat,ump and rechargeable batteries; scrap metal; documents needing to be shred-
d, carpet rolls, fluorescent lights; bicycles and more to the 5th Annual Sustainable Saturday in Lisle event from 9am to 12pm on April 20 at Benedictine University, 5700 College Road, Lisle. The free, popular show DROP-off event is made possible by the Village of Lisle, Benedictine University, DuPage County and local environmental organizations, SCARCE. For more information, including a complete listing of items accepted, visit sghfsdp.org.

Village seeks feedback about Downtown Lisle French Market

Have you shopped at the Downtown Lisle French Market? If so, the Village is seeking your feedback about the market on such issues as market hours, quality and diversity of products, suggested improvements and more. Email your comments to: JMcClements@lisleil.gov.

The Scoop on Pet Poop — Do the right thing

The Scoop

Pet waste that remains on the ground or that goes into stormwater can cause health and environmental problems. Pet waste in stormwater breaks down and releases ammonia, which contributes to fish kills. It also adds nitrogen to the water, causing algae and weeds to grow. These decline oxygen, which is necessary for fish and other wildlife.

Pet waste also contains bacteria and other pathogens that are harmful to human health and can cause diarrhea, stomach cramps, nausea, dehydration, meningitis, headaches and muscle aches. It can even be fatal to those with depressed immune systems.

Do the Right Thing

Lisle pet owners are required to immediately remove and properly dispose of their pet's waste, so be a responsible pet owner. Flush pet waste down the toilet, where it will go to wastewater treatment plant that removes most pollutants before the water is released to a stream. Don't flush cat litter! Or secretly double-

bag pet waste, and cat litter and place in your trash can for pick-up.

Living with coyotes

Coyotes prefer to be as far from humans as possible, but as with other species, a lack of habitat has left them few choices. To prevent problems in your yard, eliminate sources of food and shelter.

Do not feed coyotes.

Keep pet food and water dishes inside your residence.

Do not allow spills to accumulate below food feeders.

Keep grills and barbecue clean. Even small food scraps attract coyotes.

Keep garbage bins inside or securely store outside bins.

Do not add pet waste, meat, milk, or eggs to an exposed compost bin.

Pick up fruit that has fallen off trees.

District of DuPage County informational pamphlets are available at the Lisle Police Department and at the Lisle Village Hall.