Like many of you, over time I have watched an array of natural disasters unfold in other parts of the country and while feeling for those whose lives were impacted, I was always thankful that Lisle never experienced such an event. That all changed on Thursday, April 18, 2013, when the worst flood in Lisle’s history dramatically impacted this community.

The April 2013 flood is an experience I will never forget and even thinking about it now kicks my adrenaline into gear. The cold, constant rain, the rising waters, opening the Emergency Command Center at Village Hall; abandoned cars submerged in water; dramatic evacuations—the urgency of the situation as it became clear that many people’s lives were truly in jeopardy.

Assessing the damage after the flood was heartbreaking—seeing water ravaged neighborhoods and displaced, shocked people try to come to terms with and deal with the crisis. Some people were inconvenienced, others lost everything.

The flood also brought out many heroes in our community—those who stepped up and volunteered in a variety of ways. Individuals, organizations, the young and the old—it made no difference—those who could lend a hand did and many are still volunteering. I have great faith in the people of this community and they did not let me or their fellow citizens down and I thank all of them for their efforts.

I would like to be able to tell you this will never happen again in Lisle, but I can’t. The reality is that some parts of our community are located in a floodplain. During extreme storms, water surging into a floodplain is destructive. I can tell you that we were lucky a flood of this magnitude did not affect us before and that there were no significant injuries recorded. I can also tell you that this flood will prompt a great deal of discussion, planning—maybe even rethinking—of how to best protect our community from future floods based on what we learned from this disaster. As public officials, we are confronted with difficult choices in balancing residents’ desires to control their own destinies, with long-term public safety, infrastructure and cost concerns.

These and other important issues will be considered by your new Village Board. I welcome Rob Gotz and Tony Carbello as new Village Trustees and say good bye and thank you to outgoing Trustees Ken Modaff, Lee Lafond and Ed Young. Clerk Tim Seeden, Trustee Brad Hetlich and I were also re-elected in April. I want to personally thank the Lisle community for providing me the opportunity to serve as Mayor for a fourth term of office. After 27 years as Trustee and Mayor, I remain as excited about this community as the day I first took the oath of office as Trustee and will strive to do what’s best for Lisle as I continue on as your Mayor. I know the entire Board shares that sentiment.

Mayor Joe Breda
Changes to your Village Board

During the May 6 Village Board Meeting, newly-elected Trustees Tony Carbello and Rob Cato joined re-elected Trustees Brad Ricketts, Clerc Tim Sebest and Mayor Joe Benda as taking the oath of office to serve the Village community for four years. On May 23, Trustee Ed Young resigned from the Village Board after serving for fourteen years to fulfill his new duties as a newly-elected Lake Township Trustee. Mayor Benda and other Board Members thanked outgoing Trustees Ed Young, Ken Modaff and Lee Lafford for years of dedicated service to this community and welcomed the new Board members.

Meet your new board members

Tony Carbello is a business litigation partner at Fredrikus & Peters in Chicago where he has worked since 1994. From 1986 to 1994, Tony served as an Assistant State’s Attorney in Cook County in the Criminal Prosecutions and Special Prosecutions Bureau. Tony and his wife Julie have lived in Lisle for the past 20 years. Tony and Julie have three children—Vincent, Grace and Nick. The family is a member of St. Margaret Mary Church. Prior to being elected as a Lisle Trustee, Tony served on the Lisle Park District Board of Commissioners from 2005 to 2013 and on the Lisle Convention and Visitors Bureau Board for the past several years. Tony is also a member of the Rotary Club of Lisle.

Rob Cato is the Regional Operations Director at Terra Technologies, LLC. He earned a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois and an MS in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Chicago. He is a licensed professional engineer and managing real estate broker. Rob and his wife Michelle have three children, Katie, Kelly and Jack, who attend St. Jean of Art school. Rob has been a member of the Lisle Planning and Zoning Commission from 2006–2013 and served on the Oxident Corridor Planning Committee. He is a Board Member of the Green Trails Improvement Association, a Lecturer at St. Jean of Art Parish, Assistant Coach with the Lisle Park District and a Benet High School Varsity Football Chain Crew member since 2009.

Prevent crime this summer

Enjoy a fun, safe summer by following these crime prevention tips presented by the Lisle Police Department:

- Keep vehicles locked with the windows closed whenever they are unoccupied. Be sure to remove all valuables including purses, cellular phones, MP3 players, GPS systems, laptop computers, etc. when the vehicle is unattended. Secure automatic garage door openers, which allow easy access to garages and homes.
- Avoid home improvement scams and burglaries. Be wary of anyone looking to perform unscheduled home repair or asking to gain entry to your home. Ask for identification and contact their company for authorization. Do not agree to pay for home improvement services until the work has been completed.
- Keep all doors closed and locked. This includes garage, sheds and patio doors. Burglaries from open garages, sheds, and residences are more prevalent in the summer months and often occur when the homeowners is in the backyard.
- Summer vacation plans? Stop delivery of mail and newspapers, or have a trusted neighbor pick them up. Set inside lights on a timer to turn on during the overnight hours. Set your burglar alarm if you have one. Ask a neighbor to watch your residence while you're away and provide them with contact information so they can reach you as needed. Ask them to contact the Lisle Police Department immediately if they encounter suspicious activities.
- If you do not have a neighbor to look after your home while you're away, contact the Lisle Police Department at 630-271-4200 and ask to be placed on a Vacation Watch List. With your permission, Lisle Police Officers will check your house to make sure everything is secure. Using this service ensures that the Police Department has your contact information should something happen while you're away.

Changes to Community Service Officer Unit provides benefits

Recently, the Lisle Police Department Community Service Officer (CSO) Unit was restructured and expanded. Two new part-time officers were added and the department of four is now supervised by a Senior Community Service Officer. The expanded unit is handling more of the non-emergency activities which includes: parking enforcement, animal control, fingerprinting, car seat inspections, ordinance violations, vehicle code infractions, motorized assists, accident scene response, traffic control, administrative duties, special events support and emergency management and response duties. As a result, Lisle police officers have more time to focus on true emergency calls and criminal complaints.

The expanded CSO Unit was especially helpful during the recent flood. They manned barricades for road closures, prevented people from driving onto flooded areas and doused dangerous situations and assisted Fire District personnel with the evacuation of the Snow Valley Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. The role and responsibilities of the CSO Unit will continue to evolve and respond to the community's needs.
Tornado safety

Tornadoes are nature's most violent storms. Spawned from powerful thunderstorms, tornadoes can cause fatalities and devastate a neighborhood in seconds. A tornado appears as a rotating, funnel-shaped cloud that extends from a thunderstorm to the ground with whirling winds that can reach 300 miles per hour. Damage paths can be in excess of one mile wide and 50 miles long. Since every state is at some risk from tornadoes, it is important to know what to do if weather conditions favor the development of tornadoes in this community.

In Lisle, sirens are activated to warn the community when a tornado has either touched down in the Village or in a surrounding town. Once activated, the siren will continue to sound until the danger has passed. As tornadoes can develop at any time, be on the alert until weather conditions improve.

Know the difference between a Tornado Watch and a Tornado Warning.

A Tornado Watch means that conditions are right for tornadoes to develop in and near the watch area. Review and discuss emergency plans and check supplies and your safe room. Remain alert and be ready to act quickly if a warning is issued or you suspect a tornado is approaching. Acting early helps to save lives!

A Tornado Warning means that a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Tornado warnings indicate immediate danger to life and property. Seek shelter immediately.

Register for CodeRED notifications

The Village of Lisle uses the CodeRED Notification System to send a variety of critical information to the community. Information ranges from evacuation notices, extreme weather warnings, missing child alerts and more. Users can select their preferred method of notification, including via home or mobile phone, email, text message or TDD/TTY device for the hearing impaired. There is no charge for this service, manage and data rates from individuals' mobile service providers may apply. To register for CodeRED, visit villageoflisle.org and choose the CodeRED option in the upper right hand corner of the homepage. Residents without access to a computer can register for CodeRED by calling the Lisle Police Department at 630-271-4200. Your contact information remains private and will only be used for important community notifications.

SUMMER LOVIN’ Lisle
Sunsational Fun!

Summer is in full swing and what better way to celebrate this “sunsational” season than in Lisle, “The Arborstein Village.” Visit the Village’s website (villageoflisle.org) or Facebook page (facebook.com/villageoflisle) to learn about fun activities, special events and offers from your favorite stores and restaurants. And be sure to visit beautiful Downtown Lisle filled with blooming flowers and greenery—used for a limited time—great photography!

Mobile Drivers Service Facility comes to Lisle Village Hall

The Secretary of State’s Mobile Drivers Service Facility will be coming to the Lisle Village Hall 9225 Burlington Ave on Thurs., Aug. 15 from 9:00-2:00. The mobile unit will be able to issue driver’s licenses (ID cards not available), ID cards and license plate renewal stickers for July, August and September.

Village of Lisle mosquito abatement program

The Village’s mosquito control contractor, Clarke Environmental Management, provides a comprehensive Mosquito Abatement Program designed to control nuisance mosquitoes, reduce the potential of mosquito-borne disease transmission such as the West Nile Virus and provide a comfortable and healthy summertime atmosphere for residents.

Clarke monitors the presence of adult mosquitoes in traps at various locations throughout Lisle and treats standing water and catch basins for mosquitoes. Occasionally, Village-wide truck sprays are required. Residents may call Clarke’s Mosquito Hotline at 1-800-942-2555 or visit clarkeinc.com to sign-up for an automated notification that is provided in advance of a spraying.

Protect against mosquitoes by taking the following precautions:

- Wear repellent, light-colored and loose fitting outdoor clothing.
- Change water in birdbaths and plant pots at least once a week or more often.
- Keep gutters and downspouts well maintained.
- Keep drains, ditches and culverts clear of debris and refuse so water will drain properly.

To report standing or stagnant water, call the Mosquito Hotline at 1-800-942-2555.

Other questions regarding the Village’s Mosquito Abatement Program may be directed to the Village Manager’s Office at 630-271-4111.