

### The City Newsletter

### Safer Streets = A Safer Community

Character Counts on Our Streets!



n October of 2003, the City of Elmhurst officially kicked off a character-building program known as "Character Counts." This nationwide coalition promotes the six pillars of character — trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. We become individuals with true character when we incorporate these values into our daily lives and our interactions with others. The program was embraced not only by government officials and employees, but was also integrated into programs sponsored by local schools,



the Elmhurst Public Library, the Park District, the Chamber of Commerce, Elmhurst Hospital, Elmhurst College, and the Elmhurst YMCA, along with many businesses, service organizations, youth groups and churches. These core values should become an integral part of who we are and should be visible in all we do. This includes how we act when we are behind the wheel on our city streets.

Trustworthy drivers value the privileges granted them when they receive their drivers' licenses. Trustworthy teens value the trust their parents place in them when they hand over the keys to the family car. Drivers show respect for others when they treat other motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians with courtesy. Motorists need to take responsibility for their driving habits and make good decisions when behind the wheel. This includes awareness that we share our streets with bicyclists and driving in such a way as to ensure their safety. Bicyclists also have a responsibility to follow the rules of the road and treat motorists and pedestrians with courtesy and consideration. Fair and caring drivers realize that our streets are shared by men, women and children whose lives and safety are important. And finally, good citizenship is demonstrated when motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians adhere to traffic laws and regulations. The articles on the following pages provide suggestions and information that will lead to safer streets and a safer community.

## Elmhurst

September 2008

Issue III



# Good News for Taxpayers!

Elmhurst property owners will be pleased to learn that the municipal portion of the 2007 property tax rate decreased by 5.8% over the 2006 rate. The municipal tax rate has decreased every year for the last ten years as equalized assessed values have shown a healthy increase every year, including an 11% increase in 2007. The city receives less than 6% of each tax dollar collected from Elmhurst property owners — revenue that is used primarily to provide fire protection and ambulance service, and contribute to employee pension benefits. Check the city's website, www.elmhurst.org, for a chart comparing Elmhurst's tax rate with other DuPage County communities.



### Remember Our Veterans

Residents and friends will have an opportunity to honor current and past members of our nation's military at a special ceremony on Veterans' Day, Tuesday, November 11, at 10:30 a.m. at the Veterans' Memorial in Wilder Park. The ceremony is sponsored by the City of Elmhurst and local veterans' organizations. All are invited to attend and show our military men and women that we appreciate their service and their sacrifices.



### Alive at 25

etting a driver's license has long been considered a rite of passage among American teens. However, there are some sobering statistics regarding young drivers that every parent should be aware of before turning over the keys to the family car and every young driver should think about before getting behind the wheel.

- Nearly 6,000 teenagers lose their lives in traffic accidents each year and another 326,000 are seriously injured.
- Traffic accidents are the leading cause of fatalities in people between the ages of 16 and 24 and account for 44% of teen deaths in the United States.
- Although drivers between 15 and 20 years of age represent only about 7% of licensed drivers, they are involved in nearly 15% of all fatal crashes.
- One in five of all newly licensed drivers are involved in a crash within a year of getting their licenses.

These tragic numbers result from a combination of factors, including speed, inexperience, impaired driving, risk-taking behavior, distractions, failure to use seat belts, road rage and driving with other teens in the vehicle.

Elmhurst school officials and the Elmhurst Police Department are committed to keeping our young people alive to see their 25th birthdays. High school resource officers and juvenile



officers from the Police Department began teaching a new program called "Alive at 25" this summer. The goal of the program, developed by the National Safety Council, is to teach young drivers to take responsibility for their own driving behavior by making

better driving decisions. This highly interactive program focuses on decision-making, risk-taking, behavior and consequences. Course instructors make use of personal examples, role playing, humor, interactive media segments, group discussions, workbook exercises and short lectures to help young drivers develop strategies that will keep them safer while driving. The class is open to teens who attend local public or private high schools or are Elmhurst residents. For more information or to register for an upcoming class, please call 630-530-3113 and leave the student's name, address, age and home telephone number.

### Keeping Little Passengers Safe

Every year, thousands of young children are injured or killed in traffic accidents. Sadly, many such tragedies could have been prevented if the little ones had been properly restrained in safety seats, boosters or seat belts. National statistics show that in the vast majority of cases where the child was restrained, either the car seat was improperly installed or the child was improperly secured in the car seat. Infants should be secured in rear-facing infant seats. Older babies and toddlers should be restrained in front-facing seats, some of which convert to belt-positioning boosters for use until the child is big enough to use an adult seatbelt.

As a community service, the Elmhurst Fire Department offers free car seat inspections. Each inspection takes between 45 minutes and an hour and is performed by a trained and certified Child Passenger Safety Technician. Please call 630-530-3090 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

### Yield to Emergency Vehicles

Every year in the United States, there are almost 16,000 collisions involving emergency vehicles, resulting in injuries and deaths to emergency personnel and other motorists. The law



is very specific — drivers must yield the right-of-way to emergency vehicles. Failure to do so not only causes accidents, it also impedes the ability of ambulance, police and fire personnel to respond quickly to an emergency. Drivers should follow these simple rules when encountering an emergency vehicle.

- On a four-lane highway or street without barriers, pull as far as possible to the right and come to a complete stop. Don't pull over if you are traveling in the opposite direction on a divided highway or street.
- Never turn left or pull to the left in front of an emergency vehicle.
- On a high-speed road or if there isn't room to stop, slow down as much as possible.
- If you are approached from behind when stopped at an intersection, stay where you are unless you can safely pull to the right.
- Use extreme caution when passing an accident or situation involving emergency vehicles and personnel.
- Always stay at least 500 feet behind an emergency vehicle.

Remember — for your safety and that of emergency responders—"Move to the Right for Sirens and Lights!"

# Community Safety

### **Back to School Safely**

In the coming days, children throughout our community will be going back to school. Many of those who don't ride the school bus will be walking or biking to school and back. Unfortunately, this is a time when children are at greatest risk of injury from pedestrian, bike and motor vehicle accidents. A number of factors contribute to the increased risk, including congestion around schools, shorter daylight hours, and children's immaturity and lack of judgment. Children assume that if they can see a car, the driver can see them. They lack the experience to judge how fast a car is going and how far away it is. Young children should be supervised as they walk to the bus stop or to and from school. Parents are urged to insist that their children practice these pedestrian safety rules:

- Cross only at crosswalks or where crossing guards are available.
- Obey all traffic signs, traffic lights, and instructions from crossing guards or safety patrol members.

If your child will be biking to and from school, invest in a bike that fits the child, an approved bicycle helmet, shoes that protect the feet, and clothing that cannot become entangled in the bike chain. Children under the age of nine are too young to identify and adjust to dangerous traffic situations and should not be allowed to ride in the street. Teach your child the following bicycle safety rules.

Always wear a helmet. Helmets can prevent approximately 85 percent of biking head injuries.

**School Bus Safety** 

Big yellow school buses will soon be a common sight on Elmhurst streets as thousands of children and teens begin another school year. Motorists are reminded that anytime they approach a stopped school bus displaying its mechanical stop arm and flashing red lights from any direction, they must come to a complete stop and remain stopped until the stop arm is withdrawn, the flashing red stoplights are off and the bus has moved on. Children in wheelchairs or with other special needs may require a little more time to get on and off the bus safely. The Elmhurst Police Department cautions motorists that a violation of the law regarding passing a school bus can result in a fine of \$150 and driver's license suspension for a first offense. Please leave home a few minutes earlier during the school year and help keep our school children safe.

- Never ride into the street without stopping first. Just because the child sees the car does not mean the driver sees the child.
- Ride in a straight line on the right with the flow of traffic.
  - Change direction without swerving and use hand signals when turning.
    - Stop and look both ways at stop signs, stop lights and intersections. When children are riding in a group, each rider must stop and make sure the intersection is clear before crossing. Younger children should walk their bikes across busy intersections.
    - Check behind you, signal and look behind again before turning or changing lanes.
    - Never follow another rider without applying the rules. Many fatal bike accidents occur when the first rider violates one of these rules and the second rider follows blindly.

Practice safe biking skills by riding with your child. Never allow your child to ride after dark, or on wet or slippery streets. Let's do all we can to keep our kids safe as they go back to school this fall.

### Seat Belts Save Lives

Traffic accident statistics indicate that failure to wear a seatbelt contributes to more fatalities than any other single behavior related to traffic safety. Over 60% of people killed in accidents were not wearing seatbelts. Research has found that properly used lap/shoulder seatbelts reduce the risk of fatal injury to drivers and front seat passengers by 45% and the risk of moderate to critical injury by 50%. Young drivers, especially males between the ages of 16 and 25, are less likely to buckle up than any other group of drivers. Ironically, they are the nation's highest risk drivers, with more speeding and drunk driving violations, and more traffic accidents than drivers in other age groups. Statistics also show that seatbelt compliance is lowest during nighttime hours, especially from midnight to 3:00 a.m. The Elmhurst Police Department conducted a "Click it or Ticket" campaign around Memorial Day that resulted in 153 seatbelt violations and 17 other citations. This is a dramatic decrease since the 2007 seatbelt campaign that resulted in 204 seatbelt or child restraint violations and 20 other citations. While driving within the speed limit and obeying other traffic rules are very important, wearing a seatbelt is still the single most effective thing we can do to save lives and reduce injuries on our streets and highways.



### A Drug-Free Community

Red Ribbon Week is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the United States. It originated after the 1985 murder of DEA Agent Enrique Camarena following an undercover investigation of a major Mexican drug cartel. To honor Camarena's memory, clubs were formed whose members pledged to lead drug-free lives. They began to wear red badges or ribbons as a symbol of Camarena's sacrifice and that of others in the war against drugs. The ultimate goal of the Red Ribbon Campaign is the creation of a drug-free America. In an effort to raise awareness and promote a drug-free community, Red Ribbon Week will be held in Elmhurst during the week of October 23-31. Residents, young and old, are encouraged to wear red ribbons to school or work, or tie a red ribbon around your car antenna or parkway tree to show your

# Elmhurst Earns Perfect Score for Walkability

support and commitment to live drug-free.

### Community Called a "Walkers' Paradise"

A new website, www.walkscore.com, rates Elmhurst as a very walkable community, with a rating of 100 out of 100 (a "Walkers' Paradise") on its walkability scale. The website, which is sponsored by a group known as FrontSeat, focuses on transportation concerns specifically related to environmental issues.

The website rates locations based on the number of businesses, schools, parks and other destinations close to a specific address. In Elmhurst's case, there are many such businesses and other activities within close proximity to the Central Business District. With a central address of "100 N. York Street" (York Street at the commuter rail tracks) entered, the corresponding Walk Score was 100 out of 100. Businesses and other destinations closely identified with this location include York Theatre, Elmhurst Historical Museum, Glos Memorial Park, and numerous others, all within a small fraction (0.15) of a mile from this address.

This is only the most recent example of Elmhurst's longstanding presence as an environmentally-oriented community. Walkability (including the Illinois Prairie Path), a grid street system (for easier access), large park and open space areas, reinvestment in residential and commercial properties, and a well-used commuter rail line, are all indicative of the community's environmental focus.

### Mayor's Message

s you can see from our cover story "Good News for Taxpayers," Elmhurst enjoys the lowest municipal tax rate in the county, with the exception of Oak Brook whose tax rate is kept low by the sales taxes collected through the Oak Brook Shopping Center. At the same time, Elmhurst's infrastructure is in good condition. Our City Council is to be commended for these achievements — the result of their consistent concentration on economic development in our community.

In addition I'd like to congratulate those individuals and community groups who helped to make Elmhurst a COOL City. Last fall, the City was one of the first DuPage communities to sign the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, a pledge by mayors nationwide to reduce global warming pollution in their cities to 1990 levels by 2012. This agreement is part of the Sierra Club's Cool Cities Initiative and challenges cities to meet a wide variety of environmental goals.

As a result, the City today is taking action on several environmental fronts. We are working with landscape architects and building groups to revise our codes in order to make them more environmentally sensitive. We are also evaluating the role that bikes can play in a modern Elmhurst. As part of our Hahn Street commercial development project, we are striving to enhance the walkability/sustainability of our community, which has already been recognized by a new website (www.walkscore. com) that rates communities for walkability and gave Elmhurst a perfect score. Residents here are fortunate to be able to enjoy many community assets — retail shops, library, museums, movie theater and a selection of fine restaurants — all without getting into the car.

Safety has always been a top priority for our community as well and our crime rate is low. As a result, sometimes it's easy to become lax about locking our homes and vehicles. As you can see from our article on page 9, the large majority of burglaries in Elmhurst involve unlocked doors and vehicles. Please help to keep our crime rate low by locking up.

Lastly, I'd like to invite you to join me on Veterans Day, November 11, at 10:30 a.m., at the Veterans' Memorial in Wilder Park. This ceremony, sponsored by the City of Elmhurst and local veterans' organizations, has been instituted to honor our war veterans whose sacrifices have enabled us to live in freedom in this great country we are fortunate to call home.

Mayor Thomas D. Marcucci



### **Becoming a Green Community**



The community's first-ever Green Fest, sponsored by the Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition, was held on August 9th in Wilder Park. The concept of sustainability has been embraced by individuals,

families, organizations, businesses and governmental entities throughout the city and beyond. Green Fest provided vital information on simple steps that can be taken to protect the environment for this and future generations. Watch future issues of *The Front Porch* for more on this vital topic.

### **New City Website – Coming Soon**

The city's website will soon have a whole new look and even more information of value to residents, potential new residents, businesses, organizations and visitors. Watch for more in the next issue of *The Front Porch*.

### **Prevent Street Flooding**

Residents can help prevent street flooding in their neighborhoods by raking debris and leaves away from the storm drain inlets in front of their homes during periods of heavy rainfall. Clogged inlets prevent stormwater from flowing into the city's storm sewer system.





### **Trick or Treat in Elmhurst**

Motorists are reminded that youngsters will be trick-or-treating in our neighborhoods on Friday, October 31, between the hours of 3:30 and 7:30 p.m. Young children should be accompanied by a parent or another adult. Parents should instruct their children to approach only well-lit homes, cross streets at intersections and bring treats home for inspection. Happy Halloween!

### **Citizens Police Academy**

The Elmhurst Police Department provides a perfect opportunity for citizens wishing to learn more about the work of law enforcement. Students at the Citizens Police Academy learn how to dust for fingerprints, process a crime scene and much more. This free, 13-week program gives participants a working knowledge of the Elmhurst Police Department and law enforcement in general, covering such topics as identity

theft, defensive tactics and hostage negotiations, to name just a few. The goal of the Citizens Police Academy is to improve communication, confidence and cooperation between the police and the community. Classes are limited to 25 students per session, 21 years of age or older, who live or work in Elmhurst, and have passed a background check. The next session will begin on Wednesday, September 10, and end on Wednesday, December 10, with a class held weekly from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Each block of instruction will provide hands-on training and an in-depth look at a particular division within the department. For more information or to obtain an application, please contact Sergeant Robert Nicholas at 630-530-3057.

### Free Leaf Pick-Up

Although we are still enjoying the last days of summer, before long there will be a chill in the air and leaves will turn to their glorious fall colors and begin falling from the



trees. The City of Elmhurst, through its contract wastehauler, provides free leaf pick-up twice each autumn to residents living within city limits. This year's leaf pick-ups will take place on November 5, 6 and 7 and December 3, 4 and 5 on your regular collection dates. Leaves must be kept separate from other yard waste and placed at the curb in clearly marked garbage cans, cardboard boxes or Kraft paper bags. Containers other than Kraft bags will be left on the parkway following the collection.

Please keep in mind that city ordinances prohibit raking leaves, grass clippings and other debris into the street. This practice creates hazardous conditions for motorists and impedes the flow of stormwater into the city's storm sewer system.



### Lock It or Lose It

If you have read the local newspapers over this past summer, you have often read of crimes where many vehicles and homes have been burglarized. The large majority of these burglaries involve unlocked doors and/or valuables left in plain sight. Residents are reminded to keep their homes, garages and vehicles locked whether they are at home or not; both day and night. Stop yourself from becoming a victim. Don't hesitate to call 9-1-1 to report any suspicious person, vehicle or activity in your neighborhood. If it caught your attention, *no matter how minor you think it might be*, **call the police.** Calls by residents have helped the police to solve many crimes like these and make Elmhurst a safer place to live.





### Elmhurst Historical Museum

120 E. Park Ave., Elmhurst

Phone: 630-833-1457 www.elmhurst.org/elmhurst/museum

## **Brain Teasers 2 Runs Through September 7**

If you have not yet put your brain to the test with the Brain Teasers 2 exhibit at the Elmhurst Historical Museum, there's still time. The exhibit is open through September 7, 2008, and features challenging, interactive puzzle stations for brain-



twisting fun. This exhibit has been extremely popular with families and puzzle enthusiasts of all ages. Admission is free. Brain Teasers 2 is produced, exhibited and toured by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry.

Thank you to the many residents who participated in the museum's brain-teasing contest — "So You Think You Know Elmhurst" — which was featured in *The Elmhurst Independent* throughout the summer. Visit the Elmhurst Historical Museum's web site at www.elmhurst.org/elmhurst/museum for contest answers and winners.

### Stitches & Stories: Quilts from the Elmhurst Piecemakers

Sept. 23, 2008 - Jan. 4, 2009

Throughout history, quilts have presented a unique way of telling stories through their colorful fabrics and intricate patterns. The Elmhurst Historical Museum is proud to present a beautiful array of contemporary quilts in the new exhibit, "Stitches & Stories: Quilts from the Elmhurst Piecemakers." The quilts represent the fine craftwork of Elmhurst's own quilting organization, The Piecemakers, and will be

displayed in two rotations, September 23rd to November 9th and November 18th to January 4th. The museum will feature a number of related programs and speakers during the quilt exhibit, so be sure to look over the Elmhurst Historical Museum's calendar of events for more details or visit the museum's website at www. elmhurst.org/elmhurst/museum.

### **Learning Opportunities for Schools and Scouts at EHM**

Did you know that the Elmhurst Historical Museum is an excellent resource for scout troops? In 2007, more than 25 Cub Scout and Girl Scout troops visited the museum to earn badges and explore history. A new program added last year, "Miss Manners Tea Party," was a huge hit with Daisy and Brownie Scouts. The tea party offers a hands-on experience that teaches old-fashioned table manners and the art of polite conversation as young ladies enjoy tasty treats and sip tea. Other popular Girl Scout programs include "Listening to the Past," "Local Lore" and



Miss Manners Tea Party is a popular and scrumptious badge workshop for Brownies and Daisy Scouts.

"Architecture in Elmhurst." Cub Scout troops can earn badges with programs such as "Know Your Community," "What Makes America Special," and "Start a Collection," with additional options available.

Community Program Coordinator, Leslie Goddard, is also delighted to work with scout groups on special projects. If your scout troop is seeking badge workshops that are fun, interesting and reasonably priced, contact Leslie at 630-833-1457 or via e-mail at leslie. goddard@elmhurst.org to make arrangements for your group.

### Fire Prevention Week

The theme for the 2008 Fire Prevention Week campaign is "It's Fire Prevention Week - Prevent Home Fires." There are hundreds of thousands of home fires each year in this country, resulting in deaths, injuries and billions of dollars in property damage. The two leading causes of home fires are cooking and heating equipment. Smoking materials and heating equipment are the leading cause of fatalities in home fires. The week of October 5-11 has been set aside as Fire Prevention Week by the National Fire Prevention Association. The Elmhurst Fire Department urges residents to take steps to protect themselves, their families and their homes by learning how to prevent home fires. For safety tips, resources and other information for families, teachers, individuals and organizations, visit the National Fire Prevention Association's newly launched 2008 Fire Prevention Week website at www.firepreventionweek. org. Please be aware that there will not be a Fire Department Open House this year due to construction at Fire Station #2.

### **EPBAA Solicitation Efforts**

"The EPBAA never uses third party companies to solicit donations, either by letter or telephone. All members are non-compensated volunteers."

The Elmhurst Police
Benevolent and Athletic
Association (EPBAA) is a
not-for-profit organization
made up entirely of active
and retired Elmhurst police
officers. The goals of the
EPBAA are to support the
Elmhurst community, and
promote the fitness and
well-being of our police
officers. Fund raising efforts
are always conducted by letter

and never by telephone. The EPBAA never uses third party companies to solicit donations, either by letter or telephone. All members are non-compensated volunteers. All donations are used entirely to support worthwhile causes, such as Illinois Special Olympics, United Way of Elmhurst, the American Cancer Society Elmhurst's Relay for Life, the Dan Gibbons Turkey Trot benefiting the DuPage Homeless Services and the Elmhurst Children's Assistance Fund (ECAF), to name just a few. Donations can be made to the "EPBAA," 125 E. First St., Elmhurst, IL 60126.

### "Learn Not to Burn"

Children often react poorly in situations involving fire, trying to "hide" from the fire under a bed or in a closet, or "run away" if their clothing catches fire. They are naturally curious about fire, but they lack an understanding of how quickly a tiny flame can grow into a dangerous fire. Teaching children about fire safety and providing them with the knowledge and skills they need to react appropriately in a fire emergency is an important goal of Elmhurst Fire Department personnel.



The "Learn Not to Burn' poster contest winner

"Learn Not to Burn" is a program taught to elementary school age

children. The program includes survival skills, such as awareness of smoke detectors; crawling low in smoke; stop, drop, cover and roll; and dialing 9-1-1. The annual "Learn Not to Burn" poster contest is open to fourth grade children. This year's grand prize winner is Emily, a student at Immaculate Conception School. The second and third place posters were created by Sara from Jefferson School and Ellen from Field School. Congratulations to Emily, Sara, Ellen and all the students who participated! To view the posters submitted, visit the city's website, www.elmhurst.org, and open the Fire Department page.

## September 2008 City of Elmhurst

209 N. York St., Elmhurst, IL 60126 (630) 530-3000

Website homepage: http://www.elmhurst.org email: webmaster@elmhurst.org

City Hall Hours Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Finance Department counter open 1st & 3rd Mondays until 7:00 p.m.)

Thomas D. Marcucci, Mayor Patty Spencer, City Clerk Charity S. Pigoni, City Treasurer

#### Aldermen

1st Ward - Michael J. Regan, Diane C. Gutenkauf 2nd Ward - Norman Leader, Patricia Shea 3rd Ward - Michael Bram, Susan J. Rose 4th Ward - John E. Gow, Stephen W. Hipskind 5th Ward - Moira Moriarty, Christopher L. Nybo 6th Ward - George Szczepaniak, Steven M. Morley 7th Ward - Donna Lomnicki, Mark A. Mulliner







### Reverse 9-1-1 at Work in Elmhurst

The Reverse 9-1-1 system is an important part of the City's ongoing emergency preparedness. The system was most recently used by the Elmhurst Police Department to locate an elderly woman who got lost while taking a walk. The woman was unfamiliar with the City, spoke only Spanish and didn't have any money or a cell phone along with her. Reverse 9-1-1 was activated in the area where she was last seen, and the 78-year-old was safely reunited with her family in Lombard.

The system was used in 2007 following a series of residential burglaries and resulted in the arrest of five Elmhurst juveniles. It could also be used to let residents know of a missing child, a water-boil order, a hazardous materials incident or any number of other emergency situations. Residents with unlisted phone numbers are encouraged to provide those numbers to the Fire Department by filling out the online form on the city's website (www. elmhurst.org) or by calling 630-530-3090.



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### City of Elmhurst

209 N. York St. Elmhurst, IL 60126 (630) 530-3000



Postal Customer, Local Elmhurst, IL 60126



# Elmhurst Community Calendar

#### Wednesdays through October 15 York and Vallette Farmers Market

Fresh fruit, vegetables, flowers, bread and more.

Weekly event sponsored by York and Vallette Business Association

Municipal lot northeast of York and Vallette

7 a.m.-1 p.m.

Free

Info: (630) 279-5530

### Wednesday, September 3 *Men's College Soccer*

Enjoy the game as Elmhurst takes on Benedictine University.

Langhorst Field, Elmhurst College 190 S. Prospect Ave.

7:00 p.m.

Info: (630) 617-3380

### Through Sunday, September 7 "Brain Teasers 2"

Families and puzzle enthusiasts of all ages won't want to miss this mind-bending traveling exhibit featuring 21 hands-on puzzles that test problemsolving skills and provide plenty of fun.

Elmhurst Historical Museum

120 E. Park Ave.

Free. Tues.-Sun. 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Info: (630) 833-1457

### Saturday, September 6 "Community Day" College Football Game



All Elmhurst residents and their guests will be admitted free for the opening game of the 2008 football season. Elmhurst College will take on Benedictine University and

a community leader will be saluted during the halftime ceremony.

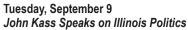
Langhorst Field, Elmhurst College

190 S. Prospect Ave. Kickoff 1:00 p.m. Info: (630) 617-3033

### Sunday, September 7 Back-to-School Splash Bash

Courtesy of "Character Counts" in Elmhurst, families can enjoy admission to the Mayan Water Park at the Elmhurst Holiday Inn, along with games, prizes, food, and plenty of fun.

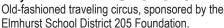
Elmhurst Holiday Inn 624 N. York Rd. 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. \$40 per family Info: (630) 993-8900



The famed *Chicago Tribune* columnist will kick off the new "Ideas X-Change" lecture series at Elmhurst College with a talk entitled "Campaign 2008; Illinois Politics."

Sponsored by Harris Bank Founders Lounge, Frick Center Elmhurst College 190 S. Prospect Ave. 7:00 p.m. Free Info: (630) 617-3033

### Friday, September 12 Kelly Miller Circus



Sandburg Middle School Grounds

345 St. Charles Rd.

4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. showtimes Advanced tickets: Adults \$12,

Children (2-11) \$6

Day of Event tickets: Adults \$14

Children (2-11) \$8 Info: (630) 617-2328

#### Sunday, September 14 Sunday Funday – Handmade Paper

Learn how paper is made as we recycle old paper into pulp and press it into molds. Make your own piece of paper to take home.

Elmhurst Historical Museum 120 E. Park Ave. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. \$1/project An adult must accompany children Info: (630) 833-1457

### Thursday, September 18 *Tea Time Talk*

#### Lifestories: Creating a Memoir

Rosanne Gulisano demonstrates how to write a personal story for future generations. Get inspired to write stories, organize the project and conquer the fear of getting started.

Elmhurst Historical Museum 120 E. Park Ave. 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Free

Info: (630) 833-1457

## Friday, September 19 Day Off? Drop In! Recycled T-shirt Woven Potholders

Learn how to recycle old T-shirts into fabric loops and weave them into a colorful potholder on a square loom — an all-time favorite craft.

Elmhurst Historical Museum 120 E. Park Ave.

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. \$1/project An adult must accompany children Info: (630) 833-1457

### Saturday, September 20 "Fossil Dig"

Learn about the world famous Mazon Creek fossils from Illinois — a unique part of Illinois geologic history and the fossil record. Learn where to collect these fossils and search for a Mazon Creek fossil to take home.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art 220 Cottage Hill Ave., Wilder Park, 2 p.m. Adults \$3, Seniors \$3, Students \$3, Children 6-12 years \$3 Info: (630) 833-1616

### Saturday, September 20 - Sunday, January 4 "Gem Paintings by Ilya Schar"

Special exhibit features Russian artist Ilya Schar's pictures created with gemstones.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art
220 Cottage Hill Ave., Wilder Park
Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.;
Sunday 1:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Free Friday; Adults \$4, Seniors \$3, Students
\$2, Children 7-12 years \$1, under 7 free
Info: (630) 833-1616

#### Sunday, September 21 Spring Road Day

A family fun day. Music, games, clowns and food, PLUS a petting zoo and pony rides, a moon jump and visits from Elmhurst Police and Fire departments.

Wild Meadows Trace Park Spring Road at Prairie Path 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free Info: (630) 279-2222

### Sunday, September 21 "The Great Ocean Adventure"

The annual Roland Quest Lecture at Elmhurst College will welcome Jean-Michel Cousteau (explorer scientist, filmmaker and son of the legendary Jacques-Yves Cousteau).

Hammerschmidt Chapel, Elmhurst College 190 S. Prospect Ave. 7:00 p.m. Free Info: (630) 617-3033

## Tuesday, September 23 - Sunday, November 9 and November 18-January 4

### "Stitches and Stories: Quilts from the Elmhurst Piecemakers"

Special exhibit from local quilters, the Elmhurst Piecemakers. Visitors should plan to make a return visit to catch both rotations of the exhibit: group 1 will be on display Sept. 23- Nov. 9 and group 2 from Nov. 18 - Jan. 4.

Elmhurst Historical Museum 120 E. Park Ave. Free Tues.-Sun. 1-5 p.m. Info: (630) 833-1457





## Elmhurst Community Calendar

### Thursday, September 25 Be the Artist: Andrew Young

View beautiful collages by Chicago artist Andrew Young that include hand-painted papers, found objects and stamped images. Then create your own to take home. Designed for students in grades 5-8.

Elmhurst Art Museum 150 Cottage Hill Ave. 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

\$5.50 members / \$6.50 non-members

Info: (630) 834-0202 x16

### Saturday, September 27 6th Annual Fishing Derby

Get your fishing poles ready and join the Elmhurst Park District for the 6th Annual Fishing Derby. Prizes will be awarded hourly in each age group for the largest catch. Children must be registered and bring their own fishing poles.

Elmhurst Park District



Eldridge Park Pond 363 Commonwealth Lane 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. \$8 residents \$15 non-residents Info: (630) 993-8900

### Thursday, October 2 Cesar Chavez Guestship Lecture

The annual Cesar Chavez Guestship Lecture at Elmhurst College will feature a local expression of a national issue: anti-immigrant sentiment. Maria Cuevas, a teacher at Washington State University and Yakima Community College, will discuss "Latina Activists Fighting for Immigrant Rights in Washington State."

Illinois Hall, Schaible Science Center Elmhurst College, 190 S. Prospect Ave.

4:00 p.m. Free Info: (630) 617-3033

### Friday, October 3 Precious Pals Pajama Party

Wear your pajamas and get ready to do some relaxation exercises and watch a favorite Disney movie. Snacks will be provided and each child will receive a souvenir to take home. Parents are welcome to join the fun.

Elmhurst Park District Wagner Community Center 615 N. West Ave. 7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m. \$18 per family Info: (630) 993-8900

#### Saturday, October 4

#### Children's Author Visit with Laurie Lawlor

A voyage into the past with children's author, Laurie Lawlor. Pirates, explorers, pioneers and famous photographers have inspired this author. She'll discuss how she writes her award-winning historical fiction and nonfiction for early readers, middle grade readers and adults. Pick up tickets at the Help Desk starting Saturday, September 27, with your valid Elmhurst Public Library Card.

Elmhurst Public Library Kids' Library, Meeting Room 2, 125 Prospect Ave.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Grades 1-8. Free Info: (630) 279-8696

### Saturday, October 4 "Korean National Treasures of Gold"



Rediscover the relics of ancient Korea by exploring three exquisitely crafted gold objects from the 5th to 7th century. This DVD explores the Sarira Casket of Gameun Temple, the

Gilt Bronze Incense Burner of Baekje and the Gold Crown of Silla. Ages 10 years to adult. 45 minutes. Call for reservations.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art 220 Cottage Hill Ave., Wilder Park 2:00 p.m.

Adults \$4, Seniors \$3, Students \$2, Children 7-12 years \$1 Info: (630) 833-1616

### Sunday, October 5

### Transforming Traditions: Modernism and Quilts

Early American quilts were born of necessity but have been transformed into a vibrant contemporary art form. The owner of *FunQuilts* in Oak Park



traces this transformation as it parallels changes in art, architecture, design and society. Examples of *FunQuilts'* own spectacular modern quilts will be on display.

Elmhurst Historical Museum 120 E. Park Ave. 3:00 p.m. Free Info: (630) 833-1457

### Sunday, October 5 Quilting Demonstration: Hand Work

Quilters from the Elmhurst Piecemakers will be in the galleries all afternoon demonstrating a variety of hand work techniques.

Elmhurst Historical Museum 120 E. Park Ave. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Info: (630) 833-1457

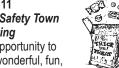
## Wednesday, October 8, and Friday, October 10 *Illinois Arts Week Activities*

Stop by for after school drop-in programs celebrating Illinois Arts Week and be inspired by the artwork of Bonnie Koloc to create your own block prints (Wednesday) and collages (Friday). All ages welcome.

Elmhurst Art Museum 150 Cottage Hill Ave. 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Suggested donation: \$2 per child

Info: (630) 834-0202

## Saturday, October 11 Family Fall-Fest – Safety Town Safe Trick-or-Treating



This is the perfect opportunity to start or continue a wonderful, fun, family tradition. Families will carve

and decorate pumpkins, play games, have their faces painted, win prizes, visit a petting zoo, take pony rides, and trick-or-treat through the streets of Safety Town. Costumes are encouraged. Admission is free, but some events do require tickets sold at the event. Concessions will also be available for purchase.

The Depot/ Safety Town 511 S. York Rd. 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Free (some activities are an additional fee) Info: (630) 993-8900

#### Sunday, October 12 Sunday Funday: Knot-A-Quilt

Piece together a bright, cozy, fleece Knot-A-Quilt without needles, stuffing or sewing. Fun and easy.

Elmhurst Historical Museum 120 E. Park Ave. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. \$1 per project An adult must accompany children Info: (630) 833-1457

#### Monday, October 13 or Friday, November 28 Kids Day Off Club

Children can come to The Hub and hang out with friends or meet new ones while enjoying games, fitness and other fun activities on their day off.

Elmhurst Park District and Courts Plus The Hub at Berens Park, 493 Oaklawn Ave. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. \$28 member/ \$32 non-member Info: (630) 833-5064



#### Wednesday, October 15 Artventure: A Day in Hyde Park

Take a trip to the Oriental Institute, home to a significant collection of antiquities from the ancient Near East, followed by lunch at a nearby eatery. Also includes a stop at the Hyde Park

Art Center, featuring exhibitions by photographer Ben Gest and a large installation including sounds, painting and projection by Mark Booth.

Elmhurst Art Museum, 150 Cottage Hill Ave.

9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

\$75 member/ \$80 non-member Info: (630) 834-0202 x14

#### Thursday, October 16 Tea Time Talk: Remembering Old-Time Radio



Take a trip down memory lane with Larry Bergnach as he takes us back to the golden age of radio. Hear selections from favorite radio

programs; learn how sound effects were created and view radio memorabilia from the 1930s through the 1950s.

Elmhurst Historical Museum, 120 E. Park Ave. 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Free Info: (630) 833-1457

#### Saturday, October 18 "Mars, Meteorites and Alien Life"

Planetary Geologist, Paul Sipiera, of the Planetary Studies Foundation, presents the latest findings on Mars, the search for alien life and meteorite facts. If you think you have found a meteorite, bring it in for identification. 60 minute lecture. Ages 8 years to adult. Reservations recommended.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art 220 Cottage Hill Ave., Wilder Park 2:00 p.m.

Adults \$4, Seniors \$3, Students \$2 Children 7-12 years \$1, under 7 free Info: (630) 833-1616

#### Saturday, October 18 Courts Plus Healthy Halloween Party

Enjoy Halloween with a fun and healthy celebration. Dress in your costume and exercise, hunt for pumpkins, dance, trick-or-treat and make spooky crafts. Please bring a canned item to donate to the local food pantry. Sponsored by Elmhurst Park District and Courts Plus.

Courts Plus 186 S. West Ave. 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. \$2 member/ \$9 non-member (with canned good); \$4 member/ \$10 non-member (without canned goods) Info: (630) 833-5064

### Saturday, October 18 Symphony Concert:

"Festa Italiana- Pines of Rome"

Concert features the Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra, soprano Nancy Gustafson, baritone Paul LaRosa and Stanger Young Artist Winner Kevin

Hu, in an evening of beloved music by Respighi, Verdi, Puccini and Leoncavallo.

Elmhurst College, Hammerschmidt Chapel 190 Prospect Ave.

7:00 p.m.

Adults \$34, Seniors \$31, Students \$7, Children \$7, Family ticket (up to 2 adults and 3 children) \$70

Info: (630) 941-0202

#### Thursday, October 23 Be the Artist: Bonnie Koloc

See original block prints by artist Bonnie Koloc, and learn how to make one of your own using rubber printing blocks and linoleum cutters. Designed for students in grades 5-8.

Elmhurst Art Museum 150 Cottage Hill Ave. 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

\$5.50 members/ \$6.50 non-members Info: (630) 834-0202 x16

#### Friday, October 24, and Saturday, October 25 NCAA Women's Volleyball

Elmhurst College Invitational.

The powerful volleyball squad from Elmhurst College hosts several opponents in a 2-day volleyball tournament. Matches begin Friday at 4:00, 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. and Saturday at 10:00 a.m., 12 noon and 2:00 p.m.

Elmhurst College, R.A. Faganel Hall 221 Walter St. Info: (630) 617-3380

#### Saturday, October 25 **Boo-tiful Saturday**

Come dressed in Halloween costumes to enjoy a magic show, catch a movie, parade through downtown and trick-or-treat at City Centre businesses.

Elmhurst City Centre 9:00 a.m. - events at York Theatre, trick-ortreating from 11:45 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

Info: (630) 993-1600

#### Saturday, October 25 Midnight Masquerade Ball

Dinner Dance and Silent Auction River Forest Country Club, Grand Ave. east of York Rd.

District 205 Foundation. 7 p.m. Adults \$60

Info: (630) 617-2328

#### Saturday, October 25

"Community Conversation" for Seniors

"Had I Known I Would Live this Long, I'd Have Taken Better Care of Myself," with author and humorist Cheryl Kuba. Q&A to follow. Reservations recommended.

Elmhurst Senior Citizens Commission Elmhurst City Hall, 209 N. York St. 10:00 a.m., Free Info or reservations: (630) 306-7077

#### Sunday, October 26 "American Muslims and the Challenges of American Society"

Elmhurst College will welcome Dr. Sulayman S. Nvang of Howard University, a highly regarded scholar on Islam in America. His talk, the annual al-Ghazali lecture, is free and open to persons of all faith traditions.

Founders Lounge, Frick Center Elmhurst College 190 S. Prospect Ave. 7:00 p.m. Free Info: (630) 617-3033

#### Wednesday, October 29 Scared Silly: Not So Terrifying Tales

Tiptoe to the library for somewhat spooky, sometimes silly, monsterific stories. Register by phone or at the Help Desk with your valid Elmhurst Public Library card starting Saturday, October 18.

Elmhurst Public Library, Storytime Room 125 Prospect Ave. 7:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Ages 3 - 8 Free

Info: (630) 279-8696

#### Saturday, November 1 Mother and Daughter Afternoon Tea

Mothers and daughters will enjoy an afternoon of entertainment, tasty treats and assorted

beverages. Registration deadline is October 24. Sponsored by the Elmhurst Park District.

The Drake in Oak Brook 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. \$46 resident/ \$60 non-resident (adult/child); \$21 resident/\$30 non-resident (additional

### Info: (630) 993-8900 Sunday, November 2

Quilting Demonstration: Long-frame Quilting

Quilters from the Elmhurst Piecemakers will be in the galleries demonstrating quilting on a long frame that multiple quilters can use simultaneously.

Elmhurst Historical Museum, 120 E. Park Ave. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Free Info: (630) 833-1457

## September - November



## Elmhurst Community Calendar

#### Wednesday, November 5 Artventure: Evanston Excursion

Take a personal tour of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Aronson's private art collection (some 500 works of art by over 100 artists in a wide spectrum of media). Then travel to Tapas Barcelona for lunch, and Northwestern University to view the exhibitions of sculptor Magdalena Abakanowicz and the late photographer John Swope.

Elmhurst Art Museum, 150 Cottage Hill Ave. 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

\$80 members/ \$85 non-members Info: (630) 834-0202 x14

#### Friday, November 7 Stroll(er) through the Galleries



Baby in tow? Looking for something fun to do? Call your other mommy friends and meet up at Elmhurst Art Museum for a gallery tour. For the safety of the

artwork, all children must remain in their stroller for the duration of the tour.

Elmhurst Art Museum, 150 Cottage Hill Ave. 1:00 - 1:45 p.m.

\$6 per adult, children under 12 are free Info: (630) 834-0202 x10

#### Saturday, November 8 Ilya Schar Gem Paintings

Meet an artist who creates beautiful pictures in stone on special exhibit at the museum. Learn what types of stone he uses and why. See his process for working with stone and how subject matter is chosen for these special works of art. 60 minute lecture. Ages 10 years to adult.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art 220 Cottage Hill Ave., Wilder Park 2:00 p.m.

Adults \$4, Seniors \$3, Students \$2 Children 7-12 years \$1 Info: (630) 833-1616

#### Saturday, November 8 "Community Conversation" for Seniors

Dan Cantu presents "Medicare Part D-Benefits Update." Q&A to follow. Reservations recommended.

Elmhurst Senior Citizens Commission Elmhurst City Hall, 209 N. York St. 10:00 a.m., Free Info or reservations: (630) 306-7077

#### Sunday, November 9 Sunday Funday - Design Your Own Quilt

Design a colorful quilt block using wooden shapes and paint instead of fabric and thread.

Elmhurst Historical Museum 120 E. Park Ave. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. \$1 per project An adult must accompany children Info: (630) 833-1457

#### Thursday, November 13 Be the Artist: Bob Emser

View Bob Emser's striking wall sculptures - then create your own. When combined with light, these sculptures create beautiful and intricate patterns on the gallery walls. Designed for students in grades 5-8.

Elmhurst Art Museum 150 Cottage Hill Ave. 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. \$5.50 members/ \$6.50 nonmembers

Info: (630) 834-0202 x16



#### Saturday, November 15 "Lapidary Day"

Join members of the West Suburban Lapidary Club and learn more about lapidary art and making jewelry. Club members demonstrate cabochon cutting, silversmithing, wirewrapping, beading and carving. Children can create a gemstone picture frame. Free jewelry cleaning.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art 220 Cottage Hill Ave., Wilder Park 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Demonstrations and activities for all ages

Info: (630) 833-1616

#### Tuesday, November 18

Lecture: Thomas Jefferson and Women Historical researcher and publisher Jon Kukla



(based in Virginia) will give a lecture entitled, "All Men are Created Equal: Thomas Jefferson and Women." Part of the new "Ideas X-Change" lecture

series at Elmhurst College.

Sponsored by Harris Bank Illinois Hall, Schaible Science Center Elmhurst College, 190 S. Prospect Ave. 7:00 p.m. Free

Info: (630) 617-3033

#### Thursday, November 20

Tea Time Talk: Antique Quilts Trunk Show

Chris Moline, AQS-certified quilt historian, shares a spectacular trunk show of antique quilts from the 1830s through the 1870s.

Elmhurst Historical Museum 120 E. Park Ave. 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Free Info: (630) 833-1457

#### Friday November 21 Spring Road Holiday Tree Lighting

Enjoy the start of the season as we illuminate Elmhurst's first holiday tree. We'll sing songs of the season and offer warm drinks and cookies for all.

Spring Road at Prairie Path, 7:00 p.m., Free Info: (630) 279-2222

Sunday, November 23

Symphony Concert: "Shakespeare in Love"

With Comcast Anchor Lisa Aprati as your guide, experience works by Tchaikovsky and Mendelssohn inspired by the Bard of Stratford-

Elmhurst College, Hammerschmidt Chapel 190 Prospect Ave., 7:00 p.m.

Adults \$34, Seniors \$31, Students \$7, Children \$7, Family ticket (up to 2 adults & 3 children) \$70

Info: (630) 941-0202

#### Friday, November 28 Gingerbread House Workshop

Make a gingerbread house to enjoy all season covered with candies, frosting, pretzels and more. Cost includes one pre-



assembled gingerbread house per group of up to five. Space is limited. Call to reserve a spot.

Elmhurst Historical Museum, 120 E. Park Ave. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., \$25 per group Info: (630) 833-1457

#### Sunday, December 7 Handel's Messiah

Elmhurst Choral Union's presentation of Handel's Messiah with professional soloists and orchestra.

Elmhurst Choral Union

Elmhurst College, Hammerschmidt Chapel 190 Prospect, 3:00 p.m.

Adults \$20/\$25 at the door.

Seniors and Students \$15/20 at the door. Info: www.elmhurstchoralunion.org

or 630-758-1100

#### The community calendar is sponsored by:

City of Elmhurst www.elmhurst.org

Elmhurst Art Museum www.elmhurstartmuseum.org

Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce & Industry www.elmhurstchamber.org

**Elmhurst Choral Union** www.elmhurstchoral.org

Elmhurst City Centre

www.elmhurstcitycentre.com

Elmhurst College www.elmhurst.edu

Elmhurst Historical Museum www.elmhurst.org/elmhurst/museum

**Elmhurst Park District** 

www.epd.ora

Elmhurst Public Library www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org

Elmhurst St. Patrick's Day Parade www.elmhurststpatsparade.com

Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra www.elmhurstsymphony.org

Lizzadro Museum Lapidary Art www.lizzadromuseum.org

Spring Road Business Association Springroad.com York & Vallete Business Assoc.

