

The Front Porch

C i t y w i d e N e w s l e t t e r

March 2010

It's in our Hands: 2010 Federal Census

Every year since 1790, a count has been taken of residents in the U.S., both citizens and non-citizens. On April 1, the U.S. Census Bureau will issue a call to action for every resident in our nation: "Be counted."

Federal funding of more than \$400 billion per year will be allocated to communities on a per capita basis — funds that can be used by Elmhurst for emergency services, infrastructure improvement projects, schools, hospitals, job training and senior centers. Census data also determines how many seats our state holds in the U.S. House of Representatives. In essence, an accurate resident count translates into government representation, more services, better infrastructure and a brighter future for our community.

In 2000 the City was pleased to learn that Elmhurst had the highest census response rate in DuPage County, demonstrating that our City is made up of informed individuals who care about the future of their community. During these tough economic times, it is vital that Elmhurst's response rate remains high, so that our community receives the fiscal and social benefits to which it is entitled. Participation is mandatory, but the Census form is now shorter and easier to complete with only 10 questions that can be answered in about 10 minutes. Questions concern the names of household members and their sex, age, date of birth, Hispanic origin, race and relationship, along with a question about whether you own or rent your home. The census is strictly confidential and does not ask for information about the legal status or Social Security numbers of respondents.

In March, approximately a week before Census Day, April 1, a questionnaire will be mailed to every household, along with a postage-paid envelope. Please fill out the form completely and mail it back by April 1. Between April and July, census takers will visit the homes of those who do not complete and return the form. Visit the City website for more Census information, including how to replace lost Census forms and find Census help centers. Remember — participation is not only required by law, it is vitally important to our community.

The census is strictly confidential and does not ask for information about the legal status or Social Security numbers of respondents.

City Economic Woes Worsen Financial Imbalance

For the past ten or more years, the City has been dealing with a structural imbalance in the City's General Fund and has made budget cuts through improved efficiencies and operational productivity, as well as utilization of fund balances in order to balance the budget. The General Fund fund balance has decreased from over \$13 million in fiscal year 2006-2007 to a level now estimated to be less than \$5 million at the end of the current 2009-10 fiscal year.

This fund balance is below the recommended minimum and can no longer be used to help finance expenditures necessary to provide services that the Elmhurst community has come to expect. Furthermore, the budget cuts put in place prior to and as a part of the 2009-10 fiscal year will not be sufficient to meet the expenditure reduction limit for the upcoming 2010-11 fiscal year. A revenue-to-expenditure gap of over \$6 million was anticipated by the Mayor's Financial Task Force and a combination of revenue increases and budget cuts were recommended to bridge this gap (see Mayor's Financial Task Force report on the city website at www.elmhurst.org).

The City Council has identified revenue enhancements of approximately \$4.5 million, but additional expenditure cuts will be necessary in fiscal year 2010-11 in order to maintain or increase the General Fund balance going forward.

The City Council has determined that the bulk of the revenue enhancement will come from a City property tax increase. Factors that support this very difficult but essential decision are: 1) the City receives a small percentage of total property tax collected from Elmhurst property owners and an unusually small percentage when compared to other DuPage communities, and 2) Elmhurst previously had a \$1.2806 per \$100 equalized assessed value (EAV) in 1976 and has reduced it over time to an all-time low in 2008 of \$0.2416. This rate is the lowest in DuPage County for communities that have a property tax rate.

The dollar bill illustration on page 2 shows that the greatest use of property taxes is for education, and also reveals that last year, DuPage County, the Park District and the Elmhurst Public Library all received a higher percentage of the property taxes than the City. The City had purposefully reduced its rates and desired to not

continued ➤

City
5.27%

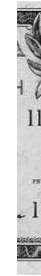
School District #205
71.30%

Other
5.46%

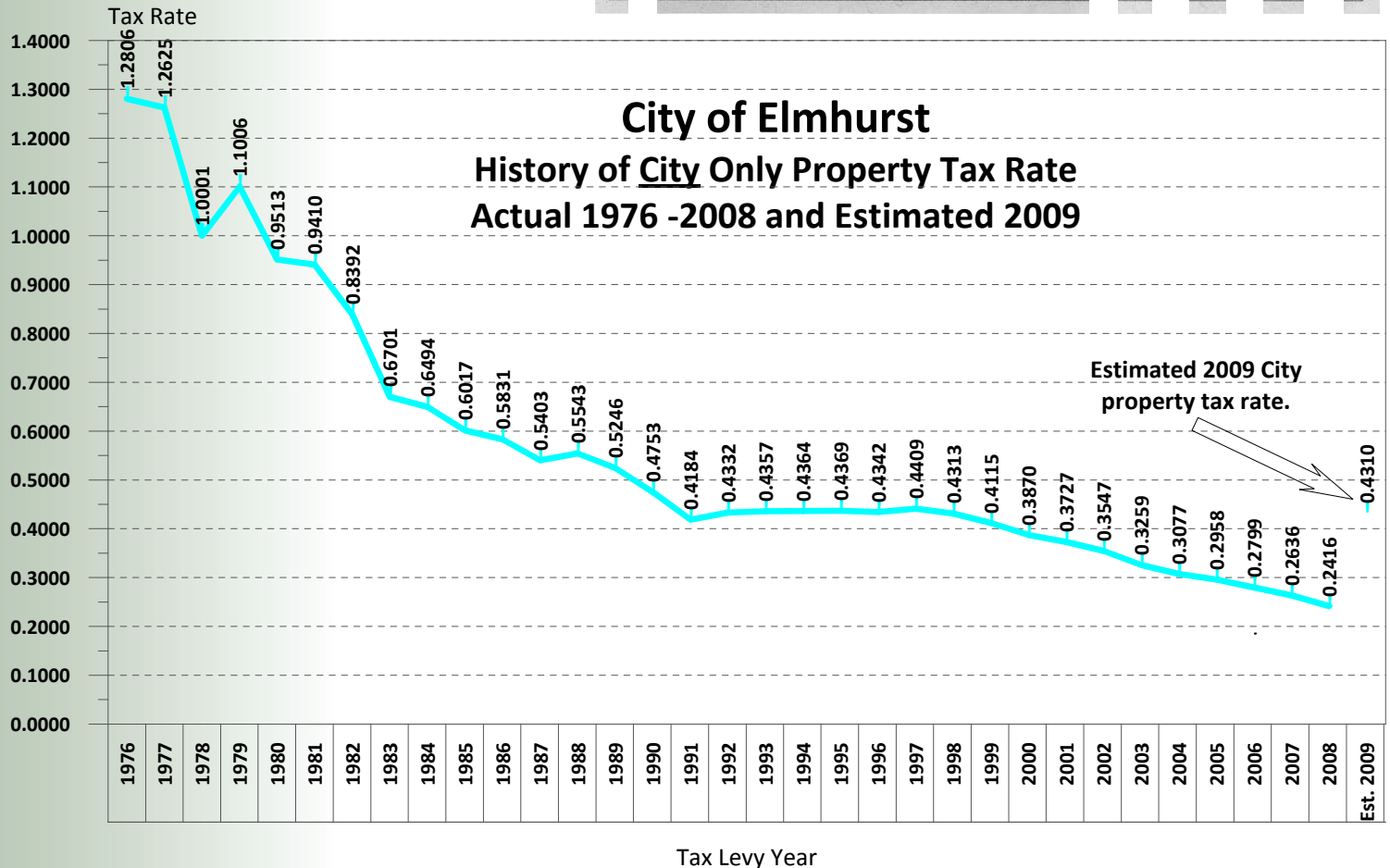
Park
5.92%

County
6.37%

Library
5.69%



At right: How your property
tax dollars are allocated



Financial Imbalance continued from pg. 1

utilize property taxes as a significant way to finance City services, but rather relied on the use of City sales and state income tax receipts.

Regrettably, the City has determined that those subsidies are no longer sufficient and a return to a more appropriate and fair share of property tax sources is necessary. The graph above illustrates the City property tax rate in the 1970s and its purposeful drop to its all-time low rate in 2008. Currently, the only community in DuPage County with a lower property tax rate than Elmhurst is Oak Brook, which has not levied a property tax due to its sales tax revenues from the Oak Brook shopping center. Of the 33 DuPage County communities that levy a property tax, Elmhurst has recently been the lowest considering fire protection services, as well.

In order to maintain Elmhurst as a safe and desirable place to live and raise a family, the City must receive a larger percentage of property tax dollars. To that end, the Elmhurst City Council approved a tax levy in 2009 to be collected in the summer of 2010 estimated to raise the City rate to \$0.4310 per \$100 EAV. The portion of the property tax revenue coming into the City

will increase from approximately 5.27 percent of the total Elmhurst property tax bill to approximately 9.0 percent. Although it is a significant increase, the resultant percentage remains considerably below the average percentage received by cities and villages in DuPage County and in suburban Chicagoland. Even with the increase, Elmhurst's tax levy will be lower than at least 30 of its DuPage County neighbors, dependent upon the upcoming tax increases implemented by those few cities with lower rates than Elmhurst.

Elected officials and staff are very aware that some Elmhurst property owners are in dire financial circumstances. The Finance, Council Affairs and Administrative Services Committee recently recommended, and the Elmhurst City Council concurred, to implement a property tax rebate program for qualifying low-income residents relative to the City's increase in the property tax levy for the upcoming year.

The budgeting process for fiscal year 2010-11 is currently underway through the City Council. Up-to-date information is posted on the City website.

Premise Alert Program Now Available

Premise Alert is a new program now available in Elmhurst that provides vital information to firefighters, police officers and paramedics about residents who may require special treatment or assistance during an emergency. The program could be a lifesaver if someone in your home is blind or paralyzed, or suffers from Autism or Alzheimer's disease. Operators at 911 call centers (DuComm) will have access to the information and will share it with police, firefighters and paramedics who respond to an emergency. To sign up or learn more about the program, please contact the Elmhurst Fire Department at 630-530-3090 or the Elmhurst Police Department at 630-530-3050.

One-Stop Permit Shopping at City Hall



City permits, including those for building, demolition, driveways, patios and outdoor fireplaces, are now available at the Community Development counter on the first floor of City Hall. City personnel at this counter are also available to provide information about block parties, planning and zoning, code enforcement and economic development. If you are planning a construction or remodeling project this spring, keep in mind that a permit is needed for many types of home projects, including:

- Air conditioning installation
- Attached or detached garages
- Driveways and patios
- Electrical or plumbing work
- Generators
- Interior remodeling
- New home construction
- Swimming pools and hot tubs
- Signs
- Porches, decks, fences and gates
- Sheds and accessory structures
- Additions to homes and commercial buildings

For more information about building permits and codes, check out the city's website, www.elmhurst.org, or contact the Building Department at 630-530-3030. Residents may also stop by the public counter in City Hall where the services of the Building Department, the Public Works Department and the Fire Department are combined. Refuse pickup and recycling information can now be obtained at the Finance counter or by calling 630-530-3020.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Who doesn't love bagpipes, leprechauns, guys in kilts, little Irish dancers, marching bands, clowns and happy children? Whether you're Irish to the core or just Irish for the day, put on your best green duds and join the fun on Saturday, March 13. The annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will step off from the corner of Spring Road and Wilson Street at noon. Join your neighbors and friends for an afternoon of fun and festivities. For more information or to view photos from past parades, visit www.elmhurststpatparade.com.



Do You Have Energy "Vampires" in Your Home?

Did you know that many household appliances continue to draw power even when they are turned off? According to the U.S. Department of Energy, these "phantom" loads occur in most appliances that use electricity, such as VCRs, televisions, stereos, computers and kitchen appliances. In the average home, 75 percent of the electricity used to power home electronics is consumed while the products are turned off.



According to a Cornell University Study, these "energy vampires" may add as much as \$200 or more to your annual energy bills, because "off" really doesn't mean "off" these days. It actually means "standby" and the truth is that your TV with remote control probably uses more energy during the 20 or so hours that it is "off" than it does during the time you are actually watching the tube. You may be surprised to identify as many as 20 "energy vampires" in your home right now.

The study found that we use the equivalent of seven electrical generating plants just to supply "vampires" that are turned "off."

"Vampires" are easier to spot than you might think. They include appliances with remotes (televisions, VCRs and audio equipment), appliances with a continuous digital display (the glowing clocks on stoves and microwaves), appliances with external power supplies (inkjet printers and iPod chargers), and anything that features rechargeable batteries, such as cordless phones and electric toothbrushes, that use energy even after the battery is charged.

There are steps residents can take to reduce the amount of energy being sapped by these "vampires." Appliances and chargers that are rarely used can be simply unplugged until they are needed. Others can be plugged into a power strip that can be easily turned off when the appliance is not in use. Be aware, however, that some devices require power to maintain their memory. Unplugging or eliminating ALL power can result in pre-set entries being lost. For example, your alarm clock could be unplugged when you are away on vacation, but will have to be reset when you return.

All components of a computer or home entertainment system can be plugged into a power strip and truly turned off with a single switch. (Certain computers, however, require an ongoing low level of electricity and may be damaged by long-term unplugging. Check with your manufacturer.)

Many frequently used appliances, such as toasters, toaster ovens, etc., can be unplugged before you leave on vacation or more often. If it isn't plugged in, it can't draw energy.

When shopping for new appliances, be sure to watch for energy-efficient appliances bearing the Energy Star label so that at least your "vampires" will draw less power. You can find a list of Energy Star products at www.EnergyStar.gov. For more information on saving energy in the home, visit www.energy.gov/applianceselectronics or www.savegreenly.com/how_much_do_vampire_loads_cost_u.htm.

City/Park District Cooperation

The City of Elmhurst and the Park District have a long-standing history of intergovernmental cooperation in an effort to strengthen and reinforce the array of services provided to residents. Cooperative efforts between the two entities have resulted in significant cost savings and more efficient and effective service

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Cooperative efforts... have resulted in significant cost savings and more efficient and effective service delivery to the community.

delivery to the community. For example, the Elmhurst Public Works Facility on Riverside Drive provides for the storage and maintenance of both the Park District's and the City's fleets. Fuel costs have been shared for many years, and the City and the Park District shared in the purchase of the Fire Safety Trailer with the City leveraging federal dollars along with a donation from the People for Elmhurst

Parks Foundations and funding from the Park District. This program has been very successful, teaching young and old alike the importance of fire and home safety.

This past fall, a Park District/City committee was formed to increase communication and further enhance the efforts of both entities. The committee consists of two park commissioners, two City aldermen, Park District Executive Director Rich Grodsky and City Manager Tom Borchert. The committee met last November and again in January to discuss issues that affect both City and Park operations. Topics of discussion included parking, traffic, and pedestrian access at City parks, especially at East End Park and Golden Meadows during soccer season and in the summer when the pool is open. The committee also discussed storm water detention and subdivision impact fees; and a change of direction for the Elmhurst Commission on Youth.

The committee will meet bimonthly to discuss the big picture policy opportunities that each agency has to offer each other in order to move the community forward.

New City Adjudication Process

In early 2010, the City of Elmhurst is scheduled to begin using an adjudication process to handle local cases that are within the City's home-rule authority, including parking and building code violations.

The goal of adjudication is to gain compliance with City ordinances and codes. Fines and orders will be increased if compliance deadlines are not met, thereby increasing responsibility for habitual offenders. In most cases, the fine will cover the cost of the hearing and the use of additional City funds will not be necessary. Case presentation by the City will be straightforward and easy-to-understand, and residents will be allowed to speak from their perspective. The adjudication process will be fair and judicial to both parties, and will result in increased compliance with City ordinances and codes.



Mayor's Message

Many of you have been following the City's budget process for the 2010-2011 year. Our City Council and staff have been rigorously evaluating a multitude of options for solving the budget shortfall for the next fiscal year — and as a result

— the Council has taken the hard, yet necessary step of passing an increased property tax levy, together with significant cuts in City staff, operating expenses and related costs.

Currently, the Council and I are working through the time-consuming process of crafting the City's new budget — pages and pages of services, programs, community endeavors, staffing and benefits — all of the elements that must come together to create the City that we know and enjoy. It's always a long, tough process, but this time it has been made more difficult by the economic uncertainty that we are experiencing globally, nationally and locally.

As a result of these economic conditions, the City has experienced a drop in revenue from sales taxes and other forms of assistance that have been a key part of our budget for decades. Short-term projections show a continuation of the problem, and while it is our hope that these conditions will improve, we must live within our means as a City. Thus, the tax increase, cuts in operational costs and other measures under consideration are necessary.

Elmhurst's all-encompassing tax rate has been and continues to be relatively low when measured against other DuPage communities — and was 27th out of 34 in 2008.

What can you do?

In my first "State of Our City" address, held at Community Bank of Elmhurst on January 12, I discussed one effort in which every citizen of our community can participate: Shop/Buy in Elmhurst. Whether you reside, work or own a business in our City — or even provide services to the City — you can help.

The Elmhurst Business Alliance, which includes the Elmhurst Chamber, Elmhurst City Centre and the City, are discussing a heightened awareness project to make shopping and buying in Elmhurst a priority for all of our citizens.

Think of everything you buy...and try to buy them all in Elmhurst — cars, appliances, lawn mowers, groceries, clothes. Certain items, of course, are not available in Elmhurst, but before buying them elsewhere, look first in your own community.

You are also encouraged to patronize our restaurants, theater and entertainment venues. By taking this approach, we can solve our revenue problems from within.

If this sounds simple...it is. But it can work and it can be achieved.

**DON'T JUST SHOP IN ELMHURST...
BUY IN ELMHURST!**

Peter P. DiCianni
Mayor

ELMHURST

Community Calendar

March — May 2010

Ongoing

March 8, 9, 10, 15, 16

Poverty and the Movies

Explore how Hollywood has viewed the poor with screenings of *The Grapes of Wrath* (March 8), *They Shoot Horses, Don't They?* (March 9), *Gangs of New York* (March 10), *Wendy and Lucy* (March 15), and *Slumdog Millionaire* (March 16). *Chicago Reader* film reviewer Andrea Gronvall will kick off the series at 6:30 p.m., March 8. All other screenings begin at 7 p.m.

Elmhurst College, Schaible Science Center Illinois Hall (Prospect and Elm Park Ave.)
7:00 p.m. (March 8 at 6:30 p.m.) Free
Info: (630) 617-3390

Beginning March 9

An Evening of Jazz

Elmhurst College Jazz Combos present an evening of music at Wine & Vine in downtown Elmhurst. Come back for more jazz on March 16 & 25, and April 6 & 20.

Wine & Vine, 105 S. York, Elmhurst
7:30 p.m. FREE

March 12-April 5

Be an ECC DetEGGtive!

Hunt for Easter eggs "hidden" inside windows, shops and restaurants throughout downtown City Centre! Get a hunt worksheet at the ECC office or any participating merchant. Write down the location of each egg, return the completed sheet to the office and be entered to win \$250 in City Centre gift certificates.

Throughout City Centre. FREE

Through April 11

"Beyond Baseball: The Life of Roberto Clemente"

Chicago area premiere of a national traveling Smithsonian exhibit! Roberto Clemente became a baseball legend during the 1960s-70s with his explosive throwing arm, lightning speed and high batting average — but he was much more than an astounding athlete. For millions of fans across the world, Clemente was a cultural hero who gave a voice to the underprivileged. Organized by the Smithsonian Institution, "Beyond Baseball" includes biographical highlights, rare photographs, artifacts, and insightful words of the people who knew Clemente best. Bilingual (English/Spanish) and appropriate for ages 8 and up.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
Tues.-Sun., 1-5 p.m.
General Admission: FREE

May 1 - 30

42nd Spring Art Exhibition

Elmhurst College graduating art majors show their talents. Meet the artists on Sunday, May 2, 5:00 p.m. in the Frick Center.

Elmhurst College Frick Center (190 Prospect Ave.) and the Barbara A. Kieft Accelerator ArtSpace (200 block of W. Park Ave.)
Frick Center—Open each day until midnight;
Accelerator ArtSpace—Tues., Thurs., Sat.: 12 noon-4:00 p.m. FREE
Info: (630) 617-6110

May 4 Through September 5

Special Exhibit "The Rock Café"

Chicago area lapidary hobbyist Sylvia Josefeck collected rocks and minerals that resembled food and created the Rock Café, featuring 3 balanced meals made of stone. Warning: Eating rocks will lead to broken teeth!

Museum of Lapidary Art
Regular Museum Hours and Admission

Through May 23

"Dwellings: A Study of Residential Architecture"

From bungalows and prairie style residences to turn-of-the-century Victorians, Sears mail order homes and more, "Dwellings" showcases the architectural styles evident in Elmhurst neighborhoods and explains how the city evolved as a classic example of Midwestern suburbanization. This original exhibit includes special features on the work of Walter Burley Griffin, Mies van der Rohe, and Frank Lloyd Wright. See a video on "The Lost Homes of Elmhurst," and take the architect's challenge at a hands-on activity desk with building blocks.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
Tues.-Sun., 1-5 p.m.
General Admission: FREE



Come to Wilder Park on Saturday, April 3, 10 a.m., for an Egg Hunt and a chance to meet the Bunny.

Through May 30

Every Sunday Afternoon "Rockhounds: The Movie"

Explore the U.S. for rockhounding activities, such as mineral and fossil collecting. Includes geology experiments. For ages 6 yrs. to adult.

Museum of Lapidary Art
DVD — 3 p.m. — 60 minutes
Note: This movie will not be shown on March 7, May 2 and May 16
Regular Museum Admission

MARCH

Monday - 1

Day Off? Drop In!: Batter Up

Warm up for the spring baseball season by decorating an inflatable baseball bat with favorite team colors or any unique design. Drop-in craft program held in the Education Center for ages 4-12 with adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
1-3 p.m. Cost: \$2 per project

Saturday - 6

Elmhurst Senior Commission Community Conversations:

Building the Future

Leo Fronza, President/CEO of Elmhurst Memorial Hospital, shares the most recent updates and information regarding the new hospital to be completed in 2011.

Elmhurst City Hall
10:00 a.m. Space is limited.
Reservation Required: (630) 306-7077

Sunday - 7

"Staglieno - The Art of the Marble Carver"

Sculptor/stone carver Walter Arnold will share his insight into one of Italy's greatest hidden sculptural treasures: Camposanto di Staglieno in Genoa. This monumental cemetery and outdoor museum houses some of the finest representations of mid-19th to early 20th century sculpture, including works in the neoclassic, symbolist, Art Nouveau and Art Deco styles. Learn the technical skills required to transform massive blocks of stone into some of the world's most dramatic and symbolic memorials.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art
Lecture & Book Signing — Teenage to Adult
60 minutes — 2:00 p.m.
Regular Museum Admission
Reservations Recommended

Sunday - 7 and 21

Family Open Swim at York High School

Come for a fun time at York High School's swimming pool, which will be available for Elmhurst Park District pool pass holders.
York High School, 355 W. St. Charles Rd.
1-4 p.m.
Info: (630) 993-4724.

March

Thursday – 11

Girlfriends Getaway

Girls, enjoy a night filled with fabulous shopping, hospitality, special offers and services! Receive a reusable tote bag (first 300 attendees), a coupon good for the night of the event, plus the chance to win a drawing for \$250 in Elmhurst City Centre gift certificates.

Elmhurst City Centre
5:00-9:00 p.m. FREE

Thursday - Sunday, March 11-14 & March 18-20

Theatre: "Picasso at the Lapin Agile"

Comic/actor Steve Martin presents this long-running Off-Broadway comedy depicting a meeting between Albert Einstein and Pablo Picasso in a Bohemian café in Paris in 1904. Described as "fancifully dizzy."

Elmhurst College, Mill Theatre
253 Walter St.
8:00 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays
2:00 p.m. Sunday, March 14
For tickets, call (630) 617-3005

Saturday – 13

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Come celebrate the day when all Elmhurst is Irish, featuring floats, music, marching bands and characters of all sorts. Sponsored by the Elmhurst St. Patrick's Day Committee.

Parade runs from Wilson and Spring north to the railroad tracks
12 noon parade start. FREE
Info: (630) 834-0300

Saturday and Sunday – 13 & 14

Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra Concert: Verdi's Requiem

Following their successful collaborations in the past two years, the Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra and the Apollo Chorus of Chicago join forces again when they present one of the most dramatic and inspiring sacred pieces ever written, Verdi's *Messa da Requiem*. This moving work includes soloists from the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

March 13: at Rockefeller Chapel, Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
March 14: at Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church, 155 W. Brush Hill Rd., Elmhurst, 3:00 p.m.
Adults \$31; students \$7 (Elmhurst)
Group and family tickets also available (630) 941-0202
www.elmhurstsymphony.org

Sunday - 14

Sunday Funday: Baseball Caps

Every baseball fan needs a team cap! Kids will be ready to cheer on their favorite team by custom-designing a colorful baseball cap. Drop-in craft program held in the Education Center for ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
1-3 p.m. Cost: \$2 per project

Tuesday – 16

Genevieve Staudt Guestship

Scholar and author Louise Knight presents "Jane Addams and the Development of Women's Political Power."

Elmhurst College Schaible Science Center
Prospect and Elm Park Ave.
4:00 p.m. FREE



Join in the fun at the *Safety Town Annual Family Bike-A-Thon* on *Saturday, May 23, 10 a.m., where kids can learn about biking safety and have their bikes and helmets safety checked.*

Wednesday - 17

Be the Artist: Bill Frederick

Realistic drawings and paintings by Chicago artist Bill Frederick who seeks to evoke a personal response from the viewer based on photography, imagination, and observation. These brilliant pieces will inspire us to create our own realistic narratives. For children ages 10-14.

Elmhurst Art Museum, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
\$8.00 for Elmhurst residents and
\$10.00 for non-residents
To register, please call (630) 993-8901

Curator Tour

Elmhurst Art Museum
6:30-8 p.m.

Thursday - 18

Tea Time Talk: Talking Chicago Baseball History

North side or south side, Chicagoans are passionate about baseball. Start off the season with a lively discussion led by the Chicago Baseball Museum's Executive Director, Connie Kowal, who will discuss the long-standing ties between the city and America's favorite pastime. Refreshments served immediately following in the Glos Mansion, lower level. Adult program held in the Education Center.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
1:00 p.m. FREE

Clemente: His Life and Legacy

EHM keeps the doors open after hours for an exhibit tour and lecture. Experience the exhibit, "Beyond Baseball," with curator Lance Tawzer, and listen to a talk by noted Clemente collector, Paul Kutch, and meet with White Sox legend Minnie Minoso. Light refreshments will be served.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
5-7 p.m. FREE

The Poverty Project Panel

Journalist Barbara Rose will explore the ramifications of Poverty in DuPage County. Elmhurst College, Frick Center
7:00 p.m. Free

Saturday – 20

"From Chic to Common:

Birthstone Lore"

Kathy Kamal, metalsmith artist and professor of Jewelry Design at the College of DuPage, presents the history of the Birthstone system. Learn what gems are considered Birthstones and what social value humans have placed on them through the ages.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art
Teenage to Adult – 60 minutes – 2 p.m.
Regular Museum Admission
Reservations Recommended

Sunday – 21

Elmhurst College Spring Concert

Elmhurst College Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Winds present a spring concert. Elmhurst College
Hammerschmidt Chapel
3:00 p.m. Free.

Youth Baseball Day

Elmhurst Historical Museum, Elmhurst Youth Baseball, and Character Counts! present a special open house for baseball families. Check out the "Beyond Baseball" exhibit and view a PBS documentary on Clemente (1, 2 and 3 p.m.). Wear a favorite baseball jersey, and participate in a drawing for baseball gear.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
1-4 p.m. FREE

Thursday – 25

The Rudolf G. Schade Lecture

Chadwick "Corntassel" Smith, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, will present the annual Elmhurst College Rudolf G. Schade Lecture. Topic: "Rebuilding the Cherokee Nation as a Society and Civilization—Lessons for all Governments."

Elmhurst College
Hammerschmidt Chapel
7:00 p.m. FREE
Info: (630) 617-3390

APRIL

Saturday – 3

Egg Hunt

Join in the Egg Hunt sponsored by the Spring Road Business Association.

Spring Road at the Prairie Path
1 p.m. FREE
No registration required

Egg Hunt

Bring your own basket over to Wilder Park and find hidden treats! The bunny has promised to stay awhile so be sure to bring your cameras. Get there early because the hunt starts promptly at 10 a.m. Ages 1-10.

Wilder Park, 10:00 a.m. FREE

Tuesday – 6

Grade 2 and 3 Book Discussion:

Yang the Youngest and His Terrible Ear

Read this book by Lensen Namioka and join other kids to discuss the story and take part in entertaining activities. Everyone in the Yang family is a talented musician except for nine-year-old Yingtao, the youngest. He's been taking lessons from his father for four years, but he can't hear his own mistakes. Yang the Youngest and his family recently moved to America from China, and now his father expects him to play in a recital with his musical brothers in front of an audience. He hates playing the violin, but how can he tell his family that he has a different love – baseball? Register by phone or at the Help Desk with your valid EPL card starting Tuesday, March 2.

Elmhurst Public Library, Storytime Room
3:30-4:30 p.m. FREE

Wednesday – 7

Jazz Faculty Concert

Entire Elmhurst College jazz faculty performs.

Elmhurst College,
Irion Hall in Buik Recital Hall
7:30 p.m. FREE
Info: (630) 617-3515

Thursday – 8

The Poverty Project

Award-winning journalist and best-selling author Alex Kotlowitz presents “The Things They Carry: Growing Up Poor in the World’s Wealthiest Nation.”

Elmhurst College,
Hammerschmidt Chapel
7:00 p.m. FREE

Friday – 9

Family Circus Night

Join us under our imaginary Big Top at the Wagner Community Center for a fun evening of circus activities for all ages. Come dressed up as a circus performer, if you like, for activities, circus acts, and the parade of performers. All ages.

Wagner Community Center
6:30-7:45 p.m.

\$18 resident/\$23 non-resident first 4 family members; \$2 resident/\$3 non-resident add’l members

Saturday – 10

“Mazon Creek Fossil Collecting Trip”

Travel to Braidwood, Illinois, to collect Mazon Creek fossils at the world famous site Pit 11. Learn what to look for when collecting these special fossils and how to open them. Travel by motor coach, bring a sack lunch and get ready to collect. Make reservations early this field trip fills up fast!

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art
Field Trip - 8 yrs. to Adult
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

\$30.00 per person

Reservations Required: (630) 833-1616

Sunday - 11

Concert: Mozart Gets Religion

Elmhurst Choral Union and Orchestra perform Mozart’s *Requiem* and other sacred works. Explore this music that’s familiar from movies such as “Amadeus,” “Eyes Wide Shut,” and “Primal Fear.”

Featured soloist is Kimberly Eileen Jones.

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

\$25 adults, \$23 seniors, \$10 students
Group rates available
Info: (630) 758-1100

or www.elmhurstchoralunion.org

Portfolio Opening Reception and Workshop

Approximately 25 senior art portfolios will be showcased from DuPage County high schools, together with a workshop for all students who entered.

Elmhurst Art Museum
1:00-3:00 p.m.

\$7/adult, \$5/senior, \$5/student, children under 12 are FREE

Sunday - 11

Sunday Funday:

Catch-It Cones

Aspiring fielders can sharpen catching skills by assembling and decorating an old-fashioned cup-and-ball game. Drop-in craft program held in the Education Center for ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
1-3 p.m. Cost: \$2 per project

Thursday - 15

Tea Time Talk: To Be Announced

Afternoon lecture series for adults featuring a history-related topic. Refreshments served immediately following in the Glos Mansion, lower level. Adult program held in the Education Center.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
1:00 p.m. FREE

Saturday - 17

Mother and Daughter Afternoon Tea

Young ladies and their moms are cordially invited to an Afternoon Tea Party in the beautifully renovated Wilder Mansion. Nibble on an assortment of finger foods and savory treats while sipping tea or lemonade. Moms and daughters are encouraged to dress in their best party dresses! After brunch, sit back and enjoy the special entertainment. Registration deadline is April 9. Ages 4 and older.

Wilder Mansion, 1-2:30 p.m.

\$32 resident/\$40 non-resident; \$32 resident/\$40 non-resident add’l child

Sunday – 18

Spring Concert

The Elmhurst College Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, and Women’s Chorus present their annual spring choral concert.

Elmhurst College
Hammerschmidt Chapel, 2:00 p.m.
Free.

Holocaust Education Project

Chicago Tribune jazz critic Howard Reich, author of *The First and Final Nightmare of Sonia Reich: A Son’s Memoir*, discusses the responsibility of remembering the Holocaust.

Elmhurst College, Frick Center
7:00 p.m. Free.

Tuesday – 20

Careers in the Arts Day

Attention high school students...

Half a dozen art professionals will show high school students what they do for a living and tell them how they got started in their careers.

Elmhurst Art Museum
10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Free



Elmhurst Choral Union presents *Mozart Gets Religion* on Sunday, April 11.

Wednesday – 21

Be the Artist: Portfolio

Portfolio features artwork from DuPage County high school seniors. Tour the galleries to view these unique portfolios, then use your own creative spark to design your own mini portfolio. For children ages 10-14.

Elmhurst Art Museum, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

\$8.00 for Elmhurst residents and \$10.00 for non-residents.

To register, please call (630) 993-8901

Saturday – 24

“StarLab: Introduction to the Constellations”

Diane Sipiera of the Planetary Studies Foundation presents the major constellations in a unique planetarium setting. Using the well-known constellation identification system of author H.A. Rey, this entertaining and educational program provides children and adults with the opportunity to see the basic constellations, hear mythological stories and learn astronomy facts. This program qualifies for Scouts earning their Astronomy Badge.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art
Lecture - 8 yrs. to Adult - 50 minutes
2:00 p.m. Admission: \$5 per person
Reservations Required: (630) 833-1616

Gospel Extravaganza

Gospel choirs from the Chicago area will perform.

Elmhurst College, Hammerschmidt Chapel
7:00 p.m. Free.

Thursday-Friday, April 29-30

Saturday-Sunday, May 1-2

Thursday-Saturday, May 6-8

Theatre: “Mother Hicks”

Set in southern Illinois during the Great Depression, this is Suzan Zeder’s story of three outsiders – an orphan girl, a deaf boy, and an old woman – as they find their paths in a difficult time.

Elmhurst College Mill Theatre
253 Walter St., 8:00 p.m.

For tickets, call (630) 617-3005

MAY

Saturday and Sunday – 1 & 2

Art in the Park

A weekend event featuring unique, artist-created jewelry, ceramics, photography, sculpture, furniture, glass, fiber work and paintings. Artists will be exhibiting and selling their hand-crafted items all weekend.

Elmhurst Art Museum
10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

MAY

Saturday and Sunday – 1 & 2

Raku in the Park(ing Lot)

Bring the family for a fun-filled day at Raku in the Park(ing Lot) and pick a pot to glaze for \$15. Watch as it's fired right before your eyes, ready to bring home. Shop for some raku vessels by local artists.

Elmhurst Art Museum, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

"The Lizzadro Museum Collection"

Introductory DVD on the permanent collection housed in the Lizzadro Museum explains how jade is carved and the unique forms of lapidary art on display.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art

DVD – 15 minutes – 2:00 p.m. FREE

Tuesday – 4

Grade 2 and 3 Book Discussion:

An Invisible Fran by Jim Benton

Read this book and get together with other kids to discuss the story and participate in fun activities. Mad scientist Franny K. Stein makes it her mission to help her classmates discover their own inner mad scientists.

Register by phone or at the Help Desk with your valid EPL card starting Tuesday, April 6.

Elmhurst Public Library,

Storytime Room, 3:30-4:30 p.m. FREE

Friday – 7

Puppets on the Wilder Side

EPL's talented puppeteers present three stories adapted from popular children's books: *How to Catch a Star*, *Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Book?* and *Once upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude*, plus a sing-along with some of our zany puppets. Pick up tickets at the Help Desk with your valid EPL card starting Saturday, May 1. For ages 3 and up; Adults must accompany kids under 7.

Elmhurst Public Library

Meeting Room 2, 7:30-8 p.m. FREE

Tuesday – 11

Elmhurst College Jazz Band and Vocal Group "Late Night Blues"

Come hear the College's Jazz Band directed by Doug Beach and "Late Night Blues" directed by Sue Moninger.

Elmhurst College Mill Theatre

253 Walter St., 6 and 8:30 p.m. FREE

For info: (630) 617-3515

Saturday – 15

Pet Parade

Join in the annual Pet Parade sponsored by the Spring Road Business Association. Obtain applications at DeVries Animal Hospital, 528 Spring Rd. (630-833-7387); 7 Eleven Store, 525 Spring Rd.; or visit www.springroad.com.

Starts at Spring and Vallette, 1 p.m.

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Pre-parade activities

Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra Concert: "Monumental Music"

ESO Assistant Concertmaster Kate Carter makes her solo debut performing Beethoven's Violin Concerto in D Major, and the orchestra plays Sibelius' Symphony No. 2 in D, the most satisfying in all of symphonic music.

Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church

155 W. Brush Hill Rd., Elmhurst

7:00 p.m. Adults \$31; Students \$7

Group and family tickets also available

Saturday-Sunday - 15-16

An Evening of One-Act Plays

Immerse yourself in drama presented to you by Elmhurst College's directing class.

Elmhurst College Mill Theatre

253 Walter St., 8:00 p.m.

For tickets, call (630) 617-3005

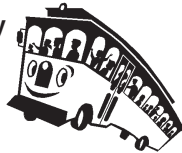
Sunday - 16

Elmhurst Museum Day

Celebrate International Museum day with all four Elmhurst museums. Park at one museum and ride a complimentary trolley to each location for special programs, family-friendly activities, free admission to all exhibits, and a chance to earn great prizes. All ages welcome.

Elmhurst Historical Museum, Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Arts, Elmhurst Art Museum, Theatre Historical Society of America

1-5 p.m. FREE AT ALL MUSEUMS



Wednesday – 19

Be the Artist: Holly Cohn

Come see the stunning artwork of local artist Holly Cohn. Her abstract style is sure to inspire you to create your own piece! Make an abstract collage using different materials, such as colored pencils, oil pastels and paint. For children ages 10-14.

Elmhurst Art Museum, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

\$8.00 for Elmhurst residents and \$10.00 for non-residents

To register, please call (630) 993-8901

Preserve Your Family History

Preserve your family's unique history for future generations. Jeffrey Bockman, a college professor and genealogy specialist, explains preservation techniques and how to record and save a family's history and stories. Funded in part by the Illinois Humanities Council Road Scholar program.

Elmhurst Historical Museum

1 p.m. FREE

Saturday – 23

Safety Town Annual Family

Bike-A-Thon

Come to Safety Town where a qualified EPD bike instructor will be assisting all ages. Families can bring their tricycles and bicycles to the Safety Town Depot for an equipment and three-point check-up, including helmets, and then decorate their riding equipment for the upcoming Memorial Day Parade. Participants then ride their tricycles, or ours, in Safety Town, and children with two-wheelers and parents will ride a short distance obstacle course outside of Safety Town or on the Prairie Path. All ages.

Safety Town Depot, 10 a.m.-noon

FREE

Addresses for organizations regularly featured in the Elmhurst Community Calendar

Elmhurst Art Museum

150 Cottage Hill Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126

(630) 834-0202

www.elmhurstartmuseum.org

Elmhurst City Centre

2 City Centre, Elmhurst, IL 60126

(630) 993-1600

www.elmhurstcitycentre.com

Elmhurst College

190 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126

(630) 617-3390

www.elmhurst.edu

Elmhurst Historical Museum

120 E. Park Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126

(630) 833-1457

www.elmhursthhistory.org

Elmhurst Park District

225 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126

(630) 993-8901

www.epd.org

Elmhurst Public Library

125 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126

(630) 279-8696

www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org

Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra

Performances at Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church, 155 W. Brush Hill Rd., Elmhurst, IL 60126

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 345, Elmhurst, IL 60126

(630) 941-0202

www.elmhurstsymphony.org

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art

2200 Cottage Hill Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126

(630) 833-1616

www.lizzadromuseum.org

The Elmhurst 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.elmhursthhistory.org

Elmhurst Park District

www.epd.org

Elmhurst Public Library

www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org

Elmhurst St. Patrick's Day Parade

www.elmhurststpatparade.com

Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra

www.elmhurstsymphony.org

Lizzadro Museum Lapidary Art

www.lizzadromuseum.org

Spring Road Business Association

www.springroad.com

York & Vallette Business Assoc.

www.yorkandvallette.com

For more information about the Elmhurst Community Calendar, please call (630) 833-1457.



Spring Clean-Up

The City will once again provide a Spring Clean-Up day for residents living within incorporated City limits. The event will be held on your regularly scheduled refuse collection day, either Wednesday, April 21; Thursday, April 22; or Friday, April 23.

Acceptable items include appliances, fixtures, furniture, bulk items, carpet rolls, construction and demolition debris, landscape timbers no longer than three feet long, and hardened paint in cans.

The following items are not acceptable: ammunition, bricks, concrete blocks, cement, asphalt, car batteries, explosives, fluids, hazardous or medical waste, large automotive parts, radioactive materials, riding mowers, snow blowers, tires, boats or snowmobiles. For a more detailed description of Spring Clean-Up regulations, visit the City website at www.elmhurst.org and click on "Departments," "Public Works," and "Special Programs," or call 630-530-3020.

Yard Waste Pickup Resumes

Yard waste collection at the curb will begin again this spring on your regular refuse collection day on March 31, April 1 or April 2. The following are acceptable: grass, leaves, shrubbery trimmings, dead flowers, twigs and weeds (with soil removed). The following should be disposed of with other refuse: sod, rocks, earth, vegetable plants and fruit.

Yard waste should be placed in a 30-gallon brown Kraft paper bag or a 33-gallon garbage can clearly marked "Yard Waste Only." Labels are available at the Finance counter on the first floor of City Hall. Yard waste in bags or cans may not weigh more than 50 pounds. One clearly visible yard waste sticker must be affixed to each bag or container. Additionally, a maximum of two bundles of brush will be picked up without additional charge. Bundles may not contain branches more than four inches in diameter, and may not exceed four feet in length or weigh more than 50 pounds.

Watch for Sidewalk Sammy

As you drive around the community, watch for a colorful, childlike figure called Sidewalk Sammy. Sammy reminds motorists to slow down, watch for pedestrians, especially children, and help keep our community safe. In the coming months, residents are reminded that more children will be playing outdoors. Applications can be picked up and dropped off at City Hall or the Police Department.



Fire Station Tours and Child Safety Seat Inspections

Residents are reminded to contact the Fire Department at 630-530-3090 to arrange for a tour of the new fire station, or an infant or child safety seat inspection.

A Bicycle-Friendly Community

One year ago, former Mayor Thomas Marcucci appointed a Bicycle Task Force, which included members from Elmhurst College, the Elmhurst Park District, Elmhurst Hospital, the Elmhurst Public Library, Elmhurst City Centre, the Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce, the City of Elmhurst and residents of the community. Mayor DiCianni recently reappointed the members of the Bicycle Task Force to enable them to continue their efforts to make Elmhurst a more bicycle-friendly community.

Signs on Public Property



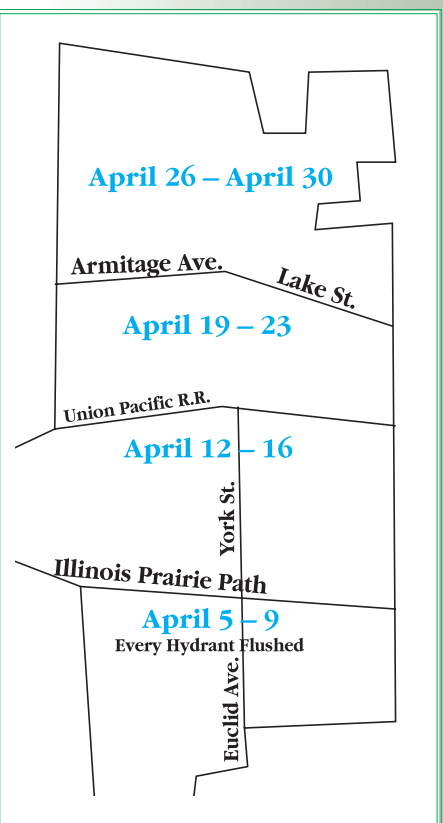
Until recently, signs advertising garage sales and real estate open houses have not been allowed on public property, such as City parkways. The Elmhurst City Council recently approved an amendment to the

Zoning Ordinance that allows signs advertising residential garage sales to be displayed on the City right-of-way (i.e. parkway) and/or on private property with the owner's consent, no more than 24 hours before the garage sale begins and no more than 12 hours after the sale ends. Real estate open house signs are now allowed on public parkways and/or on private property with the consent of the property owner on Saturday and Sunday between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

For more detailed information about the number of signs allowed, size and other regulations, please visit www.elmhurst.org/archives/35/Council%20Packet%2012072009.pdf.

2010 Fire Hydrant Flushing Schedule

The City's Public Works Department will conduct annual hydrant flushing from April 5 to April 30. This operation will take place Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will be completed during that four-week period. The purpose of hydrant flushing is to ensure that the hydrants are working properly and can provide water to the Fire Department in the event of a fire. Signs will be posted in areas prior to flushing. (See map for details.)



Heroin Arrests in Elmhurst

Unfortunately, the use of drugs is not limited to communities outside of Elmhurst. Of even more concern to the Elmhurst Police Department is the fact that a small group of Elmhurst students have apparently been experimenting with heroin, a highly addictive drug that changes the brains and behavior of users.

Short-term effects may include depressed respiration, clouded mental functioning, nausea and vomiting. Long-term effects, in addition to the addiction itself, may include collapsed veins, bacterial infections, abscesses, infections of the heart lining and valves, arthritis and other rheumatologic problems.

Beyond the effects of the drug itself are the consequences of sharing injection equipment, including Hepatitis B and C, HIV and many other blood-borne viruses that can in turn be passed on to sexual partners and children. Parents are encouraged to keep the lines of communication open with their children and to watch for any changes in behavior or friends.

The Elmhurst Police Department's Community Oriented Police Program (COPP) began tracking the flow of heroin into DuPage County last spring after discovering experimentation by a few Elmhurst teens. The Police Department continues to gather intelligence, and identify, and arrest drug dealers whose reach encompasses the Elmhurst area.

City of Elmhurst

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

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

City Hall Hours

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Peter P. DiCianni III, Mayor
 Patty Spencer, City Clerk
 David Dyer, City Treasurer

Aldermen

1st Ward - Diane C. Gutenkauf, Paula Pezza
 2nd Ward - Patricia Shea, Norman Leader
 3rd Ward - Susan J. Rose, Michael Bram
 4th Ward - Stephen W. Hipkind, Kevin York
 5th Ward - Chris Nybo, Chris Healy
 6th Ward - Steven M. Morley, Jim Kennedy
 7th Ward - Mark A. Mulliner, Patrick Wagner

Levee Improvement Project

Shortly after the flood that impacted Elmhurst in 1987, a levee was constructed to protect homes in the Salt Creek area. The levee system consists of embankments, flood walls and interior drainage systems that work together to protect an area that would otherwise be inundated by a 100-year flood. The National Levee Safety Act of 2007 requires that all levees be certified in order to be mapped as a FEMA accredited levee. Without FEMA certification of the levee, southwest Elmhurst would be remapped as though the levee did not exist, and homeowners in that area would be subject to the regulations that come with living in a flood plain, including mandatory flood insurance. Engineering for the Levee Improvement Project is now underway and the City has contracted for the modest enhancements that will be necessary. Work will include filling of low areas and removal of trees, with native plants used for restoration. It is anticipated that the work will be completed this spring.

City Vehicle Stickers Purchased and Properly Displayed by May 1

Residents are reminded that May 1 is the deadline for purchasing and properly displaying the new City of Elmhurst vehicle sticker for any vehicle registered or garaged within the City's corporate limits. The sticker must be properly displayed by affixing it to the lower right corner of the vehicle's windshield. As in the past, vehicle stickers will be sold at a discount from Monday, March 1, through Friday, April 30. On May 1 and thereafter, the sticker price will increase. If your application does not arrive in the mail, please print one from the city's website, call to have one mailed or pick one up at City Hall. To save time and avoid long lines, residents are encouraged to mail the completed application and appropriate fee to City Hall. New this year is the ability to purchase your vehicle sticker(s) online. Please look for additional information included with your renewal application. If you mail in your application(s) or purchase your vehicle sticker(s) online, your receipt and vehicle sticker will be mailed to you. In order for the City's vehicle sticker records to be kept current, please notify the City if your license number changed when you obtained new Illinois license plates. Call 630-530-3118 for more information.



Testing for Radon in Your Home



In January, Elmhurst Mayor Pete DiCianni signed a proclamation encouraging citizens to support National Radon Action Month. The U.S. Surgeon General and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) urged all citizens to protect their health by testing their homes for radon. Radon is a natural radioactive gas that you can't see, smell or taste, but could be present at a dangerous level in your home. As the leading cause of lung cancer deaths among non-smokers, radon claims more than 20,000 lives annually. Nearly 1 out of every 15 homes in the U.S. is estimated to have elevated radon levels. If a high radon level is detected in your home, you can take steps to fix it to protect yourself. For more information, please visit www.epa.gov/radon/nram/public.html.



Elmhurst Historical Museum

120 E. Park Ave., Elmhurst

Phone: 630-833-1457 www.elmhursthistory.org

Issue 1

Museum Hours: Tuesday-Sunday, 1-5 p.m.

Beyond Baseball: The Life of Roberto Clemente

Roberto Clemente became a baseball legend during the 1960s and 70s with his explosive throwing arm, feisty personality, lightning speed and consistently high batting average — but he was much more than an astounding athlete. For millions of fans across the world, Clemente was a cultural hero who gave a voice to the underprivileged.

The Elmhurst Historical Museum is proud to host a special exhibit honoring Clemente and his heroic humanitarian efforts with the Chicago area premiere of the bilingual exhibit, "Beyond Baseball: The Life of Roberto Clemente." Organized by the Smithsonian Institution, "Beyond Baseball" includes biographical highlights, baseball statistics, rare photographs and insightful words from those who knew Clemente best.

"Beyond Baseball" will be open to the public through April 11, 2010, Tuesday through Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. This exhibit was developed by the Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico with the Carimar Design and Research Studio, and organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. The exhibition was made possible by the generous support of the Smithsonian Latino Center.

"Dwellings" Exhibit: Fascinating to Residents and Realtors

Elmhurst Historical Museum continues to display the popular exhibit, "Dwellings: A Study in Residential Architecture," through May 23, 2010. The exhibit, a must-see for Elmhurst residents, uses Elmhurst as a case study and explores the diverse architectural styles that make this town a model of Midwestern suburbanization.



Roberto Clemente was an outstanding baseball player, but he became a cultural hero for his humanitarianism.

Although the second floor portion of the exhibit is no longer on display, visitors can still take in the first floor section depicting the variety of architectural styles visible in Elmhurst neighborhoods; special sections on Walter Burley Griffin, Mies van der Rohe and Frank Lloyd Wright; and footage of "The Lost Homes of Elmhurst." Be sure to view "Dwellings" before it closes in May. A number of local realtors have visited "Dwellings" as a group, finding the exhibit to be "valuable and highly educational." For more information, please visit www.elmhurst.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=148.

Schoolhouse Restoration Nears Completion

You may have noticed the backhoes and work crews over the past few months working to complete the final phase of construction on the historic Churchville Schoolhouse restoration project. The Churchville Schoolhouse is listed in the National Register for Historic Places and will soon be ready for program testing. A public opening event will be announced soon. Watch for more information about the Schoolhouse as the Elmhurst Historical Museum prepares to launch new programming and events at this historic site. For more information, please visit www.elmhursthistory.org and click on the "Churchville Schoolhouse" link located at the lower left corner of the home page.



The final phase of restoration at the historic Churchville Schoolhouse is near completion.

Coming this summer to EHM: The Magical History Tour

June 15 - September 19, 2010

Don't miss this fun, family-friendly exhibit for all ages this summer! For more information on related programs and events, visit the Museum's web site at www.elmhursthistory.org.

Follow EHM on Facebook!

Spring Road Business District Streetscape Improvements

Major improvements are underway in the Spring Road business district between Vallette Street and the Canadian National Railroad. Streetscape improvements will include new decorative lighting, trees in decorative metal grates, trash receptacles, planters, new sidewalks, and curb and gutter upgrades. Construction activities were sequenced to meet federal project requirements in order to increase the probability of obtaining federal funding for this work.

The first phase of construction involves the installation of a new lighting system, followed by sidewalk replacement, which

is scheduled for this spring. The sidewalk improvements will be financed through the creation of a Special Service Area (SSA), with Spring Road businesses contributing half of the cost. Roadway work will be completed during the final phase of construction scheduled for the summer of 2010. The City has applied for American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funding to finance the roadway improvements, which provide an attractive corridor for businesses, customers and local residents.

“If a warning is issued, move to your predetermined shelter, such as a basement, or an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor and get under a heavy piece of furniture.”

Tornado Season Coming Soon

Nature's most violent storms, known as tornadoes, occur most frequently east of the Rocky Mountains during the summer months, with two-thirds of tornadoes in Illinois occurring between March and May. During an average year, 800 tornadoes are reported nationwide, resulting in 80 deaths and 1,500 injuries. Violent tornadoes are capable of causing

tremendous destruction with winds in excess of 250 miles per hour.

When conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop, a severe thunderstorm or TORNADO WATCH is issued by the National Weather Service. If conditions indicate that severe weather and/or tornadoes are imminent, a TORNADO WARNING is issued. A NOAA Weather Radio is the best way to receive National Weather Service watches and warnings. A TORNADO WATCH means that a tornado is possible in the area and people should remain alert to approaching storms. A TORNADO WARNING means either that a tornado has been spotted or is indicated by weather radar. If the sky becomes threatening, move immediately to



your pre-designated place of safety. Watch for a dark or greenish sky, a wall of clouds, hail or a loud roar that resembles the sound of a freight train. Significant property damage and injuries can be caused by flash flooding, lightning, large hail and damaging straight-line winds that often accompany violent tornadoes.

It is essential to make preparations and instruct family members well in advance of tornado season. Preparations should include holding frequent drills, and developing and implementing a plan for family members at home, work or school. Purchase a NOAA Weather Radio with a warning alarm tone and a battery back-up so that you can receive warnings in advance of severe weather.

If a warning is issued, move to your predetermined shelter, such as a basement, or an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor and get under a heavy piece of furniture. If you are in your car, get out immediately. Never try to outrun a tornado. Those most at risk during a tornado are the very young, the elderly, those with physical or mental impairments, people in automobiles or mobile homes, and people who do not understand the warning due to a language barrier.

For more information about tornadoes and how to prepare for severe weather, please visit www.nssl.noaa.gov/edu/safety/tornadoguide.html.



City of Elmhurst

209 N. York St.

Elmhurst, IL 60126

(630) 530-3000



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