



ELMHURST

The Front Porch

Citywide Newsletter

November 2012

Residents Respond to 2012 Citizen Survey

City officials would like to thank residents who participated in the 2012 City of Elmhurst Citizen Survey. The survey is sent every two years to 1,600 residents randomly selected from the water billing database. The results provide valuable input regarding the opinions, concerns and priorities of community members. There is a direct cause-and-effect relationship between survey results and city-initiated projects and programs.

A total of 701 surveys were returned for a response rate of 43.81%. Return rates have ranged from a low of 39.75% in 1998 to a high of 55.63% in 2000. Although higher response rates are more likely to reflect the opinions of the community as a whole, a response rate above 40% is considered strong. Over 97% of respondents identified themselves as homeowners rather than renters.

For the first time, respondents' ages were compared to the actual demographics of the community. The number of participants over the age of 65 has grown consistently since the survey began in 1994. In 2012, 29.62% fell into this age group, although only 20% of Elmhurst's adult residents are over the age of 65. The number of responses from residents between the ages of 18 and 25 continues to be negligible, although they account for 12.5% of adults.

Quality of Life

The community's overall quality has received extremely high ratings since the question was first included in the 2000 survey. This year was no exception, with 95.26% of respondents marking "good" or "excellent" in response to this question. Approximately 95% of

continued page 2 ♦♦

Holiday Greetings

Best wishes for a happy holiday season from the Elmhurst City Council and staff. Ring in the season at the annual City Centre tree lighting from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, November 23, on the plaza adjacent to the Elmhurst Police Station. Bring the family for an evening of holiday music and fun, including the arrival of a special visitor from the North Pole at 6 p.m.



New Elmhurst Chief of Police

Michael Ruth, former Police Chief for the City of Countryside, IL, was named Elmhurst's Chief of Police effective November 5, 2012. The announcement was made after formal approval was received by the Elmhurst City Council.



*New Elmhurst
Police Chief
Michael Ruth*

Ruth served Countryside for just over two years and prior to that, he was with the Police Department of Skokie, IL, for 29 years. He holds a Master of Science in Criminal and Social Justice from Lewis University and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Governors State University.

In Countryside, Ruth improved communications within the department and between the residents and police officers. He also established department-wide professional goals for accountability, ethics and transparency, while providing overall strategic planning for the department as well. In Skokie, he rose through the ranks from Uniform Patrol Officer to Police Commander. In both locations he was involved in improving police-community interactions by being visible, accessible and personally active within both communities. In his cover letter applying for the Elmhurst position, he stated that he believed that "the process is just as important as the end result."

Ruth is an Illinois "Certified Police Chief," an executive board member of the West Suburban Chiefs of Police Association, Chief/Chairman of MCAT (the Major Crime Assistance Team) and a member of Rotary International, in addition to many other memberships and accomplishments.

In making the announcement, Elmhurst City Manager James Grabowski stated, "We are thrilled with Chief Ruth's enthusiasm and approach to policing." Grabowski also thanked Interim Police Chief Dominic Panico for his service in that role, as well as the entire police department, for their support and patience throughout the search process.

Citizen Survey continued from pg. 1

those surveyed consider the community a “good” or “excellent” place to live and to raise children. As a place to retire, however, respondents’ ratings have followed a downward trend with only 51.71% indicating “good” or “excellent” in 2012, compared to 62.23% in 2000. The physical appearance of both public and private property continues to receive high ratings.

Public Safety

Many of the questions in the public safety section were directed at respondents who had used police, fire and/or ambulance services in the previous 12 months. Over 91% of residents who used ambulance services rated response time, quality of service, and professionalism and courtesy either “good” or “excellent.” While ratings for the Fire Department in some categories dropped slightly when compared to 2010 results, more than 85% of those surveyed still rated these areas either “good” or “excellent.”

Emergency response time by the Police Department was rated “good” or “excellent” by 75% of participants, while quality of service received “good” or “excellent” marks by almost 78%. There was a decline in Police Department ratings in the area of professionalism and courtesy: from 89% “good” or “excellent” in 2010 to 79% in 2012.

Survey participants were also questioned about how safe they feel in various parts of the city. More respondents, from 88% to 90%, reported feeling “safe” or “very safe” in their neighborhoods; in the City Centre and in the city in general, they reported feeling “safe” or “very safe” on city streets at night (81.29%) or in city parks (76.55%). The percentage of residents who reported having carbon monoxide detectors in their homes has risen dramatically with each survey, from 43.5% in 1996 to 90% in 2012.

Public Works, Traffic and Transportation

Many of these questions focused on services provided by the Public Works Department, including streets and sidewalks, forestry, mosquito control, and refuse and recycling. Mosquito control and area sidewalks received the lowest number of “good” or “excellent” ratings, 60.65% and 64.94% respectively. Refuse collection and recycling received the highest marks, approximately 88% “good” or “excellent.”

There was a significant improvement in the perception of street maintenance, with over 65% rating it “good” or “excellent,” compared to 58% in 2010. In the area of traffic and transportation, commuter parking received an all-time high of 73.58% “good” or “excellent.” As in most past surveys, residents rated traffic enforcement in the city in general as considerably better than in their own neighborhoods.

A new question was presented to determine bicycle use by asking residents to identify their primary purpose for riding. Recreation and exercise were the most commonly cited reasons, although 16.3%

named “errands around town” and “transportation/commuting” as their reasons for riding.

Shopping and Cultural Attractions



The Elmhurst City Centre received good” or “excellent” ratings from 85% or more of respondents in the areas of attractiveness and appearance; snow removal (walks and parking lots); litter and trash clean-up; and pedestrian accessibility and security. Fewer participants rated parking convenience and accessibility (61.05%), and special events and promotions (66.99%) either “good” or “excellent.”

Other Elmhurst shopping destinations, ranked from highest to lowest number of responses, were Elmhurst Crossing at Rt. 83 and St. Charles; Butterfield and York; York and Vallette; and Spring Road.

The Elmhurst Public Library continues to be a popular destination, with over 31% of respondents reporting that they visit at least once a week. The library received “good” or “excellent” ratings from 96% or more of respondents for library services in general, children’s programs, and professionalism and courtesy.

Slightly over 20% of those surveyed reported visits to the Elmhurst Historical Museum in the previous 12 months, most commonly to see an exhibit. The museum received very high ratings for professionalism and courtesy, quality of service, and overall satisfaction with visit. Overall cultural opportunities in Elmhurst were rated as “good” or “excellent” by 82.58% of participants, and “fair” to “excellent” by 97.99%.

Finance and Building Departments, City Services

The Finance Department received “good” or “excellent” ratings in the areas of response time, quality of service, and professionalism and courtesy by over 88% of those who had personally visited the department in the previous 12 months. More residents are becoming aware of payment options, such as EZ Pay for utility bills, and online payment for vehicle stickers, water bills and parking tickets. More than 75% who reported calling, writing to or visiting the Building Department in the previous 12 months rated building and code enforcement “good” or “excellent” for response time, accuracy of information, and quality of service. Professionalism and courtesy was rated “good” or “excellent” by over 85% for that department.

Overall city operations received the lowest marks (68.44% “good” or “excellent”) since the 1994 survey. In response to a question regarding the value of city programs and services for the amount of fees and taxes paid, 55.27% of respondents marked “good” or “excellent” and 88.58% “fair” to “excellent.” *continued* ➡

Emergency response time by the Police Department was rated “good” or “excellent” by 75% of participants, while quality of service received “good” or “excellent” marks by almost 78%.

Winter Weather Reminders

Snow Removal in Elmhurst



Winter weather conditions present challenges for motorists, pedestrians, residents and municipal workers. During heavy snow events, 30 or more vehicles may be put into service around the clock to clear streets and keep them open for motorists. For obvious reasons, main roads are cleared first, followed by neighborhood streets and other less-traveled roadways. Snowplow operators typically remove snow from the center of the roadway to the curb in a series of four passes. If the snowfall is heavy or accompanied by high winds, the process can be very time-consuming and challenging; however, residents can be assured that the work will continue day and night until all city streets are open. During the process, it is inevitable that snow will be pushed onto driveway approaches. Homeowners are encouraged to wait before clearing private property approaches. Please remember that parking on the street is not allowed for eight hours following a snowfall of two inches or more.

Lights On, Wipers On – It's the Law

With periods of poor visibility and fewer hours of daylight during the winter months, it is important to make sure that your vehicle

can be seen by other motorists and that your visibility is not compromised. Lights and wipers play a vital role in safe driving, since your risk of being in an accident increases if you can't see clearly or be seen by others. Illinois law requires that headlights be on whenever wipers are in use or when visibility is less than 1000 feet. Now is a good time to inspect your lights and wiper blades. Replace lights that are dimming or burned out. Make sure headlights are properly aimed, and free of dirt and debris. Inspect your wiper blades and replace them if they aren't completely clearing your windshield of rain, snow and ice. Remember, when it comes to wipers and lights — it's the law.

Being a Good Neighbor

Residents are reminded not to blow or shovel snow onto the street when clearing driveways or sidewalks. If you have a fire hydrant in front of or near your home, please be a good citizen and keep it free of ice and snow. It is critical for firefighters to be able to locate and access hydrants quickly in a fire emergency. Be a good neighbor by helping elderly residents, and by clearing snow by school bus stops and school crossings.

Sump Pump Discharge

Sump pumps that are not connected to city storm sewers may not be allowed to discharge water onto city streets or sidewalks. This practice is illegal and can create icy and hazardous conditions for motorists and pedestrians.

Citizen Survey *continued*

Stormwater management has grown considerably as a point of concern, with 42.32% rating stormwater management service as "not enough," compared with 24.21% two years ago. Both private property stormwater assistance and private property sanitary sewer assistance were ranked "not enough" by considerably more residents in 2012 than in 2010.

Communications

When asked to identify source(s) they use for information about the city, 577 named the *The Front Porch* newsletter, followed by 469 for The Elmhurst Press, 413 for the *Elmhurst Independent*, 183 for www.elmhurst.org, 122 for *The Doings*, 54 for Cable Channel 6, and 17 for Social Media/Facebook. Almost 90% reported Internet use, compared to 34.12% in 1996, most reporting daily use.

The number of participants who had not visited the city website in the previous six months decreased from 51.66% in 2006 to 36.87% in 2012. Respondents were asked to mark all potential activities/initiatives that would impact their awareness of community-wide issues. The three most often marked responses

were 1) a special edition of the newsletter with 410 responses; 2) online questions/suggestions with 221 responses; and 3) regular updates on the city website with 214 responses.

The Best and the Worst

Since 1996, survey respondents have consistently named central location/convenience, quality of life, and quality of schools as the three things they like most about living in Elmhurst. Since the 2000 survey, participants have named taxes and airplane noise as the two things they like least about living in Elmhurst. General cost of living took the number three spot on the least liked list. For the first time since 2000, stormwater management/flooding edged out traffic congestion for the fourth spot. Participants ranked taxes, cost of living/affordability, and property value decline as the three biggest problems they feel Elmhurst will face in the next five years.

Results of the 2012 City of Elmhurst Citizen Survey will be used as a tool in developing future budgets and identifying goals and objectives for city departments. Complete results are available for detailed review on the city's website (www.elmhurst.org), at City Hall and at the Elmhurst Public Library.

City Receives Budget Award for Sixth Consecutive Year

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) annually recognizes government entities that meet the highest principles of governmental budgeting.

Elmhurst recently received the Distinguished

Budget Presentation Award for the sixth consecutive year. Elmhurst's 2013 budget was recognized for its proficiency as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device. The award also included the presentation of a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation to the city's Finance Department.

Railroad Safety in Elmhurst

In recognition of Elmhurst Police Department efforts to promote railroad safety, officials from the Union Pacific Railroad recently presented the Union Pacific Safety Spike to the City. Elmhurst officials were also presented with a sign and a declaration naming Elmhurst "Train Town USA."

The expansion of rail lines played an important role in the settlement and history of Elmhurst. Today there are 13 railroad crossings in the community and approximately 110 trains pass through on a daily basis. Over the years, Elmhurst has had its share of accidents involving trains and either motorists or pedestrians. During a 12-month period between 1992 and 1993, there were three fatal collisions involving trains in Elmhurst. In the Chicago metro area, 14 people were killed in railroad-related accidents during a two-week period in August of 1994. This tragic loss of life prompted one young Elmhurst police officer to tackle the problem head-on.

He began to strictly enforce railroad safety laws, issuing citations or warnings for violations at train stations, platforms and railroad crossings. That officer's efforts prompted the implementation of a comprehensive program called Operation Lifesaver that involved ongoing efforts in the areas of education, engineering and enforcement. Elmhurst's efforts to promote railroad safety had a ripple effect as other jurisdictions throughout the state and beyond implemented similar programs. The results in Elmhurst have been nothing short of remarkable. There has been only one fatal collision involving a train in the last 18 years, with none in the last 14 ½ years, and only one level crossing collision in the past 12 years. The young officer who started the railroad safety ball rolling 18 years ago was James Kveton, currently Deputy Chief of the Elmhurst Police Department. Kveton and Railroad Safety Specialist Steve Laffey from the Illinois Commerce Commission had the opportunity in October to present a paper at a railroad safety conference in London, England. Apparently the ripple effect from those early efforts to enhance railroad safety and prevent needless tragedies continues to this day. When approaching railroad tracks, always remember – Look, Listen and Live!

Mayor's Message



A season of remembering, appreciation, gratitude, awareness, family, friends... this is what Thanksgiving is all about. I know that is the case at our home and I suspect it is at yours as well.

Growing up I was always told to value what had been shared with me. I was instructed to be alert to the fact that many people did not enjoy all the benefits afforded to me and my family. Values of respect, hard work, patience, education and caring were also stressed and monitored. While I know I did not always think thoughtfully about all of these things, I also know that they have stayed with me for my entire life. I was paying attention.

As an adult with a family of my own, a business to run and obligations to my "home town," I try to live my life within these principles: Being candid but also being cordial; Standing for something but being willing to consider the other side's arguments; Looking strong while pondering all the variables; Striving to be a good husband and father and businessman, while also serving others. I do not succeed all of the time, but I am paying attention.

My hope for each of you in this season of reflection is that you can live your lives to the fullest. I hope that you prosper in your endeavors. I hope you participate in meaningful activities. I hope you lead when you can and follow when you should. I wish you fulfillment in all your goals and in all your dreams. The spirit of Thanksgiving should be one that endures throughout the year.

As you may know, the citizens of DuPage County elected me this past November 6 to serve as one of their 2nd District Commissioners to the County Board. I am grateful and humbled by their confidence. I intend to serve them well. It also means, however, that I will be stepping down as the Mayor of Elmhurst just short of my first full term in office. I have enjoyed and cherished the opportunity to be your Mayor. It will always be a high point in my career and in my life. I thank you for that support and although everything wasn't always perfect, the chance to lead in my beloved community will always be perfect in my memory. I will continue to represent Elmhurst and all it stands for in my new role on the County Board.

Please accept my sincere good wishes for you and yours for the Holidays ahead.

Sincerely,

Peter P. DiCianni III
 Mayor



Community Calendar

December 2012 — February 2013

ONGOING

December 1-15

44th Annual Fall Capstone Art Exhibition

A high point for every graduating art major, each student creates and displays a body of work in his or her area. Reception for the artists, Saturday, December 1, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Elmhurst College Barbara A. Kieft Accelerator ArtSpace, 200 W. Park Ave. Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday Noon-4 p.m. Free Info: 630-617-6110

December 26-February 28

The AMAZING Read: Kids' Winter Reading Program at the Library

Kids ages two through eight can join the program and earn prizes when they reach their reading goals. All kids who complete their booklog get their name on the "Sideshow Stars" bulletin board. Kids can register at the Help Desk with their valid EPL card anytime from December 26 until February 28.

Elmhurst Public Library
Info: 630-279-8696
www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org

Through January 6

Centuries of Progress: American World's Fairs, 1853-1982

The history of the American World's Fairs comes to Elmhurst in a national traveling exhibition documenting the spectacle and wonder of the stateside fairs. Visitors will experience over 125 objects, photographs, videos and memorabilia, from the 1853 Crystal Palace exhibition to the 1982 World's Fair in Tennessee. "Elmhurst Goes to the Fair" section features artifacts from the museum's collection plus a highlight on former Elmhurst residents with ties to the World's Fairs. Organized by the Hagley Museum and Library and toured by ExhibitsUSA, a national program of Mid-America Arts Alliance. Sponsored by York Theatre/Classic Cinemas.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
Tuesday-Sunday 1-5 p.m. FREE

Special Exhibit: Florentine Mosaics

The Museum's 50th Anniversary Celebration exhibit features amazing pictures created from natural stone. This unique art form began in Florence, Italy, centuries ago and is still being created today. This exhibit includes contemporary and traditional styles of figural, landscape and floral pieces.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art
Regular Museum Hours and Admission

January 11-January 23

14th Annual High School Art Exhibition

Young artists from ten local high schools showcase the work of their art departments in a wide variety of media. Reception for the artists and their families on Wednesday, January 16, from 6-8:30 p.m.

Elmhurst College Frick Center
190 Prospect Avenue
Open daily 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. Free
Info: 630-617-6110

January 15-February 9

District 205 Art Faculty Exhibition

Artists who are art educators and teach in Elmhurst Community School District 205 are featured in this exhibition. Public reception on Tuesday, January 22, from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Elmhurst College Barbara A. Kieft
Accelerator ArtSpace
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday Noon-4 p.m.
Free
Info: 630-617-6110

January 19-April 13

Open House: Art About Home

EAM's winter exhibitions focus on representations of home by six artists: Alberto Aguilar, Gabrielle Garland, Martin Hyers and William Mebane, Alyssa Miserendino and Ann Toebbe. Their works consider experiences, contents, memories and realities of home today. Elmhurst Art Museum

January 28-February 22

Black History Exhibition

This exhibition includes prints, paintings and ceramics created by artist Thomas Lucas. The exhibit also reflects Lucas in his role as "Master Print Maker" and includes a selection of prints from his collaborations at Hummingbird Press. Artist reception on Wednesday, February 20, from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Elmhurst College Frick Center
8 a.m.- 10 p.m. Free
Info: 630-617-6110



The Lizzadro Museum is offering a rock and mineral identification program on January 19, February 3 and February 16, for ages eight to adult.

February 6- May 19

On the Road to Glory: Fred Lorenzen

The story of the NASCAR legend and former Elmhurst resident Fred Lorenzen comes to life through photos, artifacts and exciting racing footage depicting a little-known local hero who has etched his name in the annals of racing history.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
Tuesday-Sunday 1-5 p.m. FREE

February 22-March 3

GreenMan Theatre: Smoking Gun

GreenMan Theatre Troupe presents an original script by GMTT board members Carolyn Thomas-Davidoff and Carl Zeitler dealing with a private detective searching for a priceless diamond while avoiding underworld figures and corrupt entertainment industry officials in 1930s Los Angeles. This dinner theater murder mystery will provide you with an evening of good food, comedy and music with some murder and mayhem on the side. Directed by Carolyn Thomas-Davidoff.

Angelo's's Ristorante
247 North York Road
For tickets call 630-464-2646 or visit
www.greenmantheatre.com

Through February 28

Art on the Run

Swing by EAM this winter for a free, fun and educational arts project for you and your kids. Check out our gallery exhibitions before you share a free creative experience with your children led by EAM's education instructors. Projects change, so come back again to create something new.

Elmhurst Art Museum
Every Saturday from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.
Free with admission

DECEMBER

Saturday-1

Music@Bethel Presents the Chicago Children's Choir Holiday Concert

Music@Bethel welcomes the return of the world acclaimed Chicago Children's Choir for two performances under the superb direction of Maestra Josephine Lee.

Bethel United Church of Christ
315 East St. Charles Road
3:30 and 7 p.m.

Tickets available for purchase at Bethel United Church of Christ or
online at www.musicatbethel.eventbrite.com

Create a Gem Tree

Lapidaries Bill and Lois Zima of the DesPlaines Valley Geological Society teach how to create a small tree using gemstones and wire. These beautiful trees never need water and make a great gift. All materials are included. Ages nine years to adult.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art
1-4 p.m. Fee: \$20 per person
Reservations required: 630-833-1616

DECEMBER

Sunday-2

Elmhurst Choral Union: Handel's Messiah

Start your holidays with this Christmas classic presented by Elmhurst Choral Union, professional orchestra, and soloists.

Elmhurst College Hammerschmidt Chapel
3 p.m.

Adults: \$25, Seniors: \$23, Students: \$10

Tickets at: elmhurstchoralunion.org or

800-838-3006

Monday-3, Tuesday-4

An Evening of Dance

A collaborative showcase of dance featuring works choreographed by faculty and students.

Elmhurst College Mill Theatre

253 Walter Street,

7 p.m.

Admission: \$5

Info: 630-617-3005

Tuesday-4

Varsity Band Concert

Come listen to the Elmhurst College Varsity Band performing their holiday concert under the direction of Eric Morong.

Elmhurst College Irion Hall, Buik Recital Hall

7:30 p.m. Free

Info: 630-617-3515

Wednesday-5

Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols

This is an Elmhurst College tradition that bridges the seasons of Advent and Christmastide and features musical works and readings in celebration of the Holiday Season.

Elmhurst College Hammerschmidt Chapel
4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Free

Info: 630-617-3390

Special Kids Day Annual Holiday Party

Come celebrate the season at our annual holiday party for children with special needs, their siblings and families. Every child has the opportunity for a personal visit with Santa and will receive a photo, goody bag, a sampling of holiday treats and the opportunity to make a holiday craft.

Wilder Mansion, 211 Prospect Avenue

3:30-8 p.m.

Free

For info: 630-530-7700 or

visit www.specialkidsday.org

Thursday-6

Tree Lighting in Wilder Park

Join the holiday spirit with an old-fashioned celebration in Wilder Park. Gather your family, friends or group and decorate a holiday tree.

Wilder Park

6 p.m.

Free. \$40 to reserve a tree

Thursday-6, Friday-7, Saturday-8

Theatre: Metamorphosis

By Franz Kafka, adapted by Steven Berkoff and directed by Joel Huff. How would your loved ones cope if you turned into a cockroach? Explore one family's reaction to these unusual circumstances in this adaptation that combines mime, movement and text. A highly stylized and dramatic work of theatre.

Elmhurst College Mill Theatre

253 Walter Street

8 p.m.

Tickets: 630-617-3005



Join in the fun at the Wilder Park Tree Lighting, Thursday, December 6, at 6 p.m.

Friday-7, Saturday-8, Sunday-9

The Spirito! Singers Christmas Concert: O Holy Night

Come join us for a day of beautiful, inspirational music!

Friday, December 7, 7:30 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

148 East Third Street, Elmhurst

Saturday, December 8, 8 p.m.

Sunday, December 9, 2:30 p.m.

Saint Francis Xavier Parish, 124 North

Spring Avenue, LaGrange

Cost: \$20

For more information about concert tickets,

audition information and to listen to the

beautiful music of Spirito!, visit

www.spiritosingers.org or call 630-941-0744.

Sunday-9

Charles Dickens: His Holiday Stories

Join us for a special holiday presentation for the whole family. Meet Charles Dickens, brought to life by professional actor Terry Lynch of *Histories for Kids*, who will delight the audience with reflections on his life and writings, including *A Christmas Carol*, *The Chimes*, *The Cricket on the Hearth* and *The Haunted Man* and *The Ghost's Bargain*. Refreshments will be served following the program. All ages welcome.

Elmhurst Historical Museum

Education Center

1 p.m. Free

Elmhurst College Philharmonic Orchestra Concert

The Philharmonic Orchestra will perform some of its favorite selections under the direction of Professor Joanne May.

Elmhurst College Hammerschmidt Chapel

3 p.m. Free

Info: 630-617-3515

Monday-10

Elmhurst College Holiday Band Concert

Come enjoy the Elmhurst College Symphonic Band under the direction of Professor Ross Kellan for their annual holiday concert full of good music and cheer.

Elmhurst College Hammerschmidt Chapel

7:30 p.m. Free

Info: 630-617-3515

Saturday-15

The Agape Ringers Sounds of the Season Concert

Come see Chicago's Premier Handbell Ensemble in their annual Christmas show.

Many Christmas favorites in new and interesting arrangements will be presented along with selections from Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker Suite" accompanied by their guest artists from Midwest Ballet Theatre.

Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church

149 West Brush Hill Road, 4 p.m.

Cost: \$16 by November 30, \$19 by

December 8, \$25 at the door, \$35 patron

To purchase tickets visit www.agaperingers.org

For questions, please call 309-365-2910

Saturday-15, Saturday-22

Lunch with Santa and Sing Along with Santa

Head to the heart of downtown Elmhurst and enjoy an outing with the family to see Santa and the Mrs! Skip the mall and see what our diverse merchants can offer.

Please visit www.elmhurstcitycentre.com or call 630-993-1600 for reservations and details.

Friday-21

Holiday Getaway

Celebrate the holiday season with us at EAM. Create holiday decorations your whole family will love. Wrap up the fun with a visit from Santa and story time with milk and cookies. No advance registration required.

Elmhurst Art Museum

9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

JANUARY

Saturday-5

Dinosaur Day

Chase away the winter blahs and participate in dinosaur-related activities for all age levels. Activities include assembling large wooden dinosaur skeletons, excavating bones and assembling them, a dinosaur floor puzzle and other games. Ages five years to adult. Estimated time for each activity is 10 to 60 minutes.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Regular museum admission

Saturday-12

Rockin' Lock-In

Grab your friends and join us for a fun night at Wagner Community Center. Includes pizza, pop, DJ, dodgeball and more! Ages eight to 11.

Wagner Community Center

7-10 p.m. \$10 pre-registration

Sunday-13

Family Open Swim at York High School

Bring your family for a fun-filled time at York High School's swimming pool. The pool will once again be available for Elmhurst Park District pool pass holders and residents during the months of January, February and March on specific dates. Lap swimming, open swim and diving boards will be available for use.

York High School

1-4 p.m.

JANUARY

Tuesday-15

Breakfast and Politics with John Kass
Days before the second inauguration of President Barack Obama, John Kass, the Page 2 columnist for the *Chicago Tribune*, will share his thoughts on the political landscape and the key issues that will face local and national leaders. A *Chicago Tribune* event, with support from Elmhurst College.

Elmhurst College Frick Center
Main Dining Room
Cost: TBA
Info: Jtrautman@tribune.com or
call 312-222-4358

Thursday-17

Traveling the Underground Railroad

Jeanne Angel, director of the Lombard Historical Society, is a researcher and scholar on the Underground Railroad. Angel oversees operations at the Sheldon Peck House, a verified stop for slaves seeking freedom on their way north. Hear the fascinating story of this Underground Railroad connection located right here in DuPage County. Part of the ongoing "It's History" program series for adults.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
Education Center
1 p.m. FREE

Friday-18

Open House: Art About Home Opening Reception

The opening of EAM's new winter exhibition "Art About Home" featuring Alberto Aguilar, Gabrielle Garland, Martin Hyers and William Mebane, Alyssa Miserendino and Ann Toebebe.

Elmhurst Art Museum
6:30 p.m.

Saturday-19

Rock and Mineral Identification

Geologist Sara Johnson presents an introduction to rocks and minerals. Learn how to make a basic mineral kit. Hands-on identification procedures include observation skills and hardness tests. Great for teachers and rockhounds, this program qualifies for Boy and Girl Scout merit badges. All materials are provided. Ages eight years to adult. 75 minutes.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art
10:30 a.m. Admission: \$5
Reservations required: 630-833-1616

Sunday-20

Family Open Swim at York High School

Bring your family for a fun-filled time at York High School's swimming pool. The pool will once again be available for Elmhurst Park District pool pass holders and residents during the months of January, February and March on specific dates. Lap swimming, open swim and diving boards will be available for use.

York High School
1-4 p.m.



Elmhurst native Fred Lorenzen is the subject of a new exhibit opening at the Elmhurst Historical Museum on Feb. 1.

Sunday-27

Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra Concert

The ESO, under the baton of Music Director Stephen Alltop, presents "The Glorious Baroque," featuring ESO concertmaster, violinist Rika Seko and soprano Josefien Stoppelenburg. This program of grand music from the High Baroque includes Bach's "Orchestral Suite No. 3" and "Brandenburg Concerto No. 4" along with Handel's "Gloria" and "Occasional Suite."

Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church
149 W. Brush Hill Rd., Elmhurst, 3 p.m.
Cost: Adults \$29. Seniors \$27. Students \$7. Subscriptions, group and family rates available.

Wednesday-30

Jobs, Education and the Economy

Led by Lee Daniels, veteran lawmaker and former speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives. Topic: "Economics, Education and Jobs." Key presenters: Business Roundtable President and former Michigan Governor John Engler; Caterpillar Inc. CEO Douglas Oberhelman; Johnson Publishing CEO and former Peoples Energy President Desiree Rogers; and TMX Group CEO and former Elmhurst College Trustee Thomas A. Kloet.

Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace
7:30 a.m. (breakfast included)
Tickets: \$25 (go to www.elmhurst.edu/tix)
Info: 630-617-3783

Thursday-31

Member/Donor Reception and Exhibit Preview

Members and donors of the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation are invited to be the first to preview the new exhibit "On the Road to Glory: Fred Lorenzen" during this exclusive evening reception. Guests will experience exhibit tours with the curator and enjoy refreshments in the Education Center. Adults only.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
5-7 p.m. Members/Donors: FREE,
Non-Members: \$10
Reservations required: Please call 630-833-1457 or e-mail to ehm@elmhurst.org

FEBRUARY

Friday-1

Ski, Snowboard or Snowtube at Villa Olivia

Join us for a fantastic night on the slopes. Whether you want to ski, snowboard or snowtube, Villa Olivia has it all. We'll meet at Wagner Center and return there at the end of the night. Ages 11-18.

4:30-11 p.m.
\$30 lift ticket, \$60 lift ticket and ski rental,
\$70 lift ticket and snowboard rental,
\$20 snowtube

Friday-Sunday- 1-3, 7-9

Theatre: I Love a Piano

This musical revue is a celebration of Irving Berlin's impact on the people of America during each era in which the music was written. Come join us on this historical journey through America's past with Berlin's songs as our musical GPS. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m.

Elmhurst College Mill Theatre
253 Walter Street
General admission: \$7
Info: 630-617-3005

Sunday-3

Rock and Mineral Identification

Geologist Sara Johnson presents an introduction to rocks and minerals. Learn how to make a basic mineral kit. Hands-on identification procedures include observation skills and hardness tests. Great for teachers and rockhounds, this program qualifies for Boy & Girl Scout merit badges. All materials are provided. Ages eight years to adult. 75 minutes.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art
2 p.m. Admission: \$5
Reservations required: 630-833-1616

Saturday-9

Rockin' Lock-In

Grab your friends and join us for a fun night at Wagner Community Center. Includes pizza, pop, DJ, dodgeball and more! Ages eight-11.

Wagner Community Center
7-10 p.m. \$10 pre-registration

Winter Nature Walk

Come join us for our new family program. We will take a wintertime nature walk through Eldridge Park's various ecosystems, led by our experienced Environmental Education staff. We'll conclude with hot cocoa or cider in our growing Nature Center.

Eldridge Park Rec Building
12 noon-2 p.m.
\$4 resident, \$5 non-resident

Eco Families: Indoor Composting

Bring your family to learn about indoor composting! We will demonstrate two indoor systems that can be easily accomplished in small spaces. Each family will go home with their own working indoor composter.

Eldridge Park Rec. Building
3-5 p.m. \$35 resident, \$42 non-resident

FEBRUARY

Saturday-9

Elmhurst Children's Assistance Foundation Casino Night

Come for a night of fun...all to raise funds to help sick and disabled children in our community. This year's theme is a Western Saloon, so wear your favorite cowboy boots. There will be food, entertainment and open bar from 7 - 11 p.m. ECAF has never been more committed to its mission as it continues to be another outstanding example of why Elmhurst is a very special place for families to live.

The Diplomat West Banquet Hall
681 W. North Ave., Elmhurst
7 p.m. - 12 midnight
\$85 per person
For info: Visit ECAF4KIDS.org

Sunday-10

Family Open Swim at York High School

Bring your family for a fun-filled time at York High School's swimming pool. The pool will once again be available for Elmhurst Park District pool pass holders and residents during the months of January, February and March on specific dates. Lap swimming, open swim and diving boards will be available for use.

York High School
1-4 p.m.

Build-Your-Own-Racecar

Calling all car enthusiasts! Drop in for a Make-n-Take workshop and snap together your very own Lamborghini Diablo VT or '63 Corvette Sting Ray Coupe model car. For those with out-of-this-world aspirations, a model of the recently retired Space Shuttle is also available for assembly. For kids ages four and up accompanied by parent/caregiver.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
Education Center
1-3 p.m. Members \$3, Non-Members \$5

Tuesday-12

Martin Luther King Jr. Guestship

Sylvia Hood-Washington, an environmental scholar, scientist and engineer, will discuss L.E.E.D. and Sustainable Justice for Social and Economically Marginalized Communities in the New Millennium.

Elmhurst College Frick Center
4 p.m. Admission: \$10
Info: 630-617-3390

Thursday-14, Friday-15, Saturday-16

Theatre: Finding Claire

A student-produced play about an adult child who searches for her biological family and a place to call home after the sudden death of her adoptive mother. By Kim Merrill; directed by Joy Surber.

Elmhurst College Mill Theatre
253 Walter Street
8 p.m.
Admission: \$5
Info: 630-617-3005

Saturday-16

Rock and Mineral Identification

Geologist Sara Johnson presents an introduction to rocks and minerals. Learn how to make a basic mineral kit. Hands-on identification procedures include observation skills and hardness tests. Great for teachers and rockhounds, this program qualifies for Boy and Girl Scout merit badges. All materials are provided. Ages eight to adult. 75 minutes.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art
10:30 a.m. Admission: \$5
Reservations required: 630-833-1616

Sunday-17

Lecture

Princeton and Harvard Law School-educated author and speaker Susan Cain will discuss her book *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking*, which was an instant *New York Times* bestseller. She is a consultant to major corporations and law firms on negotiation strategies and personal presentation style.

Elmhurst College Hammerschmidt Chapel
7 p.m.
Admission: \$10

Thursday-21, Friday-22, Saturday-23, Sunday-24

46th Annual Elmhurst College Jazz Festival

The best college jazz bands in the country converge on the Elmhurst campus for three days of performances and education. The bands take turns performing for some of the greatest names in professional jazz today, who offer critiques and award a variety of honors. The professionals cap off each night of the Festival with a rousing performance of their own. To confirm times for feature performances, band performances and costs, visit www.elmhurst.edu/jazzfestival or call 630-617-5534.

Elmhurst College Hammerschmidt Chapel
190 Prospect Avenue

Friday-22

Al Ghazali Lecture

Dr. Seyyed Hossein Nasr, a world-renowned scholar on Islam and current University Professor of Islamic Studies at George Washington University.

Elmhurst College Frick Center
7 p.m.
Admission \$10
Info: 630-617-3390

Daddy/Daughter Ball Under the Sea

All daddies and their daughters are invited to attend the Elmhurst Park District's *Ball Under the Sea*, featuring dancing, refreshments and appetizers. Register both child and parent by February 15. Ages three-13.

Jefferson School Gymnasium
7-9 p.m. \$15 residents, \$19 non-residents
www.epd.org

Saturday-23

Elmhurst Choral Union: Medley of Melodies

Elmhurst Choral Union gives back to the community in this concert of choruses and solos from opera, Broadway and the Great American Songbook. Hear the singers in a fun, casual setting.

Elmhurst Choral Union
First United Methodist Church
232 South York Street
7 p.m. Freewill donation
Info: elmhurstchoralunion.org or
630-758-1100

Sunday-24

Family Open Swim at York High School

Bring your family for a fun-filled time at York High School's swimming pool. The pool will once again be available for Elmhurst Park District pool pass holders and residents during the months of January, February and March on specific dates. Lap swimming, open swim and diving boards will be available for use.

York High School
1-4 p.m.

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 Choral Union

P.O. Box 1493, Elmhurst, IL 60126
(630) 758-1100
www.elmhurstchoralunion.org

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.elmhursthistory.org

Elmhurst Park District

375 W. First St., 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, 149 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

220 Cottage Hill Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126
(630) 833-1616
www.lizzadromuseum.org

Thursday-28

The Business of Racing

Scott Paddock, President of the Chicago Speedway, will discuss the business of stock car racing and the emergence of this popular sport. Paddock is a longtime veteran of the sports marketing industry, formerly serving as director of sports marketing for Gatorade. Learn about the economics of the racing industry and the growth of the NASCAR brand in the Midwest. Part of the ongoing "It's History" program series for adults.

Elmhurst Historical Museum
Education Center
7 p.m. FREE

Placing Trash at Curb



Residents are reminded trash may not be placed on the parkway more than 24 hours before the scheduled pick-up. Containers must be removed from the parkway within 12 hours after refuse is collected.

Inoperable Vehicles Prohibited

Elmhurst Municipal Code 12.02 (l) prohibits storing or parking junk cars or inoperable vehicles in residential districts. This regulation applies to any unlicensed vehicles or those with flat tires, broken windshields or other conditions that make them inoperable.

Lock It or Lose It

Three elements are necessary for a crime to occur – desire, ability and opportunity. Neither the police nor the community's law-abiding citizens can eliminate a criminal's desire or ability to commit a crime. You can, however, help remove the opportunity for a thief to burglarize your home or vehicle by locking doors and windows, and securing your valuables out of sight.



It takes less than 30 seconds for a thief to break into a car, take items left in plain sight, check the usual hiding places (i.e. glove box, center console and under the seat) and get away. The majority of such thefts occur when people leave their car doors unlocked and/or leave items of value inside where would-be thieves can see or easily find them. If a thief steals items that contain personal information, you may also become the victim of identity theft. To keep your vehicle and valuables safe, follow these quick prevention tips.

- Lock the doors and take the key with you.
- Lock valuable items, packages and shopping bags in the trunk or take them with you.
- Park in your garage or in a secure, well-lit location.

Residential burglaries are often committed when a criminal gains access to a home or garage through an unlocked door or window. Entering through an unlocked door requires little effort, creates far less noise, and attracts much less attention than breaking a window or forcing a door open. Make your home and property less inviting to criminals by locking doors and windows, and keeping overhead doors in the down position. Remember — Lock It or Lose It.

Holiday Refuse Collection

During Thanksgiving week, refuse collection will be postponed by one day for residents whose normal collection day is on Thursday or Friday. During the weeks of Christmas and New Year's, refuse collection will be delayed by one day for all residents.

Candidate Information: 2013 Consolidated Election

Interested in running for the Elmhurst City Council? The following City Council positions will be up for election in the April 9, 2013 Consolidated Election: Mayor, City Clerk, Treasurer and seven Aldermanic positions (one for each of the seven Wards). Residents seeking to run for local political office may pick up candidate packets from the Administration Office in City Hall. Candidate filing will take place on Monday, December 17, 2012, through Monday, December 24, 2012 at the City Hall Administration Office between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Free Curbside Leaf Collection

The last free leaf collection will take place on your regularly scheduled refuse collection day during the last week in November – i.e. November 28, 29 or 30. Leaves must be placed at the curb in clearly marked garbage cans, cardboard boxes or Kraft paper bags. Leaves may not be placed in plastic bags or mixed with other types of yard waste. Cans and boxes will be left on the curb following the leaf collection. Yard waste collection will resume during the first week in April. Residents are reminded that raking leaves, grass clippings or other debris into the street is prohibited by city ordinances.



Disposing of Holiday Trees and Refuse

Christmas trees placed at the curb on your regular refuse collection day during the first and second week in January will be picked up without a refuse sticker. After that, please affix the required sticker. All ornaments, lights and nails must be removed. Trees may not be placed in plastic bags. Wrapping paper, packing peanuts, garlands and wreaths may be included with regular refuse. Boxes may be recycled if they measure no more than three feet by three feet, have been flattened, and then bagged or bundled.

Holiday Hours



City Hall offices will be closed on Thursday, November 22, and Friday, November 23, for the Thanksgiving holiday. City Hall will also be closed at noon on Monday, December 24, and all day on Tuesday, December 25, and Tuesday, January 1.

The first City Council meeting in 2013 will be held on Monday, January 7. Please note: City Hall will be closed at 12 noon on December 24 in observance of Christmas Eve; however, the Administration Office will remain open until 5:00 p.m. per state law to enable candidates to file their petitions until 5:00 p.m.



Keeping Children Safe on the Internet

The Internet is a valuable resource, but behind some computer monitors are unscrupulous adults who prey on children and teens. Some cases involving the exploitation of kids become high profile national news stories, while others are no more than a few sentences in a local newspaper. Teens are particularly at-risk because they are more likely to use the computer without adult supervision and to participate in online discussions of a personal nature. Risks include exposure to inappropriate material, harassment, and actual physical molestation if they agree to meet an online “friend” in person. A predator will always lie to a child, becoming whatever he/she needs to be to secure the child’s trust and friendship.

Parental involvement is crucial to keeping youngsters safe on the Internet. Parents need to be aware that there are child predators in chat rooms, on social networking websites, and on popular online game systems. The following tips will help parents keep their children safe on the Internet.

- Maintain an open line of communication with your children and make them aware of the potential dangers of the Internet. Talk to them about the chat rooms they use and what they

talk about. Encourage your children to report any inappropriate material they come across without fear of being banned from Internet usage.

- Place computers in common areas of the home where it is easier to be aware of the child’s online activity.
- Use filtering features built into popular Internet browsers that empower parents to limit their children’s access to sites rated appropriate for children.
- Research commercially available programs that allow you to monitor online activity when you are not near the computer. Some programs will send you a text message when certain keywords are typed.
- Consider sharing an email account with your child. Keep track of files your children download and consider joining them in private chat areas.

“Place computers in common areas of the home where it is easier to be aware of the child’s online activity.”

Children and teens should be made aware that computer use is a privilege and that the privilege requires adherence to certain rules of conduct. Discuss these basic rules with your children:

- NEVER provide identifying information in a public message, such as a chat room or bulletin board. This includes name, home address, telephone number, age, school name, or whether parents are at home.
- NEVER arrange a face-to-face meeting with an online “friend” without discussing it with your parents.
- NEVER send pictures of yourself to anyone online. Predators often ask to see a photo or a social networking page photo.
- ALWAYS tell your parents about any messages or conversations that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, threatening or in any way makes you feel uncomfortable, especially if the online “friend” tells you not to tell your parents.
- ALWAYS REMEMBER that online “friends” may not be who they seem to be. A predator will always lie to you to gain your trust. That “12-year-old girl” you meet in a chat room may in reality be a 40-year-old man.

The Elmhurst Police Department is part of the Internet Crimes against Children Task Force. For further information about Internet safety, go to www.illinoisicac.org. Members of the Elmhurst Police Department have attended extensive training in the area of Internet crimes against children and teach Internet safety to fifth graders as part of the DARE program. Residents with questions, or community groups interested in an Internet safety presentation, may contact Detective Steve Mandat at steve.mandat@elmhurst.org or by phone at 630-530-3050.

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

Administration630-530-3010
Community Development630-530-3030
Police (non-emergency)630-530-3050
Fire (non-emergency)630-530-3090
Elmhurst Historical Museum630-833-1457
Elmhurst Public Library630-279-8696
Request for Public Records - FOIA@elmhurst.org
EMERGENCY 9-1-1

Aldermen

1st Ward - Paula Pezza, Diane C. Gutenkauf
2nd Ward - Bob Dunn, Norman Leader
3rd Ward - Michael Bram, Dannee Polomsky
4th Ward - Stephen W. Hipskind, Kevin York
5th Ward - Chris Healy, Scott Levin
6th Ward - Steven M. Morley, Jim Kennedy
7th Ward - Mark A. Mulliner, Patrick Wagner



Elmhurst Historical Museum

120 E. Park Ave., Elmhurst

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

I s s u e 4

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

“Fearless Freddie” Lorenzen story sets the pace for new exhibit

Excitement is building as the Elmhurst Historical Museum staff plans their next temporary exhibit, **“On the Road to Glory: Fred Lorenzen,”** which will be open from February 6 through May 19, 2013.

Most Elmhurst residents have probably never heard of Fred Lorenzen, a York High School grad who became one of NASCAR’s early professional drivers as the sport emerged from a dirt track pastime to a household name.

As an outsider from the north, “Fearless Freddie” thrilled fans across the country with his precision and skill on the track. Lorenzen won the 1965 Daytona 500, was one of the



first drivers to win \$100,000 in a single season, and he was twice voted most popular driver. Today, Lorenzen is in line for induction into the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

This compelling story of a little-known national sports hero tells the story of a local kid who pushed the boundaries and made it to the top of his game only to retire at the height of his career.

The exhibit will feature artifacts from Fred’s racing career and personal life along with interactive and multi-media experiences to tell the story of a man who reached new heights, broke barriers, and charged to the forefront of professional racing – but never forgot his Midwestern roots.

Last call for SBT Membership Plus Program

The Elmhurst Heritage Foundation reminds residents that there is still time to take advantage of the **2012 Membership Plus Program** sponsored by **Suburban Bank & Trust**. To stretch membership dollars, SBT will donate \$10 for every new or renewed membership registered in the 2012 Membership Plus Program. A membership makes a thoughtful holiday gift for business constituents, family and friends. Member benefits include discounted admission to Elmhurst Historical Museum programs, invitations to members-only receptions, a newsletter, and enrollment in the Time Travelers program with special benefits at more than 270 museums nationwide. Take advantage of Membership Plus and renew or become a member of the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation today.

To find out more, call (630) 833-1457 or visit www.elmhurstheritagefoundation.org.

Super volunteer Milly Smith heads west

The Elmhurst Historical Museum staff bids a fond farewell to one of their stalwart volunteers, Elmhurst resident Milly Smith. Since her retirement in 1982, Milly spent countless hours volunteering at the Elmhurst Historical Museum. Milly was a school librarian for Districts 3 and 205 and brought her valuable cataloging and organizational skills to the Elmhurst Historical Museum each week for 30 years.

“Milly has been one of our most reliable volunteers over the years, but also one of the nicest people to work with,” said Nancy Wilson, curator of collections. “Milly was known for her detailed, accurate work, and for fearlessly scaling ladders well into her eighties!” Milly will be greatly missed, but the staff wishes her many warm days ahead as she heads to Arizona. Thank you, Milly!

Illinois Association of Museum Awards

The Elmhurst Historical Museum proudly reports that the Illinois Association of Museums (IAM) presented the staff with two prestigious awards at the association’s annual conference in September. A Superior Award was received for the 2011 exhibit, “Toys in the ‘Hood,” and an Excellent Award was received for the 2011 “Letters from Home” exhibit featuring Civil War era letters from the Fischer family.





Shop Elmhurst – Got It!

When shopping and dining this holiday season, keep Elmhurst merchants first and foremost on your list of people to patronize. Whether you need ingredients for holiday dishes, special ornaments for your tree, a gift for Uncle George or a festive night out on the town, you'll find just what you're looking for in one of Elmhurst's distinctive business districts. By spending your dollars in our community, you contribute to the sales tax revenue that funds law enforcement, fire protection, street maintenance and other vital municipal services.

Mariano's Update

Changes are underway at the site of the future Mariano's Fresh Market at York Street and Industrial Drive. Utilities were disconnected earlier in the fall, followed by the demolition of the old Elmhurst Ford building. Construction began shortly thereafter and it is anticipated that the building will be under roof by mid-December. Mariano's expects to open the new store by early spring.



City of Elmhurst

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



Carbon Monoxide Detectors

When results of the 2002 citizen survey revealed that almost a third of respondents did not have a carbon monoxide detector in their home, the Elmhurst Fire Department initiated a multi-faceted campaign to alert residents to the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning. The program included education efforts at Elmhurst schools, informational flyers sent with city utility bills, and drawings for free CO detectors during Fire Prevention Week. Results of the 2012 citizen survey indicate that, ten years later, the program has had the desired outcome. A total of 90% of respondents reported that they have CO detectors in their homes. A reminder to the 10% who don't — CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS ARE MANDATORY AND THEY SAVE LIVES. GET ONE TODAY!

Lower Electric Rates Take Effect

Elmhurst voters approved a referendum last spring allowing the city to enter into an electricity purchasing agreement in order to provide savings to residential and small business customers. The city went out for bid and selected MC Squared Energy Services, LLC (mc²) to provide electricity to eligible program members. Power meters were read during the month of August and the new rates were reflected on the September bill from ComEd. Savings for residential customers are expected to be from 35% to 45%, depending on the time of year. ComEd will continue to be responsible for wires, poles, power restoration following outages, and all other power-related emergencies.



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