

*The City Newsletter*

# Elmhurst

November 2008

Issue IV

## Citizen Survey an Effective Planning Tool



Every two years since 1994, a survey has been sent to 1,600 residents selected at random from the city's water billing database. Of the 1,600 surveys mailed in 2008, a total of 701 or 43.81 percent were completed and returned by the July 14 deadline.

The survey is an effective tool for elected officials and staff, and the support and participation of Elmhurst residents is sincerely appreciated. Survey results provide a valuable snapshot of residents' concerns, priorities and opinions. The information obtained by way of the survey is of great value to city officials as they prepare budgets, set department goals and plan for the future. There is a direct cause-and-effect relationship between survey results and new programs and projects initiated by the city. As in previous surveys, residents reported high levels of satisfaction with city services and with the city in general. Over 90 percent of respondents rated the quality of their neighborhood as either "good" or "excellent." City government operations were rated as "good" or "excellent" by 80.7 percent of respondents.

**"As in previous surveys, residents reported high levels of satisfaction with city services and with the city in general."**



There was a significant increase in satisfaction with yard waste collection compared with the results of the last survey. Of particular interest was a decline in satisfaction with street conditions and maintenance. Although money spent on street maintenance and repair increased in 2008, the survey followed the worst freeze/thaw winter on record, which negatively impacted street surfaces.

Commuter parking satisfaction declined, while ratings for traffic speed compliance improved. As has been noted in the past, respondents reported significantly lower levels of satisfaction with speed compliance within their own neighborhoods versus throughout the community.

Of interest also was an increase in the number of commuters who travel more than 16 miles to work, and a decrease in those who commute less than 10 miles. Even with high gas prices, most commuters use a personal vehicle for transportation to work, although there was a slight increase in the number of people who commute by train.

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## Home Rule Sales Tax: Investing in the Community



The financial structural imbalance in the City of Elmhurst General Fund, which has existed for the last seven years — an item of City Council consideration in each of those years in budgeting — has been addressed. The revenue-to-expenditure shortfall in the City's General Fund (Police, Fire, Public Works, Administration) occurred as a result of a number of factors, including a decline in federal and state funding, increases in general operating expenses exceeding increases in revenue, and state and federally mandated services necessitating municipal financing support. For the last seven years, the City has used fund balances, postponed projects and cut and eliminated services. Again this fiscal year, a number of actions were taken to defer capital spending, utilize fund balances and further reduce spending, including a directive to the City Manager to cut the budget by \$1.3 million while the City resolved to find "new revenues" of \$3.2 million.

Fortunately, Elmhurst's home rule status provides revenue-generating options other than raising property tax. Elected officials and staff studied a number of possibilities in depth, together with the advantages and disadvantages of each. The Council ultimately rejected sources that would impact only Elmhurst residents, such as an increase to the property tax, a utility tax on water or natural gas, or a stormwater utility fee. Options were narrowed down to broad-based revenue sources, such as food and beverage tax, hotel/motel tax, vehicle fuel tax and home rule sales tax, all of which would be paid by consumers from both within and outside the community. It was finally determined that an increase in the home rule sales tax rate from .25% to .75% would offset a significant portion of the revenue shortfall with the least financial impact on businesses and residents. There are a number of advantages to a sales tax increase over other possible ways to generate additional

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*The Elmhurst City officials and staff wish you and yours the happiest of holiday seasons!*



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## **Citizen Survey** *continued*

In the Finance Department's area of responsibility, there was a modest increase in the number of respondents who are aware of the EZ Pay direct debit program for utility bills, and the ability to pay water bills and parking tickets online. A question regarding the city's website was included in the survey for the second time. With the debut of the new city website this fall, city officials will be interested in comparing 2006 and 2008 responses with those in the upcoming 2010 survey.

Respondents were asked to rate emergency medical, fire protection and police services. As in past surveys, all facets of public safety received high marks. Almost 93.5 percent of respondents reported that they feel either "safe" or "very safe" in the community. A very small percentage, only 0.16 percent, listed safety as one of their top three concerns and only 3.57 percent felt that crime would be one of the city's biggest problems in the next three to five years. As was the case with speed compliance, the rating for police presence in the city as a whole was higher than the rating within neighborhoods.

The community's cultural opportunities received high ratings again in 2008. More respondents than ever before reported that they have library cards, and an overwhelming majority report satisfaction with library hours. Children's programming received extremely high ratings with 100 percent of those surveyed considering these programs "fair" to "excellent" and 98 percent giving ratings of "good" or "excellent." Nineteen percent of respondents reported that they have visited the Elmhurst Historical Museum during the last 12 months and 86.67 percent rated their satisfaction as "good" or "excellent."

The survey also included questions regarding the city's downtown area. As in previous surveys, parking convenience and accessibility received relatively low ratings. Respondents, however, continue to report high levels of satisfaction with pedestrian accessibility and security in the downtown.

As in 2006, the majority of respondents rated the overall quality of the City Centre as "better" than five years ago, while 97 percent indicated it was "about the same" or "better" than five years ago. In this year's Citizen Survey, there was an increase in respondents who reported coming to the City Centre at least once a week.

A section on planning and zoning was first introduced in the 2004 Citizen Survey. Over 90 percent of respondents indicated that they are aware that all properties have a zoning designation and that property use is regulated by zoning code rules. Only 44.99 percent, however, were aware that the city website contains the Elmhurst zoning map and zoning ordinance.

Questions regarding building and code enforcement were introduced in the 2008 survey. Results included fewer "good" to "excellent" ratings than for other departments, although "fair" to "excellent" ratings were approximately the same.

Residents continue to rate various quality-of-life aspects of Elmhurst exceptionally high, including overall quality of their own neighborhoods, the community as a whole, and Elmhurst as a place to live and raise children. Consistent with past surveys, Elmhurst as a place to retire received relatively low ratings. Fewer respondents than in 2006 reported that the quality of life is better now than it was five years ago.

In the area of communication, the primary sources of information continue to be local news publications and the city newsletter, *The Front Porch*. The overwhelming majority reported that they have internet access and most use it to research information. Sixty-five percent of respondents felt that the City's website did a "good" to "excellent" job in solving their specific problem or providing the information they were seeking.

In the final section of the survey, residents were given an opportunity to provide general comments and voice concerns. As in previous years, the three things residents like most about living in Elmhurst are central location and convenience, quality of life and quality of the schools. The three major concerns listed were cost of living, taxes and airplane noise.

Property value was listed more often as a concern for the next five years, than as a positive as in past surveys. The cost of government services, property value decline and infrastructure maintenance were perceived more as problems than they were in the past. Only one in six respondents viewed taxes as a problem now or in the future.

Survey results have been shared with the School District, Park District, Public Library and City Centre. They will also be used to assist with the 2009-2010 budget and to prioritize goals and objectives for city departments. Survey results have been posted on the city website: [www.elmhurst.org](http://www.elmhurst.org) and are available at City Hall and the Elmhurst Public Library.

## **Serving on Boards and Commissions**

Elmhurst is fortunate to be home to many people who share their time and experience in voluntary capacities throughout the community. Many of these volunteers serve without compensation on the city's 13 advisory boards and commissions. In most cases, members are appointed by the Mayor with the consent of the City Council. As terms expire or vacancies occur, the Mayor conducts interviews with interested citizens. If you would like to serve on a city board or commission, you can apply by submitting an "Appointed Officials Application." The forms are available at [www.elmhurst.org](http://www.elmhurst.org) or in the Mayor's office at City Hall.



## Investing in the Community *continued from page 1*

revenue. With a point-of-sale tax increase, the impact on the individual, including property owners and homeowners on fixed incomes, is reduced, since everyone who shops in Elmhurst will contribute. A sales tax increase introduced at this time will lessen the need for future tax increases.

It is estimated that the 0.50% sales tax increase will generate an additional \$3,200,000 in revenue to the city annually. For a qualifying purchase of \$100, a consumer will pay an additional 50 cents, due to the increase. Since the average Elmhurst household spends about \$20,000 in qualifying purchases annually, a household can expect to pay approximately \$100 in additional sales tax annually or 27 cents a day. The increase will apply only to general

merchandise purchases of tangible personal property, including prepared foods (i.e. restaurant food); clothing, shoes and apparel; household furniture and fixtures; tobacco products; soft drinks; and alcohol. The increase will not apply to titled vehicles; most grocery store food; prescription medications; non-prescription items with medicinal value; and items such as insulin, urine testing materials, syringes and needles used by diabetics. The increase in the home rules sales tax from .25% to .75%, which will raise the total sales tax from 7.5% to 8.0%, will become effective on January 1, 2009. The new 8.0% sales tax rate is comparable to that of surrounding communities and should not adversely impact Elmhurst businesses.

## Vital Tips for a Safe Holiday Season



Some of our most cherished holiday traditions include elaborate meals surrounded by family and friends; a warm, crackling fire; flickering candlelight; and holiday trees, wreaths and decorations.

Unfortunately, the most common causes of residential fires are cooking, open flames and home heating – facts that easily explain why so many destructive fires take place during the holiday season. A fire only needs opportunity, fuel and oxygen, to grow and quickly get out of control. Although hot stovetops, dry pine needles, unattended candles and fireplace fires create a multitude of opportunities, almost all holiday fires could be prevented by following a few precautions.

- Never leave food cooking on the range unattended, even for a moment, because grease fires begin in a matter of seconds. If food or grease catches fire, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the heat.
- Don't wear clothing that can easily catch fire and always turn pot handles in to protect children.
- Use only flame-retardant or non-combustible decorations and keep them at least three feet away from burning candles or fireplaces.
- Never burn gift wrappings in a fireplace or wood burning stove.
- If you have a fire in the fireplace, find another place to hang the stockings.
- If you plan to have a real tree, make sure it is fresh before you bring it home. It is difficult to pull the needles off a fresh tree.

- Water the tree frequently because dry trees are extremely combustible. Keep trees away from exits and heat sources that will dry them out.
- Use lights that are labeled by an approved testing lab and unplug them before retiring for the night.
- If you decorate with candles, place them in holders that won't tip over. Never leave burning candles unattended or where they can be tipped over by children or pets. Better yet, avoid using candles during holiday parties.

### A Reminder from the Elmhurst Fire Department

In an emergency, it is critical for first responders, such as fire, police and ambulance personnel, to reach you as quickly as possible. Your numerical address should be displayed using numbers in a contrasting color that is unobstructed and large enough to be clearly visible from the street.

**876 East Street**

- While fire prevention is the top priority, smoke alarms are the second line of defense. Install them on every floor of your home, particularly in or near sleeping areas. Change alarm batteries, vacuum them to remove dust and test them before the holidays begin.
- Prepare and practice your home fire escape plan.

If, in spite of your precautions, a fire occurs, get out of the house and stay out. Call 9-1-1 from a neighbor's home.

- Install a carbon monoxide detector outside each separate sleeping area and on every floor where a furnace, fossil fuel burning heater or water heater is located. Every home in Elmhurst is required to have at least one CO detector.

Following these safety precautions will help keep your home and loved ones safe during the holiday season and throughout the year.



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## Living Green

### A More Fuel-Efficient City Fleet

The city's vehicle fleet is being gradually transformed into one that is more modern and fuel efficient. There are currently five hybrid vehicles in the fleet and another one on order. The hybrids use approximately half the fuel of traditional vehicles and have higher trade-in values when they are retired. These vehicles, along with the increasing use of bio-fuels, are helping the city reduce its overall carbon footprint.

### LEED Certification for Fire Station 2

The City Council recently reviewed the possibility of incorporating Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) "green" building features into the proposed Fire Station 2. There are four levels of LEED certification: Certified, Silver, Gold and Platinum. Each level of certification requires more points on the LEED scale and, consequently, costs additional money.

The city's goals for the new fire station are for a project that is both fiscally responsible and environmentally friendly and sustainable. After reviewing in detail the costs and benefits of reducing the carbon footprint of the new fire station, the City Council voted unanimously to include a dollar amount equal to 6.5 percent of the construction cost for sustainable items to be installed and utilized in construction of the new building. City staff is pursuing grants from the State of Illinois toward the construction of a "green" building that could achieve LEED certification.

## Lock It or Lose It

The Elmhurst Police Department reminds residents that many thefts, especially during the holiday season, can be avoided by simply locking the doors and windows to homes, garages and vehicles. Nearly half of home and vehicle burglaries involve unlocked doors or valuables left in plain sight.

The police are actively involved in a community effort to educate residents about locking their homes, garages and vehicles day and night, whether they are at home or not. The business community is supporting the effort by displaying the Lock It or Lose It decal in store windows. If you see anything of a suspicious nature, no matter how minor it may appear, dial 9-1-1 right away.

Let's do all we can to prevent criminals from putting a damper on our holiday spirit.



## Mayor's Message



I would like to extend my sincerest appreciation to those members of our community who responded to our recent Citizen Survey, which was sent to a random sampling of Elmhurst residents.

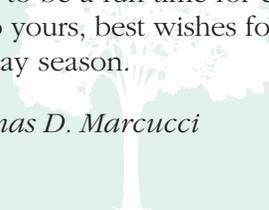
The Citizen Survey results are a critical tool used by City staff and elected officials, especially as we put together our annual budget and strive to incorporate those services that are responsive to the needs and desires of our community. Citizens who are willing to take the time and lend a hand help to make Elmhurst the great place it is to live and work.

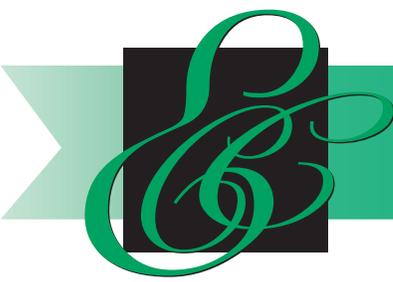
Members of the City's Boards and Commissions are also vital to the quality of life we all enjoy in Elmhurst and I wish to express my gratitude to these individuals, as well, who, without compensation, give of their time and talents for the good of the entire community.

We are currently looking for individuals to serve on our new Bicycle Task Force/Blue Ribbon Committee. This committee is designed to help the City move forward on creating a more bicycle-friendly community, in keeping with our support of the Cool Cities initiative, a program brought to the City by the League of Women Voters. Cities that participate in the Cool Cities initiative commit to take steps to reduce their carbon footprint and work for a more sustainable community. If you would like to participate in the Bicycle Task Force, please contact the Elmhurst Mayor's and Manager's Office at 630-530-3010.

As the year 2008 comes to a close, I would like to invite you to join me on Friday, November 28 at 6 p.m. for the annual lighting of the tree in the downtown. This is an ideal opportunity to make a day of it in Elmhurst's downtown, taking advantage of all the amenities that our vibrant City Centre has to offer. Santa will be on hand and it's sure to be a fun time for everyone. From my family to yours, best wishes for a healthy and happy holiday season.

Mayor Thomas D. Marcucci





# Elmhurst Community Calendar

Addresses for regular organizations featured in this Community Calendar can now be found on the last page of the calendar.

## Ongoing

### November 28 through January 2

#### "I Spy" City Centre Snowflakes

This fun holiday activity will keep kids busy while you shop. Stop by the City Centre office or any participating merchant for a worksheet and more details. Search for snowflakes "hidden" inside windows, shops and restaurants throughout downtown. Return a completed worksheet to the City Centre office and be entered to win a \$300 spending spree!

Throughout City Centre. Free

### December 5 through 7

#### Shop, Dine & Be Merry Weekend



There's no place like home for the holidays. Bring your gift lists and enjoy great special offers and hospitality from all of your favorite shops, restaurants and service businesses all weekend long.

City Centre. Free

### December 6 through January 6

#### Winter Flower Show

Enjoy a beautiful display of holiday poinsettias at the Wilder Park Conservatory. Take some snapshots or just enjoy some quiet time during the busy holiday season.

Elmhurst Park District, Wilder Park Conservatory (175 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL)  
Daily 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Free



### Through January 1

#### Winter Wonderland

Be sure to visit Winter Wonderland at York and Vallette Streets to enjoy the holiday art on various business windows. The York & Vallette Business Association has contracted with a local artist to create a festive holiday atmosphere with original artwork.

York & Vallette Business Association

### Through January 4

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

Throughout history, quilts have presented a unique way of telling stories through colorful fabrics and intricate patterns. Elmhurst Historical Museum presents a second rotation of beautiful, contemporary quilts in this special exhibit from local quilters, The Elmhurst Piecemakers. The variety in design and craftsmanship is impressive.

Elmhurst Historical Museum  
Tues.-Sun. 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Free

### Through January 4

#### Gem Paintings by Ilya Schar

Special Exhibit features the pictures of Russian artist Ilya Schar created with crushed and polished gemstones. Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art

Tues. through Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 1 p.m.-5 p.m.  
Closed Monday and Major Holidays.  
Adults \$4, Senior Citizens \$3,  
Students and Teenagers \$2  
Children (7-12) \$1, Children under 7 Free  
Friday is free day.

### January 7 through 21

#### Annual High School Art Exhibition

Young artists from ten local high schools display their work. Reception for the artists and their families on Wednesday, January 14, 6-8:30 p.m.

Elmhurst College, Frick Center (190 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL)  
Open each day until midnight. Free  
Info: (630) 617-3033



### January 27 through May 10

#### Scottish Jewelry

Special Exhibit features the unique style and indigenous gemstones used in Scottish jewelry design from the mid 1800s to the early twentieth century. Regular museum hours and admission.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art  
Tues. through Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Closed Monday and major holidays.  
Adults \$4; Senior Citizens \$3;  
Students and Teenagers \$2  
Children (7-12) \$1; Children under 7 Free  
Friday is free day.

### January 28 through March 15

#### Heroes of the Sky: Adventures in Early Flight

Experience the stories of the bold fliers and innovators who transformed airplanes from novel inventions into sophisticated machines. This *NEH on the Road* exhibit recalls the heroes of the first remarkable decades of flight and documents Elmhurst's own aviation history.

Elmhurst Historical Museum  
Tues.-Sun. 1-5 p.m. Free

### February 5 through 7

#### Theatre: "All in the Timing"

Chicago playwright David Ives presents six "brain teasing" short plays which show a world of "inspired gibberish and paradoxical plot quirks." Reviews range from "highly amusing" to "comically brilliant!"

Elmhurst College, Mill Theatre (253 Walter St.)  
8 p.m.  
General \$7; Seniors/Faculty/Staff \$6; Students \$5



### February 27 through March 1

#### 42nd Annual Elmhurst College Jazz Festival

One of the highlights of the Chicago Jazz calendar: Five shows featuring top professional and collegiate talent. This year's headliners include the Bill Holman Band, Michael Davis, Denis DeBlasio and the Marie Schneider Band.

Elmhurst College, Hammerschmidt Chapel  
Fri. and Sat. 11:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.;  
Sun. 11:30 a.m.  
Tickets: \$8-\$25, with discounts for kids and seniors  
Info: (630) 617-5534

## November

### Friday - 28

#### City Centre Tree Lighting

Kick off the season with this Elmhurst tradition as City Centre is lit up to welcome the holidays. Enjoy music, hospitality and, of course, a very special visit from Santa Claus. City Centre Plaza  
Tree Lighting at 6 p.m. Free



#### Photos with Santa

After the Tree Lighting on November 28 Santa Claus will be taking special requests at his Cozy Cottage located inside MWD Photography, 126 North York. Photos will be available for purchase, but parents are welcome to bring their cameras for this traditional photo op.

MWD Photography (126 N. York) Free

## December

### Wednesday - 3

#### Annual Festival of Lesson and Carols

Families are invited to open the holiday season with both song and scripture. A reception will follow the later performance in the Founders Lounge of the College's Frick Center.

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

#### Special Kids Day

Elmhurst Art Museum will collaborate with Special Kids Day to host this annual event for children with special needs and their families. Each child will receive a goody bag and enjoy treats while they visit with Santa and create holiday art projects for all abilities and ages. Have a free photo taken with Santa to remember the day! Accessible parking available.

Elmhurst Art Museum  
3:30-8 pm  
To register, visit [www.specialkidsday.org](http://www.specialkidsday.org) or call (630) 530-8000



### Thursday - 4

#### Old-Fashioned Tree Lighting

Join the holiday spirit in an old-fashioned celebration at Wilder Park. Before the lighting of the trees, families can enjoy holiday treats and songs — and maybe even a visit from Santa and his reindeers!

Elmhurst Park District  
6:30-7:30 p.m. Free



## December

### Thursday - 4

#### Be the Artist with Chakaia Booker

Chakaia Booker uses pieces of tire rubber to create complex, intriguing sculptures that make rough rubber graceful and light. After seeing Chakaia Booker's sculptures, children can make their own pieces out of this unusual art material. This program is designed for students in grades 5-8.

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

\$6.50 per participant or \$5.50 for Museum Members  
Call (630)834-0202 x 116 to register

### Saturday - 6

#### Visits with Santa

Santa Claus will be taking special requests at his Cozy Cottage located inside MWD Photography, 126 North York. Photos will be available for purchase, but parents are welcome to bring their cameras for this traditional photo op.

MWD Photography (126 North York)  
1-4 p.m. Free

#### Women's College Basketball

Elmhurst College vs. University of Chicago  
R.A. Faganel Hall (221 Walter Street)

### Sunday - 7

#### Wilder Mansion Public Opening

Celebrate the unveiling of the "brand new" Wilder Mansion! Guests are invited to stop by to enjoy holiday drinks and assorted treats as they tour the inside of Elmhurst's newly renovated historic landmark.

Wilder Mansion (211 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL)  
12 Noon-3 p.m. Free

#### Vintage Holiday Radio Show Performance

New holiday event! Take a trip back to the days of live radio and experience an old-time holiday radio show "broadcast" live. Encounter actors from Radio Players West as they reenact scripts with holiday-centered stories, including sound effects and commercials.

Elmhurst Historical Museum, Education Center  
1 p.m. Free



#### Choral Concert: G.F. Handel's Messiah

The Elmhurst Choral Union, directed by James MacDonald, performs this classic masterpiece.

Elmhurst College, Hammerschmidt Chapel  
3 p.m.

Adults \$20; Seniors and students with ID \$15  
Info: (630) 758-1100

### Monday - 8

#### Holiday Band Concert

The Elmhurst College Symphonic Winds, led by Professor Ross Kellan, will be performing several works of the season.

Elmhurst College, Hammerschmidt Chapel  
7:30 p.m. Free

Info: (630) 617-3515

### Saturday - 13



#### Visits with Santa

Santa Claus will be taking special requests at his Cozy Cottage located inside MWD Photography, 126 North York. Photos will be available for purchase, but parents are welcome to bring their cameras for this traditional photo op.

MWD Photography (126 North York)  
1 - 4 p.m. Free

#### Sleigh Rides and Ice Sculptures

Enjoy an old-fashioned sleigh ride, a visit from Santa, and warm drinks, in addition to viewing carved ice sculptures up and down Spring Road. Sponsored by the Spring Road Business Association.

Spring Road at the Prairie Path  
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Free  
Handicapped Accessible  
Info: (630) 279-2222  
www.springroad.com

#### Create a Card

Design a unique holiday card for a special someone. We'll provide the glue, glitter and sparkly supplies; you provide your creativity and a heartfelt message. Register by phone or at the Help Desk with your valid EPL card starting Saturday, October 18.

Elmhurst Public Library  
2-3 p.m.  
Children (7-12) Free

### Sunday - 14

#### Sunday Funday: Holiday Gifts to Give

Make "scent-sational" old-fashioned gifts for the holidays. Create a colorful braided spice rope or scented ornaments from applesauce-cinnamon clay. Both smell wonderful long after the holidays are over. Ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.



Elmhurst Historical Museum, Education Center  
1-3 p.m. \$2/project

### Tuesday - 16

#### After-School Special: "Crazy Chemical Concoctions"

Join High Touch High Tech on a wacky adventure through all kinds of cool and crazy chemical reactions. Make colors explode and take home a crazy concoction. Register by phone or at the Help Desk with your valid EPL card starting Saturday, Dec. 6.

Elmhurst Public Library  
3:30-4:30 p.m.  
Grades 2-8. Free

### Thursday - 18

#### Winter Wonderland: Great Holiday Songs in the Movies

Get in the holiday spirit with clips from all-time favorite holiday movies. Film historian Steven Frenzel presents movie scenes featuring beloved songs from classics such as *Holiday Inn*, *White Christmas* and more. Part of the Tea Time Talk series; refreshments served immediately following.

Elmhurst Historical Museum, Education Center  
1 p.m. Free

### Saturday - 20

#### Nature's Doll House Miniatures

Miniaturist Edie Rodriguez teaches participants how to create dollhouse accessory items. Create unique arrangements including plants, fruit bowls and flower vases using stone, shell, wire and other materials. Take home up to four miniature creations; materials are provided.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art  
Ages 10 years to Adult  
1 p.m.- 3 p.m. Fee: \$15 per person  
Reservations Required

### Tuesday - 23

#### Holiday Getaway

Running out of time shopping for holiday gifts or looking for a holiday craft project for the kids? Drop by Elmhurst Art Museum and let your child make a beautiful hand-made present that's perfect for any friend or relative while you peruse the selection at the Art Museum shop. EAM will provide everything needed to make an ornament, decorate your own wrapping paper and create a gift tag, while Santa visits with the children.

Elmhurst Art Museum  
10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Suggested donation is \$2.00 per participant



### Friday - 26

#### Kids Celebrate New Year's Party

Ring in the New Year with fitness games and contests, crafts, music, dancing, food and drinks, and a New Year's countdown and balloon drop!

Elmhurst Park District  
Courts Plus (186 S. West Ave, Elmhurst, IL)  
6:00-8:30 p.m.  
\$22 member/\$26 non-member

## January

### Saturday - 3



#### Dinosaur Activity Day

Fun dinosaur activities for all age levels include assembling large wooden dinosaur skeletons, excavating and assembling bones, floor puzzles and more.

Estimated time for each activity: 10 to 60 min.  
Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art  
10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Ages 5 yrs. to Adult  
Museum Admission: Adults \$4; Children (7-12) \$1

### Sunday - 11

#### Sunday Funday: Rubber Band Propeller Planes

Prepare for take-off! Kids will color parts and assemble a fast-moving rubber band-propelled plane that really flies. Ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum, Education Center  
1 - 3 p.m.  
\$2/project

## Thursday - 15

**From Goodyear to Zeppelin: A History of Airships**  
Historian Robert Hunter, a consultant on the "Heroes of the Sky" exhibit, shares the history of the lighter-than-air ships that made powered flights before airplanes and enjoyed widespread popularity through the 1940s. Part of the Tea Time Talk series; refreshments served immediately following.

Elmhurst Historical Museum  
Education Center  
1 p.m. Free

## Saturday - 17

### Rock & Mineral Identification



Learn how to make a basic mineral test kit. Hands-on identification procedures include observation skills and tests, such as hardness, streak and cleavage. All materials are provided. Ages 8 yrs. to Adult. 75 minutes long.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art  
10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.  
Admission: \$5/per person  
Reservations Required: (630) 833-1616

## Sunday - 18

### Elmhurst Symphony Concert

Elvis, Liberace and Julia Child are brought back to life in *Celebrity Night* with music honoring their unique contributions to American entertainment and culture. Karen Brunnsen as Julia whips up her favorite cake while singing. Pianist James Giles, bassoonist Dianne Ryan and cellist Ellen O'Hayer also perform.

Elmhurst College  
Hammerschmidt Chapel  
3 p.m. Adults \$34; Seniors 65+ \$31; Students \$7  
Group and family rates available.

## Monday - 19



### Day Off? Drop In: Parachute Jumpers

Simulate the actions of World War II parachute jumpers with this easy-to-make, high-flying craft project. Ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum  
Education Center  
1 -3 p.m. \$1/project

## Friday - 23

### Precious Pals Pajama Party & Roberts Marionettes: "The Secret Garden"

Wear your pajamas and bring your sleeping bags and blankets for the Roberts Marionette production of *The Secret Garden*. After the performance there will be a question and answer session and a puppet demonstration. Snacks will be provided and children will get a small puppet to take home.

Elmhurst Park District  
Wagner Community Center (615 N. West Avenue, Elmhurst, IL)  
7:30-8:45 p.m.  
\$18 resident (4 members); \$2 additional members

## Saturday - 24



### Elmhurst Symphony Stanger Young Artist Competition

Hear outstanding high school musicians audition before a panel of judges for the opportunity to play a concerto movement with the Elmhurst Symphony at its March 14 "Unforgettable Broadway" concert in Lombard. Come at any time and stay as long as you wish.

Elmhurst College, Buik Recital Hall, Irion Hall  
9-11:45 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. Free

## Wednesday - 28

### Be the Artist with Keer Tanchak

Check out Tanchak's scenic portrait paintings on aluminum and experiment with making your own dynamic painting using some of the same techniques and ideas. Program is designed for students in grades 5-8.

Elmhurst Art Museum  
6:30-8 p.m.  
\$9 per participant or \$8 for Museum Members  
Call (630) 993-8900 to register

# February

## Wednesday - 4

### Men's College Basketball

Elmhurst College vs. Augustana College  
R.A. Faganel Hall, 221 Walter St.  
7:30 p.m.



## Friday - 6

### Just Dad 'N Me Night

The Elmhurst Park District hosts an unforgettable evening of dinner, dancing and entertainment for dad and his favorite little girl(s) at Monty's Banquet Room. Registration required before February 2.

Elmhurst Park District  
Monty's Banquet Room (703 S. York Road, Bensenville, IL)  
6-9 p.m.  
\$22 resident/\$32 non-resident (per person); \$22 each additional child

### Stroll(er) through the Galleries

Call your other mommy friends and meet up at Elmhurst Art Museum for a 45-minute gallery tour. Imagine taking a leisurely stroll through the galleries in the company of other moms, learning about the current exhibitions, all while your little one peacefully dozes. For the safety of the artwork, all children must remain in their stroller for the duration of the tour.

1 -1:45 p.m.  
\$7/adult, \$3 for Museum Members. Children under 12 are free  
Please call (630) 993-8900 to register



## Saturday - 7

### Dinosaur Discoveries

Children become dinosaur detectives to learn about the world of dinosaurs. Fossils and props are used to create an awareness of the dinosaurs' special characteristics. Live animals show how dinosaurs are related to animals living today. Ages 4 yrs. to Adult. 50 minutes.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art  
2 p.m.  
Admission: \$6/per person  
Reservations Recommended: (630) 833-1616

## Sunday - 8

### Sunday Funday: Valentine Candy Airplanes

Just in time for Valentine's Day, make a delicious candy airplane to give to a special sweetheart. Ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum, Education Center  
1-3 p.m.  
\$1/project



## Tuesday - 10

### "Ideas X-Change" lecture series

Todd Barre, Vice President, Senior Investment Strategist and Director of Open Architecture at Harris Private Bank, will share more than 25 years of financial experience in his lecture titled: "Investing in the 21st Century: Old Ideas, New Ideas and Finding Your Way in a Complex World."

Elmhurst College, Illinois Hall (inside Schaible Science Center, Prospect Ave. at Elm Park Ave.)  
7 p.m. Free

## Sunday - 15

### Mardi Gras Jazz Brunch



Join us for a decadent New Orleans style feast to kick off Elmhurst Historical Museum's upcoming jazz exhibit and *DownBeat* magazine's

75th anniversary. Includes music by Elmhurst College jazz musicians, a presentation by the editor of *DownBeat* and more.

Drury Lane Oakbrook  
11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
\$75/per person  
Reservations: (630) 833-1457

### Schade Lecture: Beschloss on Presidential Courage

Michael Beschloss, NBC's presidential historian and *New York Times* bestselling author, will deliver Elmhurst College's annual Rudolf G. Schade Lecture. His topic: "Presidential Courage."

Elmhurst College, Hammerschmidt Chapel. Free  
Info: (630) 617-3033



## February

### Monday - 16

#### Day Off? Drop In: Cloud Climbers

Decorate a lightweight, balsa wood glider and watch it float through the air. Ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Historical Museum, Education Center  
1-3 p.m.  
\$1/project

#### "Abraham Lincoln"



Presented by Historical Perspectives for Children In honor of Presidents' Day and Lincoln's bicentennial celebration, you're invited to meet "Abe" and learn about his life from childhood through his presidency. Pick up tickets at the Help Desk with your valid EPL card starting Saturday, February 7. Children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult.

Elmhurst Public Library  
Children (5 and up)  
2:30-3:15 p.m. Free

### Wednesday - 18

#### Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Guestship

Forrest Parker, founding partner, president and chief executive officer of Multi-Ethnic Perspectives, Inc., will give a lecture titled "Building a Multi-Cultural Community." Informal reception to follow.

Elmhurst College, Illinois Hall (inside Schaible Science Center, Prospect Ave. at Elm Park Ave.)  
4 p.m. Free

#### Be the Artist with Lorraine Peltz

Take a tour of the galleries and view Lorraine Peltz's beautifully painted crystal chandelier series, which memorializes her mother. Then paint a tribute to one of your own family members. Program is designed for students in grades 5-8.

Elmhurst Art Museum  
6:30-8 p.m.  
\$9.00 per participant or \$8.00 for museum members  
Call (630) 993-8900 to register



### Thursday - 19

#### Tea Time Talk: Abraham Lincoln

Acclaimed first-person performer R.J. Lindsey returns for Lincoln's 200th birthday in the character of our nation's sixteenth President. Lincoln speaks about life growing up in Kentucky and Indiana, his Senate race against Stephen Douglas and the contentious presidential elections - all with the famed Lincoln humor.

Elmhurst Historical Museum, Education Center  
1 p.m. Free

### Saturday - 21

#### Rocks & Minerals of Illinois

Learn about basic Illinois geology and the important rocks and minerals found in Illinois. Includes hands-on specimens, identification activities and fossil hunt. Great teaching materials for Science Olympics and scout groups. Ages 8 yrs. to Adult. 75 minutes.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art  
10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Admission: \$5/per person  
Reservations Required: (630) 833-1616

### Sunday - 22

#### Elmhurst Symphony Concert

The grandeur of brass instruments is forefront as *Brass Blowout II* features Chicago Symphony principal trumpet Chris Martin in music by Haydn. Younger brother Mike joins Chris in Vivaldi's "Concerto for Two Trumpets."



The full power of the ESO will be heard in Bruckner's rousing "Fourth Symphony."

Elmhurst College  
Hammerschmidt Chapel  
3 p.m.

Adults \$34; Seniors 65+ \$31; Students \$7. Group and family rates available.

### Tuesday - 24

#### After School Special: A Poetry Playshop

A Child's Voice presents a fun-filled, creative workshop where you'll enjoy writing your own poems. It may be a game, but poetry can build some serious artistic muscle. Register by phone or at the Help Desk and bring your valid EPL card starting Saturday, February 14.

Elmhurst Public Library  
2-3 p.m.  
Grades 2-8. Free

### Wednesday - 25

#### Curator Tour: Pleasure Paintings, Burnham Centennial, Collection Highlights

Tour the current exhibitions and collection highlights with Elmhurst Art Museum Curator Melissa Dahlquist as she discusses the current work on display.

Elmhurst Art Museum  
6:30 p.m. Free

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

### Addresses for Regularly Featured Organizations

Elmhurst Art Museum  
150 Cottage Hill Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 834-0202  
[www.elmhurstartmuseum.org](http://www.elmhurstartmuseum.org)

Elmhurst City Centre  
2 City Centre, Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 993-1600  
[www.elmhurstcitycentre.com](http://www.elmhurstcitycentre.com)

Elmhurst College  
190 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 617-3033  
[www.elmhurst.edu](http://www.elmhurst.edu)

Elmhurst Historical Museum  
120 E. Park Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 833-1457  
[www.elmhursthistory.org](http://www.elmhursthistory.org)

Elmhurst Park District  
225 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 993-8923  
[www.epd.org](http://www.epd.org)

Elmhurst Public Library  
125 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 279-8696  
[www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org](http://www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org)

Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra  
Elmhurst College, Hammerschmidt Chapel  
190 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 345, Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 941-0202  
[www.elmhurstsymphony.org](http://www.elmhurstsymphony.org)

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art  
2200 Cottage Hill Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 833-1616  
[www.lizzadromuseum.org](http://www.lizzadromuseum.org)

### The community calendar is sponsored by:

City of Elmhurst  
[www.elmhurst.org](http://www.elmhurst.org)

Elmhurst Art Museum  
[www.elmhurstartmuseum.org](http://www.elmhurstartmuseum.org)

Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
[www.elmhurstchamber.org](http://www.elmhurstchamber.org)

Elmhurst Choral Union  
[www.elmhurstchoral.org](http://www.elmhurstchoral.org)

Elmhurst City Centre  
[www.elmhurstcitycentre.com](http://www.elmhurstcitycentre.com)

Elmhurst College  
[www.elmhurst.edu](http://www.elmhurst.edu)

Elmhurst Historical Museum  
[www.elmhursthistory.org](http://www.elmhursthistory.org)

Elmhurst Park District  
[www.epd.org](http://www.epd.org)

Elmhurst Public Library  
[www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org](http://www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org)

Elmhurst St. Patrick's Day Parade  
[www.elmhurststpatparade.com](http://www.elmhurststpatparade.com)

Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra  
[www.elmhurstsymphony.org](http://www.elmhurstsymphony.org)

Lizzadro Museum Lapidary Art  
[www.lizzadromuseum.org](http://www.lizzadromuseum.org)

Spring Road Business Association  
[Springroad.com](http://Springroad.com)

York & Vallete Business Assoc.  
[www.yorkandvallette.com](http://www.yorkandvallette.com)

Most venues are handicapped accessible. For special needs, please contact the group or organization, so that a smooth inclusion may occur.

# F.Y.I.



## City Hall Holiday Hours

The offices at City Hall will be closed on Thursday, November 27, and Friday, November 28, for the Thanksgiving holiday. City Hall will also be closed at noon on December 24 and all day on Thursday, December 25, and Thursday, January 1. Meetings of the City Council and the standing committees will not be affected by the holidays. Normal City Hall hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Additionally, the Finance Counter in City Hall is open until 7:00 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of the month, prior to City Council meetings.

## Leaf and Yard Waste Reminders

The final free leaf pick-up for 2008 will take place on December 3, 4 and 5, whichever is your regular collection day. Yard waste collection for the year will end after the week of November 24 and resume during the first week in April. Please remember that it is illegal to rake leaves and debris into the street. Serious street flooding can result when wet leaves block the city's inlets, preventing water from draining into the storm sewer system. This practice can also create hazardous driving condition for motorists. Violations can result in fines of up to \$500.

## Holiday Refuse Reminders

- Refuse and recycling will be collected on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday during the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years, since all three holidays fall on Thursdays this year. This change will affect only those residents whose normal collection days are Thursday or Friday.
- Christmas trees will be collected without a refuse sticker on your normal collection day during the first and second weeks in January. After that, a sticker is required. Please remember to remove all ornaments, lights and nails. Do not put the tree in a plastic bag.
- Wreaths, garlands, gift paper and packing peanuts may be included with regular garbage. Boxes are recyclable if they are flattened, bagged or bundled, and measure no more than three feet by three feet.



## No Parking Across City Sidewalks

According to City ordinance, it is illegal to park your car across any city sidewalk and you may be ticketed for doing so. The purpose of this ordinance is to prevent cars from obstructing the public walkway for pedestrians and bicycle riders.



## Brightening the Holidays

Rising prices and financial woes can put a damper on the holidays for local families in need. You can make the season a little brighter by donating a new toy or game for a child (infant to age 17) or a soft, warm fleece blanket for a senior. A drop box for your donations, sponsored by Metropolitan Family Services, will be located in the Police Station from November 29 through December 19. In addition, a drop box sponsored by the Toy Express Children's Charity, will be located at City Hall during the month of December. Catch the spirit of the holidays by brightening the season for someone else.

## Severe Weather Watches and Warnings



Six radio-controlled outdoor severe weather warning sirens are used in Elmhurst to provide the earliest possible warning in the event of severe weather. The city conducts monthly tests of the warning sirens on the first Tuesday of each month between 10:00 and 10:30 a.m. In a real emergency, residents are cautioned to take shelter and monitor the situation by listening to radio, television or NOAA Weather updates. Do not call the Fire or Police Department for information. If these departments are inundated with non-emergency calls during a real emergency, they will be limited in their ability to respond to possibly life-threatening situations. Due to the potential for confusion, there is no "all clear" siren sounded once the emergency has passed.

## New CPR Classes Added to 2009 Schedule

Beginning with the first class in 2009, the CPR (cardio pulmonary resuscitation) instruction provided by the Elmhurst Fire Department will include several options in addition to "CPR for Family and Friends," the non-certification class for anyone over the age of 12. "Heart Saver" will be for any adult who needs CPR certification for their job. "Health Care Provider" is designed specifically for health care professionals, including doctors, nurses, dental professionals and emergency medical personnel.

For more information or to register for an upcoming class, call the Fire Department at 630-530-3090.



## The Elmhurst Historical Museum

See the enclosed Community Calendar for more Museum programs.  
Gallery hours: Tues.-Sun., 1-5 p.m. Gallery admission is free.



### "Heroes of the Sky" Exhibit

It's hard to imagine a time when air travel wasn't a part of everyday life and the sound of jets passing overhead wasn't a constant occurrence. During the early years of flight, however, a plane crossing the skies caused people to look up with a sense of awe and wonder.

*Heroes of the Sky: Adventures in Early Flight, 1903-1939*, a national traveling exhibit opening on January 28, 2009, at the Elmhurst Historical Museum, celebrates the first remarkable decades of flight. The exhibit tells the stories of the bold fliers, businesspeople and inventors who transformed airplanes from novel inventions into sophisticated machines of transportation, commerce and war.

Using historic artifacts, documentary videos, graphic panels and hands-on activities, *Heroes of the Sky* introduces the visionaries who saw flight as more than a simple curiosity and pushed the limits of what these simple machines could do. The Wright Brothers, Henry Ford, Jimmy Doolittle, Bessie Coleman and Admiral Richard Byrd are just some of the adventurers documented in this exhibition. The exhibit will also present information on Elmhurst's own aviation history as former home to a regional airport.

*Heroes of the Sky* will be on display from January 28 to March 15, 2009. Come visit the Elmhurst Historical Museum Tuesday through Sunday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. to take in this high-flying exhibit. *Heroes of the Sky* was made possible through NEH on the Road, a special initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities. It is brought to you by Mid-America Arts Alliance and was organized by The Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan.

### Changing of the Quilts

Be sure to stop in and view the second rotation of Elmhurst Historical Museum's current featured exhibit, *Stitches & Stories: Quilts from the Elmhurst Piecemakers*. A new rotation of beautiful contemporary and traditional quilts will be on display through January 4, 2009.

### New Holiday Event

If creating a gingerbread house is one of your plans this holiday season, make it the easy way by participating in Elmhurst Historical Museum's Gingerbread House Workshop, November 28, 1- 3 p.m. Groups of up to five people are invited to build a gingerbread house from a kit and decorate it with candies, frosting, pretzels and more. All your group needs to bring is creativity and the fee of \$25 per group. Space is limited, so call for reservations: 630-833-1457.



### All That Jazz



From February 24 through May 17, 2009, the sounds of jazz will resonate around the City of Elmhurst as the Elmhurst Historical Museum celebrates the 75th anniversary of the locally published *Down Beat* magazine, as well as the Elmhurst College Jazz Festival. Elmhurst Historical Museum is planning an exciting new exhibit that will take a look at *Down Beat's* eclectic history, as well as the magazine's impact on the local and national jazz scene. The exhibit will also showcase the history of Elmhurst College's renowned annual Jazz Festival. Watch for more details in the next issue of the *Front Porch*.

### Check out our New Website

Elmhurst Historical Museum has launched a newly revamped website with many user-friendly features and enhanced navigation. Check it out at [www.elmhursthistory.org](http://www.elmhursthistory.org). Stop by frequently for the latest information on new exhibits, special events, community programs, historic highlights...and more.

### Winter Weather Reminders

Old man winter's snow, ice and cold create unique challenges for motorists, pedestrians, homeowners and city workers. Please keep the following tips in mind to help make this winter season safer for everyone.

- \* If you have a fire hydrant in front of your home, remember to keep it free of snow and ice so that it is clearly visible to emergency personnel.
- \* Street parking is not allowed for eight hours following a snowfall of two inches or more, or during the snow removal process.
- \* Homeowners are reminded not to shovel snow or ice into city streets when clearing driveways and sidewalks. To avoid having to clear your driveway approach twice, wait until the street has been cleared before clearing your approach. City crews remove snow from the street in a series of passes from the center to the curb. During this process, snow is inevitably pushed onto private driveway approaches.
- \* Sump pumps that are not connected to city storm sewers may not discharge water onto streets or sidewalks. This illegal practice creates hazardous conditions for motorists and pedestrians.



## New Elmhurst Website: Check It Out



The city's website ([www.elmhurst.org](http://www.elmhurst.org)) was recently redesigned to include many new features. These new features include an email subscription service targeted to people interested in announcements on a particular subject; frequently asked questions; an interactive section where residents can monitor their water bill history; and a more functional calendar where events can be narrowed to include, for example, events for youth or seniors or cultural events. While *The Front Porch* provides a great deal of valuable information, it only arrives once each quarter. When you need information about anything related to the community, don't wait — check out the all-new city website at [www.elmhurst.org](http://www.elmhurst.org). Also visit the new websites focusing on the Elmhurst Historical Museum and Elmhurst Visitor and Tourism.

## Child Car Safety: A Parent's Responsibility

Many tragic accidents in which infants or children are killed or injured are a direct result of either an improperly installed car seat or a child improperly secured in the car seat. Motorists are reminded that child passenger safety is a top priority for Elmhurst. The Elmhurst Fire Department offers free car seat inspection and instruction as a community service. Inspections take less than an hour and are performed by trained and certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians. The ultimate responsibility for the child's safety rests with the parent or driver of the vehicle. For an appointment or more information, please call the Elmhurst Fire Department at 630-530-3090.



### Traffic Reminder: Wipers and Lights

With the arrival of winter weather, motorists are reminded that the Illinois Vehicle Code 12-201 (b) requires the use of headlights not only between sunset and sunrise, but also any time when rain, snow, fog or other atmospheric conditions require the use of windshield wipers. Headlights are also required at any other time when, due to insufficient light or unfavorable conditions, persons and vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible at a distance of 1,000 feet.

## Elmhurst Museums Receive Grants

Elmhurst Historical Museum Director Brian Bergheger announced at a recent City Council meeting that state grants were received for the Elmhurst Art Museum and the Churchville One-Room Schoolhouse. The grants, totaling \$90,000, were secured by State Representatives Bob Biggins and Dennis Reboletti. City officials and staff are grateful to these two elected officials for their support of the arts and culture in Elmhurst.

## Elmhurst Supports Chicago's Olympic Bid



The Elmhurst City Council recently approved a resolution supporting Chicago's bid for the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic games. Chicago was selected by the United States Olympic Committee as the U.S. Applicant City for the international competition to host the Olympics in 2016.

Resolution R-15-2008, passed by the City Council on July 21, comments on Chicago's diversity, culture, history and people. The people of Chicago are depicted as "...passionate about sports..." and "...eager to be ambassadors to visiting Olympic athletes."

The Olympics represent the "best of the human spirit and inspire local, national and global harmony." Chicago's world-class international airports and extensive rail, transit and motorways infrastructure make it a very appropriate city in which to hold the Olympics. A certified copy of R-15-2008 was sent to the City of Chicago as an expression of Elmhurst's support for Chicago's bid to host the 2016 games.

*November 2008*

### City of Elmhurst

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

Website homepage: <http://www.elmhurst.org>  
email: [webmaster@elmhurst.org](mailto:webmaster@elmhurst.org)

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

Thomas D. Marcucci, Mayor

Patty Spencer, City Clerk

Charity S. Pigoni, City Treasurer

### Aldermen

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



*The City Newsletter*

## Unwanted Phone Calls

Obscene or harassing phone calls are an invasion of privacy, and can be stressful and frightening. A call is considered harassing, and is therefore illegal in Illinois, if it involves obscene or threatening language, hang-ups, heavy breathing or total silence. The phone company will generally take immediate action if threats are expressed against you, your family or your property. For such calls, file a report with the Elmhurst Police Department. Provide as much information as possible, including the caller's gender, approximate age, accent or speech patterns, the date and time, background noise and the caller's message. Be sure to make a note of whether the name and/or phone number were displayed on caller ID.

A phone company service known as Call Trace may help track harassing phone calls. Immediately after receiving the call (before making or receiving another call), hang up and wait for a dial



tone. Enter the code \*57 on your phone and the call will automatically be traced back to the last incoming call. Call Trace technology works only within the local service area and only with land lines. The information collected from Call Trace is turned over only to law enforcement personnel. A "Customer Consent" form may be required before Call Trace will release information to the police. The complainant must be willing to appear in court.



There are steps you can take to help put an end to harassing calls without contacting the phone company or police. The first suggestion is to simply hang up without speaking to the caller. If the calls persist, say "Operator, this is the call" or simply "Trace" and give the date and time before hanging up. To restrict telemarketing calls, register your home and cellular telephone numbers with the

National Do Not Call Registry at [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov). For further information, contact the Elmhurst Police Department at 630-530-3050.



*The City Newsletter*

City of Elmhurst

209 N. York St.

Elmhurst, IL 60126

(630) 530-3000



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