

The City Newsletter

Elmhurst

September 2001

Issue 3

The O'Hare Expansion Plan



Mayor Daley of Chicago recently unveiled a massive and costly O'Hare expansion plan, calling for new terminals, new access roads and a new "quad runway" system. The cost of the entire project could exceed \$15 billion, close to three times the cost of building an entirely new airport in south suburban Peotone. It would result in a massive increase in flights taking off and landing at O'Hare, along with more noise and air pollution for surrounding suburbs. For more information about the plan and how it will impact Elmhurst and neighboring communities, watch for a special edition *Front Porch* coming soon.

Traffic Congestion and Speeding – What You Can Do



City offices regularly receive comments and complaints regarding traffic congestion and speeding. Some are relayed in person or by phone, and many more by way of the biannual community survey. The City responds by coordinating traffic signals, initiating community-wide traffic safety and anti-speeding campaigns, and positioning the "Smart Trailer" in problem areas throughout the community to help make motorists more aware of their speed. However, without the assistance of the driving public, the City is limited in its ability to resolve traffic and speeding-related problems. For

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Red Ribbon Week – Working for a Drug-Free Community

Substance abuse touches the lives of individuals of all ages and from all walks of life. Drug and alcohol abuse can lead to unemployment, poverty, physical and mental health problems, divorce and family breakdown, loss of life and a myriad of other personal and societal problems.

Elmhurst Community Effort (ECE), a coalition of community agencies and organizations, was formed in 1990 with the goal of raising awareness and promoting a drug-free environment. The week of October 20-28 has been selected as Red Ribbon Week in the City of Elmhurst. A kickoff breakfast will be held at Bryan Middle School during the week of October 15. Although Red Ribbon Week creates an annual focus on drug and alcohol abuse, education and prevention efforts should continue throughout the year. By working together we can make a difference in our community, our state and our nation. You can support the effort in a number of ways:

- ECE volunteers will distribute Red Ribbon "Healthy Lifestyle" pledge cards in Elmhurst elementary schools and in the community. Signed pledge cards can be brought to City Centre Plaza on Saturday, October 27 ("Bootiful Saturday") for display.
- Young people, take a stand! Wear a Red Ribbon to school during Red Ribbon Week.
- Residents can tie red ribbons to their parkway trees or car antennas during Red Ribbon Week to express their support for a drug-free community.
- Business owners are encouraged to provide red ribbons for employees and recognize customers wearing red ribbons with special favors.
- Religious leaders can print information in church flyers or bulletins about Red Ribbon Week and encourage communication between parents and children on this vital issue.

For more information or to purchase a supply of ribbons, please call Paul DeMichele at (630) 279-6528.





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Traffic Congestion and Speeding *continued from pg. 1*

example, statistics show that the majority of motorists ticketed for speeding in Elmhurst are Elmhurst residents. Traffic safety and congestion becomes an even greater concern to the Elmhurst Police Department and City officials each fall when students return to school. The streets immediately surrounding the schools are clogged with cars every morning and afternoon as parents drop off and pick up their children. School District 205 provides bus service for all students living more than walking distance from school and parents in busing areas are encouraged to have their children ride the school bus unless there are extenuating circumstances. Youngsters who live within walking distance should be asked to walk to and from school except in times of very inclement weather. Following these reasonable guidelines will help eliminate congestion around the schools and ease concerns for the safety of our children.

Halloween Trick-or-Treating

Official hours for trick-or-treating will be from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 31. Parents or another adult are encouraged to accompany children and instruct the little ghosts and goblins to cross streets only at intersections, approach only well-lit homes and inspect all treats at home. Have a safe and happy Halloween!



Finance Department Receives Award

For the 11th consecutive year, the Finance Department of the City of Elmhurst has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its annual comprehensive financial report. The certificate is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association and is the highest form of recognition in government accounting and financial reporting. The award is based on the readability and clarity of the annual report and its adherence to all standard accounting guidelines.

Congratulations

Police Department to Offer Citizens Police Academy

If you have ever had a desire to learn first-hand about police work, the Elmhurst Police Department has the perfect opportunity for you. The Citizens' Police Academy is a 13-week program offered twice yearly and designed to give citizens a working knowledge of law enforcement and the Elmhurst Police Department. The program's goal is to open lines of communication, and enhance confidence and cooperation between the police and community members. The

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program is offered free of charge and is limited to 25 students per session. The next class will begin on Thursday, September 20, 2001, with one block of instruction offered each Thursday from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Each block will provide an in-depth view of a particular division within the department and some hands-on training. Applicants must be 21 or older and must either live or work in Elmhurst. Background checks will be completed on all applicants. For more information or to obtain an application, contact Sergeant Robert Nicholas at (630) 530-3057.

Elmhurst Fire Department

*Desire to serve * Ability to perform * Courage to act*

Fire Prevention Week – Open House

To kick off Fire Prevention Week, an open house will be held on Sunday, October 7, 2001, from noon until 4:00 p.m. at Fire Station #2, 605 S. York Street. Elmhurst firefighters will demonstrate the proper use of a fire extinguisher and put on a special rescue demonstration. Activities will also include a telephone 9-1-1 simulator and Kids Pix (child ID program) by the Kiwanis. There will be station tours, refreshments and rides in the basket of the City's new 95-foot ladder/tower truck. Circle the date on your calendar and join the Elmhurst Fire Department for an interesting afternoon and some potentially life-saving information.

Emergency Response Team Honored

Late on a summer afternoon in 2000, a call came in to 9-1-1 that sent an ambulance and engine with sirens blaring to an Elmhurst home.



When the emergency response team from the Elmhurst Fire Department arrived, they found a 12-year-old boy having a severe asthma attack.

His skin was blue and he was breathing only six times each minute. His condition was quickly deteriorating and the emergency team knew that time was of critical importance. The youngster was immediately loaded into the ambulance for the four-minute ride to Elmhurst Hospital. En route, the team inserted an endotracheal tube and began administering breathing treatments to expand the child's lungs and restore natural breathing. Thanks to the quick and appropriate action by Elmhurst's emergency response team, the boy recovered completely from his close call. The personnel involved, Elizabeth Ciolino, Sharon Klepser, Edward Siuzdak and Robert Stankiewicz, were recently honored by Elmhurst Memorial Healthcare with its annual Run of the Year Award for excellence in the field of emergency medicine.

Child Safety Seat Check Program

Every year thousands of young children are injured or killed in automobile accidents – a tragic statistic that is related, at least in part, to the fact that many youngsters are unbuckled or improperly restrained in vehicles. The safety of young passengers is of vital importance to the men and women of the Elmhurst Fire Department. The department now has on staff seven nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians trained to ensure that safety seats and boosters are correctly installed. Since inspections of child safety seats

began in January, the technicians have found that approximately 85% of the seats inspected were installed incorrectly. A small infant needs to be secured in a properly positioned rear-facing infant seat. An older baby or toddler should be restrained in a forward-facing child safety seat. Many modern forward-facing seats convert to belt-positioning booster seats for use until the child is big enough to fit properly in an adult seat belt. To make sure your child's seat is properly installed, please take advantage of this free community service offered by your Fire Department. The service is free of charge, but an appointment is required. Call (630) 530-3090 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

“CPR for Family and Friends”

The Elmhurst Fire Department will offer “CPR for Family and Friends,” a new American Heart Association class, on Saturday, September 22 at 9:00 a.m. and again on Tuesday, November 20 at 6:00 p.m. The four-hour class will be held at Fire Station #1, 404 N. York and will cover methods of administering CPR to infants, children and adults, as well as clearing airway obstructions. The course is intended for non-medical individuals and will not lead to certification. There will be a charge of \$5.00 per participant and the classes will be limited to between 15 and 20 students without age restrictions. Call (630) 530-3090 for more information or to sign up.

The City's Newest Fire Truck

The next time you see one of Elmhurst's bright yellow fire trucks, take a closer look. It might be the Fire Department's new state-of-the-art ladder-tower truck recently purchased to replace truck number one, a 1978 Peter Pirsch aerial ladder truck. The new truck has a 95-foot ladder and a basket large enough to hold two firefighters in rescue situations or when it is necessary to direct water onto a fire from above. (In truck number one, a firefighter had to be strapped onto the ladder to direct the water stream.) The large, air-conditioned cab is equipped with a computer containing maps of the city and floor plans for all commercial buildings. The engine is also computerized with self-diagnostics for easier repair and maintenance. The new truck has a higher tip load rating of 500 pounds as compared to 250 pounds on the old truck. It also includes a 1,500-gallon per minute pump, a 300-gallon water tank and 800 feet of five-inch hose. Residents are welcome to stop by Fire Station #1 to take a look at the City's latest firefighting acquisition.





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Veterans Day Ceremony

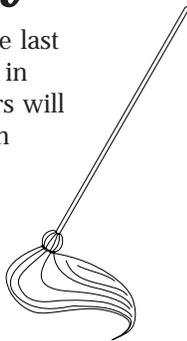


The City of Elmhurst and the veterans' organizations will hold a special ceremony on Veterans Day, Saturday, November 11 at 10:30 a.m. to honor all

living veterans who are current or past members of the armed forces. The ceremony will take place at the Veterans Memorial in Wilder Park. Residents are invited to attend the ceremony as an expression of appreciation for the service of our American veterans.

Senior Chore Days

Senior Chore Days will be held during the last week in October and the first two weeks in November. During Chore Days, volunteers will be available to help Elmhurst seniors with limited income who need assistance with fall yard work and/or storm window installation. Call the DuPage Senior Citizens Council at (630) 620-9794 if you need assistance or if you can volunteer to help a senior anytime during this three-week period.



Meals on Wheels Drivers Needed

The DuPage Senior Citizens Council is looking for drivers to deliver meals to homebound elderly people in Elmhurst. If you want to make a difference in the community and can spare an hour or an hour and a half one morning a week or every other week, call Fran at (630) 993-8964 (morning or early afternoon only).

Mayor's Message



Over the years, many of you have contacted your elected officials concerning O'Hare noise and I thank you. But now we need your help more than ever. As you probably know, Mayor Daley recently announced plans for additional O'Hare runways. I've been in contact with Governor George Ryan and our legislative leadership — Lee Daniels and James "Pate" Philip — concerning this issue, and they have offered their support and willingness to help seek a solution, hopefully, an additional airport in south suburban Peotone. Please be aware that these new plans for O'Hare are not a "done deal" and every voice we add to the mix will increase our influence over this unconstrained expansion. Please call your legislative leaders today about this pressing issue.

I'd like to call your attention to the article on pg. 1 concerning traffic congestion and speeding and ask that you observe the speeding laws in Elmhurst and try, whenever possible, to avoid cutting through our neighborhoods. The Elmhurst police department often receives reports of individuals speeding on our neighborhood streets. When they respond to these complaints they find that, more often than not, the violators are residents of the neighborhood itself. Each of us needs to be cognizant of our speed. It has become more important than ever with the numbers of families with young children on the rise in our community over the last few years. Please exhibit caution and obey the 25 mph speed limits when traveling through our neighborhoods.

Congratulations are in order for Peg Oresanin of the Finance Department, along with Finance Director, Marilyn Gaston, for receiving the prestigious Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 11th year in a row. They are certainly to be commended on this consistent level of excellent professional service to the community. The kind of high quality financial reporting which their department generates is immensely helpful for our city staff and elected officials when decisions must be made concerning the operations and services of Elmhurst, as well as goals and objectives for the future.

Lastly, I'd like to encourage interested individuals to take part in our newly instituted Citizens Police Academy. Last year's pilot program was very well received and attendees found it interesting and informative.

Mayor Thomas D. Marcucci



2002 City Calendar Coming

The annual city calendar, featuring "Volunteers of Elmhurst," is targeted for delivery to Elmhurst households and businesses by Thanksgiving.

Holiday Hours and Refuse Collection

Residents are reminded that City Hall will be closed on Monday, September 3 for the Labor Day holiday. The City Council meeting normally held on the first Monday will be postponed until Tuesday, September 4. Refuse collection will be delayed by one day that week due to the holiday.



What's Hot?

Check out the new "What's Hot" button on the City's website for the latest information on exciting things going on in the community, public meetings of interest to residents and other current issues. The City's website address is www.elmhurst.org.

City Purchases Property for Parking

The City recently negotiated the purchase of property at 111 and 115 Hahn Street to provide an additional 60 parking spaces for employees and customers of businesses in the north downtown retail area. The parking lot is part of the City's Downtown Comprehensive Plan.



Grass Height Regulations

The City's code enforcement office receives numerous complaints during the warm weather months about grass not being mowed. Although it may be a neighborhood eyesore, high grass is not a violation until it reaches a height of 12 inches or more.

Utility Bill EZ Payment

You can now have your utility payment automatically deducted from your checking account on the due date. You will still receive a billing statement so that you will know the amount that will be deducted from your bank account. This system frees you of the need for check writing, postage stamps, etc. To participate, complete the requested information on the Application & Authorization Form. Detach the form and return it along with a cancelled or voided check to :

City of Elmhurst
209 N York St
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Please make sure you include a voided or cancelled check. Your application cannot be processed without it.

Please copy the authorization agreement on the reverse side for your records.

City of Elmhurst Bank Draft Application & Authorization

Name _____

Street Address _____

Phone Number _____ Date _____

Utility Account Number _____

Bank or Financial Institution _____

Bank Routing Number _____

Bank Account Number _____

I authorize the City of Elmhurst to draft the amount of my utility bill from the financial institution listed on my application. I have the right to stop automatic payment of my bill upon timely written notice to the City of Elmhurst. I understand that automatic payments will begin in approximately eight to ten weeks. I also understand that this application and authorization are subject to the terms and conditions appearing on the reverse side hereof.

Please make sure you include a cancelled or voided check with this application.

Signature _____



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Public Works Working for You

Free Leaf Pick-Up

Free leaf pick-up will be provided twice this fall on your regularly scheduled collection day, on November 7th, 8th or 9th, and again on December 5th, 6th or 7th. During these two one-week periods, leaves will be picked up free of charge (without yard waste stickers). Leaves must be placed in clearly marked containers, such as garbage cans, or in cardboard boxes or Kraft paper bags, and placed at the curb on collection day. Leaves may not be mixed with other yard waste. **Plastic bags are not allowed.** Containers, other than Kraft bags, will be left on the parkway after the pick-up. Raking leaves (or grass clippings or other debris) into the street is forbidden by city ordinance. Residents are asked to keep inlets clear of leaves and debris to help prevent neighborhood street flooding. REMINDER: The week of November 25th will be the last week this year for pick-up of other yard waste.

Refuse and Recycling in Elmhurst

The City's recycling program has been in effect for over nine years, since April 1, 1992. Resident participation reached a high of 94.8% in 1997 but has dropped off a bit in the last two years. Residents are reminded that the more we recycle, the less we have going to landfills. Following are answers to some of the most commonly asked questions received by the Public Works Department about the do's and don'ts of refuse collection and recycling Elmhurst-style.



- Worn out garden hoses are not recyclable and should be disposed of with regular refuse.
- Broken lawn furniture is not yard waste. It is refuse and requires a refuse sticker.
- Paperback books are recyclable but books with hard covers are not.
- Windowpanes and broken glass containers are not recyclable and should be disposed of with regular refuse.
- #3 and #4 plastic bottles, and #5 and #7 plastic containers are currently not recyclable, but the City hopes to add them to its curbside recycling program in the not-too-distant future.
- Recycling and yard waste may not be placed in plastic bags. Recycling must be put in the blue recycling can or any other clearly marked 18-20 gallon garbage can. Paper recycling must be kept separate from other recyclables and bundled, bagged or placed in a second recycling

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EZ Payment Authorization Agreement (please copy both sides for your records)

- Automatic payment of the billing amount by transfer of funds from my designated account will be made on the bill's due date. My bank and utility bill statements will reflect the amount and date of transfer.
- If there are insufficient funds in my account to cover the full amount due on the transfer date, I may be charged by the issuing bank, the drawing bank, and the City of Elmhurst.
- The City of Elmhurst will not be held liable or responsible for the payment of any overdraft charges or other bank fees as a result of an attempted transfer from my account containing insufficient funds nor for any fees as a result of any error in the amount of the deduction made from my designated account. I agree to be solely liable and responsible for any such fees.
- Only one attempt will be made to effectuate a transfer of funds from my account for purposes of determining whether sufficient funds exist to make an automatic payment.
- I will remain liable and responsible for payment of any bill for utilities provided by the City of Elmhurst which remains unpaid as a result of an unsuccessful attempted transfer from my account containing insufficient funds.
- I understand this authorization will remain in effect until the City of Elmhurst has received written notification from me of termination with reasonable opportunity to act upon it, or until the City of Elmhurst or the financial institution has sent me notification of termination of this arrangement.
- I further understand that I do not have a right to continued participation in the automatic payment agreement in the event that the City of Elmhurst is unable to collect from my account due to insufficient funds on two (2) separate occasions.

Questions about this service may be directed to our Utility Billing Department at (630)530-3110 or (630)530-3111.

can. Yard waste must be put in garbage cans (not to exceed 50 lbs.) or brown paper bags.

- If you are putting out a lot of extra garbage, or a number of large pieces of furniture or appliances, give BFI a call at (708) 345-7050. If they have this information ahead of time, they can be sure to send the correct truck.

Hopefully, some of your questions were answered by the above. If you need additional information about the City's refuse and recycling program, please call Public Works at (630) 530-3020.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Discarded consumer products with flammable, toxic, corrosive or reactive ingredients are called household hazardous waste or HHW. A household hazardous waste collection will be held on October 13, 2001, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Wheaton commuter parking lot at the southwest corner of Liberty Street and Carlton Avenue. HHW is also accepted at the permanent site in Naperville from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the year (except holidays). Latex paint is no longer accepted at HHW collection events. (See article below on paint recycling.) Wireless phones, batteries and chargers are accepted. The phones are recycled and distributed to victims of domestic violence. For more information, call the DuPage County Household Hazardous Waste hotline at (630) 510-2810.

Latex Paint Recycling Program

Paint is one of the most common household products that can damage the environment and endanger human health if not used up or disposed of properly. DuPage County sponsors a Paint Management Program that includes a latex paint recycling program. Free recycled latex paint in a variety of colors, types and finishes is available to residents, businesses, schools and community groups. The paint is distributed every Tuesday and Thursday (except holidays) from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the County's Woodridge Greene Valley Wastewater Treatment Facility, located at 7900 S. Route 53 in Woodridge. For more information on dropping off or picking up paint, call DuPage County Public Works Department/Solid Waste Division at (630) 682-7373.



York to Host Ultimate Reunion

York alumni are invited for a "last chance" visit to their alma mater before demolition begins later this year. The Ultimate Reunion will be held on Saturday, October 6 from 4:00 to 10:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person and proceeds will go toward the purchase of a new electronic sign for the York campus. For more information, call the Ultimate Reunion Hotline at (630) 834-6299 or visit the web site at www.yorkreunion.com.



Youth Mentoring Programming

The Elmhurst Commission on Youth is pleased to announce a new community-based mentoring program in collaboration with District 205. This fall, there will be seven mentors working at each of the three District 205 middle schools. Mentors are people from the community, from college students to senior citizens, who give youngsters another interested adult with whom they can communicate, work on hobbies or projects, play games and have fun. For more information or to become a mentor, call Madeleine Baird (a District 205 employee and member of the Commission on Youth) at (630) 617-2343.

September 2001

City of Elmhurst

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

Website homepage: <http://www.elmhurst.org>
Email: webmaster@elmhurst.org

City Hall Hours:

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

Thomas D. Marcucci, Mayor
Janet S. Edgley, City Clerk
David Dyer, City Treasurer

Aldermen

1st Ward, Paul Fichtner, Michael J. Regan;
2nd Ward, Janice A. Vanek, David S. Noffs;
3rd Ward, Susan J. Rose, Michael Bram;
4th Ward, Steven DuBois, John E. Gow;
5th Ward, Phillip D. Jordan, James J. Parker;
6th Ward, Stephen G. Hillsman, George Szczepaniak;
7th Ward, Mark A. Mulliner, Charles R. Mueller.

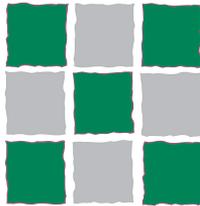


The City Newsletter

The Historical Museum *Bringing History to Life*

Quilt Exhibit Opens November 1

“Piecing Us Together,” an exhibition of traditional and contemporary quilts by the Elmhurst Piecemakers opens at Elmhurst Historical Museum on November 1. The exhibit is a celebration of the creativity personified by the members of this group that first organized twenty-one years ago in Elmhurst. New quilts will be added to the exhibit each month through February 9, 2002, so visitors to the museum will be delighted to return several times to enjoy the exhibit’s new look.



Made in Elmhurst

A wonderful exhibit, Made in Elmhurst, continues through October 15. The exhibit includes creative hands-on activities for children and adults as they explore how people in Elmhurst’s past made everything from houses to scrapbooks and horseshoes.

Drop-in Programs for Busy Families

The museum offers two drop-in programs for busy families. Second Sunday Drop-In is held from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month. Day Off? Drop In! is an afternoon program held on many School District 205 in-service or teacher training days. Children and their caregiver are invited to “drop in” to either program for a “make-it/take-it” activity. Be sure to call the museum for more information!

For a complete list of museum programs and exhibits, visit the museum link on the City’s website, www.elmhurst.org or call the museum at (630) 833-1457. Museum galleries are open free of charge to the public, Tuesday-Sunday, 1-5 p.m.



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City of Elmhurst

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