

May 2018

Village of Elwood

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Elwood, IL 60421
815-423-5011

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Mayor's Message....



In last month's message I said that the NorthPoint project was not a done deal. Prior to the public meeting on April 23, I polled the board and determined that a majority of the trustees were not in favor of the project.

Based on that lack of support for the project, I felt there was no reason to move forward with the public hearing. We will not have a public hearing in the future unless I am instructed to do so at a public meeting, of the board of trustees, and that request is on the board agenda at a public meeting.

There is a process that we, as the Village, needed to follow regarding the NorthPoint project. As Mayor, I couldn't just say I didn't want to consider the project.

At the Board's direction, a team of Village representatives including the Village Administrator, Village Attorney, Finance Consultant and the Village Engineer met for several months with NorthPoint officials to negotiate an annexation agreement with the best possible terms for the Village. Those negotiations were completed last month. In last month's newsletter, we provided a summary of the agreement.

In the future it will be important for us to be involved with regional road improvements that would minimize traffic congestion and to ensure safeguards for our residents. I-80 and I-55 need additional lanes to move traffic more efficiently through the area.

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) recently shared with area residents their plans for the expansion of I-80 from Ridge Road in Grundy County to Harlem Avenue in Cook County. The plan calls for additional lanes and upgrading of bridges along the route.

Advocates for a bridge at Houbolt Road have explained that this project would have a significant impact on truck traffic moving from I-80 and I-55 to the inter-modal facilities, creating safer travel through the area.

Other alternatives could include dedicated truck lanes, construction of an alternative interstate and specifically identified truck routes.

Traffic congestion and safety is a regional issue that will require the combined efforts and resources of local communities throughout Will County as well as the Illinois Department of Transportation.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the Village Hall at 815-423-5011.

Mayor Doug Jenco

Upcoming Meetings

Planning and Zoning Commission - May 22- Canceled
Park Committee - May 23, 6:30 PM
Village Board of Trustees - June 6, 7:00 PM

More options to pay your water bills

Did you know? You can pay your water/sewer bill online with the ease of electronic checks, debit card or credit card. All payment options below with the exception of Pay by Phone are free of charge.

Pay Online

Electronic check, debit card or credit card payments can be made online using a Visa, MasterCard, or Discover or by using a debit card with the Visa/MasterCard logo.

To make your payments online go to www.villageofelwood.com, click on the



Pay Using Automatic Water Bill Payment Program

Payments can be made automatically from a checking or savings account directly to your water billing account. The transfer will occur on the due date. A Direct Debit Authorization Form must be completed to enroll in this program and can be found on our website at:

www.villageofelwood.com/175/utility-department

Use the Drop Box—Check or Money Orders Only

Payments can be made 24/7 by dropping your payment in the water bill drop box located: In front of Village Hall near the main entrance.

Pay Through the Mail

Payments can be made via mail to the address provided on the payment stub. Please allow seven to ten business days for delivery and posting to your account.

Pay In Person

Payments can be made in person at the Administration office during regular business hours of Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Pay By Phone with Credit Card

Beginning February 1, 2018, the Village implemented a payment processing fee of \$5.00 for all payments made over the telephone.

Village of Elwood

FAMILY



Story Time in Lloyd Erickson Park

Manhattan-Elwood Public Library

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Every Thursday

June 14th – August 2nd



Elwood Children's Garden Planting Day



Saturday, May 19

10-12:30 PM

Rain Date—May 26

Come out to celebrate and help with all the new plantings. Enjoy a free lunch provided by Exxon Mobile.

Arrive between 9:30 and 9:45 AM to complete a waiver.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The Garden is located at 801 Chicago Street.

Vegetable Garden Plots



Community garden plots are available for 2018 at Lloyd Erickson Park. Contact Marie at 815-424-1093 if you are interested.

Community Garden Meetings are scheduled for June 5, August 7 and October 2 at 6 PM in the Community Room at the Village Hall.

Berscheid named Trustee

At the Special Board Meeting on April 25, Mayor Doug Jenco, with the Board's concurrence, appointed Joe



"Spike" Berscheid as Trustee filling the position left vacant when Jenco became Mayor.

Joe and his wife Jill, and their six children ranging in age from 16 months to 11 years, have lived in Elwood for the past 13 years. Jill is a native of Elwood.

He is employed by Will County as a Deputy Sheriff and is a transportation officer at the Will County Jail. He has worked for

the County for 13 years.

He is the Vice President of the Elwood Baseball Association and has four children playing ball and he coaches a team. He is also a volunteer at the Elwood School.

Elberson appointed to PZC

Kendy Elberson was appointed by the Mayor at the Special Board Meeting on the April 25 to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Kendy has been with the Department of Corrections for 28 1/2 years. She is in a state-wide position and is currently assigned to Springfield.

She moved to Elwood in 2008. She and her husband Glen have been married for nine years.

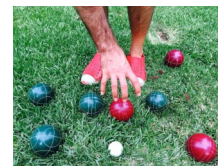


Cornhole Bags and Bocce Balls available for outings in the Parks



The Village has sets of bags and balls that you can use for your outing in the parks. There is a \$100 deposit for residents and a

\$150 deposit for non-residents, refundable if the equipment is returned in good condition. Contact Marie Rodgers for more information at 815-424-1093.



Village of Elwood

All Town



June 1st & 2nd

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM



To Have Your Sale Included On The Town List

Please Call 815-424-1093 or

Email: marie.rodgers@villageofelwood.com

Please submit your sale for the list no later than May 25, 2018

Elwood/Jackson Township History Club



The Jackson Grange Hall stood on the NW corner of Route 53 and Manhattan Road. On the NE corner was the Brown Church. The area was called Jackson Grove. It also had Brown Cemetery and Brown School. It was the place to be, until the new railroad was built west of the settlement. In 1873 the town of Elwood incorporated. The first railroad agent assigned was J.D. Elwood, so the name of the town.

Distracted driver campaign results in 38 citations

The Elwood Police Department announced it issued **38** citations and made **3** aggravated traffic arrests during Illinois' second annual distracted driving awareness campaign.



The increased enforcement was part of the national Dis-

tracted Driving Awareness Month effort supported by the Illinois Association of the Chiefs of Police and the Illinois Department of Transportation.

"Driver distraction is a persistent issue in the Village of Elwood and often has life-altering consequences," said Chief Fred Hayes.

"Our team dedicated 26 hours to this enforcement action, disseminated 1400 educational flyers, utilized social media along with 1340 WJOL AM radio public safety announcements, all to encourage motorists to drop it and drive."

During the one-week campaign that ran April 23-27, the Elwood Police Department issued:

- 20** electronic communication device citations or warnings
- 3** seat belt citations and warnings
- 12** other citations
- 3** suspended/revoked licenses arrests

"Distracted Driving Awareness Month may be over, but the Elwood Police Department will continue working to

Elwood School students receive "Star" awards for accomplishments

At the May 3rd Village Board meeting, a number of Elwood School students received "Star" awards for their outstanding accomplishments in recent Scholastic Bowl and band competitions.



Scholastic Bowl Team Students

The Elwood School Scholastic Bowl team won Regionals. Members of the team include: Liam Walsh, Brody Walsh, Joshua Walsh, Brayden Walsh, Kaela Calderon, Max Campagnolo, Amy Vollmer, Garrett Berscheid, Karis Trejo, Micah Gabriel, Braden Freeman, Robert Churchill.

The following band students received Superior Ratings at the IESA Solo and Ensemble Competition: Isabelle Olszewski, flute solo; Kaela Calderon, flute solo; Micah Gabriel, clarinet solo; Dylan Macek, clarinet solo; Osvaldo

Carvajal, alto saxophone solo; Brandon Duerling, cornet solo; Clint Olsen, cornet solo; Cale Bosonetta, cornet solo; Juan Inobaptiste, tuba solo; Garrett Berscheid, snare drum solo; Myles Wedic, snare drum solo; Isabelle Olszewski and Kaela Calderon, flute duet and Cale Bosonetta and Jack Trawczynski, cornet duet.

The following students received Second Division Excellent Ratings at the IESA Solo and Ensemble Competition - Osvaldo Carvajal, Micah Gabriel, and Dylan Macek for a woodwind trio.



Band Students