



June 2017 Regional Status Report

Village of Elwood
401 E. Mississippi
Avenue
Elwood, IL 60421
815-423-5011

Village President
Todd Matichak

Village Trustees
Doug Jenco
Don LaPaglia
Darryl Lab
Dean Lowrance
Mary Matichak
Jasen Melahn

Village Clerk
Julie Friebele

Village Administrator
Marian Gibson
marian.gibson@villageofelwood.com

Chief of Police
Fred Hayes
elwoodpolice@villageofelwood.com

**Public Works
Superintendent**
Larry Lohmar
public.works@villageofelwood.com

**Code Enforcement &
Permit Technician**
Syreeta Slappey
syreeta.slappey@villageofelwood.com

**Programs & Event
Coordinator**
Jamie Mack
jamie.mack@villageofelwood.com

villageofelwood.com
facebook.com/Elwood.IL
twitter.com/elwood_il

Mayor's Message...

As I begin my new term, I want to thank the residents of Elwood for giving me the honor of serving as Mayor of the village I love. I approach this job with great pride in my community and give you my pledge that I will listen to your concerns and suggestions, and I will make your advice part of my own leadership.

Together, we can accomplish everything we want for our village and create the community we envision. Already, our new board has been busy taking care of some of the concerns I heard from you when I was campaigning. We are committed to enacting new measures and projects that will improve our daily lives and secure our future.

I encourage you to contact me at Elwood Village Hall or visit our village website or Facebook page to relay any comments you have for our administration. I'm asking for your cooperation, as I am new to public service. I'm working hard and letting my dedication to Elwood guide me through the many issues before us.

*Sincerely,
Todd C. Matichak*

New Board of Trustees Takes Office



Elwood Village Clerk Julie Friebele administered the oath of office to newly elected Village President Todd C. Matichak on May 3, 2017.

Trustees, staff and many residents welcomed the new mayor as he took his seat on the village board.

Mayor Matichak is the third generation in his family to serve on the Elwood Village Board of Trustees.

He follows in the footsteps of his mother, Mary Matichak who currently serves as a Village of Elwood Trustee and his grandfather, Dale Archer, a former mayor of Elwood who contributed many years of service to the village.

Mayor Matichak thanked Elwood's outgoing Village President William Offerman for his eight years of hard work and dedication to Elwood residents.

Mayor Matichak presented Mayor Offerman with a plaque to commemorate the board's appreciation for his service to the village.



Mayor Matichak presided as newly elected and returning trustees took the oath of office on May 3, as well.

Elwood Village Clerk Julie Friebele administered the oath to Returning Trustees Dean Lowrance (from left) and Don LaPaglia, Newly Elected Trustee Darryl Lab and Returning Trustee Mary Matichak.

Upon taking office, the new board began work on its agenda which will focus on projects and measures suggested by residents.



Be a Super Hero at VBS!



**Elwood Church
Vacation Bible School
101 N. Chicago Street
July 17 - 21
9:00 a.m. - Noon**

**Serving
Pre-K through 5th grade.**

**Contact Tina at
(815) 423-5113 for more
information, or enroll
online at
elwoodchurch.org.**

**Don't Miss Elwood
Soccer Registration!**

**Register at
Elwood Village Hall or go to
villageofelwood.com for
more information.**

Elwood Children's Garden presents Music in the Garden

All Performances are free to the public.

June 13 7 - 8 p.m.

*Swing and sway with island music performed by the
Ukulele Moonshiners*

June 20 6 - 8 p.m.

*Children's Concert: Dot & Susan Children's
Story Time & Concert*

June 27 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

*Children's Concert: The Ukulele
Moonshiners. Join us for a concert and
Shoobox Parade!*

July 11 7 - 8 p.m.

Join the polka Dance and Concert!

August 8 7 - 8 p.m.

*The South Suburban Dulcimer Society will play
old-time folk and traditional music on a
variety of acoustic instruments.*



**Free popcorn will be served.
Lemonade and water available for purchase.**

**Bring lawn chairs or blankets.
&
Arrive early to tour the wondrous beauty of our
magnificent children's garden.**

Elwood Children's Garden is located at 801 N. Chicago Street.

Elwood Community Days 2017

**At Lloyd Erickson Park, 801 N. Chicago Street, Elwood, IL
Friday, August 25 | Saturday, August 26 | Sunday, August 27**

**MegaPasses available at Elwood Village Hall for \$45 through August 24.
MegaPass gets you all rides all days, all times the carnival is open!**

**Learn more at elwooddays.com.
Volunteers are needed. Those willing to help out with activities,
please call Elwood Village Hall, 815-423-5011
or email jamie.mack@villageofelwood.com.**

Board approves more stringent overweight enforcement ordinance

On May 17, the Elwood Village Board of Trustees voted to approve a stricter overweight permit ordinance on designated truck routes. The existing ordinance prohibited trucks weighing more than 80,000 pounds from passing on the village's designated truck routes without a permit. The ordinance called for overweight measurement to be based on gross weight; however, that standard fails to capture some of the activities that are causing damage to village streets.

Elwood Police Chief Fred Hayes recommended Elwood adopt the Federal Bridge Gross Weight Formula, adopted at 625 ILCS 5/15-111. The formula, which was developed to prevent stress to highway bridges caused by heavy trucks, has been universally applied to state, county and local truck routes throughout the country. It provides a standard to control the spacing of truck axles and weight on the axles.

"Arguably, a truck with only two axles with four feet between axles weighing 80,000 pounds will cause much more damage than a 57-foot truck with four axles weighing the same, as the weight in the former case is highly concentrated on a smaller area," Hayes explained.

Elwood Trustees voted unanimously to change the overweight calculation from gross weight to the bridge weight formula. The new wheel and axle load prohibitions will require more trucks to obtain permits when travelling within Elwood's Deer Run Industrial Park on Arsenal Road, Walter Strawn Drive and Elwood International Port Road.

Permit fees will remain the same, but the village expects to take in additional funds overall due to the increased number of permits required. State statute requires funds Elwood collects from overweight permit fees to be designated for roadway and capital construction and maintenance.

Elwood Police Officers are highly trained and experienced in the area of truck enforcement and can easily recognize heavily weighted axle configurations. The police department is currently allowing for an educational grace period to inform drivers of the new overweight permit requirement. Overweight trucks are still prohibited from travelling on Village of Elwood residential roadways, and officers will continue citing drivers who attempt to pass through town on their way to the industrial park.

Elwood PD to test Speed Hump traffic device

SPEED HUMP



Village of Elwood Police Department is planning to install a speed hump device to test its effectiveness in managing traffic on village streets. Speed humps are raised traffic calming devices that range in height from 3 to 4 inches. They are placed across the road to help slow traffic.

The test speed hump will be installed on Gardner Street to gauge its effectiveness. Right now, many of the side streets in Elwood are used as short cuts or secondary routes for workers travelling to Deer Run Industrial Park on Mississippi Avenue.

During peak shift change hours, the traffic can be heavy, and drivers continually seek alternate paths to avoid stop signs along Mississippi. Residents on many of Mississippi's side streets have commented that traffic on their streets is too heavy and moving too fast during those shift change hours.

Starting with Gardner Street, Elwood Police will monitor the new speed humps to determine whether they discourage motorists from using the side streets and slow those drivers who continue using that route. The village will also monitor residents' response to the speed hump and consider whether homeowners on Gardner like having the device on their street.

If the test speed hump is successful, the device will be implemented on all village roadways that are affected by industrial park traffic. At this time, speed humps are the most popular traffic calming devices in the United States. They typically slow traffic in a more gradual manner than a speed bump. For this reason, they are considered friendlier to residents who would travel across them daily, while still being effective in controlling traffic. Speed humps are designed slow traffic and encourage a specified main route to certain destinations.

Turn on your porch light & meet us at Tyler Park for food, fun and friendship...

**Join Elwood Police
in celebrating**



AUGUST 1st

6 - 8 p.m.

at Tyler Park

Corner of Mississippi & Chicago

**Pic-A-Hero • Rock Climbing
Face Painting • Free Food &
Drinks • Great Giveaways
Obstacle Course • Jump
House K-9 Demonstration**

**Our strength is our partnership with
the community.**

Mayor, Mow My Lawn!

Purchase a chance to have one of our
Elwood officials mow your lawn.

Choose your lawn mower...

Elwood Mayor Todd C. Matichak

Elwood Police Chief Fred Hayes

Elwood Fire Chief Bill Offerman

Elwood School Superintendent Cathie Pezanoski

All proceeds benefit Elwood programs & Events.

Purchase a ticket for \$20.

Tickets are available at Elwood Village Hall and will be sold at village events and Elwood Days, as well. Purchase a ticket and place it in the box for the official you would like to mow your lawn. Winners will be drawn at Elwood Days on August 27.

FAMILY FUN & MOVIE NIGHT AT TYLER PARK

FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2017

6:00 - 10:00 P.M.

ENJOY A COOKOUT, PLAY BINGO, PLAY OUTDOOR FAMILY GAMES

ELWOOD FAMILY FUN NIGHT IS A FREE EVENT SPONSORED BY VILLAGE OF ELWOOD & ELWOOD CHURCH. REGISTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN THE MOVIE!

6:00 P.M. COOKOUT, BINGO & FAMILY GAMES BEGIN

8:30 P.M. MOVIE BEGINS

THE FREE COOKOUT IS SPONSORED AND SERVED BY ELWOOD CHURCH. THE CHURCH WILL ACCEPT FREE-WILL DONATIONS TO SUPPORT THE JACKSON TOWNSHIP FOOD PANTRY.



Children's Garden Outdoor Quilt Show

**Celebrating the 20th
Anniversary of the Elwood
Children's Garden Project**

Sat., July 22

1:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Entry Fee: \$5.00
Goodie bags for participants

Enjoy quilt displays, quilting demonstrations & light refreshments, including iced tea & Bev's famous Almond Iced Tea, while experiencing the delightful surroundings of the Elwood Children's Garden.

Purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win a Queen-sized quilt & Tea Pot garden art. Raffle will be drawn at 4 p.m., winner need not be present.

Children's Garden t-shirts, sweatshirts & cookbooks will be available for purchase.

Elwood Children's Garden is located at 801 N. Chicago Ave., in Elwood's Lloyd Erickson Park. Contact the garden at 815-693-0214. The outdoor quilt show is an adult program. Rain date is July 29.

UKULELE LESSONS AT ELWOOD CHILDREN'S GARDEN

July 12, 19, 26 & Aug. 5 — 7:00-8:00 p.m.

\$25.00 for all 4 Group Ukulele lessons.

If interested in purchasing a ukulele, call Elwood Children's Garden at 815-693-0214.

If you can tie your shoes you can play the Ukulele.

Young children must be accompanied by a parent.

Dates to Remember

June 21	Village Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.	July 14	Movie & Family Fun Night	6 - 10 p.m.
June 20	Children's Garden Story Time	6:00 p.m.	July 17 - 21	Bible School at Elwood Church	
June 27	Public Open House	2 - 7 p.m.	July 19	Village Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
June 27	Children's Garden Concert	6:30 p.m.	July 22	Children's Garden Quilt Show	1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
July 5	Village Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.	July 25	Planning Commission Meeting	7:00 p.m.
July 11	Children's Garden Polka Show & Dance	7:00 p.m.	July 26	Park Committee Meeting	7:00 p.m.