



Village of Elwood

• Established 1889 •

Proud of our past, Building our future

Village President William Offerman, Village Trustees Chuck Bernhard, Francis "Bud" Jones, Jason Kucera, Mary Matichak, George Ruban & Robert Wagner, Village Clerk Pat Buchenau

December 2010 Status Report



Santa came to town on Nov. 27 for the village Lighting Celebration. Holiday lights at Little Park were turned on at dusk as families enjoyed activities in the park.



Pictured: left, Jesse and Jaime Tyler tell Santa their Christmas wishes at the Little Park gazebo. The boys are grandsons of Marilyn Tyler of Elwood. Above: Owen Freeman gets a boost from dad while decorating Elwood's holiday tree at Little Park.

Skate rink nears completion

Elwood Public Works Department is busy finishing work at the Lloyd Erickson Park skate rink. The new, larger skating area will be located next to the sledding hill and will be ready for skaters soon. Residents are asked to stay off the rink while the final, smooth layers of ice are applied. Workers expect to have the ice ready in time for Elwood School's holiday break.

Board maintains low tax rate

Elwood trustees agreed to a 4.99 percent levy increase this year, voting to collect \$167,000 in property taxes. Elwood's property tax rates continue to be among the lowest in Will County, and residential property taxes make up just 4% of the village's annual operating budget. Elwood will collect \$797,035 in special service assessment (SSA) fees from properties at CenterPoint Intermodal. The assessment covers the cost of police and public works services there.

"The intermodal facility pays the SSA for the services we provide. Property owners in Elwood do not fund any work we do out there," explained Village President William Offerman.

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Wall of Honor Photos needed

The village of Elwood seeks residents' help in completing our Wall of Honor. The display honors active service men and women in the Jackson Township area. Military agencies don't release names of active service personnel so we're relying on family and friends for help. The village board hopes families will provide photographs of their sons and daughters so our wall can be complete. To submit a service man or woman, please call 815-423-5011, or simply drop off any size photograph at the village hall.

Food share program proposed

Organizers at Elwood Community Church are hopping to bring a popular food share program to Elwood. The Angel Food program is a national network of food buyers who offer deeply discounted grocery packages to anyone who would like to participate

What makes Angel Food special is that profits from the program are used to fund food banks for the needy. Right now, Angel Food is operational in communities throughout Illinois, but in order to establish the program in Elwood, volunteers are needed. In addition, organizers would like to know whether residents are interested in Angel Food. To volunteer or leave feedback, contact the church at 815-423-5113. To learn more about Angel Food, see the church's website at www.elwoodchurch.org.

Don't miss Tai Chi and Circuit Fitness

Sessions of Tai Chi and Circuit Fitness are underway. It's not too late to enroll. Tai Chi meets on Mondays at 10 a.m. and costs just \$7.50 for the remaining 6 classes. Circuit Fitness meets on Tuesdays at 5:30-6:30 p.m. and costs \$5 per class. Call 815-424-1093 for more information.

After School Art set to begin

This weekly art class will offer fun and learning for children in Kindergarten through fifth grades. Class will meet at Elwood Village Hall Community Room on Mondays, Jan. 3 through Jan.31. Grades K-1, meet from 4-5 p.m. Grades 2-5 meet from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Min. 10 students required. Cost is \$20 for the session & class fee covers supply costs. Please register at Elwood Village Hall by Dec. 30. For questions, contact Elwood Village Hall, 815-424-1093.

Ryuku-Kempo Karate class offered

Learn the art of Ryuku-Kempo Karate using real life situations. Karate teaches not only self defense, but also self-respect, self-discipline, mental focus and physical development. Class will meet at Elwood Village Hall Community Room on Fridays, Jan. 7 through Feb. 28 from 5:30-6:30. Class is open to beginner students age 6-adult. Min. 6 students required Cost is \$36 for the 8-week session. Please enroll at Elwood Village Hall by Jan. 5. For questions, contact Elwood Village Hall, 815-424-1093.