



Village of Elwood

• Established 1889 •

Proud of our past, Building our future

Village President William Offerman, Village Trustees Doug Jenco, Francis "Bud" Jones, Don LaPaglia, Mary Matichak, Jasen Melahn & George Ruban

July 2011 Status Report

Garrett gathers support for Route 53 improvements



Pictured, Elwood Trustees Don LaPaglia (from left), Jasen Melahn and Doug Jenco and Village President William Offerman hear resident Floyd Garrett at the June 15 village board meeting. Garrett is spearheading an initiative for traffic signals at the intersection of Route 53 and Hoff Road, where traffic enters the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery.

Concerned about increasing traffic at the entrance to Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, resident Floyd Garrett is working to convince state officials that traffic signals are needed there. Every day, a steady stream of funeral processions enters and leaves the cemetery at Route 53 and Hoff Road. Although traffic counts are slightly short of the IDOT minimum for signalization, Garrett contacted state and local officials to point out the safety concern. Funeral processions must contend with high-volume truck traffic as well as coming high speed rail cars. Representatives recognized the special situation which exists at the national cemetery.

"These circumstances create a number of hazards that could affect the safety of those leaving the cemetery, many of whom have just laid loved ones to rest," explained 11th District Representative Adam Kinzinger. The state representative wrote a letter of support for Garrett's signal request.

The Elwood Village Board agreed and offered its full support for traffic signals at Route 53 and Hoff Road.

Public Works Department welcomes new leader

The village of Elwood is pleased to announce that Max Bosso has been appointed Interim Public Works Superintendent. Mr. Bosso is a Certified Professional Engineer with a Bachelors and Masters Degree in Civil Engineering from the Florida Institute of Technology. He comes to the Village with eighteen years experience serving the city of Palm Beach Gardens, St. Johns River Water Management District and the State Department of Transportation, all in the state of Florida.

In addition he worked with two large engineering firms and development companies in the state of Florida. Mr. Bosso is married and expecting his first child. He and his wife currently live in Chicago and will be relocating closer to the Elwood area in the near future.

PD reuniting owners with lost bicycles

The Elwood Police Department is attempting to identify the owners of abandoned bicycles turned into the Department over the years. If an Elwood citizen or their children has a lost or misplaced bicycle, please contact Commander Pat Kerr with a description of the missing bicycle, manufacturer, color, size, boys or girls, or other identifying marks. A date and time will be scheduled to confirm the ownership of the bicycle. Commander Kerr can be contacted at 815-424-1082 or at pat.kerr@villageofelwood.com.

History Club collecting memorabilia

The Elwood/Jackson Township History Club meets at the village hall at 1 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. This working history club is collecting memorabilia and pictures of our great little town and the country surrounding it. The club is in need of old pictures of downtown Elwood and the country and appreciates any historical photos or items residents might find. For those who would like to donate pictures, club members will be happy to duplicate them and return the originals.

The history club also has a display case in the lobby of the village hall. The display is constantly changing and anyone who wants to show their personal history can do so, as the display is locked and very safe. The club has been displaying historical items for a number of years. To donate an item, photo or display, please attend the history club's monthly meeting, or contact Moderator Joanne Rachke at 815-423-5130.

"We appreciate you thinking of us and we are working very hard to gather any history or the future generations. We are fast losing a lot due to the progress of our area," Rachke noted.

Children's Garden presents Sunset in the Garden

Tickets are available now for the Children's Garden Project of Elwood's Sunset in the Garden with Silver Wings benefit. The event will be held on July 15 from 7-9 p.m. Sunset in the Garden which features music and dancing under the night sky, along with light refreshment and raffle. Presale tickets are \$10, or tickets may be purchased for \$12 at the door. Tickets are available at Elwood Village Hall. For more information call Sharon, 815-680-5818.

Twilighters host concert trip

On Thursday, September 22, Jackson Township Twilighters will host a bus trip to LaVilla Banquets for a luncheon and a concert by Eddie Cash. Cost of the trip is \$48 for Twilighters, \$53 for non-members. Cost includes bus transportation, lunch and the musical and vocal entertainment of Eddie Cash. The trip will depart from the Children's Garden at 9:30 a.m.

Children's Garden offers topiary class

On August 20 from 10 a.m. until noon, the Children's Garden will offer Topiary Class. The class is presented by Karen Thompson of Thompson Topiary L.L.C. Cost of the class is \$45. Register and select topiary frame by August 11. To register, contact Sheila at 815-423-5046.

Soccer registration still accepted

Elwood Soccer registration has been extended for a limited time. Register players age 4-14 at Elwood Village Hall. Registration forms will be available at www.villageofelwood.com or at the village hall. For more information, contact the recreation coordinator at 815-424-1093.

*401 E. Mississippi Avenue • P.O. Box 435 Elwood, IL 60421 • (815) 423-5011
www.villageofelwood.com*