



# 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*

## March 2011 Status Report

*Elwood Village Board welcomed Elwood Girl Scout Troop 70251 to the Feb. board meeting. The troop led in reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and helped say good-bye to Trustee Bob Wagner. It was Wagner's last meeting as he and his family prepared to move out of state for a new job opportunity.*



### Board reviews storm response

During their Feb. 16 meeting, Elwood trustees expressed their approval and appreciation of the coordinated response to this year's winter conditions. Winter 2011 was marked by relentless severe weather and icy road conditions.

On the worst days, Elwood residents benefitted from the best planning, and the board made note of specific instances of dedication. Trustees specifically thanked Fire Chief William Offerman for managing storm preparations.

Elwood Fire Department coordinated village, township and school, storm preparations, and all fire department personnel reported for duty throughout the heaviest snowfall. The department rescued 30 stranded motorists, alleviating many circumstances that could have ended in tragedy.

Elwood Police and Elwood Public Works departments manned round-the-clock storm monitoring and response, with personnel reporting for extended duty. The result of their efforts was evident throughout town. One trustee summed up the response saying, "You could get around everywhere in Elwood-you just couldn't get out or in."

As we enter a milder season, the 2011 storm response will serve as a model for future years.

**PICTURED top, in row one from left are Cindy Grepares, Danielle Morgan and Madelyn Tyler. In row two from left are Mayor William Offerman and Trustees Robert Wagner, Chuck Bernhard, Francis "Bud" Jones, Jason Kucera and George Ruban.**

**Bottom, left, Trustee Bob Wagner welcomes Danielle Morgan, and right, Trustee George Ruban thanks Cindy Grepares for her civic contribution to the February 16 village board meeting.**

## March 2011 Status Report

### Elwood collecting items for military care packages

Shelves are looking bare at Operation Care Package, a local organization which sends care packages to America's deployed and wounded service men and women. OCP must restock in order to continue its mission. Donation bins are located at Elwood Village Hall and Watson's Diner & Pub. A list of needed items can be found at donation locations or by visiting [operationcarepackages.com](http://operationcarepackages.com). Please give generously, as OCP will be adding soldiers from our Jackson Township Wall of Honor.

### Elwood hockey player earns international spot

Elwood's Kate Fanning was chosen for the Selects Hockey international hockey team. In December, players from 24 U.S states and Canada were invited to Detroit for a one-day tryout. Of the 250 young players who tried out, only 15 were selected for the team. At just thirteen years old, Fanning will have the opportunity to compete internationally throughout the summer.

### Early/Absentee voting available

Consolidated Election will be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2011. Early voting for Jackson Township is available at Elwood Village Hall from 8:30-4:30 beginning March 14 and ending March 31. Absentee voting at Elwood Village Hall begins April 1. Early and absentee voting are also available at Will County Clerks Office, 302 N. Chicago St., Joliet, 815-740-4632.

### County offers senior freeze assistance

Assistance is available to seniors who would like to apply for Will County's property tax freeze program. Seniors can get help in Elwood on May 2 from 10 am-2 pm at Jackson Township Hall; 100 E. Mississippi Ave. Additional dates are available throughout the county. Go to <http://www.willcountysoa.com/events.aspx> for more information.

### Twilighters will monitor open circuit

A new partnership between Elwood's recreation department and Jackson Township Twilighters will open the village hall basement fitness circuit for daytime use. Twilighter volunteers will check in participants and monitor activity in the workout room, making the fitness area more accessible. Starting April 4, Twilighter volunteers will open the fitness area on Mon., Wed. and Fri. from 9-11 am. The program is open to the general public at no charge on a trial basis.

### New 'Focused Fitness' class offered

Get more out of your workout by enrolling in Focused Fitness class, a one-on-one fitness training session with N.E.S.T.A. Certified instructor Sheila A. Meyers at Elwood's village hall fitness room. Select two or three 30 minute sessions per week...Choose individual or shared session... Schedule a time that's convenient for you. Session cost is \$210 for 2x week session (8 classes) or \$310 for 3x week session (12 classes). Session may be shared by two people. Create your personal 4-week session today by calling Sheila at 815-409-1104.

**Reminder: Elwood's 3% water/sewer rate increase will become effective May 1, 2011.**