

APRIL 2010

THE ELK GROVE

BUSINESS MATTERS



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www.elkgrove.org
www.elkgrove.com



Mayor Johnson's State of the Village

The Elk Grove Chamber of Commerce

cordially invite you to

the State of the Village Address

on Thursday, June 3, 2010

Garden Terrace Banquets

1000 Wellington Avenue

Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Admission is \$10.00 per person

Registration and Lunch at 11:30 a.m.

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Mayoral Address

For more information or to make reservations

call the Chamber at 1-877-355-4768



ELK GROVE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

The 2010 calendar year has already been a busy year for the Village with the winter weather challenging the Village's day-to-day operations. This winter, the Department of Public Works conducted a total of 31 plowing and salting operations. In addition, Public Works crews have driven a total of 28,243 miles and spread 4,807 tons of salt.

The protracted downturn has impacted nearly every family, business, or organization in some way or another – and government entities have not been immune to the poor economy. In April of last year we began experiencing some of the same concerns as our neighboring communities.

It was then that Elk Grove began to experience a huge decrease in sales tax revenues. Sales taxes declined, then rose and fell, but have now stabilized at a much lower level. Looking back, we now realize that April's revenues (covering January's purchases) were the first month of sales taxes after the tax increase went into effect from other governmental entities.

Prior to the start of this current budget year, we began taking steps to trim operating expenses and reduce costs. The Village was able to reorganize operations to reduce staff, saving the Village several million dollars.

For the upcoming year, Village employees have stepped forward to accept a pay freeze. Recognizing that families and businesses are struggling in this difficult economy, we are proud that the Fire, Public Works, and Police unions have agreed to join all non-union and management employees by forgoing their contractual pay increases this year.

In addition, the Village has approved the 2010-11 Budget which is down nearly 11% (or just over \$10 million), with the General Fund portion being down nearly 8% (just over \$3.5 million) which are on the items we control.

We have worked diligently to keep our property tax low, and we have the lowest combined property tax rate in Cook County. Over the past decade, we have reduced our General Fund property tax rate by 7%. We are proud of our fiscal responsibility, but we cannot continue to function in this economy as we have in the past without a turnaround in the economy.

Elk Grove remains a special place. The community has a true hometown character and spirit. We desire



Pictured in front row from left to right are Trustee Nancy Czarnik, Mayor Craig Johnson, and Trustee Chris Prochno. Pictured in the second row from left to right are Trustee Pat Feichter, Trustee Jeffrey Franke, Trustee Sam Lissner, and Trustee James Petri.

to keep Elk Grove special, to maintain low property taxes, and to keep Elk Grove Village a great place to live and work. To achieve this mission, it may be necessary for us to take action to enhance finances in the foreseeable future should the economy remain stagnant or the State takes our revenues.

While we work to get through these difficult times, we are also looking to the future. Later this summer, the Village's Industrial/Commercial Revitalization Commission (ICRC) will be releasing their draft update to the ICRC Master Plan. The focus of the ICRC Master Plan will be on transportation, infrastructure, aesthetics, and marketing improvements for the Business Park.

During this tough economic time, the Village Board is committed to maintaining Special Events with a reduced budget.

The 2010 Alexian Brothers Tour of Elk Grove will run from Friday, July 30 through Sunday, August 1. Check the website, www.tourofelkgrove.com, for updated information or see page 7 for details.

The Village will again host the Mid-Summer Classics concert series on Tuesday evenings in July.

Finally, mark your calendars, the Elk Grove Farmers' Market will be held every Wednesday from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Park District Pavilion located at Wellington and Biesterfield. This year's market will open on June 3 and run through September 30.

NEW BUSINESS LICENSING YEAR EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2010

A new licensing year is effective on June 1, 2010 for all businesses, occupations, and activities that require a license under the Elk Grove Village Municipal Code. **Businesses conducting retail sales of any product or merchandise require a license.** All food, beverage, and vending machines, as well as coin-operated amusement/musical devices, must also display a valid 2010-2011 license. Other activities requiring a business license include day care centers, food caterers, and most contractors.

Companies are responsible for obtaining all necessary licenses. Pre-printed license applications for businesses currently licensed will be mailed by the end of April. For further information, or to determine if your business requires a license, please call the Finance Department at (847) 357-4062 or stop by the Finance Counter in the Municipal Building.

The annual fee for a business license covers the cost of making inspections necessary to safeguard public safety, health, and welfare. **Failure to obtain a license can result in fines of \$50 to \$500 per day.**

Be a Responsible Landlord

Occasionally Village Inspectors find businesses in the Business Park that are not in compliance with the Village Code. This situation arises when a business occupies a building or tenant space without first obtaining a Zoning Permit from the Department of Engineering and Community Development. The resulting consequences can range anywhere from fines to lengthy procedures for compliance, and in some cases, evacuation of the building.



Please take the necessary precaution to prevent this situation by simply advising potential tenants to submit a Zoning Permit application to the Department of Engineering and Community Development. There is no fee associated with this permit and the application is processed within ten working days.

Vehicle Stickers are Due June 1

Vehicle stickers for 2010-2011, featuring the Village's re-designed logo, will go on sale beginning mid-April. Preprinted application forms will be mailed in April to all residents who purchased a vehicle sticker the previous year. To avoid waiting in line, residents are encouraged to renew by mail or utilize the 24-hour drop box located at the Village Hall.

The fee schedule is as follows:

- Passenger cars \$25.00
- Trucks \$50.00 - \$155.00
- Motorcycles \$20.00 - \$25.00
- Recreational Vehicle \$30.00
- Senior, Handicap, or Antique \$ 3.00

Senior citizens 65 years and older, handicapped persons with a handicap plate registered to the vehicle owner, and disabled veterans can purchase vehicle stickers at a reduced rate of \$3.00 with proof of age/disability (limit two qualifying discounts per household). Stickers must be displayed in the lower right-hand corner of the windshield before June 1. Vehicles registered or housed within Elk Grove Village without a sticker displayed after June 1, are subject to citations and fines.

Vehicle stickers can be purchased in person at the Municipal Complex, Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the first Saturday of the month, excluding holiday weekends. Passenger cars, motorcycles and "B" truck stickers can be purchased at currency exchanges located at 838 Arlington Heights Road and 550 Devon Avenue.

Coffee with the Village Board

The Village Board will be available to meet with residents over coffee on the first Saturday in May. All residents will have the opportunity to meet with the Mayor and Trustees to discuss any concerns or ask questions. The Coffee will be held in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Complex from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on the following dates:

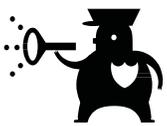
May 1, 2010
November 6, 2010



Spring 2010 New Businesses

The Village of Elk Grove welcomes all new businesses that have entered the Village since our last newsletter.

Abraxis Bio Science LLC – 1300 Chase Avenue	Kalamata Inc. – 1190 East Higgins Road
AFX Design Group, Inc. – 1635 Louis Avenue	L&M General Construction Inc. – 101 Kelly Street
Air Distribution Associates – 2650-52 American Lane	L'amadio Cabinetry & Millwork – 2375 United Lane
AMZ Trucking Inc. – 1503 Carmen Drive	Ludwig Foods, Inc. – 1270 Mark Street
Arbor Gear Company – 640 Bennett Drive	M & M Fusion, Inc. – 62 Lively Boulevard
Arthur Realty Group, Inc – 2428 Landmeier Road	Man's Best Friend All Breed Pet Styling – 120 Turner Avenue
Atrend Enclosures – 1290 Thorndale Avenue	Mark Trading, Inc – 2495 Pan Am Boulevard
Bossard North America, Inc – 1410 Kirk Street	Morris Rezman Machinery Co., Inc. – 2150 Touhy Avenue
Broadview Security – 1801 Howard Street	Parekh Liquor – 571 Landmeier Road
Castle Metal Products – 2145 Estes Avenue	Philip Service Corporation – 1300 Landmeier Road
Chipotle - 910 Elk Grove Town Center	Protec Equipment Resources, Inc. – Nicholas Boulevard
Colour Concepts Inc. – 1201 Kirk Street	Quality Feed – 85 Gaylord Street
Commercial Vans, Inc. – 552 Devon Avenue	Specialties Binding Co. – 2601 & 2700 Lively Boulevard
Doctor Green Services – 385 Crossen Avenue	Sunrise Electronics – 80 Martin Lane
Empire Crankshafts – 742 Lively Boulevard	Tori Asian Bistro Inc. – 1251 Higgins Road
Frenchees – 1691 Elmhurst Road	Tri-Stone Imports – 725 Nicholas Avenue
George's Auto and Body Repair – 740 Lively Boulevard	Velocity Express – 1601 Lunt Avenue
Hausner Hard-Chrome, Inc. – 1455 Tonne Road	W.Z. Carpeting Inc. – 2881 Carl Boulevard
High Voltage Maintenance Corp. – 941 Busse Road	WSM Enterprises – 900 Pratt Boulevard
Infinity Box, LLC – 1410 Brummel Avenue	If you are new to Elk Grove and we have not listed your company, please call the Village Manager's Office at (847) 357-4010 to have your name printed in the next newsletter.
Jaeckle Wholesale, Inc. – 2881 Carl Boulevard	
Johnson Products – 700 Pratt Boulevard	



Scrap Metal Theft

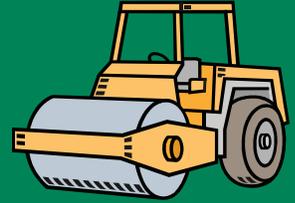
Scrap metal theft continues to occur in the Business Park. Even with increased police patrols in the Business Park the problem cannot be completely eliminated. Cooperation and assistance from businesses can help the Police Department reduce this type of criminal activity.

Most of the thefts involve material being stored outside. One of the most effective safety measures is for businesses to safely secure their scrap material indoors. If inside storage is not possible, keeping the property in a secure container or screened yard would also be beneficial.

The Police Department encourages businesses to invest in standard security measures such as lighting parking lots and the installation of security cameras around areas of concern or on property of value. The benefits of a watchful and well informed work force which report suspicious activity and the presences of unauthorized persons on business property should not be underestimated.

Interstate 290 Construction

Beginning April 1, the Illinois Department of Transportation will begin milling and resurfacing approximately 27 miles along Interstate 290 (the Eisenhower Expressway) from Thorndale Avenue to I- 90/94, and I- 355 from Army Trail Road to I-290. This project includes repairs to 37 bridges along the project area, including entrance and exit ramps. The construction is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2010.



Construction will take place in both directions simultaneously inbound and outbound. Starting April 1, traffic will be driven on the inside lanes. Permanent lane closures will be required during bridge repairs, which will reduce one lane along I-290 in each direction.

For additional information, please visit the Illinois Department of Transportation's project website at www.dot.il.gov/i290/index.html.

Devon Avenue Roadwork by Cook County

Last fall, the Village was made aware of Cook County's plans to undertake a pavement patching project along Devon Avenue from Rohlwing Road to Busse Road, beginning this spring. As you know, Devon Avenue is owned and maintained by Cook County.

Upon hearing of the County's plans at the end of August, the Village wrote the Cook County Highway Department and attempted to persuade the County to hold off on the construction for a period of one year. We realized the impact faced by businesses and motorists last year with the work being done at the corner of Arlington Heights Road and Devon Avenue, and had hoped to negate it. In addition, previous years have resulted in work on Devon Avenue at Busse Road and Tonne/Wood Dale Roads.

While we understand the need for the work, the Village was hoping to provide the businesses and motorists along this stretch of roadway a one-year reprieve from more construction. Unfortunately, the Cook County Highway Department denied our request. The basis for the County's denial is that further postponement of the work would result in further deterioration of the roadway. In addition, any further deterioration would result in increases in the scope of work and financial cost for reconstruction.

We anticipate that the County will complete this work by early fall. All questions pertaining to this project should be directed to the Cook County Highway Department at (312) 603-1601.

Busse Road at Pratt Boulevard and Greenleaf Avenue Intersection Improvements

The preliminary design studies for the improvement of the Busse Road at Pratt Boulevard and Greenleaf Avenue intersections have been completed. The projects are currently in the design and development stage. The proposed improvements at both locations will enhance traffic operations and reduce congestion as well as improve pedestrian safety through the lengthening of the left turn lanes on all four intersection legs, the modernization of the traffic signals, and the installation of pedestrian crossing signals with L.E.D. countdown signal heads. The project is targeted for construction in spring 2011. The estimated construction cost for the two intersections is \$5,450,000. The project has received funding through the Federal Surface Transportation Program in the amount of \$3,815,000.

Devon Avenue Railroad Crossing Improvement

The Village recently awarded a contract to Swanson Contracting Co. Inc. for the improvement of the Devon Avenue railroad crossing just west of Lively Boulevard. The rail crossing improvement is being reconstructed in conjunction with Cook County's Devon Avenue Patching and Milling Project. The proposed railroad improvement will consist of the removal and replacement of the existing rail ties and ballast, and the installation of new continuous welded rails and precast concrete crossing pads. The rail crossing construction would begin in late spring 2010 and would require the complete closure of Devon Avenue at the crossing for a one to two week period. Traffic detour signage will be posted to assist motorists around the work.

Tasty Catering Recognized by Crain's Chicago Business

Crain's Chicago Business recently highlighted Tasty Catering of Elk Grove Village as one of the "Best Places to Work in 2010." Tasty was among only twenty businesses in the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will to receive this award. Brothers Tom, Larry, and Kevin Walter started the business in 1987. Tasty was selected for this award for their dedication to their staff.



Congratulations Alexian Brothers!



ALEXIAN
BROTHERS
HOSPITAL NETWORK

Both St. Alexius Medical Center and Alexian Brothers Medical Center received high scores in the **2009 Blue Star Hospital Report** published by BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois. The report summarizes the results of quality and safety performance measures for 94 urban Illinois hospitals. ABMC received 10 "Blue Stars" for its performance, the most that could be earned, and St. Alexius received nine. Only two other hospitals received 10 Blue Stars, and only two others garnered nine. BlueCross BlueShield also listed ABMC among its Blue Distinction Centers for Cardiac Care®. These centers have demonstrated their commitment to quality care, resulting in better overall outcomes for cardiac patients.

Alexian Brothers Medical Center was again recognized by HealthGrades, the nation's leading independent healthcare ratings organization, as one of "America's 50 Best Hospitals" in their 2010 report, released in February. This is the third straight year that ABMC has been named to the prestigious list. Alexian Brothers Medical Center received HealthGrades' stamp of approval after undergoing a demanding analysis of their mortality rates and the number of complications their patients experience after any one of 26 procedures or diagnoses. If all U.S. hospitals had matched the rigorous requirements of the top 50, the report concludes that nearly 165,000 lives would have been saved among just Medicare patients and that another 19,000 Medicare inpatients would not have suffered from additional complications.

"2010 Great Workplace Award" For the second consecutive year, the Alexian Brothers Hospital Network has received the Gallup Great Workplace Award. The award honors organizations whose employee engagement results demonstrate they have the most productive and engaged workforces in the world. Each year Gallup compares applicants' results across its renowned workplace research database composed of millions of work teams in more than 150 countries. This year the Alexian Brothers Hospital Network is among only 25 distinguished organizations to receive the award.

MBA Program in Elk Grove



Dominican University's Brennan School of Business is now offering classes for students that wish to obtain a Master of Business Administration Degree at Alexian Brothers Medical Center. Classes are being held at Alexian Brothers Elk Grove Campus. Classes will be offered on weekday evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in 10-week sessions. For more information call the Brennan School of Business at (708) 524-6810 or visit their website at www.business.dom.edu/alexian.



THE 2010 ALEXIAN BROTHERS TOUR OF ELK GROVE

The fifth annual Alexian Brothers Tour of Elk Grove will be held Friday, July 30 through Sunday, August 1.

The total prize money for this year's Tour will again be the largest purse in the world for a three-day professional cycling event at \$150,000.

The first stage of the men's three-stage Pro Race will begin on Friday, July 30 with a 4.5 mile Time Trial. The Pro Men's competition will also feature a 100 mile Road Race on Saturday. The third stage will be a criterium race on Sunday, August 1. Again this year, the Road Race will be held entirely in Elk Grove Village. Residents and businesses (on streets that will be impacted by these races) will be notified with specific instructions on when traffic will be interrupted. Village staff and volunteers will work with motorists to allow limited traffic in and out of the impacted neighborhoods, while maintaining rider safety.



Due to the closed course, events cannot be run simultaneously and the highly-anticipated Mayor's Challenge will be reduced to only one event on Sunday, August 1. Consistent with years past, the Trustee's Fun Ride will again be open for guests of all ages to ride the course.

The 2010 event will also feature two nights (Friday and Saturday) of live concerts and fireworks. Rock Candy will entertain at the Friday night Block Party and Sixteen Candles will play on Saturday Night.

The Village is again donating a portion of the race entry fees to the Soldiers Memorial Fund which provides scholarships for graduating high school students, and financial assistance to the Heart of a Marine Foundation, which serves all branches of military personnel who are currently serving and need special services.

Registration information is available at the website, www.tourofelkgrove.com. As a reminder, all participants must wear an approved helmet and have a completed waiver (signed by a parent or guardian if under the age of 18). Children who are participating can bring their own Big Wheel or borrow one from Special Events Management (on a first come first serve basis).

Additional information is readily available on the "Tour of Elk Grove" website: www.tourofelkgrove.com. If you have any additional questions regarding the race itself, you can contact Special Events Management at (773) 868-3010 x233. Should you have questions regarding sponsorships, please call the Mayor's Office at (847) 357-4030.

The 2010 Farmers' Market

The Elk Grove Farmers' Market is held every Wednesday from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Park District Pavilion located at Wellington and Biesterfield. This year's market will open on June 2 and run through September 29. Some of this year's vendors will be selling meat, kettle corn, honey, jewelry, and healthy items for our animal lovers. For details about vendors or market events, visit the website at:

www.elkgrovecparks.org/farmersmarket.asp





This newsletter is published by
the Village of Elk Grove Village
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Craig B. Johnson, Mayor
Judith M. Keegan, Village Clerk
Raymond R. Rummel, Village Manager

TRUSTEES

Nancy J. Czarnik	Samuel L. Lissner
Patton L. Feichter	James P. Petri
Jeffrey C. Franke	Christine Prochno

The Village Hall is open 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday for payment of water bills, local fines, pet licenses, vehicle stickers, and general Village information. In addition, the Finance counter is open on the first Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. through noon, and the Engineering & Community Development counter is open on the first Saturday of the months of May through September from 9:00 a.m. through noon.

Village Board meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

COOK COUNTY TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAM

Cook County offers tax abatement programs to encourage private enterprises to develop in the county. The goal of this program is to maintain and increase job opportunities, resulting in an increased tax base for the entire county. Currently, the property taxes for industrial properties are assessed at 36% of the fair market value of the property. Property approved under these abatement programs allow the owner a property assessment of 16% for a period of twelve years, a sizeable reduction of property tax due on the property.

In order to be eligible for Class 6B Abatement, the property must be used for an industrial purpose and, meet one of the following qualifications:

- New Construction
- Buying a building that has been vacant and unused for twenty-four months or more
- Substantial renovation to an existing building

In order to be eligible for Class C Abatement, the property must be used for an industrial purpose and meet of the following qualifications:

- Because of contamination, said real estate must undergo environmental testing and remediation and receive a "No Further Remediation" letter from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- The remediation costs total at least \$100,000

Since these programs are offered by Cook County, the applications are made to the County. However, the application must be accompanied by a resolution adopted by Elk Grove Village supporting the application. The Village has supported over three hundred such applications since the inception of these programs in 1984.

If you would like more information about these programs and the necessary procedures and paperwork involved, please call the Village Manager's Office at (847) 357-4010.