



The Elkhart Echo

July 2024

www.elkhartillinois.us

Vol. 39 Issue 7

VILLAGE BOARD NEWS

Mayor Lyle Fout called the meeting to order on July 1, 2024, at 6:30 P.M. at the Elkhart Village Hall. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken. Answering present: Kyle Farmer, Matt Fights, John Galassi, Travis Moore, Dave Barker, and Ernie Shaw. Attorney Don Behle and Clerk Ann Curry were also present. Visitors present were Amy Roberts and Mona Maas.

Motion by Kyle Farmer, second by Travis Moore, to approve Consent Agenda Items A.

A. Approve meeting minutes from June 3, 2024

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC

Mona Maas reported that the tree inventory was done on June 18, 2024. There were 20 volunteers, and they finished the project in one day. The Tree's Forever report indicated that there are 170 trees and 40 different species.

The next Committee meeting will be Monday July 8, 2024, at 6:30 P.M. at the Village Hall.

Mona is working on a grant to get 100 small pine trees for between the pond and I55.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

No report.

ATTORNEY

No report.

LIQUOR

No report.

TIF REPORT

No report.

SOLID WASTE

No report.

LOCAL EVENTS LIAISON/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

No report.

WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT

We finally received the insurance payment for the new generator and the rental of a generator.

STREETS/ALLEYS

No report.

BUILDINGS/VILLAGE PROPERTIES/EQUIPMENT

No report.

VILLAGE PARK

We received the report back from the fish survey. It was very expensive.

We will try and get fish from Farm and Home.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

Matt checked into radar signs. Travis was informed it is easier to rent the signs than to buy them.

Lyle will speak to the Sheriff again about having them patrol Kennedy Road.

FINANCE

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Lyle will have information ready to go out for bids for the sale of the old truck.

NEW BUSINESS

No report.

RESOLUTIONS

None.

ORDINANCE

Motion by Matt Fights, second by Travis Moore to pass Ordinance 2024-02, An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2001-07 "An Ordinance Pertaining to Liquor Control" to Allow Sunday Sales. Roll call vote. Those voting yea: Dave Barker, Kyle Farmer, Matt Fights, John Galassi, Travis Moore, and Ernie Shaw. Those voting nay: none. Those absent: none. Ordinance adopted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Matt Fights, second by Kyle Farmer, to adjourn at 6:48pm. Voice vote. All yeas. No nay. Motion carried.

Submitted By
Ann Curry
Village Clerk

NEWSLETTER INFO

All material for the July 2024 newsletter should be turned in before
5:00 p.m. on August 7, 2024

Please email your article in Word to sarahvball@hotmail.com

If there is any event that needs added to the calendar,

Please call (217-494-0059) or e-mail the information.

Senior Citizen Luncheon

The Elkhart Senior's Lunch will be on July 17, 2024, at 11:30am at The Wild Hare.

For questions, please call Anita at (217) 341-0167.



We Need Volunteer Firefighters!!!



bad pay



crappy hours



tough working conditions

Come Join Us!!

GREAT SATISFACTION!!

WHO WILL ANSWER THE CALL?

ELKHART VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief: Jay Akers 217-737-6500

Assistant Chief: Paul Hayden 217-871-0121



Mt. Pulaski High School Board Minutes – June 17, 2024

<https://www.mtpulaski.k12.il.us/o/mpgs/article/1648353>

The next regular board meeting is Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at 6:00pm.

ANDERSON LAWN CARE

CONTACT CHRIS ANDERSON @ 217-737-9607.



Elkhart Tree Advisory Committee-July update

We accomplished Elkhart's tree inventory of 'Right Of Way' and Parks trees on June 18th.

We had an amazing 20 (!) volunteers show up to assist us.

We accomplished the whole inventory in 1 very hot morning and enjoyed our lunch at the Village Hall.

The Trees Forever organization delivered the spreadsheet of inventory data to us that same week. We inventoried 170 trees of 40 different species. Our Advisory Committee member, Jeff Harris (who has the most expertise in botany and trees), is reviewing the data, and we will have that organized before our Tree Advisory Committee meeting.

Our Tree Advisory Committee will meet on Monday, July 8, at the Village Hall at 6:30.

YOU are welcome to join us! We would like to share our ideas about the value of TREES, of Elkhart becoming an Arbor Day Tree City, and of a proposed tree planting project.

We want to hear what YOU think about trees in Elkhart too!

Our meeting will not take longer than an hour, and you are welcome to stop in!

Thanks for reading, from Mona Maas, Stephanie LaFarge, Jay and Amy Roberts, and Jeff Harris. Lyle Fout is our liaison with the Village Board.

You can email our committee at ElkhartTreeAdvisoryCommittee@gmail.com

Elkhart Community

Senior's Bingo

(the over 55 crowd)

Sponsored by NAG

First Tuesday of each Month

2:00 pm

Village Hall



For Immediate Release Elkhart, Illinois

Illinois is home to several firefly genera and many different firefly species, which can be identified based on flash patterns, flash colors, and behavior. Join the Elkhart Historical Society Friday July 26th for their program entitled ***The World of Our Amazing Fireflies***, presented by Allen Yow. Participants will learn about the life cycle of fireflies, how to identify, and protect them.



Yow, an avid bird watcher for more than 40 years, became curious about fireflies one night in his yard when he realized the variety of lighting patterns and colors the fireflies displayed. Whether called fireflies, lightning bugs, glow worms or moon bugs, Yow said they're all synonymous, but their unique illumination differences separate the individual groups, and allow us to identify them. This ability is the result of a complicated chemical reaction, that allows them to find a mate in the right group. Habitats are critical to every living thing- -including these amazing 'beacons' of the summer evenings. Come learn more and help them to continue adding their sparkle to our lives for generations to come.

Reservations must be made by calling 217 947 2238. After receiving confirmation, fill in the reservation form indicating your choice of entrée, which will be roast pork tenderloin in wine sauce or chicken cordon bleu and dessert, and mail it in within 5 business days with your check to The Elkhart Historical Society. The inclusive cost per person is \$45, and covers the meal, tax, and tip, of which \$15 is for the Elkhart Historical Society program. The deadline for reservations is July 15th. For reservation forms go to www.elkharthistoricalsociety.org

Doors open at 5p and dinner service begins promptly at 5:30p. Additional parking is one block east of the restaurant on Gov. Oglesby Street.

Elkhart Historical Society Upcoming Events to Consider

For more information visit www.elkharthistoricalsociety.org

Reservations taken 1 month prior to event 217-947-2238

July 26 World of Our Amazing Fireflies—Allen Yow

August 23 Highlights of an Extraordinary Life—Peter Neihaus

Sept 20 Restoration of Logan County Courthouse—Bill Walter

Oct 18 The Culver Chronicles: The Story of Col. Culver and
Culver Construction—Lee-Ann Burgener

December 7 *Christmas Candlelight Service

***reservations will NOT be accepted before October 28th, 2024
for members or November 4th for non-members of the Elkhart
Historical Society.**

ELKHART HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S DINNER LECTURE
FRIDAY JULY 26, 2024, 5:30P
"THE WORLD OF OUR AMAZING FIREFLIES" – ALLEN YOW

Name _____ Address _____

Phone # _____ cell # _____ Email _____

The Wild Hare Café provides all the delicious meals for our Elkhart Historical Society functions as well as providing a homey atmosphere. We bundle it into an all-inclusive package price of \$45, for the meal, tax, and tip, which includes \$15 for the Elkhart Historical Society program.

Please make your selection:

Chicken Cordon Bleu _____ OR
Roast Pork Tenderloin in a wine sauce _____

Dessert choices: peach cobbler with dollop of cream _____ OR
Ice Cream and chocolate sauce _____

Both are served with herbed mashed potatoes, baby carrots, green beans and grilled artisan bread as well as a selection of tea or coffee. You are invited to bring wine or beer; glasses and openers will be provided.

Reservations are required as space is limited and can only be made by calling 217-947-2238 no later than July 15th- - Once you are confirmed, print this form, fill it out and mail it with your check **payable to: The Elkhart Historical Society, P.O. 255, Elkhart, IL 62634**

Prompt payment is required as **RESERVATIONS CANNOT BE HELD LONGER THAN 5 BUSINESS DAYS WITHOUT PAYMENT.** Doors open at 5p- -Additional parking one block east by the Village Hall. **After** placing your reservation, you may also fill out a form and submit it with your check at The Country Bumpkin (Wed-Sun 10-3p) Additional information and reservation forms for this & other upcoming events can be found on the Elkhart Historical Society website:
www.elkharthistoricalsociety.org

"RESERVATIONS WILL BE HELD ONLY UPON RECEIPT OF PAYMENT"

If you are joining others and wish to be seated with them please list their names below.

WHAT MAKES ELKHART UNIQUE AND SPECIAL

The Fall of John Shockey and the Rise of J. W. Saunders

We left off last month with "things were going to take a big turn" for John Shockey, the founder of our town Elkhart. I will quote for Gwen Suttory Rosenfeld's book *Echoes from The Branches* what she wrote about her ancestor John Shockey:

"Happiness did not stay with John for long; despair came in the Fall of 1856 as family history tells me John was dealt the worst of blows - his crops failed. He was a ruined man; he had to have a public sale, one of the largest around at that time. This was held in March 1857."

It is unknown whether it was weather or insects or disease that caused his crop failure. To finish the rest of John and Catherine Shockey's story, they had seventeen children (no multiple births) - six girls and eleven boys. Eight died before they came to Elkhart, two shortly after they arrived here, and two were born here in Elkhart. The surviving seven children all lived to the ages of 67 to 91 except Jeremiah who died in the Civil War at Bolivar, Tennessee. The other four sons who fought in the Civil War survived their service. Neither parent lived to see their sons go off to War because Catherine became ill and died on November 13, 1858, and John died one year later on November 25, 1859, at the age of 53. But do not despair because some of his descendants stayed in Elkhart and were able to eventually buy some land because Gwen Rosenfeld talks about going out to her "Grandpa and Grandma Shockey's farm out the south road".

When John Shockey died Elkhart was not much of a town. The town was laid out on the western slope of Elkhart hill parallel to the new railroad tracks that came through town in 1853. There was a horse mill that was brought here and converted to a warehouse right next to the tracks for the railroad company's use. Very few houses had been built, but one of the first other buildings was another "warehouse" located on the present corner of Latham and Governor Oglesby Streets which was actually a general store that sold any and all supplies that pioneers would need. It was owned and operated by J. W. Saunders who also became Elkhart's first postmaster and railroad agent (because both the "post office" and the railroad ticket booth both conveniently happened to be located in his store).



The Shockey tombstones are in the Elkhart Cemetery just south of Governor Oglesby's tomb. Please note that these headstones are not the original ones (which would have been smaller and very worn by time and weather) but ones replaced by "the 4th and 5th generation" of Shockey's.



Elkhart Public Library District

July 2024

Butterfly Release Party

— FOR ALL AGES —

Butterfly craft included

July 31st
5pm OR 6pm*

There are a
LIMITED NUMBER OF
BUTTERFLIES,
so let us know you're coming
to reserve yours.

SEE YOU THERE!

*We're trying to determine if a before-
or after-supper event is better, so
go to our Facebook page
to weigh in on which might be
better for you, and help us out!



TODDLER TIME

TUESDAY JULY 16TH
9:30AM - 10:45AM

JOIN US FOR 45 MINUTES OF
STORIES, SNACKS, AND SONGS!

CHILDREN 12 MONTHS - 3 YEARS OLD

**CAREGIVERS MUST BE
PRESENT, THANK YOU**

Reading Colors Your World

Thank Mount Pulaski Education
Association for supporting our
Summer Reading Program!

Thank you to our regular clerks and
special subs for all the extra work:

Andrew Carolyn Doris Alicia
Hite Trout Craner Disler

We couldn't do it without YOU!!!

elkhartlibrary.lib.il.us