

The Elkhart Echo



April 2025

www.elkhartillinois.us

Vol. 40 Issue 4

VILLAGE BOARD NEWS

Mayor Lyle Fout called the meeting to order on April 7, 2025, 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, John Galassi, Matt Fights, Ernie Shaw, Travis Moore and Dave Barker. Clerk Ann Curry, Treasurer Theresa Moore, and attorney Don Behle were also present. Visitors present were Amy Roberts and Mona Maas.

Motion by Matt Fights, second by Travis Moore, to approve Consent Agenda Items A, B, C, and D.

- A. Approve meeting minutes from March 3, 2025
- B. Approve submitted bills and bill sheets
- C. Approve employee reimbursements
- D. Approve Treasurer’s report

Roll call vote. All yeas. No nay. Motion carried.

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC

Mona Maas reported that the Village is now officially a Tree City.

May 3, 2025, is Arbor Day and Mona has numerous plants and shrubs to plant.

May 2, 2025, volunteers from Mount Pulaski High School with Mrs. Clark will have a Day of Service in the Village.

Mona has 2 young people interested in working with her at the Pollinator Habitat again this year.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Lyle has received a letter of support from the Logan County Board concerning the Coal Mine.

ATTORNEY

Attorney Behle sent a certified letter to a resident about an ordinance violation concerning dogs. The resident indicated that they would comply.

LIQUOR

No report.

TIF REPORT

No report.

SOLID WASTE

Logan County will sponsor a County Electronic Recycling Event April 21-25, 2025, in Lincoln.

LOCAL EVENTS LIAISON/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

No report.

WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT

There was a broken tile near The Talk of The Town and it has been repaired.
Water bills are back on schedule now.

STREETS/ALLEYS

Brett Aukamp from the Logan County Highway Department was contacted about the standing water in the ditches on Kennedy Road. Brett will do a sight check of the backed up water.

BUILDINGS/VILLAGE PROPERTIES/EQUIPMENT

No report.

VILLAGE PARK

Kyle will get the Port-A-Potty ordered from Applegate.
Travis will look into what kind of fish we need to order and get the order turned into Farm and Home.
We will also check on the prices of an aerator for the pond.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

No report.

FINANCE

Dave presented the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for passage.

OLD BUSINESS

We will drop the prices of the lots in Prairie Point to 8,000 and \$10,000. Lyle will let the realtor Bob Neil know.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Travis Moore, second by Ernie Shaw, to approve the Letter of Engagement with Phillips, Salmi, and Associates, LLC for the audit for the year ending April 30, 2025. Roll call vote. All yeas. No nay. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

None.

ORDINANCE

Motion by Dave Barker, second by Matt Fights to pass Ordinance 2025-01, An Ordinance for the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2025, Ending April 30, 2026. 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 Ernie Shaw, second by Travis Moore, to adjourn at 7:09 pm. Voice vote. All yeas. No nay. Motion carried.

Submitted By
Ann Curry
Village Clerk

*****Items for the newsletter MUST be turned into Sarah by 5:00 pm on the Wednesday following the Village Board Meeting. If they are not received by 5:00 pm, they will not be in the newsletter. *****

**Thank you!
Elkhart Village Board**

NEWSLETTER INFO

All material for the May 2025 newsletter should be turned in before

5:00 p.m. on May 7, 2025

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 April 16, 2025, at 11:30am at The Talk of The Town.

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



Elkhart Community

Senior's Bingo

(the over 55 crowd)

Sponsored by NAG

First Tuesday of each Month

2:00 pm

Village Hall





**NAG ANNUAL
PLANT SALE
JOINING WITH
NATIVE PLANT
SALE!**

Elkhart Village Hall

Friday May 2

10am-6pm

&

Saturday May 3

8am-12pm

NAG WILL HAVE A
VARIETY OF FLOWERS AND
PLANTS. PROCEEDS WILL
BENEFIT LIFELINES

NATIVE WILL HAVE 4
DIFFERENT SPECIES OF
MILKWEED AND 8 SPECIES
OF FLOWERING NATIVE
PLANTS. PROCEEDS WILL
FUND STUDENT HELP AT
OUR POLLINATOR HABITAT



we've got fun wrapped up!

Join us in ancient Egypt! You'll explore Pharaoh's palace, experience thrilling "real-life" dramas, play high-energy games, sample tasty snacks, and hear unforgettable music. Plus, you'll meet lots of new friends!

Location: Elkhart Christian Church - FCC Building

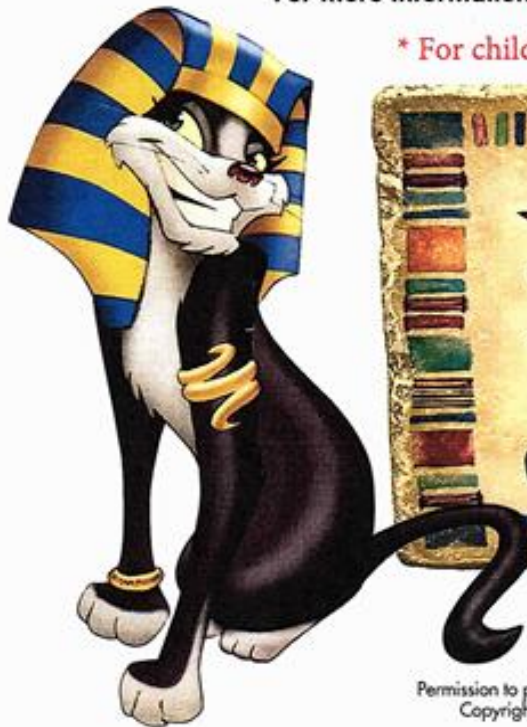
The adventure will last: June 2-6

Celebration begins at: 9:00 AM

The day's journey ends at: 11:30 AM

For more information, call: Kay Faucon 217-947-2747

* For children 4 years old to entering 6th Grade



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Elkhart Historical Society
Press Release

For Immediate Release
March 8, 2025

Perhaps Punxsutawney Phil was correct in his prediction for more winter, but soon that will give way to a gentler weather pattern. The beauty of spring wildflowers accompanies the bird songs of migrating flocks heading for their traditional nesting grounds and starts our spring lineup.



The Elkhart Historical Society is looking forward to offering guided wildflower walks on Elkhart Hill every Saturday in April starting April 5th with two walks a day at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., at a cost of \$15 per adult and \$10 per child. If you have a group of 10-20 you can arrange to have a private wildflower tour during the week or on Sunday afternoons in April. If scheduled on Tuesday-Friday, lunch can be included. Lunch can be reserved on the same form, at an additional cost for adults for \$12 and children (aged 10 and younger) for \$6. All tours leave from the Country Bumpkin at 103 Gov. Oglesby St., Elkhart, IL 62634.

On the morning of Saturday April 26, the Historical Society is fortunate to have Biology Professor Tony Rothering from LLCC demonstrate the banding of both migratory and local songbirds during special tours at 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The 2 p.m. tour will feature both flowers and birds with the help of our amazing birders, Dr. Lara Borgerson, Joe Funk, and Rhetta Jack.

Rothering is a federally permitted bander, who last year successfully recorded and released over 120 birds during his annual Elkhart Hill banding session. The event is done during the spring migration on Elkhart Hill, an incredibly biodiverse "island" (oasis) to the birds. Elkhart Hill measures approximately 600 acres of mature hardwoods but is surrounded primarily by monocultures of corn and soybeans fields, where very few hedge rows or groves of trees remain. For the many species of migrating warblers, Elkhart Hill offers a much-needed rest and refueling stop, on their journey north to breeding grounds in the upper Midwest and Canada. We are hopeful that some of these winged travelers will be among those banded on Saturday, April 26. You won't want to miss it. Rothering's work helps to catalog the changes in migration patterns caused, in part, by weather and loss of habitat.

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Elkhart, Illinois

March 24, 2025



The Elkhart Historical Society is excited to introduce Janet Roney as the featured speaker for our Friday, April 25th dinner lecture. Her presentation, "How Racoons Saved Illinois from Canada, and Other Frontier Tales", is guaranteed to either enlighten you, or refresh your memory of the formation of our great country. Hint, you may want to review the facts surrounding the Northwest Territory. Speaker Roney is a multi-faceted individual with a background steeped in history, farming, authoring a column, "Remembering Who We Are," for her local paper, the Sullivan News Progress. An accomplished artist as well, she traveled the Midwest art fair circuit for over thirty years. Her realistic and detailed watercolors, oils, and prints of the central Illinois prairie landscape are in many public and private collections. Her continuing interest is locating early trails of central Illinois and sharing the stories she finds along the way. Janet is a 1959 graduate of Sullivan High School and a 1963 graduate of the University of Illinois, with a degree in the teaching of history and social studies.

The cost per person is \$45, which includes the lecture and dinner featuring an entree choice of Baked Chicken or Pork Loin with gravy. For a complete menu and reservation form, please see the website: www.elkharthistoricalsociety.org.

Reservations are required and must be made by calling 217-947-2238. The deadline for reservations is April 18. Please leave a message and you will be called back to confirm your reservation. Once confirmed, checks should be mailed within 5 business days to The Elkhart Historical Society at P.O. Box 255, Elkhart, IL, 63634 or dropped off at the Country Bumpkin Shop at 103 Gov. Oglesby St., Elkhart, IL Weds-Sun 10 a.m-3 p.m. The venue for the event is the Elkhart Christian Church's Fellowship Community Center at 206 South Gillett St., in Elkhart, Illinois. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., and dinner is served promptly at 5:30 p.m.

ELKHART HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S DINNER LECTURE

FRIDAY APRIL 25, 2025, 5:30P

**"HOW RACCOONS SAVED ILLINOIS FROM CANADA, AND OTHER FRONTIER TALES" -
JANET RONEY**

Name _____ Address _____

Phone # _____ cell # _____ Email _____

This program will be presented at the Elkhart Christian Church Fellowship Community Center at 206 S. Gillett St, Elkhart, Illinois 62634. Doors open at 5p, and meal service starts at 5:30pm. We bundle it into an all-inclusive package price of \$45, which includes the meal, tax, and tip, and \$15 for the Elkhart Historical Society program.

Please make your selection:

White & Dark Meat baked Chicken _____ OR
Pork Loin w/brown gravy _____

Dessert choices: Cherry Cobbler _____ OR
 Sherbet _____

Both entrees are served with green beans with bacon & onions, scalloped potatoes, and roll with butter. Tea, water or coffee will be provided. You will **NOT** be able to bring alcohol to this event

Reservations are required as space is limited and can only be made by calling 217-947-2238 no later than April 18th- - 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- -Please park in the paved parking lot and come in the south doors. **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.

Elkhart Tree Advisory Committee Update

Our application for Arbor Day Tree City recognition has been approved and we are officially a **TREE CITY, USA!** 2nd *smallest* in the state of Illinois! 😊 We plan to celebrate Arbor Day on Saturday, May 3, 2025.

We will be at the Village Hall as we hold a Native Plant Sale **with** the NAGS! I will sell a supply of 4 different kinds of Milkweed + flowering Native Plants, and the NAGS will sell their wonderful hanging plants and forbs. **This will be a community fundraiser for *each* of us. I try to fund a salary for the Elkhart young people who will help at the “pollinator friendly activities” over the summer; the NAGS, as you know, fund the “life alerts” for local residents**.

Please stop in and see us, I hope you will incorporate native plants into your landscaping!

Species list of the Native Plants will be on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61565292692252>

 or reach me at justmona2@gmail.com → Thanks, from Mona and the Tree Advisory Committee

APRIL

ELKHART
PUBLIC
LIBRARY
DISTRICT



Join us for Children's Book Week May 5 - May 10



There's something fun for everyone!
Check out what we have planned below:

Pick up special coloring pages and share your art!
Show it in the library or let us post it to our
Facebook page, the choice is yours.

Finish a story that's been started for you, and see it
featured on our Facebook page! (If you're a little
shy and would like to use a Pen Name, that's okay.)

Come by the library to see the NEW BOOKS
we'll have JUST FOR YOU!

FRIDAY NIGHT MAY 9th - PLUSHIE PJ PARTY!

We'll have a good time, but the REAL fun will be for your favorite plushie who gets to
SPEND THE NIGHT IN THE LIBRARY! Come back Saturday morning to pick them up
and see how the sleepover went before you take them home.



Watch our Facebook page for more details!



Next Month

Stop by the library in May to see
the items we'll be highlighting
for May 15th -
National Armed Forces Day.



Coming this summer...

Keep an eye on the Echo and our
Facebook page, the fun is on the way!

June 18 - July 16
(Wednesdays)

Summer Reading Program 2025

July 31 (Thursday)
Butterfly Release Event



JOIN THE ELPD FACEBOOK PAGE
<https://www.facebook.com/elkhartpubliclibrarydistrict>