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Elm Grove, Wisconsin
53122-0906

262-782-6700
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WINTER NEWSLETTER 2006

**From Village President
Neil Palmer**

As 2006 draws to a close, we can all look back and recognize what a busy year it has been in the Village. The Village staff, volunteers, businesses and Village Board members have all worked very hard on a number of important projects. Thank you all for your efforts.

After more than seven years of research, planning, public consultation and engineering, construction activities began in the Village Park last December on the flood control project. The most visible aspect of the work took place in the Village Park where additional floodwater storage was created. The extremely wet construction season delayed installation of some of the new landscape plantings and final paving until spring 2007. Although the park is still closed, residents who recently toured the redeveloped park were impressed with the expanded pond, new trail system, natural plantings, improved traffic flows and parking.

Construction of the underground floodwater bypass pipe has been behind schedule for some time now and the Village Board has been working hard to improve contractor performance. Residents interested in project specifics should visit Village Hall to review the details.

On November 28th, the Village Board approved the 2007 Village Budget. Finance Committee Chairman George Haas and committee members did a great job maintaining our high standard of Village services while still meeting the 2% levy limit imposed by the State. Our operating budget increased a total of \$106,509 (1.74%). The total levy, including TIF, will be \$6,258,159. Increases in fuel, health insurance, wages and benefits drove most of the increase.

Efforts to obtain a clean and reliable municipal water supply for the Village business area continued with ongoing negotiations with the City of Wauwatosa water utility. We anticipate being able to provide updated engineering and financial information to landowners along the downtown loop around the end of the year.

I continue to believe that obtaining a clean and reliable source of water is critical for the future of Elm Grove. A municipal water supply will improve fire protection, enhance the ability to economically renovate Village business properties, minimize water based health concerns and end resident concerns about the odor, taste and corrosive impacts of ground water sources.

The recently completed Comprehensive Plan opinion survey provided helpful information about resident opinions, concerns and suggestions for Village services and plans. Highlights included strong support for municipal water downtown, an expanded and improved pathway system, interest in expanded downtown shopping opportunities and traffic concerns. The Village Board will use this information to help establish future priorities.

I wish you a joyous Christmas and hope we all find the time to enjoy the company of family and friends.

Elm Grove Village Hall Holiday Hours and Tax Collecting Information

Village Hall will be closed Friday, December 22, 2006 and Monday, December 25, 2006

and Monday, January 1, 2007

Office Hours - Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Taxes Due January 31, 2007— The first installment for property taxes is due by January 31, 2007. Personal Property taxes and special assessments must be paid in full by January 31, 2007. Taxes cannot be paid at the Village Hall after January 31, 2007. Any postponed or delinquent taxes paid after this date must be paid to the County Treasurer in Waukesha at 1320 Pewaukee Road, Waukesha, WI 53188-2484. **We are not able to accept Credit Cards.**

Pay by Mail— If you pay by mail please include the top portion of you bill along with your tax key number on your check (EGV#) . To receive a receipt, include a stamped self-addressed return envelope with your payment.

Drop Box— The Drop box is located at the main entrance to the Village Hall and checked on a daily basis.

Mortgage Escrow—If your taxes are in a mortgage escrow account, please send your tax bill to your mortgage holder as they will NOT receive a copy from the Village

Please Note: If you would like to pay your taxes on or before Sunday, December 31, 2006, you have three options:

- Pay them in person at the Village Hall on Thursday, December 29, 2006
- Put them in the drop box on or before Sunday, December 31, 2006



SNOW REMOVAL REQUIREMENTS EFFECTIVE

In March of 2005 the Village Board of Trustees enacted an ordinance requiring property owners to remove snow from adjacent sidewalks. For the most part this ordinance affects downtown business owners. All impacted property owners and business tenants received written notice of the ordinance's adoption in April of 2005.

Section 243-14 of the snow removal ordinance states that "The Village shall annually notify, through publication, all owners or persons in possession of property identified on the Snow Removal Property Inventory, as referenced in § 243-13, to keep such sidewalks free from snow and ice and to remove the same within 24 hours after every fall or accumulation of snow or ice.

Said notice shall further provide that if the owner or person in possession fails to remove the snow or ice within 24 hours of the falling or accumulation thereof, that the Village may cause said snow or ice to be removed and charge the cost to the abutting property."

This article is meant to inform both property owners and business tenants of Village requirements related to the removal of snow on sidewalks. The entire ordinance can be downloaded from the Village's website at www.elmgrovewi.org by clicking on the "Code of Ordinances On-Line" link. The ordinance is located under Article IV – Snow and Ice Removal.

2007 - 2008 Elm Grove Directory Changes Corrections Additions

Production of the Elm Grove Directory for 2007- 2008 is underway. The Elm Grove Woman's Club has produced this community telephone book as a service project for the residents of Elm Grove since 1943.

Now, **we** need your help! During the two years between printings, many businesses change, residents move, names and telephone numbers change, children's numbers are added or removed, a wife's name needs to be added or maybe your listing was misprinted in the last directory. We want to be as accurate as possible and that means we need your input now to make it happen.

Please use this form to make your necessary additions or changes and mail to the address listed below by December 31, 2006. If you would like to place an ad in our Directory, please check the box below and someone will contact you. Thank you

I wish to : Place an ad in the directory Correct a listing
 Add a new listing Delete a listing

PLEASE PRINT

Current/New Listing:

Last Name

First

Address

Phone #

Corrected Listing:

Last Name

First

Address

Phone #

Please mail changes to:
Elm Grove Woman's Club

or email:
directory@egwc.org

C/O Elm Grove Directory Census
P. O. Box 203
Elm Grove, WI 53122

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Do you have a question to ask your Village Trustees?

Well your elected officials are only a few keystrokes away. They are now available by e-mail. Write and express your questions or concerns. Your Village Officials are here to serve you.

Village President.....	Neil Palmer	npalmer@elmgrovewi.org
Village Trustees	Andrew Azpell	aazpell@elmgrovewi.org
.....	Tim Clark	tclark@elmgrovewi.org
.....	Rick Fronberry	rfronberry@elmgrovewi.org
.....	George Haas	ghaas@elmgrovewi.org
.....	Jan Schoenecker	jschoenecker@elmgrovewi.org
.....	Christi Torkelson	ctorkelson@elmgrovewi.org

Village Manager	David De Angelis
Village Clerk	Mary Stredni
Zoning Administrator.....	Austin Eich
Village Assessor	Gerald Bailey
Fire Chief	William Selzer
Police Chief	James Gage
Library Director	Sheila O'Brien
Recreation Director	Amy Mitchell
Public Works Director.....	Mike Flaherty
EMS Director	Jon Robinson



"Lights of Love" Fund Drive Underway to Benefit Elm Grove Library

There is still time to make your donations to the 12th Annual "Lights of Love" Fund Drive sponsored by the Friends of the Elm Grove Library, Inc. Donor forms can be picked up at the Elm Grove Library, at area schools and at a variety of local businesses.

This year, proceeds of the 12th Annual "Lights of Love" Fund Drive will be used to enhance the Elm Grove Library's collection of adult and juvenile books, paperbacks, and reference titles; DVDs both educational and entertainment; music CDs and MP3s. "This fund raising goal is so important. It will truly benefit many library users!" says Pat Ruttum, president of the Elm Grove Library Board.

So donate to "Lights of Love" and help your library grow! Donations to "Lights of Love" can be given for a variety of reasons. "It is a great way to show someone that you care; and at the same time, it helps the Elm Grove Li-

LOOKING FOR FIRE SERVICE VOLUNTEERS



We are currently looking for residents over the age of 18, who would like to serve their community by becoming a member of the Elm Grove Volunteer Fire Department. This past year the department celebrated 50 years of service to the Village. Over these past 50 years our members have given freely of their time and labor in order to provide fire protection to their neighbors and our business community. In order to maintain desired staffing levels we must continually look for new members to replace those retiring or moving out of the area.

If you are interested in learning the latest fire service life saving techniques and skills; then consider joining the Elm Grove Volunteer Fire Department, an organization with a high level of pride for serving others. Call us at 782-6700 ext 251 or stop by any Tuesday evening between 7:00—9:00 pm and learn more about your department and volunteers

Thank you for your continued support over these past 50 years



PROTECT YOURSELF FROM IDENTITY THEFT!

Identity Theft is on the rise in Elm Grove. Here are some tips that will help you protect yourself:

Identity Theft occurs when someone wrongfully uses your personal identification to obtain credit, loans, services, even rentals and mortgages in your name. They may even commit crimes while impersonating you!

Identity Theft is a frightening and overwhelming experience if it does happen to you. You may not know it is happening for months or years!

PREVENTION:

1. Buy a cross-cut type shredder (you can purchase cross-cut type shredder very cost effectively for approximately \$60 - \$70.) Shred all your important papers and especially pre-approved credit applications received in your name and other financial information that provides access to your private information. Don't forget to shred your credit card receipts.
2. Be careful of "Dumpster Diving." Make sure that you do not throw anything away that someone could use to become you. Anything with your identifiers must be shredded (cross-cut) before throwing away.
3. Be careful at ATM's and using Phone Cards. "Shoulder Surfers" can get your "Pin Number" and get access to your accounts.
4. Get all of your checks delivered to your bank - not to your home address.
5. Do not put checks in the mail from your home mailbox. Drop them off at a U.S. Mailbox or the U.S. Post Office. Mail theft is common. It's easy to change the name of the recipient on the check with an acid wash.
6. When you order new credit cards in the mail, or your previous ones have expired, watch the calendar to make sure that you get the card within the appropriate time. If it is not received by a certain date, call the credit card grantor immediately and find out if the card was sent. Find out if a change of address was filed if you don't receive the card or a billing statement.
7. Cancel all credit cards that you do not use or have not used in 6 months. Thieves use these very easily - open credit is a prime target.
8. Put passwords on all your accounts and do not use your mother's maiden name. Make up a fictitious word.
9. Get a post office box or a locked mailbox, if you possibly can.
10. Ask all financial institutions, doctors' offices, etc., what they do with your private information and make sure that they shred it and protect your information. Tell them why.
11. Empty your wallet of all extra credit cards and social security numbers, etc. Do not carry any identifiers you do not need. Don't carry your birth certificate, social security card, or passport, unless necessary.
12. Memorize social security numbers and passwords.
13. When a person calls you at home or at work, and you do not know this person, never give out any of your personal information. If they tell you they are a credit grantor of yours call them back at the number that you know is the true number, and ask for that party to discuss personal information. Provide only information that you believe is absolutely necessary.

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM IDENTITY THEFT! (continued)

14. Do not put your social security number on your checks or your credit receipts. If a business requests your social security number, give them an alternate number and tell them why. They do not need that to identify you. If a government agency requests your social security number, there must be a privacy notice accompanying the request.
15. Do not put your telephone number on your checks.
16. Get credit cards and business cards with your picture on them.
17. Do not put your credit card account number on the Internet (unless it is encrypted on a secured site.) Don't put account numbers on the outside of envelopes, or on your checks.
18. When you are asked to identify yourself at schools, employers, or any other kind of institutional identification, ask to have an alternative to your social security number. Unfortunately, your health insurance carrier often uses your social security number as your identification number. Try to change that if you can.
19. In conjunction with a credit card sale do not put your address, telephone number, or driver's license number on the statement.
20. Monitor all your bank statements from every credit card every month. Check to see if there is anything that you do not recognize and call the credit grantor to verify that it is truly yours.
21. Order your credit report at least twice a year (I have enclosed the addresses for you on the sample letter.) Review it carefully. If you see anything that appears fraudulent, immediately put a fraud alert on your reports by calling the numbers below.
22. Immediately correct all mistakes on your credit reports in writing. Send those letters Return Receipt Requested, and identify the problems item by item with a copy of the credit report back to the credit reporting agency. You should hear from them within 30 days.
23. Take your name off all promotional lists. Call the three credit reporting agency numbers to opt out of pre-approved offers.

Experian: (888) 567-8688
Equifax: (888) 567-8688
TransUnion: (888) 567-8688

24. Write to the following to get off promotional lists:

Direct Marketing Association
Mail Preference Service
P. O. Box 9008
Farmingdale, NY 11735

Direct Marketing Association
Telephone Preference Service
P.O. Box 9014
Farmingdale, NY 11735

25. Make a list of all your credit card account numbers and bank account numbers (or photocopy) with customer service phone numbers, and keep it in a safe place. (Do not keep it on the hard drive of your computer if you are connected to the Internet.)

For free information and ordering www.identitytheft.org

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

In the past few years, the recreation department has been expanding its off-season programs. These programs are outlined in the 2006-2007 Fall/Winter/Spring Activity Guide that was mailed to all of the residents in mid-August. Did you lose or misplace your Activity Guide? You can also pick up a Guide at the Elm Grove Village Hall, Library, or check out the programs on the Village website, www.elmgrovetwi.org.

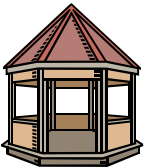
In addition to the programs listed in the Fall/Winter/Spring Activity Guide, many new programs and new sessions of the popular fall programs have been planned for the winter/spring season. Please refer to the insert in this newsletter to check out the new classes. The exciting new classes include a Valentine's Dance, fitness classes, CPR classes, computer classes, organizing classes, plus many more. There are programs for all age groups and interests!

Registration for these programs is ongoing. You can mail in the registration form (found in the Recreation insert of this newsletter) to 13600 Juneau Blvd, Elm Grove, WI 53122, drop the form off in the drop box located outside of the main Village Hall doors, or stop in Monday – Friday between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

If you have any questions about the programs, please feel free to contact Amy Mitchell at (262) 782-6700 or at amitchell@elmgrovetwi.org

Picnic and Pool Reservations

After the long anticipated wait for the park to reopen, gazebo reservations will be available beginning June 9, 2007. A non-refundable fee is required for each area being reserved. Area #1 is the Gazebo area which is \$105 for up to 75 people and \$165 for up to 150 people. Area #2 is the picnic area located on the south end of the park with the new, smaller gazebo and includes a barbecue grill for a \$50 rental fee with a maximum capacity of 150 people. Both gazebos include a barbecue grill.



The pool is available for private pool parties Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. The pool rental fee is \$225 with a maximum capacity of 150 people.

Reservations are taken on a first come, first served basis at Village Hall. An application for beer and wine cooler permits must be filled out if either will be consumed in the park or pool. Reservations may be made as early as January 2, 2007.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP

Once again the Public Works Department will be picking up Christmas trees through February 2, 2007. We ask that all lights be removed from the trees. Please place the trees at the end of your driveway.

SNOW REMOVAL

As in past winters the Public Works department will do its best to give the residents and the driving public the safest driving conditions possible. The Department of Public Works is asking your cooperation in removal of driveway snow. Please do not blow snow into the street and if a private contractor must plow snow out of your driveway, they must clean up the street.

SNOW EMERGENCY

Remember there is NO PARKING on any Village street during snow emergencies. For information on snow emergencies, tune your radio to one of the local stations.

FIRE HYDRANTS

If you have a fire hydrant in front of your property it would be to your advantage to keep a path cleared to the hydrant.

DPW WINTER HOURS

The DPW yard will be closed on Saturdays beginning January 13, 2007. We will reopen on Saturday, March 31, 2007. The DPW yard will however continue to be open to residents for brush Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

SEWER PROBLEMS???

If you experience sewer problems or backup at your residence notify the Village immediately so we can have the Department of Public Works check the street sewer. The telephone number is 262-782-6700

Join The **RECYCLE MORE** Challenge

The 25 communities that are part of the County's Recycling Program are competing to increase their recycling rates. The goal is to increase tons recycled by 5% (or more) within the next year. Why? Well, by increasing recycling, we can help our community increase the rebates received from the County Recycling Program, and keep taxes down. At the same time, we're reducing the amount of trash that we pay to have buried in the landfill.



So...Elm Grove residents, are you up to the challenge?

You may be thinking "Gee, I already recycle everything they list on the Household Recycle Guide – what more could I do?" Well, you might be surprised. First, when did you last check that guide? Some new items have been added in the past year: Box-board, for example. That's the type of boxes for things like cereal, snacks, rice, tea bags, facial tissues, paper egg cartons, etc. You'd be amazed at how many of these clean boxes we empty in our homes everyday! (No boxes with food on them, such as pizza, please!)

That's only one example. To be sure you're putting ALL acceptable items in your blue recycling bin, please look at the updated guide on our **Village website** or go to www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling and click on "What do I recycle?"

Another possible way to increase your recycling is: When you're out and about and there's no recycling bin nearby for that empty plastic water or soda bottle, take it home with you. The same goes for aluminum cans, newspapers, magazines, etc. Don't feed the garbage can / landfill! Give those items a new life by saving them for your household recycling bin.

You will be seeing and hearing more about the **RECYCLE MORE** Challenge in the near future. There will even be a prize for the winning community that can be used by all residents.

Come on, Elm Grove! Get ready...get set...get going to increase recycling!

All of us at the Elm Grove Police Department hope that you and your family have a safe and enjoyable Holiday Season. Please take advantage of the following tips to protect your family and property throughout the New Year. Remember, drink responsibly and drive safely.

Holiday Crime Prevention Tips While Shopping:

STAY ALERT! Be tuned-in to your surroundings; don't be taken by surprise. Be aware and prepared, even in your own neighborhood.

STAND TALL! Walk confidently, don't show fear, and don't look like a victim.

TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS! If you feel uncomfortable in a place or situation, leave right away and get help if necessary.

- **Stay alert to your surroundings and the people around you.**
- Shop with a friend, there is safety in numbers.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Pay for purchases with a check, credit or debit card.
- If possible, carry only your driver's license, personal checks, or necessary credit or debit cards.
- If you must carry a purse, do not wrap the straps around your arms or shoulders. Carry a clutch purse tightly under your arm or wear a fanny pack.
- Do not carry a wallet in a back pocket. It should be placed in a front pocket of your pants for safety.
- Be alert that crooks look for the "high dollar" shopping bags with your purchases. When possible, slip bags/purchases in a plain nondescript bag.
- Watch purchases while eating in mall food courts; bags can easily be switched or taken.
- Educate your children about what to do if they are lost as well as "Stranger Danger".
- Don't overburden yourself with too many packages. Use store's package pick-up.
- Have your car keys ready in hand before leaving the store.
If you do return to your vehicle to unload purchases, place them in the trunk of the vehicle.
- Try not to shop until the store closes. Remember, fewer people are present at this time.



ELM GROVE PUBLIC LIBRARY



E-mail Notification now available at the Library

Would you like to receive an e-mail notification when your books are about to become due? Prefer to receive an e-mail rather than a phone call when your requested item arrives? Would you enjoy receiving an e-mail newsletter from the library containing information about upcoming events and new titles purchased by the library? Starting January 1, 2007 you will be able to do so. Come to the Library Information Desk to sign up for this service.

New ADOPT-A-SHELF Volunteer program at the Library

The Library needs your help. We are looking for volunteers who would like to "Adopt-a-shelf". Perhaps you are an avid cook and enjoy looking at cookbooks, or a gardener, or a retired businessman. We will assign you an area of interest to you. Several hours a month, at a time convenient to you, you would come in to the Library and scan the call numbers on your shelves to be sure the books are in correct call number order. All necessary training will be provided. You would also dust and tidy the materials there. In the process of caring for your adopted shelf, you get to enjoy looking at all the books in your favorite subject area, and offer a valuable service to your community's readers. Please call the Library if you would like more information.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING:

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME: Stories, rhymes, crafts for children ages 3-5 years old. Thursday December 7, 14; January 11, 18, 25; February 1, 8, 15; March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; April 19, 26; May 3, 10. Story time runs Thursday mornings 11:00-11:30 A.M.

TODDLER PLAY GROUP: Thursday mornings 10:00 – 10:30 AM. Enjoy play time with special toys and interaction with other toddlers and their caregivers. Program runs December – May. Call the Library for exact dates.

MORNING COFFEE BREAK: Stories and activities for children ages 3-5 years. Siblings welcome. Refreshments for children and adults are served. Come in and share a cup of coffee and meet some new parents while the children enjoy a story. Fridays December 1,8, 15; January 12,19, 26; February 2,9,16; March 2,9,16,23,30; April 20,27; May 4,11. This program runs from 10:30-11:00 A.M. on Friday mornings.

SIGNING WITH YOUR BABY with Tricia Condon

This program is for children birth to 3 years with a caregiver. It is designed to teach you to communicate with your child using sign language. Thursday, December 21 from 10:00-10:30 A.M.

Please call the library to register for children's' programs.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

The Art of Skiing: Vintage Posters from the Golden Age of Winter Sport "

Bejewelled by Tiffany by Clare Phillips

Biedermeier: the Invention of Simplicity by Hans Ottomeyer

Biedermeier by Angus Wilkie

The Essence of Chocolate: recipes for baking and cooking with fine chocolate by John Scharffengerger

Jewish Cooking for All Seasons: Fresh, Flavorful Kosher Recipes for Holidays and Every Day by Laura Frankel

Perfect Tables: Tabletop Secrets, Settings and Centerpieces for Delicious Dining by William Yeoward

A Photographer's Life by Annie Leibovitz

Sober Celebrations: Lively Entertaining Without the Spirits by Liz Scott

The Best Investment Advice I Ever Received by Liz Claman.

The Conservative Soul: How We Lost It, How to Get It Back by Andrew Sullivan

Jane Goodall: the Woman Who Redefined Man by Dale Peterson

Please visit us on the web at www.elmgrovelibrary.org to place some of these new titles on hold, or call us at (262) 782-6717.

ELM GROVE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
STATEMENT REGARDING
THE LIBRARY GOVERNANCE REPORT
FINAL PHASE

Library consultants Himmel & Wilson presented their final report in October and it was accepted by the Waukesha County Cooperation Council. In the report they state:

“We have determined that all residents in Waukesha County have access to high quality library services. Although there is some unevenness in the quality of library services that are provided by the sixteen public libraries in the County, several of the public libraries in the County are truly exemplary and most are above average when compared to other public libraries throughout the United States.”

Basically, the study found that the current Waukesha County Federated Library System operates efficiently and well, and in a cost effective manner. Elm Grove Public Library, rated third in the County according to the Hennen American Public Library Rating, was one of the libraries mentioned as being well used and vigorous. Their findings show that every alternative they explored would be more costly than this system. You can read the complete report by going to: <http://www.wcfls.lib.wi.us>. Look at the top of the page for Library Governance Option Committee.

The Act 150 Committee affirmed the autonomy of each library, the continuance of the federated system, lifted the ban on new library construction, and rejected the proposal called The Open Door Plan. The Elm Grove Library Board supports the Act 150 Committee recommendations.

We encourage library patrons to let Tom Schellinger, our County Board Supervisor, know they support maintaining the current library structure.

We want to thank everyone who came forward to study this issue, speak up, write letters, and attend meetings. Your actions were instrumental in showing how important Elm Grove Public Library is to our community.

Patricia Ruttum, Library Board President

Board Members: Ken Chandler	Christi Torkelson
Carol Delind	Jill Varick
Kelly Kluck	Mary Weller

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