

Elizabeth

The heart of Jo Daviess County

Special points of interest:

- **Christmas in Elizabeth**
- **Library Survey**
- **Mapping Thanks Sponsors**
- **Winter Ordinance update**



Village of Elizabeth Newsletter

Michael Dittmar, President

Christmas in Elizabeth, Mapping Update, and Roof Update

It is with great sadness and regret that the Village announces that employee Jeff Spoerl has moved on to a better position with Woodbine Township. We want to thank Jeff for all of his work and dedication to the Village. He will be missed!

The Village's Mapping (the Future) Program through Western Illinois University is almost finished. So far it has exceeded my wishes. Turnout was great as one meeting had almost 70 people, which is about 1/10th of our population. Five committees were formed; Tourism, Recreation, Retail, Festivals, and Economic Development. In December, we will be meeting for the last time. In February, we will be unveiling our goals to the public in a big town meeting where the entire community will be invited. More details will be coming!

If you have been driving by the New Village Hall, you can see that the roof is almost finished (might be done by the time this is printed). Things went quite well. Freeport Industrial Roofing did a great job! The Recreation Mapping Committee has been working on painting

the gym, getting the locker rooms open, and raising money to get new backboards. Hopefully, the gym will be open soon for everyone's use this winter.

December 5th, 6th and December 7th will be the Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce's *Christmas in Elizabeth*. This year the Chamber is trying something new...being open on Friday night as well as, all day Saturday. The Tourism Mapping Committee organized the purchase of new Christmas decorations for Main Street in Elizabeth. Also, they repainted the old ones, added new lights and a bow making them look great. Special thanks to Lara, Cory and Jo Carroll Energy for all their hard work! The goal is to have Main Street on Friday the 6th, beautifully lit at night to put all of us in the Christmas spirit. Festivities will start that night with an official lighting of the Village Christmas tree, near the circle parking lot, at 6:00 p.m. We'll sing some Christmas Carols and hopefully, everyone will then go eat and shop uptown. Rumor has it that both Mrs. Claus and Santa himself will be making a stop in Elizabeth

on Saturday at 1:00 at the Train Depot. Please bring the kids! Finally, many of the downtown businesses will be having great sales. There will be food in the Old Elizabeth Market and a mini-craft fair in the Elizabeth Garage. Please try to shop local as much as possible. We hope to see you out and about!

As many of you know the Village has a Facebook page and a web-page. The Facebook page has over 421 likes and is a great way to get your events out to the people of Elizabeth. Please remember that if you or an organization (church) is having an event (turkey dinner, garage sale, pancake supper, or anything else), please feel free to inform me and I can get it to all 421 people at the click of a button.

Lastly, I want to thank all of the people that are dedicating their time and energy to the Mapping project and other organizations that make Elizabeth a great place to live. I hope you all have a Merry Christmas!

Michael Dittmar

Village, President



The Library Board is considering moving the library to the Village Hall campus.



Public Works Report

Our new 1 ton dump truck has arrived. You should see it around town this winter. This one is white, to match our other truck. Our last truck was a regular gas truck. We thought we could save money by getting regular gas over diesel, but it proved to not have enough torque, so we went back to a diesel. Also, because we want this truck to last 10 years, we bought a stainless steel dump

bed for it. In talking with the county, their stainless steel beds are over 10 years old and still look brand new. We hope to get our additional investment out of it paid back in time.

Don't forget that officially one-way parking on Catlin has started. This helps us greatly in plowing, so thank you for your consideration.

Lastly, we have noticed recently

that the public garbage cans on Main Street have been used for personal use. In fact, one garbage can was ringed by several garbage cans from the upstairs apartment. Please contact Montgomery Trucking or the Village Public Works department to find out where to place your personal garbage.

Ron "Bommer" Temperly

Library Considering Moving?

The Library Board is considering moving the library to the Village Hall campus (the new part of the old school). This could provide more room and defined areas for children's programming, computer stations, work areas, community displays, and of course books! There would also be more parking and easier access to the building available for our patrons.

As we investigate the financial and logistic details, we would first like to know if this move is of interest to our patrons.

Please take a moment to tell us how you feel about this possibility by January 1, 2014. Stop by the library to fill out a quick survey or email us your thoughts at elt61028@gmail.com. We will respond to any questions via

our website after each board meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

The Elizabeth Township Public Library Board

Elizabeth Mapping Participants Thanks Sponsors!

Dear Mapping Sponsor:
The Village of Elizabeth MAPPING participants would like to say thank you to our generous sponsors. The following businesses, organizations and individuals sponsored the MAPPING program's five planning sessions:
The Village of Elizabeth
The Elizabeth Community Fair Board

Jo Carroll Energy
The Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce
Apple River State Bank
Elizabeth Banking Center/Galena State Bank
The Welcome Inn
Jug's Main Street Tap
Shark's Roadhouse
E-Town Coffee

Holy Mackerel
Dittmar Farms
The Clothes Bin
Three Sisters Guest House and Sweets
Codie Geisz
Robert Dittmar Country Companies Insurance
Common Cents Resale

The MAPPING program is a participant driven strategic visioning and planning process whereby local leaders and citizen volunteers create a long-range vision for the future of our community and a plan of action for achieving it. During the course of these five planning sessions, participants identified five high priority goals

for the community. We are in the process of developing an action plan for implementation, and are beginning to work on their goals and projects. In the near future we will organize a community-wide town meeting to share our ideas and projects and invite local participation. Thank you again for helping to make the MAPPING program a success to "Energize Elizabeth".
Village of Elizabeth MAPPING Participants

Mapping Steering Committee

Police Chief Report

With the start of winter, I would like to remind everyone to please not blow or shovel snow into the street from your driveways or sidewalks. This practice makes it that much harder for the Public Works Department to remove snow from the streets.

Please remember to shovel your sidewalks within 24 hours of a snowfall. Many people like to walk in the winter and use the sidewalks. I receive several complaints per year about sidewalks not being shoveled. Also, the Village requires, by ordi-

nance, vehicles parked on the street must be moved every 24 hours. This is not an issue in the summer, however, in the winter, cars must be moved in order to assist public works with snow removal.

Additionally, I would like to remind everyone to allow for extra distance between vehicles while driving on winter roads. Winter presents unique challenges to motorists. Simply put, when travel is not advised, stay home unless it is an emer-

gency. Have an emergency kit in the car that contains blankets, a snow shovel, food and extra clothing if you are out and become stranded. Make sure your cell phone is completely charged up before leaving the house.

Finally, I wish all Village residents a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Scott Toot – Chief of Police



'Tis the Season

The Village of Elizabeth will be coming to life with the visit of Santa Claus and churches ready to celebrate the holiday season. We encourage all residents, families and friends to come to *Christmas in Elizabeth*. The Elizabeth Area Chamber of Commerce and the Village of Elizabeth is excited to see people participating in this joyous event.

The Village of Elizabeth and the Chamber are extremely grateful for so many things. This year, the Village was able to purchase new holiday decorations along with refurbishing some of the older ones. The shopkeepers and museums have been busy preparing for this festive season by decking out their businesses. This year *Christmas in Elizabeth* will kick-off on Thursday, De-

cember 5th with store and residential decorating competition. Friday evening the shops will be open late until 9:00 p.m. Lighting of the Village Christmas tree and carolers will begin at 6:00 p.m. the same evening. On Saturday, December 7th, at 1:00 p.m., Mrs. Claus will be at the Elizabeth Township Library and Santa will be at the Railway Depot. For more detailed information for all events, please check out the Village of Elizabeth's Facebook page, the Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce website www.elizabeth-il.org or the businesses will have a schedule of events posted in their windows.

The Elizabeth Area Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the Village of Elizabeth, the Elizabeth Lion's Club, the Elizabeth Township Library, the River Ridge School District 210, the Vil-

lage museums, the Elizabeth Community Band, and all the volunteers for all of their help. As Chamber President and our Board of Directors, we personally would like to thank the community for giving us the opportunity and resources in making our town a safe and rejuvenated village.

Season's Greetings and safe travel during the holiday season!

Diane Sipiera
Elizabeth Chamber President

See Village Web-site or Facebook page for a schedule of events.



**Christmas in Elizabeth
December 5th-7th**



The Village of Elizabeth

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Mike's E-mail: mikedittmar210@yahoo.com

We're on the Web!

(Village Municipal web-page) <http://villageofelizabeth.pbworks.com>
(Relocation web-page) <http://www.riverridge210.org/welcome/Elizabeth.html>
Facebook—Village of Elizabeth, Illinois

The Village Board of Elizabeth published this newsletter in an effort to better communicate with the residents of the Village of Elizabeth. We intend to continue a tri-annual newsletter and will do our best to keep it up to date. The Village welcomes any organization that would like to use the newsletter or the Village websites to help advertise/communicate local events. Please contact Michael Dittmar or the Village Hall at 815-858-3911 if interested.

*Sincerely,
The Village Board of Elizabeth*

Upcoming Dates and Community Events

**Christmas
In
Elizabeth
Dec 5th,
6th and
Dec 7th!**

**Place your
Event
Notice
Here**

Upcoming Village Meetings

- December 3rd—Public Works Committee meeting 7:00
- December 4th—Public Works Committee meeting 7:00
- December 9th Mapping Meeting
- December 11th—Truth in Taxation hearing 6:40-6:55.
- December 11th—Special Board meeting to approve tax levy 7:00
- December 18th—Regular Board Meeting 7:00
- January 7th—Public Works Committee Meeting 4:30
- January 8th—Administration Committee Meeting 7:00

- January 22nd—Regular Board Meeting 7:00
- January 23rd—Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Meeting TBA
- February 4th—Public Works Committee Meeting—4:30
- February 5th—Administrative Committee Meeting—7:00
- February 19th—Regular Board Meeting 7:00
- February 26th—Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting.