



# Elmwood Park UPDATE

*A Publication of the Borough of Elmwood Park*

Volume 1 – August 2018

## Shop Rite Coming to Elmwood Park

Shop Rite will soon begin construction on the site of the K-Mart on Broadway in Elmwood Park. The new 64,000 square foot store will be a great addition to the business district along the Route 4 corridor.



"The addition of Shop Rite on Broadway will not only bring new customers to their store, but will also encourage patrons to support the surrounding businesses as well. Shop Rite is a leading grocery retailer and we welcome them to Elmwood Park and wish

them much success," said Mayor Francesco A. Caramagna.

K-Mart will be closing sometime in early August.

## Veteran's Memorial Will See Upgrades for Memorial Day Street Signs for Killed In Action Hero's Being Added As Well

The Mayor and Council are finalizing plans for the re-design of Veteran's Memorial on Market Street near Borough Field. Last year, the Council formed a committee to work with the Borough Engineer to make improvements to the memorial and ensure it remains in an appropriate condition respecting those from East Paterson/Elmwood Park who made the ultimate sacrifice. The project is expected to be completed by Memorial Day.

In addition to the changes to the Veteran's War Memorial, current and former Elmwood Park residents have attended recent Council meetings and requested that memorial streets signs be added in the Borough honoring each of the Killed in Action military service members from our community. The Mayor and Council are supportive of the initiative and are working with the group to establish a plan for this program.

"It is important that we keep the memories of these fallen hero's alive. Both the Veteran's Memorial project and the street signs will be fitting tributes to these individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice," observed Councilman Anthony Chirido.

**Francesco A. Caramagna**  
*Mayor*

**Daniel Golabek**  
*Council President*

**Sandra Balistrieri**  
**Anthony Chirido**  
**Joseph Dombrowski**  
**Magdalena Giandomenico**  
**Lorraine Pellegrine**  
*Council Members*

## **Upcoming Council Meetings:**

**Work Sessions:**  
**September 6 & 13,**  
**October 4 & 11**

**Regular Meetings:**  
**August 21,**  
**September 20,**  
**October 18**

**Work meetings begin at 7:00 pm**  
**in Caucus Room of the**  
**Municipal Building**

**Public meetings begin at 8:00 pm**  
**in Council Chambers of the**  
**Municipal Building**

Keith Kazmark, RMC/CMC/MMC  
Office of the Borough Clerk  
Borough of Elmwood Park  
182 Market Street  
Elmwood Park, NJ 07407

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## AN UPDATE FROM THE ELMWOOD PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT



### SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

#### *New Stop Signs at Elm Street, Speidel Avenue*

Several months ago the EPPD Traffic Division began a study to improve safety on the heavily populated streets where there are multi-family homes and additional cars parked on the streets making it more congested and sometimes difficult to navigate these types of intersections. Special attention was paid to areas leading up to Elmwood Park Memorial High School/Middle School and Gilbert Avenue Elementary School. After conducting a study the Traffic Division recommended that all-way stop streets be implemented on Elm Street and Speidel Avenue. Both of these roads are main arteries that feed the schools mentioned above. These roads handle a large volume of traffic in the morning for school drop off and afternoon pick up, especially since the elimination of courtesy busing.

#### *Additional School Safety Officers Hired*

The Elmwood Park Police Department and the Board of Education have added two additional School Security Officers under a shared services agreement for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year. Both officers are recently retired police officers and were added in May to allow for training and acclimation to the district. The officers have already been assigned to their respective schools for September. They join three other School Security Officers that have been in place for the past few years, allowing us to have armed protection for each school daily during the school year.

#### *Police Offer Special Needs Registration Program*

The EPPD recently implemented a registry for special needs residents. The Department's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system allows officers to input warnings and notifications that alert responding officers any special circumstances as they respond to a call. This allows the Police Department to have a better understanding of any potential situation as they arrive on scene. The program coupled with training classes and seminars officers have been attending for police interactions with special needs individuals should significantly help all parties in these types of situations.

#### *EPPD Hosts Community Meet & Greet*

In April, the Police Department held its first annual Police/Community Meet and Greet. Officers from each division assembled in the Council Chambers and met and interacted with members of the public developing relationships and friendships as well as educating them as to different aspects of police functions. Residents were offered opportunities to sign up for home security assessments as well as speed surveys of their streets.

"I'm very proud of the relationship between the Mayor and Council and the Police Department. We work together to get the job done and all of these initiatives and programs are done to help the community," said Councilwoman Lorraine Pellegrine.

#### *Ambitious Road Re-Surfacing Planned for 2018*

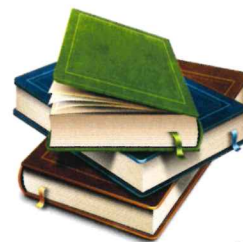
The Mayor and Council recently finalized the 2018 Road Re-Surfacing Program. Here are streets slated to be re-paved:

- East 54th St. (Main Ave. to Gilbert Ave.)
- East 54th St. (Paul Court to Gilbert Ave..)
- East 54th St.(18th St. to Broadway)
- Cadmus Ave. (Upper Fournier Crescent to Midland Ave.)
- Halstead Place (Entire Length)
- Augusta Place (Entire Length)
- Brookside Ave.(Market Street to Fencsak Ave.)
- Birchwood Dr. (E. Parkway to Hillman Drive)
- E. Parkway (Entire Length)
- Washington Ave. (Lincoln Ave. to Mola Blvd.)
- Elmwood Park Police Department Parking Lot

"Keeping up with our infrastructure is very important. We have roads that need to be addressed so vehicles can safely drive in our streets. The Council made the right decision to invest in re-paving our roads," stated Mayor Francesco A. Caramagna.

#### *Progress at the Public Library*

#### *Council & Library Board Plan for Construction*



The Mayor and Council also established the Joint Library Committee which is working closely now with the Library Board to plan for the renovations and improvements to the Public Library. A series of strategic planning meetings have been held with the committee and the Board to ensure the needs of the community are being addressed and that new technology be incorporated into the plan for our library.



## IMPORTANT CODE UPDATES FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT



Earlier this year, the State of New Jersey adopted new regulations which reduce the requirements for permits in one and two family detached dwellings. This relaxation of the rules now classifies some categories of work as ordinary maintenance. The classification of work as ordinary maintenance is not a waiver from code compliance; all work is required to meet code requirements, however, no permit is required and there are no inspections of the work.

The following items are types of work are now considered ordinary maintenance pursuant to the Uniform Construction Code:

**BUILDING: Finishes** – Painting (interior/exterior), wall papering, installation repair or replacement of interior finishes of less than 25 percent of the wall area of the dwelling, trim/molding (interior/exterior) and flooring material repair, replacement or installation, siding – For other than polypropylene siding, the repair or replacement of any amount of existing siding. **Non-structural components** – The repair or replacement of any non-structural component, such as a partition. **Roofing** – The repair or replacement (including total replacement) of any amount of existing roof covering on detached one- or two-family dwellings. **Windows/doors or glass** may be replaced in any window or door but the replacement glass must be of a type and quality that complies with the code; windows and doors (including garage doors) may be replaced in the same rough opening without altering the dimensions or framing; this includes means of egress elements (such as emergency escape openings) when dimensions and framing are not altered, and the height, width or net clear opening is maintained. Screens may be repaired, replaced or installed. **Cabinets** – Non-structural elements such as a cabinet may be repaired, replaced or installed. **Decks** – Any part of a deck, porch or stoop that does not provide structural support for any roof or portion of a building may be repaired or replaced. **Insulation** – The installation of insulation when installed adjacent to or not more than one and a half inches from an interior finish, except that the installation of foam plastic insulation requires a permit. **Gutters** – Exterior gutters and leaders may be repaired, replaced or installed. **Spas/Hot Tubs** – Storable spas and hot tubs may be installed when provided with a lockable safety cover.

**PLUMBING: Fixtures and fixture parts** – Fixtures may be replaced with a similar fixture provided that there no change in the piping arrangement, faucets and working parts of faucets may be replaced; existing fixtures may be refinished (relining fixtures is not ordinary maintenance). **Valves** – Hose bib valves may be replaced provided that an approved atmospheric vacuum breaker is provided valves and work parts of valves may be replaced including shower or combination bath/shower valves. **Ball cocks** may be replaced provided that an approved anti-siphon type is used. **Piping repair/replacement** – Piping may be replaced to repair a leak. **Appliance Replacements** Domestic clothes washers and

domestic dishwashers may be replaced. **Traps** including traps on culinary sinks may be replaced. **Drain cleaning** – Stoppages may be removed.

**ELECTRICAL: Receptacles, switches and outlets** – Receptacles, switches, or lighting fixtures that do not contain emergency battery packs, may be replaced with a similar item. However, receptacles in locations where ground-fault circuit interrupter protection, damp/wet, or tamper-resistant must comply with Section 406.4(D) of the electrical subcode. **Equipment** – Repairing any installed electrically operated equipment such as doorbells, communication systems, and any motor-operated device. **Communications Wiring** – Communications wiring may be installed. **Appliances** – Domestic dishwashers may be replaced. **Kitchen range hoods** – Kitchen range hoods may be replaced provided that the replacement hood exhaust rate does not exceed the exhaust rate of the existing hood or the exhaust rate of the replacement hood does not exceed 400 cfm. **Replacement of domestic appliances** – domestic clothes dryers may be replaced provided that no change in fuel type, pipe size, or location or electrical characteristics is required. Domestic stoves and domestic ovens may be replaced provided no change in fuel type, pipe size, or location or electrical characteristics is required. **Exhaust fans**– Bathroom exhaust fans may be replaced.

**FIRE:** The replacement of **sprinkler or smoke detector**, smoke alarm, or heat detector heads with a like device. The repair or replacement of any component of a fire alarm or smoke and heat detection equipment (other than the replacement of a fire alarm).

**MECHANICAL: Motors pumps and fans** of the same capacity may be replaced. **Heating, supply and return piping and radiation elements** – The repair or replacement of heating supply and return piping and radiation elements where there is no rearrangement of the piping system. **Duct work** may be repaired or replaced. **Air Conditioning Equipment** – Repair or replacement of control devices for heating and air conditioning equipment. **Liquid applied chimney lining** – The application of liquid applied lining material inside an existing chimney.

Other changes to minor work provisions should assist residents in starting work without obtaining permits first. The Building Department can be reached at 201-796-1457 ext. 601 to discuss your project and how these rule changes might benefit you.



## Elmwood Park Veteran's Honored at Paramus Home

On March 22, five Elmwood Park Veterans were honored for their service to our country. The event at the Paramus Veteran's Home was organized by Karen Varrecchia. Attended by Mayor Francesco A. Caramagna, members of the Borough Council, with representatives from the Elmwood Park Elks Club, VFW, Fire Department and Police Department it was a special tribute to the service of these five men. Honorees included: Mr. DiNova, Mr. Varrecchia, Mr. Brancaccio, Mr. Long, Mr. Stewart and Mr. Zabriskie.



"The event was a wonderful tribute to these five brave men who served our country and have been great member of our community. It was a proud day, not only for them and their families but for all those who attended," stated Councilwoman Magdalena Giandomenico.

## Borough and Board of Education Secure Grant for Tennis Courts Improvements

The Borough of Elmwood Park and the Board of Education have entered into a shared services agreement to restore the tennis courts at the high school. Together, the Borough and BOE jointly applied for and received \$197,950.00 from the Bergen County Open Space Grant program to rebuild the tennis courts at the school. This is an auspicious accomplishment for both bodies. The school will be able to offer a tennis program to their students and the EP Recreation Dept. will be able to bring back their tennis programs for our younger children.

"This was a perfect opportunity to work collaboratively between the town and the school district to reinstate high school tennis, recreational tennis and provide access to courts for the public. Residents should not have to leave town if they are interested in enjoying tennis," stated Council President Daniel Golabek

## Borough Starts Residents Assistance Program

The Mayor and Council are proud to announce the newly formed Residents Assistance Program. This program is designed to aid our residents with the following services:

- Snow Removal (up to 4 inches)
- Leaf Removal
- Language Translation Services (Spanish and Italian)
- Income Tax Preparation Education Sessions
- Thanksgiving and Holiday Season Collection

For more information, please contact:  
Mirella C. Hernandez, RAP Coordinator  
Tel: 201-796-1457 Ext 223.

## Borough Clock Uncovered, to be Installed



After over a decade of being stored at the DPW garage, the Borough Clock, which was previously donated by TD Bank North, yet never installed, was uncovered and is set to be put up by Labor Day. The fixture will be added in the island at the intersection of Market Street and Van Riper Avenue.

"The clock was simply never installed. But it is now time to have it stand across from the Municipal Building and add to the pride of Elmwood Park," stated Councilman Joseph Dombrowski.

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT UPDATES

### Office Hours Expanded

Following the strong advocacy of the Mayor and Council the Elmwood Park Recreation Center Office now has expanded hours. The office is now open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 am – 6:00 pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 am – 9:00 pm.

"Opening the Recreation Center Office in the evenings was done as an added convenience to our residents. We want the people of Elmwood Park to have access to the services the Recreation Department provides and this will help in doing so," said Councilwoman Sandra Balistrieri.

### Spray Ground Receives New Floor Surface



Earlier this year the Mayor and Council authorized the installation of a new, renovated floor at the Spray Ground located at the Recreation Center. The spray ground is open to Elmwood Park residents. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday 10:00 am to 8:00 pm and Saturdays and Sundays from Noon – 5:00 pm. Residents can purchase daily passes for \$5.00 showing proof of residency at the gate. Paying adults must accompany children under 12 years of age. Season passes can be purchased with proof of residency in the Recreation Office for \$40.00 for the entire season. Season runs from June 25 – August 31.