

THE ELMWOOD VILLAGER

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SPRING 2009

Elmwood Village Design Standards Approved!

After 10 years of hard work it's time to celebrate. On Tuesday, March 3rd the City of Buffalo Common Council unanimously approved the Elmwood Village Design Standards! Mayor Byron Brown, also supportive of the Design Standards, followed suit by signing the legislation into law.

The purpose of the Design Standards is to encourage appropriate, mixed-use, urban growth and development within the Elmwood Village neighborhood. The value of these standards will be seen immediately and for generations to come. As developers propose new commercial buildings within our neighborhood they will now have a clear and outline of City approved development styles.

The Design Standards were developed over the last 10 years through extensive community outreach. The Buffalo Based Urban Design firm of Flynn Battaglia Architects assisted Elmwood Village Association board members and Design Committee volunteers in working with the community to draft a professional and comprehensive addition to the City of Buffalo's planning and zoning regulations. Over the span of the last 10 years more than 500 residents, businesses, and property owners participated in this successful community planning process.

Thank you to the more than 75 community members and supporters that attended numerous meetings with the Common Council to show their support and spoke in favor of the Elmwood Village Design Standards. Residents, business owners, and building owners as well as staff and directors from LISC Buffalo, The Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy, and Buffalo Blue Bicycles all spoke in favor of the Elmwood Village Design Standards. There was not a signal dissenting voice before the Common Council throughout this process. What a fantastic showing of successful community planning, support, and solidarity!

The Elmwood Village is particularly thankful to North District Councilmember Joseph Golombek, Jr. whose tireless leadership and support of the Design Standards was integral to the legislation's successful approval.

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The mission of the Elmwood Village Association is to work with businesses and residents to enhance the unique urban character of our community; foster an economically healthy district that is vibrant, walkable, clean, safe, and sustainable; and create a sense of community and belonging amongst all of its diverse residents, businesses, and visitors.

E-Newsletter to debut with Summer Addition

Elmwood Villager to "Go Green!"

Time and time again the Elmwood Village Association hears the call to "Go Green" from our neighbors, businesses, and philanthropic foundations. In keeping with efforts to be environmentally minded the Elmwood Village Association will make the switch to a 100% paperless, electronic quarterly newsletter. By switching to an e-newsletter format the Elmwood Village Association will prevent the use of more than 40 reams of paper per issue. That's more than 160 reams of paper per year! Consider the additional impact of vehicle transportation emissions from the printing press to the EVA office, and from the EVA office to your door and the environmental savings become significant!

During our e-newsletter conversion we want to ensure that you don't miss out on our quarterly updates and happenings. To continue to receive the *Elmwood Villager*, please contact the Association office via email at Gabrielle@elmwoodvillage.org with your full name and corresponding email address. Questions about this change? We'd love to hear from you! Please contact the office at 881-0707.

Membership Appreciation Party & Wine Tasting set for June 18th

The Elmwood Village Association will hold its annual Membership Appreciation Party on Thursday, June 18th at the lovely home of Dr. John & Catherine Gillespie. This stately former Goodyear Mansion located within the Elmwood Village highlights the glory days of Buffalo architecture and living.

This year's event will include complimentary light food and deserts from various Elmwood Village restaurants and caterers along with professional wine tasting from several Western New York and Southern Ontario wineries.

The Elmwood Village Association is appreciative of its membership base and glad to take this opportunity to thank our members for their generous financial and volunteer contributions. EVA members are welcome to bring a nonmember guest and will receive a mailed invitation in the weeks to come. For more information about this event or to become a member of the Elmwood Village Association please contact the office at 881-0707.

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Nardin Academy Reunion 2009

A Taste of Elmwood
Nardin Academy
2009 Alumnae Reunion



Over 200 alumnae will gather on Saturday, May 16, 2009 to celebrate the Nardin Academy Reunion 2009. Nardin graduates spanning 70 years will re-connect with classmates,

remember good times, and return to their old stomping grounds – The Elmwood Village.

The theme of this year's event is *A Taste of Elmwood* which will feature a sampling of food and goods from a variety of restaurants and businesses located on Elmwood Avenue.

"Time spent on Elmwood Avenue is such a part of the Nardin experience," said Erin Meegan, Director of Alumni Affairs and graduate of Nardin Academy. "We are happy to both showcase our prime location in one of the country's best neighborhoods and support our local businesses through this event."

General Reunion Chair, Therese Forton Barnes says "It is so great to have the opportunity to reconnect with classmates and friends while enjoying food prepared by 12 different restaurants from the Elmwood Village." Alumnae will sample a variety of cuisine ranging from duck tacos and sushi to old town favorites like pizza and chicken wings.

Graduates will have the opportunity to mingle with classmates and faculty and tour their Alma Mater. The evening will begin with a mass followed by a reception which includes the induction of Marjorie Van Dyke '74 and Molly Donovan Young '84 into the Nardin Academy Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame award recognizes a graduate for their professional accomplishments, their contributions to society, and their potential as role models for current Nardin students and young women around the globe.

Nardin sends out a special thank you to all the volunteers and participating Elmwood Avenue businesses for their support in insuring this year's event is a great success! Interested? Go to www.nardin.org.

The Elmwood Bidwell Farmer's Market

The best neighborhood Farmer's Market in Western New York is nearly upon us for another great year of fresh produce, beautiful plants and other local goods. Make this summer the year that you decide to go 100% local for all your fresh fruits and vegetables, supporting our Farmer's and Western New York economy.

The Farmer's Market will begin on Saturday, May 9th, and will run from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm. throughout the summer, culminating with our Annual Harvest Festival at the end of October. We'll see you there – every week! For more information on the Farmer's Market, please visit their online home at www.elmwoodmarket.org.




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Elmwood Village Association Welcomes Business & Development Specialist, Becky Gandour



The Elmwood Village Association is pleased to introduce Becky Gandour as our new Business & Development Specialist and newest full time staff person. Originally from the Buffalo area, Becky has spent the last several years in Washington, DC where she most recently worked for the Urban Land Institute (ULI) a non-profit, multidisciplinary, real estate agency. Last year, ULI worked with the H. H. Richardson Complex to assist in the development of its long term rehabilitation

plan. Becky also recently completed her Masters of Business Administration (MBA) with a concentration in real estate and urban development from The George Washington University. The Business & Development Specialist serves as the Association's direct liaison to all Elmwood Village businesses. Duties include meeting with area merchants, prioritizing merchant initiatives, coordinating cooperative marketing programs, business retention, and enticing new businesses to open shop along Elmwood Avenue. Becky is excited to be back in Buffalo and is enjoying the vibrant diversity of people, shopping, homes and cultural assets in Elmwood Village.

Have a business related question or concern? Reach Becky by email at the office at 881-0707 or by email at becky@elmwoodvillage.org.

Elmwood Village Welcomes PriceRite to the Neighborhood

Located at 250 Elmwood Avenue, the new PriceRite supermarket opened its doors on March 22nd to much excitement. Founded on the concept of low prices and large selection, PriceRite has positioned itself as a viable urban food option. You'll find a vast selection of fresh produce, everyday staples and ethnic foods. PriceRite has also hired between 80 -100 local staff members who are friendly and eager to help you during your shopping experience.

The Elmwood Village Association had the opportunity to meet with representatives from PriceRite and Benchmark (the local developer) prior to the stores grand opening to discuss possible solutions to beautifying the plaza and making it a more enjoyable place to do business. Both Benchmark and PriceRite have been open to suggestions from the community and have agreed to include new landscaping and construct a gateway pedestrian arch along Elmwood Avenue. A newly planted garden park will be included at the corner of Elmwood Avenue and Summer Street.

The Association looks forward to continuing to work with PriceRite and Benchmark as their business expands and is proud to welcome this new business to the Elmwood Village.

Elmwood Village Dental Care Announces Grand Opening!



Elmwood Village Dental Care would like to welcome their friends and neighbors to

visit their new dental offices located at 892 Elmwood Avenue. This State of the Art dental facility provides all phases of dental services for the entire family. Services include; fillings, root canals, crowns, extractions, dentures and many other cosmetic procedures. Elmwood Village Dental Care's newest treatments include laser gum surgery and the very popular "6 Month Smile" procedure. Do you have an important lifetime event or occasion coming up soon? Have you always wanted to improve the look of your smile? "6 Month Smile" is a cosmetic procedure where the patient wears tooth colored braces and wires to straighten only the teeth that you wish to improve. A perfect "6 Month Smile" can be achieved without the unsightly wires of traditional braces and in less than half of the time than other teeth straightening procedures. Drop in and visit Elmwood Village Dental Care and see the results on Dr. Bob for yourself as he was one of the first patients to undergo this procedure!

The staff at Elmwood Village Dental Care welcomes you to tour their office, make an appointment, or just enjoy some tasty refreshments during their Open House on Saturday, May 2nd from 12-3 p.m. In case you are in need of their services sooner, they can be reached at 332-0460. Elmwood Village Dental Care is currently accepting new patients and participates with many insurance plans. They look forward to seeing you and your smile soon!

Buffalo CarShare Secures Funding for a May 2009 Launch

Non-profit now accepting "Pioneer Members," offering the city another green option



Buffalo CarShare, a non-profit initiative of Green Options Buffalo, is making waves locally by planning

to offer an inexpensive alternative to private vehicle ownership. The organization seeks to provide the mobility of an automobile without the fixed costs, hassles, and environmental impacts of ownership. For those unfamiliar with the concept, car sharing offers use of a fleet of cars to a network of members for short trips.

As co-founder Michael Galligano explains, "You can borrow a car for things like a trip to the supermarket or the hardware store for between \$5 and \$8 an hour. It frees you from the need to own a car if you live in a walkable neighborhood." For now, those neighborhoods include Elmwood Village, Allentown, and the Lower West Side, but Buffalo CarShare expects to expand quickly. The non-profit was founded in June 2008 by a diverse group of Buffalo residents hailing from various backgrounds at the University at Buffalo, and after months of work, the team has had major breakthroughs.

With guidance provided from within the car sharing industry, such as the recently launched Ithaca CarShare, Buffalo CarShare has attracted interest from two state agencies. The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) have announced funding totaling \$149,000 – matched by \$75,879 of co-funding from the Project Team.

Francis J. Murray, Jr., President and CEO at NYSERDA said: "We are pleased to support this initiative. Carsharing has been proven to reduce vehicle miles traveled, but is underutilized in up-state New York. This effort complements Governor David Paterson's Renewable Energy Taskforce recommendation, which calls upon state agencies to implement programs and policies that promote the efficient use of petroleum in the transportation sector."

NYSDOT Executive Deputy Commissioner Stanley Gee said, "Carsharing, an innovative concept

that has increasingly gained favor in recent years, is convenient, practical and cost-effective for users. The Buffalo CarShare concept provides 'mobility on demand' and can help ease congestion, decrease energy consumption and reduce New York State's carbon footprint."

Buffalo CarShare is also sustained by affiliation with the Wellness Institute of Greater Buffalo & WNY. The Wellness Institute has a long history of assisting non-profits get on their feet. Buffalo CarShare recently opened a storefront at 14 Allen St. near the Allen-Medical NFTA station and shares space with Allentown Association, which has been a strong supporter of the startup.

Buffalo CarShare will host a pre-launch fundraiser at 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 18th at Campieri's Restaurant to kick off its general membership drive. In the meantime, those interested in becoming "Pioneer Members" can visit www.BuffaloCarShare.org. These "pioneers" will help accelerate the launch of BCS and can enjoy added benefits. E-mail inquiries can be sent to BuffaloCarShare@gmail.com.

Elmwood Village Welcomes New Businesses: Splash Panic and Can Can Candy & Gifts!



Elmwood Village Association is pleased to welcome two new businesses to the street!

Splash Panic located at 818 Elmwood Avenue opened their doors back in February and feature popular clothing brands American Apparel, Threadless Tees, and Indi Denim. The Indi Denim line offers custom designed jeans and, for the first time ever, are available in Buffalo thanks to Splash Panic. Open Monday thru Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., be sure to stop in and check out their great new selections.

Can Can Candy & Gifts located at 822 Elmwood is a throw back to the old Five & Dime candy store featuring ribbon candy, colorful suckers, seasonal gifts, and other sweets. Open Monday thru Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. At Can Can Candy & Gifts you're guaranteed to find a piece of your childhood!



The Elmwood Village Green Campaign presents Speaker Series

You're invited to join your neighbors for the 2009 Elmwood Village Green Speakers Series. Our two hour programs will be moderated by Elmwood Village Association board member, Tyra R. Johnson, and will include a 30 minute presentation on environmental topics followed by a half hour panel member discussion. The remainder of the time will be reserved for questions and answers from the audience.

Our next session will focus on Solar Energy and will be held on Thursday, May 7th from 7-9 p.m. The remaining session topics and dates for the series are as follows:

- Thursday, June 4th – Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle in the Village
- Thursday, September 3rd – Remember Last Winter? Let's Get Green Ready!
- Thursday, October 1st – Making Your Systems Run Green
- Thursday, November 12th – Greening Your Energy Choices
- Thursday, December 10th – Green Dreams in a White Season

For more information about Elmwood Village Green Campaign Speakers Series, please visit us online at www.elmwoodvillage.org.

2009 Elmwood Village Spring Cleanup

On April 25th, at 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., the Elmwood Village Association will be holding its annual Spring Cleanup. We will need volunteers to help us spruce up the community and get ready for the beautiful summer months. Volunteers should plan to meet at the Lexington Co-Operative Market and are asked to bring your own rake, broom and gloves for the clean-up. EVA will provide garbage bags and some gloves. Light food and drink will be provided by our sponsor, the Lexington Co-operative Market. In an effort to reduce waste, we encourage you to bring your own reusable water bottle and coffee cup! Contact the Elmwood Village Association to confirm that you can attend at 881-0707 or at justin@elmwoodvillage.org.

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Spring Appeal 2009



Each spring the Elmwood Village comes alive thanks in part to the beautification programs sustained by the Elmwood Village Association. This year, the Elmwood Village Association has purchased hanging flower baskets from a professional nursery, Henry Kenneth Sons, Inc. These baskets will benefit from the expertise of the nursery, time release fertilizer, and water absorbent soil. Our new watering machine with increased carrying capacity has helped our Americorps volunteer water more successfully. Our Clean Streets Manager will tend to our two public gardens located at Elmwood and North Street and Bidwell Parkway & Potomac Avenue. Finally, it is our Clean Streets team that empties garbage cans along Elmwood Avenue, paints over and removes graffiti on light poles and street signs, and helps coordinate eager beautification volunteers.

graffiti on light poles and street signs, and helps coordinate eager beautification volunteers.

Your contribution will allow us to purchase our beautiful hanging flower baskets and continue to hire staff to keep Elmwood Avenue clean throughout the spring and summer. Please show your support of the Elmwood Village and mail in your donation today. As always your financial contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Please help us strengthen your investment by making a financial contribution to the 2009 Hanging Basket & Clean Streets Appeal today!

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1st Annual Family Skate Day!

The Elmwood Village Association held its first Family Skate Day on Sunday, March 22nd at the Buffalo State Ice Arena for all EVA members!

EVA covered the skating costs for the first 160 EVA members through our event sponsors Block Club Magazine and Joe's Service Center located at Elmwood & Amherst Street. EVA thanks our sponsors for their generous support of this event and our community, as well as the hot cocoa provided by the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church!



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