



# Elmhurst Neighborhood News

Elmhurst Neighborhood Association (ENA)  
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Spring 2007

## Presidents' Corner *by Chris Seward, ENA Board President*

Welcome 2007!! I hope all Elmhurstians enjoyed a wonderful holiday season and that the New Year has been gentle thus far. I promised our new newsletter editor that I would be brief, so here's my stab at brevity.

I'd like to start off with a gracious "Thank you" to the CSUS Hornet Foundation and the staff at the Julia Morgan House for once again hosting our annual Holiday Gathering/General Meeting in December. It's always inspiring to see the holiday decorations there and I, for one, needed that extra shove to get me into the holiday spirit and decorating mode this year. I would also like to thank our two guest speakers, Remy Mendoza, representing the City of Sacramento Planning Department, who brought us up to speed with the City's General Plan Update, and to City Arborist Dan Pskowski, who brought lots of great literature, holiday mistletoe and addressed Elmhurst tree issues.

I would also like to thank the Parks and Recreation Department and the City of Sacramento, which generously allows us use of the Coloma Community Center throughout the year for most of our board meetings and events at no cost. Also, thanks to the staff at the Coloma Center – they are first rate and their efforts and assistance are greatly appreciated.

As is our annual tradition during the December meeting, we said good-bye to several board members and hello to a few new ones. First, the good-byes and sincere thanks to our

recording secretary, Cathy Gladen, our former newsletter editor, Mary Menconi, and board members Steve Szalay, Larry Kurmel and Dann DeMund. Thanks to each of you for your hard work, commitment, dedication and patience as we worked through our general events and the various issues impacting Elmhurst.

### Upcoming Events!

#### ***ENA General Meeting***

Monday March 19 7:00 PM  
Coloma Center

#### ***ENA Board Meeting***

Monday April 16 6:30 PM  
Coloma Center

#### ***ENA Board Meeting***

Monday May 21 6:30 PM  
Coloma Center

#### ***ENA Annual Picnic***

Saturday June 23 1:00 PM  
Coloma Center—Back Courtyard

And now for the hello's and a hearty welcome to Catherine Vade Bon Coeur, a former Vice President returning after a two year absence from the board, and two new'ish Elmhurstians, Traci Wooster and Gordon Olson. For you three and the rest of the remaining board members, get ready 'cause we've got lots of work slated for the months ahead!

A few of the projects on the radar for 2007 are the Elmhurst gateway monument, which should be installed within the next few months, re-invigorating the street light effort, working with CalTrans to clean-up the 34<sup>th</sup> Street Exit from Highway 50 and moving forward with Elmhurst's adoption of the south side of Highway 50 from about 37<sup>th</sup> Street to 59<sup>th</sup> Street, the formation of a Tree Committee to work on

preserving the fantastic trees that make Elmhurst the cool and desirable neighborhood it is and working with the UCD Medical Center to mitigate some of the traffic issues plaguing our neighborhood. And speaking of the UCDCMC, how about those new tower lights – what an

President's Corner *continued on page 2*

## What's New at UCDHS in 2007?

By Susan DeMarois

In January 2007, the UC Davis School of Medicine welcomed nearly 200 returning first and second year medical students to their new home in Sacramento: the Center for Education and F. William Blaisdell, M.D., Medical Library. The \$46 million structure replaces outdated classrooms and offices in Davis and will now serve as the learning hub for nearly 400 students and more than 500 faculty members. Located on X Street, the new building is purposely in the "heart" of the medical center campus, with students within walking distance of the inpatient hospital setting, outpatient clinics and research laboratories.

The UC Davis Health System was honored recently with a \$25 million research award from the National Institute of Health to begin a new Clinical and Translational Science Center headquartered in Sacramento. UC Davis is proud to be among the leading research institutions selected by the NIH to pioneer its new direction in research, one that's focused on developing better devices, new procedures, more effective treatments and cures for disease. Only 12 institutions nationwide and only three in the Western states have been chosen to take part in this venture.

By now, Elmhurst neighbors have probably noticed the new and improved exterior signs on top of the 14-story UC Davis Medical Center. The revised lighting was suggested by community members to minimize impact on surrounding neighborhoods, such as Elmhurst. Initial feedback

has been positive - neighbors find the lights much less offensive and hospital visitors appreciate the visual guidance at nighttime.

Job seekers looking for employment at UC Davis Health System won't have to fill out forms by hand, figure out postage amounts, hand deliver or fax paperwork for their applications much longer. Beginning in February, applicants are able to complete their entire employment application process online and have access to other Web-based features that will make applying for jobs much easier and more efficient. To enter the site, visit:  
<http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/hr/>.

Questions about UC Davis Health System should be directed to the Office of Government and Community Relations at 916-734-5441.

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March is: Red Cross Month-Ethics Month-Help Someone See Month-Honor Society Month-Mental Retardation Awareness Month-International Listening Month-Music in Our Schools Month-Collision Awareness Month-Eye Donor Month-Women's History Month-Talk to Your Kids About Sex Month-Optimism Month-Poison Prevention Month-Youth Art Month.

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## President's Corner *continued from Page 1*

improvement over the intrusive blue version they first installed!!!

One other project that I am hoping we can finally move forward with is the development of a Welcome Committee. The board has been tossing this idea around for several years but we haven't managed to pull it off yet. I think it's time to make it happen. I've recruited a couple of interested people already but would like a few more to fill out the committee. If you're interested in helping out with this endeavor, please let me know. Beyond active participation on the committee, I ask all Elmhurstians to let me know, via my email link on the Elmhurst website or the Elmhurst voicemail number, when new residents, either renters or new property owners, arrive in Elmhurst. Also, if you have any ideas for items to include in a welcome bag, please pass them on for our consideration.

As I close, I would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to former board member Cathy Gladen and her new husband, Calvin Mapes, on their marriage and to former board members Dann and Phoebe DeMund and their family on the birth of their daughter, Lila. And finally, a warm welcome to one of the newest Elmhurstians, Council member Kevin McCarty and his family.

I hope to see many of you at the March General Meeting. Not sure if I succeeded in my attempt at brevity but...

## 34th Street Exit Clean-Up Adoption

Let's face it, first impressions are everything. Elmhurst was recently voted one of the best places to live by Sacramento Magazine, but the welcome to our neighborhood by way of the 34th street exit is anything but inviting. It seems that our little corner has been overlooked by the clean-up crews, so one of our board members decided to take it upon herself to petition Cal Trans for a formal adoption of the area. As it turns out, the area is too small to warrant a formal adoption which would entitle us to a sign recognizing our efforts, but the area can still be unofficially adopted by the neighborhood and taken on as a project. In order to adopt the area it was necessary to make a commitment to remove litter from the area "at least twenty-four times a year."

We are recruiting volunteers who would be able to adopt a day in order to help us with this effort. Training, equipment and all supplies will be provided by Cal Trans. Dedication to preserving Elmhurst as one of the best places to live in Sacramento will be provided by the neighborhood. If this is something you feel is important to you, grab your neighbors and help us out. The only requirement is that you be over 16 years of age.

To reserve your day, help out your neighborhood, and make some new friends, please contact us at the following: [elmhurstteam@sbcglobal.net](mailto:elmhurstteam@sbcglobal.net)

## Time for California to Adopt the Anti-Poverty, Pro-Family and Pro-Job Creation Policy Supported by Liberals and Conservatives

*By Assembly Member Dave Jones*

There are many policy disagreements between Democrats and Republicans, but there is one program that is supported by Conservatives and Liberals, the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

The federal EITC, as President Reagan said "is the best anti-poverty, pro-family, job creation measure to come out of Congress." President Clinton expanded it dramatically in the 1990's.

The EITC is a tax refund for working families and individuals. Millions have risen out of poverty because of the federal EITC. Nineteen states have developed their own successful EITC programs. California is about to join them.

Recently, I introduced AB 21, a bill that would provide a refundable state tax credit to very low income working individuals and families. For a single working mother with two children, AB 21 would authorize a credit of up to \$680 per year. For a parent with one child, \$412. And for a childless adult, \$62.

The legislation also calls for a corresponding closure of state tax loopholes and unfair "tax expenditures" – special exemptions in

Sacramento Chambers and others to get the word out about the federal EITC.

To help make work pay, to help make California a leader in the fight against poverty, to help us pass the State Earned Income Tax Credit please write to me at the address below expressing your support. I will share your letter with my colleagues throughout the year as we try to make AB 21 a reality

Assembly member Dave Jones represents the 9<sup>th</sup> District in the California State Assembly. P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249.

[Assemblymember.jones@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.jones@assembly.ca.gov).

916-324-4676.

To be a philosopher is not merely to  
Have subtle thoughts, nor even to found  
A school, but to so love wisdom as  
To live according to its dictates,  
A life of simplicity, independence,  
Magnanimity, and trust.

Henry David Thoreau

## City Council District 6 *by Kevin McCarty*



### New Elmhurst Resident

I am excited to share with you that my wife Leticia and I are new residents of Elmhurst! We recently moved to 3809 T Street, just a few houses away from Starbucks on T Street and Stockton Boulevard. Although, we enjoyed living in Tahoe Park and were not actively seeking to move, we were unable to resist the opportunity to move into this

amazing house and become members of the Elmhurst community.

### Neighborhood Improvements

I will be working with the Elmhurst Neighborhood Association to prioritize \$50,000 in funds recently acquired for capital improvements in the Elmhurst area, which includes installing and/or improving existing amenities to our parks, playgrounds, public buildings, streets, etc. I encourage you to join your neighborhood association and become involved in the prioritizing process, or feel free to contact my office to share your suggestions.

### Granite Regional Park

Granite Regional Dog Park and Skate Park, as well as the 24-hour soccer field were successfully opened to the public! This project has been a long time in the making and I am pleased that dog, skateboarding, and sports enthusiasts have new, world-class facilities to utilize. In May, we will be celebrating the grand opening of these parks with many festivities. An invitation will be mailed out with all of the details.

#### Skate Park

Granite Skate Park is a new state-of-the-art skating facility. The overall size of the skate park makes it the largest in Northern California and one of the biggest in the United States. The park includes both street elements and bowl areas that are challenging to experienced riders and allow for novice skaters to hone their skills.

#### Dog Park

The new and improved Granite Dog Park has been met with enthusiasm by dog owners. It is an exceptional new recreational area for dogs that covers two and a half acres and includes a variety of rich landscaping, trees and shrubs, a dog drinking fountain, and access to a tranquil pond. These features are located within a gated, off-leash area.

#### 24-Hour Soccer Field

The City of Sacramento's first 24-hour, artificial soccer field was opened to the resounding applause of soccer fans. The field is 360 feet by 240 feet, and lighted for evening play.

The project's use of approximately 20,000 recycled tires is consistent with the City's commitment to sustainable practice.

### Automobile Thefts

The Sacramento Police Department's Auto Theft Unit is asking the public for assistance in reducing the number of automobile thefts in the City. During the cold winter months, people often tend to run their cars unattended, in order to keep the car warm. This presents thieves with opportunities to effortlessly steal vehicles, which accounts for ten percent of auto thefts in the City. In addition, these vehicles are often used to perpetrate other crimes in the community, such as burglaries, robberies, etc. The Police Department is urging the community to restrain from running their cars unattended and to utilize alarms and other anti-theft devices to deter thieves.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 808-7006, or via e-mail at [kmccarty@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:kmccarty@cityofsacramento.org).

April is; Alcohol Awareness Month-Animal Cruelty Prevention Month-Couple Appreciation Month-Amateur Radio Month-Legacy Month-International Twit Award Month-Keep America Beautiful Month-Month of the Young Child-Autism Awareness Month-Child Abuse Prevention Month-Grilled Cheese Sandwich Month-Lawn and Garden Month-National Poetry Month-National Smile Month-Woodworking Month-World habitat Awareness Month-



**Elmhurst Neighborhood  
Association**

## Elmhurst Parents' Corner

by Jennifer Aten

The holiday season was filled with giving for the Elmhurst Parents Group. The Ronald McDonald House was adopted as a charity and donations were gathered from several families. Members of the parents group took a tour of their state-of-the-art facility and learned about the ways we can continue to give. A big thank you to Sean Bechta for coordinating this charity drive. We hope to expand our efforts next season.

As winter draws to a close, we are gearing up for our spring events. The **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spring Potluck and Egg Hunt** will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2007 from 9:30am – 11:30am in the courtyard of the Coloma Community Center (weather permitting). The Spring Potluck offers an egg hunt for children of all ages, a visit from the Easter Bunny, arts and crafts, giveaways, and of course great food. This is a wonderful opportunity to come out and connect with other neighborhood families. We want to see your family there! More information will be distributed to neighborhood homes in the coming months.

In order to make the Spring Potluck successful we need parent volunteers! If you would like to know more or are interested in volunteering at the event, please contact us online at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Elmhurstparents>. A list of volunteer opportunities includes: distribution of flyers, set-up and decoration, picking up donations, hiding eggs, monitoring egg hunts, arts and crafts, and clean-up.

As always, the Parents Group offers ongoing events to connect with neighborhood families including a Second Saturday Playgroup and bi-monthly meetings. Families meet on the second Saturday of each month at 9:30am at the playground at Coloma Community Center for a morning of play. On Saturday, March 10, the Auditorium is available if the weather is bad. Our next regular meetings are Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm and Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm at the Starbucks on J Street.



**Second Saturday Play Group  
9:30 to noon**

**Coloma Community Center  
All families welcome!**

## Are you Prepared?

On Thursday, January 25, 2007 UC Davis Medical Center's Community Advisory Board presented an 'informative discussion on Emergency Planning and Preparedness. The event was very informative and featured several speakers as well as numerous groups from the Sacramento area whose members offered tips on what to do in an emergency. In an effort to help our neighbors prepare in the event of an emergency, the newsletter will offer emergency preparedness tips that may help you and your family should the need arise. The American Red Cross recommended preparing a Family Disaster Supplies Kit. This kit would include basic supplies you should stock in your home which include; water, food, first aid supplies, clothing and bedding, tools and emergency supplies and special items. They recommend keeping the items you would most likely need during an evacuation in an easy to carry container that you could take with you in your car or easily carry.

The Red Cross recommends "having an ample supply of clean water is a top priority in an emergency. A normally active person needs to drink at least two quarts of water each day. Children, nursing mothers and ill people will need even more. You will also need water for food preparation and hygiene. You should store at least a two week supply of water for each member of your family.

If supplies run low, never ration water. Drink the amount you need today, and try to find more tomorrow. You can minimize the amount of water your body needs by reducing activity and staying cool."

## Newsletter Advertising Rates and Policies

Four times a year the Elmhurst Neighborhood Association delivers more than a thousand newsletters to the homes and offices of Elmhurst residents and property owners. The Elmhurst Neighborhood is comprised primarily of owner-occupied single-family homes, with some rental houses and apartments, and includes diverse generations, income levels, and cultural backgrounds. The Elmhurst neighborhood is bounded by Highway 50 to the North, 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to the South, Stockton Boulevard to the West, and 57<sup>th</sup> Street to the East. The Elmhurst newsletter is available online at [www.elmhurst-sac.org](http://www.elmhurst-sac.org).

To place an advertisement, please contact the Newsletter Editor at (916) 441-8226 or via email at [editor@elmhurst-sac.org](mailto:editor@elmhurst-sac.org). Submitted ads must be ready for print in JPEG electronic format in the correct size, and/or be scalable to fit within the dimensions of the purchased ad space. Inappropriate, political and/or issue-advocating advertisements will not be accepted.

### Rates:

For a quarter page (3.25 inches by 4.25 inches): \$40/issue or \$150/year

For a half page (7 by 4.25 inches): \$80/issue or \$300/year

For a full page (7 by 9 inches): \$150/issue or \$600/year

Eighth-page ads (1.5 by 4.25 inches) may be included at the discretion of the newsletter editor. The rate for an 1/8<sup>th</sup> page ad (\$25/issue) is charged only if the ad is printed.

**Free 1/8<sup>th</sup> page ads** may be provided, space-permitting, to Elmhurst's entrepreneurial youth, seniors, or disabled who seek to provide services specifically to other Elmhurst residents (babysitting, yard work, etc). To make an advance request for an 1/8<sup>th</sup> page ad space please contact the Newsletter Editor at (916) 441-8226, or [editor@elmhurst-sac.org](mailto:editor@elmhurst-sac.org).



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Please use this as an envelope to send your annual donation of \$10-\$15 per household. The Elmhurst Neighborhood Association is a non-profit organization. With your help we can ensure that Elmhurst's voice is heard, publish a quarterly newsletter, and host our annual events such as the summer picnic and fall pancake breakfast. We get a lot done with the help of dedicated volunteers and your donations. If you have any questions about how we use your donations, please contact us at 441-8226 or via our website at [www.elmhurst-sac.org](http://www.elmhurst-sac.org).

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