



ELGIN AREA CHAMBER



August 2025

Elgin Kicks Off a Game-Changer: New Soccer Dome

The city of Elgin is set to become a premier destination for youth soccer in the Midwest following the Elgin City Council's approval Wednesday night of plans for the [Illinois Youth Soccer Association's \(IYSA\)](#) new headquarters and training facility. This landmark project, featuring a groundbreaking 118,000-square-foot air dome, is a **testament to the collaborative efforts of city officials and the diligent work of organizations like the Economic Development Group (EDG)**, a division of the Elgin Area Chamber.

Share Your Story



SUBMIT YOUR CONTENT

Submit your news, events, deals, and announcements to post@elginchamber.com by August 21 to be included in September's newsletter.

Content placement in the Click & Connect newsletter is an exclusive and **included** benefit for all Elgin Area Chamber members.

[JOIN NOW](#)



The ambitious project, spearheaded by Midwest Sports Center in partnership with IYSA, will transform 9.7 acres at 909 S. McLean Blvd., formerly a mobile home park, into a state-of-the-art sports complex. The centerpiece, an air-supported structure described as the **first of its kind in the country**, will be complemented by an 18,000-square-foot building housing offices, classrooms, physical therapy rooms, and concessions, alongside an outdoor artificial turf field.

Tom Swedrowski of Midwest Sports Center's development team affirmed that Elgin was chosen for its central location, offering better accessibility for tournaments and recruitment compared to their current Loves Park site. This strategic decision, combined with the city's proactive support, underscores a successful partnership.



Braden Business Systems Earns Prestigious 2025 Channel Partners MSP 501 Ranking

Braden Business Systems is proud to announce it has once again been recognized among the top-performing Managed IT Service Providers (MSPs) in the 2025 MSP 501 rankings by Channel Partners, placing at #116 globally on the 2025 MSP 501 list and maintaining its title as the #1 MSP in Indiana and Chicagoland.



Elgin Symphony Orchestra and Chad Goodman Hit a High Note with State Honors



Big news for the **Elgin Symphony Orchestra (ESO)**! They, along with Music Director Chad Goodman, just won top awards from the Illinois Council of Orchestras (ICO). The ESO was named Professional Orchestra of the Year, and Chad Goodman received Conductor of the Year.

"It's an incredible honor... as we celebrate our 75th Anniversary," said ESO CEO Marc Thayer, crediting the dedication of Chad, staff, board, and patrons.

Goodman, entering his third season, shared his pride: "I'm deeply honored... and even more proud to share it with my incredible fellow musicians... These honors reflect the extraordinary talent and dedication of every musician."

Starship Travel Wins Big - Right Here in South Elgin!

We're honored to be named a MAST All-Star Agency once again, placing us among the Top 25 travel agencies nationwide. We've also earned the prestigious ALGV Diamond Elite Award, recognizing over \$1.6 million in annual sales. These repeat honors reflect our ongoing dedication to expert service, exclusive perks, and unforgettable vacations. Plus, as a BBB Accredited Gold business since 2007, our commitment to excellence is unmatched. Thank you to our amazing community and clients for your continued support—we're proud to be your hometown travel agency!



17 Years of Impact: Celebrating Cindy Cruz

Cindy Cruz, founder and president of Creative Personnel, is celebrating her 17-year anniversary this month! Since 2008, Cindy has been dedicated to building opportunities and strengthening communities through employment. [Read More](#)

Illinois Tax Law Updates What Businesses Need to Know

Illinois' new House Bill 2755 brings significant tax changes, including updates to sports wagering, telecom, and hotel taxes, a simplified remote-retailer nexus, and new rules for sales-tax sourcing documentation. The statewide grocery tax is also transitioning to local control. These changes, effective mid-2025 through early 2026, require businesses to update systems and compliance checklists now. For a deeper dive into how these impact your business, check out [Porte Brown's overview of HB 2755](#).

Local McDonald's Owner, David Bear, Named 2025 Marquis Who's Who Distinguished Leader

Bear Family Restaurants President David A. Bear has been selected as a 2025 Marquis Who's Who Distinguished Leader, an honor recognizing exceptional professionals who have made significant contributions in their fields and communities. The announcement was celebrated with a quarter-page feature in The Wall Street Journal on July 10, 2025. [Read More](#)



One Big Beautiful Bill: What It Means for Your Employee Benefits & Pay



by **Rebecca Bush, Partner**
Amundsen Davis

The Big Beautiful Bill, signed into law by President Trump on July 4, 2025, spans nearly 900 pages and touches numerous aspects of federal policy. Nestled within this lengthy legislation are employee benefits provisions that will **require employers to navigate new rules, opportunities, and compliance requirements.**

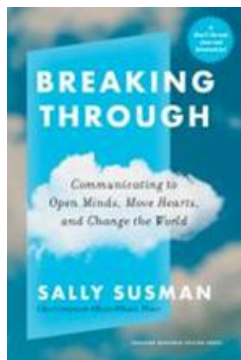
From additional tax deductions for workers to new savings vehicles for children, the benefits-related sections introduce changes that span traditional compensation structures, family support programs, and organizational compliance obligations.

[Read More](#)

CHECK IT OUT!

August 2025 Business Book of the Month

**Rebecca Lapinski, Business & Career Services
Librarian at Gail Borden Public Library.**



Title: Breaking Through: Communicating to Open Minds, Move Hearts, and Change the World

Author: Sally Susman

Date of Publication: 2023

Publisher: Harvard Business Review Press

Favorite Quote: "In the end, I believe you want to make a difference, feel heard, and be understood so you can break through to a wider audience with a deeper connection."

Summary: It might sound obvious, but effective business communication is a deal-breaker. No one knows that better than Sally Susman, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer and Executive Vice President at Pfizer, the world's largest biopharmaceutical company. In *Breaking Through*, Susman leverages her experience at Pfizer, especially during the exceptionally difficult Covid-19 years, to help business leaders be more effective and persuasive communicators. This is no easy feat! Luckily, Susman is a master communicator and shows us how to approach this complex topic in a simple and relatable way. [Read More](#)

ELGIN ACTIVE MOBILITY PLAN



Building a Safer, Connected and Inclusive City



The City of Elgin has launched the planning process for its Active Mobility Plan, aimed at improving sidewalks, bike lanes, and accessible pathways to enhance safety, connectivity, and inclusivity for all residents. Community members are encouraged to take a short survey to share their experiences and help shape a plan that supports healthier, more equitable transportation options.

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

Allen + Pepa Architects: Bringing Visions to Life



Allen+Pepa Architects is excited to be involved in numerous projects throughout the Chicagoland area and beyond. Currently under construction, we have designed new office and work space for MSI Express, a large food processing company relocating to a 300,000 sf facility in Geneva. We also have several new daycare facilities ready to break ground in Seattle, WA and Omaha, NE and are working with a daycare provider on a prototype plan that will be used for multiple facilities throughout the United States. We are thrilled to be growing and look forward to helping our clients bring their visions to life.

You're invited to Walk and Talk *with the Doc*

No registration required.

Meet at Sherman Hospital, enter through Main Entrance and proceed to Lower Level (Base of the Tree of Life)

Dr. Christy Harvey **Thursday, July 17th at 3:30 p.m.**
Ophthalmologist

Dr. Amir Arif **Friday, July 18th at 4:00 p.m.**
Foot & Ankle Pathologies

Dr. Brett Albert **Thursday, August 7th at 4:00 p.m.**
Podiatrist/Foot & Ankle Surgeon

Dr. Joshua Alpert **Tuesday, August 26th at 8:30 a.m.**
Orthopedic Surgeon – Sports Medicine

Dr. Walter Alm **Thursday, September 4th at 8:00 a.m.**
Podiatrist

Take a casual stroll on the walking path around Sherman Hospital's Geothermal Lake

- Completely paved and less than ¼ mile
- Meet with the doctors, hear about their background and get to know them
- See if they would be a good fit for your medical needs

Advocate
Sherman Hospital
1425 N. Randall Road, Elgin, IL 60102

Rain or Shine!
Room
available if
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inclement



A Midsummer Night's Dream AUCTION SPONSOR



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Elgin

A Midsummer Night's Dream: YWCA Elgin's 2025 Auction & Celebration

Join us for an enchanting evening at YWCA Elgin's A Midsummer Night's Dream Auction, a celebration of community and support for our life-changing education programs.

The event will take place on Thursday, August 21, from 5:30 to 8:30 PM at the Elgin Country Club.

Guests will enjoy a lively live auction, a whimsical succulent sale, delicious small bites, a cash bar, and the joy of giving back. Tickets are \$60 for non-members and \$55 for YW members. Reserve your seat or become a sponsor at

www.ywcaelgin.org/auction.

RSVP by midnight on August 14.



Interested in saving 50%-70% on labor costs and establishing a foundation for AI and Automations in your business processes?

EPS OPTIC(S)® Outsourcing provides a free 60 minute call to discuss whether outsourcing may be an option for you! (It is not right for all businesses, and we will help you determine whether it can help your business to save cost & improve processes to help you scale!)



SUMMER'S Presents Last Hurrah!

FREE FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT

The Rotary Club of Elgin provides funding and assistance for community projects in Elgin and South Elgin, youth leadership and student scholarships

Saturday, Sept. 6
10 AM - 8 PM

Panton Mill Park
South Elgin

FOOD TRUCKS

CHILDREN'S GAMES

FACE PAINTING

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

COSTUMED PET PARADE

CRAFT FAIR AND MAKERS MARKET

COMMUNITY AND SPONSOR SHOWCASE

540912

**50/50
RAFFLE**

540912

Winner need not be present to win!
1 ticket for \$10; 3 for \$20



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For more info
Rotary5000.org



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Volunteer With Us

Our Volunteer Department Vision Statement

Our goal is to connect the community with meaningful volunteer opportunities at Marklund, while supporting Marklund staff in our mission to make *Everyday Life* possible for our residents and students with profound disabilities.

Marklund Volunteer Days for Groups and Businesses

Is your business, club or group seeking opportunities to engage with the community? Marklund is here to assist in creating a tailored one-day project or a long-term volunteer program suitable for groups of all sizes, addressing the needs of both our organization and yours. Volunteer Days offer an excellent chance to unite your team while gaining insights into the individuals at our two Marklund locations: Wasmond Center in Elgin or Hyde Center in Geneva.

For more information about volunteering at any one of our sites, please contact:

Nikki Osterloh,
Manager of Volunteer Engagement
- Geneva
nosterloh@marklund.org
Direct: 630.593.5468

Melanie Toth,
Volunteer Engagement Specialist
- Elgin
mttoth@marklund.org
Direct: 224.523.7535

Scan here to visit our site!

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WITH ADULT ENTREE PURCHASE*

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POURHOUSEKITCHEN.COM

*Dine in only. Kids ages 10 & under. Limit 2 free kids meals per each adult entree purchased. Kids menu items only. Other restrictions may apply.



Back to School Special Offer!

Treat your family (or yourself) with our Cookie Game Subscription Box! Each box includes a tic-tac-toe cookie board, themed cookie tokens, word puzzles, a PYO cookie, and edible markers—play, solve, and snack! Your first box is \$45 (includes markers), and future boxes are just \$35. Order by August 6 for pickup starting August 11.

Mention “Elgin Chamber” for a bonus cookie!

Visit www.dessertswithoutregrets.com to order! Delicious fun, no regrets.



Kids' Summer Art Camp Daily Painting, Snacks & Crafts!

Each day consists of a two-hour painting class, snack time and a craft!

Monday, August 4th, 2025 through Friday, August 8th, 2025 – 9am to 12noon

You can sign up by day or by week. You can get one day FREE if you sign up for the week.

Check out our website for more details



ST. MARY
SCHOOL
of ELGIN



**ENROLL
NOW**

Now enrolling students from 3-years-old preschool through 8th grade!

Imagine a place where **stellar academics** meet **small class sizes**, giving your child the personalized attention they deserve. St. Mary Catholic School offers a exceptional educational journey right here in Elgin.



Call Principal Norman at 847-695-6609 today for more information and to schedule your personal tour!



10TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

JOIN US

ROLLING INTO PANTON MILL PARK, South Elgin

LIVE MUSIC

KID ZONE

FOOD & DRINKS

FUN & GAMES

SPLASH PAD

SHIRTS & SWAG BAGS

FIND ALL THE DETAILS AT EASTERSEALSDFVR.ORG/RIDETOTHRIVE

TEAM UP FOR EASTERSEALS

Bike for the Kids



Join [Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley](#) for the **10th annual Bike for the Kids** on Sunday, August 24, at Pantan Mill Park! This milestone event features a community festival and multiple ride options, including a self-guided ride, a 7-mile guided route, and a family-friendly meet-up at SEBA Park's inclusive playground.

Check-in starts at 8:30 AM, and the festival begins at 10:00 AM with live music, games, vendors, and more. Riders are encouraged to return before noon for a kid-friendly bike parade and adaptive bike presentation.

Over the past decade, Easterseals has gifted 80+ adaptive bikes to children with disabilities

¡Únase a nosotros para celebrar nuestras asociaciones comunitarias y policiales, y para conocer a sus oficiales de policía locales: Oficial Salgado y Oficial Taylor!

Join us as we celebrate our community and police partnerships, and get to know your local police officers: Officer Salgado & Officer Taylor!

MARTES, 5 DE AGOSTO, 2025
TUESDAY, AUGUST 5TH, 2025

6:00 - 8:00 PM

CENTRO DE INFORMACIÓN
1885 LIN LOR LANE
ELGIN, ILLINOIS 60123

FREE Food, Paletas & Popcorn

For more information
outreach@centrodeinformacion.org

What Elgin's Declining Unemployment Means

Elgin, IL's unemployment rate has shown a significant decrease, reaching 3.7% in June 2025 from 4.9% a year prior. This indicates a strengthening local job market, offering more opportunities for residents and a potentially more competitive environment for employers seeking talent.

Presented by

@ Judson University

FROM THE BARRIO to the Board Room

Saturday, August 9th
10am-1pm

EAT FREE PIZZA!
WIN A FREE LAPTOP OR FREE PIZZA FOR A YEAR!
GRAB A FREE BACKPACK-FIRST 200 KIDS!
OTHER ACTIVITIES FOR KIS/FAMILIES (LIKE A BOUNCE HOUSE!)

PLUS, MEET
FRES OQUENDO, FORMER WBC HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION!

If you would like to sign up for a booth space at this event, please scan the QR code below or email janice@pjozark.com

@ Judsun University - 1151 N. State St., Elgin



Brighter Smiles
Brighter Community

Back-to-School Dental Exams

With the new school year just around the corner, support your employees who may need to get their children to the dentist before the end of the summer by sharing about Well Child Center's pediatric dental clinic. The clinic serves children 18 and under offering preventive and restorative services. We accept all Medicaid and All Kids plans and offer a cash payment option for anyone that does not have insurance.

Well Child Center's pediatric dental clinic is open 9am – 5pm Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 10am – 6pm Tuesday, and two Saturdays a month. **Encourage your employees to schedule their child's dental appointment before the rush by calling 847-930-6721.**



ELEVATE YOUR FUTURE

YOUTH BUILD ELGIN

- Academic/College Prep.
- Career Readiness Skills
- H.S. Diploma/Equivalency
- Industry Certifications
- Job Placement
- Volunteering

SCAN ME

MORE INFO info@ybelgin.org

EDUCATION
 CONSTRUCTION
 LEADERSHIP

SELF-DeFENSE WORKSHOP

August 23, 2025
11:00a to 1:00p

Be Smart Be Safe Be Empowered

Cost:

- ✓ \$40 Individual
- ✓ 2 family members - \$35 each
- ✓ 3+ family members - \$30 each

What You Will Learn:

- How to maintain distance
- Avoid grabs and takedowns
- Develop reactive skills against strikes
- How to deliver strikes using body mass
- Basic ground defense and standing up
- Reactive vs weapon attack drills
- And more!

This workshop is perfect for:

- Mothers and daughters (ages 12 to 17)
 - Teens and young adults
 - Students heading to college
- Individuals working outside '9 to 5' hours
- Anyone (ages 12 & up) looking to feel more confident, aware, and prepared to respond to real-life threats

South Elgin BUDOKAN Martial Arts

959 N La Fox St, South Elgin

www.SouthElginBUDOKAN.com | 847-888-8866



Lead Alert: More Kane County ZIP Codes Pose Risk to Kids' Health

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) has announced an expansion of its list of ZIP codes where lead exposure testing is required for children who live within those areas. 180 new zip codes, representing parts of 47 Illinois counties, have been added to the list this year, bringing the total of high-risk ZIP codes to more than 1,350. By this time next year, all remaining ZIP codes in the state will be included, implementing universal childhood lead testing statewide.

Lead exposure can lead to damage to the brain and nervous system, slowed growth and developmental, behavioral and learning difficulties, and more. More information on lead exposure can be found at [Lead Poisoning Prevention](#).

High-risk ZIP codes are determined through an algorithm that considers several different risk factors. The department has been expanding that list of ZIP codes gradually. The new expanded list, which takes effect on July 1, 2025, can be found at: [Pediatric Lead Poisoning High-Risk ZIP Code Areas](#).



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This offer applies to services like Emsculpt Neo, Emsella, medical-grade skincare, and more.

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Offer cannot be combined with other current promotions. The highest eligible discount will be honored.

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🌐 www.uniquehealthnow.com

Take advantage of this limited-time offer and experience personalized, insurance-free care today.

Volunteer Opportunity

Kane Senior Council

Shelf Stable Meal Delivery Program

Pickup Dates:

Wednesday, August 13

Thursday, August 14

Friday, August 15

Pickup Location:

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Sign Up:



Contact Us:

Call: 630-812-6772 or

Email: Frank.Leong@KaneSeniorCouncil.org

Providing Meals and More...

www.KaneSeniorCouncil.org
630-338-0999



Golf.

Feed the Hungry.

September 8.



Calling all community leaders! We're looking for businesses and organizations to sponsor this vital Food for Greater Elgin fundraising event at all levels, from \$300 to \$7,500.

Escape the office, enjoy a gorgeous day on the links with colleagues or clients, feast on a delicious post-golf meal, create goodwill in the community, and promote your organization, all in the name of feeding our neighbors on September 8 at Bowes Creek Country Club.

Sponsorships and general ticket information

Bridgeview
Clinical Services

www.bridgeviewcounseling.com

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Embrace the Future**

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Do you feel stuck, overwhelmed, or burdened by past experiences?

EMDR therapy is a powerful, evidence-based, trauma-focused, approach that helps the brain reprocess painful memories, so they no longer trigger emotional distress, anxiety, or related conditions.

Why EMDR?



Reduces

Research shows that EMDR therapy reduces trauma-related symptoms by up to 70%



Delivers

EMDR therapy delivers faster results than traditional talk therapy



Effective

EMDR therapy is efficient across all ages, cultures, and backgrounds.



Improve

EMDR therapy improves symptoms of depression, anxiety, and insomnia

Our Approach

Our Licensed Clinicians are trained in EMDR therapy and tailor each session to your unique needs.

✓ Choose from In-person or telehealth sessions

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✓ Intensive EMDR sessions for quicker results

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Up to \$29K for Employee Training



Kane County businesses can receive up to \$29,000 in reimbursement for employee skills training through the Incumbent Worker Training Grant. The program helps cover costs for job-specific or industry-focused training, boosting workforce performance and business competitiveness.

For details, contact
Mary Yapejian at
YapejianMary@KaneCountyIL.gov
630-762-2086
visit worknetbatavia.com/business-services.

Build a Stronger Business

Everyone wants to be more productive—even though it's easier said than done. But CMIT Solutions can turn your company's dreams into reality.

Believe it or not, there's no magic involved. Instead, productivity apps like Microsoft 365 and Google Workspace can do the trick.

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Elgin & Chicagoland Area

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4.25% APY*

10-month Regular Certificate
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10-month Jumbo Certificate
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4.35% APY*

Super Jumbo 10-month Certificate
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17-Month Term

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17-month Regular Certificate
Minimum \$250 investment

4.05% APY*

17-month Jumbo Certificate
Minimum \$100,000 investment

4.10% APY*

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Minimum \$250,000 investment

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*APY (Annual Percentage Yield). The APY is based on the assumption that dividends will remain in the account until maturity. Dividends are compounded daily, paid monthly. Penalties will apply for early withdrawal of funds. For a 10-month term certificate, the penalty rate will be 60 days' dividends. The APY for 10-month certificate is 4.16%. The APY for a 10-month Jumbo certificate is 4.21%. The APY for a 10-month Super Jumbo certificate is 4.26%. For a 17-month term certificate, the penalty rate will be 120 days' dividends. The APY for 17-month certificate is 3.93%. The APY for a 17-month Jumbo certificate is 3.97%. The APY for a 17-month Super Jumbo certificate is 4.02%. Membership requirements apply. Minimum balance required. Certificate offer and rates subject to change. Upon Maturity, promotional term certificate will automatically roll over into a standard term certificate unless changes are made within a 10-day grace period. 10-month promotional certificate will automatically roll over into a 12-month certificate unless changes are made within the 10-day grace period. 17-month promotional certificate will automatically roll over into an 18-month certificate unless changes are made within the 10-day grace period. Limited time offer.

Building Stronger Communities Together



This credit union is federally insured up to at least \$250,000 by NCUA.





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EXPERIENCE 1940 MYSTERIES!



The Weeping Willow Players (from left): Betty Burke, Nicole Larson, Shira Coffee, John Larson, Don Gingold, Mary Kirkman, David Yeager and Gloria Yeager.

Step back in time to a 1940s radio studio with the Weeping Willow Players! They're bringing two original Agatha Christie mysteries to life on Thursday, August 28, 2025, at 6:00 pm at Club 120 in Elgin.

Enjoy "Personal Call" and "The Case of the Careless Victim," Poirot's first American radio case, complete with live sound effects and fedoras. This free event, held at George's Stage in Club 120 (lower level of Oak Crest, 204 S. State St.), includes complimentary refreshments. Donations are welcome.

Reservations are required: Call 847-742-2255 or visit
www.club120elgin.org.

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WE'RE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE

INTRO TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS!

Join us for a dynamic session with TCE Company's CEO, Sarah Goffman, as she breaks down the essential foundations of global communication.



Bellworks Chicagoland
2000 Center Drive
Hoffman Estates, IL 60192

AUG. 14 - 6PM

For More Information:
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- Call for requirements

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- 1st Shift: 8am - 4:30/5pm
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GENERAL LABOR/FORKLIFT

- 1st Shift: 5am - 3:30pm (M-TH)
- Pay: \$18

MAINTENANCE TECH

- 1st Shift: 5am - 3:30pm
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- Call for requirements

ELECTRICAL ASSEMBLER

- 1st Shift: 6am - 2:30pm
- Pay: \$18+
- Requirements: Must have soldering experience

CNC MACHINE OPERATOR

- 1st Shift: 7am - 3:30pm (M-F)
- 2nd Shift: 3pm - 11:30pm (M-F)
- Pay: 20+

IMPORT/EXPORT CLERK

- 1st Shift: 7am - 3:30pm
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COMMUNITY SURVEY on HOUSING in SOUTH ELGIN



southelgin.com/HousingSurvey



- ✓ TAKES ABOUT 10 MINUTES
- ✓ COMPLETELY ANONYMOUS
- ✓ DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2025

The Village of South Elgin seeks your input on housing needs, priorities, and preferences in the Community! All who live or work in South Elgin are asked to take part in the planning process by completing our Community Survey on Housing by September 12, 2025. It only takes 10 minutes of your time and it's available by visiting southelgin.com/HousingSurvey.

Sticker Shock! Mail Costs on the Rise Again

The United States Postal Service has implemented another price increase, effective July 13, 2025. This adjustment sees the cost of a First-Class Mail **Forever stamp rise by 5 cents, from 73 cents to 78 cents.**

This marks a continued trend of postage rate hikes, impacting individuals and businesses alike. The USPS attributes these changes to the need for financial



stability as part of its "Delivering for America" 10-year plan. While some competitive shipping services like Priority Mail Express remain unchanged for now, other mailing products, including postcards and international letters, have also seen price adjustments.

For more detailed information on the new rates, you can [visit the official USPS website](https://usps.com)

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Meet Madam President Peggy Heinrich

A new era for Elgin Community College

When Peggy Heinrich, EdD, became the ninth president of Elgin Community College, she was both honored and exhilarated. Heinrich, who is deeply committed to higher education and community service, views her new leadership role as the continuation of a personal journey that has evolved throughout her career.

Looking back, Heinrich never imagined herself leading a community college. "If I were telling my story, I'd probably go backward and say that I thought I would be a high school English teacher, and I thought that I'd be happy doing that," Heinrich said. "But as I grew in my career, I found my passion for working with adult learners and for higher education administration."

Heinrich discovered her true calling through her work with adult learners: the opportunity to transform lives through education.

Over her past 18 years at ECC, Heinrich has been an integral part of the institution's growth. She has held various administrative roles, each one deepening her understanding of the pivotal role community colleges play in fostering educational and professional success.

"What excites me most about this new chapter is the opportunity to have an even greater impact on our students and community," Heinrich said. [Read More](#)

A vibrant orange poster for the 'home planet earth Gala Sculpture Auction'. The central graphic shows two hands holding a blue and green globe. To the right, there are stylized flowers: a large orange one and a smaller blue one, both with black centers. Several bees are flying around the globe and flowers. The text 'home planet earth Gala Sculpture Auction' is written in white and black on the left. On the right, the event details are listed: 'September 6 6-10PM The Highland Loft \$175 Regular | \$150 Early Bird'. The bottom left corner features the 'Sponsored by Nicor Gas' logo.

home planet earth Gala Sculpture Auction

Sponsored by Nicor Gas

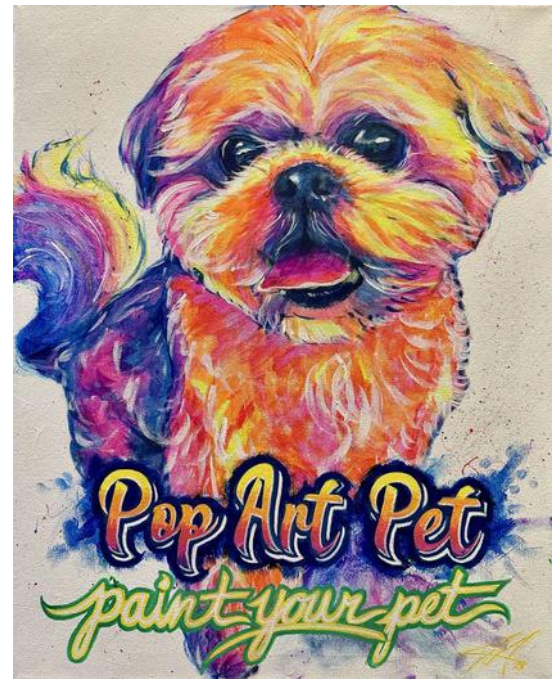
September 6
6-10PM
The Highland Loft
\$175 Regular | \$150 Early Bird

Project Pet Pop Art at Pinot's Palette, St Charles

Paint a custom canvas of your pet in a colorful pop art style! Once you sign up for the painting class, please email us (stcharlesilus@pinotspalette.com) a high quality, well-lit digital photo of your pet (one pet per canvas, please) and we will do the rest. Each photo will be transferred onto a 16"X20" canvas. Our talented artists will walk you through the steps to create your very own Pop Art Pet Portrait!

The deadline for signing up for class and receiving photos is August 5, 2025.

[Click here to register for the event!](#)



ANDERSON HUMANE

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SEPTEMBER 28TH 2025

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DISCREET LIMO

Summer Rides in Style: Elgin's Trusted Limo Service for August Travel, Lollapalooza, and More

This August, our local, family-owned limo service is proud to provide **top-rated** airport transportation for family vacations and group outings in Elgin and the surrounding areas. Whether you're flying out of O'Hare or Midway or heading to summer concerts and sports events like Lollapalooza, we offer reliable limo and black car service with spacious SUVs, Sprinters, and luxury buses. Perfect for group transportation to Wrigley Field, Soldier Field, or downtown events. Serving Elgin, Bartlett, South Elgin, and beyond with professional chauffeurs and newer vehicles.

Book local. Book the best. Book
[**Discreetlimousine.com**](http://Discreetlimousine.com)

Annual Giving Tree

Join us in making the holidays extra special for our residents. Marklund's Volunteer Department organizes the Annual Giving Tree Gift Drive for residents at our Elgin and Geneva locations. Each resident has a personal wish list featured on tags placed on Marklund's holiday trees and community-sponsored trees.

How to get involved:

Businesses, teams, churches and groups can create a Marklund Giving Tree by requesting gift tags from the Volunteer Department. You can also sponsor a tree in your community—this could be YOUR tree! Alternatively, grab a tag from trees at our locations. Participants can purchase one or more gifts from the tag list.

Gift return instructions:

- Gifts must be wrapped with the tag securely attached.
- Return gifts to the appropriate Marklund location by **Wednesday, December 17**, or arrange for pickup through the Volunteer Department.

Your support can make a real impact, spreading cheer and making the holiday season unforgettable for our residents.

For more information about volunteering at any one of our sites, please contact:

Nikki Osterloh,
Manager of Volunteer Engagement
– Geneva
nosterloh@marklund.org
Direct: 630.593.5468

Melanie Toth,
Volunteer Engagement Specialist
– Elgin
mtoth@marklund.org
Direct: 224.523.7535

Scan here to visit our site!



Of Cars & Hearts

07.22.2025: 1st #OCSHoriginal WEBSITE entry in 4 years! [Read about](#) my 1981 Monte Carlo SC coming back home to northern IL (with 5 additional photos), a mile marker for my 2003 Mercury Grand Marquis LS [I bought 10.20.2016 with 165,609 miles], heart notes (including the retirement of my cardiologist of ~25 years) & 2 tidbits (including FREE Downtown Neighborhood Gift certificates), in the #OCSHnetwork link.



ELGIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Music Director Chad Goodman

PRESENTING OUR **76TH SEASON** 2025-2026

SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW ON SALE. SINGLE TICKETS AVAILABLE AUG. 21

<p>SATURDAY - 7:30 PM OCTOBER 11 SUNDAY - 2:30 PM OCTOBER 12</p> <p>Chad Goodman, conductor Orion Weiss, piano</p> <p>CARLOS SIMON Motherhood Connection H. HADSON Symphony No. 2, "Romantic" GERSHWIN Concerto in F</p> <p>GERSHWIN CONCERTO IN F</p>	<p>SATURDAY - 7:30 PM NOVEMBER 8 SUNDAY - 2:30 PM NOVEMBER 9</p> <p>Chad Goodman, conductor Greg Flint, horn</p> <p>MOZART Symphony No. 33 MOZART Horn Concerto No. 4 C. SCHUMANN Three Romances MENDELSSOHN Symphony No. 4, "Italian"</p> <p>MOZART & MENDELSSOHN</p>	<p>SATURDAY - 7:30 PM FEBRUARY 7 SUNDAY - 2:30 PM FEBRUARY 8</p> <p>Chad Goodman, conductor Geneva Lewis, viola</p> <p>OVRÁK Othello BARBER Violin Concerto BRAHMS Symphony No. 3</p> <p>GENEVA LEWIS PLAYS BARBER</p>
<p>SATURDAY - 7:30 PM MARCH 7 SUNDAY - 2:30 PM MARCH 8</p> <p>Chad Goodman, conductor Elyse Master, Chorale</p> <p>VALTIER COLLAPPO Seven O'Clock Show GREG Selections from Peter Dink FAURÉ Requiem</p> <p>FAURÉ REQUIEM</p>	<p>SATURDAY - 7:30 PM APRIL 11 SUNDAY - 2:30 PM APRIL 12</p> <p>Chad Goodman, conductor Oliver Herbert, cello</p> <p>OLIVIER HADSON A Joyous Trilogy R. SCHUMANN Cello Concerto BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 5</p> <p>BEETHOVEN'S 5TH</p>	<p>SATURDAY - 7:30 PM MAY 2 SUNDAY - 2:30 PM MAY 3</p> <p>Chad Goodman, conductor</p> <p>ANGELICA NESRIM Mozart R. STRAUSS Death and Transfiguration MUSKOGEE Pictures at an Exhibition</p> <p>PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION</p>

SPECIAL EVENT
HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13 | 2:30 PM & 7:30 PM
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 | 2:30 PM

SPONSORS

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WWW.ELGINSYMPHONY.ORG

*Programs, venues, and artists are subject to change

ELGIN'S 2025 END OF SUMMER BASH!

FREE FAMILY FUN!

SATURDAY
AUGUST 9 • 4PM
FESTIVAL PARK
132 S. GROVE AVE. ELGIN, IL

- LIVE VOLCANO • BABY DINOS
- INTERACTIVE DINOSAUR PARK
- JUGGLERS • MAGIC SHOW • BALLOON ARTISTS
- LED MINI-GOLF • REPTILE SHOW & MORE!

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FOOD & DRINK VENDORS

FUN FACT: The smallest known dinosaur, Epidexipteryx, was only about 10 inches (25 cm) long, roughly the size of a pigeon.

TACO Week

AUGUST 11-17, 2025

\$10 TACOS All Week

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HAPPY HOUR

CHICAGO STREET POUR HOUSE + KITCHEN

WEEKDAYS 3PM-6PM

\$3 MILLER, COORS, MODELO DRAFTS

\$5 MARGARITAS, TITOS, & JACK COCKTAILS

\$8 ELOTE NUGGETS, STUFFED JALAPENOS, CHEESY BREAD STICKS

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\$9 LUNCH SPECIALS

CHICKEN DOUBLE SANDWICH
Two fried chicken breasts smothered in choice of sauce: Merkt's cheese, hot honey, Nashville hot or classic Buffalo, on a brioche bun; with fries

ALL-AMERICAN CHEESEBURGER
Served with fries

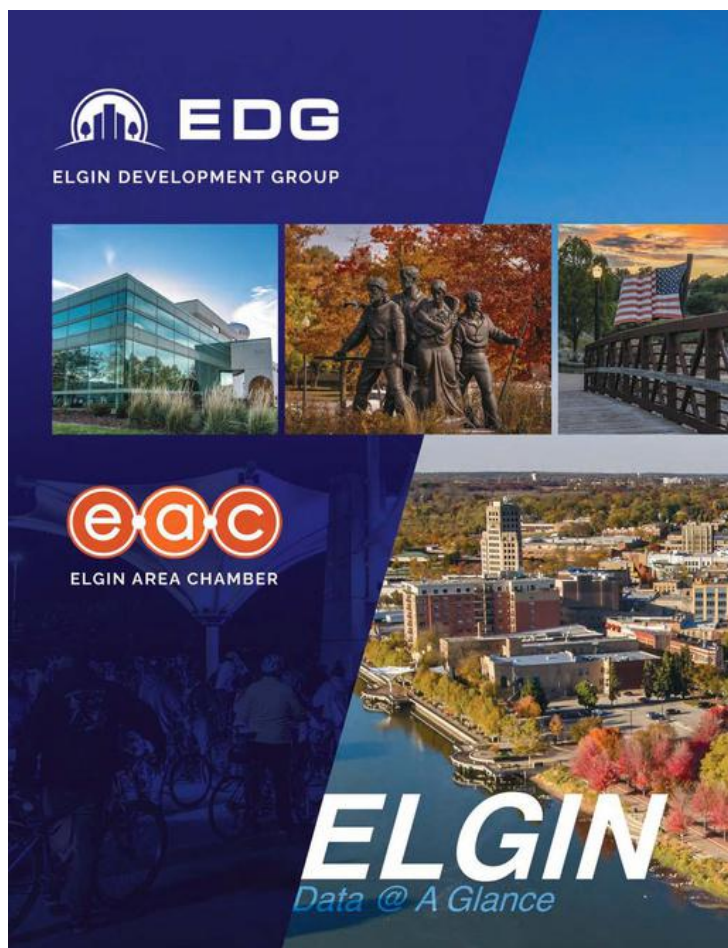
BBQ PORK SANDWICH
Pulled pork tossed in housemade barbecue sauce, topped with cheddar & crispy onion strings, on a pretzel bun, with a side of coleslaw

CHICKEN FINGERS
Fresh hand cut chicken breasts, tossed in our beer batter, fried, served with honey mustard

MONDAY-FRIDAY 11AM-2PM
*Dine in or carry out with any beverage purchase

CHICAGO STREET POUR HOUSE + KITCHEN

POURHOUSEKITCHEN.COM



EDG Releases 2025 Data @ A Glance Report

ELGIN DEVELOPMENT GROUP

The Elgin Development Group (EDG), a Division of the Elgin Area Chamber of Commerce, has released its comprehensive 2025 Data @ A Glance informational report on the City of Elgin, the 6th most populous city in the State of Illinois.

The 12-page booklet provides a quick, yet in-depth, look at statistics featuring Elgin's business, municipal, and residential activity and growth; population and diversity factors; workforce sectors and categories; healthcare resources and services; and educational institutions.

The EDG provides business assistance in many forms, including site selection, permitting, business retention, relocation, expansion, and workforce development, and provides resources for new budding entrepreneurs.

[View the Report](#)

66TH ANNUAL KIWANIS BBQ

Featuring Duke's BBQ

Join us at **Russo's Power Equipment**
1001 N. Randall Road in Elgin!

Proceeds to benefit children's programs in the greater Elgin area. Order tickets from a local Kiwanis member or by scanning the QR code:

SAMPLE TICKET:

	66th ANNUAL BARBECUE
	Bringing Local Children's Charities
	Duke's Pulled Pork, Rib Tip or BBQ Chicken Sandwich Dinner
	SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2025
	RUSCO POWER EQUIPMENT
	1001 N. Randall Rd., Elgin, IL 60120
	Serving 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
	Drive Thru Service
	\$15.00 per meal

SATURDAY
AUGUST 16TH, 2025
4PM - 7PM
FEATURING
Pulled Pork Sandwiches
Pulled Chicken Sandwiches
Rib Tip Sandwiches



ELGIN AREA CHAMBER

SUBMIT YOUR CONTENT

Submit your news, events, deals, and announcements to

post@elginchamber.com

by August 21 to be included in September's newsletter.

Content placement in the Click & Connect newsletter is an exclusive and **included** benefit for all Elgin Area Chamber members.

[JOIN NOW](#)