



ELGIN AREA CHAMBER

# CLICK & CONNECT

April 2025 >>>



## Who Should Apply:

EALA welcomes individuals from diverse backgrounds who are committed to making a lasting impact on Elgin. Whether you are a seasoned professional, a dedicated volunteer, or an emerging leader, this program provides an unparalleled opportunity to grow and contribute.

## Elevate Your Impact: Join the Elgin Area Leadership Academy 2025-2026

Elgin's future is being shaped today, and the Elgin Area Leadership Academy (EALA) invites you to be a vital part of that process. This esteemed program, with a rich history of developing community leaders, is now accepting applications for its 2025-2026 class.

EALA offers a unique and transformative experience, designed to equip participants with the in-depth knowledge, essential skills, and powerful connections needed to drive positive change within the Elgin area. More than just a program, EALA is an investment in your personal and professional growth, and an investment in the future of our community.

By joining EALA, you will become part of a powerful network of individuals dedicated to building a stronger, more vibrant Elgin.

Don't just observe change—be a catalyst for it. Invest in yourself, invest in your community, and become a leader who makes a difference.

**[APPLY TODAY](#)**

## Szpekowski Receives Writing Honors

Patricia M. Szpekowski, APR, president of PR Strategies & Communications, Inc./PmS advertising, inc. in Elgin, has received recognition from the Illinois Woman's Press Association (IWPA), an affiliate of the National Federation of Press Women (NFPW), in its recent 2025 communications contest. [MORE](#)





## Spring into Local with Made in Elgin!

Spring is here, and we're celebrating all things locally made with the Made in Elgin campaign! From our Made in Elgin Directory to business highlights, Spring Pop-Up Market (April 19), there are endless ways to support local makers. Don't miss our Gift Certificate Sale (April 15 - May 2) and Made in Elgin Punch Card rewards!

Join us in shopping, supporting, and celebrating our incredible Elgin businesses! [MORE](#)

## RV Entertainment Announces Purchase of the Kane County Cougars



REV Entertainment today announced its purchase of the Kane County Cougars, marking an exciting new chapter in the franchise's storied history. The American Association of Professional Baseball approved the new ownership team last week following approval by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County. [MORE](#)



Experience the tasting event of the year and join in the fight against food insecurity! You are invited to sponsor, contribute as a vendor, or attend Pallet to Palate 2025! Pallet to Palate features an array of local chefs and their favorite culinary creations. Guests are invited to stop by each chef's table to get a taste of their creations. The small bites will be complemented by live music and drawings for some fabulous prizes. All proceeds will benefit the critical work that Food for Greater Elgin does in the community.

[CLICK HERE](#) for General Admission Tickets and opportunities for sponsorships.



## Rate for EAC Member Travelers

We're offering seasonal discounted rates to our Elgin Area Chamber members, based on availability, Sunday-Thursdays stays. These rates will be valid until 12/30/25. Should you need to book a group block or a meeting room, just reach out to me for assistance. Happy to help! [BOOK YOUR STAY](#)





## #U46 First Day Ready

Registration for our incoming kindergarten students (the Class of 2033!) is still underway. The video link below is a great introduction to full-day, play-based education that U-46 provides to our kindergarten students, as well as ways parents help get their young learners prepared and excited for the first day of school. Please share this video with any area families you know who have a child who will be 5 years old by Sept. 1, 2025. [WATCH VIDEO](#)



**EPEL**  
Enriching Partnerships for Early Learning

Elgin Partnership for Early Learning (EPEL) changing name to Enriching Partnerships for Early Learning. Website is now [enrichingpartnerships.org](http://enrichingpartnerships.org)



The Elgin Area Chamber (EAC) and our Economic Development division know how important it is that local High School students gain the skills to be our community's leaders of tomorrow. We are pleased to invite graduating High School seniors who are seeking additional education to further their careers to apply for an EAC/EDG scholarship. [MORE](#)

## Be Their VOICE



Your Commitment, Their Future.



Bi-lingual volunteers especially needed!

**Volunteers Needed** ~ CASA Kane County  
CASA/GAL stands for Court Appointed Special Advocate and Guardian Ad Litem. CASAs are specially trained volunteers who become the crucial voice of a child in abuse and neglect cases. Relied upon by judges and most importantly, the children. If you are 21 or older and have 5-15 hours a month to give a child – YOU can be a CASA Volunteer! [MORE](#)



## The Importance Of Children's Dental Health

### U-46 Children Deserve Better Access to Dental Care

Illinois Children With No Dental Visit in the Past Year



District U-46 Students Who Have Submitted the Required Dental Examination Form



Kindergartners

2nd Graders

6th Graders

Medicaid reimbursement rates for dentists in Illinois are among the lowest in the country. As a result, few dentists are willing to treat children with Medicaid insurance.

### Tooth Decay is the Most Common Chronic Health Condition Among Children

In Illinois...



1 in 5 3rd graders



1 in 4 Black, Asian, and low-income children

have untreated tooth decay

### Poor Oral Health Has a Significant Impact on Children's Physical and Mental Health

Tooth decay is linked with...

Heart disease	Poor nutrition	Shyness
Stroke	Interrupted sleep	Unhappiness
Lung disease	Speech problems	Feeling worthless
Oral cancer	Behavior issues	Social withdrawal



### Oral Health Affects School Attendance & Achievement

34 million

school hours lost annually for urgent and unplanned dental care

4x

Students with toothaches are... more likely to have low grades

6x

more likely to miss school for dental problems

Collaboration between schools, dentists, families, public health, and other community partners is essential.

Contact [info@wellchildcenter.org](mailto:info@wellchildcenter.org) for more information about how you can support children's oral health in our community.

[www.WellChildCenter.org](http://www.WellChildCenter.org)







## The Basics Greater Elgin!

Join us as we make history with the launch of The Basics Greater Elgin! EPEL invites you to a day of inspiration and collaboration, featuring keynote speakers Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Superintendent of U-46, and Dr. Ron Ferguson, Harvard Professor and founder of The Basics, Inc.. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. [REGISTER NOW](#)

# NOW OPEN

## Taking Enrollments



## 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  
mtoth@marklund.org  
Direct: 224.523.7535



Scan here to visit our site!

## Habitat for Humanity's "Holding Hope" Event



Women Build 2025  
Advocacy Luncheon

# Holding Hope

## April 11th

Elgin Country Club

[www.HabitatNFV.org](http://www.HabitatNFV.org)



Guest Speaker:  
**Pam Orr**  
Executive Director of  
Fellowship Housing

## Elgin Country Club

### April 11th, 11:30am-1:30pm

Join us in Honor of Habitat for Humanity's Women Build as we engage in support & compassion of women through networking, lunch and learning. This year's theme is "Holding Hope" with guest speaker Pam Orr from Fellowship Housing. [TICKETS](#)



## Elevate Your Brand Free Consultation for EAC Members



Bring your brand to life with RLD Creative, your strategic partner in design, branding, and marketing. **As an EAC member, you're eligible for a free consultation** to explore how we can elevate your business. From logo design to full-scale marketing campaigns, our team crafts compelling visuals and messaging that make an impact. Let's bring your brand to the next level, [schedule through our website today.](#)



Enjoy Premium Cleaning Services at a Member's Price – **EAC members receive a 10% discount** on our expert carpet and upholstery cleaning services.

### Annual Spring Luncheon

# ELEVATE 2025

A leadership gathering to elevate critical issues impacting immigrants today.

#### Centro's Spring Luncheon Agenda

**11:00 AM** | Strategic Networking  
Explore the opportunities that inspire you! Whether you're passionate about Immigration, Business Development, or Community Organizing, find a table and join the conversation!

**12:00 PM** | Program with Keynote Speaker & Lunch

**1:00 PM** | CLOSING with a Keep Centro Strong pledge for all attendees to join Centro's recurring Membership Giving Program—because real change happens when we collectively elevate each other!

## April 25, 2025

### 11:00am

---

Villa Olivia  
1401 W Lake St, Bartlett, IL 60103

**Individual Ticket: \$65**  
**Table for Eight: \$500**

---

Register to Attend:  
[Elevate2025.givesmart.com](http://Elevate2025.givesmart.com)  
Text **Elevate2025** to 76278

**Keynote Speaker:**  
**Oswaldo Alvarez, Executive Director of the Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus Foundation**

**SPRING BREAK DEALS** NOW THROUGH APRIL 7!

15% OFF ALL BLASTERS AND MEGA BOXES!  
10% OFF ALL SINGLE CARDS!  
5% OFF ALL HOBBY BOXES!

359 S RANDALL RD, ELGIN, IL 60123  
[TOPSHELFSPOORTSCARDS.COM](http://TOPSHELFSPOORTSCARDS.COM)

## Comfort Keepers

**\$200 off one month of in-home care services.**  
**Call for details (847) 215-8550.**

Minimum 50 hours of care. New clients only. Coupon must be presented during complementary Care Consultation. Some exclusions apply. Valid for Comfort Keepers office locations 234, 985, 954, and 1128.



## The Literacy Connection Hosts Poetry & Literacy Festival on April 12 in Elgin

Tickets are on sale for The Literacy Connection's Poetry & Literacy Festival, which will include workshop learning with Chasity Gunn, guest speaker Diego Báez, and an Open Mic/Poetry Slam with raffle items. Events will take place at Elgin Community College and Elgin Art Showcase. Proceeds benefit The Literacy Connection. Sponsorship opportunities are available for local businesses.

[Event website with tickets, details, and more](#)

## El Trote De Las Calacas Early Bird Registration Open!

Join the 900 runners and walkers that were part of the 2024's inaugural El Trote De Las Calacas "Trot of the Skeletons". El Trote De Las Calacas/Trot of the Skeletons. The Gail Borden Public Library District Foundation and the U-46 Educational Foundation have



**Main Library**  
**October 18 | 9 am**

partnered to offer this 5K fundraising race. Right now you can register at a discounted rate! Act fast because this special sale won't last for long.

[MORE](#)

## ESO to Present "The Planets"

The Elgin Symphony Orchestra will conclude its 75th anniversary season on May 3 and 4 with performances of Holst's "The Planets".

Other upcoming ESO concerts and events include:

- **April 4** at 7:30 p.m. and **April 5** at 2:30 p.m. at the Hemmens Cultural Center, 45 Symphony Way, Elgin: Tchaikovsky and Sibelius, featuring guest violinist Samuel Vargas
- **April 27** at 3 p.m., at Barrington's White House, 145 W. Main St., Barrington: Elgin Symphony String Quartet: Masterpieces of Chamber Music
- **May 17** at 5 p.m., at San Filippo Estate in Barrington: ESO 75th Anniversary Gala

[MORE information](#) about concerts and events.





## Holiday Inn Express: Visit Us!

The award-winning, newly built Holiday Inn Express and Suites of Hoffman Estates, IL is happy to host your next event or overnight stay. Feel free to come by for a tour with our Sales Team so we can show you how beautiful the hotel truly is. We are a perfect home away from home. **BROCHURE**

New devices need

# GIG INTERNET

**\$45** /mo.\* + **\$100\***

2-YEAR PRICE LOCK

# PAPA JOHN'S

our regular-priced menu items.

**Promo code: ELGIN30**

1825 Larkin Ave, Elgin (847) 760-6464

# H.A.T.C.H.

HANDS AROUND THE COURTHOUSE

**IN HONOR OF**

## CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month - a time to raise awareness and take action to protect children from abuse and neglect. HATCH is a great opportunity to show your support and to learn how you change a child's story. Together, we can create safe, nurturing environments where every child can thrive.

**FEATURING GUEST SPEAKERS**

Robert Villa Honorable Chief Judge	Jamie Mosser State's Attorney
---------------------------------------	----------------------------------

Remarks by: Jim Di Ciaula, Executive Director

Light lunch and refreshments will be provided.  
This event is open to the public!

**THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025 - 12:00PM**

## KANE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

For more information, visit <https://casakanecounty.org/>

# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS: NISRA OPEN HOUSE

**SUNDAY, APRIL 13**  
**1:00 - 4:00 PM**  
285 MEMORIAL DRIVE, CRYSTAL LAKE

MEET OUR TEAM AND TOUR OUR FACILITY

LEARN ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS AND IMPACT

DISCOVER WAYS TO BE INVOLVED

Join us as we open our doors to **NEW** participants, families, donors, and potential staff!

Whether you're looking to join a program, support our mission, or become part of our team, this event is for you!

**FOOD**

**MUSIC**

**SWAG**

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT:**  
Emily Todd, Senior Manager of Support Staff & Volunteers  
etodd@nisra.org | (815) 459-0737, ext. 243



## Sustainable Elgin Community Grant



Sustainable Elgin Community Grant program is designed to encourage and support ideas that foster a more sustainable community within the City of Elgin. This program offers grant awards up to \$1,500 which is for sustainability related projects, events, and programs.

Funding may be awarded to Elgin residents, neighborhood groups, and local agencies (such as non-profits, businesses, institutions, and associations). Eligibility criteria for applicants and projects proposals are listed below. [MORE](#)



**APPLICATIONS  
ACCEPTED APRIL  
15-30, 2025**

IMEC and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) are excited to announce the 2025 **Made in Illinois Grant Program**. This initiative is designed to strengthen small and mid-sized manufacturers across Illinois by providing up to \$50,000 in matching funds.

The application window is narrow – it will only be open April 15–30, 2025. Because of this, we are sharing with you to help spread the word about this incredible opportunity. By working together, we can ensure that Illinois manufacturers have the resources to innovate, grow, and lead. [MORE](#)

## New IL Law for Alcohol Infused Products



Effective January 1, 2025 bill SB 2625 went into effect. Alcohol-infused products such as alcoholic ice cream, whipped cream, popsicles, and other similar products are now considered alcoholic beverages regulated by the Illinois Liquor Control Act and the ILCC. [MORE](#)

**Got a text telling you to pay “overdue toll charges”?**

**It's probably a scam.**



## Kane County Health Department Announces Child Abuse Prevention Month Initiatives



KCHD is recognizing Child Abuse Prevention Month with a series of events aimed at raising awareness, educating the community, and supporting families. [MORE](#)

## Contracting with Government

A Roadmap for Business Opportunities

**Tuesday, May 13, 2025**

**The Edward Schock Centre of Elgin**  
(Heritage Ballroom)

100 Symphony Way, Elgin, IL 60120





## Thomas Rickert Honored with 2025 APWA Professional Manager of the Year Award

Along with KDOT receiving top honors for Longmeadow Parkway from APWA Chicago Metro Chapter, **Thomas Rickert, KDOT's Deputy Director and Chief of Staff, was recently awarded the 2025 APWA Professional Manager of the Year –Administrative Management** for his service to Kane County and the broader Chicagoland metro area as evidenced by 37 years of leadership for Kane County, the Kane Kendall Council of Mayors as Executive Director, APWA, and CMAP serving on regional committees. [MORE](#)



HOPP  
ACCOUNTING & TAX



## Business Succession: The Buy-Sell Agreement

If you hold an interest in a business that's closely held or family owned, a buy-sell agreement should be a component of your estate plan. The agreement provides for the orderly disposition of each owner's interest after a "triggering event," such as death, disability, divorce or withdrawal from the business. It accomplishes this by permitting or requiring the company or the remaining owners to purchase the departing owner's interest. It's essential to revisit the agreement's valuation provision to ensure that it reflects the business's current value. Contact [Hopp Accounting & Tax Service](#) with questions.



## Sixth Grade: Coming Soon!

Construction is officially underway on a 47,000-square-foot addition that will allow Kenyon Woods Middle School to accommodate 6th graders as well as 7th and 8th graders starting with the 2026-27 school year. [MORE](#)

## Grand Opening Celebration

Old National Elgin Mortgage Loan Office

Saturday, April 26 | 10:30am-12:30pm

[RSVP Now](#)



**Roberto Cortes**  
Community Development  
Mortgage Loan Officer  
50 S Grove Ave, Elgin IL 60120  
NMLS #543279

Member FDIC

OLD  
NATIONAL  
BANK

the Village  
Squire  
Restaurants



Click Here To  
Sign Up For Our

**BIRTHDAY  
REWARDS**





**BCS**  
Business & Career Services

*Manufacturing Careers Internship Program*

# Your Journey Your Career Path Starts with MCIP

Are you 18-24 yrs old?  
Out of school?  
Do you live in Kane County or the surrounding area?  
Are you looking for a career opportunity?  
Do you want to take charge of your career path?

**Training Starts  
April 28th  
Apply Now!**

**APPLY NOW**

or call  
**224-545-0765**





**Free Program for  
Qualified  
Individuals**



**No  
Experience  
Needed**



**Paid  
Training  
Included**



**Earn OSHA 10  
and Forklift  
Certifications**







Business and Career Services provides equal access to all job seekers.  
MCIP is funded through a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
(WIOA) grant awarded by the Kane County Office of Community  
Reinvestment.




As the 2025 season kicks off, let RG Asphalt & Concrete be your lucky charm for all your paving and concrete needs! Whether it's a fresh parking lots, smooth sidewalks, storm sewers or loading docks, we're here to bring the magic of quality craftsmanship to your project.

Don't wait – call us today and get your project moving forward. Green means go with RG Asphalt & Concrete!

Get a free estimate today and let's pave the way to success!

**Contact us**

## Shockingly Fast Service Chillingly Good Results



**BATTAGLIA  
MECHANICAL • ELECTRICAL  
CONTRACTORS**

**Innovative  
Efficient  
Reliable  
Precise  
Expert**

BattagliaIndustries.com (847) 483-0300

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH ADOPT-A-PARK



Calling all scouts, neighborhoods, residents, families, businesses and community organizations. South Elgin invites you to join our passionate community of volunteers dedicated to keeping our beautiful parks looking their best.

**YOUR HELP CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**







## Order **FREE** 988 Lifeline Awareness Materials



## Saint Joseph Hospital

Saint Joseph Hospital – Elgin is now part of the Prime Healthcare family of Hospitals.

[Visit Website](#)



YES, WE'RE  
**OPEN**  
**SATURDAYS!**

8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

### At the following locations:

**Chicago:** Resurrection Hosp., 7447 W. Talcott, Ste. 214

**Crystal Lake:** 750 E. Terra Cotta Ave, Unit C

**Elgin:** 1795 Grandstand Place

**Hoffman Estates:** 3200 W. Higgins Rd, Ste. 106

**Yorkville:** 215 Hillcrest Avenue, Ste B

Call (847) 639-5800 or visit [IllinoisFoot.com](http://IllinoisFoot.com) to schedule an appointment!

## THRIVING AFTER 55 RESOURCE FAIR

April 25 from 10 am to 2 pm

Building J, Gymnasium  
Elgin Community College  
1700 Spartan Drive, Elgin IL 60123

Join us to meet new people, discover resources, and gather practical tools to continue living a vibrant, active life. This event brings together a wide range of community resources and services to help you thrive in every aspect of your life.

### What to Expect:

- **Exhibitors:** Browse booths from local businesses and organizations offering products, services, and information focused on the needs and interests of those 55 and older.
- **Health Screenings:** Available health screenings include blood pressure monitoring, stroke risk assessments, and blood sugar screenings.
- **Concessions:** Snacks and beverages will be available for purchase. Stay energized and refreshed as you explore the fair!

Learn More: [elgin.edu/thrive](http://elgin.edu/thrive)



Elgin  
Community  
College



**Need Foot & Ankle Care on  
a Saturday?**

**We've Got You Covered!**



We know weekdays can be hectic, so select NIFAS clinics are open on Saturdays to make it easier for you to get the care you need—on your schedule! Whether it's a nagging foot pain, a sports injury, or a routine check-up, our expert podiatrists are here to help.

Saturday availability at select locations

– Call or visit our website

[www.illinoisfoot.com](http://www.illinoisfoot.com) to book your appointment!

## Spring Into Comfort!

**Spring 2025**

Spring Comfort – Stay Cool & Save!  
Get your A/C ready for warmer days while improving efficiency and lowering energy costs.

**A/C TUNE-UP \$79.99**

**McNally's HEATING & COOLING**

VOTED BEST HEATING & A/C COMPANY

SCAN ME

GIVE US A CALL OR VISIT US ONLINE  
(630)363-9067

"Let the LUCK of the IRISH work for you!"  
WWW.MCNALLYHVAC.COM

## Spring into Comfort with McNally's Heating & Cooling

Get your A/C ready for warmer weather while improving efficiency and lowering energy costs.  
Savings with McNally's Heating and Cooling Offers:

- \$150 OFF A/C or Furnace Install or \$300 OFF Full System Install
- \$79.99 A/C Tune-Up
- \$35 OFF Any Service Repair
- 25% OFF Air Duct Cleaning



Call McNally's today to keep your home and family comfortable year-round!

630-363-9067 [www.mcnallyhvac.com](http://www.mcnallyhvac.com)

## Keep me in mind

For your next graphic project



**ANA MARIA HINKHOUSE**  
GRAPHIC DESIGNER

**CREATIVITY IN ACTION**  
with more than 15 years of experience

### TRANSLATION SERVICES made *by* Latinos *for* Latinos

We provide the following services  
in English to Spanish and Spanish to English:

- General Translation of any written media
- Technical/specialized translations in the areas of: business, finance, health care, corporate, marketing, legal, travel, tourism, human resources, quality control and education.
- Presentations
- All kinds of advertisement pieces: fliers, posters, brochures, promos and more.



Commercial  
Graphic Design

Corporate Identity

Bilingual Production

Illustration/Rendering

Digital Design

Web Design

Editorial Design

Label & Packaging

Print & Promos

## Master Clean

Top-Rated Cleaning Services  
in Kane County and the  
Chicagoland Area

**Sparkling Spring Discount 20%  
Off All Flooring Services.**  
Promo Code: FCTGC2025

**VISIT SITE**

**Call : 847-741-3090**



# OPEN HOUSE

Learn More About Ecker Center's Services & Recovery Cafe

Join us to meet our team, explore our services, and learn how we support individuals on their recovery journey.

**Date:** Thursday, April 3, 2025  
**Time:** 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM  
**Location:** Ecker Center at Hanover Landing  
 711 E Chicago St, Elgin IL 60120

## RECOVERY CAFE

Fellowship | Resources | Support

A safe & secure place for individuals in recovery from substance use, no matter where they are in their journey.

### What to Expect:

- Learn about Ecker Center's behavioral health & recovery services
- Discover the **Recovery Café**—a safe space for fellowship, resources & support
- Learn about **Narcan**—a life-saving medication that reverses opioid overdoses
- Connect with fellow residents & community members
- Enjoy refreshments - **First 20 guests receive a swag bag!**

This event is open to **Hanover Landing residents and the local community.** Stop by to learn more about Ecker Center's services—we'd love to meet you!

## RECOVERY CAFE DROP-IN HOURS - ALL LOCATIONS

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

### MONDAYS & TUESDAYS

Grandstand Office  
 1845 Grandstand Place  
 Elgin IL 60123

### WEDNESDAYS

St Charles Office  
 1652 E Main Street  
 St Charles IL 60174

### THURSDAYS

Hanover Landing Office  
 711 E Chicago Street  
 Elgin IL 60120

QUESTIONS? EMAIL [RECOVERYCAFE@ECKERCENTER.ORG](mailto:RECOVERYCAFE@ECKERCENTER.ORG) OR CALL (847) 695-0484, EXT. 2087



Leading Individuals to a Healthier Life

## Robots Drive Productivity at Hoffer Plastics



Hoffer Plastics has significantly boosted efficiency and safety through the implementation of autonomous mobile robots (AMRs) and cobots. These technologies enhance part inspection, filling, palletizing, and transport, resulting in over 55,000 hours of saved manual labor. Additionally, AMRs have reduced annual lifting by up to 2 million pounds, improving employee safety. Ongoing investments in automation support both operational improvements and consistent product quality. [MORE](#)

## ECC's first ever Manufacturing Student Showcase

This is an open-house event, May 9, 5:30 to 7:30 pm, welcomes people of all ages to explore the sustainable manufacturing concepts designed and fabricated by ECC's talented manufacturing students. See how traditional manufacturing practices are shaping the future of the industry and discover how ECC's tailored curriculum aligns with the needs of the local economy. [MORE](#)

## Lock in on higher earnings with our new Certificate rates!

### 9-Month Term

**4.55% APY\***

Super Jumbo 9-month Certificate  
 Minimum \$250,000 investment

**4.55% APY\***

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

**4.55% APY\***

9-month Regular Certificate  
 Minimum \$250 investment

### 17-Month Term

**4.35% APY\***

Super Jumbo 17-month Certificate  
 Minimum \$250,000 investment

**4.25% APY\***

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

**4.15% APY\***

17-month Regular Certificate  
 Minimum \$250 investment

Visit us at any KCT branch or call 847.741.3344 to speak to an MSR today!

\*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 9-month term certificate, the penalty rate will be 60 days' dividends. The APY for a 9-month certificate is 4.45%. The APY for a 9-month Jumbo certificate is 4.45%. For a 17-month term certificate, the penalty rate will be 120 days' dividends. The APY for a 17-month certificate is 4.07%. The APY for a 17-month Jumbo certificate is 4.12%. The APY for a 17-month Super Jumbo certificate is 4.26%. 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. 9-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.

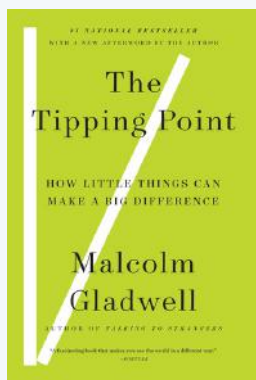
Building Stronger Communities Together



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







## Check It Out!

### Rebecca's Business Book of the Month

**The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference by Malcolm Gladwell**

***"Look at the world around you. It may seem like an immovable, implacable place. It is not. With the slightest push—in just the right place—it can be tipped."***

The Tipping Point is the first book by Malcolm Gladwell, and it's an oldie but a goodie. It's not a traditional business book per se, intertwining with psychology, sociology, and science. However, it's widely considered a worthwhile read for business leaders, as it introduces concepts easily applicable to entrepreneurship, product development, marketing, sales, and more. [MORE](#)



**Rebecca Lapinski**  
Career Service Librarian  
Gail Borden Library



## Join the World in a Healing Wave: Tai Chi & Qigong Day

Each year, on the last Saturday of April, at 10:00a local time, thousands in cities in over 70 nations come together to provide the world a healing image of our planet and people through the global Tai Chi and Qigong Healing Wave that starts in New Zealand and migrates around the world.

All levels of practitioners are welcome. Event starts promptly at 10a so arrive 10-15 minutes ahead of start. We anticipate we'll meet outdoors but have indoor facilities if the weather doesn't cooperate. 847-888-8866 or email [southelginbudokan@att.net](mailto:southelginbudokan@att.net). **No charge** to join us so bring a friend!

[Calendar of Events](#)





## Meet Ram: Our Newest Sponsored Service Dog for a Veteran

At Dogtopia of South Elgin, we believe in the life-changing bond between dogs and people. That's why we're thrilled to introduce Ram, a Golden Retriever currently in training at K9s for Warriors! In just a few months, Ram will be paired with a veteran in need, providing companionship, support, and a renewed sense of independence.

Ram is the fifth service dog we've sponsored through our partnership with K9s for Warriors, and we couldn't be prouder. Across the nation, the Dogtopia network has sponsored over 630 service dogs for veterans, reinforcing our Noble Cause: "to empower dogs to positively make a difference. [MORE](#)

### THE DOGTOPIA FOUNDATION



**Making a Difference  
One Dog at a Time**

**Want to learn more or get involved?**

Visit [DogtopiaFoundation.org](https://DogtopiaFoundation.org) to see how you can help sponsor a service dog for a veteran in need.

## ANDERSON HUMANE BETTER TOGETHER *Gala* A Night of Compassion & Celebration!



Artwork By Jenny Hiser

**Imagine a world where every pet finds a loving home, wildlife gets a second chance, and people and animals thrive together.**

*That's the world we're creating at Anderson Humane, and you can be part of it!*

**Join us for an unforgettable evening.**

**APRIL 5, 2025  
5:30 PM - 10 PM**

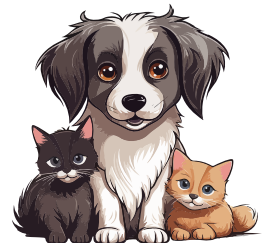
**Q CENTER**

1405 N. 5th Ave., St. Charles, IL

Guest Speaker Dr. Kwane Stewart, "The Street Vet," and **CNN's 2023 Hero of the Year**, is renowned for providing free vet care to pets of the homeless. His inspiring work highlights the unbreakable bond between people and pets and the power of compassion.



**thrive**  
PET HEALTHCARE  
SPECIALISTS  
**24/7 EMERGENCY**



Our integrated multi-specialty and emergency hospital provides streamlined, advanced care services for your patients' critical and specialty care needs.

- 24/7 Emergency Services
- Critical Care
- Internal Medicine
- Medical Oncology
- Radiation Oncology
- Neurology
- Dermatology
- Surgery
- Cardiology



2700 W Higgins Rd, Hoffman  
Estates, Illinois 60169  
**(618) 495-5010**



## South Elgin Earth Day Clean Up

Join the Village of South Elgin in cleaning up our Village in celebration of Earth Day on April 12 9-11am at Seba Park. Do you have a favorite area of South Elgin, or just want to help the Earth in its clean up celebration. Meet up at SEBA Park Shelter, grab some breakfast and then go out and help clean the parks of South Elgin. If you have a group of 10 or more please contact [Jday@southelgin.com](mailto:Jday@southelgin.com) to be placed at a spot to accommodate.

## Volunteer for Earth Day Shrub Planting

Join the Forest Preserve District of Kane County on Saturday, April 26, at 10 a.m. for an Earth Day shrub-planting event at Camp Tomo Chi-Chi Knolls in Gilberts. Volunteers will plant 500 hazelnuts and other shrubs. [MORE](#)

## Cook County Arts Creative Placemaking Program

Cook County Arts, an initiative led by the Cook County Bureau of Economic Development, is leading a creative placemaking program that will provide **grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$250,000** to nonprofit organizations leading transformative, community-led projects that improve the quality of life in suburban communities. [MORE](#)

The Kane Forest Preserve Foundation is accepting orders for its annual **Native Plant Sale** through April 15. Proceeds support efforts to acquire, restore, and protect Kane County's natural areas. [MORE](#)



From March 1 through May 31, the Kane County Forest Preserve District wants your help tracking the arrival of spring's fleeting wildflowers [MORE](#)



9th Annual

# EARTH MONTH CELEBRATION!

Saturday, April 5th  
10:00am-2:00pm  
Hawthorne Hill Nature Center

**CRAFTS, EDUCATIONAL SHOWS, NATURE PLAY, & VENDORS!**

Green Guerrilla Plant Sale* 9:30am-2pm	Build-a-Birdhouse-EAMS Table* 10am-2pm
Randall Oaks Zoo Animal Show! 10:30am	K.A.R.E. for Wildlife Educational Presentation 1:30pm

\*while supplies last

**ELGIN**  
THINK AND RECREATION

**Hawthorne Hill**  
NATURE CENTER

**FREE FUN FOR THE FAMILY**



ELGIN MASTER CHORALE  
J.S. BACH

# St. John PASSION

PRESENTED WITH ENGLISH SUPERTITLES

Sunday, April 13, 2025 | 3:30 PM | Blizzard Theatre at ECC's Arts Center  
Tickets available at [eccartscenter.org/tickets](http://eccartscenter.org/tickets)

## Bach's St. John Passion

Experience the power of live choral music as Elgin Master Chorale presents Bach's St. John Passion. This timeless masterpiece weaves together drama, emotion, and breathtaking harmonies, bringing the Passion story to life in an unforgettable way.

Whether you're a lifelong Bach fan or new to classical music, this performance will move and inspire you. [MORE](#)

Breakfast with the Bunny

APRIL 19, 2025 • 9-10:30AM  
SOUTH ELGIN VILLAGE SQUIRE

THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH ELGIN  
PARKS & RECREATION

POOCHED PICTURES WITH THE BUNNY

THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH ELGIN  
PARKS & RECREATION

APRIL 11, 2025  
5:30-7PM  
MUNICIPAL ANNEX

## Breakfast with the Easter Bunny at Main Event in Hoffman Estates!

Purchase your Breakfast with the Easter Bunny Tickets through our Event Brite Link below.

### Here's what to expect at this FUN Spring Event:

- Meet & Greet with the Easter Bunny!
- Snap a photo with Mr. Bunny in front of our Easter Background!
- Breakfast at Hoffman Estates Center Served from 11:00am to 1:00pm in the private room.
- 1 Hour of Free Bowling Coupon for up to 6 Guests
- Free \$10 Card for the Arcade!

[Register](#) or call us 847-645-1111 with questions.

**MAIN EVENT**

BREAKFAST with the EASTER BUNNY

APRIL 13th 11am - 2pm

RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

\$29.99 PER PERSON \*\*

**Event Pricing Includes the Full-Experience:**  
**\$29.99 per Guest++**



# GLOW IN THE DARK EGG HUNT



APRIL 17, 2025

JIM HANSEN BASEBALL FIELDS

PICTURES WITH THE BUNNY 6:30-8PM

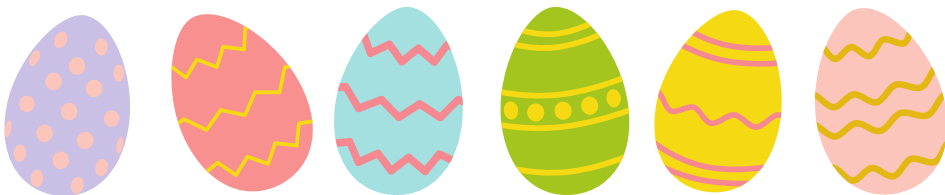
HUNT BEGINS AT 8:15PM

**GRUMPY GOAT TAVERN**

**HAPPY EASTER**

EASTER AT THE GRUMPY GOAT!  
9AM-4PM BRUNCH BUFFET  
SUNDAY APRIL 20TH, 2025

CALL 847-931-5950  
FOR RESERVATIONS  
875 SPORTS WAY ELGIN IL 60123



April 20, 2025

# EASTER BRUNCH

ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET

Available 10am-2pm

Featuring prime rib, salmon, roasted ham, french toast, pancakes, desserts & more!

## EASTER TREATS FOR ALL

Each table will receive a family Easter basket full of goodies & chocolate bunny for all kids!

PICTURES WITH THE EASTER BUNNY!

**\$35**

PER PERSON

**\$12 KIDS**

AGES 4-12  
(Ages 3 & under free)

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS!

\*Dine-in only, while supplies last. Menu subject to change. Limited seating. Restrictions may apply.

1350 CHICAGO ST., ELGIN  
847.214.1708  
POURHOUSEKITCHEN.COM

# EASTER MENU

Order by April 10  
Delivery to Naperville  
on April 19

DESSERTS  
WITHOUT  
REGRETS

312.610.90.33

**\$22**

## Kulich

Refined sugar free, gluten free, choice of blueberry or dried fruit filling

**\$22**

## Eclairs

Gluten free, refined sugar free, vanilla eclairs, 4 ct

**\$32**

## Apple Cupcakes

Gluten free, refined sugar free, dairy free, vegan, 6 ct



**\$65**

## Chocolate Cake

Gluten free, refined sugar free, low calorie, 6"

**\$65**

## Almond Chocolate

Gluten free, refined sugar free, low calorie, 6"

**\$65**

## Carrot Cake

Gluten free, refined sugar free, low calorie, 6"

**\$12**

## Red velvet jar

Gluten free, refined sugar free, low calorie, 2 ct

**\$12**

## Tiramisu jar

Gluten free, refined sugar free, keto, 2 ct

**\$12**

## Cheesecake jar

Gluten free, refined sugar free, keto, 2 ct, strawberry or blueberry flavor





# LUNCH+DINNER

WITH THE  
**EASTER BUNNY**

Free Easter Egg Candy  
Bunny Coloring Page  
Bring Your Camera for Photo Opps & Capturing  
Memories in Front of an Easter Bunny Backdrop!

**SUNDAY APRIL, 6TH**  
LUNCH 12:00PM-2:00PM

**SATURDAY APRIL, 12TH**  
LUNCH 12:30PM-2:30PM

**MONDAY APRIL, 14TH**  
DINNER 5:00PM-7:00PM

**SOUTH ELGIN:**  
**the Village Squire**  
Restaurants  
Good Place to Be  
480 RANDALL ROAD, SOUTH ELGIN, IL 60177

## Work your basket magic.

Break-apart sets that'll fill several baskets. Genius, right?

[Shop Now](#)

## Set the table in record time.

Get your whole meal in 3 hours or less with Express Delivery.\*

[Shop Now](#)

\*Fees & terms apply.

Up to  
**30% OFF**

Spring Lawn & Garden  
Must-Haves

**Blain's FARM & FLEET**



Submit your news, events, deals, and announcements to [post@elginchamber.com](mailto:post@elginchamber.com) by April 24th to be featured in the May newsletter. This is a complimentary benefit for all Elgin Area Chamber members. [Join NOW](#)

## Looking for fun things to do this April?

[Explore Events](#)

The Elgin Area Chamber of Commerce Community Calendar is packed with over 100 local events! Dive in and start planning.

ELGIN AREA CHAMBER