



News from
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Reboletti, Biggins Obtain State Grants for Elmhurst Art, Historical Museums

Elmhurst, IL ...Capital improvements will be made to the Elmhurst Historical Museum and the Elmhurst Art Museum due to state grants obtained by State Representatives Dennis Reboletti (R-Elmhurst) and Bob Biggins (R-Elmhurst).

The Elmhurst City Council will recognize Rep. Reboletti and Rep. Biggins during the August 4 City Council meeting.

Between the two representatives, who both serve Elmhurst, the Historical Museum will receive \$90,000 while the Art Museum will receive \$80,000 for capital improvements. The funds are part of legislative member initiative funds that are requested specifically by both Senate and House members for their legislative districts.

“The Churchville School and the McCormick House are true American treasures,” said Reboletti. “We need to protect these historic places that connect us to our past. It’s our duty to preserve these landmarks for future generations.”

Rep. Biggins said the museums are an integral part of Elmhurst history.

“I am pleased that Rep. Reboletti and I were able to secure this funding for the Historical Museum and the Art Museum here in Elmhurst. It is critical that we protect sites like these, which are an integral part of not only Elmhurst, but also our state and country,” said Biggins.

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Elmhurst Mayor Thomas D. Marcucci said the funding will greatly benefit the community.

“Cultural and arts organizations make remarkable contributions to the community of Elmhurst. Their reach is both deep and strong, touching the lives of people of many ages and many backgrounds. On behalf of the city, I thank Representative Biggins and Representative Reboletti for their hard work in Springfield to assist the Elmhurst Historical Museum and Elmhurst Art Museum in our community,” said Marcucci.

The Elmhurst Historical Museum will use the \$50,000 in state grants from Rep. Reboletti to restore, repair and add improvements to the Churchville Schoolhouse. Once the project is finished, the museum plans to use the schoolhouse as not only a historic site, but it will also be used for educational and community programs.

The circa 1850 one-room schoolhouse is owned by the City of Elmhurst and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Churchville School served students between 1850 and 1930.

A \$40,000 state grant obtained by Rep. Biggins for the Historical Museum will cover the costs associated with adding water service to the Churchville Schoolhouse along with other improvements and renovations to the building.

The Elmhurst Art Museum will receive a \$50,000 state grant from Rep. Reboletti that will be used to cover the planning and development costs associated with the preservation and restoration of the McCormick House.

The McCormick House is one of only three Ludwig Mies van der Rohe-designed residences in the entire country. The house was originally designed for the architect Robert McCormick as a row house, and is now integrated into the physical structure of the Elmhurst Art Museum facility. The suburban home served as an example of modern architecture that could be used by middle-income families. The pre-fabricated home was meant to support the suburban sprawl of the 1950s.

The Art Museum will also receive a \$30,000 state grant from Rep. Biggins to redesign the main entrance to the building. New landscaping and a watering system will also be installed.

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