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VICTORY AT HOME: 1941-1945 EXHIBIT OPENS TODAY AT ELMHURST HISTORY MUSEUM

Open through August 18, 2024, the New Family-Friendly Exhibit Looks Back at the Nation's Home Front Efforts during World War II.

ELMHURST, IL (March 2024) – The [Elmhurst History Museum](#), 120 E Park Ave., has debuted their latest exhibition, “**Victory at Home: 1941-1945**,” open today through August 18, 2024.

We’re proud to present our latest exhibition, Victory at Home: 1941-1945, open now through August 18, 2024. The exhibit examines the home front during World War II and explores the sacrifice, service, and patriotism of Americans throughout the country, with a focus on those in Elmhurst and greater Chicagoland.

Located on the first floor of the historic Glos Mansion, which the city of Elmhurst used as a WWII ration board office and now houses the Museum, the exhibit shares the stories of the steadfast generation of civilians who helped lead the Allies to victory through united efforts such as rationing, women entering the workforce, increased war production, purchasing war bonds, and much more. These efforts taught Americans how to economize and to alleviate the domestic hardships and mental fatigue a nation at war often experiences. This original exhibit is comprised of compelling artifacts, photographs, audio-video stations, journals, uniforms, WWII posters, historic radio broadcasts, and more. Suited for visitors of all ages, the exhibit features many interactive elements as well as a Family Guide for children.

“Chicagoland residents, including those in Elmhurst, had an immense impact on the country’s war efforts through local manufacturing, rationing and recycling materials, planting Victory Gardens, and raising funds to support the war. Looking back at this period in history may help younger generations better understand what their parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents endured during the 1940s,” said Sarah Cox, Elmhurst History Museum Curator of Exhibits. “We hope the exhibition not only educates guests on the resiliency, resourcefulness and total participation efforts by the nation, but helps them relate the experience of this generation to current events.”

Elmhurst’s Hometown Heroes

To complement “Victory at Home: 1941-1945,” the Elmhurst History Museum and [Elmhurst Heritage Foundation](#) have partnered with [Elmhurst City Centre](#) to honor local veterans. Over 1,800 residents of Elmhurst served in the military during WWII, and the Museum hopes to honor a few of these men and

women by featuring them on lamp post banners along a section of York Street from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2024. Applications to nominate Elmhurst veterans are available at the Museum or **online**. Due to the limited number of banners, applications are on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Operation Support Our Troops – America

To honor the home front efforts of those in the area, the Museum has partnered with [Operation Support Our Troops – America](#), one of the largest volunteer-based military support organizations in the country, to send care packages overseas to our troops during the run of “Victory at Home: 1941-1945.” In addition to educating visitors on Operation Support Our Troops – America’s mission, the Museum will collect much-needed supplies, goodies and letters to be delivered each month.

Programs & Events

Additionally, the Museum will host a series of public programming events throughout the exhibit’s run. A full list of programs may be found on elmhursthistory.org, and spring highlights are below:

- March 10: “The Fly Girls of WWII” Lecture (*Free to Members, \$5 Non-Members*)
- March 16: Victory Gardens Lecture and Workshop (*\$8/person*)
- March 19: “Our Mothers' War: American Women at Home and at the Front During World War II” Book Discussion (*Free*)
- April 7: World War II Tasting History (*\$12/person*)
- April 21: “From the Camps to Chicago: The Internment of Japanese Americans” Lecture (*Free to Members, \$5 Non-Members*)
- May 5: “Victory at Home: 1941 – 1945” Gallery Talk (*Free*)
- May 19: “The Windy City at War: Chicago’s Homefront 1941 – 1945” Lecture (*Free to Members, \$5 Non-Members*)

“Victory at Home: 1941-1945” will be on display from March 1 – August 18, 2024. The Elmhurst History Museum is open to all ages and offers free admission. The Museum is open 1 – 5 p.m. Sunday & Tuesday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Saturday, and closed Monday. For additional information on exhibits or programs, please visit www.elmhursthistory.org.

Elmhurst History Museum’s “Victory at Home: 1941-1945” exhibit is sponsored by: Feze Roofing, McGrath Elmhurst Toyota, Michael V. LoCicero, Attorney at Law, and the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation.

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The Elmhurst History Museum is a department of the City of Elmhurst supported by the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation, a 501c3 non-profit organization. The Museum is located at 120 E. Park Ave. in downtown Elmhurst. General admission is free. For more information, call 630-833-1457 or visit our website at elmhursthistory.org.

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