ELITE ESSENCE DAY SPA A PLACE FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

By Vicki Vass. Special to the Tribune

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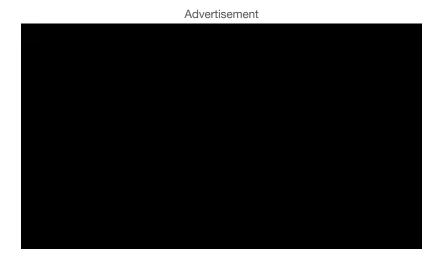
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estled on a quiet street just blocks from downtown Plainfield is a Victorian house that has been transformed into the Elite Essence Day Spa.

Owner Judith Vogt opened the spa on Sept. 11, 1995, choosing Plainfield for its peaceful charm. She purchased the three-bedroom home built in 1904 and remodeled the upstairs bedrooms into treatment rooms for massages, facials and electrolysis.

When the spa doors open, calming music wafts through the air, and various aromas delight the senses. The parlor is designed as a retail shop as well as a waiting area, and it is stocked with aromatherapy oils, lotions, bath gels, bars of soap and candles. Prices start at \$3 and range up to \$70 for a complete gift set. There is also a wall display of locally made crafts for sale, including dried flower arrangements.



Among the pampering treatments are a one-hour European facial for \$50, a sports massage for \$40 or an aromatherapy body wrap for \$45. Packages are also available and include the Elite Day for \$230, which includes a milk-honey body wrap, aromatherapy massage, a European facial and a manicure/pedicure. A men's package includes massage therapy, facial treatment and manicure for \$105.

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ice," Vogt said. "So many people don't take time for ad helps them cope with their busy life. I consider it a necessity."

Vogt became interested in massage and skin care after receiving a facial. "I was working a fast-paced life and burned out. I started going for massages. I became interested and took some classes," she said. "I loved it so much, I wanted my own place."

Gift certificates are popular, Vogt said, particularly for brides, as well as for birthday and holiday gifts.

Elite Essence Day Spa

601 N. James St., Plainfield

Hours: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday, through Christmas; regular hours 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 6-8 p.m. Monday-Friday, or by appointment.

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