



Elm Grove NEWS-

INDEPENDENT



Vol. 10 No. 2

Serving Elm Grove, Wisconsin & Neighboring Communities

April 2022



*Freedom of the Press is Essential.
Community News Matters.*



On the Ballot...

Election: April 5, 2022

Court Of Appeals Judge District 2
(Vote for One)
Lori Kornblum
Maria S. Lazar

Waukesha County Supervisor District 8
(Vote for One)
Thomas Michalski

Elm Grove Village Trustee
(Vote for Not More Than Three)
Jennifer Stuckert
Jim Gage
Patrick Kressin
John Schindler
Jim Koleski

Elmbrook School District School Board
Member - Area II
(Vote for One)
Kathy Lim
Daniel Medeiros

Elmbrook School District School Board
Member - At Large
(Vote for One)
Katie Rasoul
Linda A. Boucher

Village of Elm Grove Public Works Capital Expenditure Referendum

"Do you approve the adoption of an Elm Grove Ordinance requiring that prior to the letting of any project for a Public Works Project financed (in whole or in part) which requires a Village capital expenditure of \$1 million or more, that the Village Board shall submit to the electorate a binding referendum for approval of the Project? Disapproval of such binding referendum shall preclude the Village from proceeding with the Project. The wording of any binding referendum shall include a concise summary providing the Electors with the information regarding the specific purpose of the Public Works project, the location of the Public Works project, the total cost of the project, and the method to be used by the Village for payment of the Public Works project expenditures. Nothing in the provision shall be construed to preclude the Village from exercising its role in the planning or design of such publicly financed projects."

No / Yes

Board of Trustees Approves SSND Development & TIF Agreement, Creation of Tax Incremental District



Photo by James L. W. Bain / News-Independent

The historic "Castle" building at the School Sisters of Notre Dame, 13105 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove.

By Lisabeth Passalis-Bain
elmgrovenews@yahoo.com

After many months of committee meetings, community presentations, and the numerous opportunities for public comment, the Elm Grove Board of Trustees passed (6-1) during its March 28 meeting a series of resolutions to approve entry into a Development and TIF Agreement for the School Sisters of Notre Dame property, and create Tax Incremental District No. 3, approving its project plan and establishing its boundaries. Village President **Neil Palmer** and Trustees **Katy Cornell**, **John Domaszek**, **George Haas**, **Patrick Kressin**, and **Tom Michalski** voted "Yes"; Trustee **Kristina Sayas** voted "No".

(See VILLAGE UPDATE – Page 3)

Watch a recording of the March 28, 2022 Board of Trustees meeting and other Village meetings at www.elmgrovetwi.org.

An Earth Day / Arbor Day celebration
will be held on April 23rd from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
at Elm Grove Village Park
(Details - Page 2)

Forums Held for Village Trustees, Elmbrook School Board Candidates

A Public Forum featuring all five candidates for Village of Elm Grove Trustee, sponsored by the Elm Grove Junior Guild and moderated by **Sarah Wynia-Smith**, was held at Village Hall on Thursday, March 31. A video recording of the presentation is available at: www.elmgrovejuniorguild.org.

A Candidates Forum, hosted by the Elmbrook Parent Network and leadership Council, was held at the School District Office on February 7, 2022. The event, recorded prior to the Primary Election can be viewed at: www.elmbrookschoools.org.

Coming in May...

Elm Grove's 73rd Memorial Day Parade, sponsored by American Legion Post #449 and the Elm Grove Junior Guild, will be held on Monday, May 30, beginning at 10:30 a.m. at Village Park and progressing throughout the downtown area. This year's theme is "Heroes Among Us". Potential participants are being asked to complete an online to form at:

<https://elmgrovejuniorguild.org/memorial-day-parade/>.

Look for more parade details in *The News-Independent's* MAY 2022 edition.



Daniel Medeiros
for Elmbrook School Board

Fiscal Focus • Academic Excellence • Elmbrook Parent

Your vote for Daniel Medeiros is a vote for our community's values.

- ✓ Effective leader and manager with proven problem-solving skills
- ✓ Experienced professional engineer for 25 years
- ✓ Engaged volunteer in Elmbrook high schools LAUNCH programs

Learn more at DanielforElmbrook.com

Paid for by the Daniel Medeiros for Elmbrook Campaign

VOTE:

Tuesday, April 5th



*****ECRWSS*****
Postal Customer
Elm Grove, WI 53122

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE PAID
Elm Grove, WI
Permit No. 30

Elm Grove News-Independent LLC
Founder / Owner / Publisher / Editor
Lisabeth Passalis-Bain

News & Advertising
elmgrovenews@yahoo.com
(262) 782-6193
www.elmgrove.news
Click on ARCHIVE to read past issues.

Photographer / Photo Editor
James L. W. Bain
Production & Distribution Assistant
Christos Passalis-Bain
Web Designer / Webmaster
Nicholas Passalis-Bain
Production Artist
Chaysze Zee

Published monthly.
Distributed via the U.S. Postal Service to every Residence, Business & P.O. Box in Elm Grove, Wisconsin 53122. Additional copies available at select locations within Elm Grove & neighboring communities.
Online @ www.elmgrove.news

Mailing address:
Elm Grove News-Independent
P.O. Box 372
Elm Grove, WI 53122-0372

Copyright 2022 by
Elm Grove News-Independent LLC
All rights reserved.
Any reproduction without written permission from the Publisher is prohibited.

"I Know Where You Live!"



Elisabeth Passalis-Bain

Edition # 140...

On February 26, 2022 **Doug Pommerening** and his famous "Dougie's Dunkers" team participated in another Polar Plunge to raise funds for Special Olympics. It was Doug's 19th Plunge!

(See story & photo – Page 8.)

Donations (checks payable to *Special Olympics*) can be sent to: Doug's mother, **Sandy Pommerening**, 12845 Gremoor Dr., Elm Grove, WI 53122.



We are grateful to all of our Advertisers + these Friends of The News:

- **Genevieve Daniels & Justin Brown** (Elm Grove)
- **Dean Moede** (Menasha)
- **George Haas** (Elm Grove)

for their Sponsorship of this edition.

Want to support local journalism?
Become one of our valued Friends of The News. Details - Page 5.



Photo courtesy: Elm Grove Police Department

Firefighters work to extinguish a fire at 755 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove.

Elm Grove Lutheran Daycare Facility Fire

(ELM GROVE) On Sunday, March 6, 2022, at approximately 1:26 a.m., Elm Grove Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services responded to an active structure fire at 755 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove. An Elm Grove Public Works employee, who had been working in the area to remove downed trees from a storm, spotted the fire and immediately contacted Elm Grove Dispatch. The first responding police units and fire command unit arrived at approximately 1:29 a.m. and observed heavy smoke and flames emitting from the roof of the building. The fire quickly spread through the attic area of

the building, due to high winds.

The fire involved a single-family style home which is owned by Elm Grove Lutheran Church and was being used as a daycare facility. Due to the time of the incident, the daycare was closed and there were no occupants in the building during the incident. There were no injuries to residents or emergency personnel. The fire necessitated a 1st level box alarm, consisting of fire agencies from Elm Grove and 12 neighboring communities. The City of Brookfield Police Department also assisted.

OPEN HOUSE

ELM GROVE HEIGHTS

BEAUTIFUL
1 & 2 BEDROOMS
AVAILABLE NOW!



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6th 11am - 1pm
TUESDAY, APRIL 12th 1pm - 3pm
Exclusive leasing specials
& flexible move-in dates available.

No income restrictions. Must be 62+
For a private tour, please call
262-894-1520

13040 W. Bluemound Road, Elm Grove
www.elmgroveheights.com



APRIL
23



Earth and Arbor Day Celebration

Elm Grove Village Park
April 23rd
11am-2pm

Join us for food trucks, a farmer's market, a sponsored kids' climb, fun chalking around the pond, and informational booths. There is something for everyone!
Rain or shine!

Beautification@elmgrovewi.org

Village Hall

13600 Juneau Boulevard
Elm Grove, Wisconsin 53122

(262) 782-6700
www.elmgroviewi.org

Village President NEIL PALMER
npalmer@elmgroviewi.org

Trustee KATY CORNELL
kcornell@elmgroviewi.org

Trustee JOHN DOMASZEK
jdomaszek@elmgroviewi.org

Trustee GEORGE HAAS
ghaas@elmgroviewi.org

Trustee PATRICK KRESSIN
pkressin@elmgroviewi.org

Trustee TOM MICHALSKI
tmichalski@elmgroviewi.org

Trustee KRISTINA SAYAS
ksayas@elmgroviewi.org

Village Manager DAVE DE ANGELIS
ddeangelis@elmgroviewi.org

Zoning & Planning Administrator
/Assistant to Village Manager
TOM HARRIGAN
tharrigan@elmgroviewi.org

Clerk/Deputy Treasurer
SANDEE POLICELLO
spolicello@elmgroviewi.org

Finance Director MONICA HUGHES
mhughes@elmgroviewi.org

Clerk of Courts MARY DOYNE
mdoyne@elmgroviewi.org

Public Works Director
RICHARD PAUL, JR.
rpauljr@elmgroviewi.org

Forester RON HILL
forester@elmgroviewi.org

Recreation Director
JEROD MIKKELSEN
jmikkelsen@elmgroviewi.org

Library Director SARAH MUENCH
muench@elmgrove.lib.wi.us
Elm Grove Public Library
(262) 782-6717

Municipal Judge TIM STEINLE
Village Attorney
HECTOR DE LA MORA

POLICE – FIRE – MEDICAL
EMERGENCY: CALL 9-1-1
Police Department (non-emergency)
(262) 786-4141

Police Chief JASON KUBIAK
jkubiak@elmgroviewi.org
Fire Chief DAVID KASTENHOLZ
dkastenholtz@elmgroviewi.org
Medical Director Dr. JON ROBINSON
jrobinson@elmgroviewi.org

Village Recycling Center / Yard Waste Facility

900 Wall Street, Elm Grove
for
VILLAGE RESIDENTS ONLY

----- OPEN -----
Tuesdays & Thursdays
3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Saturdays
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Questions:
Contact Richard Paul, Jr.
Director of Public Works
(262) 780-6643
rpauljr@elmgroviewi.org

Village Update

By Neil Palmer, President – Village of Elm Grove / npalmer@elmgroviewi.org

March has been a very busy month for Board activity and Village staff as major decisions have moved forward and we prepare for spring and summer activities.

The Village Board unanimously approved a “No Mow May” ordinance to permit and encourage landowners to significantly increase pollinator lawn-care practices. For the month of May, homeowners are encouraged not mow or chemically treat some or all of their lawns and to leave leaf and yard debris in place. Important pollinator-friendly habitat is comprised of mostly native wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees blooming in succession throughout the growing season, is free or nearly free of pesticides, is comprised of undisturbed spaces including leaf and brush piles, unknown areas or yard margins, fallen trees and other dead wood for nesting and overwintering; and provides connectivity between habitat areas to support pollinator movement and resilience. The formative period for establishment of pollinator and other insect species, and songbirds and other urban wildlife species which depend upon them, occurs in late spring and early summer when they emerge from dormancy and require flowering plants as crucial foraging habitat. Early mowing and yard cleanup dramatically reduces these sources of food and shelter. The new ordinance temporarily suspends the existing requirement to mow turf and weeds which reach a height of 7 inches. Information regarding homeowner practices to support pollinators is available from the Village Beautification Committee and on the Village website.

The Elm Grove Business Association is sponsoring “Shred Day” on April 23rd from 9:00 until noon. This free service allows you to safely dispose of old paper documents. Watch for future information on how to prepare your materials.

The Elm Grove Library Board continues to make progress on a “facilities assessment” study to help identify future facility needs and design possibilities.

The Public Safety Committee discussed resident concerns of the danger of coyotes for pets and children in the Village. The consensus of information discussed showed no significant increase in dangerous activity or actual attacks. Information provided by urban wildlife specialists notes that coyotes have successfully adapted to life in suburban areas where food is plentiful, and habitat provides space for breeding and dens. These mostly nocturnal mammals are normally cautious around humans and successfully “hazed” to avoid human and pet contact. Wisconsin DNR specialists note that coyote removal programs are not ultimately successful as new animals quickly occupy habitat vacated by removed animals. Information on coyote behavior and methods for homeowners to make your yards less attractive is available on the Village website.

The Public Works Committee again discussed design possibilities to rebuild Gebhardt Road, the intersection with Highland Drive and install a pathway to improve safety. Village consulting engineers explained ideas to realign the intersection and “lower” the dome of the intersection to improve sight lines. This project was originally scheduled to begin this summer but had to be postponed due to uncertainties caused by the possible approval of a spending limiting referendum. Estimates to accomplish the improvements being discussed are approximately \$1.5 million which would require a referendum approval if the ordinance referendum is successful on April 5th.

Work to improve the Village swimming pool house and the adjacent lavatories are moving forward and are on schedule to be ready for the summer season. We have been fortunate to avoid supply chain difficulties for needed fixtures so far.

Many summer event permits were approved by the Village Board at the March 28th meeting. We are hopeful that Tonawanda Tiger Ninja Fun Run, Memorial Day parade, Memorial Day Street party, Toned Body Run the Grove 5K, Tunes on Tuesdays, July 4th celebration, Friday Movies in the Park, Elm Grove Camp Out in the Park, and Crusin’ in the Grove Car Show will all be part of the Village returning to long cherished events.

The Village Board voted 6 to 1 to approve the Development Agreement and the Tax Incremental Finance Agreement for the proposed redevelopment of the School Sisters of Notre Dame campus by Mandel Development at the March 28th meeting. Following public comments Village Trustees described the multi-year process of proposal review and modifications, technical studies and analysis which led to the majority finding the project to be in the best interests of the Village. Plans call for rehabilitation of Maria Hall and the Notre Dame “castle”, demolition, and remediation of all other buildings on the site, construction of 237 high quality rental units in three apartment buildings and the restored historical buildings. Twenty-one single family homes are also included in the approved site and project plans. No taxes of existing taxpayers are utilized to support the project. Tax incremental financing uses the “new value” of the project to pay for the assistance provided. This money only exists if the project is built. In addition to new, high-quality housing, and preservation of the Village’s historic beginning, the project will provide a connection to Lake Michigan water to the Village. Once in place, that water connection will serve as the basis to extend water service to downtown and residential neighborhoods.

Tuesday April 5th is election day. If you have not already voted, please plan to do so.

Three Trustee seats will be decided along with the referendum to require future referendums for any public works projects valued at \$1 million or more. I believe passage of the future referendum requirement will increase Village costs and delay needed public projects. \$1 million is not an unusual cost for road rebuilding, sewer work, stormwater projects or bridge replacements. Current costs to rebuild one-half mile of Village road exceeds \$1 million. This petition and referendum was started as a method to block the redevelopment of the School Sisters campus. It did not stop the redevelopment project. It will only increase costs, delay projects and create friction between neighborhoods.

We already have an ordinance which requires a public referendum for any public works project estimated to cost \$5 million. Elm Grove has a very well-deserved reputation of conservative financial management. All of our public works projects are evaluated by a committee of volunteers, who are taxpayers. All financial plans are evaluated and managed by a committee of resident volunteers, who are taxpayers and work hard to be good stewards of our resources.

Anonymous mailings and emails purporting to answer questions about the referendum have generated many questions from residents. When Village Board members and citizen committee members discuss issues or reply to questions, we put our names behind that information. Why won’t the vote yes advocates do the same. Don’t let them do this to our Village. I intend to Vote No and I ask you to consider doing the same.

Business Directory

* Education / Instruction

Piano Lessons
Chess Lessons (Speed rating 1970.)
SAT preparation: 35 years of experience with hundreds of students.
In Elm Grove, reasonable rates
Call 262-327-2768

* Community Organizations



Kiwanis – Golden K of Elm Grove Wisconsin

Come Join Us, Men & Women, to serve the children of our community. We meet each Friday at 9:30 a.m. in the St. Mary’s Senior Center in Elm Grove. We have wonderful speakers each week, and we have lots of fun.

kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com
www.kiwaniselmgrove.org

Elmbrook Rotary

People of Action

Where neighbors, friends and problem-solvers share ideas, join leaders and take action to create lasting change.

Fridays – 7:00 a.m.

www.elmbrookrotary.org

Join us to make a difference in the world!

* Insurance

Woller-Anger & Company, LLC
930 Elm Grove Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122
(262) 789-2500
“Building Relationships ...
Insuring Success!”

ADD Your Listing

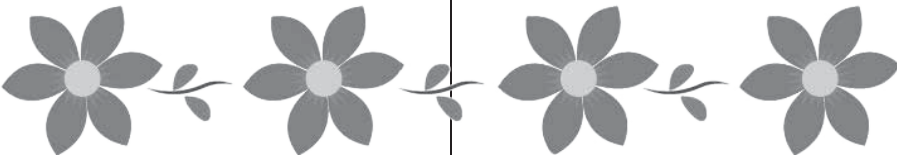
\$5.00 per line (5 lines minimum)
Per edition
Logo: \$20.00 extra
Contact: (262) 782-6192
or E-mail: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com

Imperial Hair Care of Elm Grove

Open nightly ‘till 6
4 on Saturday
Closed Sunday
Late on Wednesday

13425 Watertown Plank Rd.
In the Elm Grove Park & Shop

(262) 784-4241
Evening Appointments
Available



Our History:

Remembrances of Things Past

History of the Kiwanis Elm Grove Golden K Club

By Jerry McCormick

In 1955 the St. Lawrence Seaway opened ocean traffic to Lake Michigan, the first McDonald’s was opened, Elvis Presley made his first TV appearance, the Salk Polio Vaccine was approved and the Kiwanis Club of Elm Grove Wisconsin was chartered. Kiwanis Governor **Herbert Ainsworth** presented the charter to the first Club President, **Arthur Reddemann** on June 7, 1955.

Over the years, a variety of community projects were supported especially for special needs children and Scouting. A complete Fitness Trail for Elm Grove’s Village Park and a Fire Prevention Program for all Elm Grove Schools was completed. The primary fund raisers were a Mother’s Day Pancake Breakfast and sale of frozen shrimp and lobster during the Holiday Season. However, by the early 80’s, membership was declining in regular service clubs and a Senior Club was being discussed.

In 1983 the Kiwanis Elm Grove Golden K Club was chartered with 35 members by **Bill Wagner**, Club Sponsor and **Earl Arnold**, Kiwanis District Governor. The Charter was presented at the American Legion Post. The Golden K Club appeals to seniors and focuses on community service through volunteering time and money. The first officers were **Frank Bercker** President; **Clem Janicki**, President-Elect; and **Phil Pfersch**, Secretary/Treasurer. Originally, the meetings were held at the Community Room at the Elm Grove Village Hall. Shortly after that time, the Senior Center at St. Mary’s Church became available and regular Friday morning 9:30 a.m. meetings have been held there ever since.

The Elm Grove Club is a member of Kiwanis International headquartered



in Indianapolis, Indiana. It was started in Detroit, Michigan in 1915 by **Alan Simpson Browne** a lawyer and super salesman. The idea was to develop a fraternity of brotherhood with social and commercial benefits. His thoughts were to organize a “Supreme Lodge Benevolent Order of Brothers,” **Joseph G. Prance**, a merchant tailor, was enrolled as the first Kiwanian. Dues were \$5.00 per year. They started by uniting to improve their communities to make them better while being guided by the Golden Rule. At first, they pushed street improvements, better street lighting and things like that. As these areas were improved there was a shift from this focus of making communities better to making people’s lives better, especially children.

“Benevolent Order of Brothers” was the original name. This was a peculiar name for a professional organization and was changed to Kiwanis. The Indian name is probably based upon it being a derivative of KER-WAS-NIS which means “to make a noise as in making oneself ‘known’.” The Native American language had a limited vocabulary and only four vowels. Words had a broad meaning. Whatever the origin and spelling derivative, today Kiwanis is synonymous with promoting fun, fellowship and community service. That is what Kiwanians in Elm Grove have been doing for almost 70 years. www.kiwaniselmgrove.org

Volunteers Needed!

****Community organizations in need of volunteer help are invited to submit a statement (150 words maximum) to: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com Questions: Call (262) 782-6193.**

***Opportunities Available to Elm Grove Citizens**

The Village of Elm Grove has many **Committees, Boards, and Commissions** which provide volunteer opportunities for residents. New appointments are typically made in May of each year. If you are interested in volunteer service with your local government, please complete an “Application for Boards, Committees and Commissions” which can be found on the Village website at: <https://elmgroviewi.org/126/Village-Committees-Commissions-and-Board>. **Applications should be submitted before Wednesday, April 13, 2022.**

***Coordinators Needed for New Pickleball Courts in Park**

Elm Grove Village Park, tennis courts #4, #5, and #6, will have two pickleball courts lined on each side of the tennis nets for a total of six new pickleball courts and will be lighted for evening play. These are in addition to the existing courts already lined on #9. Portable nets are available during weekdays and used during organized open play.

Starting May 2nd - September 30th, open play will be available on four mornings each week 8-11 a.m.: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays and will also be available on two evenings: Tuesdays and Thursdays 6-9 p.m. Registration is required. All levels of players are welcome. Classes will also be offered. See details in the upcoming Elm Grove Parks & Recreation Program Guide Summer 2022 or at www.elmgroviewi.org.

Volunteer Pickleball Court Coordinators are needed for the open play sessions. Contact the Recreation Director at (262) 782-6700 for more information about open play or VPCC duties and benefits.

***Sunset Playhouse**

Sunset Playhouse loves our volunteers! We rely on them to help create the high-quality productions that Sunset is known for. From working in the Scene Shop to Front of House ushering to helping children make crafts at our bug in a rug Children’s Theater shows, we have volunteer opportunities for anyone interested in giving time to the arts. Right now, we are especially looking for ushers, scenery painters, props designers, and back-stage crew. No experience needed - we will train you. If interested, call **Brooke** at (262) 782-4431 x233. Sunset Playhouse, 700 Wall Street, Elm Grove, WI.

Coloring for Kids (and Adults)!



53 one 22
Elm Grove **Community** Foundation

www.elmgrovefoundation.org

Get to Know the Community Foundation

Strengthening Elm Grove for over 20 Years

In 1999, local leaders created the Elm Grove Community Foundation (EGCF) to provide a way for residents to support and enhance our community's institutions, facilities, and services. The EGCF volunteer board raises money to fund projects and activities that make Elm Grove a wonderful place to live and work. Since its inception, the EGCF has given over \$250K in grants to Elm Grove to enhance the park, the downtown business district, and the lives of residents.

Projects we've supported

Over the years, the EGCF has supported numerous projects and activities, including the flower baskets and holiday lights that adorn downtown streetlights, the splash pad, Tunes on Tuesday, Friday Night Flicks, lining the tennis courts for pickleball, and many other village enhancements.

How we do it

The EGCF raises money through annual events like Oktoberfest and its 0.5K Fun Run, and with generous donations from village residents. We recently registered with Amazon Smile so residents can support the EGCF effortlessly while shopping.

How you can help

The EGCF is always looking for ways to further enhance life in the village. If you have an idea that will benefit Elm Grove and its residents, please let us know. Make sure to check out this space monthly for the latest updates or visit our website for more information.

Oktoberfest - Village Park - September 16 & 17, 2022

Calendar of Events – April 2022

Friday – APRIL 1

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club, Elm Grove. Program: “2022 Spikes for Tykes Kickoff”
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: Cathy Tutrup, Brookfield librarian; “Assets of Our Library”. kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com.

Monday – APRIL 4

- **Elm Grove Plan Commission**
Meeting: 6 p.m. at Village Hall

Tuesday – APRIL 5

SPRING ELECTION
Elm Grove residents VOTE:
7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Village Hall

Friday – APRIL 8

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club, Elm Grove
Program: Shannon Angell, “St Camillus Update” <http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: Alison Klesman; Topic: “Black Holes Among the Stars”.

Saturday – APRIL 9

- **Easter Stroll at Elm Grove Village Park**: 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Friday – APRIL 15

- GOOD FRIDAY / PASSOVER begins**
Elm Grove Village Hall - Closed
- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club, Elm Grove
Program: Steven Olikara, “Millennial Action Project (MAP)”
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
 - **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: Tim Peterson, “Education for the Next Generation”.
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com.

Sunday – APRIL 17

EASTER

Thursday – APRIL 21

- **OWLS – Seniors’ Group**
Luncheon meeting- 11:30 a.m. at Community United Methodist Church, Elm Grove; Program: “The Milwaukee Beer Barons”. Reservations by April 4 at CUMC <http://www.cumceg.org>.
- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Zoom Only
Program: Debbie Buchanan, “MHVI Bikes for Stripes”
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: Karl Miller, “Sunset Playhouse, Then and Now”.
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com.

Friday – APRIL 22

Saturday – APRIL 23

- **Earth Day / Arbor Day**
Celebration at Elm Grove Village Park
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Monday – APRIL 25

- **Elm Grove Board of Trustees**
Meeting – 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall Court Room. Open to the Public.
<https://elmgrovewi.org/656/live-stream>.
Agenda: www.elmgrovewi.org.
Village Hall (262) 782-6700.



Jeb's Auto Detailing

Serving Elm Grove and neighboring communities for 10+ years!



I WILL COME TO YOU!

YOUR CAR WILL SHINE LIKE NEW!

Full Service Detailing Includes:

- Complete Interior & Exterior Packages
- Power Spray Hand Wash and Dry
- Paint Surface Clayed
- Sealing in Your Shine with a Full Wax
- Detailing all Interior Surfaces
- Thorough Interior Vacuum
- Tires, Rims and more...

CONTACT JEB FOR DETAILS AND PRICING
Cell: 920-713-4377
schwinnisin@yahoo.com

Our detail service packages cater to your specific auto detailing needs

Friday – APRIL 29

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Zoom Only
Program: Marcellus Dawson, “FIT CLUB MKE”.
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: Frank Lasee, President – Heartland Institute, “Climate in Wisconsin”.
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com



JEB'S CUT AND TRIM LAWN SERVICE

IT KEEPS GROWING. WE KEEP MOWING.

- Lawn mowing
- Trimming
- Removing clippings from driveways, sidewalks and porches
- Power washing decks, cement patios, walkways and outdoor furniture

Reliable, Professional, Experienced, Local
(Your Brookfield neighbor)

CALL FOR AN ESTIMATE

Email: Schwinnisin@yahoo.com
Cell phone: 920-713-4377



=====

Community News Matters...

Support Local Journalism by Becoming One of Our Valued

Friends of *The News*

Help sponsor Coverage of NEWS & INFORMATION
+ special features throughout your Hometown newspaper!

=====

- * **Take pride** that Elm Grove has a newspaper and that you support it.
- * See your **name published** as a sponsor. Be eligible for monthly **prize** drawings.
- * **NOTE:** Sponsor 3 or more of our 2022 editions & receive a certificate redeemable for a FREE 20-word Classified AD (\$25 value). (Credit exp. 11-15-22)

=====

*To become a **Friends of *The News*** sponsor, complete & mail this form + check (payable to Elm Grove News-Independent LLC) to: EGNI Friends of The News, P.O. Box 372, Elm Grove, WI 53122.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Phone # _____ E-mail: _____

*** I/We want to sponsor the following 2022 editions:**
(please circle one or more)
MAY (submit form by April 22)
JUNE - JULY - AUGUST
SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER - NOVEMBER – DECEMBER

**** Enclosed is a check for \$ _____**
(\$10.00 for each sponsored edition)

* Check here () to receive PDFs of *The News-Independent's* 2022 editions by e-mail.

=====

Questions: E-mail: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com OR Call: (262) 782-6193

=====



It all starts **here.**

Preparing students for college and life.

Learn More at brookfieldacademy.org

OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

Individual Tours Beginning at 11:00 am

For more information visit brookfieldacademy.org/Open-House



Saturday, April 30 - Admission Screening
for the 2022-23 school year – by appointment.



BROOKFIELD ACADEMY
3462 N. Brookfield Rd. • Brookfield, WI 53045 • 262-783-3200
An Independent College Preparatory School K3 – Grade 12

News Briefs



BEHS students (from left) **Julia Schneider, Iman Hafez, Nathan Klitzke, Alex Nelson, Ruba Ahmed.**

Brookfield East Students Bound for Badger State

(BROOKFIELD) The Badger Boys and Girls State program is a week-long opportunity for junior students to develop leadership skills and raise awareness of how local government is organized and run. Badger Boys and Girls graduates are prominent today as responsible leaders in public office, business and the professions, industry, and the armed services. Students attending are grouped into cities and counties forming a “51st State.” The citizens of the “new state” carry out all the main functions of city, county and state government using basic laws and fundamental procedures of the State of Wisconsin as their guide. Badger Boys is held annually at UW-Eau Claire and Badger Girls at UW-Oshkosh in the middle of June.

American Legions Posts 296 and 449 are sponsoring the following students from Brookfield East High School to attend this year’s event: **Julia Schneider, Iman Hafez, Nathan Klitzke, Alex Nelson, Ruba Ahmed.**



CELEBRATING THE WORLD: Brookfield Academy hosted its annual Heritage Fair. Families created booths to share their heritage with the school’s Primary School and Lower School students. The fair featured many nations including; Australia, China, Ethiopia, Greece, Haiti, India, Italy, Jamaica, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Spain, and Ukraine. The event included a range of foods and folk dance demonstrations.



Tonawanda students (left to right) **Susie Salinas, Julia McWey, Addison Dworak, Alexandra Habich, and Zuri Alvira.**

Tonawanda Takes 2nd Place in State Battle of the Books Competition

(ELM GROVE) Tonawanda Elementary School placed 2nd in the 2021-2022 WEMTA State Battle of the Books competition. The winning team included **Zuri Alvira, Susie Salinas, Julia McWey, Addison Dworak, and Alexandra Habich.**

The statewide WEMTA Battle of the Books program is designed to promote a love of reading among students. It encourages students to read a variety of books and remember information about the plots, characters, and settings of the books. There are twenty books on the Battle of the Books list and students work as a team to earn points in the competition by answering questions correctly. Every question asked in a battle is answered by the title and author of the book (ex: In what book is it storming during the Grand Floral Parade so the characters don’t go to it? - *Ways to Make Sunshine* by Renee Watson). The elementary division includes students in grades 4-6 who are in elementary or middle school. Typically, more than 230 schools from across the state of Wisconsin compete at the elementary level. Battle of the Books is a fun, academic-based competition that has been very successful in school districts throughout the state of Wisconsin in encouraging students to read.

The Battle of the Books competition at Tonawanda Elementary School is open to all students in grades 4 and 5. This year, a total of 21 teams (with 4 or 5 students each) competed in the Tonawanda Battle of the Books competition. Students participate in multiple practice sessions before the Tonawanda battles begin.

The competition is run by the school reading specialist, **Molly Hopp.** “This is really a celebration for all of the Tonawanda students who participated this year. They worked very hard and helped raise the bar on the level of competition,” she noted.

Attention: High School Seniors!

By Sarah Wynia-Smith

The Elm Grove Junior Guild (EGJG) **Scholarship Essay Contest** is live and accepting applications through April 9th, 2022. We seek high school seniors attending school in or residing in the Elmbrook School district to apply at <https://elmgrovejuniorguild.org/scholarship/>

The 2022 essay prompt is “*In what ways do you see your community changing? What have you done to contribute to positive change in your community and what impact has this had?*”

The EGJG will award at least one \$2000 college scholarship.

Senior Apartments
Now Reserving

“Plant your roots in Christ and let him be the foundation for your life.”

-Colossians 2:7

Put down roots at Trinity Woods. Make meaningful connections that will allow you to grow in faith and life.

Call to learn more! 414-625-9909



9525 West Burleigh Street, Milwaukee, WI 53222 - TrinityWoods.com



A partnership of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Mount Mary University, and Milwaukee Catholic Home. Equal housing opportunity. All faiths welcome.

News Briefs



Photo courtesy: Brookfield Academy

Brookfield Academy seniors **David Dell’Agnese, Vishnu Guda, Quinn Kaiser, and Jacob Reiner.**

NEW EAGLE SCOUTS: The National Office of the Boy Scouts of America, Potawatomi Area Council 651, Troops 183 and 359 announced that four Brookfield Academy seniors were awarded the highest rank in Scouts USA. The students who achieved the rank of Eagle Scout include: **Jacob Reiner, Vishnu Guda, David Dell’Agnese, and Quinn Kaiser.**

Elmbrook Rotary Aides Ukraine, Surrounding Areas

By Larry W. Myers

The Elmbrook Rotary Club and its Foundation have provided a total of \$16,000 for Ukraine relief. The monies were sent to the Rotary Disaster Response Fund. Rotarians are on the ground and ready to take action to help communities recover when disasters strike.

Rotary’s Disaster Response Fund is a general fund to receive contributions for worldwide response to natural disasters. The fund typically provides for Disaster Response Grants of up to \$25,000, made to Rotary Districts to assist on the ground in these disaster areas.

Due to the growing humanitarian and refugee crisis taking place in Ukraine and the impacted surrounding countries, on 2 March 2022, the Executive Committee of the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation, acting on behalf of the Trustees, agreed that the sudden and extreme needs prompted by the crisis in Ukraine warrant immediate action to bring relief in these impacted areas.

All contributions to Rotary’s Disaster Response Fund, through April 30, 2022, will be used to support relief and recovery efforts in Ukraine and surrounding areas. Rotary districts that have been affected by the Ukraine crisis will receive priority access to Disaster Response Grants until June 30, 2022.

The current decision specifically provides that Rotarians in Rotary Districts in (1) Hungary, (2) Poland, (3) Ukraine/Belarus (they are one district), (4) Czech Republic and Slovakia, and (5) Republic of Moldova and Romania are eligible for a Disaster Response Grant of \$50,000 until June 30, 2022. When one grant is completed, another grant can be requested, to mobilize donations as soon as possible to make the most difference.



Although there is a club in Belarus, and Belarus and Ukraine are one district, the Disaster Response Grant application is being submitted by the Ukrainians, the bank account into which the funds will be received is in Ukraine, and the supplies will be purchased and distributed in Ukraine. None of the grant funds are planned to be used in Belarus.

In summary, donations go to Rotary’s Disaster Response Fund, and grants are made to Rotary members in the field. This channel of support gives donors the greatest assurance that contributions are going to help those most in need.

Disaster Response Grants may be used to provide basic items such as water, food, medicine, and clothing and for providing immediate aid to support refugees of this crisis. If you would like to help, please visit www.elmbrookrotary.org for information.

Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

Ladies Golf League Seeks Participants

Par, Birdie, Eagle --- Ladies are you looking for a fun group of ladies to play golf with this season? We may get some pars and birdies, but the eagles usually fly overhead. The Thursday morning ladies golf league welcomes golfers of every level.

We play at the Naga-Waukee War Memorial Golf Course in Pewaukee. The season begins with a coffee at 8:30 on April 28, 2022 at the clubhouse. Please contact **Susan Freedy** at susan@freedys.com or **Barb Nickels** at bbnickels@wi.rr.com.



JOHN SCHINDLER

FOR ELM GROVE TRUSTEE

Key Priorities ...

☒ Keeping Elm Grove the safe, friendly, and quaint community it has always been.

☒ Believes that redevelopment is very much needed, but it must fit the character and unique aesthetic of our community

☒ Believes more pedestrian pathways are needed along major arterials so that children can safely travel to and from school, and residents from all parts of the village can safely walk to downtown or the village park.

☒ Promises open and two way communication between Trustees and residents.

☒ Will make resident concerns his number one priority

facebook.com/JohnSchindlerForTrustee

votejohnschindler@gmail.com

Your Vote Counts

Vote on April 5th!

Scan Image to visit my Website

JohnforTrustee.com

Paid for by John Schindler for Elm Grove Trustee.

JW'S Lawn & Snowplow Service

Ask about our 5% discount options!

Elm Grove's Best Kept Secret... Celebrating 30 Years with You!

Spring Services

• Spring Clean-ups

• Mulch Installation

• Bed Edging

• Insect/Grub Control

• Bush/Shrub Trimming

• Core Aeration

• Fertilization for Lawns & Trees

• Fine Turf Mowing

• Virtual Hand-Free Weeding (mulch and flower beds)

For a Greener Way, Call Today!

Janet L. Wolski, Owner

414-406-1756

Also serving the surrounding communities.

Elm Grove resident for 28 years.

News Briefs



Photo courtesy: Sandra Pommerening

“Dougie’s Dunkers” team members **Jen, Doug, Katie** and **Emily** take the plunge.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS EVENT: The Polar Plunge supporting Wisconsin Special Olympics was held on February 26. Elm Grove resident **Doug Pommerening’s** team, Dougie’s Dunkers, 17 plungers strong, jumped into a freezing water tank at the Milwaukee Zoo. Doug’s mother, Sandy, proudly announced that it was Doug’s 19th year to support the Plunge. The team raised more than \$16,000 to support the cause. **Jen Wolff** personally collected nearly \$5,000. Sandy noted: “Congratulations to the team! And thanks to the Elm Grove Community for supporting Dougie.”

Church Collects Shoes for Distribution in Africa

By Donald Down

In the January 2022 edition of *The News-Independent*, it was announced that a year-round collection point for gently-used shoes was established at Community United Methodist Church, 14700 Watertown Plank Rd., Elm Grove. Since then, 231 pairs of shoes have been collected for the non-profit Soles for Jesus for distribution in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Thank you, Elm Grove! Additional contributions may be placed in the donation container which is visible from the west parking lot. For more information, contact the church at (262) 782-4060.



Photo courtesy: Soles for Jesus

A boy displays shoes provided to him by donors to the **Soles for Jesus** project.



WE CAN HELP YOU
WITH THE *next step.*

Apartments Available

Heritage offers personalized care and service to meet the needs of each individual resident. Well-trained and compassionate staff is available 24 hours per day in addition to a reassuring emergency call system.



Private Studio, One and Two Bedroom
apartments are now available.

HERITAGE
ELM GROVE

Assisted Living and Memory Care Communities

Heritage Elm Grove
800 Wall Street
Elm Grove, WI 53122
262-786-5800

www.heritagesenior.com

Read All About It!



Library News and Programs April 2022

13600 Juneau Blvd., Elm Grove, WI 53122
262-782-6717 / elmgrovelibrary.org

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

APRIL 3-9, 2022

CONNECT WITH YOUR LIBRARY



HOLLY SHANNON
National Library Week Program Chair



Spring Scavenger Hunt Begins April 4

Our ever popular scavenger hunt returns to celebrate National Library Week. Visit the library beginning Monday, April 4 and pick up your scavenger hunt card. Then, venture into Village Park (and throughout the library) to see what you can find! Discoveries will be made, prizes will be won! The Scavenger Hunt is open to all ages and an ideal family activity!

Attracting Bees, Hummingbirds and Butterflies to the Garden, with Melinda Myers

Tuesday, April 12, 6:30 p.m.

NOTE: Advance registration is required to reserve your seat. Seating is limited. Register at elmgrovelibrary.org.

Enjoy the many benefits of attracting bees, hummingbirds and butterflies to the garden. You'll enjoy their beauty and increased productivity in your garden, and they'll benefit from the food, water and shelter you provide. Garden expert Melinda Myers will share some attractive plant combinations and designs that are sure to attract pollinators to your garden no matter the size! Q&A with Melinda will follow. Books will be available for purchase after the program, including Melinda's latest, *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition*.

Melinda Myers has over 30 years of horticulture experience and has written over 20 gardening books. She hosts the nationally-syndicated “Melinda’s Garden Moment” seen throughout the U.S. She also hosts the internationally distributed Great Courses “How to Grow Anything” DVD series, including the latest “Food Gardening for Everyone” set. She also appears regularly as a guest expert on national and local television and radio shows.

This free program is sponsored by the Elm Grove Beautification Committee, the Elm Grove Garden Club, by Laura Skoff, President, Wisconsin Garden Club Federation, Anne Stefaniak Spalholz, Realtor®, and the Elm Grove Public Library.



The Role of Nutrition in Health

Thursday, April 21, 1:30 p.m.

Improve your health one bite at a time! Discover the healing powers of food and learn the benefits of using food as medicine. Presented by two nutritionists from Integrative Health & Wellness in Brookfield. Free to attend. No registration required.



Reinventing Retirement, with author Mary Ann Noe

Monday, April 25, 6:30 p.m.

What does it mean to be retired? Not what it used to, not by a long shot! It could mean reinventing yourself. Meet Mary Ann Noe, who reinvented herself as an author after 30 years of teaching. She published her first novel at age 74, and is coming out with a second soon. Welcome to retirement! Free to attend. No registration required.

About the speaker: Mary Ann Noe spent 29 years teaching in Waukesha classrooms. Upon retirement, she joined a writing workshop, where a good instructor taught her that the slash and burn of editing doesn't leave scars. Mary Ann publishes poetry, non-fiction, and the novels *To Know Her* (2021) and *A Handful of Pearls* (September 2022). Visit Mary Ann at maryannnoe.com.



Promote

Your Business, Organization, Event, Etc.

Support

Your “Hometown” Newspaper!

ADVERTISE!

To request a Rate Sheet / Place an AD

E-mail: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com Call: (262) 782-6193

Young Writers & Reporters

Spring

By Dani Metz, Tonawanda –2nd Grade

Spring is a rainy season
It is mostly when flowers grow
Sometimes it can storm
It is warm outside

most of the time

You can smell flowers
when they are fully grown
Spring is so fun

Spring

By Taylor Guse, Tonawanda –2nd Grade

Supper
Puppies
Rabbits hopping
Insects buzzing
Nora comes over for a playdate, of course
Guses are having FUN!

Spring

By Mason Kressin, Tonawanda –2nd Grade

Smooth spring
Sun shining
Bees working, all day!
Rain, rainbows
Healthy soil
Wet worms going
through
the
soil

Easter

By Jordan Frias, Tonawanda - 4th Grade

Easter eggs
Yellow and blue
Easter eggs for me and you

Easter eggs
Candy sweet
Easter eggs
Are good to eat

Easter eggs
Are pretty funny
But where, oh where is the Easter Bunny?

Writing

By Greta Grossman
Brookfield Academy – Level 7

I love to author poems and stories in my free time. Here is one of the many pieces I have written. It is about how writing is such an amazing form of self-expression and how one can illustrate their inner world with words, even if it’s not shared with others.

My words pour out
Like ink from a pen.
It justifies
The sorrows of men.

Above my throat
Hides all my true feeling
The stuff I tuck away
And don’t want you seeing.

But the paper will hear me,
The paper will care,
And it won’t go and tell
When there’s trouble in the air.

Spring Song

By Addison and Alex
Tonawanda - 4th Grade

Happy Spring!
Here is a song that we made together. It’s titled: The Wonderful World of Spring.

There’s Summer, Winter and Fall but my favorite season of all is Spring. Spring, Spring, Spring, Spring. Yeah, my favorite season is Spring, birds chirping and doing other things. The snow starts to melt, the sun starts to shine everyone’s happy and doing just fine. Flowers bloom, they smell like perfume.

The wonderful world of Spring. So many wonderful things to do in the wonderful world of Spring. Thanks to April showers we’ll have May flowers. Spring is a ton of fun playing outside with everyone! Yeah there’s so many wonderful things to do in spring to do in Spring. Spring, Spring, SPRING.

But my favorite things to do in Spring is to have fun picking flowers, singing songs, and playing outside. But above all, I like to be in the wonderful world of Spring yeah, Spring yeah, Spring, Springggggggggg, SPRING!

The Curse

By Sanjana Singh
6th Grade – Brookfield Academy

Once there was a man who lived in a mansion. He had everything he could possibly have, except a son. He finally had a son and vowed to love him and give him everything he wanted. His son had a butler, and someone to do everything for him. As his son, Beverly, grew up, the man noticed that he was not as intelligent as the other kids. Once when Beverly’s butler was sick, he couldn’t even spread jelly on a biscuit. The man thought about this for awhile and asked himself, *what did he not get that I had when I was younger?*

The man observed Beverly closely and was stumped. Then, it hit him. It’s not what his son never had, it’s what his son doesn’t need! This is when he discovered the curse of a wealthy man, an idiot child. He decided immediately to change that fate, and fired Beverly’s butlers and maids. Beverly had to do everything for himself, and in result learned from it. Now, Beverly is an independent boy that can take care of himself. A boy who is more that ordinary, a boy that is original.

All the Things I Love

About April

By Lilly Meyer, Tonawanda - 4th Grade

Adam’s (my brother) birthday
Party for all the April birthdays
in the Meyer family
Ready, set, hunt!
I love April Fools Day
Lent ends on Easter

All the Meyer birthdays
Plenty of cake
Ready to find the eggs
Identical twin prank
Lots of rain

Easter is Coming

By Victoria Sanderson
Tonawanda, 4th Grade

One of my favorite holidays is Easter because we get to have an Easter egg hunt and celebrate that Jesus rose from the dead. I am sad though because Easter is so late in April. In April, it rains and my friend and I found out that every four years it snows in April. (2016 2020).

Easter

By Madeline K., Tonawanda - 4th Grade

Going in fancy dresses to mass,
Finding colorful eggs in the grass
Popping open the top of the plastic,
I find something fantastic!
Twix, Rolos, candy galore,
I skip and hop to the door
Once the day is over
and now I’m in my bed,
I dream of dancing candy,
prancing ‘round my head

The Year

By Jacob Katula, Tonawanda- 4th Grade

April showers bring May flowers,
but what do May flowers bring?
The reason I am writing this
is the start of spring.
May flowers bring June bees,
which the stingers are bad.
Then there are July fireworks,
they are very rad.
Next there is August heat that is very hot.
Then the September cold is definitely not.
And don’t forget the October Halloween,
which is very cool
Then the November Thanksgiving,
eating a bird, so cruel.
Next is the December Christmas
and the January snow.
Then the February holiday
that I think you know.
Last of all is the next month,
I’m not going over and over.
The last month is March
and I’m thinking of the four-leaf clover.

Easter

By Teaghan C., Tonawanda - 4th Grade

Exciting Awesome Super fun Time to hunt Egg hunts Rabbits

News Briefs

PPMS Forensics Team Takes 2nd Place at State Meet

(ELM GROVE) The Pilgrim Park 2021/2022 Forensics team placed 2nd overall out of 75 teams at the State Forensics Meet on March 13. The team is categorized by the district as an athletic event, so competing at a state event and placing as a team is a notable achievement.

It has taken PPMS 3 years to rebuild its team after the passing of the legendary **Helen Andrews**, who was its head coach and led the team to many state championships and titles. “Her shoes are pretty big to fill, but we took on the challenge throughout 2019 with learning and rebuilding our large team, to our 2020 season being cut short due to COVID-19, and 2021 being a virtual season with performances behind a screen at separate homes and places. Our team was determined to be successful from the start of the 2022 season,” noted a school spokesperson.

Some top PPMS finishers this year include:

*Powered at the State Meet and took 4th, 5th, 6th place in their category:
-8th grader **Amy Lor** in Humorous Solo
-7th grader **Janavi Wagle** in Informative
-7th graders **Mahum Mir and Delaney Coffey** in News Reporting
-7th grader **Elizabeth Zuniga-Meyer** in Moments in History

*Powered at the State Meet and placed in their category:
*3rd place:
-8th grader **Hrishikesh Srivathsan** in Demonstration Speech
-6th grader **Niamh Mayne** in Storytelling

*2nd place:
-8th grader **Ambika Sundaresan** in Demonstration Speech
-8th graders **Catalina Hayes and Lauren Meissner** in Group Interpretation
-8th grader **Isha Girish** in Humorous Solo Speaking
-8th grader **Rithik Kumar** in Non-Original Oratory

1st place:
-8th graders **Nora Brazauskas and Ava Hicks** in Demonstration Speech
-6th grader **Mason Braley** in Humorous Solo Speaking
-8th grader **Ethan Zhang** in Impromptu Speaking
-8th grader **Callum Mayne** in Informative
-7th grader **Ellie Sayas** in Informative
-8th grader **Isabelle Perry** in Moments in History
-6th grade team of **Avani Channashetti, Saina Mehta, and Srinidhi Chitluri** in in News Reporting
-8th grader **Jake Zheng** in Poetry

Library Book Sale Deemed a Success

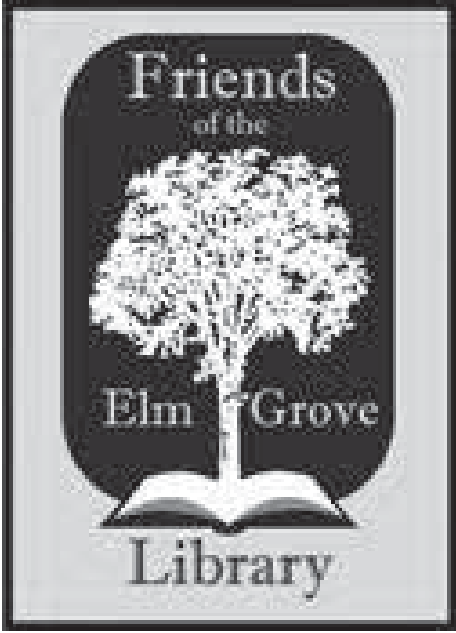
By Janet Wintersberger

The Elm Grove Public Library was a busy setting for the Friends of Elm Grove Library’s (FOEGL) 35th Used Book Sale. Once again, our community showed strong support for the event. Many friends and neighbors found books, CDs and DVDs and other media for their families.

More than 80 people volunteered during the 3½-day event. Students from Marquette University helped transport large purchases to cars.

Proceeds from the sale (\$18,700) will benefit the Elm Grove Public Library. Nonprofit organizations received donations of unsold items.

FOEGL is planning a one-day Mini Sale of pristine, gift-worthy items on November 12, 2022.



News’ Hounds

& other beloved creatures

Adopt a Pet at the Elmbrook Humane Society

By Anita Alfaro

Hi everyone, my name is **Lilo**! I am a very sweet girl who deserves all the love in the world. Just by looking at me you can tell I have big brains! I am a kind spirit who loves attention and cuddles. I am a ton of fun and ready to go on a walk or just stay in and give you kisses. I did not have the greatest start to life. As you can see the scars on my head are from a chemical burn. I was confiscated by the police from my not-so-great home down south and am now here to find my perfect forever home. I am excelling at potty training and walking on a leash but I am not the biggest fans of cats. If you are interested in my adorable face or the love I can give, apply today! Call (262) 782-9261 or visit <https://ebhs.org> and fill out an application.



Photo Courtesy Elmbrook Humane Society

Lilo

Legal Issues

Estate Planning: Vacation Properties

By Attorney Isabell M. Mueller

Whether it is a lake home, a cottage in the woods or hunting land, vacation properties can be the source of your family’s best memories. However, if you are lucky enough to own such a property, you need to decide what will happen to it after you die, otherwise it could drive a wedge between your family members.

Begin by determining what your goal is for the property. Do you want it to remain in the family or are you okay with it being sold? If it is to remain in the family, are you willing to transfer full or part ownership of the property during your lifetime, or only after your death? Consult an attorney as to not only what legal steps need to be taken for either option, but also what the tax consequences would be to both you and your children. Lastly, discuss what form of ownership, such as a trust or LLC, would be the best manner for multiple family members to own the property together. Once you have made some decisions and

have the necessary information, have a meaningful discussion with your children. Find out who actually wants the property. What they have to say might surprise you. One or more of your children might enjoy visiting the property now, but may not have interest in it after you are gone. Another may simply live too far away, or may not be in a financial position to take on the taxes, insurance and maintenance of the property.

Lastly, once you decide who will receive the property, you must also decide whether your other children will receive something else from your estate instead. When everything has been addressed and decided, follow through with any necessary legal work. Working through these matters with your family will require effort. However, a successful transition of your vacation property to the next generation will be well worth it.

LAW OFFICES OF ISABELL M. MUELLER

Estate Planning, Probate, Wills & Trusts, Powers of Attorney
890 Elm Grove Rd, Ste 202, Elm Grove WI 53122
414.430.1722

www.muellerlawoffices.com

Find Us On Facebook!

Classifieds

Listings are **\$25 per issue (up to 20 words)** + 50 cents for each additional word.
\$20 extra per photo or logo.

E-mail: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com or call (262) 782-6193.

Home Improvement

Tom’s Painting

No Job Too Small!

Interior, Exterior, Caulking, Staining

Small Drywall Repairs

Senior Discounts. Great Referrals.

30 Years Experience.

Call (414) 719-0138

Wanted

Classic Cars, Muscle Cars

Any condition, running or not.

Cash Today!

(414) 467-9801

Announcements

Special Thanks!

To all the fine Hosts

in Elm Grove and Brookfield ---

Class of ’61 Brookfield High School

60th Class Reunion!



Letters to the Editor

- Letters regarding issues of concern to the Elm Grove / Elmbrook / Waukesha County community will be considered for publication on a space available basis.
- Submissions (**200 words max.**) must include the writer’s name, community & phone #
- Mail to: EGNi, Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 372, Elm Grove, WI 53122-0372.
- E-mail: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com (Subject line: Letters to the Editor)

Vote NO on Elm Grove Referendum

I am asking you to vote “**NO**” on the April referendum.

This referendum requires all public works projects greater than \$1Million to be approved in a regular election.

I support the voters’ right to weigh in on significant Village projects. However, the dollar limit is too low. I know a million dollars sounds like a lot of money, but in terms of public works expenditure, it’s not. Most future road work will exceed that amount.

To prevent the Village from exceeding that limit for any reason (inflation, cost overruns), all projects estimated to exceed about \$800K will need to be put to a vote. This will increase both the time and cost to complete projects. As a matter of practice, it’s inefficient.

The Village Board heard you. We took your request to heart and passed an ordinance virtually identical to the one you will be voting on. This ordinance is currently on the books; its primary difference is the dollar amount, requiring a vote when the project is likely to exceed \$5Million.

The current Village Ordinance has a reasonable dollar amount, protecting your right to weigh in on significant projects while allowing the Village to conduct regular business efficiently (for example, a new pool, not necessary road work). **Please vote “NO”.**

Tom Michalski

Elm Grove

Cost of TID for SSND Development Underreported

The Tax Incremental District is for developing the School Sisters of Notre Dame property. Mandel is requesting 18.26 million in direct compensation to make this development financially viable for their investors. The property is “financially undevelopable” and is considered “blighted”.

To justify compensation to developers, the simple concept that new taxes collected from the development will pay for the contribution. The municipality can capture **all** taxes collected in the “district”, not only the municipalities portion.

Mandel will receive 18.266 million. Village cost 23.3 million with interest. The village projects land and property improvements with apartments produce 54.5 million value, 16.8 million from 21 houses that are not financed by Mandel.

The TID will collect 23.3 million over 18 years. Remember all (Village, County, Elmbrook Schools, WCTC) taxes need to be diverted not just the Village portion. School tax portion is larger than the Village portion.

The development will add 59 students to Elmbrook. The cost per student is \$11,812.00 / \$696,908 / Year, with inflation increasing yearly. **Where will that funding come from?**

No additional tax revenue from this development for 18 years! The redirected funds that normally flow to the school district is a substantial unreported cost.

“It will pay for itself” eventually might be true but it will take **many** more years than 18.

Brian Hartlmeier

Elm Grove

Vote Yes! On April 5th Referendum

In the March 2022 issue of *The Elm Grove News-Independent*, our village president stated that the “ordinance language of the proposed referendum makes no accommodation for emergency situations.” This is false because section 62.15 of Wisconsin Statutes allows for villages to address infrastructure emergencies, and Judge Bohren specifically reminded the Village Board about this in his injunction order.

Our pristine village has had its name sullied with two writs of mandamus and an injunction that have been required to get our Village Board to comply with the law and send the citizen petition on large public works projects to referendum. They recently moved the public water project to Mandel TIF (now

\$23.3 million!) at the cost of an additional \$653,000 despite the injunction order, which is underhanded at best and definitely the opposite of fiscally prudent.

The referendum only affects \$1million dollars or more projects of which there have been only two in the past 15 years. Significant projects should have broad based public support.

The Village Board’s overwrought reaction to the citizen petition demonstrated the need for greater citizen involvement in major decisions. I urge my fellow residents to vote YES! on April 5th referendum.

Susan Freedy

Past Village President

Elm Grove

Elect Schindler Trustee

I am writing this letter to support John Schindler in his bid to serve as Elm Grove Village Trustee. I have known John for over twenty years, and he has been consistently working to improve our community. John has been a volunteer Paramedic on EG-EMS for over 25 years. During this time John was able to organize fundraisers to acquire donations for upgraded cardiac monitors, and to completely fund a Rescue Task Force Team. He serves on several Village committees, including the Ad Hoc Pathway Committee.

I have found John to be an intelligent, thoughtful man who educates himself on an issue, and listens respectfully to

all sides. Trying to find a way to end the impasse over building a necessary pedestrian pathway on Highland Drive between Gebhardt and North Ave., John was able to reach out on his own and engage the Marquette School of Engineering to have seven senior engineering students, along with a Professor from the School of Engineering, design an innovative pathway for Highland Drive. John is paying all the costs for this out of his own pocket.

John is a true advocate for all residents. I urge you to vote **John Schindler** on April 5.

Joseph J Coffey

Elm Grove Resident, 23 years

News Briefs



Team GEARheads (Standing) **Karthik, Joshua, Josef, Matthew, Sidharth, Yuva, Vaidehi;** (Sitting) **Swar, Justin, Thomas, Anubhav, Noah, Avaneesh.**



Team HAZMAT (Standing) **Aramis, Mishal, Aniruddh, Amelia, Joseph, Sirat, Pavan, Aman, Preston, Trent, Varun, Aaditya;** (Sitting) **Coaches: Kevin, Salma, Amjad, Maheshwar.**

Robotics Teams Win State Championship, Advance to World Finals

(BROOKFIELD) All four Elmbrook School District FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) teams qualified for the State Championship that was held at the Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE) Kern Center on Saturday, March 5. Two of the teams, **the GEARheads and Team Hazmat**, won the state competition and they will represent Wisconsin as they advance to the World Finals held in Texas in April.


Team Hazmat (composed of students from Brookfield Central High School) won the Inspire Award at the event for being the team that best embodies the challenge of the competition and the role model team. This is the 2nd time in a row that Team Hazmat brings the prestigious Orange Banner to the school. The inspire award is the highest award which any team is able to win. Team Hazmat’s ability to help promote STEM in their community as well as use

industrial application to create one of the best robots led them to this victory.

The GEARheads (composed of students from Wisconsin Hills, Brookfield Central & East) was Captain of the Winning Robot Alliance. Together the GEARheads and Team Hazmat collaborated during a qualifying round to achieve a State Record Score of 318, which was one of the highest scores in the world. Student **Aman Amjad** of Team Hazmat was nominated as an individual for the Dean’s Finalist award and will be one of three students to represent Wisconsin at the World Finals on behalf of his leadership and dedication of the most outstanding secondary school students from FIRST.

Additionally, **Superstellar**, the first-year all-girls team composed of students from PPMS, WHMS, & BCHS brought home

first place for the Connect Award which celebrates a team “connecting the dots between their community, STEM disciplines, and the diversity of the engineering world”. **Rising Rhinobots** was also part of the Winning Robot Alliance and placed third for the Connect Award.



Tonawanda 5th grade students **Frances Paradis** (at left) and **Nora Schneider**.

Tonawanda Students Research Global Problems Take Action to Help Others

By David Schimpf

The Tonawanda fifth grade classes completed Genius Hour Projects where students researched and presented specific global problems. This project has inspired many fifth graders to make a difference in the world and one of the groups had a fundraiser on March 9 selling prepackaged cookies, popcorn, and brownies.

The students who organized the event were **Frances Paradis** and **Nora Schneider** and their project focused on the causes and devastation of the 2019-2020 Australian Bush Fires. They raised \$206.27 which will be donated to the Australian Red Cross.

Getting mixed messages? Why voting YES is best for Elm Grove!

With all the information that’s being circulated about the referendum, here are some things to keep in mind.

CLAIM: It doesn’t account for emergencies.
Emergency spending authority is established by WI statutes and will not be encumbered. This fact was clearly reaffirmed by the judge who ordered the Village to uphold their legal responsibility to voters to hold the referendum. **Every trustee should be aware of these facts, and any trustee making statements to the contrary is either alarmingly uniformed or attempting to mislead voters.**

CLAIM: It won’t impact the SSND project.
The previous Mandel TIF request for the SSND property proposed an astonishing \$22.6 million in Village debt financing - with approximately \$16 million being paid to Mandel in the form of grants and developer incentives. A water main to the downtown was also slated to be Village-financed as a part of the proposal.

The “new” proposal requires Mandel to finance the water for their project, with no Village debt being issued for that purpose. However, the Village will be giving Mandel additional grant monies, since Mandel’s project costs increased due to having to pay for the water. This maneuver, which one Plan Commissioner called, “a shell game”, **adds \$653,934 in costs to the Village with zero added benefit.**

If the referendum passes, it will likely be up to the courts to determine how the Village’s approach to the SSND project is impacted. Village leaders were warned by the judge about using “loopholes” to work around the injunction. And committing \$653,934 more of taxpayer resources to do so negates any claims of fiscal prudence being made by Village leaders.

Also, if the referendum has no impact on the SSND proposal as President Palmer and others assert, **why are Mandel associates calling residents and making presentations to community groups urging them to vote no?**

CLAIM: No pathways will ever get implemented.
This argument is used to intentionally scare pathway proponents into thinking their neighbors won’t rally in support of a project that benefits the Village overall if it’s not in their own backyard. Postponment of proposed pathways has become a key talking point of Village officials who oppose the referendum. As it relates to the Gebhardt pathway specifically, **it was the decision of the Village (not the public) to add substantive road work to the pathway project scope**, pushing two projects into one and not moving it forward in 2022 as originally planned. This strategy of holding pathways hostage is disheartening.

CLAIM: \$1 million is too low. What about inflation?
Despite claims to the contrary, \$1 million projects are rare for a village the size of Elm Grove and are known well in advance, including road repairs. Assertions made regarding the inability to effectively plan and competitively bid projects don’t hold water. **Delafield has a similar \$1 million spending ordinance and a budget twice that of Elm Grove’s.** Delafield officials enthusiastically support their ordinance as a means to control spending and ensure that large projects have citizen support.

The ordinance and its dollar limit can be evaluated and adjusted by Village Trustees after 2 years.

CLAIM: We elected “trustees” – just trust them.
Actions by Village Trustees to invalidate the petition and to keep it from moving forward to a referendum during the past year eroded community trust. The failure of the trustees to carry out their legal duty after being ordered to do so by the court has caused many residents to lose faith in Village leadership.

But trust can be restored. **Making sure the public has a meaningful say in large projects – some of which may have implications not seen or felt for decades – is a good governance practice.** This is especially true for volunteer trustees who are only elected to 2-yr terms. Support for voter involvement on large Village projects is also a good litmus test of trustees who have a collaborative approach to leadership. Leaders who value, rather than fear, resident input will be well-suited to face the challenges and capitalize on the opportunities that lie ahead.

Please remember to vote. There is a lot at stake in this election. We encourage you to **“Vote Yes!”** on the referendum. The following candidates have expressed their support for voting yes on the referendum: **Jennifer Stuckert, John Schindler and Jim Koleski**

visit **VoteYesElmGrove.org** to learn more



More ORGANICS Better RESULTS!

ONLY from Kanavas

Smart! Very Smart!

Slow-Release Organic-Added Fertilizers

**Weed Control
Only As Needed**

Issue-Specific Insect & Disease Control

Trained, State-Certified Applicators

No One Beats Kanavas Quality...NO ONE!

LANDSCAPE RENOVATION



kanavas
Landscape Management, Inc.

13575
Juneau Blvd
Elm Grove

262-786-0050
kanavaslandscape.com

**APRIL 21 – MAY 8, 2022**

Book by Karey Kirkpatrick and John O'Farrel
Music and Lyrics by Wayne Kirkpatrick and Karey Kirkpatrick
Conceived by Karey Kirkpatrick and Wayne Kirkpatrick
Presented through special arrangement with Music Theater International (MTI).

**SUNSET
PLAYHOUSE**

700 Wall Street, Elm Grove, WI 53122
262-782-4430

SunsetPlayhouse.com



Easter Stroll

SATURDAY, APRIL 9TH

9:30 - 11:30 AM

ELM GROVE PARK

Sponsored by The Elm Grove Junior Guild