



Elm Grove NEWS- INDEPENDENT



Vol. 13 No. 4

Serving Elm Grove, Wisconsin & Neighboring Communities

December 2022

Freedom of the Press is Essential. Community News Matters.

On the Ballot

2023 Elections Preview

By Lisabeth Passalis-Bain
elmgrovenews@yahoo.com

Village of Elm Grove ---

Residents who wish to take an active role regarding current and future issues of importance to our community may want to consider running for a seat on the Board of Trustees or for Municipal Judge next year.

Village Board seats up for election include those of these incumbents: **Village President Neil Palmer and Trustees Katy Cornell, Thomas Michalski, and Kristina Sayas.** The two-year term for those elected begins on April 15. Also on the ballot will be the position of Municipal Judge (currently held by **W. Timothy Steinle**). This is a four-year term that will begin on May 1, 2023.

A Primary Election, if needed, will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, with the Spring Election set for Tuesday, April 4, 2023.

To qualify as a candidate, you must be a citizen of the Village of Elm Grove, age 18 or older, have resided in the Village for at least 10 days before any election, and be an eligible elector.

The first day for circulating nomination papers is December 1, 2022. The deadline to file nomination papers, declaration of candidacy, and campaign registration statements with the Village Clerk is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

For additional information, contact **Sandee Policello**, Village Clerk, at spolicello@elmgrovewi.org or call (262) 782-6700.

School District of Elmbrook ---

The names of candidates for the three School District of Elmbrook Board seats up for election next spring will appear on the April 4, 2023 ballot. Included will be candidates who reside in and are seeking the Election Area I seat (within the District's northeast quadrant), candidates who reside in and are seeking the Election Area III seat (within the District's southwest quadrant), and district residents running for the At-Large seat.

For details about becoming a candidate and/or other Board Election questions, contact **Christy Westfall** at westfalc@elmbrookschoools.org or (262) 781-3030 x11124.

Newly-elected board members will serve three-year terms beginning on April 24, 2023.

New Assistant Village Manager / Zoning & Planning Administrator Appointed

By Lisabeth Passalis-Bain / elmgrovenews@yahoo.com

Katherine Gehl recently began work as the Village of Elm Grove's Assistant Village Manager / Zoning & Planning Administrator following the resignation of **Tom Harrigan**, who held that position for several years.

Gehl previously served the Village of Richfield in Washington County for two years as their Administrative Services Coordinator, and while there received her Master's in Public Administration with a focus in Local Government Administration from Northern Illinois University. As part of her graduate program, she worked for the Village of Gurnee, Illinois in their Administration department. She graduated from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities in 2019 with a dual Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Urban Studies and, as an undergraduate, held internships with the Minnesota State Senate, the City of Saint Paul, and the City of West Allis.

Katherine noted that in her new role she, "Oversees the administration and enforcement of the Village of Elm Grove zoning and land use ordinances, serves as principal staff to the Plan Commission and Building Board, serves as the floodplain manager, assists in the preparation of the annual budget, works closely with the contracted building inspector and Recreation Manager, and assists the Village Manager on various other projects as needed."



Katherine Gehl

Gehl is a resident of the Village of Germantown, where she lives with her sister, **Alex**, and her 2-year-old lab mix, **Jones**. She enjoys "baking, watching sports, country music, going up north, and spending time outdoors."

"I'm very excited to be working in the Village of Elm Grove and I look forward to carrying on the tradition of promoting a high quality of life and a sense of community pride," Katherine said.



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*Kiwanis Club of Elm Grove *Mary Beth Scott (Elm Grove)
*Genevieve Daniels & Justin Brown (Elm Grove) *Geri Fotsch (Elm Grove)
*Thomas & Jane Dwyer (Elm Grove) *Dana Cable, Jr. (Milwaukee)
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+

*"All the News
there's room to print"*

American Association of University Women

Join members of AAUW on **Saturday, January 14** to attend the branch meeting and luncheon beginning at **11:00 a.m. at Alioto's** on Mayfair Road in Wauwatosa.

**The Program is
The Life of Georgia O'Keefe,
presented by
Professor Karri Fritz-Klaus.
The cost is \$25.00.**

**For reservations, please email
aauwsmembership@gmail.com
no later than Wednesday, January 4.**

Visit our website

<http://westsuburbanmilwaukee-wi.aauw.net/>

to learn more about us.

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"I Know Where You Live!"



HAPPY
HOLIDAYS
from my family
to yours!

4 Friends Raise \$20,000+ During 25-hour Gaming Marathon to Benefit Children’s Miracle Network

Every year in early November groups of enthusiastic gamers take on the challenge of playing a myriad of video games for many hours, all to raise money in support of the Children’s Miracle Network, an alliance helping hospitals around the country of which Children’s Wisconsin is a part.

Locally, a marathon Extra-Life stream featuring The Friendly Goats team (aka Greg Reynolds, Vee Laabs, Kelly Main, and Christos Passalis-Bain) began on the morning of Saturday, November 5. Twenty-five hours and 20+ games later, the group had raised \$10,051.44. For the second year in a row, an anonymous donor matched the first \$10,000, resulting in an impressive total of \$20,051.44, with additional funds still coming in.

Guests from Red Letter Media, some of whom are alumni from Comedy Sportz,



Friends (from left) **Christos Passalis-Bain**, **Kelly Main**, **Greg Reynolds**, and **Vee Laabs** play video games, live-streamed on Twitch.

joined the event for an improv segment to play a game of Jack Box.

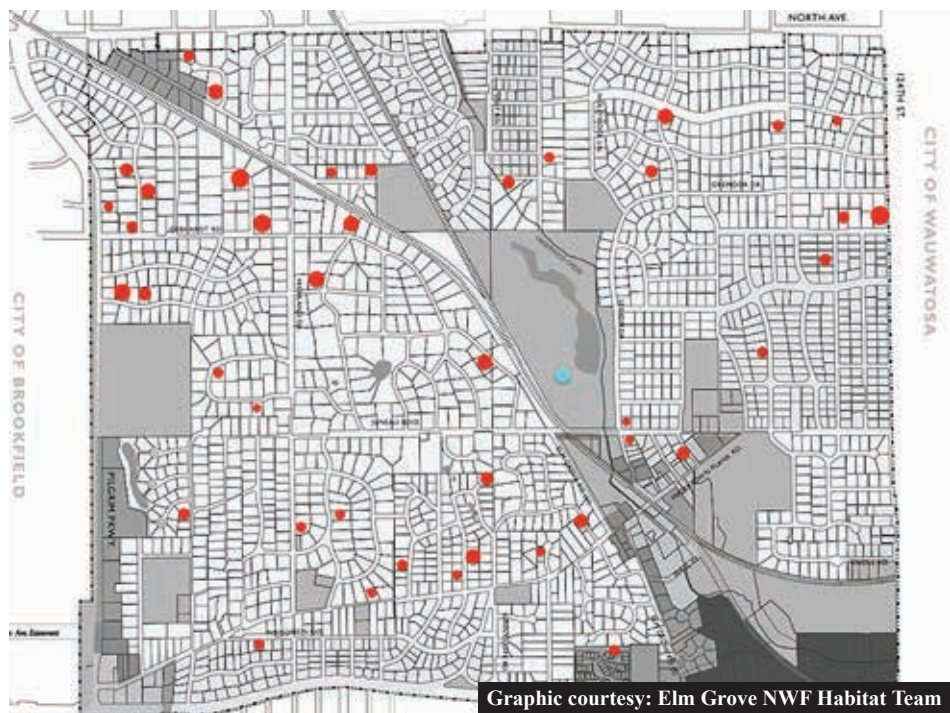
“We had worked with **UpDown – Milwaukee** to put together a Killer Queen arcade tournament 2 weeks before the marathon, bringing together players from Milwaukee, Madison, and Chicago to raise more funds for Extra-Life,” said Christos, “Now, some patients who wouldn’t normally be able to afford a life-saving procedure at Children’s Wisconsin can have it.”

How you can help ---

The Extra-Life fundraiser continues through December 31, 2022. Click on the QR code to make a donation.



Community Wildlife Habitat



Map showing Elm Grove properties (red dots) which have been certified as National Wildlife Federation Gardens for Wildlife, as of November 21, 2022.

Help Elm Grove Achieve 1st in Wisconsin Certification

By Elm Grove NWF Habitat Team

Go Elm Grove! This month’s update on our certification process brings great news in that our community was able to jump from 13.3% to 30.7% complete. There is no doubt that much of our progress has been early excitement and that the weather may slow us down. But let’s end 2022 on a positive note and see if we can beat last month’s progress! That means that we need to certify at least one home per day for the month of December. Can you help us?

Your Elm Grove NWF Team has put together numerous resources to assure our community is the first in the state to achieve certification. Please feel free to join the Facebook group we have created: Elm Grove Community Wildlife Habitat. There we post updates on our progress, answer frequently asked questions, provide

resources to help you certify your landscaping, and distribute information that is key to helping the village achieve certification.

The process of certification is MUCH more simple than you can imagine. Once you know your yard meets criteria, the process of registering and paying the \$20 takes less than 4 minutes to complete.

Head to <https://www.nwf.org/certify>-- take a few minutes to be a part of keeping Elm Grove an amazing community in which to live and raise a family.

Are you interested in being a part of our team? Reach out via the Facebook group or Beautification@elmgrovewi.org

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A check for a total of \$ _____ is enclosed.

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13600 Juneau Boulevard
Elm Grove, Wisconsin 53122

(262) 782-6700
www.elmgrovewi.org

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RICHARD PAUL, JR.
rpauljr@elmgrovewi.org
- Forester RON HILL
forester@elmgrovewi.org
- Recreation Director
(To be announced)
- 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
- Building Inspector
MIKE HADLEY
mhadley@safebuilt.com (262) 212-8615

- POLICE – FIRE – MEDICAL
EMERGENCY: CALL 9-1-1
Police Department (non-emergency)
(262) 786-4141
- Police Chief JASON KUBIAK
jkubiak@elmgrovewi.org
- Fire Chief DAVID KASTENHOLZ
dkastenholtz@elmgrovewi.org
- Medical Director Dr. JON ROBINSON
jrobinson@elmgrovewi.org

Village Update

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

Interest in the November 8 election resulted in 82% of eligible Elm Grove voters casting ballots with 42% of the voting early or by absentee.

Beautiful weather helped make the annual “Walk the Plank” fall celebration was a big success with lots of families visiting Village merchants to participate in Trick or Treat.

Speaking of wonderful traditions, the Elm Grove Library “Lights of Love” annual fundraiser for the Friends of Elm Grove Library (FOEGL) is in full swing now. We are blessed to have a great library supported by a committed support group. Please join your neighbors in contributing to future success.

The Village Board will meet in a “Committee of the Whole” session in December to discuss possible need to hold referendum votes regarding two ongoing projects. While the extension of a municipal water connection to the Village center was last estimated at approximately \$823,000 there is concern that updated estimates will exceed the \$1 million referendum requirement threshold.

The Underwood Creek “Daylighting/Restoration” project to open up and relocate the creek channel through the shopping area between Watertown Plank Road and Elm Grove Road will exceed the referendum threshold. The existing construction estimate is \$3 million.

Village residents approved the \$1.3 million referendum to reconstruct Gebhardt Road and install an adjacent pathway at the November election. The Village Board finance committee will soon begin discussions on a funding plan for the project.

Work on the Underwood Creek streambank stabilization project is nearing completion. The total project cost is approximately \$388,000. The project received a state grant of \$225,000, the Elm Grove share is \$102,239 and Brookfield contributes \$60,739.

The Public Works Committee is reviewing the agreement with Waukesha County for recycling services to provide recommendations for possible action by the Village Board.

The Village Board unanimously approved a resolution supporting efforts by the Beautification Committee seeking designation by the National Wildlife Federation as a “National Wildlife Federation Community Habitat”. No other Wisconsin has yet received such a designation. We want to be first! In addition to receiving the Village Board support, the Beautification Committee is seeking Village property owners to enroll in the



effort. Interested residents can learn more about the program at: <https://www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/Certify> and by contacting the Beautification Committee at: egbeautification@gmail.com.

The 2023 Village Budget was approved at the November meeting. The approved tax levy is \$7,497,240 which is an increase of \$52,805 or 0.71%. The tax rate on assessed property needed to support this levy is \$5.378 per \$1,000 of value, a decrease of 10.34%. The approved budget also includes sewer, stormwater and solid waste fees. The new solid waste contract with John’s continues to include “up the driveway” service. The approved new budget also includes additional funds to support fire and EMS “paid on call” programs to help retain current service members and attract new members. This short-term solution to strengthening our emergency services was recommended by the Ad Hoc Fire and EMS Futures Committee. The Committee is continuing analysis of long-term recommendations for maintaining high quality emergency services.

The Spring Election is scheduled for Tuesday, April 4, 2023. The office of Village President and three (3) Trustee positions and the Municipal Judge are on the ballot. Incumbent Village Trustees and the Village President must file notice of intention not to run for re-election by December 23, 2022. Elm Grove is a community blessed with a spirit of volunteerism. Service on the Village Board is an important way to support your community. Historically the Board has worked hard to make participation as easy as possible for members when scheduling meetings and in dividing the work. Residents interested in seeking local office can find additional information at: <https://elmgrovewi.org/416/Candidate-Information> and by visiting Village Clerk Sandee Policello at Village Hall.

Business & Club Directory

* 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

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Our History:

Remembrances of Things Past



Photo by Karl A. Hauser

The First Church of Christ, Scientist at 17150 W. Capitol Drive in Brookfield as it looked, circa 1965.

WHATZZIT?

By Stephen K. Hauser

With the feeling of Christmas in the air, I find myself thinking of the many houses of worship found in the Elmbrook community over the years. Our December *Whatzzit* is easily identifiable as a quaint country church. What is not immediately obvious, however, is that it was also the original Fairview School, a one-room schoolhouse that once stood at 17150 Capitol Drive (the northeast corner of Capitol and Calhoun Road) in Brookfield. It served farm children in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Along with other one-and two-room schools such as Gregg, Putney, Dixon, and Hillcrest, it met the needs of nearby farm families. In the case of Fairview, most were from the north central area of Brookfield Township, with a few from the neighboring town of Menomonee to the north. During the bustling “baby boom” era, Fairview was relocated to larger quarters, eventually finding its present location directly to the south, west of Calhoun Road on Bermuda Blvd. It still operates as a secondary school for special needs students in the Elmbrook school district.

The original Fairview School property was sold to the First Church of Christ, Scientist in 1954. The group had been meeting in Elm Grove since receiving a charter from their mother church in Boston in 1952. The young congregation set about the work of converting the old school into a church, doing much of the labor themselves. Fortunately, some members were skilled at painting, carpentry and glazing. The first services were held there on Thanksgiving Day that November. The sanctuary was formally dedicated after all work was completed on December 9, 1956. The membership rolls continued to grow and a new, larger colonial style church was built in 1967 at the intersection of Pilgrim Road and Burleigh Place. The opening services at the new church were held on Sunday, January 7, 1968.

The old Fairview location was abandoned, shuttered and put up for sale. It was perfect for a newly-organized congregation. Among those who looked at the property was **Rev. Paul Lindstrom**, founding pastor of the Church of Christian Liberty in Prospect Heights, Illinois. He was accompanied by his friend and associate, pastor **John Vouga** of Brookfield. Rev. Lindstrom had been holding Sunday evening services at the Holiday Inn on Highway 100 in Wauwatosa that summer and Pastor Vouga was beginning to organize a Milwaukee area congregation. The former Christian Science church was ideal for a fledgling group, but before a decision to purchase could be reached, a late evening fire gutted the historic building on September 7, 1968. According to the *Waukesha Freeman*, of September 9th, the inside walls and flooring were destroyed. While the building itself was saved by three fire trucks dispatched by the City of Brookfield Fire Department, it was no longer habitable, and would later be demolished. Since there were no other structures nearby in those days, damage was confined to the church.

The conversion of the old Fairview School into the Brookfield Church of Christ, Scientist was not unique, or even unusual in the Elmbrook area. Over the years, local church congregations have met in the gymnasium of Leland School, the cafeteria at Brookfield Academy, the Ruby Isle Theatre, Stonewood Village, the Sunset Playhouse, and even during “off-hours” at other local churches. All of those church-going folks of days gone by would probably be glad to join with me today in wishing all our readers a Blessed and a very Merry Christmas Season!

Stephen K. Hauser is a retired college history professor and a longtime village resident.

In Memoriam

Honor the Life
of a beloved
family member or friend.

To place an Obituary Notice in this newspaper,
e-mail: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com
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News Briefs

Landscape Pesticide Advance Notice Registration Open through February 1

MADISON – The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) invites homeowners and renters to sign up for 2023 growing season notices in the landscape pesticide registry through February 1, 2023.

By submitting addresses of interest, registrants receive advance notice from commercial lawn care companies that apply pesticides to lawns, trees, and shrubs to nearby property. There is no cost to register, and new registration is required each year. To register online or submit a paper application by mail, visit <https://datcp.wi.gov>.

The landscape pesticide registry will start March 15, 2023 when pesticide applicators are required to notify registrants at least 12 hours in advance of treating nearby

properties. The registry applies only to commercial landscape applications. The registry does not apply to:

- Homeowners or landlords who do their own pesticide applications
- Pesticide applications to the inside or outside of buildings; including around a workplace, school, or day care center
- Pesticide use in agriculture

Pesticide is a broad term that can include herbicides, fungicides, and insecticides. For the 2022 growing season, more than 4,500 addresses were registered to receive notice.

E-mail: DATCPLandscapeRegistry@wisconsin.gov or call (608) 224-5296 with questions.

American Red Cross Seeks Nominations for 2023 Brave Hearts Event

MILWAUKEE - Heroes do not need capes and powers to be considered super; sometimes ordinary people are capable of accomplishing extraordinary good. Perhaps you know a hero, someone who saved a life, helped a stranger or neighbor, or served their community? If you do, the American Red Cross of Southeastern Wisconsin invites you to nominate them for the 2023 Brave Hearts Heroes ceremony and fundraising event.

Brave Hearts recognizes local community heroes for their exceptional actions to save lives or commitments to the safety, security and resiliency of the community. This year’s award recipients will be honored at an in-person and virtual gala in May.

Honorees are celebrated across six categories – Adult Good Samaritan; Community Safety, Security and Resiliency Hero; From the Heart Hero; Military Hero; Youth Good Samaritan; and Hero of the Year. Nominees may come from the eight counties that comprise the Red Cross Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter, including Dodge, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha counties, and can honor any heroic actions from the calendar year of 2022. Nominations are due by Feb. 15, 2023.

To learn more about the awards, guidelines, and to nominate someone, visit: <https://www.redcross.org/local/wisconsin/about-us/news-and-events/events/brave-hearts/brave-hearts-nomination.html>.

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Elm Grove Community Foundation

www.elmgrovefoundation.org

NEW at the Community Foundation

Community Foundation Sponsors Carriage Rides

The Elm Grove Community Foundation sponsored the horse drawn carriage rides at the recent Elm Grove Business Association Holiday Open House. Our purpose is to support these types of events and other activities that enhance community life in the village.

If you haven’t yet, please consider supporting the Community Foundation and make a donation via the attached form on our annual appeal letter mailed last month or contact the board on our website.



BOOK IT! Oktoberfest - September 15 & 16, 2023

Calendar of Events – December 2022

Thursday – DECEMBER 1

• **First day for Village Trustee & Elmbrook School Board candidates to circulate Nomination Papers to qualify to appear on the February Primary / Spring Election 2023 ballot.** (Details – Page 1)

Friday – DECEMBER 2

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club; Election of Officers. <http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>.
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Topic: “Hospice, What to Know About Them”. kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Saturday – DECEMBER 3

• **Elm Grove – Recycling Center / Yard Waste Facility,** 900 Wall Street; OPEN: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Village residents only. (262) 780-6643 rpauljr@elmgroviewi.org.

Sunday – DECEMBER 4

• **”Lights of Love” events** at Elm Grove Village Hall, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. All welcome!

Wednesday – DECEMBER 7 PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY



Thursday – DECEMBER 8

- **OWLS – Seniors’ Group**
Holiday Luncheon and Program; Westmoor Country Club. Sponsored by Community Church Elm Grove. Guests are welcome. <http://www.cumceg.org>.
- **Elmbrook Rotary Club** Progressive dinner / Social <http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>

Friday – DECEMBER 9

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club; Speaker: Mike Phillips, District Governor – District #6270. <http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>.
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Private Lunch / kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Saturday – DECEMBER 10

• **Elm Grove – Recycling Center / Yard Waste Facility,** 900 Wall Street; OPEN: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Village residents only. (262) 780-6643 rpauljr@elmgroviewi.org.

Friday – DECEMBER 16

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club; Strategy meeting for “to be named” annual celebration of Rotary sponsors. <http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>.
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: Tim John on “Miller Beer Barons”. kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Saturday – DECEMBER 17

• **Elm Grove – Recycling Center / Yard Waste Facility,** 900 Wall Street; OPEN: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Village residents only. (262) 780-6643 rpauljr@elmgroviewi.org.

Sunday – DECEMBER 18

HANUKKAH Begins at Sundown

Monday – DECEMBER 19

• **Elm Grove Board of Trustees**
Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall Court Room. Agenda & Live Stream at www.elmgroviewi.org.

Wednesday – DECEMBER 21 FIRST DAY OF WINTER



Friday – DECEMBER 23

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club; “Holiday” program. <http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>.
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: Pastor David Rebey on “Breaking the Chains of Incarceration”. kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Sunday – DECEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS



News Briefs

Pilgrim Park Welcomes School Resource Officer

(ELM GROVE) Elmbrook has expanded the School Resource Officer (SRO) program to the middle schools to further strengthen the connection between our schools and the police department, as we work together to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Pilgrim Park Middle School is happy to welcome SRO **Steve Weber** who will begin his duties on January 3. Officer Weber has served with the Elm Grove Police Department for the past eight years, and is an alumna of Brookfield Central.

“We were excited to introduce Officer Weber to our students and staff,” said Principal **Kelly Szesterniak**. “The opportunity to have a dedicated resource from the Elm Grove Police Department focused on promoting positive interactions and communication with our students is incredible, and we look forward to Officer Weber’s impact on our school community.”

Weber earned his Criminal Justice degree from Waukesha County Technical College, and holds various certifications from the National Association of School Resource



Steve Weber

Officers, and SWAT and Civil Disturbance Response training.

“I am honored to have this opportunity to collaborate with the staff and students of Pilgrim Park and to build positive relationships with them,” said Officer Weber.

The SRO program was first implemented at Brookfield Central and Brookfield East high schools in 2020.

Friday – DECEMBER 30

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club** - No meeting, “Happy Holidays!” <http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>.
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: David Irwin on “Unexplained Aerial Phenomena”. kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Saturday – DECEMBER 31

NEW YEAR’S EVE - Drive Safely!

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Presented by the Elm Grove Junior Guild & The Elm Grove Woman's Club

SATURDAY DECEMBER 17
9AM & 11AM
@ ELM GROVE WOMAN'S CLUB

WWW.EGWC.ORG

Individual Ticket: \$17 (plus fees)
Under age 2: Free

FRIENDS & FAMILY EVENT

Wednesday, December 14th 10am - 2pm

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No income restrictions. Must be 62+

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News Briefs



Photo courtesy: Elmbrook Rotary Club

Pictured from left: **Doug Jacobson** and **Tom Michalski** (ERC Business Person Selection Committee members), **Neil Palmer** (ERC 2022 Business Person of the Year), **Steve Ponto** (Mayor, City of Brookfield), **Ralph Gould** (ERC Award Program Chair).

Neil Palmer Named Elmbrook Rotary Club’s 2022 Business Person of the Year

By Jackson Bubolz

The Elmbrook Rotary Club (ERC) has selected **Neil Palmer**, President, Village of Elm Grove, as the recipient of the 6th annual Business Person of the Year Award. The program recognizes the leadership and accomplishments of a successful Brookfield or Elm Grove individual.

Neil Palmer has served the Village of Elm Grove as a Trustee for fourteen years and as Village President for seventeen. Village government structure in Wisconsin is a unique arrangement. In most areas, board members possess the authority and the rights, and the Village President has no veto power. The Village President does, however, nominate all committee members: trustees and citizen members. None of the Board members are full-time, and Village operations are managed by hired professionals. Palmer’s strategies for success were hiring good people and recognizing the Village President is achieved by being a leader—not a boss.

Before launching his consulting company in 1994, Neil spent 21 years with Wisconsin Electric Power Company in a number of positions of increasing responsibility. Neil Palmer & Associates was founded to assist clients to evaluate, site, permit and construct major projects, especially those in regulated energy industries. Neil’s success led to work for clients in industrial development, landfill, communications and the railroad industries.



Under Neil Palmer’s boards, The Village saved Tonawanda Elementary School, brought a safe sidewalk down Juneau Boulevard, facilitated the addition of Watermark Condominiums, and prevented the teardown of the original St. Mary’s Church—these are just a few of the many projects that have occurred during Palmer’s 31 years of service.

Perhaps, one of the most important contributions has been Neil’s work following the devastating flood of 1998. Neil led a multi-year project to develop a crucial village-wide storm water management plan involving state and regional efforts. This resulted in the Village Park being re-imagined and re-developed into the popular and vibrant space it is today. He continues to work towards the revitalization of the downtown, the daylighting of the creek through the business district, and the consideration of the School Sisters of Notre Dame campus redevelopment as current top priorities.

Santa Claus is Coming to... the Village

By Lisa Becker

Enjoying breakfast with Santa in Elm Grove has become a tradition for many families, and with good reason. Who wouldn’t want to have yummy food with the big guy?! The annual sell-out event, hosted by the Elm Grove Junior Guild and the Elm Grove Woman’s Club, is returning on Saturday, December 17th to the Elm Grove Woman’s Club.

To accommodate increasing demand, a second seating has been added this year. Attendees will enjoy an all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet, live music and an opportunity to take some great holiday photos with Santa. Advance ticket purchase is required. Children under 2 are not required to have a ticket and may sit on the lap of an adult.

Seatings are at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. For more information, or to purchase tickets, please visit www.egwc.org



Photo by Emily Baseheart

The Baseheart children visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus during Breakfast with Santa in 2019.

Variety – the Children’s Charity of Wisconsin Selects New Executive Director

By Kelsey Kadrich

The Board of Directors of Variety – the Children’s Charity of Wisconsin, announces the appointment of **Kate Kenney** as their new Executive Director. Board President **Lois J. Trongard**, MBA said, “We are excited to have Kate bring her leadership experience and rich history of working with children with special needs to Variety. We are moving into an exciting chapter of Variety as we move toward our 90th Anniversary and the Board looks forward to Kate’s expert guidance.”

Kenney is a graduate of UW-La Crosse where she discovered Recreation Therapy. She began her career working with Therapeutic Recreation Programs with Milwaukee Public Schools. Kenney has worked with non-profit organizations in the greater Milwaukee area for more than 30 years. Her passion and focus remain on education, children, and recreation.

“I am honored to play a role in what Variety does every day – creating opportunities, building community



Photo courtesy: Variety

Kate Kenney

and positively impacting lives,” said Kenney. “I am grateful to all who help Variety meet its mission and am thrilled to see the smiles on the faces of children and families who benefit from the generosity of our friends.”

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News Briefs



Brownies from Tonawanda Elementary School - Troop 1171

Tonawanda Brownies Collect Treats for Troops

(ELM GROVE) Halloween & trick or treating is a blast for kids, but many times they end up with more candy than they can realistically eat! So, this year the 2nd grade Brownie Troop at Tonawanda Elementary hosted a “Treats for Troops” collection to rehome that excess candy to folks who may not have access to so many treats. The Brownies made signs & encouraged classmates to donate some of their Halloween candy to be sent to active duty and veteran military personnel. Their efforts were a huge success... Tonawanda students donated over 200 pounds (that’s fifty-five gallon size baggies) of candy!! The troop mailed the candy to *Soldiers’ Angels*, an organization based in Texas that provides aid, comfort, and resources to the military, veterans, and their families.

Sunset Playhouse Announces New Staff Member

(ELM GROVE) Following extensive interviews **Katie Johnson** (KJ) has been selected as Sunset Playhouse’s new Resident Technical Director/Designer

Katie holds a BFA in Theater Design and Technology from Nebraska Wesleyan University, considered one of the top 25 theater schools in the country. While there, she served as a Teaching Assistant and as part of the school’s production design team for more than 30 shows per school year. Katie has also served as the Technical Director at both Arrowhead High School and Pius XI High School, of which she is a proud graduate. She has extensive skills in carpentry, CAD, sound and video editing, and describes herself as “organized, fun, and energetic.” In her spare time, she loves to golf and served as the golf coach at Pius.

Katie assumed her new position on November 28, 2022.



Katie Johnson

Elementary Schools Donate 6,445 Pounds of Food to Waukesha Food Pantry

Elmbrook’s five elementary schools (Tonawanda, Dixon, Burleigh, Swanson, Brookfield El) raised a total of 6,445 pounds of food for the Waukesha Food Pantry. Collections were taken from November 8 through November 11 with an significant turnout in a competition that stuffed large boxes decorated as turkeys. Tonawanda Elementary School won the competition with an average 3.23 pounds of food per student.

“We thank all our families and staff across our District for their generous support of this initiative,” noted a School District of Elmbrook spokesperson.



2023 State Park Design Contest Winner Named

(BROOKFIELD) The artwork of **Brooke Salomone**, a student at Brookfield East High School, will be featured on the 2023 State Park sticker for Wisconsin. Her design was one of more than 250 entries received by the Wisconsin DNR and as the winner it will be featured on more than 500,000 vehicles across the state next year. This is the 32nd year of the design contest for high school-age students in the state, and Brooke will receive an engraved plaque and a 2023 annual vehicle admission sticker featuring her design this December.

“I knew from the beginning that I wanted to incorporate a compass to showcase four different activities that Wisconsin could be known for instead of just focusing on one,” reflected Salomone. “I’m thankful to my design teacher **Ms. Molitor** for her guidance during my creation of this project.”

Brooke was honored at the October 25th School District of Elmbrook Board of Education meeting for her achievement.



Brooke Salomone with Elmbrook Board of Education President **Scott Wheeler**.

Local Coat Drive, Financial Contributions to Benefit Homeless Community

(ELM GROVE) **Woller-Anger, A Relation Company** is collecting coats and monetary donations to help **Mr. Bob’s Under the Bridge** provide these much-needed items to Milwaukee’s homeless during the holiday and winter season. Mr. Bob’s Under the Bridge is an outreach based in Cedarburg, WI serving the homeless community in the City of Milwaukee and surrounding communities.

Every Saturday morning, “Mr. Bob”, **Bob Burmeister**, and dozens of volunteers gather at Kosciuszko Park in Milwaukee where they distribute a variety of essentials to men, women and children. Mr. Bob’s also provides warm coffee and snacks, encouraging fellowship and creating a sense of community.

Mr. Bob’s Under the Bridge started in September 2007 with six backpacks and open hearts for distribution to their friends in the city. In 2012, Mr. Bob’s Under the Bridge became a non-profit to better serve



the community. The vision of Mr. Bob’s is to create a community in which every person receives basic necessities, guidance and hope.

“Please consider donating new or used coats for men, women and children! We will be collecting at our Woller-Anger office: 930 Elm Grove Rd., Elm Grove, Monday – Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.” said Terry Steiner.

For more information about Mr. Bob’s, visit: <https://mrbobsunderthebridge.org>.





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Young Writers & Reporters



Photo courtesy: Janavi Wagle

Diwali celebrants pose with items they collected to benefit a local food pantry.


Sewa Diwali Supplies & Food Donation Drive Held

By Janavi Wagle, 8th Grade – Pilgrim Park Middle School

Diwali is the festival of lights which signifies the triumph of goodness over evil and is celebrated by Hindus all over the world. This year, more than 10 organizations in Milwaukee including the Hindu Temple of Wisconsin, Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh and Sewa USA collaborated on a volunteer project to give back to the community as a part of the Diwali celebration. It was a household supplies and food donation drive. As a youth volunteer leader, I had the opportunity to plan the drive with my youth members of Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS). We went to our neighborhood and reached out to family and friends in the community for donations. To my surprise, we were able to collect large donations

from our generous community.

The donations were made to the local food pantry that will serve the needy community. I am very happy that this Diwali, I was able to share the joy with the community members who are in need.



Prayer for Peace

By Wendy Doyle
5th Grade
St. Mary’s Visitation

Lord,
help the needy

Lord,
please make the world peaceful

Lord,
take us to you

Read All About It!



Library News and Programs

December 2022

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

French Paint: Letting Life Be Life: A Cornerstone History Symposium Art History Lecture Series
The “After-Hours” Theatre of Life Gratis: Henri De Toulouse-Lautrec / Tuesday, December 6, 6:30 p.m.

Few paintings are as self-revealing as those of Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec: full of wit, elegance, and truth. He was a painter of the streets and gutters of Paris of the 1890s. His prints, posters, drawings, and paintings immortalized the city’s Belle Epoque nightlife and dubbed the neighborhood of Montmatre a creative hedonistic hotspot. Within its embrace, he broke all the rules in art and in life. Observe this remarkable artist, a dwarf of a man, monocled; his top hat at his side as he sits at his usual corner table sketching this vivid breath of humanity and whispers to himself, “Ah life – life.”

This program will survey the life and works of the French painter and illustrator, famous for his depictions of the Parisian underworld. Presented by Professor Karri Fritz-Klaus of Cornerstone History Symposium.

Join us for the first lecture in a five part series made possible through a generous donation by the Evan and Marion Helfaer Foundation in honor of Betsy Haushalter. Mark your calendars for all five presentations from December through April (12/6, 1/10, 2/7, 3/7, 4/4). All programs begin at 6:30 p.m. Free to attend. No registration required.



Family Holiday Evening / Thursday, December 8, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.



Spend some time together at the library working on crafts and enjoying family entertainment. Doors open at 5:30 for crafts and refreshments, followed by a performance at 6:30 by Magician Nickey Finn. Register online at elmgrovelibrary.org.

Winter Reading Program starts December 21!

Pick up your reading card at the library to begin. Every 10 hours of reading equals one prize entry. Return completed card to the library and place in the prize box of your choice. Prize winners will be drawn 3/20/23. No entry limit. Open to ages 16+. Sponsored by the Friends of the Elm Grove Library. Happy reading!



Attention Crafters! Creativebug is Here.



Thanks to a gift from the Friends of the Elm Grove Library, Creativebug is now available, exclusive to Elm Grove residents with an active library card. Creativebug is online video arts and crafts workshops and techniques; learn how to paint, knit, crochet, sew, screen print, and more. To access, visit creativebug.com/lib/elmgrovewi, enter your library card number and pin, and create an account to get started.

December

By Adelaide Saidai
4th Grade - Tonawanda



December
December is cold
December is NICE!
December is Christmas.
December is AWESOME!
December is really, really GREAT!
December is hot chocolate by the fireplace.
December is unwrapping presents from Santa.
December is children playing outside in the snow.
December is people putting up Christmas decorations.
December is creative snowmen that children have made.
December is little snow angels among the piles of snow in peoples' yards.
December is fun.
December is PERFECT!!!



christmas

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SNOW
GIFTS
SNOWMAN
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Young Writers & Reporters

Christmas

By Zac Boldt and Mason Kressin
3rd Grade - Tonawanda

Christmas Trees
Hot Chocolate
Reindeer
Ice
Snow Falling
Trees
Massive presents
Awesome presents to give others
Santa Claus

December

By Henry Idstein, 3rd Grade - Tonawanda

Deck the halls
Eat those cookies Santa
Cold Weather
Eat those candy canes
Meet Santa Claus
Be nice
Eat the peppermint
Rock out on Christmas

Christmas

By Lillian Rydze, 3rd Grade - Tonawanda

Christmas is a time for family
Christmas is a time to give
Christmas is a time to celebrate
Christmas is a time for music
Christmas is a time for cookies
Christmas is a time for fun
Christmas is a time for LOVE.

Reindeer

By Joy Kim, 3rd Grade - Tonawanda

Reindeer here
Everywhere presents
I love Christmas
No green trees outside
Do not have lemonade
Everyone gets presents
Eeeek! Santa!
Reindeers are the best

Why Doesn’t Anyone Talk About Nepal?

By Abby Subedi
6th Grade, Pilgrim Park Middle School

You may see that every time your teachers tell you something, it’s usually ‘India’ or ‘the Himalayas’ or something like that. But nobody ever tells you about Nepal. For those of you who are wondering, “What is Nepal?” Nepal is that tiny thing between India and China.

Nobody talks about Nepal, like when they talk about Buddhism. Do you know how your teachers always say how Buddhism started in India and spread through cultural diffusion (if you’re in 6th grade)? Well, where was Buddha *born*? He was born in Lumbini, Nepal, which is close to India. Nobody ever told you THAT. Because NOBODY knows it except Nepalis themselves. Oh, by the way, his real name was Siddhartha Gautam. And he was a *prince*, born into a kingdom. Nobody tells you that. They just say, “BOODA. Moving on.” This is only one of the ways this culture is unseen.

To anyone reading this, you need to learn about this diverse culture, and spread the word. Because it’s like an animation on YouTube. It’s awesome, but nobody sees it. So, share this culture with people, and find out more about it. Thank you.



What Role Do Trees Play in Our Neighborhood?

By Sanjana Singh
7th Grade – Brookfield Academy

All neighborhoods should have trees because it helps people’s mental and physical health. Trees produce oxygen for the environment using the process of Photosynthesis. Therefore, creating fresh air for families in neighborhoods to help their physical health. Also, trees are a beautiful edition to a neighborhood for families to admire. Thus, helping people’s mental health by providing beauty in their life. All in all, trees should be in every neighborhood as they help individuals with their physical and mental health.

Two December Songs

By Cecilia and Penny
4th Grade - Tonawanda

December Fun
December, December, oh my look at it we
can have so much fun together.
December is forever, if you don’t like it you
must be...CRAZY!!!

Snowflakes
Falling, falling, there they are, they’re so
beautiful,
Little, little snowflakes,
Falling, falling, there they are.

Acrostic Poem / Christmas

By Harris and Kyle
4th Grade - Tonawanda

C stands for celebration
H is for hot cocoa
R is for red candy canes
I is for inspiring children
S is for Santa’s coming!
T is for time to open gifts!
M is for Merry Christmas!
A is for always be on time, Santa!
S is for Santa’s here!

T is for Christmas time is here
I is for interesting time of year
M is for mistletoe is around
the Christmas tree
E is for I’m excited!!!

Christmas

By Ty Holland, 3rd Grade – Tonawanda

I can see decorations all over my house.
I can smell gingerbread houses.
I can feel me opening presents.
I can eat pancakes for breakfast.
I can hear Christmas songs.

Snow

By Masson Kressin, 3rd Grade - Tonawanda

Snow is falling
Trees are dusted with snow.
Snowmen are being made.
Presents are on the floor.
Stockings are being put up.
It’s Christmas!
It’s snowing!

All I Want for Christmas

By Beau Mittlestadt, 1st Grade - SMV

All I want for Christmas is **happiness**.
I wish for that because happiness brings
smiles. I would also like a Lego set because
Legos are fun to build.

By Elizabeth Volkert, 1st Grade - SMV

All I want for Christmas are **no wildfires**.
I wish for that because I want to save the
trees. I would also like a big book of stories
because I like to read.

By George Navarrette, 1st Grade - SMV

All I want for Christmas is **love**. I wish for
that because it’s Jesus’ BIRTHDAY! I would
also like a Yoshi toy because it can talk.

By Theresa Janecke, 1st - Grade SMV

All I want for Christmas is for people to
stop killing endangered species. I wish for
that because people’s favorite animals will be
extinct. I would also like a pet parrot because
parrots are funny.

December Poem

By Cora, 4th Grade - Tonawanda

Deck the halls
Exciting surprises
Christmas songs
Enjoy the Holidays
Merry Christmas
Bell full of cheer
Epic Christmas with friends and family
Really fun and happy new year

Interview with Kenley

By Taylor, 4th Grade - Tonawanda

*What is your favorite color?
Baby Blue
*What is your favorite food?
Mc Donald’s cheese burger
*What are your favorite animals?
Lions and Elephants
*What is your favorite fast food restaurant?
Mc Donald’s, Rocky Rococo’s, Taco Bell
and Chick-fil-a
*What are your favorite seasons?
winter and summer



My Girl Scout Cadette Silver Award Project

By Nova Subedi
8th Grade, Pilgrim park Middle School

Hi! My name is Nova and I am 13 years old. I am also a Girl Scout Cadette working on my Silver Award. For the latter, I am doing a period product drive for women and girls that can’t afford period products, since untreated periods can lead to dangerous infections, and many women and girls can’t buy these products. I am supporting organizations that will donate the products to those in need, which are the Hope Center and the Women’s Center. My goal for the donation is 145 packages of pads and tampons (33 packages of Maxi Pads, 33 packages of Super Tampons, 40 packages of regular pads and 39 packs of regular tampons) and 15 packages of menstrual cups. You can go to oursundayproject.com to get the flyer, where you can donate to us by scanning a QR code on the same flyer to fill out a Google Form so we can see from YOU if this scarcity of period products actually is a problem! Thank You!

Christmas

By Jacob, 5th Grade - Tonawanda

Christmas is a time for a decorated tree.
Christmas is a time for waiting with glee,
For Santa to come, down the chimney.
Christmas is a time for a big Christmas feast,
With bread that has the perfect yeast,
And instead of ham, there is Roast Beast.
Yes, Christmas is a time for lots of things.
But when you hear a creak of the roof,
You get a small zing.



Dodgeball

By Maya Bain
4th Grade – Bannockburn Elementary

One day, I was in karate. Suddenly I heard Sensei Santos say, “For our game today we are going to play dodgeball!”

The second I heard the words “dodgeball” I began to panic. I looked down at my sweaty and dirty feet. “I hate dodgeball” I said in my mind. I was right to be afraid.

We were picking teams as Sensei Santos was explaining the rules. “If you get hit with a ball, you move onto the opposite team. When one team has all the players, the original players on that team win.”

Sensei set out the balls. When Sensei Santos said “GO!” everyone scattered to the balls except me. I was dodging balls when I saw a ball in the corner. I looked around to see if anyone was going for it. “No one,” I said as I ran to get the ball. I relaxed when I soothed my hand on the ball, but I didn’t notice a ball was coming straight towards me! I turned around, threw the ball, and came to the realization. It hit me milliseconds later. I did the walk of shame with a frown on my face, but it wasn’t all bad because my friend Lizzie was on that side.

A few more rounds passed, but at the end of the second round Sensei Santos set out pads in between the two sides. Then he said, “When you get hit with a ball, you have to hop across the pads and *then* you can run to the other side.”

The next round I went over to the other side a **lot** because I really wanted to go across the pads, but it’s so much scarier than I thought. For example there are balls flying past you all around.

Soon enough the next round started. Sensei Santos said “This is the last round, so make it count.”

People started throwing **hard** and accurately. I just started throwing balls when one of the balls hit me directly in the nose! Erik (the person who hit me in the nose) said “I’m so **SO** sorry! Are you okay!?”

I felt like crying but surprisingly I didn’t cry. Everybody started asking “are you okay Maya!?” “I’m okay” I said to everyone. I ran to my mom as I felt tears falling down my cheeks. I plunged into my mom’s arms. “Is your nose okay!?” she said.

“A little bit yes and a little bit no,” I said. I stepped away and went to get a drink of water. That’s when I heard Sensei Santos say, “Everyone, it’s time to line up on the black line.” We lined up. “Sen sen ere,” the sensei said with confidence. “Os” we all said.

Now it was time to leave. My brother ran to my dad and explained everything. I felt tears running down my cheeks as I got into my car, but I ignored them. I couldn’t help but smile at how much fun I had playing dodgeball! The End.

Legal Issues

Estate Planning: Common Mistakes

By Attorney Isabell M. Mueller

Most estate planning mistakes fall into one of several categories regardless of the size of the estate or the type of estate plan. These are some of the most common:

- Outdated beneficiary designations**
Assets such as retirement accounts, annuities and life insurance have separate beneficiary designations which determine who will receive those funds. These beneficiary designations take precedence over your Last Will and Testament or Revocable Trust. It is, therefore, imperative that you know exactly who those beneficiaries are and that those designations are coordinated with your overall estate plan. Your beneficiary designations should be reviewed every few years, or after any major life event, and you should keep a copy of each one with your financial records.
- Not updating the estate plan.**
Your life is a work in progress, and you should think of your estate plan the same way. It is unusual for your documents to require updates because of changes in the law. Rather, changes to your life or the lives of your family members will be what necessitates changes to the estate plan. You should review your plan after major life events, or in the absence of any of those, roughly every five years, while also reviewing the beneficiary designations and asset titles at the same time.
- Not fully understanding the plan.**
The language used in your estate planning documents will be difficult to understand. While you do not need to understand all of the “legalese,” you should have a fundamental understanding of what your estate plan is and how it works to implement your wishes. Without this basic understanding, you will not be able to properly maintain your plan. Take the opportunity to refresh your understanding of your overall plan whenever you review the beneficiary designations, asset titles and your estate planning documents.
- Not updating asset titles.**
Do you know exactly how each and every one of your assets is titled? Are some assets titled in only one spouse’s name, while others are jointly titled? Who actually owns your business? Incorrectly titled assets will absolutely reduce the effectiveness of your estate plan. As with beneficiary designations, asset titles need to be coordinated with your estate plan and periodically reviewed.

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Announcements

Happy Birthday!
Jody & Chris



David & Sarah,
Welcome to the neighborhood!
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
from the Stevenson family

Young Writers

Christmas

By Elliot Dwork
3rd Grade – Tonawanda Elementary

Coal
Hot Chocolate
Reindeer
Ice
Santa
Tree
Money
Awesome Presents
Snow



Interview: Hadley Weber

By Blue Gress, 4th Grade - Tonawanda

Hadley Weber is 10 years old and goes to Tonawanda Elementary School. Her favorite song is: Soul By Lee Brice. Her favorite sport is: Volleyball. She has 3 sisters and 1 brother. She is very grateful for music and her family. Hadley spends a lot of quality time with her family and friends.

Christmas

By Braden Blong and Jonathan Rajan
4th Grade – Tonawanda

Cheerful
Holiday
Rumors
Increasing
Spirit
Thrusting
Magic
And
Santa



Interview Arena with My Mom

By Kenley F., 4th grade- Tonawanda

What’s your favorite food? *Sushi
What’s your favorite candy?
*Wiley Wallaby/ licorice
What’s your favorite book? *Harry Potter
What’s your favorite store? *Target
What’s your favorite season? *Summer
What’s your favorite animal? *Sloth
What’s your favorite Restaurant? *Braise
What’s your favorite part of being a teacher?
* Working with kids

Interview: Lucas Matola

By Jack Swain, 4th Grade - Tonawanda

Lucas’ favorite sports are football and basketball. His favorite color is pink. His favorite ice cream is cookie dough. His top 2 favorite football teams are the Green Bay Packers and the Buffalo Bills. His favorite video game is Madden 22. Lucas is on two basketball teams. He is on the Jr. Spartans and a tournament basketball team which is called 24:up. Lucas’ favorite hobby is fishing. And now you know a lot about Lucas.

Christmas

By Roselyn R., 4th Grade - Tonawanda

Chilly weather!
Hot cocoa, YUM!!
Red and green everywhere!
It’s always happy on Christmas!
So much fun!
Tons of presents!
Many pretty lights!
Amazing time of year!!
Snow on the ground outside!!

Christmas

By Kiera Maio and Mila Webb
3rd Grade - Tonawanda

Christmas tree
Having fun
I love winter
Snowman
The snow is outside
Merry Christmas
A beautiful winter
Santa



Gymnastics

By Noah Mogren, St. Mary’s Visitation School

My name is Noah Mogren, I am an eleven-year-old, level 8 competitive gymnast. My favorite events are floor exercise and horizontal bar. I like these two events because you need a lot of perseverance to become good at them. When I started gymnastics, I was four years old. I did it off and on at Swiss Turners Gymnastics Academy in West Allis, Wisconsin. When

I was seven years old, I changed gyms and went to Salto Gymnastics Center in Brookfield, Wisconsin. I like gymnastics because it’s one of the only sports where failure is the key to success. This means that every time you fail at doing a skill, the next time you try to do that skill, you have to try harder to succeed. My goal for Nationals is to have fun and enjoy it while I’m there.

News Briefs

Pilgrim Park Students Compete in Science Olympiad

(ELM GROVE) The Pilgrim Park Middle School Science Olympiad team competed in the Belleville Invitational Tournament in mid-November and placed 6th overall. Congratulations to the following students who placed in their respective events:

*Anson Li and Vedh Bagare (4th Place in Bio Process Lab and 3rd place in Fast Facts)
*Krishiva and Raghavan (3rd Place in Can’t Judge a Powder)
*Anson Li and Aaron John (3rd Place in Crave the Wave)
*Alexandra Wang and Josie Staude (5th in Crime Busters)



Exploring the World of Science

*Zaina Morshed and Hrishid Balachandran (4th in Dynamic Planet)
*Josie Staude (3rd in Green Generation)
*Hannah Zhang and Alexandra Wang (2nd place in Disease Detectives)
*Daisy McGraw and Emma Socha (5th in Solar System).
*Saina Mehta (4th in Sounds of Music)

Happy Holidays!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

News Briefs



Elm Grove Invasive Species Task Force members at work in the Village.

Invasive Species Task Force Serves Community, Seeks New Members

By The Elm Grove Beautification Committee

The Elm Grove Invasive Species Task Force was started and named in August of 2020 by a group of dedicated students at Brookfield East High School. Initially, the group started by working on the two Monarch Waystation beds that they had installed earlier that year. It has since evolved to working not just at the village park, but also along Underwood Creek and at Veteran’s Park. As long as the weather allows—the group is out there every Sunday doing battle.

Over the last two years, the group has worked on a variety of species including garlic mustard, Dame’s rocket, teasel, Queen Anne’s lace, Canadian thistle, field bindweed, white sweet clover, chicory, purple loosestrife, and the dreaded buckthorn. It is always so amazing to see what can be accomplished in just one hour!

If you are interested in meeting a group of people dedicated to keeping our village thriving and gorgeous, get added to the email list that goes out once per week with instructions as to where we will be meeting. Please reach out at Beautification@elmgrovewi.org.

A huge thank you to all of those who have volunteered their time so far this year: **Molly Salinas, Pat and Mark Westen, Sallie and Pat Cashin, Amy Forecki, Deb Baesemann, Katie Forecki, Shelly Smith, Nicci and Drew Sternitzky, James and Elizabeth Lange, Becky Rintelmann, Anne Spaltholz, Abhinay Reedy, John and Jean Schindler, Kristin Walters, Lisa Becker, Zach Yiannis, Joe Coffey, Teegan Coffey, Delaney Coffey, and Caleb Smith.** With special recognition of Village forester **Ron Hill** who sees to it that our weekly piles are picked up!

News’ Hounds & other beloved creatures

Adopt a Pet at the Elmbrook Humane Society

By Anita Alfaro

Luke is quite the ladies’ man here at EBHS and consequentially has made all the staff and volunteers swoon over him! He can be a little unsure when meeting someone new, but does warm up with some treats and time. Luke enjoys playing in the yard with his dog friends and learning new tricks. Our staff reports that he is a smart boy who already knows sit, down, and shake (with both paws of course!)

If you are looking for a handsome man, apply today at <https://ebhs.org>. Call (262) 782-9261 for more information.



Photo: Elmbrook Humane Society

Luke



Photo courtesy: School District of Elmbrook

Elmbrook Education Foundation (EEF) Executive Director **Beth Dobrzynski** (at left) and EEF Board Member **Katie Rasoul** (at right) present a check to LAUNCH student, **Lily Huebschen** and LAUNCH Executive Director **Dr. Robert Hall**.

LAUNCH Program Receives Check from EEF

(BROOKFIELD) The Elmbrook Education Foundation (EEF) awarded \$12,000 to the LAUNCH Program in the School District of Elmbrook at the October 2022 School Board meeting.

“LAUNCH continues to grow and improve with the help and support of the EEF. Their culture of philanthropy supports student projects and learning opportunities that add value to the premier Elmbrook education!” said **Dr. Robert Hall**, Executive Director - LAUNCH

The funds were raised at the EEF’s Golf Open, presented by Action Coach, on June 14, 2022 at Ironwood Golf Course with more than 130 golfers in attendance.

Beth Dobrzynski, Executive Director, Elmbrook Education Foundation, said, “We are excited to partner each year with

Dr. Hall and the LAUNCH Program. We are fortunate to have so many wonderful sponsors who not only mentor students in this program, but also financially support the future of LAUNCH. We could not do this without them!”

EEF was organized in 1958 to award scholarships to select Brookfield High School graduates. In 1999, the Foundation’s mission expanded to include teacher grants for innovative projects that benefit all students and raise money to support and strengthen outstanding learning ideas that improve the overall educational quality of our public schools. EEF has awarded more than \$1,500,000 in scholarships and in excess of \$500,000 in grants which enhance and extend the established curriculum and support projects that are beyond the district’s budget.

Local Sports



Photo courtesy: St. Mary’s Visitation School

St. Mary’s Visitation 8th Grade Boys Volleyball Team members with their coaches and Father Patrick Behling, associate pastor at St. Mary’s..

SMV Boys Team 2022 Seton Volleyball Champions

By Katie Carnell

Congratulations to the St. Mary’s Visitation (SMV) 8th Grade Boys Volleyball Team! On November 6th, they won FIRST place in the 2022 Seton Volleyball Championships. This was the 16th year of the Seton tournament, which serves not only as a volleyball showcase, but also as a fundraiser for Catholic education and the Foundation for Religious Retirement.

The boys were undefeated in conference play, giving them a #1 seed going into the Seton pool play. Overall, in the Seton, they outscored their opponents 399-302, and only dropped 1 set out of 18 played. Their one set loss was in an intense semi-

final game where they lost the first set and battled back to win the next three in a great display of perseverance and hard work.

Team members are: **Andre Mares (#1), Matt Carnell (#2), Evan Selthafner (#3), Ben Parsons (#7), Will Snyder (#8), Gabe Johnson (#10), Ben Borino (#11), Jameson Braatz (#13), Alex Bolger (#15), Bennett Fryjoff (#19), T.J. Wroblewski (#24), and Charlie Volm (#27).**

The team is coached by volunteers **Kevin Leroy** and **Jack Hauser** (SMV 2006 graduate).



Season of giving

DONATE BLOOD TODAY!

DANIEL GIVES BACK BLOOD DRIVE

On May 26th, a tragic accident claimed the life of 18-year-old Daniel Perelman. Daniel was going to change the world, leaving behind a legacy of academic and intellectual curiosity and excellence, combined with a strong sense of social justice and community service. Daniel's organs saved four lives, and in the first blood drive in his memory, 77 blood products were collected saving up to 231 local patient lives.



Thursday
December

22

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Helpful tip: Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.

Brookfield Academy Middle School Building
Freedom Hall, South Gym
3460 N. Brookfield Rd., Brookfield



<https://bit.ly/DanielGivesBack122222> is where to make an appointment to donate blood, OR CLICK DANIEL'S PHOTO, or by scanning the QR code below. If you have questions, please contact Benny at Benjamin.Perelman@gmail.com for help.

*Versiti staff MAY WEAR a MASK, but DONORS are NOT REQUIRED, unless drive host's protocols require this.



A Furlan Auditorium Production

elf

The Musical

December 1 - 18, 2022

Book by Thomas Meehan & Bob Martin
Music by Matthew Sklar, Lyrics by Chad Beguelin
Originally produced by Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures
in association with Unique Features
Presented by arrangement with
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