



Elm Grove NEWS-

INDEPENDENT



Vol. 7 No. 11

Serving Elm Grove, WI & Neighboring Communities

January 2020

Freedom of the Press is Essential. Community News Matters.

Village Update

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

Many residents and village employees are mourning the loss of **Elm Grove Police Department Sergeant Joe Ipavec**, who took his own life at the Elm Grove Police Department on November 25. Sergeant Joe was a 19-year veteran of EGPD and was a leader in the department and well known and liked in the community. Counseling and support are being provided to all Village staff. Community organizations are planning fundraising efforts to memorialize Sgt. Joe and to support his family. (See *IN MEMORIAM*)

Design plans for the new **gymnasium / multipurpose addition to Tonawanda Elementary School** were approved by the Village Building Board in December. Initial building plans were met with criticism as too plain and lacking architectural features by residents and neighbors. Copies of the approved plans will be available in Village Hall soon. The Tonawanda site improvements also include a new bus loading and unloading area on the southeast corner of the school with access off Legion Drive.

(See VILLAGE UPDATE – Page 3)



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

ELM GROVE VILLAGE HALL & LIBRARY reflected in a gazing ball one past winter.

**Village of Elm Grove's 65th Anniversary of Incorporation
January 14, 2020**

Our Annual Pledge to the Village...

Dear Friend of The Grove: Wherever in the World you may be, please pause for a moment, stand and face in the direction of Village Hall, and repeat the following:

"I Pledge Allegiance... to our Village, of the County of the Land of Waukesha, and to every inch of ground where Deer and Snow Geese stand. One Community, Quaint and Un-ex-pand-able, with Elm Trees and Black-eyed Susans for All."

(You may now go & HUG a TREE ... preferably, an ELM.)

In Memoriam



Photo courtesy: Elm Grove Police Dept.

**Sgt. Joseph T. Ipavec
(1976–2019)**

Remembering Joe

By Lisabeth Passalis-Bain
elmgrovenews@yahoo.com

Elm Grove Police Sergeant **Joe Ipavec** was mourned and remembered by family, friends and community members during a funeral mass on Saturday, November 30 at Holy Apostles Catholic Church in New Berlin and at a celebration of his life following the services. The 19-year veteran of the EGPD took his own life at the police station on November 25. He was 43 years old.

(See IN MEMORIAM – Page 8)

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Founder / Owner / Publisher / Editor
Lisabeth Passalis-Bain

News & Advertising
elmgrovenews@yahoo.com
(262) 782-6193
www.elmgrove.news

Graphic Designer
Barbara Kolb
Photography
James L. W. Bain
Production and Distribution Assistant
Christos Passalis-Bain
Web Designer / Webmaster
Nicholas Passalis-Bain

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“I Know Where You Live!”



Elisabeth
Passalis-Bain

Happy New Year!

The year ahead is expected to be an especially notable one as we prepare to celebrate this newspaper’s 10th Anniversary with an expanded September 2020 edition. It is also a Presidential Election year, with many state and local candidates seeking office as well. So, I look forward to providing coverage of many of the important news stories that are sure to affect readers in Elm Grove and neighboring communities.

Although I continue to read and hear that newspapers and news jobs remain on the decline, I am encouraged by those who say that **local journalism is still highly important — perhaps more so than ever.** I added a phrase to Page 1 some months ago: “Freedom of the Press is Essential. Community News Matters”. That theme is expanded upon on Page 12. Take a look.

This **FREE**-to-all (in print and on-line) newspaper is entirely dependent on advertising revenue. If you have a business, organization, event, etc. to promote and believe, as I do, **in the value and power of local news: ADVERTISE.** I love the news business! **Elm Grove, you have a newspaper.** Not every community does. I welcome your support.



Become a Member of the Elm Grove
Volunteer Emergency Services

By Bill Selzer

This article highlights the Fire Department’s Membership, Demographics and Operating Budget Cost for our Volunteer Fire and EMS services.

Demographics

The department is staffed by 10 daytime Department of Public Works/ Village employees and 30 nighttime/weekend volunteer members. The average member age is 47 with an average of 16 years of service to the community. Over the years, the Village resident membership has dropped from 100% in 1955 to 48% today. This drop can be attributed to a number of factors from family and work commitments to reduced interest in firefighting or providing emergency care.

There is more to our organizations than just providing service. Within, there is a deep sense of pride, accomplishment and community to and for each other. The camaraderie and sharing of our lives is an important part of the fire service family.

Volunteering is important for many reasons, but new studies make it clear that volunteerism saves resources for the community, meeting critical, local needs, and translates into better physical and mental health for those who give their time.

As we look to the future, we would like to keep the volunteer spirit alive by recruiting more Village residents.

“The fact that being a member is voluntary is an important factor for

me. It’s not a ‘job’. People are members because they want to be, not because they have to. To me, it’s like having another family comprised of people who I want to help and who will help me if needed,” said Deputy Chief **William Hand**.

Tax payer cost for
Fire and EMS services

Both the Fire and EMS service members are compensated for trainings, meetings, serving on a Duty Company and receive a stipend for calls-for service. The average firefighter pay is approximately \$3,400; driver \$3,700; Officer \$4,450; Chief Officer \$5,120 per year for making 50% of the average of 120 calls. The paid-on-call program is one way of recognizing the contributions of time and labor given in the spirit of volunteerism.

Operating Cost of the
Fire and EMS services

The proposed 2020 Operating Budget for the Fire Department is \$305,410 and for the EMS \$336,100, for a combined Budget of \$641,510, costing approximately \$260 per residential property.

How can I learn more about
the department or join?

Stop by the Elm Grove Fire Station any Tuesday evening from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. to meet the members, receive a tour, and learn about the application process.

Leave a message at (262) 782-6700 ext. 251, or email the Chief at wselzer@elmgrovewi.org.

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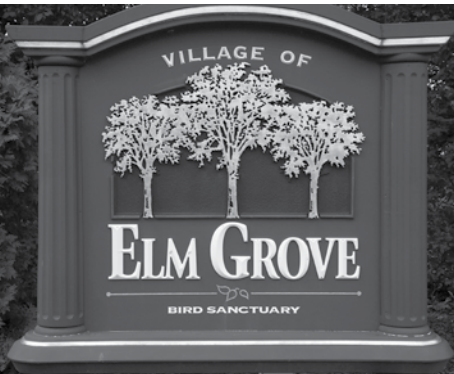


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Village Update

(Continued from Page 1)



The Tonawanda school site is much smaller than other Elmbrook school properties which has greeted traffic problems and concerns about continued use of the school. Elm Grove residents have strongly supported efforts to keep Tonawanda School open and we should all be glad for the building improvements. The Village will be discussing possible use of the Village Park for Tonawanda recess and sports activities.

The Friends of Elm Grove Library (FOEGL) annual “**Lights of Love**” celebration was well attended and a big success, though I would have preferred for us to have had snow. FOEGL is a big part of why we have one of the best libraries around. Your donations to FOEGL are always appreciated.

A lot of work was accomplished on the **new swimming pool splash pad** before the project was closed-up for the winter. If we have reasonable Spring weather, we should have the new facility operating when the pool opens for the 2020 season.

The **Watertown Plank Road pathway improvement and extension project** was finally completed in December after many delays. The patience of adjoining landowners was appreciated.

Residents have been asking what is being constructed on the west side of Underwood Creek, north of Watertown Plank Road in the Reinders complex. The building remodeling is to accommodate a new business: a children’s playcenter planning to open in Spring.

The Village has received what we hope is the final edition of the **Downtown Master Plan** document. Village Board Trustees and staff are reviewing the document to make sure the last round of public and Board comments are properly reflected. Once review is complete a Public Open House will be scheduled.

The Village has not received any new information from the **School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND)** regarding the status and timing of their plans. Area news media reported in December that SSND had reached agreement with Mount Mary College to jointly develop housing. (See NEWS BRIEFS story, this page.)

Ultimately, the Elm Grove convent and housing complex is expected to be sold by SSND. The Village Board has expressed a strong desire to see the historic convent building remain and be repurposed.

The Village also has not received any new information from the **Reinders family** regarding possible redevelopment plans for the property east of Elm Grove Road and north of Watertown Plank Road.

News Briefs

Housing Complex for Retired SSND, Seniors & Students to be Built on Mount Mary Univ. Campus

A news conference was held at noon on December 4 at Mount Mary University in Milwaukee to announce that Mount Mary will be the site of an intergenerational housing community for retired School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) and seniors, with an educational and supportive housing option for single mothers who are students at Mount Mary.

Groundbreaking for the \$45 million project is expected in mid-2020, following and contingent upon, City of Milwaukee review and approval as a three-way venture between the School Sisters of Notre Dame Central Pacific Province, Mount Mary University and the Milwaukee Catholic Home. It is expected to be completed by the end of November 2021.

The intent of this community is twofold: To provide a vibrant, intergenerational living environment for School Sisters of Notre Dame and seniors, and to provide an educational and supportive housing option for single mothers who are students at Mount Mary.

We look forward to partnering with our sponsored ministry Mount Mary University and the Milwaukee Catholic Home to provide a unique space that offers us the ability to live out our SSND mission and charism, with a focus on education, spirituality and interculturality.

The proposed site will be located on the north side of campus. It will accommodate the spectrum of care needs for the School Sisters of Notre Dame, who will be moving to campus from their longtime home in Elm Grove. The housing community will include the following living spaces:

- 52 assisted living units for the School Sisters of Notre Dame
- 24 dormitory units for single mothers enrolled as students at Mount Mary University and their young children
- 90 independent living apartments for individuals over age 62

Other features for this development include an early childhood education center for children from the campus and families in the surrounding area and a town center with amenities for the sisters and other residents, including a bistro, health clinic, salon and community room.

Milwaukee Catholic Home currently manages care provided to sisters at Notre Dame of Elm Grove. This formal partnership at Mount Mary University will expand and honor the legacy and charism of the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

While many details have yet to be determined, a key design theme is to create spaces that inspire intentional and serendipitous interactions between the various groups in the living space.

Please join us in prayer for the success of this project and a smooth transition for our sisters in the coming months.

Gratefully,
Sisters Debra Marie Sciano, Dawn Achs, Mary Kay Brooks, Christine Garcia, Helen Jane Jaeb, Anna Marie Reha and Lynne Schmidt

Provincial Council School Sisters of Notre Dame Central Pacific Province

News’ Hounds & other beloved creatures



Photo courtesy of Elmbrook Humane Society

Belle

Adopt a Pet at the Elmbrook Humane Society

By Heather Gehrke

It’s a tale as old as time, a beautiful princess waiting for her prince (or princess) charming to rescue her from the provincial shelter life. Could you be the one to sweep our sweet **Belle** off her feet and whisk her away to your castle? We sure hope so! This beauty is looking for adventure in the great wide somewhere and is ready to live out her fairy tale dream with you as soon as possible. Belle’s ideal castle would include plenty of outdoor adventure,

loving attention, and loads of mind stimulating activities... because this lady has both beauty and brains! Call the shelter today to find out more or stop in and meet Belle today!

The Elmbrook Humane Society is located at 20950 Enterprise Avenue, Brookfield, just off Barker Road.

Visit www.ebhs.org; call (262) 782-9261; or stop by for more information.

Business 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.

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Past Times: I REMEMBER...

Passings, Then and Now

By Stephen K. Hauser

November brought news of the death of my old friend **John Utzat** of Bay View. John was, in the opinion of many, the foremost historian of Milwaukee’s south side. I was sorry to learn that he had passed away on the 6th of the month at age 82. A lifelong resident of Bay View, he was an active member of the Bay View Historical Society and was known throughout the area for his walking tours, guest lectures and local history columns. In 1982, he coauthored the book *Southside in the Sun*, a collection of stories and remembrances of the people and places that made Milwaukee’s old south side communities so special. An avocational interest of John’s was the history of the old Milwaukee street car lines and the regional interurban rail system. His presentation of over 200 slides of “A Milwaukee Transit Era” was quite popular when presented at a meeting of the Elmbrook Historical Society, at my request. I was proud that John’s program was so well-received at the meeting.

As I made my way to St. Adalbert cemetery on S. 13th Street to say a final goodbye to John Utzat, I couldn’t help but reflect upon the fact that although this popular local history lecturer and longtime Milwaukee County parks employee had never strayed far from his birthplace, he had left behind a priceless legacy of historical research that will no doubt be referenced by future generations. His book on the history of Bay View remained unpublished at his death, but hopefully that will be corrected by a posthumous publication.

All of this called to mind for me the death of my longtime friend and one-time co-author, **Jean Stackpole** on February 6, 2016. Back in 1998, Jean and I collaborated on *Following the Trail*, a book of photographs and stories about the history of Blue Mound Road and the communities of the Elmbrook area. **Jean Roughen** was born in 1925. She met **Charles Stackpole** at a USO dance during World War II, and they were married in 1946. They settled briefly on Wrayburn Road in Elm Grove while building a home for themselves on Tulane Street in Brookfield. Charlie worked for the Wisconsin Telephone Company for the next 37 years. Along the way, he managed to become a founding father of both Elm Grove and the city of Brookfield. (My column on Charles Stackpole appeared in the June, 2015 edition of the *Elm Grove News-Independent*. www.elmgrove.news.)

As a young wife and mother Jean Stackpole became involved in her community, working as a substitute teacher in the Elmbrook school system, taking on a job as a reporter for the *Brookfield News* and serving as an active member of St. Luke Catholic Church on W. Greenfield Avenue. She even found time to organize annual Fourth of July parades for the children in her neighborhood. She also put her toe in the waters of local politics, running for Waukesha County Supervisor against a longtime incumbent. Her campaign sprang from her involvement in Preserve Bishop’s Woods, a community group founded by her neighbors which opposed attempts by Archdiocese of Milwaukee to sell the wooded tract of land south of Blue Mound Road which had been intended by its donor as a nature preserve. This put her at odds with some members of her own parish, as well as the incumbent supervisor, **Earl Simon**. Ultimately, Jean came out on the losing end of both her campaign for supervisor and her attempts to save Bishop’s Woods.

A more satisfying experience for her would entail her years of service to the Elmbrook Historical Society, of which she was an early and enthusiastic member. Jean volunteered as a docent at the Dousman Stagecoach Inn (then the Dousman-Dunkel-Behling House) and portrayed the school teacher in the one-room school house for children’s field trips. She loved being back in the classroom with young students, even if it was just for an hour or so.

Jean had always loved history, but discovered a special passion for the lore of the Milwaukee area while attending Marquette University. She sharpened her skills as an historian by writing a number of heritage-themed feature stories for the *Brookfield News*, collecting stories and artifacts along the way. **Pat Basting** of the Elmbrook Historical Society remembered Jean’s generosity with such material. “She would always share what she had, even giving away photos and clippings if they were needed by someone else,” Pat recalled recently.

It was in 1996 that Jean and I were first approached by officers of the Elmbrook Historical Society and asked to put together a book of photos and reminiscences detailing Elmbrook history in time for the 1998 Wisconsin State Sesquicentennial Celebration. For the next two years, we cooperated in creating what became *Following the Trail*. While I was more interested in rural architecture, old buildings and defunct railroad lines, Jean cornered descendants of early settlers and founding families, getting them to trust her with pictures of long-ago forebears. Between the two of us, I thought the book finished as a perfect blend of our respective interests and strengths. The hard cover edition was published in October, 1998 and the softcover version was issued in July of 1999.

I remembered this when I was asked to speak at the dinner meeting of the Elmbrook Historical Society last November 11. SI deviated at the outset from my planned talk on Blue Mound Road to speak a bit about Jean Stackpole. I noted that it had been twenty years since the publication of the softcover edition of *Following the Trail*. Between the two printings of the book, about 1,300 copies were sold. That’s not bad for a local history book, or so they tell me. But since that is now over two decades ago, it has become history as well. I wanted those folks assembled at the dinner that night to know a little bit about Jean Stackpole, her love of history and her love of her community. I told them of her death in 2016, only eleven months after the death of her beloved husband, Charlie. Most of all, however, I wanted them to know of her own generosity of spirit and willingness to serve. I told them that night what I will state again now: Jean Stackpole knew well the meaning of the words: historian, citizen, neighbor and friend. She knew them because she lived them. She lived them all.

The end of 2019 brought news of other passings which touched my heart and may also be of interest to Elmbrook area readers.

Harlan ‘Harkey’ Bartsch, longtime proprietor of the Elm Grove Barber Shop at 1050 Legion Drive, passed away on October 25 at age 89. A veteran of the

Following The Trail



By Stephen K. Hauser & Jean R. Stackpole
Sponsored By The Elmbrook Historical Society

From the collection of Stephen K. Hauser

In 1998, the Elmbrook Historical Society published this book: *Following the Trail* for the Wisconsin Sesquicentennial Celebration.

Korean War, Harkey was a graduate of Moler Barber College in Chicago. He took over the operation of the Elm Grove Barber Shop in 1962. (My Dad and I were among his first customers.) Making his home in Wauwatosa with his wife and three children, he became active in business and social activities in Elm Grove. He served in a variety of capacities at American Legion Post #449, then located only a block from his barber shop. He was elected as President of the Elm Grove Business Men’s Association in 1966 and was a deacon of the Elm Grove Lutheran Church. He remained active in the Legion and in his church until his death. Elm Grove Lutheran’s pastor, **Rev. Eric Skovgaard**, remembered that Harkey would often bake cookies and brownies to bring to Sunday services for coffee hour. I recall Harkey as a man who radiated kindness and decency. He remained my barber for 44 years, retiring at the end of 2006. (My profile of Harkey Bartsch appeared in the January, 2013 edition of this newspaper.)

Richard ‘Dick’ Tarbox of Waukesha, former social studies instructor at Pilgrim Park Junior High School in the 1960s,

passed away on November 28 at age 85. He had taught in Eau Claire and Chetek before taking a job with the Elmbrook school system. In my column on Pilgrim Park in the February, 2019 issue of the *News-Independent*, I recalled my memories of Mr. Tarbox as a study hall teacher: “I will always remember, he made sure that we actually studied in his study hall!” As I drove to his funeral at Atonement Lutheran Church in Muskego, I remembered Dick Tarbox as a no-nonsense teacher who demanded students live up to his expectations. I also recall that he quit his post in the Elmbrook district to move to Sokoto, Nigeria where he and his wife, **JudyLee**, taught at the Nigerian Teachers’ College for two years. (JudyLee preceded Richard in death in 2018.) I have great respect for their generation of educators, and I believe that those of us who knew such teachers as students were fortunate.

It is important, I think, that we note the passing of those who have made contributions to our community. They are not forgotten.

Stephen K. Hauser is a long-time Elm Grove resident, a college history professor and the author of books & articles about local history.

News Briefs

Students Moving on to Elmbrook’s Spelling Bee

Congratulations to the following Dixon Elementary students who will participate in the Elmbrook School District Spelling Bee to be held on January 23 at Wisconsin Hills Middle School:

- Nolan Scott:** Grade 4 — 1st Place
- Tia Wadhawan:** Grade 5 — 2nd Place
- Suhana Raval:** Grade 4 — 3rd Place
- Aarya Pattanshetty:** Grade 5 — Alternate



Coming... February 1, 2020

The Elm Grove Winterfest event kicks off at Village Park at 2 p.m. with a Candy Cane Hunt, Frosty Medallion Hunt and a Fishing Derby. Everyone will enjoy sledding and skating all day, s’mores by the bonfire, crafts for the kids, and a Candlelight Hike from 5–8 p.m. All activities are weather dependent! Hosted by the Elm Grove Recreation Department.



Calendar of Events for January 2020

Wednesday – JANUARY 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Village Hall Closed



Thursday – JANUARY 2

***Village of Elm Grove Picnic & Pool**
Reservations open for residents.
(262) 782-6700 for information.

Friday – JANUARY 3

***Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7 a.m. @ Western Racquet Club. www.elmbrookrotary.org.

***Elm Grove Kiwanis – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. @ St. Mary’s Senior Center.
Speaker: Hamad Fadaifar of Oriental Rug Gallery;
Topic: “Intro Into the Splendor of Hand-Knotted Rugs”.
(See AD – Page 3)

Tuesday – JANUARY 7

***Elm Grove Woman’s Club**
Meeting: 11 a.m. (social); 11:30 a.m. Business, followed by Lunch & Program. www.egwc.org.

***Elm Grove Building Board**
Meeting: 5:30 p.m. @ Village Hall
Agenda: www.elmgroveti.org.
Access Live Stream feed @ <https://elmgroveti.org/656/live-stream>

Friday – JANUARY 10

***Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7 a.m. @ Western Racquet Club. www.elmbrookrotary.org.

***Elm Grove Kiwanis – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. @ St. Mary’s Senior Center. Speaker: Conor Williams of Community Advocates; Topic: “Circles of Support — Coming Home from Incarceration”. (See AD – Page 3)

Tuesday – JANUARY 14

**VILLAGE OF ELM GROVE’S
65TH
ANNIVERSARY OF
INCORPORATION**

***School District of Elmbrook**
Board of Education Meeting: 6 p.m.
(262) 782-6700.

Wednesday – JANUARY 15

***American Association of University Women / West Suburban - Milwaukee Branch** Meeting: 6:30 p.m. @ Sunset Playhouse Speaker: Meaghan Heinrich, Dept. Chair, Wisconsin Conservatory of Music. Topic: “Portrait of the Artist as a Young Woman”.
aauw.wsm.membership@gmail.com

Thursday – JANUARY 16

***OWLS (Older, Wiser, Livelier Seniors)**
(See AD below.)

Friday – JANUARY 17

***Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7 a.m. @ Western Racquet Club. www.elmbrookrotary.org.

***Elm Grove Kiwanis – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. @ St. Mary’s Senior Center. Speaker: Dr. Barbara Honer-Ibler of Bread of Healing Clinic; Topic: “An Experience of Caring for the Uninsured in Milwaukee”.

Monday – JANUARY 20

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday – JANUARY 21

***Brookfield Toastmaster Club**
Meeting: 6:30 p.m. @ Waukesha State Bank, 18300 W. Capitol Dr., Brookfield. www.brookfieldtm.toastmastersclubs.org

***Elm Grove Building Board**
Meeting: 5:30 p.m. @ Village Hall
Agenda: www.elmgroveti.org.
Access Live Stream feed @ <https://elmgroveti.org/656/live-stream>

Friday – JANUARY 24

***Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7 a.m. @ Western Racquet Club. www.elmbrookrotary.org.

***Elm Grove Kiwanis – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. @ St. Mary’s Senior Center. Speaker: Mushir Hassan, MD of Elmbrook Memorial Hospital; Topic: “Elmbrook Hospital at 50 — Update on the Ongoing Investment”.

Monday – JANUARY 27

***Elm Grove Board of Trustees**
Meeting: 7:30 p.m. @ Village Hall Court Room. Open to the Public.
Agenda: www.elmgroveti.org.
Access the Live Stream feed @ <https://elmgroveti.org/656/live-stream>

Tuesday – JANUARY 28

***School District of Elmbrook**
Board of Education Meeting: 6 p.m.
(262) 782-6700.

Friday – JANUARY 31

***Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7 a.m. @ Western Racquet Club. www.elmbrookrotary.org.

***Elm Grove Kiwanis – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. @ St. Mary’s Senior Center. Speaker: Tim Coffelt, Manager of Becker-Ritter Funeral Home; Topic: “Changing Practices in Funeral Services”. (See AD – Page 3)

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Program Schedule 2020

January 16:	11:30 a.m. – Church / Program: “How the Dells Became the Dells” John Gurda, writer and historian
February 20:	11:30 a.m. – Church / Program: “Franklin’s Inventions” Terry Kutz, historic portrayal
March 19:	Coach Trip – Oakbrook Terrace, IL / Drury Lane Theatre: “An American in Paris” / Lunch: The French Room
April 16:	Coach Trip – Mys?ery Trip
May 21:	Explore Coach – “Animals and Art” / Tours: Wisconsin Humane Society and Northwestern Mutual Art Collection Lunch: Downtown Kitchen
June 17: Wednesday	Coach Trip – “Rockford: Two Hidden Architectural Gems” Tours: Laurent House and Anderson Japanese Gardens Lunch: Fresco at the Gardens
July 16:	11:30 a.m. – Church / Program: “The See Team” John, Maria, and Jeff, Improv comedy
August 20:	Coach Trip – “Air and Art” / Tours: EAA Aviation Museum and Paine Art Center & Gardens / Lunch: Oshkosh Country Club
September 17:	11:30 a.m. – Church / Program: “American Gingseng 101” Ben Heindel, <i>Hsu’s Gingseng Enterprises</i>
October 8: Second Thursday	Explore Trip – Mys?ery Trip
November 19:	11:30 a.m. – Church / Program: “Fill ‘Er Up: The Glory Days of Wisconsin Gas Stations” / Jim Draeger, architectural historian
December 10: Second Thursday	11:00 a.m. – Westmoor Country Club Annual Holiday Luncheon Program: “Milwaukee Damenthor”

OWLS

(Older, Wiser, Livelier Seniors) was founded in 2005 at Community United Methodist Church in Elm Grove, Wisconsin. The organization is dedicated to members and friends of Community United Methodist Church who are semi-retired or retired. Its purpose is to provide friendship and fellowship to all of its members, through entertainment, fun, inspiration, adventure, and service.

For more information contact:
Community United Methodist Church at (262) 782-4060 www.cumceg.org

Clubs & Organizations

Supplies Donated to Milwaukee Rescue Mission

(BROOKFIELD) On December 2, a total of 655 purses, bags and backpacks were delivered to the Milwaukee Rescue Mission's Joy House for the '1,000 Purses Project' on behalf of those in need in the Milwaukee area this winter. The bags were filled with blankets, health and beauty essentials, restaurant gift cards, and other valuable items for homeless individuals and families in Milwaukee, generously donated by School District of Elmbrook students, staff, and community members.

The project was led by Central Administrative Office's **Jean Loepfe** and Key Club members from Brookfield East and Brookfield Central high schools helped assemble the supplies into the purses and bags. The rescue mission displayed the purses and bags on shelving units and guests were able to select one for the holiday. Any remaining purses will be distributed throughout the cold winter months.

It was Elmbrook's fifth year of contributing to this cause and the largest donation to date. The organizers thank all who participated.



Photo courtesy of Christopher Turner

Pack 156 Tiger Scouts and parents form a sandwich-making assembly line as part of a pre-holiday community service project.

DANCING WITH SWING OF PEARLS

A Benefit for the Elm Grove Woman's Club

Saturday, January 25, 2020

EGWC Clubhouse, 13885 Watertown Plank Road

Enjoy the music of Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw, Glenn Miller, and more while relaxing with a cocktail and yummy appetizers at the Elm Grove Woman's Club. This evening of hits from the 1930s and 1940s will be performed live by Milwaukee's own Swing of Pearls band. The band has been playing in the greater Milwaukee area since 2002 as a branch of the Milwaukee Police Band.

In addition to the fabulous live swing music, professional ballroom dancers from Arthur Murray Dance Center of Whitefish Bay will showcase their fast footwork, smooth glides, and glittery costumes on our one-of-a-kind parquet dance floor. Think of it as a live Dancing with the Stars right here in Elm Grove! Plus, you won't want to miss the opportunity to learn a few moves yourself as the dancers will give a brief ballroom dancing lesson prior the concert.

This concert will benefit the Elm Grove Woman's Club, a charitable organization in Elm Grove providing support and volunteers for important causes, and the EGWC Student Art Scholarship Program, awarding scholarships and art grants to local rising artists to further their passion in the arts.

- 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.: Pre-concert reception, with appetizers and cash bar PLUS optional Ballroom Dance instruction.
- 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.: Concert by Swing of Pearls, with Dancers

Tickets are available at www.egwc.org and will sell out quickly. So, order today! Click on events to order online.

Scout Project Benefits Milwaukee Homeless Shelter

By Christopher Turner

Pack 156 Tigers got together in December to make 200 turkey and cheddar sandwiches for the Guest House of Milwaukee homeless shelter.

The den of first graders from Tonawanda led by **Nelson Williams** and **Peter Kazaks** got together at Elm Grove Village Hall on December 4 and spent their den meeting time putting together the sandwiches. The materials were donated by Briohn Building Corp.

The participants included scouts **Aaron Dimond, Foster Connell, Brian Williams, Henry Paradis, Hans Kazaks, James Talatzko, Adam Parkin** and some of their parents.

The Guest House is a homeless shelter that serves the needs of people in the City of Milwaukee. They have 86 men at their shelter every night and service more than 1,000 men, women, and families with their other programs.

For more information and to learn how you can contribute, visit: <https://www.guesthouseofmilwaukee.org>.

Attention:

Clubs, Organizations, Schools & Churches

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LEARN | LEAD | SERVE

OPEN HOUSE

January 14
6PM-8PM

You're invited to an open house on Tuesday, January 14 from 6-8PM. Take a personalized tour, meet our teachers, ask questions, and learn what sets Brookfield Christian School apart.

Can't make it? We'll find a time that works with your schedule. To RVSP or for more information, contact us at admissions@brookfieldchristian.org or 262-782-4722.

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News Briefs



Photo courtesy of St. Mary’s Visitation
Kathy Biernat displays her Educator of the Year award.

St. Mary’s Teacher Named ‘Educator of the Year’

(ELM GROVE) St. Mary’s Visitation junior high science teacher **Kathy Biernat** is the recipient of the Alumni Educator of the Year Award from the Army Education Outreach Program (AEOP). AEOP is a program of the U.S. Army dedicated to the promotion of engaging STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) programs that inspire the next generation of STEM talent. Specifically, AEOP offers a host of programs for teachers and students to help students understand and appreciate the many opportunities available to students who pursue science, engineering, and mathematics.

During the past few years, Mrs. Biernat has completed two of these programs. The first was the Research Experience for Stem Educators (RESET) which is a six-month, professional development program in which she was able to work with defense scientists and educators to better understand how to guide students’

research as an element of learning. The second was the Next Generation Science Teachers Program designed to help teachers better implement science and engineering standards in the classroom.

In discussing what attracted her to these programs, Mrs. Biernat underscored the need to be constantly improving as a teacher. “I believe if you stop learning, you should stop teaching,” she said.

These programs are additionally focused on improving the teacher’s ability to enhance students’ learning experiences in the classroom. Mrs. Biernat hopes to continue to take advantage of other programs offered by AEOP. Previously, she has received three other national awards and two state awards for her work as a STEM teacher.

More information about AEOP is available at: <https://www.usaeop.com/>.

Congratulations Tonawanda Chess Players!

(ELM GROVE) The Brookfield East Spartan Chess Team congratulates three Tonawanda Tigers: **J. J. Anchor**, **Cole Richlen** and **William Turner** who finished in second place for K-4 teams in

the University School of Wisconsin Fall Annual Chess Tournament! Individually, Will finished in 3rd place, J. J. in 5th place and Cole in 6th place.

MEMORY CAFÉ

Wild Plum Library
MEMORY PROJECT

When:

January 20, 2020
3:00-4:30 p.m.

Where:

Elm Grove Public Library
13600 Juneau Boulevard
Elm Grove, WI 53122
262-782-6717

The Beautiful World of Butterflies

A hands on program exploring the physical characteristics and habits of butterflies. Presented by the Milwaukee Public Museum and Kohl's on the Move.

First time attendees - please contact the Alzheimer's Association

A Memory Café is an informal social gathering for those living with early-stage memory loss and their care-partner. Please see our website www.librarymemoryproject.org for more information.

Read All About It!

Upcoming Programs at the Library

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

Winter Wellness, Naturally Tuesday, January 14, 7:00 p.m.

Skin care specialist and dōTERRA wellness advocate Lynne Herro returns to the library for an invigorating talk on staying well naturally when winter clamps down. This presentation will focus on:

- Immune System Support in Cold Weather
- Beating the Winter Blues
- Tips for Healthy Winter Skin

With plenty of time for Q&A afterwards!
Free to attend. No registration required.

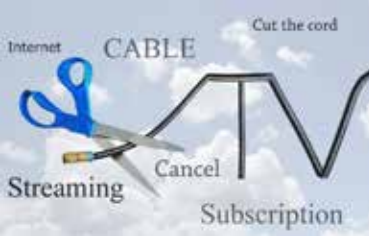


Better Brain Health Friday, January 17, 1:00 p.m.

How can you keep your brain in tip-top shape? Join us for a one-hour educational session, presented by a registered nurse, to find out what you can do to lower your dementia risk and keep your brain healthy. The free program is sponsored by the Waukesha County Public Health Division and the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Waukesha County (ADRC). Snacks and refreshments will be provided. **Advance registration for this program is appreciated. Call the library 262-782-6717 to register.**

Cutting the Cord – Controlling Cable & Internet Costs

Thursday, January 30, 6:30 p.m.
Fees for cable television, home internet, smartphones, and streaming services quickly add up to hundreds of dollars. This seminar reviews your options to cut costs and still watch television programs and have internet access on all devices. Presented by C.T. Kruger. Free to attend. No registration required.



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Young Writers & Cub Reporters

Young Students Share Insights about Freedom in Published Book

By Marie O'Brien

Brookfield Academy's Primary School students say the "Pledge of Allegiance" every day, but teacher **Debbie York** wondered if her first-grade students fully grasped the importance of this daily recitation. The students, already in the midst of mastering the building blocks of reading, history, math, and languages, are also learning about broader concepts such as freedom and liberty.

Reading about the Pledge is a part of the Level 1 curriculum, but Mrs. York wanted to further the discussion. "As a teacher, I am always looking for different ways to motivate my students to learn," she said. "I thought having the students write a book about the Pledge would be an excellent way for them to build upon their knowledge."

Students were tasked with discussing their insights, writing down their thoughts, and then expressing them through illustrations. "The process prompted many great teacher-student discussions about this topic," she added. The result of their efforts became the self-published book *When I Say the Pledge of Allegiance...*

While all the students were excited to be authors, they gained knowledge and confidence in other areas too, according to Mrs. York. "They learned about the writing process, developed a deeper understanding of what it means to be a free country, and how we honor that freedom daily," she said. "Not only have we created a meaningful memory together, but my students now understand every word of what they are saying when they say the Pledge."

Students held a book launch and read their work to parents and teachers. A few student excerpts from the book:

"When I say the Pledge of Allegiance, I think of the Air Force, the Marines, the Navy, and the Army. We have freedom and no slaves and the beautiful country we live in."
~**Decker Priebe**

"I am thankful for the freedoms from the Constitution. I think of all the wonderful things I get to do because of my freedom."
~**Aryanna Mungara**

"When I say the Pledge of Allegiance, it reminds me of good people, good family, and liberty . . . Freedom, our flag, and the Constitution are all good reminders of the Pledge of Allegiance."
~**Krishna Karody**

"When I say the Pledge of Allegiance, I think about freedom. I also think about kind people and respect their choices."
~**Audrey Klein**

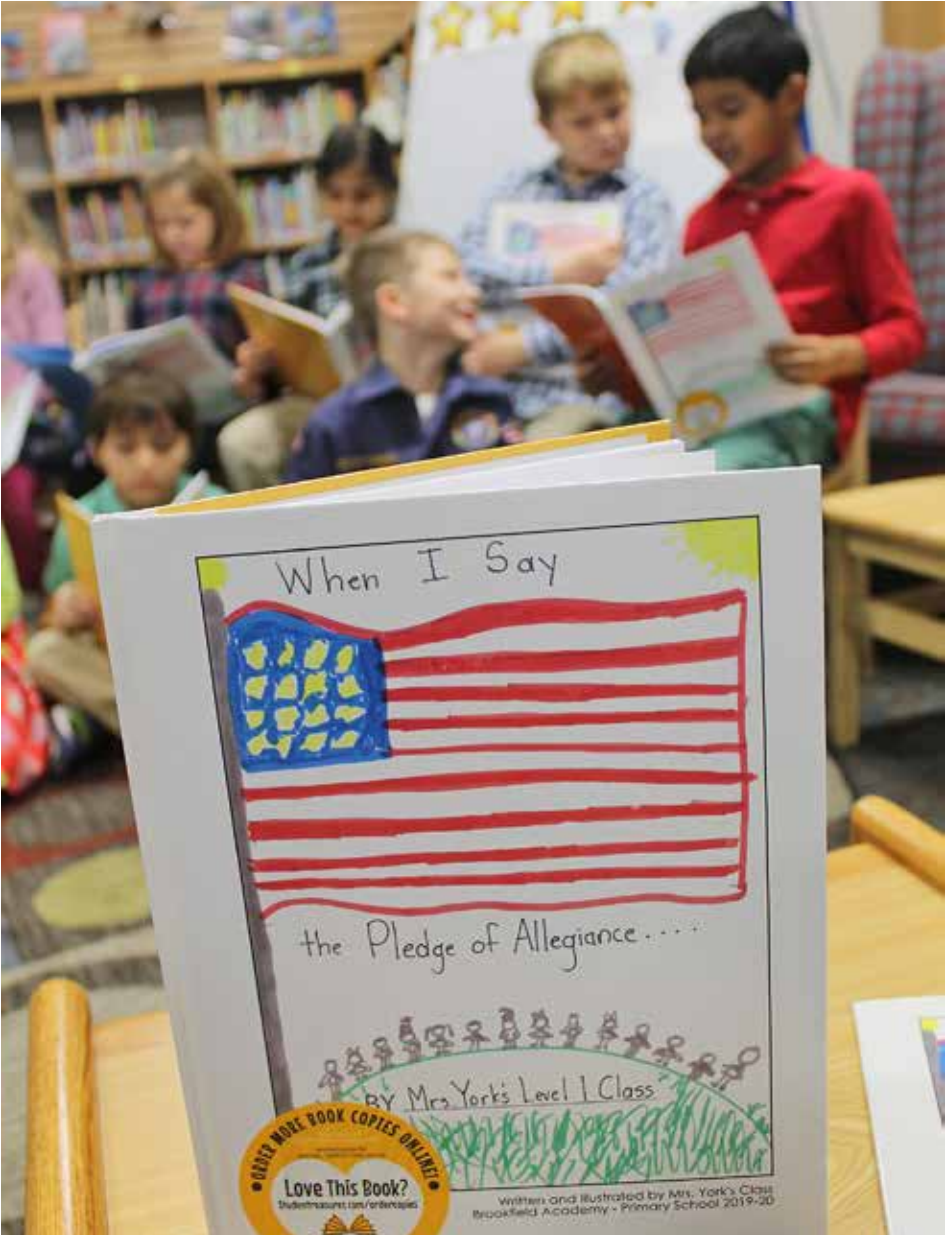


Photo courtesy of Brookfield Academy
Brookfield Academy first grade students read their published book about the Pledge of Allegiance.

"Green" is Good!

Ideas courtesy of The Waukesha County Green Team
www.waukeshacountygreenteam.org

Enjoy "Meatless" Mondays!

Just one quarter pounder burger is worth more than 30 showers! One of the best ways to conserve water is to skip that burger and designate one day a week to go meatless. Think of all the endless possibilities to eat instead: pastas, legumes, veggies, potatoes, soups, breads, salads... the list is endless!

Prepare your meals from your refrigerator first this week, not your freezer or pantry.

Agriculture is the biggest user of water in the U.S. The average American consumes more than 1000 gallons of water indirectly through their diet each day. Wasted food = wasted water. (Think California drought!) Check your refrigerator first this week to avoid spoilage, over shopping, extra trips to the grocery store, and wasted money!

Bring your own "to go" boxes with you!

Going out to eat this week? If so, bring your own reusable container with you to take your leftovers home and avoid the use of single use plastic or styrofoam containers.

Give yourself time, leave 5 minutes earlier!

Aggressive driving (speeding, rapid acceleration, and hard braking) wastes gas. It can lower your highway gas mileage 33% and city mileage 5%. Allow yourself a few extra minutes to get places this week. Bonus: Avoid the stress of running late while pocketing some extra cash!

(Source: U.S. Dept of Energy)

In Memoriam (Continued from Page 1)



Photo by James L. W. Bain / News-Independent
Flowers and notes cover the hood of **Sgt. Joe Ipavec's** squad car which was parked for several days in front of the Elm Grove Police Department as a tribute to the late officer.

My personal communications with Joe often had to do with his service as police liaison to the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (CPAAA), of which I have been a member, and his dedication and interest in inviting (via the *News-Independent*) more community members to participate in the CPA classes, held each spring.

Joe Ipavec was a kind man, who was well respected by his fellow officers and much loved and appreciated throughout our community. He mentored new officers, was a certified firearms instructor, a state licensed Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), and, as recently remembered by Elm Grove

Chief of Police **Jim Gage**, "most notably commended for his action that... saved many lives, during the Villager Apartments fire, in October 2000."

Sgt. Ipavec is survived by his wife **Tracy**, daughter **Lily** and son **Michael**, as well as many other relatives and friends. In December the CPAAA gave an immediate monetary gift of \$1,500 to his family. The Joe Ipavec Memorial Fund supporting Lily and Michael Ipavec's Education is also accepting contributions at any Associated Bank location, and local groups are said to be considering additional fund-raising events to honor Joe later this year.

Rest in peace, my friend.

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Young Writers & Cub Reporters

I Know It's Wintertime When...

By Fritz, St. Mary's – 1st Grade

My dog comes in and I see the snow on her nose. She wags the snow off of her. There is snow on the ground. I can build an igloo then my dog comes outside and she jumps on me. Then we play with her.

By Emily Carnell,
St. Mary's – 1st Grade

I wear snow gear. You get cold. I ski with my family. Leaves fall off trees. You can have a snowball fight. I drink hot chocolate. I see a snowplow. We shovel the driveway.

By Cici, St. Mary's – 1st Grade

Snow comes. I see no leaves on the trees. I see people building a snowman and people wearing coats. We drink hot chocolate. I see gloves and hats on people. Frost is on the grass. I go skiing. I see people that are cold.

New Years is the Best Time of the Year!!!!

By McKenna Kinney,
Tonawanda - 4th Grade

New Years is the best time of the year because...
There is a really fun countdown!!
THERE IS A PARTY!!
We get to see friends!!
AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST...
IT'S GONNA BE 2020!!!

By Alice Knachel
Tonawanda - 4th Grade

Ringin in the New Year
All full of fun
Love is spreading
Party all night long
Staying up till midnight
All full of thrill
Starting to doze
Shutting your eyes
Until someone is shouting
5...
4...
3...
2...
1...
Happy New Year!

New Year's Eve

By Olivia Webb
Tonawanda - 4th Grade

Snowflakes drifting slowly onto the ground
As we sit inside near the fire
Flip the television switch
Almost every news channel
Is at Times Square, New York
For the New Year's Countdown
As the ball drops
We throw our hands into the air

The Best Things About the New Year

By Oliva Litscher
Tonawanda – 4th Grade

Some of the best things about the New Year are...
It's new and you get to have a New Year's resolution.
Plus, you get to celebrate.
I LOVE THE NEW YEAR.
It's really fun.

By Annaliese,
St. Mary's – 1st Grade

S - Snow bunnies
N - New Year's Eve!
O - Oh what fun
W- Winter break

New Year

By Charlie,
St. Mary's – 1st Grade

I see snow on the ground. I can build a Snow Man. My Mom makes hot chocolate.

Winter

By Ruby,
St. Mary's – 1st Grade

W - When I snowboard.
I - I make snowballs.
N - Now we drink hot chocolate.
T - Try to make snowman.
E - Everyone goes sledding.
R - Resting in the snow.

Snow

By Annaliese,
St. Mary's – 1st Grade

S - Snow bunnies
N - New Year's Eve!
O - Oh what fun
W- Winter break

The New Year

By Rylie Winter
Tonawanda - 4th Grade

New Years is one of my favorite holidays. New Years is the time for an awesome new year. New Years is the time to bring everyone together and celebrate the new year that is coming quickly. New Years is the time to be joyful and thankful for what we have. So, I decided to spread the LOVE and write a poem.

Never a dull moment
Everyone happy
Waiting for midnight
Yanking last year past us
Eating an awesome meal
Already preparing for next year
Rapidly excited
Starting a new year

New Year's Eve

By Jianna Gropp
Tonawanda - 4th Grade

New Year's Eve is a time to celebrate
Families are counting down from 10
Kids are joyful and happy
Winter is still happily staying till spring
Children are still playing in the magnificent snowbanks
Snowflakes are gracefully falling from the sky
School is coming back soon

Happy New Year!

By Niamh Mayne,
Tonawanda - 4th Grade

Joy was waiting for her older brother Kevin. It was New Year's Eve and he still wasn't back from the army. "Joy!" it was Joy's mother. "Prepare the salad!" Joy couldn't think about the salad. "JOY Now!!" "YES MAMA!" "I know you're sad about Kevin not being home, BUT I have a surprise for you."

Joy's mom picked up a puppy! Just then the clock struck twelve. "DING DONG!" Then in burst Kevin, "HAPPY NEW YEAR!" "Oh my gosh! This is like a birthday!" And it was.

New Year's Eve

By Cole Fuchs, Tonawanda - 4th Grade

New Year
Everybody
Wishing for good things

You have resolutions
Everyone having fun in the snow
A wonderful night
Right?
Skies filled with fireworks and lights

Everyone having fun
Venturing into the deep snow
Everyone having a blast of
NEW YEAR FUN
Happy New Year!

Young Writers & Reporters Wanted!

Students in Kindergarten – Grade 12 (in public, private, parochial schools and those who are home-schooled) are invited to submit the following types of items for this section:

- ARTICLES – Reporting about School, Club, Neighborhood, Church, Scouting and Athletic activities. (200 words maximum)
- CREATIVE WRITING – Short Stories (200 words maximum)
- POETRY

NOTE: All submissions will be considered & select items will be published based on quality of work and available space.

Send submissions (noting the writer's name, school/home-school, & grade) to: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com (subject line: Young Writers) OR
Elm Grove News-Independent, P.O. Box 372, Elm Grove, WI 53122.

Questions: Call (262) 782-6193.

January FLAVOR OF THE DAY

1 Oreo Cheesecake	17 Chocolate Heath Crunch
2 Butter Brickle	18 Red Raspberry
3 Peanut Butter Cup	19 Turtle
4 Devil's Food Cake	20Dark Chocolate Decadence
5 Caramel Turtle	21 Salted Double Caramel Pecan
6 Oreo Overload	22 Bonfire Smores
7 Turtle Dove	23 Raspberry Cheesecake
8 Blackberry Cobbler	24 Cookies & Cream
9 Andes Mint Avalanche	25 Mint Oreo
10 Really Reeses	26 Brownie Batter Overload
11 Midnight Toffee	27 Double Strawberry
12 Chocolate Elcair	28 Butter Pecan
13 Peanut Butter Cookie Dough	29 Creamy Lemon Crumble
14 Dulce de Leche Cheesecake	30 Rocky Road
15 Brownie Thunder	31 Twix Mix
16 Cookie Dough Craving	

TEAM PLAYERS WANTED

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Legal Issues

Tax Tips for the Self-Employed Age 50 and Older

By Arthur Lee, CPA – Alliance Tax & Accounting Service
150 N. Sunny Slope Rd., Ste. 245, Brookfield, WI 53005 (262) 786-4442

If you are self-employed, you have much to think about as you enter your senior years, and that includes retirement savings and Medicare. Here a few thoughts that will help.

Keep Making Retirement Account Contributions, and Make Extra “Catch-up” Contributions, too. Self-employed individuals who are age 50 and older as of the applicable year-end can make additional elective deferral catch-up contributions to certain types of tax-advantaged retirement accounts. For the 2019 tax year, you can take advantage of this opportunity if you will be 50 or older as of December 31, 2019. You can make elective deferral catch-up contributions to your self-employed 401(k) plan or to a SIMPLE IRA. You can also make catch-up contributions to a traditional or Roth IRA.

The maximum catch-up contributions for 2019 are as follows:

- 401(k) Plan - \$6,000
- SIMPLE IRA - \$3,000
- Traditional or Roth IRA - \$1,000

Catch-up contributions are above and beyond:

1. The “regular” 2019 elective deferral contribution limit of \$19,000 that otherwise applies to a 401(k) plan.
2. The “regular” 2019 elective deferral contribution limit of \$13,000 that otherwise applies to a SIMPLE IRA.

3. The “regular” 2019 contribution limit of \$6,000 that otherwise applies to a traditional or Roth IRA.

How Much Can Those Catch-up Contributions Be Worth?

Good question. You might dismiss catch-up contributions as relatively inconsequential unless we can prove otherwise. Fair enough. Here’s your proof:

401(k) catch-up contributions. Say you turned 50 during 2019 and contributed on January 1, 2019, an extra \$6,000 for this year to your self-employed 401(k) account and then did the same for the following 15 years, up to age 65. Here’s how much extra you could accumulate in your 401(k) account by the end of the year you reach age 65, assuming the indicated annual rates of return below:

- 4% Return = \$136,185
- 6% Return = \$163,277
- 8% Return = \$196,501

Is There an Upper Age Limit for Regular and Catch-up Contributions?

Another good question. While you must begin taking annual required minimum distributions (RMDs) from a 401(k), SIMPLE IRA, or traditional IRA account after reaching age 70 1/2, you can continue to contribute to your 401(k), SIMPLE IRA, or Roth IRA account after reaching that age, as long as you have self-employment income (subject to the income limit for annual Roth contribution eligibility). But you may not contribute to a traditional IRA after reaching age 70 1/2.

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- 2nd Monday of each month: One More Time Band (Big Band Music & Dancing), 1:30pm to 3:00pm, \$3.00/pp.
- Tuesdays: Post opens at 1:00pm, closes at 10:00pm, lunch=serving hot dogs, brats & Pizza.
- Wednesdays: Post opens at 1:00pm, closes at 10:00pm, lunch=serving hot dogs, brats & Pizza.
- Thursdays: Post opens at 1:00pm, closes at 10:00pm, lunch=serving hot dogs, brats & Pizza. Cook-In, 5:00pm-8:30pm, Best burgers, Brats, Hot Dogs in Town! Karaoke.
- Fridays: Post opens at 1:00pm, lunch=serving hot dogs, brats & Pizza. Fish Fry 4:30pm-8:30pm - continual thru the year! JOYCE BEVANS PLAYS PIANO – 4:30pm to 6:30pm Various Live Bands, 6:30pm to 10:00pm (No cover charge)
- Saturdays: Post opens at 11:30am. Saturday night music will start at 7:30pm, \$6.00 Cover Charge
- Sundays: CLOSED, EXCEPT for Special Occasions & Packer Games.

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January 1 - Wednesday Happy New Years – **CLOSED!!!**

January 15 – Veterans Christmas Party 5PM

January 25 –Lunch at Post at 11:30am

January 29 – Newsletter Assembly 10:00am

February 5 – Blood Drive at Post In Hall 1:30pm-6:00pm

February 8 – Past Presidents Annual Lunch, 11:30am and Raffle, 2:15pm

February 23 – Mardi Gras Dance, Montage and 2:00pm – 5:00pm, doors open at 1:00pm

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**WHO’S WHO
AT VILLAGE HALL**
13600 Juneau Blvd., Elm Grove WI 52122
(262) 782-6700 | www.elmgrovetown.org

Village President: NEIL PALMERnpalmer@elmgrovetown.org

Trustees: KATY CORNELLkcornell@elmgrovetown.org
JOHN DOMASEK jdomasek@elmgrovetown.org
GEORGE HAAS ghaas@elmgrovetown.org
PATRICK KRESSIN pkressin@elmgrovetown.org
KIM IRWIN kirwin@elmgrovetown.org
TOM MICHALSKI tmichalski@elmgrovetown.org

Village Manager: DAVE DE ANGELIS ddangelis@elmgrovetown.org

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

Clerk & Deputy Treasurer:
MARY STREDNI mstredni@elmgrovetown.org

Finance Director: MONICA HUGHES mhughes@elmgrovetown.org

Municipal Judge: TIM STEINLE

Village Attorney: HECTOR DE LA MORA

Clerk of Courts: MARY DOYNE mdoyne@elmgrovetown.org

Public Works Director:
RICHARD PAUL, JR. rpaul@elmgrovetown.org

Forester: RON HILL forester@elmgrovetown.org

Recreation Director:.....
JEROD MIKKELSEN ..jmikkelsen@elmgrovetown.org

Library Director: SARAH MUENCH muench@elmgrovetown.lib.wi.us

POLICE – FIRE – MEDICAL EMERGENCY – CALL 9-1-1
Police Department (non-emergency) (262) 786-4141
Police Chief:JIM GAGE jgage@elmgrovetown.org
Fire Chief:BILL SELZER wselzer@elmgrovetown.org
Medical Director: ..DR. JON ROBINSON....jrobinson@elmgrovetown.org

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 (250 words max.) must include the writer’s name, address & phone number.
- *Mail to: Elm Grove News-Independent, Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 372, Elm Grove, WI 53122-0372.
- *E-mail: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com (subject line: Letters to the Editor)

Classifieds

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Good Sports



Brookfield East Football Wins Second State Championship

(BROOKFIELD) The Brookfield East Spartan Football Team captured its second state title in four years, narrowly defeating Waunakee 31-30 in the Division 2 State Championship game at Camp Randall in Madison on Friday, November 22. The team finished its season with a 12-2 record.

Senior **Sam McGath** opened the game with a 44-yard touchdown run in the first quarter, followed by three first-half touchdowns by senior **Donavan Hunt** and a 23-yard field goal by **Joey Prondzinski** to secure the victory.

“The team faced several adverse situations throughout the game and they never flinched,” said Head Coach **Ben Farley**. “Their performance is a testament to their character and I am so unbelievably proud of them and what they were able to accomplish this year.”

This year’s championship is the second in school history following the 2016 State Championship in Coach Farley’s first year as head coach.

Drew Rakers Named Football Scholar-Athlete

(MADISON) University of Wisconsin-Platteville senior **Drew Rakers** has been selected the recipient of the 2019 Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) Max Sparger Football Scholar-Athlete Award.

An Elm Grove resident and Brookfield East High School alumnus, Rakers boasts a 3.92 grade point average and is majoring in environmental engineering. He was named to the 2019 NCAA Division III Academic All-District® Six Football Team, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America, and is a three-time member of the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll. Rakers has earned a spot on UW-Platteville’s Dean’s List numerous semesters and received Chancellor’s List distinction.

A two-year team captain, Rakers secured All-WIAC second team honors this year for the second straight season. Entering the 2019 campaign, he earned a spot on the Free Agent Football Division III Pre-Season All-America First Team and the Special Teams U All-American Watchlist. Rakers was selected UW-Platteville’s Special Teams MVP in 2018.

He is a member of Chi Epsilon and Tau Beta Pi Honor Societies, Eagle Scouts and the Platteville Society of Environmental Engineers. In addition, he works as an Engineering and Mathematics Tutor for the SSS-TRIO program at UW-Platteville.

In order to be nominated for the scholar-athlete award, a student-athlete must have a minimum 3.50 grade point average. In addition, he must be in his last year of competition, or on schedule to graduate this academic year, and have competed for a minimum of two years.



Drew Rakers

News Briefs



Stephanie Kanavas

Brookfield Academy Student to Perform with UWM Honor Choir

By Marie O’Brien

Brookfield Academy sophomore **Stephanie Kanavas** has been chosen to participate at the highly selective UW – Milwaukee Vocal Arts Festival. Stephanie will sing with the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee Honor Choir, attend collegiate-level classes, and perform a solo for a recital.

Performances will be held on Friday, January 31 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, February 1, at 7 p.m., at UWM’s Peck School of the Arts.



Photo courtesy of School District of Elmbrook


Members of Pilgrim Park Middle School’s National Junior Honor Society.

Pilgrim Park Students Volunteer at Food Bank

(ELM GROVE) Members of the **National Junior Honor Society** at Pilgrim Park Middle School received the following note from Mick O’Donnell and the Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin staff:

“Thank you so much for your volunteer service at Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin on 12/05/2019. Your 3 hours of service at the food bank are greatly appreciated! Your group sorted and stocked over 10,000 lbs. of donated

product, equaling 8,333 meals worth of food! Without your assistance, Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin would have had to spend over \$2,277 of donated funds and worked 99 hours to complete the project. These donations can now be spent on purchasing more food for those in need. We hope you enjoyed your experience at Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin and we welcome you to come again. Thank you for your commitment and contribution!


(BROOKFIELD) You and your family are invited to travel the world without leaving Elmbrook at the annual community-wide Elmbrook HeritageFest 2020! The event will be held on Wednesday, January 29, 2020, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Brookfield East High School - Field House, 3305 Lily Road, Brookfield.

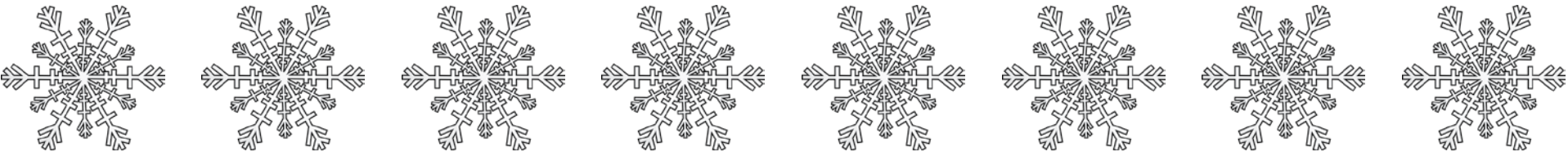
HeritageFest will inspire intellectual curiosity and appreciation of world cultures through experiential learning. Let’s celebrate the cultural diversity of the Elmbrook community, showcase family heritages, and explore cultural traditions in a safe and respectful environment. A true festival of cultures!

Elmbrook students, staff, and families can reserve a table to showcase their heritage or country with an informational display, a craft/activity, or by donating dessert samples. We also encourage wearing your ethnic clothing.

During the event, you will enjoy several pre-arranged performances organized by the English Learner (EL) staff. Performances include a variety of cultures and students across the district.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
~Nelson Mandela

Register for the event online at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/76283761785>



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