



Elm Grove NEWS- INDEPENDENT



Vol. 13 No. 11

Serving Elm Grove, Wisconsin & Neighboring Communities

July 2023

Freedom of the Press is Essential. Community News Matters.



Elm Grove Group Leads Fundraising Effort to Support Creation of Additional Off-Road Village Pathways

By Stacy Barry Coffey

LEGACY (**Livable Elm Grove Activity & Connectivity for Years to come**) was formed in 2012 to help get the Juneau path from a proposal to reality for residents to enjoy. A group of volunteers supporting the completion of off-road paths, identified in the 1989 Bicycle/Pedestrian Pathway Plan, has revived **LEGACY**. **LEGACY** aims to educate the community about the importance of completing the remaining paths to increase safe walkability in the Village through **THE PATHWAY PROJECT**.

The 1989 Bicycle/Pedestrian Pathway Plan was prompted by community concerns

about safety for Pedestrians and Cyclists and a 1987 public survey, conducted by the Village, regarding pathway construction. Throughout the summer and fall of 1989 a plan was developed with the Elm Grove Public Works Committee and R.A. Smith & Assoc., an engineering, planning and surveying company.

The 1989 plan purpose was to:

- Increase bicycle and pedestrian access from all areas of the Village to Downtown and Village Park.
- Recommend type of path and placement.
- Project cost estimates.



Several paths in the proposal have been paved, while a few key sections remain. The completion of the Juneau path allowed residents to walk and ride to the Village Park off the busy road. Juneau path links to the Park path system and Legion path. Legion path takes residents toward Tonawanda or toward Downtown. Last summer the path along Elm Grove road was paved for safe off-road walking and bicycling as well.

(See THE PATHWAY PROJECT – Page 4)



Photo courtesy: EGPD

Brent Sluka

New EGPD Officer Hired, Patrol Officer Promoted

Brent Sluka was sworn in as the Elm Grove Police Department's newest officer during a ceremony at Village Hall on June 15. Officer Sluka comes to our community following 5 years of service with the Milwaukee Police Department.

Paul Weber, who joined the department earlier this year as a patrol officer, was sworn in during the ceremony as Sergeant and will assume command of the late watch. (See APRIL 2023 edition at www.elmgrove.news for Weber's story.)

"Cruisin' the Grove"
10th Annual Classic Car, Truck & Cycle Show
Sunday, August 6th, 2023 10:00 - 3:00PM
Downtown Elm Grove on Watertown Plank Road

Hot Food,
Cold Drinks & Cool Music
Spectators Enter FREE
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- for their **Sponsorship** of this edition.

See Friends of *The News*
details & form – Page 8
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BUSINESS OPENING: Elm Grove Village Manager **David De Angelis** poses with **FAIRGROUNDS COFFEE & TEA** founder **Michael Schultz** in front of the new two-story café at 13320 Watertown Plank during a pre-opening celebration on June 1.



Krause Estate Planning & Elder Law Center

Unveils New Office in Brookfield

One of Wisconsin's premier estate planning firms is opening their newest office in Brookfield. Located on W Bluemound Road, this firm brings exceptional services to people seeking comprehensive estate planning solutions.

Firm founder, Attorney Dan Krause is an Army veteran. "We help people prepare legally for their death or incapacity. It is not the most enjoyable topic, but very important for families... We also help families save hundreds of thousands of dollars in nursing costs."

With more than 20 years of estate planning experience, Dan knows his business. **Certified Estate Planning Law Specialists*** are rare—there are only 7 in Wisconsin—and Dan is one of them. Dan says "People work hard for what they have, and they should be able to protect it and pass it on to their families! Our 'rock star' team is excited to offer our services in the Brookfield area."

Mark Your Calendar for August 2nd

Their open house will be August 2nd, from 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM. Residents of Brookfield and neighboring areas are invited to meet the team including attorneys Dan Krause and Scott Mickelson, gain valuable insights into estate planning, and enjoy refreshments.

In appreciation for the community's support, there will be refreshments, cookies and giveaways!

15850 W Bluemound Road
Suite 314
August 2nd from 3:00-5:30pm.

To learn more you can visit their website www.estateplanningpeople.com, call 414-285-1082, or email info@friendly.law.



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Village Update

By Jim Koleski, President – Village of Elm Grove / jikoleski@elmgrove.com

Summer is here and what a great time to be in Wisconsin! Please join my family in enjoying all the upcoming activities in the Village Park.

***Special Recognition.** A heart felt thank you to **Dave De Angelis** for his many years of service to our community as he transitions into retirement effective August 1st. Leading the Village through many projects, including the flood control reconstruction and current Underwood Creek Daylighting, are very visible achievements. Dave was so helpful bringing the new Trustees up to speed over the past 2 years. Please stop by the Village Hall and express your appreciation to Dave for his accomplishments and extraordinary commitment to Elm Grove!

***Welcome.** After considering options and a thorough interview process, the Board is extremely pleased to welcome back **Tom Harrigan** as our new Village Manager. Tom was previously our Assistant Village Manager until September, 2022. Tom has extensive experience working with our residents and will bring perspectives from his current position to improve Elm Grove. Tom will be rejoining the team on July 17th. Welcome back Tom!

***Recreation Activities Team Work.** As many residents know, the Village has been without its full-time Recreation Director for all of 2023. The entire Village staff has been sharing the workload and has effectively hired a full roster of support staff for the summer activities. I would like to call out the efforts of the entire team led by **Katherine Gehl** for stepping up coordinating this effort. Outstanding Support!

***Special Events.** The Fourth of July Fun Fest. The full day of activities kicks off at 8:30 a.m. with a fun run beginning at 9:15 a.m. and includes Open Swimming from noon to 5 p.m. which is sponsored by the Elm Grove Community Foundation. The day concludes with the National Anthem at 9 p.m. with fireworks to follow. Hope to see you there!

*See Calendar of Events
Page 5
for July 4th activities

***Volunteer Opportunities.** The Village relies on the many talents of residents who serve on the various committees which review and recommend action to the Board of Trustees. The Committees are instrumental in discussing staff actions and operations of your Village. If you have an interest to join a committee, please review the existing standing and ad-hoc committees on the Website (www.elmgrovewi.org) and complete the application online expressing your specific interests. As openings become available, your expression of interest is considered first in new committee appointments.

***Committee of the Whole Meetings.** The Village Board is holding regular committee of the whole (COW) meetings approximately every 6 weeks. COW meetings are working meetings to review current activities of the Village Staff, help bring new Trustees up to speed on ongoing projects and provide direction to staff on agenda items. No formal action is taken at COW meetings; however the meetings help advance future actions to be taken by the Board. At the June meeting discussions were held on the project costs and current activities on the Underwood Daylighting project, municipal water extension policies and how to charge for extensions. Updates were also provided by staff on the Mandel project, Reinders Extension Agreement, and updates on 2023 Capital Projects as well as Board’s interest in using electronic distribution of meeting materials.

Speaking of Projects, let’s review several updates including:
***Gebhardt Road reconstruction.** The project recently commenced and will be under construction for about 8 weeks. Every effort has been made to conserve the many stately trees along the pathway route while improving the safety of the Gebhardt and Highland Road intersection.



***Caroline Heights (Mandel) Construction**
Expectation is that construction will commence in the third quarter of 2023 after Mandel acquires the land. Current plans are available on the Village website under *Our Community* and then *Community Projects*. After the Project commences and the construction timeline is defined, more detailed updates will be provided. If interested in e-mail updates, please send your email to kgehl@elmgrovewi.org.

***Daylighting of the Underwood Creek**
On June 19th, the Joint Review Board unanimously approved the extension of TID #2 by 3 years. The extension will provide approximately \$1.8M of funding for the Project. The next step for this project is negotiating the purchase of land from the railroad based on a recently completed appraisal.

All the best for a safe and enjoyable summer!

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

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Elm Grove Recycling Center Hours

The Department of Public Works Recycling / Yard Waste facility,
900 Wall St.

APRIL - OCTOBER

Tuesday & Thursday
3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Saturday
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For more information, visit: www.elmgrovewi.org
or
call: **(262) 782-6700.**



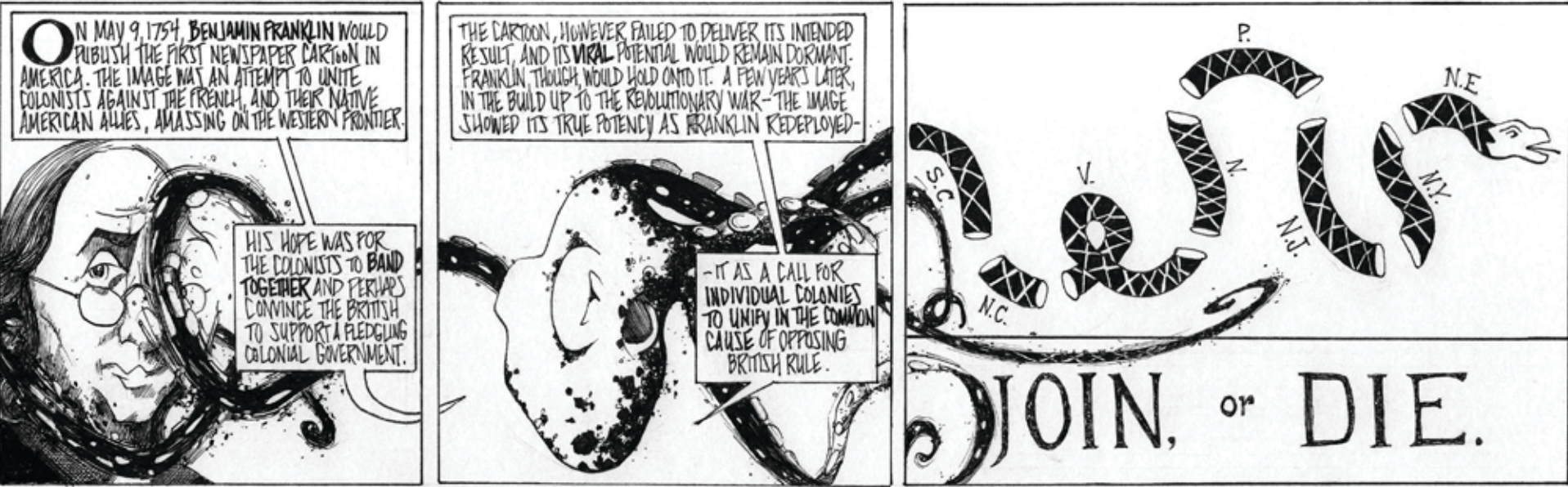
“Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy.

When you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.”

---- Anonymous

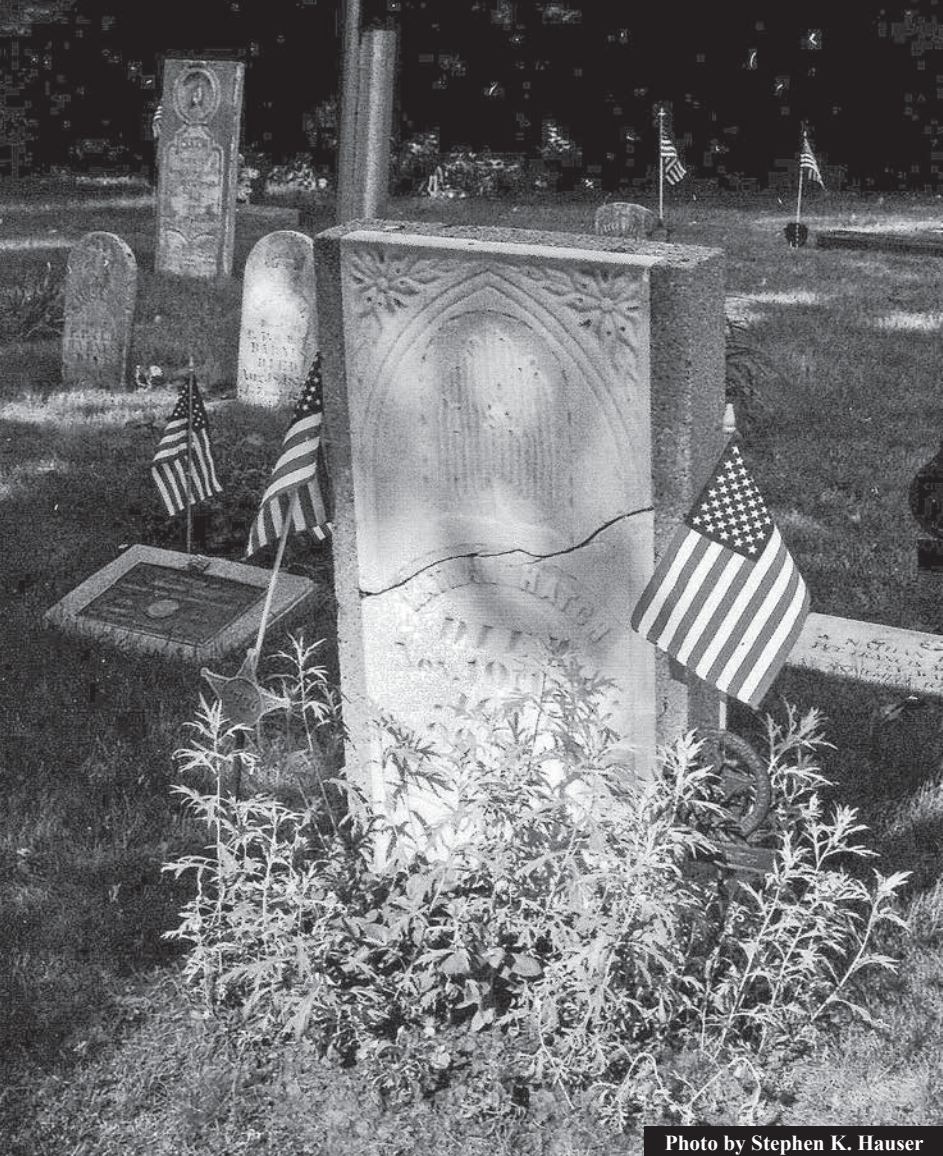


MR. HUGH’S HISTORY by Drew Sternitzky asternitzky@wi.rr.com



Our History:

Remembrances of Things Past



Gravestone at Oakhill Cemetery marking the final resting place of Pvt. Nathan Hatch, soldier of the American Revolution.

WHATZZIT?

By Stephen K. Hauser

The above photograph is obviously a picture of a headstone in a cemetery. To be specific, it is the grave marker for **Nathan Hatch** at Oakhill Cemetery, 3500 N. Brookfield Road in the City of Brookfield. It marks the final resting place of the only soldier of the American Revolutionary War buried in Waukesha County, and one of the very few buried anywhere in Wisconsin. I would suggest that it is a good place to visit as we seek to commemorate the 247th anniversary of America’s independence from Great Britain and celebrate the 4th of July. Such gravesites are common throughout New England and all along the east coast, but are a rare find in the Midwest, which was not much settled in the 18th century and played no real role in America’s War for Independence.

Nathan Hatch was a teenager living in Attleboro, Massachusetts when the Revolutionary War began. His father, **Nathan, Sr.**, had fought in the French and Indian Wars. In July of 1776, only days after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, young Nathan enlisted as a private in **Captain Isaac Hodges’** company of volunteers and marched with them to Boston. He ultimately served four tours of duty (with time off for harvesting and planting seasons), being mustered out on January 8, 1781. He had been only 19 years old at the time of his first enlistment.

He subsequently married, moved to Vermont and raised a large family. During the War of 1812 (America’s “Second War for Independence”) he served again, time at age 55. Along with other veterans of the Revolutionary War, he organized a training regiment to prepare younger, less experienced soldiers for battle. His

training and advice may well have saved a number of American lives, as he passed on the wisdom he had gained from combat.

In 1843, now a widower, two of his sons and a grandson informed him that they were moving west to the new Wisconsin Territory (organized in 1836). Not one to be left behind, Nathan decided, at age 86, to accompany them. They settled in the newly established Town of Brookfield, and Nathan began to farm along what is now Capitol Drive, near the present site of Stonewood Village. He died on his farm on November 10, 1847, just six days shy of his 90th birthday, a remarkably long life for those times.

(For a full accounting of **Nathan Hatch’s life**, please see my **Past Times column of May, 2017 in the online archives of *The Elm Grove News-Independent***.) www.elmgrove.news

Of course, there are numerous veterans of various wars and conflicts buried in the many cemeteries throughout the Elmbrook area and beyond. A visit to any of them would be a worthwhile task of remembrance, especially for families with youngsters. However, local residents should be aware of the rare honor we share in having a Soldier of the Revolution buried in our midst. This is something that most other communities in the Midwest and the West cannot lay claim to. Again, I would urge readers to stop by and pay their respects to one who assisted at our nation’s birth.

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



THE PATHWAY PROJECT

(Continued from Page 1)



Examples of merchandise available to raise funds in support of Village pathways.

On June 19th construction on Gebhardt Road between Pilgrim Parkway and Highland Drive began, including reconfiguration of the Gebhart/Highland intersection. At the same time a 6-foot-wide paved asphalt pathway will be installed within the right-of-way on the south side of Gebhardt Road to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety in that area.

By completing the off-road paths, residents will be able to safely access more of the village while walking and cycling. The remaining paths in the 1989 proposal to connect the community are:

- **Gremoor** - Tonawanda to Fairhaven Blvd.
- **Highland** - North Ave. to Watertown Plank

- **Hollyhock Lane** - Tonawanda to North Ave.
- **Juneau Blvd.** - Legion to Watertown Plank.

You can support **LEGACY-The Pathway Project** at www.elmgrovelegacy.org. Follow us on Facebook or click links on the Village webpage. **Village Pathways | Elm Grove, WI - Official Website (elmgrovewi.org).**

The **LEGACY group** looks forward to working with neighbors to make Elm Grove a more walkable community.



53 one 22

Elm Grove Community Foundation

www.elmgrovefoundation.org

NEW at the Community Foundation

Oktoberfest 0.5K Fun Run Early Bird Pricing Starts July 1

Join the Elm Grove Community Foundation and fellow underachievers for an afternoon of glory and celebration as part of Elm Grove's Annual Oktoberfest weekend! The "race," while having an official pace car to lead the way, is more of a walk/run beer parade that starts at O'Donoghue's Irish Pub at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 16 and finishes at the Village Park Oktoberfest grounds.

Registration is OFFICIALLY OPEN! Take advantage of early bird pricing (\$30 for adults, \$15 for kids) through August 5th!

It is not only about the “race.” The following are included with your registration:

- T-shirt (guaranteed for all entries made before September 1)
- Pre-race program which includes an accordion player and interactive German drinking songs
- Three (3) beers for adults 21 and older (or root beers for the younger participants) - 1st at the start (O'Donoghue's), 2nd at the halfway point (park entrance), 3rd in the Oktoberfest tent
- Finish line cow bell medal

To register for the 0.5K Fun Run, please visit:
www.elmgrovefoundation.org

Oktoberfest - September 15 & 16, 2023

Calendar of Events – July 2023



Tuesday – JULY 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY Elm Grove Village Park Activities:

- 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
Fun Run/Walk Sign-In & Warm-Up
- 9:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.
Flag Raising Ceremony
- 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
Fun Run / Walk
- 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Bike Decorating Contest
- Noon to 5 p.m. – Open Swim sponsored by Elm Grove Community Foundation
- 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. - Baking Contest
- 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. - D.J. in the Park
- 9:30 p.m. – National Anthem
- 9:35 p.m. - Fireworks Show

- Friday – JULY 7**
- Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7 a.m. at St. Camillus East Tower Conference Room; “2023 World Affairs Seminar Experience” presented by **Sidney Baman & Ava Gomez**.
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
 - Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speakers: **Allison Romero**, Operations Director & **Helen Holtz**, Land Management Director, Waukesha County Land Conservancy, Topic: “Protecting Land and Water in Waukesha County”
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

- Monday - JULY 10**
- Cruisin’ the Spur – Vintage & Classic Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show**
5 p.m. – Dark at the parking lot behind Silver Spur BBQ, 13275 Watertown Plank Rd., Elm Grove. FREE



- Tuesday – JULY 11**
- 100+ Women Who Care – MKE Metro West**
Meeting: 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at O’Donoghue’s Irish Pub, Elm Grove.
www.100wwcmkemetrowest.org

- Friday – JULY 14**
- Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7 a.m. at St. Camillus East Tower Conference Room; “Annual Rotary District 6270 Update”, presented by **Don Griffing**.
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
 - Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: **W. Gene Smiley**, Professor Emeritus, Marquette University Department of Economics; Topic: “Discussion of American Economic and Business History”
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com
 - Friday Flicks:** “The Bad Guys”, film shown 8:30 to 10 p.m. at Elm Grove Village Park Pavilion. FREE

Tuesday – JULY 18

- Tunes on Tuesday** at Elm Grove Village Park, 6:30 p.m., featuring “Saturday June Band”. FREE

- Wednesday – JULY 19**
- OWLS – Seniors’ Group**
Coach trip to Lake County, Illinois Shiloh House, Temple Lipizzans, sponsored by Community UMC, Elm Grove. Guests are welcome.
<http://www.cumceg.org>.

- Friday – JULY 21**
- Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7 a.m. at St. Camillus East Tower Conference Room; Topic: “Improving the Health and Well Being of College Students”.
Rotary 40th Anniversary Celebration at the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center, 6 p.m.
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>.
 - Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: **Anna Reinhardtson**, Programs and Marketing Associate, Waukesha County Business Alliance; Topic: Voice of Business and Business Climate in Waukesha County”
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

- Monday – JULY 24**
- Cruisin’ the Spur – Vintage & Classic Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show**
5 p.m. – Dark at the parking lot behind Silver Spur BBQ, 13275 Watertown Plank Rd., Elm Grove. FREE

- Tuesday – JULY 25**
- Elm Grove Board of Trustees**
Public meeting: 7:00 p.m. at Village Hall Court Room. Agenda and Live Stream – www.elmgrovetwi.org (262) 782-6700

- Friday – JULY 28**
- Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: **Toby Van Sistine**, Director of Government Affairs Metropolitan Builders Association; Topic: “Growing Residential and Commercial Development in the Metro Milwaukee Area”
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Library News and Programs

July 2023

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

Andrea & Julia Bartz, In Conversation / Thursday, July 13, 7:00 p.m.

Two *New York Times* bestselling authors (and sisters) share the stage for the first time, to discuss two of the most celebrated books of 2023. In conjunction with Boswell Book Company, the Elm Grove Library welcomes Andrea Bartz, author of *The Spare Room* and Julia Bartz, author of *The Writing Retreat*, for an evening of conversation about their works, their writing journeys, and their local roots.

This event is free to attend. Books will be available for sale and a signing will follow. Advance registration is appreciated at elmgrovelibrary.org.

Hospice 101 / Thursday, July 20, 1:00 p.m.

Hospice 101 will be an open discussion of qualifications for Hospice services including:

- What is the goal of hospice?
- Misconceptions often associated with hospice and end of life care.

This program is presented by Compassus, which provides a continuum of home-based services including home health, palliative, and hospice care. The speaker is a qualified hospice nurse with knowledge of medications and the end of life process.

A Cup of Health: Nutrition / Tuesday, July 25, 1:30 p.m.

We all know that we should eat well, but what does that really mean? With a focus on long-term solutions instead of short-term diets, learn about the basics of a healthy eating pattern. The session will cover:

- How what we eat impacts our health
- Healthy eating patterns
- Portion control
- Reading food labels
- Science-based nutrition advice and helpful tools

This is the third in a series of five "Cup of Health" programs in 2023, presented by a community health educator with the Waukesha County Public Health Department. Free to attend. Advance registration is appreciated at elmgrovelibrary.org.

Library Passport Challenge / June 1 – August 31

Join the Library Passport Challenge this summer! Get out and explore all 24 Bridges library locations in Waukesha and Jefferson Counties to collect passport stamps for a chance to win a prize basket.

Library explorers can pick up a passport at any Bridges library location and have it stamped. Participants visit more libraries to collect more stamps to earn entries into the prize drawings. Eight passport library stamps earn participants one entry, 16 library stamps earn another entry, and all 24 library stamps earn an additional two entries. That’s four total chances to win a prize basket filled with local business swag, gift cards and experiences.



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News Briefs



Pictured (Left to Right): **Maggie Feng**, **Lucy Irwin**, and **Melissa Keane**.

Elmbrook Students Named Distinguished Young Women

(BROOKFIELD) **Maggie Feng** (Brookfield Central ‘24), **Lucy Irwin** (Brookfield East ‘24), and **Melissa Keane** (Brookfield Central ‘24) have been named to the Distinguished Young Women (DYW) Class of 2024. Feng was named Distinguished Young Woman of Brookfield 2024, Irwin was named Distinguished Young Woman of Elm Grove 2024, and Keane was named Distinguished Young Woman of Waukesha 2024. All three students were awarded college scholarships for their academic achievements and will be participating for a chance at additional scholarships as part of the Wisconsin State Finals this summer.

“I am so proud of these young women and all that they have accomplished,” said **Ellen Linnihan**, Brookfield Central Educator and

DYW Advisor. “They are leaders in their communities and we look forward to seeing all that they accomplish through the DYW program and beyond!”

Since 1958, DYW has been a program that encourages participants to reach their full individual potential with a mission of empowering young women by providing over \$1 billion in scholarship opportunities, developing their self-confidence, and participating in Life Skills Workshops that prepare them for success after high school.

The Wisconsin State Finals will be held on Saturday, August 12, with students competing for a chance to advance to the National Finals and acquire some of the total \$100,000 in cash scholarships.



Visitors to Elm Grove’s Earth Day / Arbor Day celebration create pinecone bird feeders for their backyard birds.

Birders of the Grove – Spreading Their Wings

By **Karen Lloyd**

Birders of the Grove held their third annual Birdathon on Saturday, April 29, 2023, at Elm Grove Village Park. This event was part of the Earth & Arbor Day celebration which attracted many area residents of all ages despite the cool and rainy weather that day.

Bird lover activities at our exclusive team tents included a hands-on station to create pine cone bird feeders for backyard use. **Sam Dusek**, our enthusiastic middle school committee member, demonstrated a Bird Buddy smart bird feeder/camera and explained interesting backyard bird facts with visual content. A “Who Am I?” bird ID poster guessing game created by **Jennifer Morris** and Bird Bingo game sponsored by the Elm Grove Business Association were also enjoyed by children attending the event. **Lisa Becker** and **Lisa Armitage**, from the Elm Grove Woman’s Club, spearheaded a “Flock Together” Bird City initiative to paint and decorate 50 custom-made wooden bird houses with various local artists participating. The houses were auctioned off on a website and a sizeable donation from the proceeds was made to our Birdathon team!

Also, at our event, team member **Kelly Mathwick** led a guided walk around the village pond to observe migrating waterfowl. Of note, the 2023 campaign promoting World Migratory Bird Day focuses on the topic of water and its importance for migratory birds. Waterfowl species seen by

our team over the weekend count included Great Blue Heron, Bufflehead, Greater and Lesser Scaup, Blue-Winged Teal, Trumpeter Swan, Sandhill Crane, Common Goldeneye and Canada Goose. On the walk, Lisa Becker demonstrated the smart phone bird apps “Merlin” and “eBird”, which offer both picture and sound ID options and an abundance of information about bird species in our area. Supporting the Water theme, a ceramic bird bath was the prize at this year’s raffle at our team tent – our local resident bird lover **Mark Westen** was the winner.

The Elm Grove Birdathon raised more than \$1,000, with more donations anticipated. Overall, our “fledgling” team spotted 278 birds in 47 different species. Birders of the Grove hope to maintain our High Flyer status as a Wisconsin Bird City for many years to come. Half of the funds donated to the annual Birdathon come directly to our village for our specific bird protection and education activities.

This group meets monthly in the Park View room at Village Hall. If you are interested in learning more about our activities or wish to help us in our bird mission, please come to our next meeting to be held on Monday, July 10, at 9 a.m. Please email **Karen Lloyd** (knlloyd78@gmail.com) or **Nicci Sternitzky** (egbeautification@gmail.com) for more information. We look forward to welcoming new members of our flock!

100+ Women Who Care – MKE Metro West Distributes \$12,000 to St. Bakhita House

By **Jane Condon**

Donations of \$12,000 were presented to St. Bakhita House following the March 2023 meeting of 100+ Women Who Care – MKE Metro West. The amount given includes a 50% matching grant from a partnership with a generous family foundation. The Bakhita House provides a supportive community for women escaping the exploitation of human sex trafficking. In partnership with the Franciscan Peacemakers, Bakhita House provides safe temporary housing and holistic help needed to enhance successful healing.

The organization was established 7 years ago and strives to strengthen local communities by providing funds to local charities. St. Bakhita House in Milwaukee

100+ Women Who Care
mKE Metro West
was the 21st local charity selected to receive funding.

The next meeting is Tuesday, July 11, 2023 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at O’Donoghue’s Irish Pub in Elm Grove when another deserving charity in our area will be selected. New members are welcome. The organization is simple to join and it’s easy to donate. Women interested in learning more about joining and *Making a Difference* in our community can find more details on the group’s website www.100wwcmkemetrowest.org.

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News Briefs



Photo courtesy: Elmbrook Rotary Club

Elmbrook Rotary Club members with Ronald McDonald.

Rotarians Volunteer at Ronald McDonald House

By Jackson Bubolz

On Thursday, June 8, a handful of Elmbrook Rotary Club members got together at the Ronald McDonald house to cook and serve a meal to the worn-out families of patients at Milwaukee’s Children’s Hospital.

The Volunteers were:

- *Ian Smith – Coordinator and Cook
- *Thomas Steinbach – Shopping for Groceries
- *Emily Jones – Cook & Recipes
- *Paul Sawicki, Harry Farchmin, Dan Roads, Anne Klug - Cooks

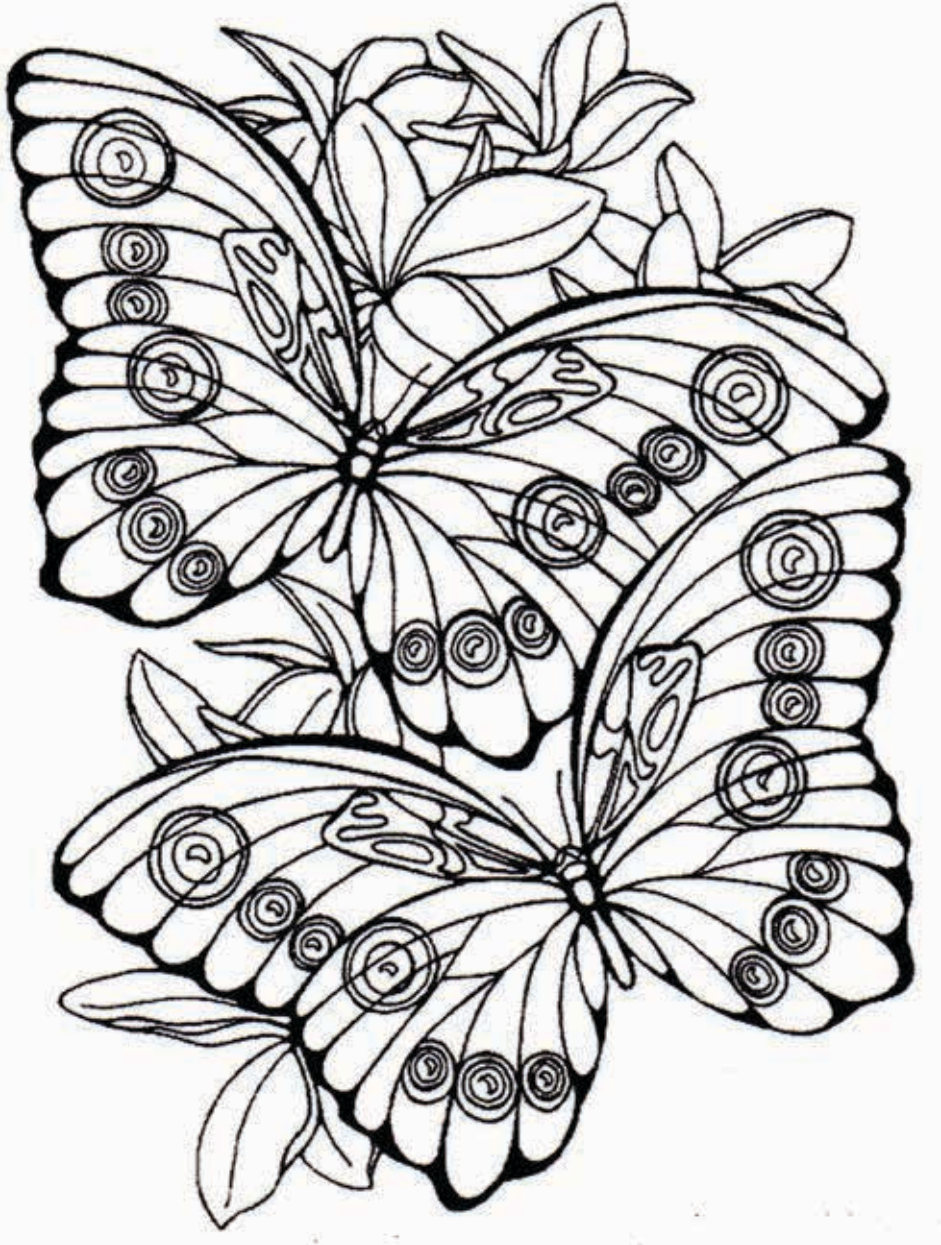
Participants report that buying, preparing, and serving a meal was fun, rewarding, and they are open to organizing another one.

If this project looks interesting, please reach out to Ian Smith or any of the other participants. As with all of our projects, the more interest we have, the more effort we can direct toward that cause. Rotary is open to anyone, and we would love to host you at our next meeting – 7:00 a.m., Fridays at St. Camillus.

www.elmbrookrotary.org



Butterflies to Color!



News’ Hounds

& other beloved creatures

Adopt a Pet at the Elmbrook Humane Society

By Morgan Gourley

My name is **Caboose**. I’m a sweet, active guy who likes to be on the move! I would love to be your very own adventure buddy. I have been at the shelter for a little while now, and I would love to start my new life in my forever home. I’m still a young pup, and I can’t wait to learn all about what life is like with a human best friend.

If you would like to learn more about me, please visit our website today! <https://ebhs.org>. Call (262) 782-9261.



Photo: Elmbrook Humane Society

Caboose

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Young Writers & Reporters



Teachers and other guests learn about Hindu traditions at a Guru Vandana event.

Teachers Honored During Special Hindu Celebration

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

On April 23, 2023, Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS) celebrated Guru Vandana at the local community center. Guru in Sanskrit means the teacher mentor or coach (Gudarkness Ru-remover). Guru means the master, who, with his knowledge, opens the eyes of the students who are blinded by darkness of ignorance. A guru’s duty is to help students gain knowledge and make the best decisions and choices that are good for them. As a practicing Hindu, I was always told to pay respect and honor to teachers. This value is known as a very old tradition all Hindus must follow. As we have teacher appreciation week, HSS decided to organize an event called ‘Guru Vandana’ to felicitate the teachers. HSS invited teachers to honor the hard work they have set towards students for years. About 22 teachers, including principals from different schools in Milwaukee, attended the event. At this event, students performed several activities such as plays on ancient mythological stories that

portrayed having faith in the guru, a special Indian dance called bharatnatyam, musical performances, prayers and chants to their guru. My favorite part was the henna booth, where a few people were applying henna tattoos, the sari booth, where my mom and a few others gave teachers a south Asian style makeover and allowed them to wear different types of beautiful woven fabrics and designs followed by delicious food to reflect Hindu heritage. The displayed posters informed the attendees on the rich Hindu civilization and how it has stood the tests of time. It was a great learning experience to perform as Guru Vishwamitra in a play.

As a youth volunteer at HSS, I hope to move forward with the team to promote activities that improve my leadership skills. I am proud to be a part of the team that believes in kindness, gratitude and respect. I am grateful that I have my mentors, teachers and coaches who have taught me so much I never knew.



Isaaq Yunus poses with his parents after receiving a \$2,000 scholarship check.

Junior Guild’s Essay Contest Winner Announced

By Sarah Wynia-Smith

Each year the Elm Grove Junior Guild hosts a scholarship essay competition for graduating high school seniors living or attending school in the Elmbrook School District. This year a record-breaking 39 applicants submitted essays. Out of those applicants, **Isaaq Yunus** stood out; he was awarded a \$2000 scholarship for his winning essay. Following graduation from Brookfield Central High School, Isaaq will be attending Marquette University. The scholarship application requested that students do the following:

“Describe a family, social, or school obstacle in which your leadership made the difference. How will what you accomplished in that situation impact your role in a community moving forward?”

Isaaq’s Essay:

As the older brother of a younger sister with autism, I have always felt a special sense of responsibility for her wellbeing. So when my sister Deenah expressed her nervousness about starting her new year of high school, I knew that it was up to me to be her advocate and support system. Despite my own nervousness about the new school year, I put aside my own concerns and focused on helping my sister navigate the obstacles that lay ahead.

Deenah and I have always been close. We are the middle children in line of four, and I’m just 15 months older than her. Deenah’s autism affects her speech, comprehension, and social skills, making it difficult for her to interact with her peers and communicate her needs effectively. As a result, she often becomes overwhelmed and anxious in new situations, such as starting a new school year. But I knew that with my guidance and support, she could overcome these obstacles and thrive.

Throughout the school year, I collaborated with Deenah’s teachers and extracurricular supervisors to ensure that she had the resources she needed to succeed academically and socially. I attended parent-teacher conferences, met with our vice principal, and advocated for accommodations and support services that would help her feel more comfortable and confident in the classroom. Although I am just a year older than Deenah, I felt as though I was a parent figure to her.

But perhaps most importantly, I was there for Deenah as a friend and confidant. I listened to her concerns, offered advice and encouragement, and reminded her that she was capable of achieving great things. When she became overwhelmed or upset, I used our secret phrase - “You’ll be alright! There, there!” - repeating lines from Big Hero 6, a movie among the narrow selection of films that she and I had watched countless times together, to help her calm down and regain her composure.

Through my leadership and support, I helped my sister overcome the obstacles that she faced during her first year of high school. She made new friends, participated in extracurricular activities, and achieved extremely honorable grades. Seeing her succeed was one of the proudest moments of my life, and it has had a profound impact on my role in the community moving forward.

Moving forward, I know that I will continue to be a leader and advocate for individuals with disabilities, both within my own family and in the wider community. My experiences with my sister have taught me the importance of patience, understanding, and empathy, and have shown me that with the right support and resources, individuals with disabilities can achieve great things.

As I approach adulthood, I continue to reflect on my relationship with Deenah. While her daily struggle with autism can be overwhelming for our family, our relationship has taught me to seek out the good in people and also made me more patient, understanding, and quick to forgive. It has also influenced the way I think about the future. Deenah is a part of my identity. As her best friend, I am likely (and happily) going to be her caretaker one day. So I think about my future successes and failures as impacting not just myself, but also Deenah. While this puts pressure on me to be successful enough to support both of us, it mainly motivates me to be the best possible version of myself.

In short, my experiences with my sister Deenah have taught me the true meaning of leadership and the importance of advocating for those who face obstacles in their lives. Through my support and guidance, I helped my sister overcome the challenges she faced during her freshman year of high school, and saw firsthand the impact that leadership can have on a community. Moving forward, I am committed to using my skills and knowledge to make a positive impact in the lives of others, and to be an advocate and ally for those who need it most.

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Young Writers & Reporters

You Can Change the World

By Emma Hintz, 2nd Grade – Tonawanda

No matter how tall
No matter how small
We are all different in size
We are all different in shape
So, it doesn't mean you are stronger
when you are taller
So, it doesn't mean you are weaker
when you are smaller
It doesn't mean you don't have a big heart
if you are smaller than everyone else
So, it doesn't matter how tall you are
or how small you are
you can still change the World

The Princess and the Orange

By Samia Macar
3rd Grade – Tonawanda

Once upon a time on a dark and gloomy night a girl knocked on the door of the palace in the kingdom. The Queen opened the door and said, “Hi, do you want to come in?”

“Yes! Please,” said the girl so she walked right in. When the girl came inside, she saw the king. The king whispered to the Queen, “How dare you let in a poor person in here!” “Maybe she’s not poor, you don’t know!” responded the Queen angrily!

“Ok, well I will tell the maid to put an orange under her 20 mattresses” said the king, “and if she feels it, we well know that she is a princess!”

So, the maid put an orange underneath her 20 mattresses. The next day the Queen asked her how she slept.

“I slept horribly, there was a big lump,” said the girl. The Queen was right; she was indeed a princess. The prince married that girl and they lived happily ever after.



The Three Little Penguins

By Kiera Maio, 3rd Grade - Tonawanda

Once upon a time three little penguins lived in their igloos in Antarctica. The youngest penguin built his igloo out of fluffy snow. The middle penguin built his igloo out of packing snow. The oldest penguin built her igloo out of ice-covered snow.

One day a mean polar bear came looking for snow for his castle and he came across the youngest penguin’s igloo and said “Little penguin, let me use your snow for my castle!” “No, no, no not by the feathers on my two front fins!” said the penguin. “Then I’ll swat and I’ll dig your house in!” said the bear. So, the little penguin ran to his brother’s igloo.

The next day the polar bear came looking for more snow to build his castle. He eventually came to the middle penguin’s igloo and said, “Little penguin, let me use your snow for my castle!” “No, no ,no not by the feathers on my two front fins!” said the penguin. “Then I’ll swat and I’ll dig your house in!” So the two little penguins ran to their sisters igloo.

The third day the polar bear came to the oldest penguin’s igloo and said, “Little penguin let me use your snow for my castle!”

“No, no, no, not by the feathers on my two front fins” said the penguin. “Then I’ll swat and I’ll dig your house in...” said the polar bear.

BUT, he couldn’t because the oldest penguin was very smart and she had a protective layer of ice on her igloo. This made it so no one could break it! All day the polar bear was trying to break the igloo and when it got dark, he went home and he never came back. They lived happily ever after.

The Three Little Guinea Pigs

By Coco Klement, 3rd Grade – Tonawanda

Once upon a time there were three little guinea pigs. They all lived in Elm Grove Park. The first guinea pig’s house was made of hay. The second guinea pig lived in a house made of sticks. The last guinea pig’s house was made of bricks.

One sunny morning the guinea pigs were having a nice day in their houses until the big bad capybara was in town AND he was HUNGRY. When the capybara saw the guinea pigs, he ran to Elm Grove Park! He went to the first guinea pig’s house and he, HUFFED AND PUFFED and blew down the house! That little guinea pig ran to the second guinea pig’s house to stay safe! The capybara followed and HUFFED AND PUFFED and blew that house down too! So, the two guinea pigs ran to the third guinea pig’s house to stay safe. When all of the guinea pigs were at the big brick house, they boiled some water and put it in the fireplace. Meanwhile, the capybara was climbing up the chimney. He slid down the chimney and landed right in the boiling pot of water! The guinea pigs enjoyed a capybara feast and they all lived happily ever after.

The Three Gilly Dogs Ruff

By Sophia Hogan
3rd Grade - Tonawanda

Once upon a time there was a dog park with lots of dogs. In it there was a beautiful creek with a floral bridge that the dogs could run on. One day three dogs named Lily, Billy and Milly went to the dog park to play. One hour later Lilly said, “I’m tired, let’s go home.” Race you!” said Milly!

Milly won and got to the creek first. Waiting there for her was Tricksy, the meanest, sassiest dog in the whole park! “Who’s that yip yappin’ in my park?” bared Tricksy. “It ...It’s me, the littlest Gilly dog,” Milly said, full of fear.

“I’m going to hurt you!” said Tricksy. “But why? I’m so little, Bbbbbb- but if you wait Mmm-y Older sister will be coming!” Milly muttered. So, Tricksy waited and waited until Lilly arrived.

“Who’s that yip yappin’ in my park?” asked Tricksy. “It’s me the Middle Gilly Dog,” said Lilly. “I’m going to hurt you!” said Tricksy. “Ok, But my older and bigger brother will be coming. It would be a shame to miss out.” said Lilly. So, Tricksy still waited for Billy to arrive.

“Who’s that yip ya,” yelled Tricksy. “Billy let’s go!” said the 3 dogs’ owner Michelle. So, Billy went on with a grin. “No” barked Tricksy, “You fouled me!”

The Three Gilly dogs went to a bigger and better park. Tricksy was never heard from again. The three Gilly Dogs Lived Happily Ever After!

Three Little Bunnies

By Stefan Pagoulatos and Zac Boldt
3rd Grade - Tonawanda

Once upon a time there were three little bunnies who all lived in different burrows, they all lived in Brookfield, Wisconsin. One lived under a shady tree, another one lived under a cliff, the last one lived in a cave.

The first little bunny’s burrow was made of dirt. The second little bunny’s burrow was made out of sticks. And the third little bunny’s burrow was made of rock.

The bunnies were all happy until a bear attacked the first bunny burrow. The bear ate the first bunny but he was still hungry so he looked around and saw the second burrow. He tried to eat that bunny but he couldn’t. It got late so the bear went home and slept. When the bear woke up, he felt hungry so he went hunting for food near a cave. He found a burrow so he tried to get in. This bunny was really smart and led the bear to the cliff. The bear fell off the cliff and the rest of the bunnies lived happily ever after.

Mousella

By Willow Sanderson
3rd Grade - Tonawanda

Once upon a time four mice lived in an old barn. Mother mouse got invited to a ball. She said to her favorite little mice, “You can surely go! But you, Mousella, are **WAY TO UGLY** and you **CAN’T GO!** Now, go help make your sisters’ dresses!”

Soon Mother said, “Come on girls, let’s go!” Mousella was left in tears! **POW!** A fairy appeared and she said to Mousella, “Go to the ball my darling!”

Mousella said, “Not in this rag!” So, the fairy said, “Look at your dress--- it is now big and blue! This will last till midnight.”

So, Mousella went to the ball. The prince asked her to dance. Mousella was not paying attention to the clock! When she looked at the clock, it was.... MIDNIGHT!!!!!! So, she started to run out of the ball, but she dropped her glove. The prince grabbed it and shouted, “Find that girl!” The knights tried to search in every barn in the kingdom but they had NO LUCK! The last barn they found was Mousella’s barn. When the knight tried the glove on Mousella. . . .it ... FIT!!! . . . and they lived happily ever after.



The Three Little Bunnies

By Anna Peterson
3rd Grade - Tonawanda

Once upon a time there were three Bunnies. Ted, Bob, and the smartest of all Katie. They lived in a neighborhood. Their Mom could not take care of them. So, she left them on their own to make their own homes.

First Ted made his home in a front yard. But Ted got eaten up by a stray dog! Bob saw what happened to Ted so he tried to find a better home. Bob made his home in a kids’ playhouse. That same dog ate him up, too! Katie, the smartest of all, had a great plan! She waited until someone wanted a bunny. A girl saw Katie and thought she was her pet bunny! Katie was not her pet, but the girl put Katie in a cage anyway.

When the stray dog came back, he was determined to eat Katie but he couldn’t. She was safe in the cage. So, Katie lived happily ever after. Hope you enjoyed my book.

Sadie and the Sunflower

By Dani Metz, 3rd Grade – Tonawanda

Once upon a time there was a girl named Sadie. She lived with her mom in Brookfield. Sadie and her mom were poor. So, her mom sent her to get food. But they did not have enough money. So, she sold her cow for 5 seeds. She showed her mom the seeds and her Mom was so mad she threw them outside. Sadie went to bed crying.

The next day she saw a giant sunflower out the window. She went outside and climbed it. She saw a huge castle with a giant outside of it. The nice giant told her to come with her. The mean giant started to come at her, so the nice giant told her to hide. The giant found her and slipped and fell down the giant sunflower. Sadie lived happily ever.

WANTED!

Young Writers & Reporters

Students in grades K-12 are invited to submit items for possible publication in an upcoming edition.

INTERVIEWS & REPORTING

About Family, Friends, Neighbors, School, Clubs, Church, Scouting, Community Service Projects, Traveling, Hobbies, etc.

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*** 250 words maximum ***

Email submissions as Word files to:
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(Note the writer’s name, school/homeschool & grade.)

Lemonade Stand

By Gus Kolbe, 5th grade - Tonawanda

Since I was little, I have always loved business. I don’t know what about it is so great, I guess it’s just the sensation of success you feel when someone buys something from you. I have a funny story I remember too when I first moved here to Milwaukee. It was a little over a year that we had been here and I remember how badly I wanted to start a lemonade stand. So, my dad being the amazing dad he built a lemonade stand with a little bit of me and my siblings’ help. I started selling it with my siblings and I remember the shock when somebody gave us a twenty-dollar bill for a \$1.00 glass of lemonade and told us to keep the change. That day I made around fifty dollars, which is an amount a 7-year-old could not handle.

I still do lemonade stands to this day, and I think it is an amazing opportunity to show me entrepreneurship, and share a bond with my siblings, and meet more of the Elm Grove community.



Letters to the Editor

News Briefs

• Letters regarding issues of concern to the Elm Grove / Elmbrook / Waukesha County community will be considered for publication on a space available basis.

• Submissions (**about 200 words**) must include the writer’s name, community & phone #.

• Mail to: EGNU, P.O. Box 372, Elm Grove, WI 53122-0372.

• E-mail: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com (Subject line: Letters to the Editor)

O’Donoghue Deserves Thanks for Donations

(I’m writing) to tell you how impressed I was with **Jamie O’Donoghue**, owner of O’Donoghue’s Pub --- to tell you of his generosity.

I feel he and his friends and their fundraising on Memorial Day (for local Veterans groups) deserve a shout out.

On that day at his big outdoors Gala all of his profits were donated to that cause. Hugh amount.

I feel when people are so decent, good and kind it should be recognized.

Trudy K. Brell
Brookfield



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Legal Issues

Always Buy Title Insurance

By **Elisa M. Ruer, Attorney**, Praktess LLC / 262.269.9140 / eruer@praktesslaw.com

I always advise my clients to order title insurance when they are purchasing a piece of real estate and paying cash. When you purchase real estate and you are using a Lender, the Lender will require that an Owners Policy is purchased by the Seller, and a Loan Policy is purchased by the Buyer. When you are paying cash, there is no Lender so no one is requiring title insurance.

I recently had a client that called me to draft an offer for a house he was buying from a friend for \$42K cash. He said the Seller wouldn’t pay for title insurance, and my client didn’t want to pay for either. My client said they were friends, and he was not concerned about any liens or issues with the property. I told him if the Seller wouldn’t pay for the Owners Policy he should; he refused. After drafting the Offer, I pulled the most recent tax bill just to confirm the property address, etc.; the property tax bill showed delinquent taxes. I provided the information to my client, who said not to worry, the Seller would pay

the delinquent taxes before the Closing. I again told him he should order an Owners Title Policy; and he again told me was not interested in spending the money.

Fast forward to January and the City of Milwaukee took the property back IN REM JUDGMENT; back taxes and other city fees. Our firm attended the hearing requesting Vacated Judgment; we prevailed and the property reverted to my client. However, in order for that to happen, my client had to pay over \$10K in past due city taxes and city fees. The Seller is not issuing payment to reimburse my client, so now we have to sue for breach of the Purchase Contract. As all attorneys know, suing is just the beginning, because even once a judgment is awarded and docketed, you then have to begin collection efforts. All to save about \$500.00 for the Owners Policy. Always order an Owners Policy, even if you as the Buyer have to pay for it. Well worth the money.

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UW-Madison Student Receives Accounting Scholarship

(WAUKESHA) **Nisha Desai**, a Brookfield resident and UW-Madison student has received a Roger Buchholz Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$2,500, awarded by the Wisconsin Institute of Certified Public Accountants (WICPA) Educational Foundation Inc.

The scholarship is in honor of **Roger**

Buchholz, a deceased member of the Milwaukee chapter of the Financial Executives Institute and WICPA, who was tragically killed in a drive-by shooting.

Fourteen accounting students received scholarships based on academic achievement, community service, personal statements and recommendation letters.

Ways to Help

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*Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin

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1 (877) 232-4376
or visit: versiti.org/Wisconsin.



Food Banks / Pantries

* Food Pantry of Waukesha County

1301 Sentry Dr., Waukesha 53186
www.waukeshafoodpantry.org/donate/
(262) 542-5300
Needs donations of food, volunteer time & money.

*New Berlin Food Pantry

14750 W. Cleveland Ave. 53151
(Serves residents of Elm Grove, Brookfield & New Berlin)
(262) 789-8040

*Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin

1700 W. Fond du Lac Ave., Milwaukee
Call (414) 931-7400 for ways to help.
Drop food donations in local store barrels.

*Hunger Task Force

201 S. Hawley Court, Milwaukee
Call (414) 777-0483. Cash donations & volunteers are needed to help build “stockboxes” for seniors and do other work. E-mail:info@hungertaskforce.org.

Make A Paper Hat!

1. Fold Newspaper in Half. (Like it comes.)

2. Fold top down to meet bottom.

3. Fold right and left sides towards the middle to form a point.

4. Open bottom, and fold bottom up on back and front.

5. You may use a piece of elastic to hold the hat in place, if needed.

In Memoriam

Honor the Life
of a beloved
family member or friend.

To place an Obituary Notice in this newspaper,
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News Briefs

‘Miss Carol’ Retires from Elm Grove Preschool

By Jenna

Carol Thomas, or “Miss Carol” as so many of the children of Elm Grove have lovingly called her, retired this June after almost 38 years at Elm Grove Preschool and Child Care.

In 1985, our founder Margaret Weigman hired Mrs. Thomas as a teacher, and she eventually made her way into the office as our Assistant Director. Even after moving into the office, she never stopped going into classrooms and spending time with all of the children! She has touched the lives of hundreds of families in the Elm Grove area over the years and her dedication and loyalty will be sorely missed.

Congratulations,
Miss
Carol!



Photo courtesy: Elm Grove Preschool

Carol Thomas at her retirement party.



Our Village



Photo courtesy: Jane Browne

A man fishes at Elm Grove Village Park on a past 4th of July evening.



Photo by Lisabeth Passalis-Bain / News-Independent

A row of red and pink petunias in colorful pots decorate an Elm Grove porch.

New Brookfield East Associate Principal Appointed

(BROOKFIELD) The School District of Elmbrook’s Board of Education confirmed the Administration’s recommendation of **Paige Lightner** as the new Associate Principal of Brookfield East High School at its regular board meeting on June 13.

“We are so excited to have Paige join our team at Brookfield East,” said Principal **Andy Farley**. “Paige brings a drive and commitment to students that aligns well with our excellent school community and culture.” Prior to Elmbrook, Paige served as a Science Teacher, Professional Development & Curriculum Implementation Leader, and Substitute Associate Principal for Franklin High School. She has worked in education since 2016.

“I am very humbled to have been chosen to join the outstanding administrative team at Brookfield East,” said Lightner. “I look forward to working with Spartan staff, students, and families in pursuit of academic and human excellence.”



Paige Lightner

Students Participate in National Science Bee

(BROOKFIELD) This June, the following eight students from Elmbrook participated in the International Academic Competitions National Science Bee Competition in Washington D.C.:

Elementary (4th Grade & Under): **Rishabh Mathur**, Brookfield Elementary; **Anirudh Sai Muralidharan**, Brookfield Elementary; **Cameron Drees**, Dixon Elementary; **Sanvi Thakur**, Dixon Elementary; **Ananya Vaddi**, Burleigh Elementary; **Saranya Bhagavatula**, Burleigh Elementary; **Aarya Ghuge**, Burleigh Elementary. **5th Grade Level:** Violet Hill, Brookfield Elementary.

After 4 preliminary rounds & quarterfinal

Playoffs, Anirudh was among the top 18 semifinalists, and Cameron was one of the quarter-finalists (Round of 48). Both boys were recognized for their playoff achievements in the competition. Apart from Buzzer-based Science Bee competitions, kids also participated in National Championship Written Exams for different science subjects competing with other students at their grade level. For the Grade 4 & Under category, Anirudh Won 1st place in Environmental Science and 3rd place in Earth Science. Other top placements in the national exams included Saranya in 4th place, Anirudh in 5th place, Ananya in 7th place in Biology, and Anirudh in 5th place in the Physical Science exam.

A Furlan Auditorium Production

The logo for Disney's 'The Little Mermaid' is displayed in a stylized font. Below it is a circular illustration of Ariel, the mermaid, sitting on a rock and looking out over the ocean. The background is a deep blue with white waves.

July 13 - August 6, 2023

Book by Doug Wright / Music by Alan Menken
Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Glenn Slater

Based on the Hans Christian Andersen story and the Disney film that was produced by Howard Ashman & John Musker and written & directed by John Musker & Ron Clements.
Presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI), New York

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