



# Elm Grove NEWS-

# INDEPENDENT



Vol. 9 No. 4

Serving Elm Grove, Wisconsin & Neighboring Communities

June 2021

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



## Birdathon to be Held June 6<sup>th</sup>

Join our “Elm Grove High Flyers” team!  
By Karen Lloyd

Our local bird enthusiasts are organizing a team to compete in the upcoming Great Wisconsin Birdathon on Sunday, June 6! This program is intended to raise support and awareness for birds in Wisconsin. Participation/donations can be made at [www.wisconservation.org/birdathon](http://www.wisconservation.org/birdathon). Just click “Get Involved” to register and join our team (team name is Elm Grove High Flyers). To make an optional contribution, click “Donate” to send in your chosen dollar amount by credit card or check.

Team participants will meet on Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at Elm Grove Village Park by the bird feeders outside the library entrance at 1 p.m. to take a leisurely walk around the park path, see how many different bird species we can identify and then submit our findings on the “eBird” app sponsored by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. We have a 24-hour period to report bird sightings, so even those who cannot participate in the walk from 1-3 p.m. can submit their input. The best part is that half of the money raised in donations for our team will come back to Elm Grove to support our own community bird conservation efforts. The other half of donations supports the Bird Protection Fund priority projects in Wisconsin.

If you would like to join our Birdathon team, please email **Karen Lloyd** at [knlloyd78@gmail.com](mailto:knlloyd78@gmail.com), or **Nicci Sternitzky**: [EgBeautification@gmail.com](mailto:EgBeautification@gmail.com)

Sign up, grab your binoculars, put on your walking shoes, and come with us for a fun bird-watching walk around the park on June 6!

Read Father’s Day & Summer-themed stories & more  
See *Young Writers & Reporters* – Pages 9 & 10.



Photo by Lisabeth Passalis-Bain / News-Independent

**SPRING HAS ARRIVED!** Brilliant purple and yellow flowers bloom in the front yard of a residence on Watertown Plank Road in Elm Grove.

## Village Restrictions Lifted

At their May 24, 2021 meeting, the Village of Elm Grove’s Board of Trustees voted to re-open group meeting room reservations, as well as attendance at committee meetings held at Village Hall. Capacity limits have also been lifted for pavilion, gazebo and pool reservations. Non-vaccinated individuals are encouraged to wear masks. For further details, visit [www.elmgrovetwi.org](http://www.elmgrovetwi.org), or call the Village at (262) 782-6700.



**Saturday, June 12**  
**Roosevelt Park**  
**Oconomowoc**

**Saturday, June 26**  
**State Fair Park**  
**Milwaukee**

**SolarPlunge.org**

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☀️ FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY  
☀️ ALL FOR A GOOD CAUSE



## Good Neighbor Stories Wanted!

**DO YOU HAVE A  
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or NEIGHBORS?**

Tell us about them in 200 words or less and your Good News might be featured in an upcoming edition.

E-mail your story +  
a photo of your neighbor(s), if available  
to: [elmgrovenews@yahoo.com](mailto:elmgrovenews@yahoo.com)  
(Subject line: Good Neighbors)

or  
Mail it to:  
EGNI “Good Neighbors”,  
P.O. Box 372, Elm Grove, WI 53122.

Questions? E-mail:  
[elmgrovenews@yahoo.com](mailto:elmgrovenews@yahoo.com),  
or call Lisabeth at (262) 782-6193.

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+ all the News there’s room to print!

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# "I Know Where You Live!"



Elisabeth  
Passalis-Bain



TAILGATE  
TRIVIA

Third Thursdays  
In the Parking Lot of  
The Elm Grove Woman's Club

June 17  
July 15  
August 19

\$20/VEHICLE

6PM - Parking Lot &  
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7PM - Trivia

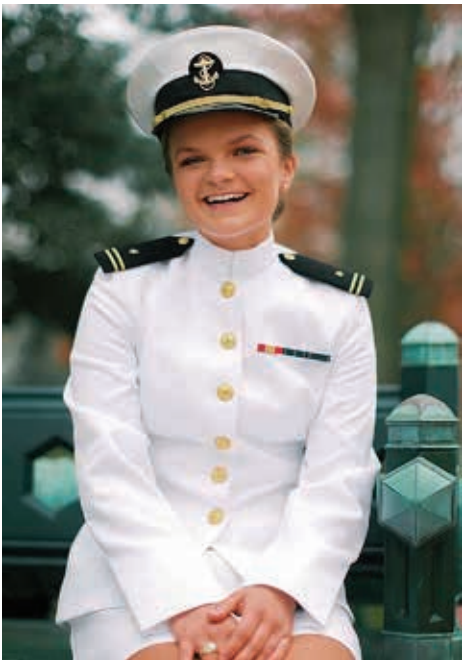
www.egwc.org  
for more information

## Local Woman Graduates from U.S. Naval Academy

Emma Hutchinson, of Brookfield, has successfully completed four years of challenging academic, physical and professional military training, graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in English and a commission as a U.S. Student Naval Aviator. She is a graduate of Divine Savior Holy Angels High School in Milwaukee and was accepted to the Academy in 2017, earning a nomination from U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI).

At the academy Hutchinson was a member of the USNA cycling team as well as the rowing team and won the inaugural Richard Collins Writing Prize for Young Pilots in 2019 for a story entitled, "The Old Man in the Plane", about her grandfather.

(See Emma – Page 3)



Emma Hutchinson

## Remember Our Veterans



Curtis N. Jeffries

Served as a Seaman with the US Navy on the USS Constellation CVA-64 during the Vietnam War (1963-1970). Served in the Gulf of Tonkin, Vietnam, and the Philippines.



Joseph C. Francken, Jr.

Served as a PFC in World War II, in the European Theater under General Patton with the 217th anti-aircraft artillery battalion (1943-1945). Received 5 battle stars for participation in Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Central Europe, and the Ardennes.

## "Cruisin' the Grove"

Continues on August 1<sup>st</sup> 2021

### Elm Grove Golden K Presents the 2021 Classic Car Show

The Elm Grove Golden K Kiwanis Club announced that the club will present the 2021 "Cruisin' the Grove" classic car show. The show, previously presented by Woller-Anger and Company, LLC, will follow a similar format. "We hope to again attract over 300 classic cars." A Raffle will be conducted and will feature cash prizes. Sponsorships and supporterships are being solicited. Donations are always accepted. The event will start with car and cycle registration beginning at 8:00 a.m. The show will be open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Watertown Plank Road will again be closed between Juneau Blvd. and Legion Drive to accommodate the classic beauties that will be on display. Food and beverages will be available from The Silver Spur and O'Donoghue's Irish Pub." Join us for some pandemic relief!!!

Proceeds from the car show will continue the Kiwanis mission of supporting children throughout the world. In our area the Elm Grove Golden K Kiwanis Club financially supports many children related missions. For 2021 Camperships at Camp Wawbeek are being featured. The Camperships are for disabled kids that enable them to "go to camp during the summer" at a place where facilities match their physical needs. Visit the Golden K website to learn about other sponsored activities for kids.

"Cruisin' the Grove", August 1<sup>st</sup>, Be There!!!

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enter to win a local goodie basket!

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262-894-1520



# Village Update

By Neil Palmer, President – Village of Elm Grove    [npalmer@elmgrovewi.org](mailto:npalmer@elmgrovewi.org)

May was a busy month for Village Board members with three special meetings needed to address specific issues in addition to the regular monthly meeting

The Board has approved an agreement with **Third Space Brewing to operate a Beer Garden** beginning on Friday, June 4 until the end of October. The Beer Garden can operate on Fridays from 4:00 until 9:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 3:00 until 9:00 p.m. The Beer Garden can also operate on evenings when Tunes on Tuesday music events are held.

**Two Special Village Board meetings were held to address developments in the “Mandamus” litigation** brought by residents **Michael Rohr, Marc McSorley** and **Jan Termuehlen** seeking to have a court order the Village to either adopt an ordinance requiring a referendum election prior to the letting of a public works contract costing a capital expenditure of \$1 million or more or to hold a referendum asking residents if they want such an ordinance.

**The Rohr, McSorley and Termuehlen litigation** follows a 2020 petition effort under the Wisconsin “Direct Legislation” law which created a process where residents can petition to have a local government adopt an ordinance described in the petition or to hold a referendum on the proposed ordinance. Village Board members described the proposed ordinance of the petition circulated as unworkable and likely illegal under tests established by the Wisconsin Supreme Court for a valid petition created ordinance. As written the petition language could require multiple referendums for a single “project” or make projects more expensive by requiring fixed costs before final engineering is available. Also, since project costs can and do change after a project starts, what happens



if a project estimated to cost less than \$1 million is found to exceed \$1 million? Do you stop work and wait until the next election to hold a referendum? Typically, project work or material bids have time line limits; could project be forced to begin the entire process from square one?

I hope that the legal dispute can be ended soon.

At a **Special Board meeting held on May 26<sup>th</sup> the Village Board** voted unanimously to neither hold a referendum on the petition language nor to adopt the proposed ordinance. Board members detailed specific problems the petition proposed language would create and specific legal conflicts of the petition proposed ordinance and existing state law.

**As Village President I agree** with all the technical, practical and legal reasons to oppose the petition ordinance. Direct legislation may be legal when conducted properly, but this effort is an insult to all the volunteers who sit on Village Committee and Boards. Elm Grove has a reputation

for transparent government which has never spent money frivolously. This effort was undertaken to try to frustrate and block possible redevelopment of the School Sisters of Notre Dame campus, as admitted by some of the candidates in our recent Board election, not because of Village financial management. Would the petition creators or the litigants continue the lawsuits if there was no SSND redevelopment proposal? The Village Splash Pad project ended costing more than \$1 million. A number of the pathways currently under consideration have estimates over \$1 million. Should referendums be held all such efforts? Fire trucks can cost more than \$1 million.

A good sign that summer will soon arrive is the Village Board Recreation Committee discussions of plans and schedules to open the swimming pool and for the **grand opening of the new Splash Pad** on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Plans for the **Village July 4<sup>th</sup> Independence Day celebration** are moving forward. There will be a Fun Run, Children’s Bike Decorating contest, games in the park, food and fireworks. Thank you in advance to Junior Guild members who help make all this happen.

**The Village Board has ended Village Hall and Park Covid restrictions.** Masks are not required in Village buildings but are encouraged for those who have not been vaccinated or have other special medical concerns.

Finally, at the regular Village Board meeting this month the **Board agreed to begin digitally recording all** Village meetings for later viewing. Access to recorded meetings will soon be available on the Village website.

# News Briefs

## Elmbrook Education Foundation to Hold Elmbrook Golf Open

(BROOKFIELD) Grab a friend and join us for a great day on the course while raising funds for the EEF and LAUNCH! The 7th Annual EEF Golf Open, sponsored by The Offsite Collaboration Center, begins at 9:30am on Tuesday, June 15th at Ironwood Golf Course. Lunch provided by Maxie’s and Dinner by Jake’s. Ball Toss, Putting Contest, Silent Auction and more! This year, funds raised will support Elmbrook Education Foundation initiatives along with The LAUNCH Program.

The focus of the LAUNCH program is to help fund the experiences that are generated within the program. This request supports guest speakers, the learning space, equipment, technology, and supplies for student’s projects. Funding LAUNCH, a program that has grown from 70 students to nearly 500, will help create opportunities for students to expand their profession-based learning, and provide an incentive to make and create for our community. We are looking for sponsors, silent auction items, and golfers!

Questions or ideas, contact **Becky Reinhardt**, [rreinhardt@northshorebank.com](mailto:rreinhardt@northshorebank.com)  
Register: <https://EEFGO21.givesmart.com>.

## Waukesha County Opens Beach Swim Season

(WAUKESHA) – Waukesha County Parks beach swimming season opened with Swim at Your Own Risk (SAYOR) hours at six beach locations on Friday, May 28. Lifeguard On Duty hours will begin with staggered starts at Fox Brook and Menomonee Parks in June.

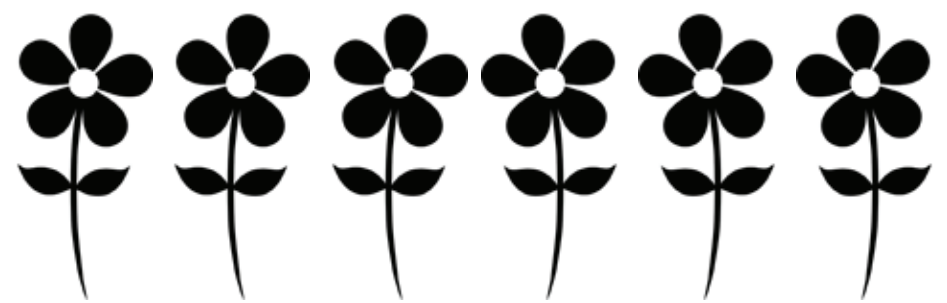
“We are excited for the warmer weather and beach openings,” said County Executive **Paul Farrow**. “Swimming at the park beaches is always popular activity for our community, and I encourage families to come out and enjoy the summer.”

All six Waukesha County Park System beaches will offer Swim at Your Own Risk (SAYOR) hours through Labor Day, September 6, as weather and water conditions allow. Lifeguard On Duty hours will be available at Fox Brook and Menomonee Parks during set times.

## Waukesha County Parks Beaches:

- **Fox Brook Park**,  
2925 N. Barker Road, Brookfield  
(Lifeguard On Duty Hours begin June 5)
- **Menomonee Park**, W220 N7884  
Townline Road, Menomonee Falls  
(Lifeguard On Duty Hours begin June 11)
- **Minooka Park**,  
1927 E. Sunset Drive, Waukesha
- **Mukwonago Park**,  
S100 W31900 C.T.H. LO, Mukwonago
- **Muskego Park**,  
S83 W20370 Janesville Road, Muskego
- **Naga-Waukee Park**,  
651 S.T.H 83, Hartland

For a complete beach hours schedule, see [www.waukeshacounty.gov/swimming](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov/swimming).



# 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.

[kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com](mailto:kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com)  
[www.kiwaniselmgrove.org](http://www.kiwaniselmgrove.org)

### Elmbrook Rotary



#### People of Action

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

Fridays – 7:00 a.m.

[www.elmbrookrotary.org](http://www.elmbrookrotary.org)

*Join us to make a difference in the world!*

## \* Insurance

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## Emma (Continued from Page 2)

According to her sister, Anna, “Emma always dreamed of being a pilot. From a young age, she longed for the skies. Her grandfather **Ronald Hutchinson** was a personal pilot, often bringing Emma and her siblings on trips. When asked as a child what she wanted to be when she grew up, she said that her dream job was a pilot ballerina.”

At the age of 18, Emma earned her private pilot’s license after years of training with her grandfather, who passed away in a tragic plane accident in August of 2015.

Emma is the second oldest of five children and believes her family to be her greatest support and motivation. Her family, father **Patrick**, mother **Stephanie**, and siblings **Abby, Anna, Catherine, Sean**, plus **Jake** the dog all feel tremendous pride in her and look forward to her future success.

Emma desires to fly helicopters for the Marine Corps, a goal of which she knows her grandfather would be proud.

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# Our History: Remembrances of Things Past

## Care for Sick and Aging Sisters

By Michele Levandoski / [mlevandoski@ssnd.org](mailto:mlevandoski@ssnd.org)  
Archivist, School Sisters of Notre Dame North American Archives

By 1950, it was clear that the School Sisters of Notre Dame’s Milwaukee Motherhouse needed major renovations. The oldest sections of the building were over a hundred years old, there was evidence of structural deterioration and it was considered a fire hazard. The sheer size of the building meant that needed repairs would be costly, so the Sisters decided to build a new motherhouse in Mequon. The plans for the new facility did not include an infirmary in order to comply with local zoning laws that prohibited institutional dwellings, such as hospitals. The Sisters still needed a place to care for sick and infirm Sisters and once again, the property at Elm Grove provided the solution.

In 1957, construction started on Notre Dame Infirmary (NDI), a medical wing added to the existing psychiatric building (built 1955). The new facility included rooms for 100 patients as well as space for occupational and physical therapy departments. At the same time, the chapel was enlarged and reconfigured in a way that allowed sisters to enter from either wing.

In October 1958, preparations began for the opening of the new infirmary. Beds were purchased from Army surplus and an auto body painter was hired to bring his compressor to NDI to paint all the bed frames. Sisters made drapes for every room in the building and members of the Dad’s Club, made up of men who had daughters in the congregation, assisted by moving furniture and equipment from the Milwaukee Motherhouse to NDI.

In February 1959, the first group of sisters prepared to leave the Motherhouse infirmary for their new home at NDI. The Junior Sisters and Postulants gave them a “hearty send-off in song” and the nurses were sent ahead to serve as a welcoming committee. Four Red Cross ambulances were used to move the bed-bound patients and members of the Dad’s Club transported the wheelchair and ambulatory patients.

When NDI opened, it was staffed exclusively by Sisters, who were well educated in their respected fields. **Sister**

**Theophone Mandragos** was already a licensed physical therapist when she entered the congregation. She started a “traveling therapy” department at the old Motherhouse, which consisted of home-made equipment that she carried from room to room. She opened the NDI physical therapy department with second-hand and hand-made equipment. The Dad’s Club took up the project and set out to raise the \$50,000 needed to purchase all new equipment.

In 1963, **Sister Lucille Heidenreich** opened the music therapy department, where she developed an exercise program using hula hoops that was later used in lay nursing homes. In 1964, **Sister Sara Jean Donegan** and **Sister Immacula List** graduated from the Marquette School of Dentistry and opened the dental clinic. Two years later, **Sister Catherine Patrice Droszcz** became a board-certified pharmacist and the campus pharmacy was established.

In 1970, the facility’s name was changed to the Notre Dame Health Care Center (NDHCC). Throughout the 1970s, the number of Sisters on staff gradually decreased and were replaced by lay nurses and aides. In the early 1990s, many of the buildings needed repairs and leadership created plans for a major renovation project. At that time, the decision was made to transfer Sisters in need of skilled nursing care to licensed facilities and convert the skilled nursing area to space for an assisted living facility.

In 1996, the three-year, \$14 million renovation was completed. A new dining facility was added onto Theresa Hall, St. Joseph’s chapel was converted into the Heritage Room and bedrooms were enlarged and rearranged in groups around a community room and kitchenette.

Notre Dame of Elm Grove (NDEG) has long served as a place of rest and care for sisters living with medical and psychological issues. The history of NDEG shows that the SSND made caring for sick and elderly sisters a priority.



A sister in traditional habit leaves the Motherhouse in route to her new home at the Notre Dame Infirmary.



Sisters take part in occupational therapy projects at Notre Dame of Elm Grove.



Music therapy participants at Notre Dame of Elm Grove

*“A small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history.”*

--- Mohandas Gandhi

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Reflection

A Farm Girl Searches for God’s Way in Her Life

By Sister Mary Delbert Weisensel, SSND

I graduated from St. Mary’s Academy, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin in 1954. During my formation training to become a School Sister of Notre Dame, I earned my bachelor of arts from Mount Mary College (now University), Milwaukee. While teaching in Wisconsin, I studied for a master’s degree as a reading specialist and school administrator at Clarke University, Dubuque, Iowa.

My teaching experiences included grades one, two, three, seven, eight and substitution in all situations needed in grades K- 8 and high school, which offered growing challenges. My resume

also includes: Assistant Principal and Principal in elementary schools; Assistant Principal and Principal in high schools; Child Care and Pre-School Director; Auditor and Advocate in a Marriage Tribunal; Provincial Councilor, Resource Development Sister Representative; and, giving service in retirement.

In answering God’s way, I have lived in community in Wisconsin, Illinois, Arizona and Texas. God’s way has involved me being called and being sent to minister in places I never dreamed of as a farm girl.



# Calendar of Events – June 2021

## Friday – JUNE 4

• **Elmbrook Rotary Club**  
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Zoom Online  
Program: Club Business Meeting,  
“Internal Rotary Communications”  
Contact: markzalewski8803@gmail.com  
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>

## Friday – JUNE 11

• **Elmbrook Rotary Club**  
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Zoom Online  
Program: Thomas Beaumont, “The  
Associated Press”  
Contact: markzalewski8803@gmail.com  
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>

• **Friday Flicks**  
at Elm Grove Village Park, 8:30 p.m.,  
featuring “The Lion King”. FREE.

## Monday – JUNE 14 FLAG DAY



## Tuesday – JUNE 15

• **Elm Grove Building Board**  
Meeting: 5:30 p.m. at Village Hall  
Agenda: [www.elmgrovewi.org](http://www.elmgrovewi.org)

• **Tunes on Tuesday**  
at Elm Grove Village Park, 6:30 p.m.,  
featuring Andrea & The Mods. FREE.

## Friday – JUNE 18

• **Elmbrook Rotary Club**  
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Zoom Online  
Program: Eduardo M. Garza, Jr.,  
“Center for Veterans Issues”  
Contact: markzalewski8803@gmail.com  
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>

## Sunday – JUNE 20 FATHER’S DAY & FIRST DAY of SUMMER



## Friday – JUNE 25

• **Elmbrook Rotary Club**  
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Zoom Online  
Program: Jason Korb, “Mass Timber  
Architecture”  
Contact: markzalewski8803@gmail.com  
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>

• **Friday Flicks**  
at Elm Grove Village Park, 8:30 p.m.,  
featuring “Trolls World Tour”.

## Monday – JUNE 28

• **Elm Grove Board of Trustees**  
Meeting: 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall  
Court  
Room. Agenda: [www.elmgrovewi.org](http://www.elmgrovewi.org).  
Watch online at  
[www.elmgrovewi.org/656/live-stream](http://www.elmgrovewi.org/656/live-stream)

### Village Recycling Center / Yard Waste Facility

900 Wall Street, Elm Grove

for Village residents only

No contractors, contractors’ equipment or vehicles will be allowed in the facility.

----- OPEN -----

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

Questions: Call the Village at (262) 782-6700

## Tuesday – JUNE 29

• **Tunes on Tuesday**  
at Elm Grove Village Park,  
6:30 p.m., featuring Ryan  
McIntyre. FREE.



## Wednesday – JUNE 30

• **Elm Grove Plan Commission**  
Meeting: 6 p.m. at Village Hall.  
Agenda: [www.elmgrovewi.org](http://www.elmgrovewi.org)

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## News’ Hounds & other beloved creatures

### Adopt a Pet at the Elmbrook Humane Society

By Heather Gehrke

**Benji** is an all-around wonderful dog! If you have been in search of an affectionate, fun, smart dog, Benji may be your guy! If Benji could sit in your lap all day, he would! He is a sweet, super loving fella who also enjoys giving kisses if you do not mind. He is also polite and walks so well on leash. He loves hanging out with his dog friends so certainly would not mind a canine step-brother or sister.

If you would like to learn more about Benji call 262-782-9261 or if you would like to meet him, please complete an adoption application at <https://ebhs.org/dogs>.



Photo Courtesy Elmbrook Humane Society

BENJI

OLDER | WISER | LIVELIER | SENIORS

OWLS, a senior ministry of Community Church, Elm Grove, welcomes you to attend any or all of the following meetings and activities this year:

July 15	11:30 AM - Sheraton Hotel, Brookfield Program: “American Ginseng 101” Presented by Hsu’s Ginseng Enterprises, Wausau, WI
Aug 19	Trip – Oshkosh, WI Experimental Aircraft Assoc. & Paine Art Center Lunch: Mahoney’s Grill
Sept 16	Trip – Sheboygan, WI John Michael Kohler Arts Center & Kohler Art Preserve Lunch: Beacon Restaurant at the Blue Harbor Resort
Oct 21	Trip – “Mystery”
Nov 18	11:30 AM – Community Church Program: “Mittens on the Tree” Jessica Michna
Dec 9	11:00 AM - Westmoor CC, Holiday Luncheon Program: “Milwaukee Damenthor”

The mission of OWLS is to provide a setting for fellowship, learning, and entertainment for those who are retired or semi-retired. We are now in our 17<sup>th</sup> year, with over 150 members from 30 different communities.

Member prices for meetings/trips are lower than guest prices AND membership is **FREE** for the balance of 2021. For details of the upcoming events and downloadable reservation and membership forms please visit the Seniors page at the following address:

<https://www.cumceg.org/index.php/get-involved/seniors>.

**Community United Methodist Church**  
14700 Watertown Plank Rd, Elm Grove, WI. | 262-782-4060



# News Briefs



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

Student artists from Brookfield East High School, Brookfield Central High School, and Brookfield Academy gather on the east steps of the Elm Grove Woman’s Club on May 15 to await the presentation of Art Scholarship awards.

## Woman’s Club Announces Art Scholarship Winners

By Lisabeth Passalis-Bain, [elmgrovenews@yahoo.com](mailto:elmgrovenews@yahoo.com)

Local art enthusiasts gathered at the Elm Grove Woman’s Club (EGWC), 13885 Watertown Plank Rd., on the afternoon of May 15<sup>th</sup> to browse this year’s Springtime in the Grove event, held, due to Covid-19 social distancing concerns, in the club’s parking lot, and to also view indoors the artwork of 35 area high school students, as part of the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Art Scholarship Competition.

Selected as the recipient of the EGWC’s \$2,000 scholarship was **Grace Schulz**, a senior at Brookfield East, for her graphite and charcoal, “Black and White Portrait”.

**Katya Shalyaev**, of Brookfield Academy, was the winner of a \$500 art grant, for students in grades 9-11, for her

painting, “Bubblegum Machine”.

A special “People’s Choice” award of \$300, sponsored by club member **Melissa Musante** and voted on by those in attendance, went to Brookfield Academy student **Jacqueline Dieck** for her acrylic painting (done entirely with a palette knife) entitled “The 3 Masked Girls”.

The award winners’ schools will each receive a \$250 School Supply Grant to be used for classroom art supplies.

**Janet Day and Sue Mayhew** served as co-chairs of the event, and noted that a percentage of the proceeds will help fund a new and much-needed handicap-access ramp at the Woman’s Club.



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

“Black and White Portrait”  
by Grace Schulz



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

Katya Shalyaev with her painting, “Bubblegum Machine”.



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

Jacqueline Dieck with her acrylic painting, “The 3 Masked Girls”.

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# News Briefs



Scouts **Leilani Broxton, Charley Honkamp, Grace Gorniak, Emily Spindler, Jane Pancheri, Brooke VanKronkhite, Layla Broxton and Molly Zimmermann** at a tree planting ceremony.

## Girl Scouts Celebrate Achievements, Plant a Tree

(BROOKFIELD) As the 2020-2021 scouting year came to a close, **Natasha Broxton** and **Wende Gorniak** thanked parents and scouts for their participation in the Brookfield Academy Girl Scout troop #10274 activities during a particularly challenging year. The girls did an outstanding job earning badges and petals throughout the year.

The final gathering was held on the afternoon of Monday, May 17, 2021 at Beverly Hills Park Pavilion in Brookfield, located directly behind the lower school of Brookfield Academy.

A very special afternoon was planned for the scouts. The girls decided to use a portion of the money earned from cookie sales to help make the world a better place. Their goal was to improve our community and environment by conducting a park clean up and by planting a tree. The Daisy Scouts earned the Rosie Petal. The

Junior Scouts completed the groundwork for a Bronze Award to improve the environment.

The tree was planted in collaboration with the City of Brookfield Memorial Tree Program in honor of the girls’ community improvement efforts and was registered in the log at the Mayor’s Office. The Hackberry tree, indigenous to Wisconsin, was planted behind the lower school. This location was selected because it will allow the girls to see the tree grow over the years they attend Brookfield Academy and remind them of the importance of serving our community and appreciating our environment.

Following the tree planting, the troop celebrated **Grace Gorniak’s** and **Charley Honkamp’s** bridge from Daisy Scouts to Brownie Scouts. Awards were given to all girls for cookie sales, and the girls enjoyed cake to celebrate the last year together.

## ‘Walk for Hope’ to be Held at Mitchell Park - June 5

*An Opportunity to Help Kids You’ll Never Meet*

By Tom Curl

It’s an inspiring story that has involved 10 work trips and 120 volunteers helping thousands of children.

The Elmbrook Rotary Club (ERC) is a group of business and professional people who work to create a better world. One of its major international projects is an educational program in Guatemala that helps keep children in school and provides health and dental care to their families.

Toward that end, over the past decade, ERC has sent 120 members, family, and friends to Guatemala to help build simple houses and support the work of Common Hope. The St. Paul-based nonprofit consistently earns the highest possible score from Guidestar, an organization that rates nonprofits on how efficiently they use contributors’ money. Because of Common Hope’s well-earned reputation, Elmbrook Rotary members have personally sponsored 30 children in their schooling.



Elmbrook Rotarian **Jan Constable** distributes books to Guatemalan school children, including this boy who received a Spanish language version of “If You Give a Mouse a Cookie”.

**June 5 is an opportunity to support the children of Guatemala through a “Walk for Hope” in Brookfield’s Mitchell Park.** It will be an opportunity to get some fresh air and exercise...enjoy the park in early summer...and visit with Rotarians who’ll gladly share their inspiring experiences in Central America and elsewhere.

You can register on the club’s website: [elmbrookrotary.org](http://elmbrookrotary.org), send a check made out to “Elmbrook Rotary Foundation” and mailed to: Box 1014, Brookfield, WI 53008, or just show up on June 5 and give your donation to any Rotarian. There is no minimum amount to participate.



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June  
**15**  
2:00 PM - 7:00 PM

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Appointments made at <https://bit.ly/elmgrovejuniorguild061521> or by contacting Sarah at [President@ElmGroveJuniorGuild.org](mailto:President@ElmGroveJuniorGuild.org) or at 608-469-3941 for assistance.

Covid Protocols remain in place at blood drives, so all donors and Versiti staff MUST wear a MASK at the blood drive, and donor temperatures will be taken and all surfaces sanitized as a precaution. Covid Antibody testing is no longer being conducted.

**\*\*As a "thank you" all donors will be given a Versiti Baseball Cap!**



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# News Briefs

## New Wisconsin Garden Club President Announced

By Rose B. Heald

**Laura Skoff**, member and past president of the Elmbrook Garden Club, was installed as President of the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation on May 2 at the annual convention in Appleton, Wisconsin.

Laura is also a member of the Milwaukee Art Museum Garden Club and has achieved National Garden Club (NGC) Environmental and Gardening Consultant status through the NGC’s educational schools. She was the Tour Chair for the WGCF planned 2020 NGC Convention that was to be held in Milwaukee this past May, but unfortunately was cancelled due to our nation’s health pandemic.

In 2020, as WGCF First Vice-President, she implemented a fundraiser for colorful Pollinator Yard Signs, and was instrumental in planting a pollinator garden, with other members of the Elmbrook Garden Club, at the Elm Grove Woman’s Club, 13885 Watertown Plank Road, that included one of the signs. Laura Skoff at a meeting of the Elmbrook Garden Club at the Brookfield Public Library.



**Laura Skoff** at a meeting of the Elmbrook Garden Club at the Brookfield Public Library.



## Elmbrook Celebrates Two National Merit Scholarship Winners

(BROOKFIELD) **Sneha Sil** (Brookfield Central) and **Rishav Kumar** (Brookfield East) were both selected as winners for a \$2,500 scholarship from the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program. Sil and Kumar are two of 2,500 Merit Scholar designees that were chosen from a talent pool of some 16,000 outstanding Finalists in the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program. Sneha’s post-secondary opportunities will focus on Biochemistry and Rishav’s focus will be in Business Administration.



**Sneha Sil** (at left) and **Rishav Kumar**

## Brookfield Academy Class of 2021 Graduation Held

(BROOKFIELD) Brookfield Academy is proud to announce that the 67 members of the 51st graduating class received diplomas in a ceremony outside Patriots Hall Upper School on Sunday, May 16, 2021, in the company of family, friends, faculty members, administrators and board members.

Valedictorian honors were shared by two students, **Mishaal Omer**, daughter of **Drs. Omer Afzal and Nadia Omer** of Brookfield and **Ali Warraich**, son of **Mr. Waqar Hussain and Mrs. Aliya Warraich**, also of Brookfield. Salutatorian was **Serena Suson**, daughter of **Dr. John and Mrs. Roxanne Suson** of Pewaukee.

Students in the Class of 2021 received 375 college acceptances and more than \$15.5 million in college scholarships and grant offers. It includes two National Merit Scholarship Winners, four National Merit Finalists and two Commended Scholars. Four students earned perfect scores on the ACT, 14 are Cum Laude Society Members, and several received top placements in National French, German, and Latin exams. Several members of the class won State, Regional and National awards in Art, Writing, and Music. Additionally, there were several individual all-conference and



Valedictorian honors were shared by two students **Ali Warraich** (at left) and **Mishaal Omer** (at right).

all-area athletic award winners with State qualifiers in skiing, track, and swimming. Individual athletes received collegiate commitments in field hockey, boys football, boys soccer, and tennis.

Thirty-seven members of the graduating class are “BA Lifers,” having attended the Academy since Primary School and Lower School.

**Mr. Sharad Chadha**, CEO and President of Sprecher Brewing, gave the commencement address.

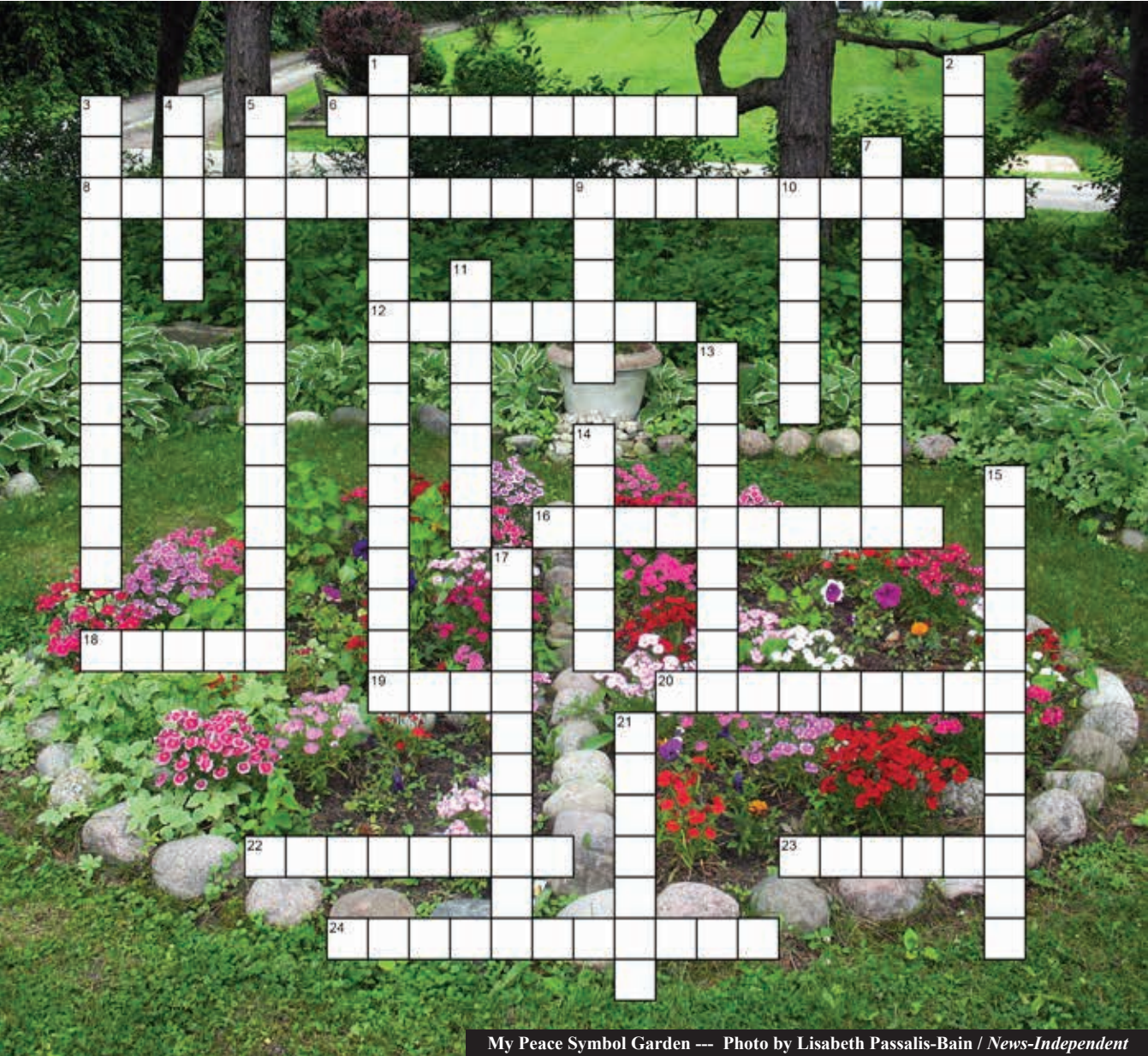
NEWS & PHOTOS

About Local Community Service Projects

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# Community Crossword #13

By Lisabeth Passalis-Bain [elmgrovenews@yahoo.com](mailto:elmgrovenews@yahoo.com)



My Peace Symbol Garden --- Photo by Lisabeth Passalis-Bain / News-Independent

- ACROSS
6.

Holiday celebrated June 20th (2 words)
8.

It’s abbreviated DPW (4 words)
12.

Lawyer
16.

They check out books, answer reference questions
18.

Chemically: H2 O
19.

Stop, Yield, Caution, One-Way are types
20.

House of worship of a Jewish congregation
22.

One who repairs machines
23.

Season that begins in June
24.

Insurance agency at 930 Elm Grove Road (2 words)
- DOWN
1.

News-Independent feature, top of Page 5 (3 words)
2.

Our county, one of 72 in Wisconsin
3.

Pilgrim Park & Wisconsin Hills are examples (2 words)
4.

Young dog
5.

When it’s too hot indoors, turn on the \_\_\_\_\_ (2 words)
7.

The number of people in an area
9.

A main thoroughfare: Watertown \_\_\_\_\_ Road
10.

Cheddar, Swiss, Muenster are types of this
11.

Church tower
13.

The study of family lineage
14.

Number of days in June
15.

An Elm Grove quilt shop (2 words)
17.

Speed limit throughout Elm Grove (2 words)
21.

A marriage ceremony







# Young Writers

(Continued from Page 9)

## Summer

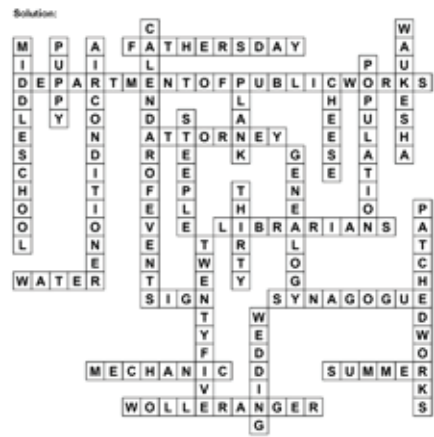
By Tommy and Zack  
4th Grade – Tonawanda

Super fun  
Under the bright orange sun  
Melting popsicles  
Making smoothies  
Eating ice cream  
Resting on the warm bright green grass

## Summer

By Noah Mogren  
4th Grade – Tonawanda

Sun rays get all the heat  
Under shades to keep me cool  
Mom chooses the vaca  
Moonstone for June birthdays  
Earning to go to pools  
Running races here I go



## Summer

By Makayla Deysach  
4th Grade – Tonawanda

Summer is so fun ,  
You can play outside in the shining sun,  
It is also my birthday!  
Let’s go to the park,  
Play a few games  
I am so happy  
that you could come here today.

## Father’s Day

By Whitney Brown  
4th Grade - Tonawanda

Father’s Day is a time of joy  
where you celebrate your father, your  
grandpa, and maybe even your uncles.

Father’s Day, Father’s Day, Father’s Day.  
You laugh and play, you eat lots of food.

Father’s Day, Father’s Day, Father’s Day.  
Make sure you are nice to everyone and  
especially the dads  
who have worked so very hard.

Father’s Day, Father’s Day, Father’s Day.

## Rocky The Bunny

By Emmanuella Schmidt and  
Claire Andersen  
4th Grade – Tonawanda

Rascal  
Odd little guy  
Cute little munchkin  
Kind crazy dude  
You will love him, too

# Legal Issues

## Estate Planning and Remarriage

By Attorney Isabell Mueller

Marriage is a time for celebration. However, in the event of a remarriage, it is imperative that you and your future spouse also focus on the less romantic process of redrafting your estate plans. Wisconsin is a Marital Property state, which means your marriage will affect the ownership of all of your assets, regardless of how the asset is titled. This change in ownership will affect not only the division of your assets in the event of a divorce, but also the distribution of your assets upon your death. In many instances it will result in a distribution that is substantially different from what you intended.

You and your future spouse’s respective financial situations and family situations are most likely more complex than when you first married. You probably have more assets and one or both of you may have children from previous relationships. It may, therefore, be in both parties’ interest to execute a prenuptial agreement. In deciding whether or not a prenuptial agreement is appropriate, you and your future spouse should address the following issues:

1. How do the two of you plan to share, or not share, your income and expenses?

Do either of you have any significant liabilities for which the other should not be held liable? Health care costs and the cost of long-term care should be a significant part of this discussion.

2. In the event of a divorce, how do you want your assets divided? Do either of you have strong feelings about keeping any assets as your “individual” property in the event of a divorce?

3. In the event of your death, how do you want your property to be divided between your surviving spouse and your children? Do you want the majority, if not all, of the assets going to your surviving spouse? Or do you want your children or other family members receiving a significant share? These are the most significant issues that must be addressed and are also the factors which will determine whether or not a prenuptial agreement is needed. Once these issues have been addressed and, if necessary, a prenuptial agreement has been signed, the rest of your estate planning documents, (Wills, Revocable Trusts, Powers of Attorney, etc.) should be updated to reflect both your decisions and your new marriage.

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# 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 (max: 200 words) must include the writer’s name, community & phone #
- Mail to: EGNI, Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 372, Elm Grove, WI 53122-0372.
- E-mail: [elmgrovenews@yahoo.com](mailto:elmgrovenews@yahoo.com) (subject line: Letters to the Editor)

## Move the Petition Forward

Last October, Elm Grove citizens submitted a valid and legal direct legislation petition to the Village. The petition proposes that public works projects of \$1 million or more be voted on by referendum before proceeding. The intention is to ensure significant public works projects have broad resident support.

A certified direct legislation petition has only two paths forward: Trustees can vote it into law OR place it on a ballot to be voted on by electors. If a majority approve, it becomes law. There’s no third option.

From the moment the petition was submitted, village leadership has gone to extraordinary lengths to disregard residents’ rights in favor of their own authority. They rushed counter legislation hoping to invalidate the petition’s certification. They disqualified signatures based on handwriting discrepancies. They argued semantic concerns. After trying

to decertify the petition, village officials fought to have the matter dismissed in court when residents petitioned to ensure the legal rights of citizens were upheld.

In May, Waukesha County Circuit Court Judge Michael Bohren ruled the citizen’s petition was lawful and should proceed. A Mandamus Order – an extraordinary writ issued to compel compliance with a plain duty – was granted to ensure that the Village complies with the law.

At the time of this writing, the Village Board is meeting with legal counsel to determine their strategy going forward. Hopefully, they will decide not to expend any more taxpayer-funded resources and advance the petition in the proper legal manner.

Lisa Becker  
Elm Grove

## Elmbrook Schools Should Reject Equity Non-Negotiables

A recent presentation from the Equity Non-Negotiables work group stated, “Equity Principles need to be interwoven into the District Strategy in order to meet our mission.” What are the work group’s non-negotiables? It begins with accusations: “Historical and continuing structural inequities create disparate outcomes for marginalized student populations.” And goes further to claim, “...the system is responsible for failure.” I thought individuals are responsible for their success or failure. Their non-negotiable solutions state: “As a District committed to equity, we seek to **disrupt** societal and historical inequities and eliminate disparities based on student and family characteristics...” and “Elmbrook Schools is responsible for creating a system where success for ALL students is accessible through a representative and inclusive curriculum that **decenters whiteness and prioritizes**

*marginalized communities in all subjects.*”

The district says there is no CRT in our schools today. However, Identity Relevant Teaching is very present and part of the ideological infrastructure that leads to CRT very quickly by pitting groups against each other. “Elmbrook commits to creating a comprehensive plan to hire ... staff that identify as Black, Indigenous, or People of Color...(and) adjust curricula... to ensure...anti-racist history ...” What happened to merit-based hiring? There you have it. Equity is a euphemism for Critical Race Theory.

Tell the Elmbrook School Board to vote NO to Equity and CRT principles on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Bill and Evelyn Martin  
John and Diane Schlosser  
Brookfield

# Classifieds

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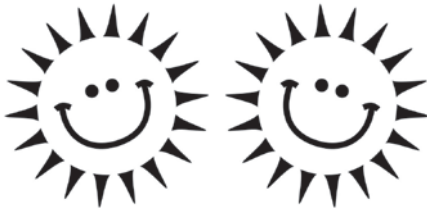


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# Read All About It!



Library News and Programs

June 2021

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Current Library Hours (beginning June 1)

Monday: 10 AM – 8:30 PM

Tuesday: 10 AM – 8:30 PM

Wednesday: 10 AM – 8:30 PM

Thursday: 10 AM – 8:30 PM


Friday: 10 AM – 5:00 PM

Saturday: 10 AM – 1:00 PM

THE HISTORY OF THE HERSHEY CHOCOLATE COMPANY

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 6:30 P.M. ONLINE VIA ZOOM


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This free, virtual program is offered in conjunction with the Hartland Public Library. Advance registration is required. You can register by sending an email to [egill@elmgrove.lib.wi.us](mailto:egill@elmgrove.lib.wi.us) to receive the Zoom program link.

A Walk Down Memory Lane

Wednesday, June 16, 10:30 a.m. Elm Grove Village Park



Come take a walk down memory lane to the days of the 1930s, 40s, and 50s with author Rochelle Pennington. Her historical, lighthearted program will detail everyday life during the bygone years of corner phone booths, party lines, hand-me-down clothes, percolating coffee pots, and suppers prepared from canning jars. The author’s power-point presentation, featuring vintage photographs, will be complemented by a collection of antiques she will display.

NOTE: This program will be held just outside the library on the west side of the building. Please bring your own chairs, as they will not be provided. Attendees are encouraged to wear a face covering and to practice social distancing. Free to attend. No registration needed.



Tails and Tales: Youth Summer Library Program / June 14 – August 14

Go wild this summer with reading and fun at the Elm Grove Library! Join us for outdoor kids’ events nearly every week, featuring magic, music, cartooning and more! There are also family story times on Friday mornings, and a host of other activities.

In addition to the excitement at the library, there will be an interactive, online summer reading program (with prizes) to keep kids engaged at home as well. Get the full lineup of happenings at [elmgrovelibrary.org](http://elmgrovelibrary.org) or pick up a schedule at the library.

“Books permit us to voyage through time, to tap the wisdom of our ancestors. The library connects us with the insight and knowledge, painfully extracted from Nature, of the greatest minds that ever were, with the best teachers, drawn from the entire planet and from all our history, to instruct us without tiring, and to inspire us to make our own contribution to the collective knowledge of the human species.

I think the health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries.”

— Carl Sagan, *Cosmos*

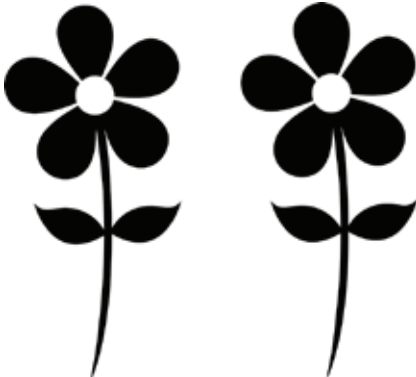
# "Green" is Good!

Ideas courtesy of The Waukesha County Green Team

[www.waukeshacountygreenteam.org](http://www.waukeshacountygreenteam.org)

Ask Away!

The greatest power we hold to affect change is consumer power! This month, use that power and engage in dialogue wherever you spend your time and money. Ask... where can I recycle my ice cream cup? Where was that tomato grown? Do you accept your products back at the end of their life cycle? What is your plan to deal with your outdoor litter? Make your consumer voice heard!



# Our Village



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

A beautiful Monarch butterfly spreads its wings atop a coneflower in an Elm Grove garden

# News Briefs


## National Merit Scholarship Recipients Named

(BROOKFIELD) Brookfield Academy is proud to announce that seniors **Ali Warraich** and **Ashley Zhu** have been awarded National Merit Scholarships of \$2,500.

Warraich, of Brookfield, has chosen to attend the University of Chicago, in Chicago, IL, and Zhu, of Brookfield, has chosen to attend Northwestern University in Evanston, IL.

Warraich and Zhu began their educational journeys in Brookfield Academy’s Primary School.

About 1.6 million students entered the 2021 National Merit Scholarship



Photos courtesy: Brookfield Academy

Ali Warraich (at left) and Ashley Zhu

Program. From the approximately 16,000 Semifinalists, about 15,000 advanced to the Finalist level, and of those, approximately 7,500 winners earn one of three types of National Merit Scholarships.

## Brookfield Academy Teacher Named a Wisconsin Finalist for Presidential Award

(BROOKFIELD) Brookfield Academy Upper School teacher, **Dr. Amy Zientek**, has been named a finalist in the 2021 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). She is one of six finalists in the state. The presidential awards recognize teachers who have both deep content knowledge of the subjects they teach and the ability to motivate and enable students to be successful in those areas.

“We’re excited that our students have the opportunity to learn from such an accomplished teacher,” said **Mrs. Sharon Koenings**, Head of School for Brookfield Academy.

Dr. Zientek teaches physics, biology, and ecology at Brookfield Academy. She has Bachelor of Science degrees in Biology and Chemistry, a Masters degree in Curriculum & Instruction, and Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction, minor in Biochemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Dr. Zientek said, “I was honored to be nominated by one of my former students for this prestigious award and am excited to have an opportunity to represent science, mathematics, and engineering teachers from Wisconsin at a national level.”



Photo courtesy: Brookfield Academy


Dr. Amy Zientek in a biology classroom at Brookfield Academy.

Up to two winners can be selected from each state and winners will receive a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation and professional development opportunities.



# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2021!





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- Texts and lessons chosen for consistency with time-proven Judeo-Christian values
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- Students guided and encouraged to pursue their God-given talent and reach their full potential
- Standardized test scores well above national average (ERB, SAT, ACT); average ACT score 28

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