



Elm Grove NEWS-

INDEPENDENT



Vol. 14 No. 12

Serving Elm Grove, Wisconsin & Neighboring Communities

August 2024

Freedom of the Press is Essential. Community News Matters.



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

A beautifully-marked butterfly sits atop a Coneflower in an Elm Grove garden.

On the Ballot

Election - AUGUST 13, 2024

The Official Partisan Primary Ballot upon which Elm Grove residents will vote includes candidates for United States Senator, Representative in Congress (District 5), Representative to the Wisconsin Assembly (District 13), District Attorney, Waukesha County Clerk, Treasurer, and Register of Deeds.



Page 2 of the two-sided ballot additionally asks for a vote in favor of or against the following referendum questions:

Question 1: "Delegation of appropriation power. Shall section 35 (1) of article IV of the constitution be created to provide that the legislature may not delegate its sole power to determine how moneys shall be appropriated?"

Question 2: "Allocation of federal moneys. Shall section 35 (2) of article IV of the constitution be created to prohibit the governor from allocating any federal moneys the governor accepts on behalf of the state without the approval of the legislature by joint resolution or as provided by legislative rule?"

Voting can be in-person at Village Hall on certain days prior to the election, or on Tuesday, August 13 between the hours of 7 a.m. and 8 p.m., or by Absentee Ballot.

For more information, visit <https://myvote.wi.gov> or contact Elm Grove Municipal Clerk **Katie Panella** at kpanella@elmgrove.wi.org (262) 782-6700.

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I ASK FOR YOUR VOTE ON or BEFORE AUGUST 13th Tom Michalski for State Assembly - District 13



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- 2 Years Wisconsin Assembly, Legislator

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- Secured Additional Money for our Community's essential services
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Lisabeth Passalis-Bain

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Photo courtesy: Elm Grove Beautification Committee

Community members and visitors gather at Elm Grove Village Park during the presentation of a DNR Crusader Award. (Standing, L to R): **Elsa Pedriana, Mia Pedriana, Will Pedriana, Deb Baesemann, Tara Pedriana, Tina Evens, Lisa Bro, Mark Westen, Village Forester Ron Hill.** (Kneeling, L to R): **Kristin Schaefer (WDOT), Greg Long (WISC), Delaney Coffey, Stacy Barry-Coffey, Nicci Sternitzky, Pat Westen, Linda Schulz.**

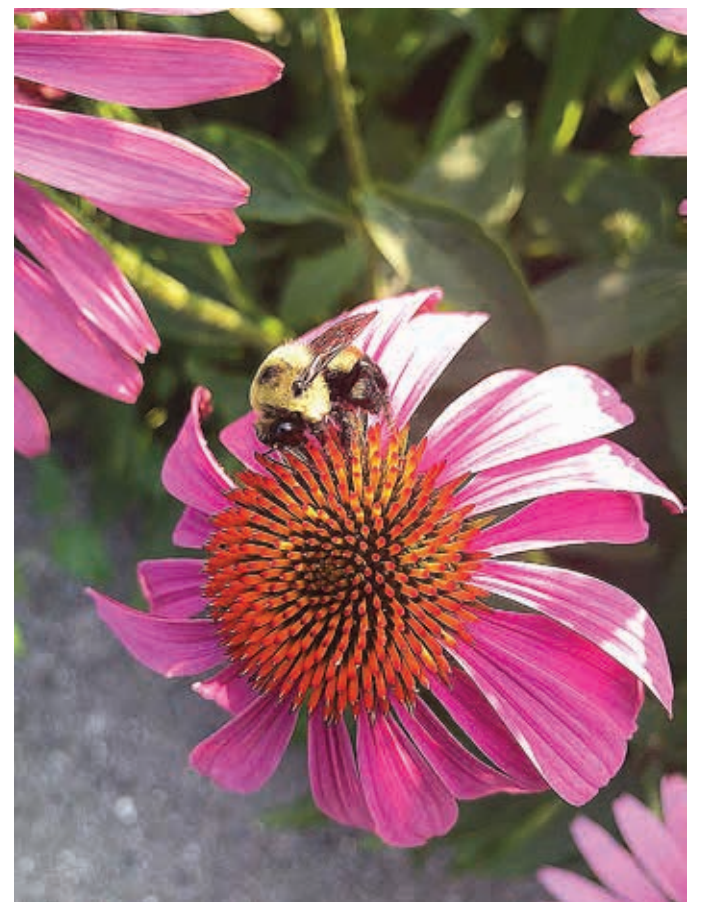
Beautification Committee Receives DNR Award

(ELM GROVE) On June 30th, the Elm Grove Beautification Committee's Invasive Species Task Force was presented a 2024 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Invasive Crusader Award. The Wisconsin Invasive Species Council gives the awards to individuals or groups in professional and volunteer settings that positively impact the fight against invasive species.

The group started meeting in August of 2020, and meets nearly every Sunday at 11 a.m. Their work within the village has ranged from removing Garlic Mustard and Dame's Rocket in the spring to Buckthorn in the fall.

Speaking on behalf of the Beautification Committee, **Nicci Sternitzky** noted, "One goal of the group is to make our village park buckthorn free and maintain it. Want to join in the battle? Send your email to EGBeautification@gmail.com to be included in the notice that goes out once a week letting everyone know where we will be meeting and what we will be working on. Then come when you can!"

Our Village



A bee visits a bright pink Coneflower growing amid a variety of other perennials in a colorful garden along Watertown Plank Road in Elm Grove during late July 2024.

Photo by
Christos Passalis-Bain
/ News-Independent

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Village Update

By Jim Koleski, Village President / jkoleski@elmgrovewi.org

Where has summer gone? It's already August and everyone's summer plans are in full swing. As always, please use extra care driving in the Village with road and building construction and families walking and biking in our community.

Welcome!

I would like to welcome **Brain Lahey** to the Village staff as Finance Director. Brian and his family plan to relocate to the area from Illinois. Brian has extensive governmental accounting experience over the last 7 plus years working for a professional services firm supporting several communities approximately the size of Elm Grove. Welcome to the team Brian!

Additionally, the Police Department welcomed **Jared Peterson** as a patrol officer. Prior to joining the team, Jared was with the Sheriff's department at the State Fair. Welcome Jared!

Committee of the Whole meeting July 29th.

*The Board continues to work on the plan for **daylighting Underwood Creek** through the downtown. A working session with the engineering firm and financial advisors will review actions to date and effort needed to draft referendum language, with an August 26th deadline.

***Caroline Heights** discussion will continue, including what access points are being used and the overall dust control on the site. Paving for impacted streets is planned for the end of August.

***Comprehensive Village Plan and Future Land Use Plan** will be reviewed with the goal to update these Plans that provide future development guidance throughout the Village.

***Review of ordinances** surrounding the Village's granting of Tax Incentives and the Public Works \$1 million dollar referendum limit.

Public Works Update.

The Public Works department is hard at work on many projects this summer, including the following:

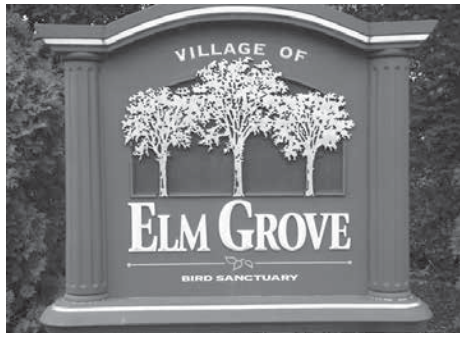
***Highland Drive culvert replacement** has been completed. We appreciate the patience of residents and businesses during the full road closure.

***Highland pathway update.** Most work is complete except for the Railroad crossing. Hearings are set in Madison with the railroad commission in August.

***Review of storm water** on Highland Drive after installation of the pathway is continuing.

***Paving** will commence in August addressing the most-needy roads in the Village. Please be patient as this important improvement is completed.

*The budgeted **construction of a pole building** on the Public Works site was reviewed and approved by the Board. The indoor storage of equipment will improve



overall operations leading to extended service life of important assets. The total cost was in line with budget.

***WE Energy outage updates and powerline burying projects.** Please work with WE Energies outside consultants who are seeking your assistance to move this project forward. Without everyone's cooperation, the projects start date will be delayed.

Recreation Activities.

Huge thank you to all involved in the July 4th celebration. A very successful and safe event was enjoyed by approximately 1,500 attendees and included a fun run, open swim, food and beverages and fireworks in the Village Park. It was great to see the activities on the new basketball court.

The Comprehensive Outdoor Master Plan (CORP) is being launched in August.

The CORP is a key document to apply for possible grants to help fund improvements. Stay tuned as this project moves forward in 2024.

Public Safety Recognition.

Throughout the year, our **Police, Fire, EMT and dispatch professionals** provide outstanding service to the Village and its residents. The Board wants to thank these professionals for their commitment to keep Elm Grove a safe and thriving community. Many residents have shared a personal story of how they have benefited from this team. Please join the Board in recognizing these fine team members!

Library items available for checkout.

Trustee Castile shared some interesting complementary experiences available at the library for checkout. These include Experience Passes for admission to the zoo, Harley Davidson Museum and other future locations. In addition, free day passes to State Parks are available while supplies last. Thanks to the Library team for coordinating these exciting opportunities!

Other Business.

The Board approved the use of existing ARPA funds to acquire a new VOIP phone system replacing a 25-year-old solution on its last legs. Various technology improvements are included in the new system to improve communications and productivity. Thank you **Iaqam Hans**, our IT Manager, for your extensive research and analysis to being this effective solution forward!

Let's enjoy the longer days of summer and remember to hydrate often!

Business & Club Directory

* Community Organizations



Elm Grove Golden K Kiwanis Club

Come Join with 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 stimulating speakers each week and offer socializing among all present.

See us on Facebook
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com
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Elm Grove Recycling Center Hours

The Department of Public Works Recycling / Yard Waste facility, 900 Wall St. (off Elm Grove Road, between Watertown Plank & Bluemound)

AUGUST 2024

OPEN: Tuesdays & Thursdays - 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturdays - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

www.elmgrovewi.org / (262) 782-6700.





Photo by Lisabeth Passalis-Bain / News-Independent

An Elm Grove Police Department speed trailer is positioned on the north side of Watertown Plank Road, between Grandview Drive and San Jose Drive on July 27, 2024. A vehicle had just passed going 40 mph in a 25-mph zone (which is ALL of Elm Grove).



Drivers, SLOW DOWN !!!

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



ON JANUARY 6, 1912, SCIENTIST ALFRED WEGENER PRESENTED HIS THEORY OF A 200 MILLION YEAR OLD SUPERCONTINENT NAMED PANGAEA THAT WOULD BREAK UP AND SPREAD APART INTO THE CONTINENTS WE KNOW TODAY. MODERN SIMILARITIES IN ANIMALS, PLANTS AND ROCK FORMATIONS ON LANDMASSSES OPPOSITE LARGE BODIES OF WATER TEASED AT SUPPORT FOR THIS IDEA.



HOWEVER, MANY SCIENTISTS WERE SKEPTICAL OF THIS CONTINENTAL DRIFT THEORY- PARTICULARLY IN THE FACE OF WEGENER'S LACK OF A VERIFIABLE EXPLANATION MODEL. THEY HELD FAST TO FIXED IDEAS. THE THEORY REQUIRED A LEAP ACROSS A KNOWLEDGE GAP NOT ALL WERE WILLING TO TAKE.

BY THE 1960'S, PROOF FOR CONTINENTAL DRIFT WOULD ARRIVE WITH THE DISCOVERY OF SEA FLOOR SPREADING ALONG OCEANIC RIDGES - PUSHING VAST TECTONIC PLATES OVER THE EARTH'S ROCKY MANTLE... WE LIKE A STABLE WORLD - WHERE THE MOUNTAIN WE GREW UP ON WILL ALWAYS BE THERE.

BUT GEOLOGIC PROCESSES ARE EVER IN MOTION. MOUNTAINS ARE RISING AND FALLING; CONTINENTS ARE ON THE MOVE. SIMILARLY, WE FIND COMFORT IN STABLE IDEAS, BUT THEY TOO ARE SHIFTING - IN A SORT OF KNOWLEDGE DRIFT - WHERE MORE INFORMATION PUFFS THE OLD OUT INTO THE NEW.

Our History: *Remembrances of Things Past*



Photo courtesy: Tom Ramstack

John Sanders stands in front of his blacksmith shop, circa 1971.

Elm Grove's Revered Blacksmith Family

By Tom Ramstack

In 1883, **Charles Francis Sanders**, of Waterford, Wisconsin, came to Elm Grove, where he soon opened a wagon and blacksmith shop along the Watertown Plank Road, at the east end of the village. On November 25, 1890, Charles married **Catherine Gebhardt**, of Brookfield, at the Catholic Church, in Elm Grove. The newlyweds soon took up residence in a rather small white framed home on the northwest corner of today's Church Street and Juneau Boulevard, in the village. The couple would raise 10 children in this home. A videotaped interview with several members of the Sanders family was conducted in 1985. I paraphrased and documented much of what was recorded in that interview, presenting it below.



Photo courtesy: Tom Ramstack

Margaret (Brendal) Gebhardt, circa 1900.

Charles and Catherine's oldest son, **John**, age 10 in 1905, recalled: "We had a hog, pigs and a cow. I milked that cow every morning. When we were kids, we used to tramp along the railroad tracks, about 2 miles north, to visit our grandmother, **Margaret (Brendal) Gebhardt**, at her family's farm on North Ave. She was born in Bavaria and spoke, mostly, German ('*Boarisch*'), but some English, too. One day, we decided to place our little sister, **Etta**, age 5 in 1910, up on our horse, as we 3 older kids walked along beside, and again, headed off to grandma's house. This time, however, our horse had one of his hoofs jammed under the railroad tracks. I fell into a panic, as trains, more than one per hour, passed over those tracks. My brother, **Charles (Jr.)**, age 13 in 1910, and I, struggled, and were finally able to pry the horse's shoe off, dropped it onto the ground, and backed the horse away, before any train arrived."

John went on, "Father learned much of his blacksmithing skills from another Elm Grove blacksmith—**Martin Jewert**. Next door to his blacksmith shop, father had a second building—a wagon shop. Inside, he mostly repaired wagons and buggies. But he built wagons, too! He had sharp planers which he used to smooth out ruff wood. While planing, large, curled shavings would fly up in the air, landing in large piles on the floor. I really don't remember too much about the wagon shop. Father shut it down, pretty much before I came along. I guess he didn't get much business once they began making wagons cheaper in Milwaukee."

Thereafter, Charles Sanders re-focused his energies into the workings of his blacksmith business. His shop had a large bellows, which blew concentrated air, heating his coal filled forge. John recalled his father teaching him the fine art of rhythmically, "tap, tap, tapping" his hammer onto the anvil.

"Our father never shod horses," John declared, "he would bring in a farrier, who

cleaned the hoofs, shape the shoes, and nailed them onto the horse's hoof. The **Manteys, Reinders, Marxs** and other kids would crowd together at the front of the shop to watch him work. I remember how annoyed the farrier would get when all those kids began cramming inside. Eventually, with a big fist, he would angrily shoo them back out of his way."

John went on: "Our family, like most other Elm Grove families, at that time, were Catholic; attending the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary's spacious church, located next to the School Sisters of Notre Dame's (S.S.N.D.) convent. **Father Haverstock** was our parish priest. He had this big black dog who scared me to death. Whenever I stopped at the rectory, that dog would jump all over me and lick. I was an altar boy and served as a candle carrier at mass. Our parish church bells rang every day, at noon, signaling father to say the Angelus (a traditional Catholic prayer)."

John's sister, **Etta (Sanders) Reinders**, age 10 in 1915, reminisced: "'*Christkindl*' (Christ Kringle) came to our house every year on Christmas Eve. I remember, too, our sister, **Mary**, playing on an old player piano, gifted to us from the nearby Dixon School. We didn't have radio yet, so that player piano was our only entertainment. One year, we taught mother how to play cards—skat, rummy, and '*Shafkofi*' (Sheep's Head). Our older brothers attended school at the S.S.N.D. convent, having 2 classrooms, taught by convent nuns. Before World War I, our classes were taught both in English and German. **Terry Robbins, the Reinders and Pfister families**, and others, all attended that school. The nuns who taught us were tough, but not really mean. At noon, we ran back across the plank road to eat lunch at our parents' home—John, making his favorite--scrambled egg sandwiches."

(See OUR HISTORY – Page 10)



A vintage Wisconsin postcard depicting Notre Dame of Elm Grove's convent and orphanage along Watertown Plank Road



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NEW at the Community Foundation

Register Now for the 0.5K Fun Run

Get ready for the one of the highlights of Elm Grove Oktoberfest weekend - the legendary 0.5K Fun Run happening on Saturday, September 21 at 3:30 pm, where we poke fun at traditional 5Ks and those intense obstacle courses (sorry, no adventure racing here!) It's more of a leisurely beer parade from O'Donoghue's Irish Pub to the Village Park Oktoberfest grounds to kick off the festivities, with kids sipping root beer and adults enjoying some brews from Molson Coors along the way.

Huge thanks to our amazing sponsors: Honest Teeth, Molson Coors, Uptown Motors, O'Donoghue's Irish Pub, WaterStone Bank, Doering & Co. Real Estate, and Weber Physical Therapy!

If you want to register for the 0.5K Fun Run or hop on board as a sponsor (or join us as a volunteer!), swing by www.elmgrovethefoundation.org.

Let's make this event even more epic together!

Oktoberfest - September 20 & 21, 2024

Calendar of Events – August 2024

Friday – AUGUST 2

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K Meeting** – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: **Tom Ramstack** Topic: “Historic Taverns of Elm Grove” kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Sunday – AUGUST 4

- **NOTE:** The Elm Grove Golden K Car Show for 2024 has been Cancelled. The Kiwanis Club look forward to holding “Cruisin’ the Grove” in 2025.
- **Elm Grove Beautification Committee Invasive Species Task Force** Meets at 11 a.m. at Elm Grove Village Park. Volunteers welcome. beautification@elmgrovetwi.org

Friday – AUGUST 9

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K Meeting** – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: **Chad Source**, District Director of Potawatomi Area Scout Council; Topic: “Potawatomi Scout District Objectives” kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com
- **Friday Flicks**, at Elm Grove Village Park, 8:30 p.m., featuring the film “Migration”. FREE.

Saturday – AUGUST 10

- **Elm Grove Pool Closes for Season** (weather pending) (262) 782-6700

Sunday – AUGUST 11

- **Elm Grove Beautification Committee Invasive Species Task Force** Meets at 11 a.m. at Elm Grove Village Park. Volunteers welcome. beautification@elmgrovetwi.org

Monday – AUGUST 12

- **Cruisin’ the Spur” Vintage and Classic Car, Truck, and Cycle Show** will be held in the parking lot behind Silver Spur BBQ, 13275 Watertown Plank Road. 5 p.m. to dark. FREE to exhibit and attend.

Tuesday –
AUGUST 13
PARTISAN
PRIMARY
ELECTION



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

Thursday – AUGUST 15

- **OWLS – Seniors’ Group “Milwaukee Treasurers”** Tiffany Windows Tour, Lunch at Wisconsin Club, Rare Books Room of Milwaukee Library. Sponsored by Community UMC. Guests are welcome. <http://www.cumceg.org/owl>

Friday – AUGUST 16

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K Meeting** – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: **Rich Kirchen**, Senior Reporter MKE Business Journal; Topic: To be Announced kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Saturday – AUGUST 17

- **Elm Grove Fire Department**, 13600 Juneau Blvd., will be conducting FREE annual fire extinguisher inspections to homeowners and business owners in Elm Grove, from 9 a.m. to Noon. Call or email the Fire Inspector, **Scott Burgardt**, at (262) 782-6700, ext. 252 or sburgardt@elmgrovetwi.org.

Sunday – AUGUST 18

- **Elm Grove Beautification Committee Invasive Species Task Force** Meets at 11 a.m. at Elm Grove Village Park. Volunteers welcome. beautification@elmgrovetwi.org

Friday – AUGUST 23

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K Meeting** – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: **Pastor Ron Kral**; Topic: “Nourishing Relationships” kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Saturday – AUGUST 24

- **Elm Grove Splash Pad Closes for season** (weather pending) (262) 782-6700

Sunday – AUGUST 25

- **Elm Grove Beautification Committee Invasive Species Task Force** Meets at 11 a.m. at Elm Grove Village Park. Volunteers welcome. beautification@elmgrovetwi.org

Monday – AUGUST 26

- **Cruisin’ the Spur” Vintage and Classic Car, Truck, and Cycle Show** will be held in the parking lot behind Silver Spur BBQ, 13275 Watertown Plank Road. 5 p.m. to dark. FREE to exhibit and attend.

Tuesday – AUGUST 27

- **Elm Grove Board of Trustees Meeting** – 7 p.m. at Village Hall Courtroom. (262) 782-6700 Agenda: www.elmgrovetwi.org

- **100+ Women Who Care – MKE Metro West Meeting** – 6:00 p.m. at O’Donoghue’s Irish Pub, Elm Grove. New members welcome. 100wvc.mkemetrowest@gmail.com

Friday – AUGUST 30

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K Meeting** – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speakers: **James Fee & Chris Lewis**; Topic: “Update of SMV Scout Activities Chartered by Golden K” kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Wednesday AUGUST 7

ELM GROVE JUNIOR GUILD BLOOD DRIVE

Pilgrim Park Middle School Gym; 1500 Pilgrim Pkwy.

*Appts. made at <https://tinyurl.com/mwm9dhvp>
*Appts. made also via the QR Code below in flyer

*Questions? Reach out to Hillarey Stone for help at blood.drive@ElmGroveJuniorGuild.org or call her at 402-216-3188.

Elm Grove Woman’s Club Upcoming Events

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News Briefs



Photo courtesy: Ray Shannon

A 1935 Auburn was one of many vehicles on display during a past Cruisin' the Spur event in Elm Grove.

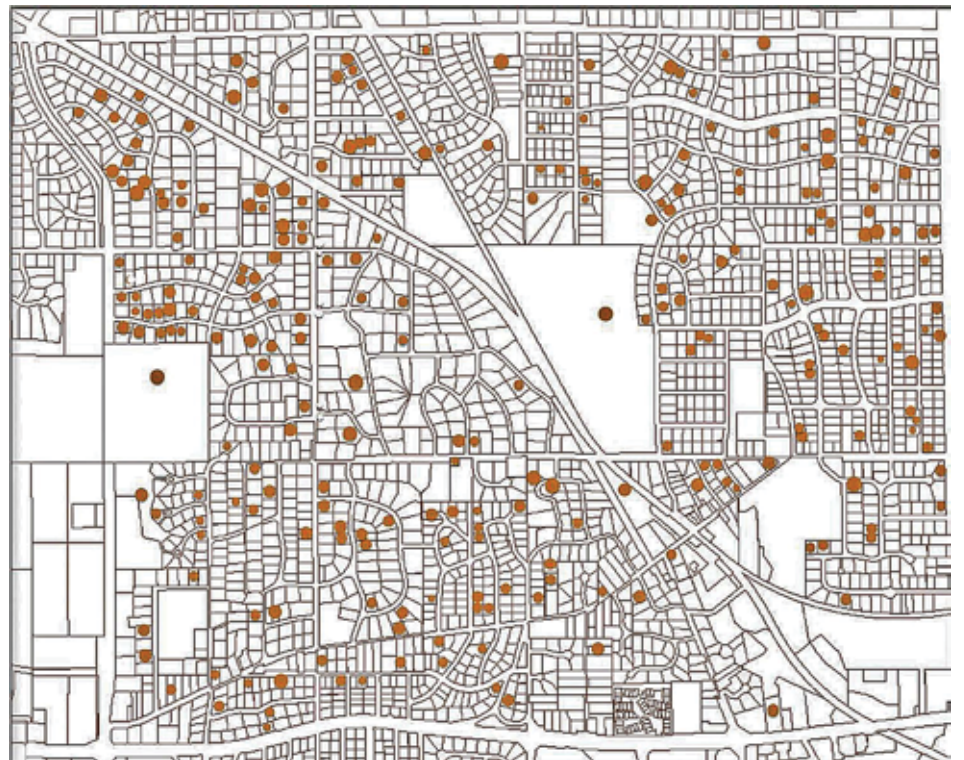
Cruisin' the SPUR to be Held Twice in August

(ELM GROVE) Cars, Trucks, Hot Rods, Rat Rods, Sports Cars, Cycles and Scooters. Antique, classic, vintage, collectible, modified, customized, foreign, domestic, rare, unusual, old and even new. You name it! If it has wheels, it is welcome at... "Cruisin' the SPUR".

A nearby collector car club will be featured on the 12th. And on the 26th it will be the annual British Invasion, when sports cars and other vehicles will add a European flair to the evening's already interesting collection.

An event organizer noted, "As always, there will be hot food, cold drinks and cool music. So, come on down and have some fun."

These informal gatherings are located behind the Silver Spur BBQ, 13275 Watertown Plank Road, and will start at 5 p.m. on alternate Mondays this summer. The August dates are Monday the 12th and Monday the 26th.



Add your Elm Grove property to the above map by growing any type of Milkweed.

Are You on the Monarch Milkweed Map Yet?

By Elm Grove Beautification Committee

Your Elm Grove Beautification Committee has the goal of getting 300 orange dots on the map of Elm Grove this year!

How do I earn a dot?

If you grow any of the 12 milkweeds species that are native to Wisconsin in your yard, you earn an orange dot on the map. It's that easy!

Why does this matter?

Milkweed (the species Asclepias) is the only plant a monarch can lay eggs on. To help boost the imperiled monarch population we want to help spread the word about what each of us can do to help make a difference.

What else can I do?

Assure you have a variety of native plants for monarchs to nectar on, especially in the fall as they fuel up for the lengthy migration back to Mexico where they overwinter. Avoiding the use of pesticides is also important to assure a healthy population that can survive the arduous task of migration.

Where can I get more information?

Elm Grove has taken the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge. Check out their website, the Xerces Society, the Wisconsin Monarch Collaborative, or Journey North to participate in citizen science.

Feel free to reach out to EGBeautification@gmail.com with any questions or an address that is not yet on the map! Let's make Elm Grove orange and black!



Butterfly Milkweed



Common Milkweed

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News Briefs



Photo courtesy: Kuenzle family

John Kuenzle (center) with his two Eagle Scout sons Joe (left) and Peter (right).

John Kuenzle Retiring as Troop 156B Scoutmaster

(ELM GROVE) **Charles Boyung** will assume the role of Troop 156B scoutmaster following the recent retirement of long-time scoutmaster and Elm Grove resident **John Kuenzle**.



Photo courtesy: John Kuenzle

New Scoutmaster **Charles Boyung** (at left) with **John Kuenzle** at the Greenbush Campout about 1 year ago.

In a letter to parents and scouts, Kuenzle noted, "For those who don't know, I've been with Troop 156 for the last 25 years with my first stint as Scoutmaster beginning in September of 2000. These years have passed quickly, and I am proud of my two Eagle Scout sons **Joe and Peter** who are a big reason I've stuck around for so long. During these years, our Troop produced over 60 Eagle Scouts and I've had the privilege of watching hundreds of boys grow from children to young men over some important years of their lives. From age 11 to 18 a boy may have many teachers and coaches but, for most of that time in our Troop, only one Scoutmaster to provide some consistency. I hope that I have helped them all along their way to adulthood and citizenship in a positive way.

I am extremely proud of the numerous ways our Troop has given back to the community through the years. Examples include the 60 Eagle Scout projects, food drives, toy drives, VA Center white socks drives, Elm Grove Park weeding, and projects at Pilgrim Park Middle School, our home base for many years. Doing a good turn daily is our slogan put into action. I know we will continue this most important part of scouting.

This position has given me the opportunity to travel and experience more adventures than I ever imagined. These tours included Philmont Scout Ranch twice, Florida Sea Base, Rocky Mountain High Adventure, Delaware River trip, Missouri River trip, Shenandoah National Park, and more nights

of camping in Wisconsin I can count. What great memories to share with my kids, grandkids, and many others.

I'd like to say THANK YOU to all the parents who have helped make our Troop successful. No one person can do this alone and I've had so many moms and dads pitch in all along the way. I wish I could name them all, but they know who they are. I also must thank my wife **Kate** and daughters **Christine and Paula** who let me go on these journeys and spend time away from my family. I sure wish the BSA allowed girls to join back then. That would have been awesome. In my mind, having girls involved has been nothing but positive and we now have won the Camp Long Lake spirit stick four times as proof of the synergy that occurs with this development.

Please give Charles and the whole leadership team your full support during this transition to shepherd Troop 156B into the future. We have so many Life Scouts that there will be many new Eagles over the next few years and many new adventures to plan and experience."

Audition for Musical "9 to 5" at Sunset Playhouse

(ELM GROVE) Community members are invited to audition for "9 to 5" (with music and lyrics by **Dolly Parton**) at Sunset Playhouse, 700 Wall Street (off Elm Grove Road) on August 19th & 20th --- starting at 7 p.m. on both days.



Casting for ...

Synopsis: Pushed to the boiling point, three female coworkers concoct a plan to get even with the sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot they call their boss. In a hilarious turn of events, **Violet, Judy, and Doralee** live out their wildest fantasy – giving their boss the boot!

While their boss (**Hart**) remains "otherwise engaged," the women give their workplace a dream makeover, taking control of the company that had always kept them down. Hey, a girl can scheme, can't she?

Set in the late 1970s, this hilarious story of friendship and revenge in the Rolodex era is outrageous, thought-provoking, and even a little romantic.

Three unlikely friends take control of their office and learn there is nothing they can't do, even in a man's world.

- * 4 powerhouse females to play Violet, Doralee, Judy and **Roz** who can move and sing well.
- * 1 Male Actor who can play a Chauvinistic Pig of a Macho Man for Franklin Hart who can sing well and play sleazy with ease!
- * 1 Cowboy Stud to play Doralee's loving husband **Duane**.
- * 1 Kind hearted male to play **Joe**, who's secretly in love with Violet.
- * 1 Teenage boy (13 to 18) to play Violet's son Josh.
- ** 6-8 strong females for supporting roles.
- ** 6-8 strong males for supporting roles.

Lots of fun roles and musical numbers! Check out Sunset's website: <https://sunsetplayhouse.com> for more information and character descriptions. (262) 782-4430



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(300 words or less)

How they help you, your neighborhood, the community (even the World at Large) and the **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
(subject line: "Good Neighbors")

OR
Mail it to: EGNI "Good Neighbors"
14420 Watertown Plank Road
Elm Grove, WI 53122-2423.



Library News and Programs

August 2024

13600 Juneau Blvd., Elm Grove, WI 53122

262-782-6717 / elmgrovelibrary.org

Gaining Control through Simplification: A Personal Finance Seminar Wednesday, August 14, 7:00 p.m.

Join us Tom Scholz, PhD, CFA, CPA, and associate professor with Concordia University, outlines the basics of personal finance, from creating budgets to managing debts, to saving and investing. This accessible seminar will aim to help you assess your own personal goals and solutions to create a plan for success. Free to attend. No registration required.



Caravaggio: A Sinner and the Painter of Miracles / Tuesday, August 20, 6:30 p.m.



As an artist he was prolific and temperamental. As a man he was difficult, mercurial, and violent; vilified as an absolute sinner. He saw everything. He lived everything. His paintings evoked affetti - human emotions: they had drama, beauty, movement, pretense, and yes, horror!

Join us as we survey the life and works of one of the most celebrated artists of his time on the colorful stage of the Italian Baroque: Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio. This is the first lecture in a five-part series, "The Spirituality of Light: A Moral Compass." Free to attend. No registration required. Presented by Professor Karri Fritz-Klaus of Cornerstone History Symposium.

Green is Good!

By the Elm Grove Green Team

Have You Tried a Mosquito Dunk?

Got mosquitos? If you're thinking about a lawn treatment for these little suckers, there are great alternatives—like a mosquito dunk. A mosquito dunk uses a naturally occurring soil bacterium (*Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*, or BTi), that produces toxins that kill mosquito larvae when they eat it. Available from local hardware stores, the doughnut-shaped dunk is placed in standing water in a container in the yard (like a partially-filled 5-gallon bucket), and then goes to work for up to 30 days. According to the EPA, Bti does not affect people or other insects or wildlife, and is approved for use for pest control in organic farming operations.

Clever Clover is a Weed No More

Did you know that clover was once valued in suburban lawns? In the 1950's Scotts sold a turf builder that combined grass and clover seeds. Though clover then fell out of favor back then, it's making a comeback as homeowners recognize its ecological benefits. Clover requires less water and less frequent mowing than grass, plus it chokes out other weeds and attracts pollinators. A blended grass-clover lawn is something to check out if you'd like a lawn that's less work to maintain. And, like mosquito dunks, clover lawns are a smart strategy to reduce the amount of pesticides running off our lawns and into our water.



Shout Out for Our Waste Warriors

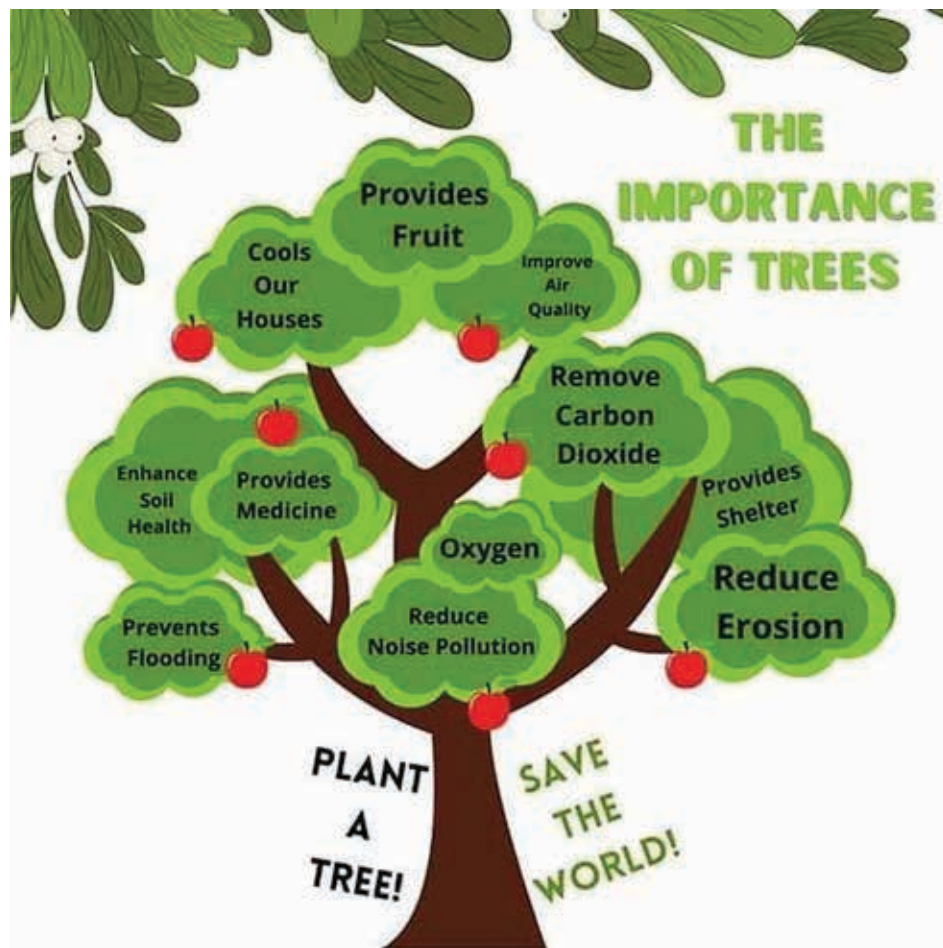
Who's knocking it out of the park with blue-bin recycling in Elm Grove? Our neighbors at 725 Brinsmere Drive, 13900 Watertown Plank Road, and 1800 Wedgewood Drive East. They're doing a great job by cleaning out containers they put in recycling, breaking down cardboard containers, and avoiding mixing recycling and trash in the same bag. Waste Warriors also have a high ratio of recycled materials to waste, so they're diverting more from the landfill. You can do a quick check of recycling best practices at <https://www.johnsdisposal.com/municipalities/elm-grove-village/>.

AUGUST Word Search Puzzle

Find these words related to the month of August

BOAT	KAYAK	SUN	WARM
GARDEN	BARBECUE	SHADE	LAKE
CAMPFIRE	OCEAN	VACATION	TOWEL
BIKING	CANOE	SWIMSUIT	POOL
FLOATIE	PICNIC	SWIMMING	PARK
FISHING	BEACH	POPSICLES	CAMPING
RIVER	ICE (as in ice cream)	READING	SUNSET
AUGUST			

The words may be hidden vertically, horizontally or diagonally.



News' Hounds

& other beloved creatures

Adopt a Pet at the Elmbrook Humane Society

By Morgan Gourley

Hey there, I'm **Oliver**, the cat with a flair for familiarity! Change? Not my favorite, gotta admit. But give me a little time to suss things out, and boom - I'm the friendliest furball you'll ever meet. I've got a soft spot for attention, and laps? Oh, they're like my personal throne. So, if you're ready for a companion who's a bit slow on change but quick on affection, that's me - Oliver, the laid-back lap-sitting expert!



Photo courtesy: Elmbrook Humane Society

Oliver

The EBHS is located at 20950 Enterprise Avenue, (off Barker Road) Brookfield. (262) 782-9261.

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Young Writers & Reporters

The Negative Effects of Social Media on Teenagers

Awareness, Solutions Needed

By Janavi Wagle, 10th Grade – Brookfield East High School

Mental health problems have increased exponentially in recent years especially among adolescents. In recent years, the use of social media has been associated with the increased risk of mental health issues. According to the 2022 Pew Research Center, about 95% of teenagers between the ages of 13 and 17 use social media. In 2023, a research survey found that the majority of teens (13 to 17) use YouTube, TikTok, Snapchat, and Instagram.

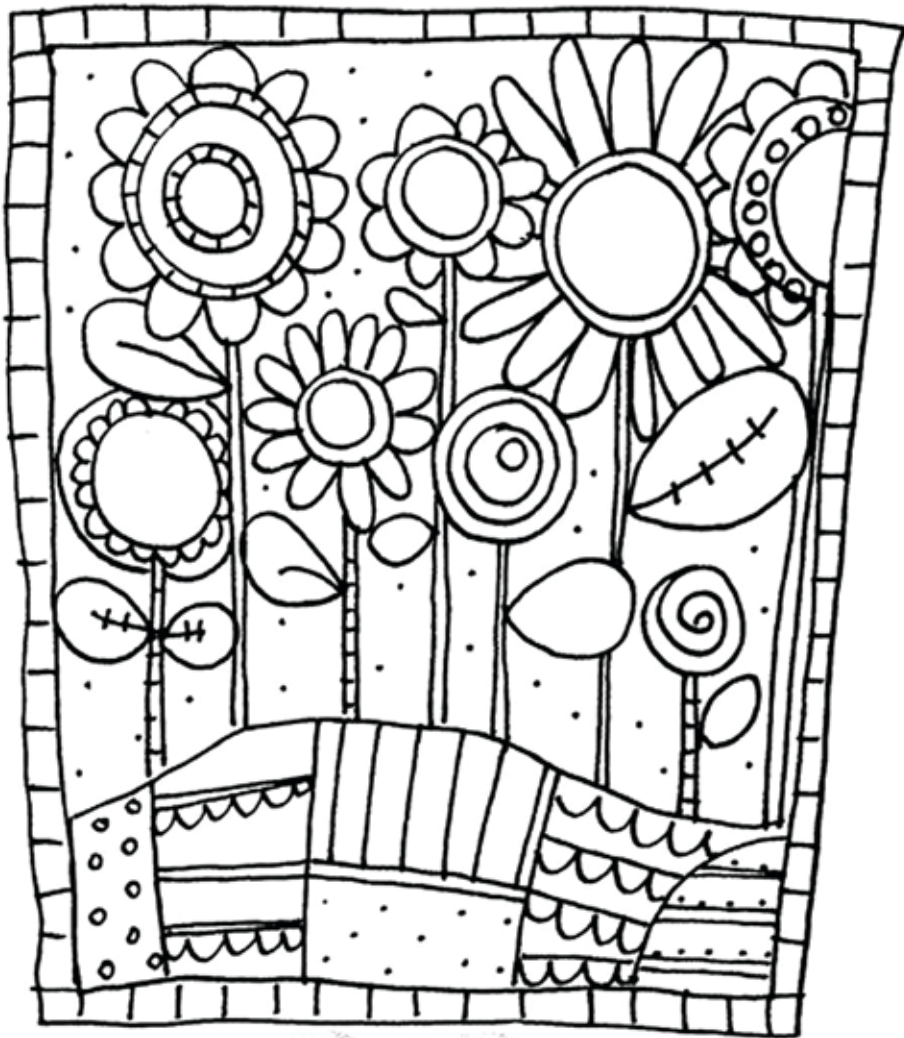
It is true that social media has helped to foster social connections between individuals with common interests or identities. However, teens ages 12-15, who use social media over three hours each day have twice the risk of having issues like depression and anxiety symptoms. Other potential negative impacts could be cyberbullying-related depression, harassment, self harm, and body image issues along with disordered eating behaviors, and poor sleep quality linked to social media use.

The excess use of social media has been framed as an analogous risk for teens and their mental health, which is similar to how drugs and alcohol has impacted teens. An article written by **Kathy Katella** from

the Yale School of Medicine in 2024 has mentioned that exposure to social media has the ability to overstimulate the brain's reward center and trigger pathways analogous to addiction. Feeling the pressure to be "perfect" as portrayed on a tiny screen from a stranger can affect ones developing brain. The duration of use along with the type of content consumption can impair the daily physiological needs like concentration and sleep. Concerned about the negative impacts of social media use among teens, the U.S. Surgeon General **Dr. Vivek Murthy** in the *New York Times* article wrote, "Why is it that we have failed to respond to the harms of social media when they are no less urgent or widespread than those posed by unsafe cars, planes or food". In June 2024, Dr. Murthy called for a warning label on social media platforms, which requires implementation by Congress.

Advocacy and awareness are crucial, similar to how we campaign against junk food or substance abuse, requiring collaboration among social media firms, government, parents, and schools. Comprehensive solutions are needed to address these complex issues effectively.


Coloring for Kids (of ALL ages!)



Happy Birthday,
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August 8, 2024

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making 29,200+
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(Here's to many more.)

Love & Cheers!





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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.

SHORT STORIES & POETRY
*** about 200 words maximum ***

Email submissions as Word files to:
elmgrovenews@yahoo.com
(subject line: YOUNG WRITERS)

(Note the writer's name, school/homeschool & grade.)

Community Needs

<p>Blood Donations</p> <p>*American Red Cross of Wisconsin Visit www.redcrossblood.org or call (800) 733-2767 to schedule an appointment or locate a nearby blood drive.</p> <p>*Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin Donor Centers: 8733 Watertown Plank Rd., Wauwatosa 638 N. 18th St., Milwaukee 2111 Springdale Rd., Waukesha Call 1-877-BE-A-HERO 1 (877) 232-4376 or visit: versiti.org/Wisconsin.</p>	<p>Food Banks / Pantries</p> <p>* Food Pantry of Waukesha County 1301 Sentry Dr., Waukesha 53186 www.waukeshafoodpantry.org/donate/ (262) 542-5300 Needs donations of food, volunteer time & money.</p> <p>*New Berlin Food Pantry 14750 W. Cleveland Ave. 53151 (Serves residents of Elm Grove, Brookfield & New Berlin) (262) 789-8040</p> <p>*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.</p> <p>*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.</p>
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Calling 911 from a Cell Phone vs. a Land-line

Elm Grove Emergency Services Recommendations

When you call 911 from your cell phone, the call is sent to a centralized dispatch center in either Waukesha County or Milwaukee County, depending on what cell tower picks up your call. Before the call taker can transfer your call, they need to determine your location for transfer to the proper dispatch center.

In most cases, the county dispatcher will not be familiar with landmarks and business locations by name, and they will need an exact address before they can transfer the call to our Elm Grove Dispatch Center.

We strongly suggest that you program our direct emergency line, 262-786-4141, into your cell phone to avoid delays in service

for emergencies happening in Elm Grove.

Our dispatchers have intimate knowledge of our geography and are capable of discerning your location quickly, with limited information. When it is your emergency, you will want to be speaking to the person who is talking directly to the responding fire, ambulance, or police unit that is coming to your aid.

There are no changes to your current land-line 911 service. All land-line 911 calls continue to be answered by Elm Grove dispatch personnel.

Our History (Continued from Page 4)

John continues: "Father rode a bicycle from our place, up through Prospect Hill, in New Berlin, on his way to visit his parents at Waterford (in Racine County)." Charles Sanders' parents, **Joseph and Anna (Henningfeld) Sanders**, immigrants from Westphalia, Prussia, settled in Waterford during the 1840s—raising 6 children, Joseph being employed as a cooper.

John went on, "Later, my father, more conveniently, boarded the old interurban streetcar at Sunnyslope Road, in New Berlin, riding west to Calhoun Station (at Calhoun Rd.), where he departed to continue his journey, south, along the old 'Big Bend Road' to Waterford—about 27 total miles. Most summers, our family attended the State Fair in West Allis. We would spend the entire day wandering through livestock and poultry buildings, watch sheep being sheared, and saw large draft horses pulling heavy loads. Father would give each of us kids 5 cents to spend as we liked. He enjoyed watching the sulky races (harness racing) but I didn't care for that too much. The grounds were so thick with people you could barely walk. At night, we boarded the #15 streetcar, taking us home."

"Father purchased his first Ford Model T in 1910. He and Mr. Reinders were the first to own automobiles out this way. By 1915, I was working full time in father's shop. Not many of us around here went to high school, yet, in those days. As there weren't many cars, everyone, even adults, rode bicycles. During the summers, we rode our bikes to visit our friends over on National Ave., in West Milwaukee. Most of the fathers, over that way, worked down in the (Menomonee) valley. They used to call that part of National Ave., 'Silver City.' I don't know where that name came from." *Milwaukee Magazine Website, 2024--* "The Silver City neighborhood gained its name from workers who manufactured trains for the massive Milwaukee Road Shops. They were paid in silver dollars and spent their wages at businesses along National Avenue. One day, a saloon visitor entered, saw tall piles of silver on the poker tables, and exclaimed, "Why, this must be Silver City!"

"On Sundays, we played 'ball' on our diamond down near the depot. My brother, **Joe**, age 15 in 1926, was a good ball player. He would take the padding out of his glove. (He didn't need it.) And rubbed oil into the pocket of his mitt to soften it. He could catch any ball hit in his direction. The Waukesha team was much better than ours. Whenever we played them, they would wallop us, scoring 20 or more runs to our measly 1 or 2."

"While working in his blacksmith shop, most days, father would send my brother, Joe, across the road, to purchase a 'bucket of beer,' for a nickel, at **Ramstack's** place. Down near the tracks, lived the **Mitchell boys**. They were nice enough fellas, but they always seemed to get themselves into fights, particularly when drinking was involved. The Mitchells took charge of the Elm Grove train station, including the telegraph office. In 1916, we all hovered around outside the telegraph office during the presidential elections--when **Wilson** won. Our folks worried about us getting into the war in Europe. Wilson was

going to keep us out." That was not to be as soon enough, subjected to the draft, two **Sanders brothers, Louis and John**, found themselves in the thick of things in France, as the 'Great War' commenced.

I hold personal recollections of John and Joe Sanders as our family knew theirs quite well. By the 1960s, the bellows, which had heated the Sander's forge for so many years, had given way an acetylene fueled welding torch. One afternoon, in 1968, at age 15, dad sent me down to the Sanders shop to have a piece of metal bent. Being a shy kid, in a large and loud family, I was hesitant to go. I recall slowly and nervously meandering my way down the Plank Road, through the village, to the crossroads where the shop stood. Along the way, I gained courage from knowing that our Ramstack family and the Sanders were, somehow, related. I recall too, on more than one occasion, dad telling us kids, "Those Sanders are the most kind-hearted people you would ever want to meet."

As soon as I slipped inside a large, opened swing door, John, then 71, lifted the shield from his mask and asked what I needed. Holding the piece in my hand, I stretched it out to him, muttering something which must have been understood, as he took it out of my hands and went right to work.

While John re-lit his torch and while the acetylene popped, I had time to peer around the interior of the shop. It was almost too much to take in--horseshoes hanging from the rafters, all different sizes and lengths of tongs, old harness, chisels, wedges, planes, forms, wrenches, and hammers (all kinds and shapes), rags, nails, screwdrivers and screws. Everywhere I looked, tools of which functions I had no knowledge, were hung on the walls and rafters or, seemingly, haphazardly placed on any one of several workbenches. I was certain that each of these tools must be essential to completing some necessary blacksmithing task.

Atop and amongst all of these objects were thick layers of dust, grease, and grime. I supposed that all that layered soot must have been accumulated through years of hard work. Across the darkened shop, I could see Joe (then, age 57), sanding some metal piece under a small, darkened window. I had already been familiar with his strained, raspy voice, as he suddenly yelled something, which I couldn't make out, across the shop, to his older brother. I supposed, without being told by others, that the condition of his voice must have been, somehow, related to his work.

John quickly shaped my metal piece as needed and proceeded to lead me into his small office where I was to pay for his work. With a dull light beaming down from above, and grimy hands, he straightened out a small, smudged billing book. I asked, "How much do I owe?" He rubbed his forehead and, while taking his cap off, scratched the top of his head more than once. Then after a moment, responded, "Oh, give me a buck!" Kind hearted, indeed!

Tom Ramstack, a long-time historian and author, is a member of the family which previously owned Ramstack's Inn (now O'Donoghue's Irish Pub).

In Memoriam

*Honor the Life
of a beloved
family member or friend.*

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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 (**about 200 words max**) must include the writer's name, community of residence & phone #.
- Mail to: EGNi, 14420 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122-2423.
- E-mail: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com (Subject line: Letters to the Editor)

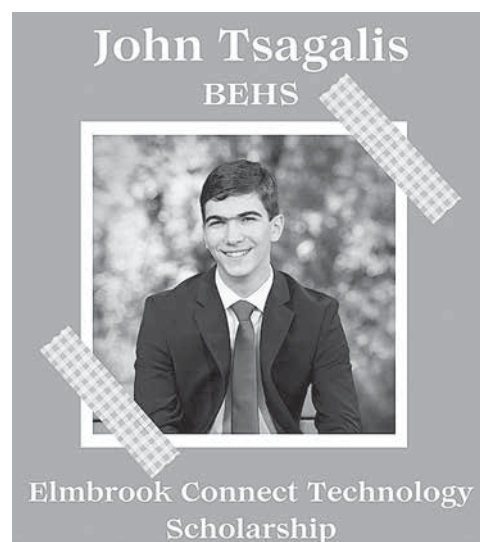
News Briefs



SSND Announces Virtual Prayer Room for Peace

The School Sisters of Notre Dame welcome the participation of community members in a special weekly, virtual experience. "Every Friday, sisters, associates, and friends can enter a peaceful space to unite for the needs of the world. We invite all to enter the room, both for our own restoration and for the power of our united prayer. The Friday prayer room is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central time)," according to a press release. Visit the link found on the SSND.org website.

Elmbrook Education Foundation Awards Scholarship



(BROOKFIELD) **John Tsagalis**, a graduate of Tonawanda Elementary, Pilgrim Park Middle School, and Brookfield East High School (Class of 2024), has been named the recipient of an Elmbrook Education Foundation Elmbrook Connect Technology Scholarship.

John, who plans to study computer science in the coming years, will attend UW-Madison in the fall.

BEHS Student Named FBLA National Champion

(BROOKFIELD) Brookfield East junior **Jake Zheng** was named the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) National Champion in Public Speaking.

Zheng competed against nine other finalists in the 'Introduction to Public Speaking' event and was declared the winner. Brookfield East freshman **Parth Dharmadhikari** also competed in the finalist round and finished seventh in the 'Introduction to Financial Math' competition. The FBLA National Competition was held in Orlando, Florida and hosted 12,000 students from the United States, Canada, China, Germany, and Puerto Rico across 77 different competition events.

"I am grateful to the Brookfield East and Elmbrook communities for building

systems that facilitate Academic and Human Excellence; the foundational skills and principles I gained at BEHS and throughout numerous opportunities across the Elmbrook School District were paramount in preparing me for this competition," reflected Jake. "The overwhelming sensation of pride associated with representing my family, school, and friends is surreal. I entirely credit this success to them, as nothing would have been possible without their incredible support and feedback."

During the 2023-24 school year Zheng also served as a Student Representative for BEHS to the Board of Education and was elected Class President. He looks forward to growing the FBLA program at Brookfield East and across the District.

NEWS ITEMS + PHOTOS MAY BE SUBMITTED
for consideration to:
elmgrovenews@yahoo.com



Public Safety Reports

From the files of the Elm Grove Police, Fire, and Emergency Services Depts.



Photo by Tina Evens

Elm Grove Citizen Police Academy 2024 graduates (holding certificates) gather with Alumni Association members and EGPD representatives at a special event in June.

Citizen Police Academy Graduates, New Alumni Board Announced

By Lisabeth Passalis-Bain / elmgrovenews@yahoo.com

The twenty-fourth annual Elm Grove Citizens Police Academy Graduation Banquet and Silent Auction was held on the evening of June 12 at the Elm Grove Woman's Club. The CPA program, a 10-week series of classes held each year from April to June, began in 1998 and serves to educate citizens (residents and those who work in Elm Grove) about a wide variety of law enforcement policies and to foster enhanced communication with local residents and the business community.

This year's graduates include **Kenneth Allen, Lisa Armitage, Thomas Castile, Brian Darkow, Collen Devere, Lawrence Grassmann, Andreas Kerwel, Elizabeth Lange, Julia Lange, Jacqueline Lesaily, Joseph Lesaily, Taylor Mierow, Adam Pluer, Sheila Schneider, Chad Schomburg, Tara Webb, and Harlan Weinberger.**

The occasion, which also served as a fundraiser to benefit the EGPD, was deemed highly successful by Citizens Police Alumni

Association (CPAAA) Activities Chair **Tina Evens.** "Thank You to everyone who supported our 2024 Citizens Police Academy Graduates! We raised over \$5,000 with everyone's generosity and participation in this event. A special Thank You to everyone who donated silent auction items."

The following individuals were elected to serve on the 2024-2025 Alumni Board:

- ***Johnny Koremenos** - President
- ***Stacey Barry-Coffee** - Vice President
- ***Jody Dirks** - Secretary
- ***Jeff Davidson** - Treasurer
- ***Lisa Armitage** - Activities Chair
- ***Colleen Devere** - Sergeant-at-Arms

More information and applications for the Spring 2025 Citizen Police Academy can be obtained at the Police Department lobby, 13600 Juneau Blvd., or online at the Village website <https://elmgrovewi.org>.

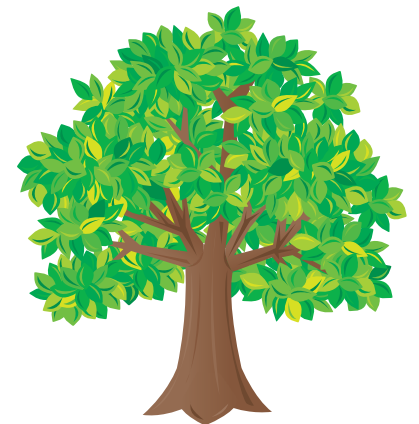
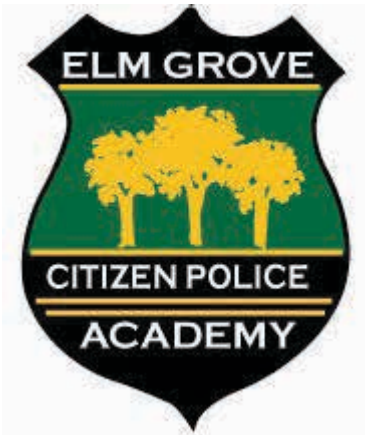


Photo courtesy: EGPD

In July, we welcomed **Jared Peterson** (shown 2nd from left, with family members during his swearing-in ceremony) to the Elm Grove Police Department. Officer Peterson joins us after having served with Wisconsin's State Fair Park Police at Wisconsin's State Fair Park since 2018 and also worked public safety with MATC for more than 3 years.



The Elm Grove Police Department now has a Trading Card program. A Facebook post noted, "When you see an officer or pass by the Dispatch Center, be sure to ask if they have a trading card! Collect the entire set and get to know the people who serve your community."



SAFETY TIPS

- » Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- » The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- » Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- » Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- » Never leave your grill unattended.
- » Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

CHARCOAL GRILLS

- » There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use. Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- » If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- » Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- » There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- » When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

PROPANE Grills

Check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off both the gas tank and the grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department. If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill.

If the flame goes out, turn the grill and gas off and wait at least 5 minutes before re-lighting it.

FACTS

- 1 July is the peak month for grill fires.
- 1 Roughly half of the injuries involving grills are thermal burns.



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Will Rogers
American actor
(1879-1935)

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