



Elm Grove NEWS-

INDEPENDENT



Vol. 9 No. 12

Serving Elm Grove, Wisconsin & Neighboring Communities

February 2022

Freedom of the Press is Essential. Community News Matters.



SERGEANT
Christopher DOUGLAS



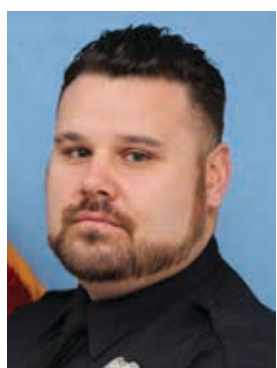
LIEUTENANT
Natalie RILEY



CHIEF
Jason KUBIAK



ASSISTANT CHIEF
Ryan UNGER



SERGEANT
Robert GILBREATH

Elm Grove Police Department Announces 2 Retirements, 5 Promotions

By Lisabeth Passalis-Bain / elmgrovenews@yahoo.com

In the wake of the retirements of Elm Grove Police Chief **Jim Gage**, and Assistant Police Chief **Jason Hennen**, four newly promoted members of the EGPD's command staff were sworn in on the morning of January 7 at Village Hall. The Elm Grove Police and Fire Commission appointed **Jason Kubiak** to the position of Chief, **Ryan Unger** to Assistant Chief, **Natalie Riley** to Lieutenant, and **Robert Gilbreath** to Sergeant. **Christopher Douglas** was sworn in as a Sergeant on January 25.

"While this is a big change for the Department," a spokesperson noted, "we are happy to know that all the positions are being filled by internal candidates who are very familiar with Elm Grove and have many, many years combined experience serving our community."

See photos of former Chief Gage and former Assistant Chief Hennen - Page 2

Read the bios of Kubiak, Unger, Riley, Gilbreath, and Douglas - Page 8

On the Ballot...

Primary Election February 15th

The Primary will determine which two of the three candidates for Elmbrook School Board's Area II seat will progress to the April 5 - General Election. **Glen R. Allgaier** (Area II incumbent) and challengers **Kathy Lim** and **Daniel Medeiros** will participate (along with the At-Large candidates) in a Candidates' Forum on Monday, February 7, beginning at 6 p.m. at the District Office, 3555 N. Calhoun Rd., Brookfield. The forum, hosted by the Elmbrook Parent Network and Leadership Council, will also be broadcast via live-stream at www.elmbrookschools.org/live.

The April 5 - General Election ballot will include the names of the top two Area II vote-getters from the Primary along with two candidates for the At-Large Seat: **Linda A. Boucher** (incumbent) and **Katie Rasoul**. Each Board member represents the entire school district; thus, residents should select one candidate for each seat.

General Election April 5th

In Elm Grove, 5 residents are seeking to fill 3 available seats on the Board of Trustees. They include: **Patrick Kressin** (incumbent), **John Schindler**, **Jennifer Stuckert**, **Jim Koleski**, and **Jim Gage**. (Trustees **George Haas** and **John Domaszek** filed non-candidacy paperwork and will conclude their terms of service in April 2022.)

An Elm Grove Board of Trustees Candidates' Forum is being planned. Look for details in our March 2022 edition.

**Help Support
Local Journalism**

**Become a valued
Friend of The News**

Details on Page 5

Jemas
Family restaurant

Valentines Event February 12th
Live Music, Food and Cocktails

Moving forward, there will be live music every 2nd Saturday of the month

890 Elm Grove Road Elm Grove WI, 53122 262-330-5035

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Founder / Owner / Publisher / Editor
Lisabeth Passalis-Bain

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"I Know Where You Live!"



Lisabeth Passalis-Bain

Friends of *The News*

For more than 11 years, (138 editions) *The Elm Grove News-Independent* has chronicled and celebrated the unique aspects of our COMMUNITY. In our internet age, the print media has had to think creatively to survive. Yet, LOCAL NEWS coverage is, I believe, more important than ever. You need to know what is going on in your neighborhoods, government, schools and community organizations. It is ESSENTIAL to have the facts in order to make clear decisions.

The EGNI gives you that AND it is FREE to receive (but, as a wise reader once stated, "It is not FREE to produce.")

As Publisher, I am ever grateful to our loyal ADVERTISERS who (100%) make production possible. *Thank you!!!!*

Starting this month, READERS also have an opportunity to help support local journalism by becoming one of our valued Friends of The News. See details - Page 5.

The News-Independent will continue to be mailed FREE of charge to every residence, business, and P.O. Box in Elm Grove, with copies available for pickup at numerous area locations AND it can be viewed online at www.elmgrove.news.

So, if you appreciate receiving a local, community-focused newspaper, please help SUPPORT it by advertising or becoming a Friend. *Take care!*



Photo courtesy: Elm Grove Police Department

Firefighters work to douse flames at a Bluemound Road condominium, January 11.

Residents Safe Following Fire at Elm Grove Condo

Elm Grove Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services arrived at the scene of an active fire at a 4-unit condominium at 13320 Bluemound Rd., Elm Grove at approximately 10:34 a.m. on Tuesday, January 11, just minutes after a second-floor resident called to report that their porch had caught on fire. Heavy smoke and flames were seen emitting from that area of the building and the fire rapidly spread to the attic, causing significant damage to the second floor.

Three of the units were each occupied by one resident; the fourth unit was at the time unoccupied. All of the occupants were able to exit their residences on their own through the front door and no injuries

to residents or emergency personnel were reported.

Due to cold weather conditions, Waukesha Metro Transit provided a bus to shelter the displaced residents and provide a safe and warm rehab location for on-scene emergency personnel.

The fire necessitated a 2nd level box alarm, consisting of the Village of Elm Grove, plus 13 other area fire agencies. The City of Brookfield Police Department also assisted.

The fire remains under investigation and the estimated structural loss is unknown. The Village's 2021 assessment valued the 4-units, including land, at \$536,800.



Chief James P. Gage
36 Years of Service

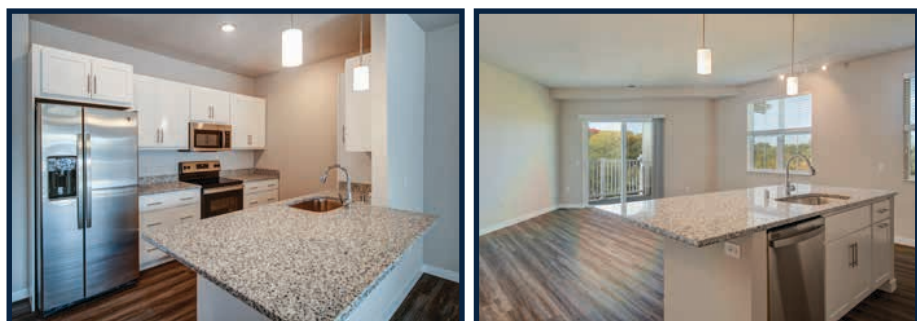
Asst. Chief Jason R. Hennen
26 Years of Service

Photos courtesy: Elm Grove Police Department

Jim Gage and Jason Hennen both retired from the Elm Grove Police Department on January 6, 2022.

ELM GROVE HEIGHTS OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, February 10th 1pm - 3pm
Leasing specials & flexible move-in dates available!



Affordable Luxury | Independent Senior

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Late on Wednesday

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In the Elm Grove Park & Shop

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Evening Appointments Available

Village Update

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

In January I had the honor and pleasure to attend official retirement ceremonies for Elm Grove Police Chief Jim Gage and Assistant Chief Jason Hennen.

Jim Gage began his association with the Elm Grove Police Department as a police explorer in 1980 and rose through the ranks from patrol to serve 16 years as Chief. Jim was also an Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic. Jim earned commendations for his involvement with felony fraud and robbery investigations and many other significant Village events. Besides his low key yet professional attitude I want to again commend Jim for his leadership. Jim and his command team built a well-trained police force and developed an excellent succession plan. Thank you, Jim Gage, for all you have done for our Village.

Assistant Chief **Jason Hennen** spent 26 years with the Elm Grove Police Department. Jason earned a reputation as a tenacious investigator who tracked down and helped built cases against national burglary and fraud groups and sensitive and violent crimes. Jason was also instrumental in department operations and training. Thank you, Jason Hennen, for all your service to Elm Grove.

The Village of Elm Grove Police and Fire Commission selected and swore in 5 new Elm Grove Police Department command staff to replace the retiring leadership. Please congratulate the new leadership when you have the opportunity.

- **Jason Kubiak**, Chief
- **Ryan Unger**, Assistant Chief
- **Natalie Riley**, Lieutenant
- **Robert Gilbreath**, Sergeant
- **Christopher Douglas**, Sergeant

I truly hope Elm Grove residents and businesses appreciate how blessed we are to have such an excellent police force. While the Village Board allocates money to fund the department, it is the Police and Fire Commission which is responsible for hiring, discipline, training, and planning. One only need to follow the news to realize how difficult it is to achieve and maintain the level of professionalism we take for granted.

The Friends of Elm Grove Library (FOEGL) annual “Lights of Love” event

raised \$22,000 for our library in December. Thank you FOEGL for all you do for our library. I will continue to hope for the return of “Bookie Cookies” during the Memorial Day parade.

The Public Works and Utilities Committee again reviewed and discussed plans to reconstruct Gebhardt Road and install a pathway. It was noted that the community open house found support for the project and prompted more work to consider the proposed intersection re-alignment at Highland Drive. In addition to design considerations, the committee also discussed options for how the project could seek bids in light of the **April election** referendum question on public works projects.

The referendum asks whether residents want to adopt an ordinance, that mandates a referendum be held before any public works project with a projected cost greater than \$1 million proceeds.

The Village consulting engineer outlined the timing difficulties and cost increases to be expected if these projects are required go through a referendum process.

The Recreation Committee discussed plans to expand facilities for “Pickleball” in the Village Park, including lessons for new players. Final details will be finalized in the near future and new facilities and opportunities will be in place this summer.

Representatives of Third Space Brewing presented a report on the 2021 season to Recreation Committee members and discussed ideas for improving and expanding opportunities in the coming summer. Beer garden attendees expressed very high satisfaction in a survey conducted last summer and proposed ideas to improve the experience. Third Space will be providing a proposal 2022 operation. The Recreation Committee members unanimously agreed that the beer garden operations last year were a success, and they supported a beer garden in 2022.

Remember, Winterfest is scheduled to be held in the Village Park on Sunday, February 6th from 2:00 to 8:00pm. A variety of family activities are planned, and details are available on the Village website.

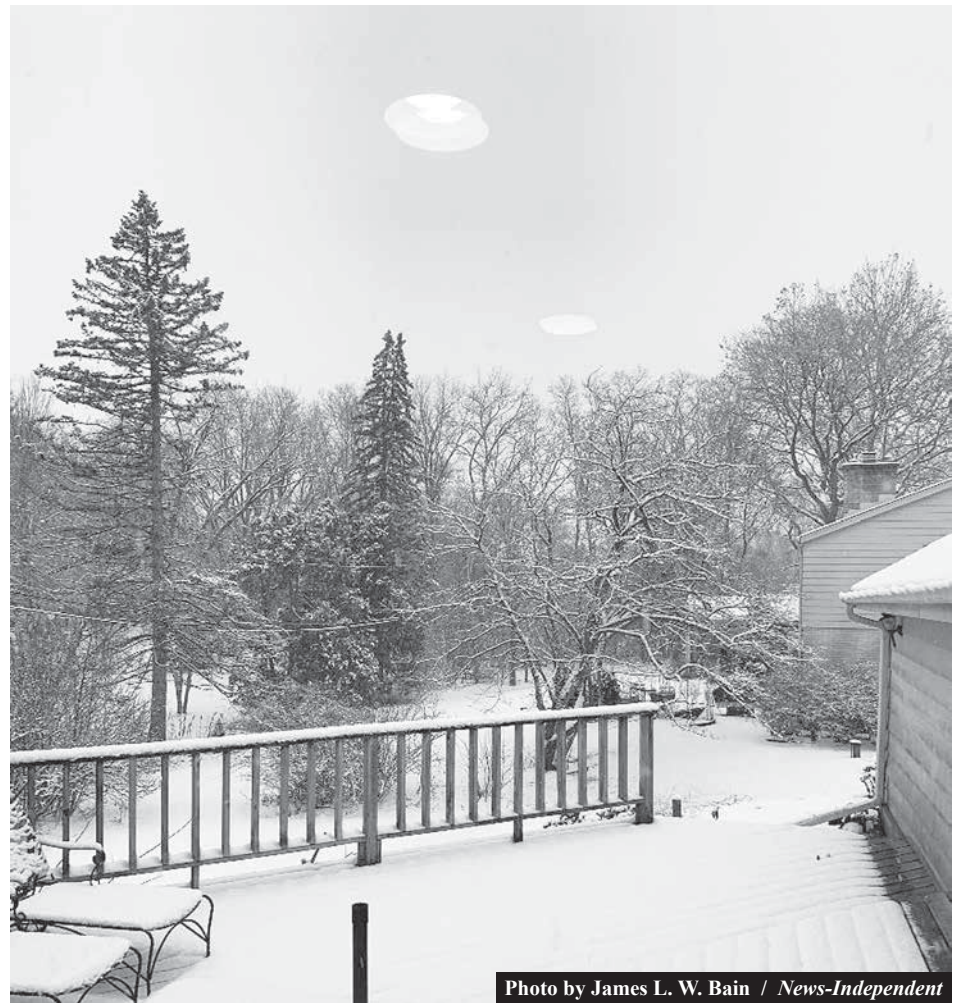


Photo by James L. W. Bain / News-Independent

ALIEN SPACE SHIPS SITED FLYING ABOVE ELM GROVE ??? This image was taken in January 2022 and has NOT been Photoshopped.

READERS: Have visitors from another world made contact?

Or, do you have a guess as to what the “flying objects” really are?

Send your comments to: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com by February 15th.

The TRUTH is out there, and it will be revealed in the MARCH 2022 edition.

(dee dee dee dee... dee dee dee dee...)



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
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

Join us to make a difference in the world!

*Transportation

Happy New Year from the **Elmbrook Senior Taxi**

Serving Elm Grove, Brookfield, Butler and the surrounding areas including hospitals and doctor’s offices
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* Insurance

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Estate Sale / Salvage Sale School Sisters of Notre Dame Convent 13105 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove

We are proud to be liquidating the contents of the convent on the following days:

- *Thursday, February 24 --- 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- *Friday, February 25 --- 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- *Saturday, February 26 --- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

You don't want to miss this sale! It will be **HUGE!**

Items include Antiques/vintage furniture, artwork, statuary, knick knacks as well as everyday household items. Highlighted collectables, a large collection of Genuine Nun Dolls, collection of Blessings Nun Dolls.

Regular household items, furniture, a huge amount of office supplies as well as furniture. Lots of craft supplies include fabric, florals, sewing machines, etc. Lots of tools and garage items including lawn mower, patio furniture, hardware supplies, etc. Industrial equipment to be included in this sale are Kitchen equipment, laundry equipment, lots of carts and shelving just to name a few. A huge amount of linens, kitchen items.

There is so much to see that the list can go on! This sale also includes salvage items in the building. Marble, lighting, built-ins, trim, some stained glass. All items are sold as is/where is.

First day sale no discounts, second day 50% off, Saturday fill a bag for \$5 and make an offer day.

S&B Vintiquities
Scott Luedtke
262-951-1495

Our History: Remembrances of Things Past



Photo courtesy: Tom Ramstack

View of the village of Elm Grove (Circa 1900) looking west from the east end of the village. Left side—horse shed to hitch up horses in inclement weather—**Frank Ramstack's Tavern**—**Charles Reusch's Elm Grove Hotel**—The Watertown Plank Road—remains dirt—it was not paved until about 1923 when Ford came out with his Model T at a price that area farmers could afford. On the right side of the road is **Charles Sanders'** blacksmith shop and wagon shop—he is growing corn, raising chickens, along with other garden stuff in the adjoining lot. Telephone poles run along the west side of the road. In the distance, ladies dressed formally, carrying umbrellas, are strolling up the grade. It may be a church Sunday. The railroad tracks run north and south at the bottom of the distance grade.

Historic Elm Grove Video on YouTube

"I made a video in 1981 of **John and Joe Sanders** working in their blacksmith shop and of John and his sister, **Etta Reinders**, talking about their Sanders family," said **Tom Ramstack**. "The video is quite fascinating. It includes discussion of Elm Grove in the pre-World War I era, World War I, and the years which followed."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKHE0Eh5SFg&list=PLooAqH9AWORNU0xGzEOfjyOiuwtgmMQmQ&index=2>

Volunteers Needed!

*** Community organizations in need of volunteer help are invited to submit a statement (150 words maximum) to: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com
Questions: Call (262) 782-6193.

*Village of Elm Grove Fire Department & E.M.S

Seven out of ten firefighters and emergency responders are volunteers, and Elm Grove needs more volunteers like you. If you've got the heart to serve your community, we've got volunteer opportunities for you. Our volunteers need to live within the department's established response area, be at least 18 years of age, and have a valid Wisconsin driver's license. Upon acceptance, new members attend one semester of Firefighter 1 State Certification course at WCTC or MATC followed by Probationary Training held on Tuesday evenings at the Elm Grove Firehouse. If you are interested in joining a dynamic group of individuals who together make up a GREAT team, please contact me, **Chief David Kastenholtz** at (262) 782-6700, ext. 251 or e-mail dkastenholtz@elmgrovi.org to learn more.

*Sunset Playhouse

Sunset Playhouse loves our volunteers! We rely on them to help create the high-quality productions that Sunset is known for. From working in the Scene Shop to Front of House ushering to helping children make crafts at our bug in a rug Children's Theater shows, we have volunteer opportunities for anyone interested in giving time to the arts. Right now, we are especially looking for ushers, scenery painters, props designers, and back-stage crew. No experience needed - we will train you. If interested, call **Brooke** at (262) 782-4431 x233. Sunset Playhouse, 700 Wall Street, Elm Grove, WI.

*Waukesha County Meals on Wheels

Volunteers are needed to deliver meals to homebound individuals in our community. Receiving this meal assures them proper nutrition as well as the independence to remain in their homes. Drivers are needed between 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. on weekdays. No weekends or major holidays. Schedules are flexible and mileage reimbursement is available. Help the seniors in our community by volunteering for Meals on Wheels! To learn more, contact the ADRC at (262) 548-7848.

*School District of Elmbrook

Please see <https://www.elmbrookschools.org/departments/human-resources/how-to-volunteer-in-elmbrook> for information including completing our district's volunteer background check process. You will need to renew this process every two years. There is an approximate two-week processing time before you are able to volunteer in our school. As approved by our Board and outlined in the Return to Learn Plan, our visitors and volunteers will be required to wear masks when in our school buildings.



Photo courtesy: Tom Ramstack

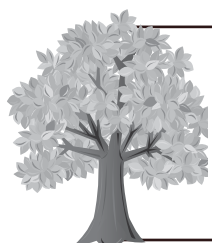
Tom Ramstack notes: "This photo, circa 1907, (is being published) in memory of my brother **Charlie**, who recently passed. It was a favorite of his. It features our great-grandfather's **Frank 'Peg Leg' Ramstack's** 'Elm Grove House.' Framed by 2 very early Harleys on bicycle frames. The Elm Grove ball team showed up following a hard-fought game, along with several dandys of the day all toasting with mugs of Gettelman Beer; and don't leave out the fellow posing cross legged... wearing a corsage... and a derby. Is it his wedding day? Might take you right back to the 'Gay 90s'!!!"

"OUR HISTORY" STORIES & PHOTOS WANTED!

Share your memories of Elm Grove / Brookfield / Waukesha County during the 1940s (World War II, etc.), the 1950s, '60s, '70s, '80s or '90s.

E-mail stories (200 words maximum)
+ photos (include caption & identify individuals shown, left to right)
to: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com (Subject line: Our History)
OR
Mail them to:
EGNI "Our History" P.O. Box 372, Elm Grove, WI 53122-0372

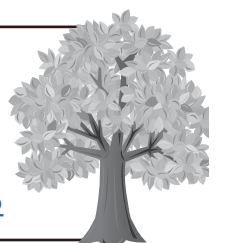
Coloring for Kids (and Adults)!



The Elm Grove News-Independent

has been a Chronicler of Elm Grove / Brookfield / Waukesha County for more than 11 years!

READ OUR CURRENT & MANY PAST EDITIONS AT WWW.ELMGROVE.NEWS



Calendar of Events – February 2022

Tuesday – FEBRUARY 1

• **Elm Grove Building Board**
Meeting – 5:30 p.m. at Village Hall.
Agenda: www.elmgrovetwi.org.

Wednesday – FEBRUARY 2 GROUND HOG DAY

Friday – FEBRUARY 4

• **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting – 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club, Elm Grove;
Program: Heather Uzowulu, “ERAS Senior Network”.
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>

• **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: Craig Nilsen, Total Wine Manager; Topic: “Forty Years of Fine Wine Experience”.
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Sunday – FEBRUARY 6

• **6th Annual Elm Grove Winterfest**
Presented by the Recreation Department, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Village Park Pavilion. Enjoy an afternoon filled with many family fun activities for all ages. There’ll be ice skating on the pond, sledding, candy cane hunt, frosty medallion hunt, plus a fishing derby with prizes for biggest fish. Take a candle light hike, then warm up by the bonfire with smores and hot cocoa.

Monday – FEBRUARY 7

• **Elm Grove Plan Commission**
Meeting – 6 p.m. at Village Hall.
Agenda: www.elmgrovetwi.org.

• **Elmbrook School Board Candidate Forum** – 6 p.m. at District office, 3555 N. Calhoun Road, Brookfield.
Watch at elmbrookschools.org/live

Wednesday – FEBRUARY 9

• **Dementia Friendly Elmbrook** offers Purple Lily Friendship Café from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at St. John’s Lutheran Church, Brookfield. Community dwelling persons with dementia and their care partners are invited to attend this no-cost activity featuring story telling, crafts, songs, and many other engaging activities. For more information or to register, call or text Nancy Shea at (262) 617-7152 or send an e-mail to: Dementiafriendlyelmbrook@gmail.com

Friday – FEBRUARY 11

• **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting – 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club, Elm Grove;
Program: Steve ‘Homer’ True & Tom ‘Pip’ Pipines, “My Faith’ with Homer & Pip”. <http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>

Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K

Meeting – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: George Meyer; Topic: “The Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra New Venue”.
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Monday – FEBRUARY 14 VALENTINE’S DAY



Tuesday – FEBRUARY 15

SPRING PRIMARY ELECTION



• **Elm Grove Building Board**
Meeting – 5:30 p.m. at Village Hall.
Agenda: www.elmgrovetwi.org.

Thursday – FEBRUARY 17

• **OWLS – Seniors’ Group**
Luncheon Meeting: 11:30 a.m. at Community United Methodist Church, Elm Grove; Program: “Fill ‘er Up: The Glory Days of Wisconsin Gas Stations.” RSVP by February 1 at CUMC. Also, on **Thursday, MARCH 17**, OWLS will travel to see “Evita” at the Drury Lane Theatre in Oakbrook, IL. RSVP by February 21. Guests are welcome at both events.
<http://www.cumceg.org>.

• **Elm Grove Beautification Committee**
Winter Lecture Series” presents: Danielle Bell of Native Roots, LLC. Topic: “Native Companion Plantings”, 6:30 p.m. at Village Hall – O’Neill Room. FREE & Open to the public, registration not required.

Friday – FEBRUARY 18

• **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting – 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club, Elm Grove;
Program: TBA.
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>

• **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: Michael Kirksanov, Software Architect;
Topic: “Blockchain/Bitcoin vs. Traditional Fiat Currency”
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Monday – FEBRUARY 21 PRESIDENTS’ DAY

Friday – FEBRUARY 25


• **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting – 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club, Elm Grove; Program: Dr. Mark Hansen, “Elmbrook School District Annual Update”.
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>

• **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
Meeting – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: Amos Morris, Milwaukee County Zoo Director; Topic: “Large Mammals, Especially Elephants at The Zoo.”
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Monday – FEBRUARY 28

• **Elm Grove Board of Trustees**
Meeting – 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall Court Room. Open to the Public. Watch at: <https://elmgrovetwi.org/656/live-stream>. Agenda: www.elmgrovetwi.org.

Friends of Elm Grove Library



35th Used Book Sale

March 4–6, 2022

Preview Night:

Thursday, March 3 6pm to 9pm
FOEGL members free / \$10 membership at door

Thousands of Items!

*Collector’s Table, Books, CDs, DVDs,
Vintage Items all specially priced*


Most items
\$1–\$3

Free Admission:

Friday, March 4	10am to 7pm	
Saturday, March 5	10am to 5pm	Half-price sale
Sunday, March 6	Noon to 4pm	\$6/bag

Masks Are Encouraged
Check for updated information
friendsofelmgrovelibrary.org

Elm Grove Library
13600 Juneau Blvd., Lower Level
262-782-6717



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- * The opportunity to be entered in monthly drawings to win tickets to local performances and other prizes.
- * The option of receiving a PDF of upcoming editions in advance of the newspaper’s regular distribution dates. *** Just circle “YES” below.
- * Sponsor 3 or more of our remaining 2022 editions and receive a credit for a FREE 20-word Classified AD. (Must be used by November 15 for AD in December edition.)

***To become a Friends of *The News* sponsor, complete & mail this form with a check (payable to Elm Grove News-Independent LLC) to: EGNI Friends of The News, P.O. Box 372, Elm Grove, WI 53122.**

Name _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Phone # _____ E-mail: _____

**** I/We want to be a sponsor of the following editions: (please circle one or more) MARCH 2022, APRIL 2022, MAY 2022, JUNE 2022, JULY 2022, AUGUST 2022, SEPTEMBER 2022, OCTOBER 2022, NOVEMBER 2022, DECEMBER 2022.**

***** Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ (\$10.00 per sponsored edition)**

**** Please circle “YES” to receive PDFs of upcoming editions via e-mail.**

Thank you for being a Friend!

Questions: E-mail elmgrovenews@yahoo.com OR Call (262) 782-6193

News Briefs



Photo courtesy: Wellpoint Care Network

A child takes part in a Wellpoint Care Network program as her caregiver looks on.

Elmbrook Rotary Provides Holiday Gifts, Support to Foster Care Families

By Jack Nelson

Wellpoint Care Network (formerly Saint A) is one of the largest providers of support services for families in Wisconsin. Serving more than 5,000 children daily through their various services, they have become a leader in providing not only direct care but in training caregivers, teachers, health care professionals and others in the caring for children who have been exposed to trauma.

One of the most successful programs at Wellpoint is their Foster Care program. In this program children are matched with families that have been screened and trained to provide trauma-informed care for these children in a family home environment. Most of us know that raising children can be challenging at times, but just think of the dedication and effort it takes to provide a comforting and safe environment for youth who have to be placed in the Foster Care system.

The Elmbrook Rotary club has had a very strong relationship with Wellpoint

for more than twenty years. The members of this Rotary club have helped out with clothing drives, school supplies, books, tutoring and safe outings for the kids in Wellpoint's care.

This year, as Elmbrook Rotary has done for many years, the members of the club provided some holiday support for these Foster Care families by providing holiday gifts to the 81 kids in the program. In past years the club hosted a holiday party with Santa and his elves passing out the gifts. Unfortunately, CoViD didn't allow an in-person get together in 2022, but that didn't stop these dedicated Rotarians from getting gifts to all 81 of the kids in the program.

Visit <https://sainta.org> for more information on the Wellpoint Care Network and how you, too, can serve to change lives.



Photo courtesy: School District of Elmbrook

Brookfield Central Key Club members.

BCHS Key Club Donates \$5,000+ to Waukesha Fund

(BROOKFIELD) Following the tragedy at the Waukesha Christmas Parade, the Brookfield Central Key Club coordinated efforts to raise funds for the victims of the incident. Over the course of December, the club raised \$5,539 that was donated to the families of those impacted by the event.

"This tragedy impacted the entire greater Waukesha area, and I'm so proud of our students for taking the initiative to raise these funds to help those in need during this difficult time," said **Ronn Blaha**, Key Club Advisor. "The generosity of the community provides hope as well as help."

One-hundred percent of the donations to the United for Waukesha Community Fund

will go towards supporting the needs of families affected by the parade tragedy.

"While we are deeply saddened by the tragedy that occurred, we are also humbled and uplifted by the generosity and compassion of individuals and organizations - both locally and across the globe. These donations will help our community as it begins the process of healing," said **Melissa Baxter**, President of the Waukesha County Community Foundation.

Donate to the United for Waukesha Community Fund by visiting: <https://waukeshafoundation.org>.

'Cruisin' the Grove 2022' to be Held --- August 7th

By Ray Shannon

The Coronavirus prevented the big annual Cruisin' the Grove car show from taking place in downtown Elm Grove in August of 2020. But in the spring of 2021, the good folks at Woller-Anger Insurance offered the opportunity and challenge of resurrecting it to the Elm Grove Kiwanis Club and this local group of mostly retired businessmen took the ball and ran with it.



The members volunteered their time and effort to do the many tasks required in the 4 months that led up to the big show and they were rewarded with beautiful weather and a big crowd on August 1, 2021.

The combination of sponsorships from local businesses, donations from show car owners and raffle ticket sales at the show, generated income that exceeded expenses by \$13,000. That money has been put to good use by the Kiwanis Club of Elm Grove as it continues its philanthropic goal of funding programs that benefit children in and around the community.

Already now in 2022, the Kiwanis Club is preparing for another big "Cruisin' the Grove" show on Watertown Plank Road in Elm Grove. The date is Sunday, August 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. And, as always, hot food and cold drinks will be available from the Silver Spur BBQ and O'Donoghue's Irish Pub. Hopefully good weather will again allow 300+ classic and collectible cars, trucks and cycles of all ages to be put on display for a big crowd of appreciative on-lookers. So, mark your calendars now and watch for further details in the months ahead.

Happy Heart Day

F	R	M	H	W	B	U	E	E	J	Y	I	T	N	K	D	X	W
D	S	O	O	T	S	A	N	V	A	M	I	R	E	G	I	F	T
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B	L	V	P	E	W	C	D	J	X	U	G	F	A	R	L	G	C
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D	U	V	K	C	F	A	P	G	B	F	E	B	R	U	A	R	Y
Y	R	K	U	O	N	I	T	E	J	W	F	W	G	Z	Y	R	F
A	J	D	Q	H	J	L	Q	F	S	O	B	B	C	Y	P	L	H
N	U	L	Q	C	M	Z	Z	A	Q	T	B	Y	V	V	I	A	J

Word Bank

ARROW	BALLOONS	BEAR	CANDY
CARDS	CHOCOLATE	CINNAMON	CUPID
FEBRUARY	FLOWERS	FOURTEENTH	FRIEND
GIFT	HEART	HUGS	LOVE
NECKLACE	PINK	RED	ROSES
VALENTINE			WHITE

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News Briefs



Photo courtesy: Donald Down

Judy Down (at left) of Community Church, **Pam Sprewer** (center) of Dickson Hollow, and **Patty Johnson** (at right) of Community Church sort shoes bound for Africa.

Church Seeks Shoe Donations for Africans in Need

(ELM GROVE) Community United Methodist Church, 14700 Watertown Plank Road, recently became a collection point for “Soles for Jesus”, a Milwaukee-based non-profit that distributes footwear to needy persons in sub-Saharan Africa.

Church member **Donald Down** explained, “We have two drop-off points at the church, one in our fellowship hall and one outside. So far, the outside box has been used by members of OWLS Senior Ministry and Mothers’ Day Out folks, but the location is also convenient for anyone in the Elm Grove community to drop off gently used footwear. The labeled white container is off the patio, and is visible from the eastside parking lot.”

Down says that he “got inspired to have Community Church become a

drop-off point after attending a Sort and Organize Shoes (SOS) event last September with several church members who live in Dickson Hollow retirement community. The need for usable footwear became very evident during the pre-sorting orientation.”

Each shipment contains about 8,000 pairs of shoes. Footwear of all sizes is needed, from toddler to the largest adult sizes. These include sneakers, sandals, clogs, moccasins, brogues, oxfords, business shoes, hiking boots, running shoes, slippers, and loafers. Footwear received that is not suitable to the sub-Saharan climate is donated to other organizations.

For additional project details, visit: www.solesforjesus.org.

“Green” is Good!

Elm Grove Green Team

This is a group for Elm Grove residents who want to help our village become more sustainable. We meet regularly in the village and hope to gain more support and awareness. Check out our Elm Grove Green team on Facebook. For more information, e-mail Deb at info@waukeshacountygreenteam.org.

35th Used Book Sale to be Held - March 4-6, 2022

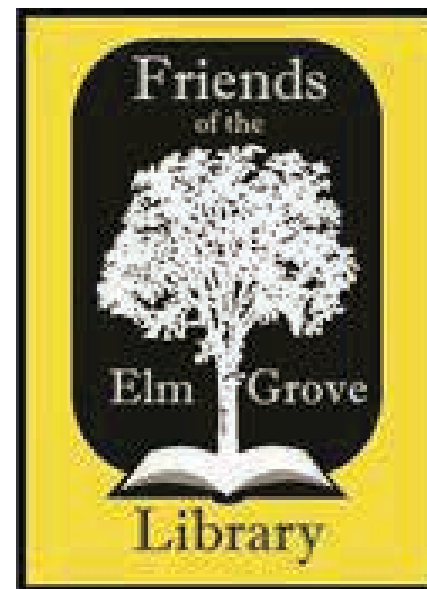
By Janet Wintersberger

Our Used Book Sale is literally around the corner, March 4-6, at the Elm Grove Public Library, 13600 Juneau Blvd. The Friends of Elm Grove Library (FOEGL) began the sale 36 years ago! Its purpose is still the same -- to donate funds to the Elm Grove Library for purchasing new items for the Library’s collection. The sale benefits residents in Elm Grove plus every library user in Waukesha and Jefferson counties.

The Used Book Sale has earned the reputation of being the region’s biggest and best organized event. It also features a “Collector’s Table” (which offers 500 to 1,000 rare, unique or collectible items), all individually priced.

For many people, the sale is also a social event. The shoppers are often friends and neighbors of the many Friends members who volunteer for a shift or two during the event. It is not uncommon to see the same people shop during each of the three days, nor those who had volunteered to return and do their own shopping.

All Friends of Elm Grove Library members can attend the “Preview Night”



on Thursday, March 3. The sale is open to the public on Friday, March 4, Saturday, March 5 and Sunday, March 6. Come see thousands of items in the lower level.

Masks are encouraged. Please check our website for up-to-date information.
Friendsofelmgrovelibrary.org.

(See BOOK SALE – AD on Page 5.)



Citizen Police Academy Classes to begin April 6 – Apply Now!

(ELM GROVE) The Elm Grove Police Department is currently taking applications for the 2022 Citizen Police Academy Class. Participation is limited to Village of Elm Grove residents and interested non-residents who work in the Village. The class will meet every Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for ten weeks, beginning on April 6th and concluding with a graduation banquet on June 8th.

Applications are available at the Police Department lobby, 13600 Juneau Blvd., or by e-mailing Lt. Riley at nriley@elmgrovewi.org. The application deadline is March 11, 2022.



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News Briefs



Photo courtesy: Brookfield Academy

Scholastic Art Award winners from Brookfield Academy. (Top Row, left to right): **Lucia Jensen, Mira Santo Tomas, Xitlali Martinez, Cecilia Elfelt, Tyler Beckley, Justyn Anderson, Anneke Zaiser, Estelle Watts, Katherine Schalyaev, Bowen Duan;** (Middle Row, l-r): **Elisabeth Schwertfeger, Jesus Avila, Emma Richardson, Olivia Schaub, Max Hong, Jeff Huang, Jacqueling Dieck, Yunqi Xu, Hannah Ding;** Bottom Row, l-r): **Yifan Wang, Raya Khraisat, Aidan Rogers, Eve Janavitz, Ellie Plamann, Cynthia Yu, Chloe Manke.** (Not pictured): **Laurette Blanchard, Theo Sarnowski, Sara Wilson.**

Brookfield Academy Students Win Art Awards

(BROOKFIELD) Brookfield Academy is proud to announce that 29 Upper School art students were recognized for their talents by Scholastic Art Awards-Wisconsin. "This year we are particularly excited," said **Elaine Buckley**, Upper School Art Teacher, "because the winners cover such a broad range of media – everything from charcoal and animation to large outdoor cedar sculpture." Pieces that received Gold Key and Silver Key awards will be on view at the Milwaukee Art Museum from February 5 - March 20, 2022.

The following students earned 39 awards in a wide variety of categories:

Justyn Anderson, Milwaukee, Honorable Mention (Drawing & Illustration)
Jesus Avila, Milwaukee, Honorable Mention (Drawing & Illustration)
Tyler Beckley, Elm Grove, Gold Key (Sculpture)
Laurette Blanchard, Elm Grove, Honorable Mention (Mixed Media)
Jacqueline Dieck, Menomonee Falls, Honorable Mention (Painting), Honorable Mention (Painting)
Hannah Ding, Brookfield, Gold Key (Sculpture), Gold Key (Painting), Silver Key (Painting), Silver Key (Portfolio)
Bowen Duan, Menomonee Falls, Silver Key (Photography)
Cecilia Elfelt, Brookfield, Gold Key (Drawing & Illustration), Honorable Mention (Sculpture)
Max Hong, Brookfield, Honorable Mention (Drawing & Illustration)
Jeff Huang, New Berlin, Gold Key (Sculpture), Gold Key (Drawing & Illustration)
Eve Janavitz, Elm Grove, Honorable Mention (Mixed Media)
Lucia Jensen, Brookfield, Honorable Mention (Sculpture)
Raya Khraisat, Franklin, Honorable Mention (Drawing & Illustration)

Chloe Manke, Lake Mills, Silver Key (Drawing & Illustration)
Xitlali Martinez, Milwaukee, Silver Key (Drawing & Illustration)
Eleanor Plamann, Milwaukee, Gold Key (Digital Art)
Emma Richardson, Wauwatosa, Silver Key (Sculpture), Silver Key (Mixed Media)
Aidan Rogers, Milwaukee, Honorable Mention (Photography)
Mira Santo Tomas, Wauwatosa, Gold Key (Film & Animation)
Theo Sarnowski, New Berlin, Gold Key (Sculpture), Silver Key (Sculpture)
Olivia Schaub, Menomonee Falls, Honorable Mention (Drawing & Illustration)
Elisabeth Schwertfeger, Elm Grove, Silver Key (Sculpture)
Katherine Shalyaev, Brookfield, Honorable Mention (Sculpture), Honorable Mention (Painting)
Yifan Wang, Menomonee Falls, Honorable Mention (Drawing & Illustration)
Estelle Watts, Menomonee Falls, Honorable Mention (Art Portfolio)
Sara Wilson, Brookfield, Honorable Mention (Sculpture)
Yunqi Xu, Milwaukee, Gold Key (Fashion)
Cynthia Yu, Menomonee Falls, Gold Key (Drawing & Illustration)
Anneke Zaiser, Elm Grove, Gold Key (Printmaking), Honorable Mention (Printmaking)

Twelve pieces done by ten different students received Gold Key awards and will advance to national competition in New York City in March. The Scholastic Art Awards have been recognizing the tremendous creative power of American teenagers since 1926. The program receives entries from students across the nation. It is judged by and has many past winners who have gone on to significant success in visual arts, writing, and business.



Tonawanda's Chess Team Does Well at Tournament

By DJ Richlen

Tonawanda Elementary on January took third place at the chess tournament held at Pewaukee's Asa Clark Middle School. The Tigers were led by **Cole Richlen**, who took 4th place in the individual results.

The team is preparing for the **2022 Spartan Open, set to take place at Brookfield East High School on February 12th.** The Spartan Open awards the Elmbrook Cup to the district's top performing elementary school. For more details about the Spartan Open, visit <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/SpartanOpen22> or contact Coach DJ at richlend@elmbrookschoools.org.



Photo by DJ Richlen

Cole and Will Richlen with their Chess Tournament trophies.

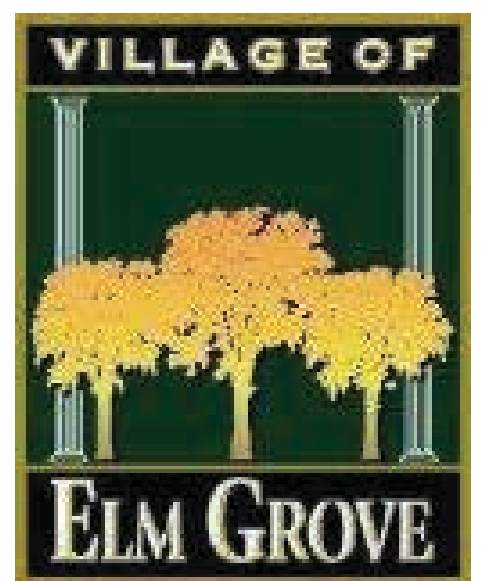
EGPD Bios (Continued from Page 1.)

Chief Jason Kubiak is a twenty-two-year veteran of the EGPD, having been hired in May of 1999. Born and raised in the City of Milwaukee, he received a B.A. in Criminology and Law Studies from Marquette University and began his career as a Waukesha County Sheriff Correctional Officer in 1998. A graduate of the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command, Kubiak has served as a firearms instructor. He was promoted to sergeant in 2006, and, in 2013, he attained the rank of lieutenant during which time he was responsible for departmental operations. Chief Kubiak has served as an Emergency Medical Technician with the department since 2000.

"I am honored and grateful for the opportunity to lead this great department and look forward to building upon the strong cohesive relationship that exists between the police department and the Elm Grove community," Kubiak said.

Assistant Chief Ryan Unger has served the Elm Grove community for twenty years. Unger graduated from Concordia University Wisconsin in 1999 with a B.A. in Justice and Public Policy. He was hired as a patrol officer by the EGPD in May 2001 and attended the basic recruit academy at Waukesha County Technical College that year. Ryan was promoted to a patrol sergeant in 2006 and completed Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2011.

Lieutenant Natalie Riley began her career in law enforcement in 2005 as a public safety dispatcher with the Village of Elm Grove. She worked as a police officer for the City of Milwaukee Police Department from 2007 through 2011, after which she returned to the EGPD as a patrol officer. She was promoted to sergeant in 2013. Lt. Riley is a graduate of the Northwestern School of Police Staff and Command training program. She serves as an investigator with the Waukesha County Major Investigative Unit and as a Crisis Negotiator with the Suburban Critical Incident Team. She is also the police liaison / advisor to the Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association.



Sergeant Robert Gilbreath graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in Sociology and an emphasis in Criminal Justice. Robert worked as a correctional officer for Racine Correctional Institution from 2009 – 2011 where he was a member of the Emergency Disturbance Unit. He graduated from Gateway Technical College's Police Academy in 2016 and was hired by the EGPD in April of 2017. While a patrol officer, he was also assigned to the Waukesha County Civil Disturbance Unit and the Waukesha County Metro Drug Unit. Sgt. Gilbreath is currently assigned to the Suburban Critical Incident Team.

Sergeant Christopher Douglas is an eleven-year veteran in law enforcement. Douglas graduated from Waukesha County Technical College in 2009 with an associate's degree in Criminal Justice and from Concordia University Wisconsin in 2015 with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice Management. In 2009, he also attended the basic recruit academy at Waukesha County Technical College. He began his law enforcement career as a Waukesha County Sheriff's Deputy and also worked for the Village of Williams Bay Police Department. Sgt. Douglas completed Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2019 and was hired by the EGPD in 2020.



Young Writers & Reporters

Valentine's Day

By Ty Holland

2nd Grade – Tonawanda

Valentine's Day is when love is in the air.
It is everywhere.
Love, hugs are being seen everywhere.
Pink and red are the colors you will see.

Snowman

By Elliot Dworak

2nd Grade – Tonawanda

If I were a snowman at night, I would have a slippery soccer game and at half time we would drink cold coco. We would have some cold chilly and we would have a lot of gas! We would go ski and snowboarding down a steep hill. Then we would play ice hockey and go ice fishing at a frozen pond. I would LOVE to be a snowman at night!

Love

By Kiera Maio, 2nd Grade – Tonawanda

I love my family, I really DO
My family is amazing and so are YOU!
I love my family, don't you?
I love my family,
it's true- and I hope
you do, too!

Snowman

By Alice Magnor

2nd Grade – Tonawanda

If I were a snowman at night, I would first do a big snowball fight! Next, I would go sledding. Then I would play with snowman and snowwoman friends. Finally, I would drink cold chocolate. I would love to be a snowman at night.

Family

By Joy Kim

2nd Grade – Tonawanda

When I see my family
they look sweet like a weeeeet!
I love to see them have fun and laugh
together.
They help each other like sweet candy!
I love my family!

Love

By Norah Daniels

2nd Grade – Tonawanda

I love my friends,
I love my family,
I love EVERYONE!
I love my teacher,
I love my stuffies,
I love EVERYONE!
I love Jesse,
I love my Grandma,
I love EVERYONE!
I love my Grandpa,
I love my class.

L-O-V-E

By Kennedy Small

2nd Grade – Tonawanda

Love is love.
Love is kind.
You can love your Mom, Dad or sister.
Love is like a dove.
Everywhere I look is L-O-V-E!
Everyone is loved.
Love is love.
Love is oh SOOOO nice.
Love, oh Love!

Valentine's Day

By Jacob Katula

4th Grade -Tonawanda

Valentine's Day is a time for hearts
Valentine's Day is a time
for crafts and arts
Valentine's Day is a time for caring
Valentine's Day is a time for sharing
Valentine's Day is a time
for memories that last
Valentine's Day is a time
for thinking about the past

Midnight in Wisconsin

By Teagan Paschke

4th grade - Tonawanda

All the animals are on the prowl and the coyotes start a howl. A bird flies above the snow no one knows where it will go. A frightened rabbit hops away, the deer aren't scared they decide to stay. A little squirrel climbs up a tree and a newborn fox has lots to see. The crickets chirp and the bullfrogs burp. I flick on my flashlight and all the animals leave into the night. That's midnight in Wisconsin.

Valentine's Day

By Teaghan Coffey

4th Grade - Tonawanda

Very many treats
A lot of people gather
Lots of flowers
Excellent love birds
No other day like it
The flowers aren't wilting
I like the time of year
Nice Valentine cards
Excellent families getting treats
for class parties
Some chocolates are tasty
Dad gets chocolates for mom
A lot of people bundle up in winter gear
Yay! People are the nicest
they've ever been

Valentine's Day

By Brady Dugan

2nd Grade - Tonawanda

Valentine's Day spreads love in the air!
You make your Valentine box.
A few minutes later-
you see candy or other stuff waiting for
you in your box.
Your friend gave you something special.
Valentine's Day is in the air!

LOVE

By Mila Webb

2nd Grade – Tonawanda

Love is love!
It makes you happy
You love your Mom and Dad.
Love is not bad
because
love is love.
If you are sad--- it's not bad.
You just need someone you love.

Love is Everywhere!

By Sidney Skaug

2nd Grade - Tonawanda

Love is everywhere,
it is in my house,
Love is falling out of
my head!
Love makes me dream,
Love is writing words on a string!
I think of love as a way to
brighten up my day!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Elm Grove student **Darby Koehne** was named a winner of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Spoken Word Contest sponsored by Northwestern Mutual Foundation and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Youth ages 5-18 were encouraged to write an original poem or spoken word piece based on the MLK Jr. quotation: *"Our goal is to create a beloved community, and this will require a qualitative change in our souls as well as a quantitative change in our lives."* Among the prizes she received were an iPad, Bucks tickets, and Brewers tickets. She was also invited to appear on Fox 6 in the AM on MLK Day, January 17, on a local radio show, and at the 25th annual MLK Jr. celebration hosted by the YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee, where winners were recognized for their writing. Her winning essay appears below.

Change Within the Community Starts Within Us

By Darby Koehne, 7th Grade - St. Mary's Visitation

"He who passively accepts evil is as much involved in it as he who helps perpetuate it. He who accepts evil without protesting against it is cooperating with it."

Martin Luther King Jr.

Have you tried to reach out to others in need? This is a question people have a hard time truly answering because we always want to convince ourselves that we are doing more than we are and we try as hard as we can to reach out to jeopardized communities. Let me ask you a question, have you looked at yourself and said what am I doing wrong or what can I do to help marginalized communities? Have you ever had an injustice happen to you that hurt you, but people didn't seem to care about it? Think about this today.

People are so quick to sign petitions and talk about injustices, but never really look at themselves and say, what am I doing that could hurt someone or what am I standing up for? Everyone wants to do what is comfortable and is not unpopular. MLK made his voice heard and he didn't care if he was unpopular, or wasn't liked. I know I sometimes don't speak up if I think something is wrong because it's comfortable and I want people to like me. I hide behind a mask and blame everyone else around me for things. I rarely take the time to look at myself. I know it's easy to judge and it's easy to blame everyone else for the world's problems. You can't change people, but you can change your actions and words. We must first start within ourselves for change. As MLK stated *"I must confess that I am not afraid of the word 'tension'... there is a type of constructive, nonviolent tension which is necessary for growth."*

I have dyslexia, ADD, and sensory processing disorder. One in five students is dyslexic and more than 70% go undetected. They say it doesn't matter what neighborhood you're from or your ethnicity the percentages for dyslexia are the same. 21% of Americans are illiterate. As MLK once stated, *"The sad truth is that American schools, by and large, do not know how to teach – nor frequently what to teach. The ineffectiveness in teaching reading skills to many young people, whether white or black, poor or rich, strongly indicts foundations and government for not spending funds effectively..."*

My family and I serve food at a food bank, St. Ben's of Milwaukee, and not as many people are coming in due to Covid, but the homelessness rate is increasing. This means there are more unfed people. In MLK's words, *"There is nothing new about poverty. What is new is that we now have new techniques and resources to get rid of poverty. The real question is whether we'll have the will."* This quote still stands true today.

Healthcare is very expensive and it's essential, but many jobs don't offer it or

what they do offer is not good and it's expensive. I'm not very educated in this area, but the Equality and Human Rights Commission found that 1 in 9 women lose their jobs due to pregnancy and 1 in 4 women only get 2 weeks maternity leave when at least 6 to 12 is recommended. It is as if as women we are being punished for having children.

I feel like I'm seen as less than my male peers and this honestly really upsets me. When I say something I'm being "emotional", "looking for attention" or "stop trying to be different". I'm sick of being belittled because of my gender. Even girls say mean things just because they want to fit in and be liked. I'm also sick of dress codes. There are barely any rules against boys. I'm so sorry my legs are so distracting. It's alarming to me to realize how early in life this all begins. I'm going to be talking about sexual assault so a trigger warning. 1 in 10 girls gets cat-called before their 11th birthday and 71% of women have experienced harassment by men. Statistics on sexual harassment from the Department of Justice suggest that over 1.5 million women are raped and/or physically assaulted annually and that is only the reported case. According to the NSERC, 1 in 5 women has experienced sexual assault. This information is appalling and sickening.

The reason I'm not talking much about racism is that I've never experienced it firsthand, but I do stand in solidarity with people that do. It's not my issue to speak on, but it is a privilege for me to say that and agree with MLK's words, *"We must see now that the evils of racism, economic exploitation and militarism are all tied together. And you can't get rid of one without getting rid of the other."*

We can't just do what's comfortable anymore if we want change. Most of the time, I watch from afar and think "that sucks" but never do anything about it. Each summer I attend YMCA Camp Minikani. It has played a big role in me learning how to express myself and stand up for what's right. I wish we all had a place like Minikani. By writing this I hope I can reach someone such as myself because everyone needs a wake-up call. In MLK's words *"A social movement that only moves people is merely a revolt. A movement that changes both people and institutions is a revolution."* Let's make our voices heard and stand up for what we believe in.

Let's do one little thing every day that challenges us. So, today my challenge to you is if we feel something is unjust, say it and see how the world around us has changed. Your words matter even if it is one little thing, it makes a difference. *"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter,"* said Martin Luther King Jr. Our biggest enemy is ourselves, so who is holding us back from changing the world?

Legal Issues

Estate Planning: Common Mistakes

By Attorney Isabell M. Mueller

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

- **Outdated beneficiary designations.**

Assets such as retirement accounts, annuities and life insurance have separate beneficiary designations which determine who will receive those funds. These beneficiary designations take precedence over your Last Will and Testament or Revocable Trust. It is, therefore, imperative that you know exactly who those beneficiaries are and that those designations are coordinated with your overall estate plan. Your beneficiary designations should be reviewed every few years, or after any major life event, and you should keep a copy of each one with your financial records.

- **Not updating asset titles.**

Do you know exactly how each and every one of your assets is titled? Are some assets titled in only one spouse's name, while others are jointly titled? Who actually owns your business? Incorrectly titled assets will absolutely reduce the effectiveness of your estate plan. As with beneficiary designations, asset titles need to be coordinated with your estate plan and periodically reviewed.

- **Not updating the estate plan.**

Your life is a work in progress, and you should think of your estate plan the same way. It is unusual for your documents to require updates because of changes in the law. Rather, changes to your life or the lives of your family members will be what necessitates changes to the estate plan. You should review your plan after major life events, or in the absence of any of those, roughly every five years, while also reviewing the beneficiary designations and asset titles at the same time.

- **Not fully understanding the plan.**

The language used in your estate planning documents will be difficult to understand. While you do not need to understand all of the "legalese," you should have a fundamental understanding of what your estate plan is and how it works to implement your wishes. Without this basic understanding, you will not be able to properly maintain your plan. Take the opportunity to refresh your understanding of your overall plan whenever you review the beneficiary designations, asset titles and your estate planning documents.

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Young Writers (Continued from Page 9)

Valentine's Mistake

By Freya H., 4th Grade – Tonawanda

"Get the table ready!" Tom said. It was Valentine's Day morning. Tom made all of his friends get the house set up for Tom's Valentine, Christina.

"David! NO SLACKING!" Tom yelled.

"Yes sir!" David said.

"Terrance!" Tom started.

"Yes Tom, the hearts." Terrance said.

"Now! I need to get dressed!" Tom yelled to himself.

A few hours later, the house looked like it exploded in red, white, and a lot of hearts.

"It's ready, Tom." David said. Then there was a knock on the door, KNOCK KNOCK!

"She's here!" everyone said.

"Positions everyone!" Tom yelled.

Tom slowly opened the door, and it was... Mary?

"Mary, what are you doing here?" Tom asked.

"A letter came in my mail saying to come here at 5! Am I wrong? Should I go?" Mary asked.

"No, no, come right in!" Tom said. "We were ready for you!"

Everyone looked at Tom very confused. After dinner Tom walked Mary out the door and into her car.

"It was lovely to see you! Bye!" Mary said. In seconds, she was gone.

Everyone looked at each other and Tom.

"What? It's all the mailman, not me!" Tom said.

The Love Season

By Satvik Reddy

Tonawanda – 4th Grade

Love with friends.

Love with family.

Love with candy.

Giving classmates candy.

We love our cousins.

We love the school.

We love everything we have.

This is the love day.

Be Kind and Caring

By Payton Hall, Tonawanda - 4th Grade

On Valentine's Day it is not just about candy, and giving people candy. It is about caring and feeling for other people. So, on Valentine's Day, don't just be nice, also be kind and caring. Also, have nice feelings for others because if you don't like them it does not mean you can't be nice to them.

February

By Lukas Maio, 4th Grade - Tonawanda

F is for family and friends coming over to celebrate Valentine's Day

E is for everyone being together and included when we play

B is for being brave and bold

R is for running and playing in the snow

U is for us to be grateful and kind

A is for all to be loved and respected

R is for riding down the hill on a sled

Y is for you and I to watch the Packers get a Super Bowl WIN!

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 (200 words max.) 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

Our Backsliding Democracy Can be Saved

Hundreds of thousands of tax dollars - yours and mine - are being wasted on yet another look into our state's presidential election. This, despite the fact that the election results were upheld by courts with Republican appointed judges, by numerous recounts, and by independent reviews. Joe Biden won 21,000 more votes than Donald Trump, period. Yet the losers, including Republicans in our state legislature can't accept the defeat. Instead, State Senator Vos has used our tax dollars to hire former State Supreme Court Judge Michael Gableman to review the election yet again. But there's been no transparency - Vos has provided so few records to document these expenditures as requested by the open records law that a that he's been taken to court. In addition, our state congressional Senator Ron Johnson, wants our state's Republican legislature to run the election process.

This is frightening, folks! The basis of democracy is having fair elections, nonpartisan control of elections and

acceptance of the results of a fair election. Never before in our country's history has a fair election been scrutinized and contested this long. In a *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* article (January 2, 2022), Laura Thornton, director of the Alliance for Securing Democracy of the German Marshall Fund of the United States, reports that the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance has labeled the United States a "backsliding democracy".

America, the birth place of democracy, is now on the verge of losing its democracy! We can't let that happen. As a kid in civics class, I learned that "eternal vigilance is the price of democracy." Now, more than ever, we need to be vigilant and do all we can to save our democracy- stay informed through reliable news sources, make calls and write letters to state and congressional representatives, organize and peacefully protest. Let's save our democracy together.

Mariette Nowak
East Troy, WI

Referendum Needed re: SSND, Reinders Developments

Mr. Palmer, our Village President, is self-righteous in his Village Update (Elm Grove News-Independent, January 2022). The Village has done little more than what they were elected to do. If they had done less, the residents would have been up in arms.

Mr. Palmer never mentioned the Village's futile attempt to thwart the Petition and the judge agrees the petitioners deserve their day in court. *The Waukesha Freeman* (January 2022), has a very good article on why the court wants to listen to the petitioners and anyone who questions the petitioners' actions should read it. I myself want to see the SSND and the Reinders

Developments go ahead, but they are such a large part of the Village that they need to be approved by a referendum of residents that are staying.

It is not for the SSND or Reinders to pick the developer or type of development, the Village can rezone the properties to the type of development we want and grandfather in the current uses. Notre Dame and Maria Hall buildings would always be protected. It is time we had city water instead of sidewalks and taxes spent on developers. Let the citizens have their say.

Robert Smith
Elm Grove

Classifieds

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News Briefs



Photo courtesy: St. Mary's Visitation

St. Mary's Visitation students pose with a very large replica of a cell.

Elementary Students Create Science Classroom Cell Model

(ELM GROVE) Sixth-graders at St. Mary's Visitation School recently constructed a giant cell model in their science classroom. Each student was tasked with creating a proportional model of a cell organelle and writing a paper describing its function. This is what the students learned:

"The vacuole is sac-shaped like a bean within the cytoplasm of the cell. The vacuole stores fluid for the cell to live. It is formed when multiple vesicles are fused together. All organelles rely on the vacuole. Vacuoles typically comprise about 30 percent of the cell's volume. I created a replica of the vacuole out of a big garbage bag with water and food in it." --- **Thomas**

"The mitochondria are the powerhouse of the cell. It performs ATP synthesis which is vital for the cell. The mitochondria have a small amount of DNA inside them. This tells it what to do. I made it out of wood."--- **Jim**

"The ribosomes are little balls that float around in the cytoplasm. The ribosomes make the proteins needed for the cell to live. The ribosomes can also stick onto the Endoplasmic reticulum and then it can make proteins for use outside of the cell. I used red plastic balls for the ribosomes." ---**Micah**

"The Golgi body looks like a wavy structure. The Golgi body packages proteins for later use. It also packages lipid

molecules to later be exported from the cell. The Golgi body is located near the nucleus. I created the replica with bubble wrap and red duct tape." ----**Nate**

"The nucleus stores genetic information for the cell. It stores DNA in the form of chromosomes. Inside, it also has a nucleolus, which produces ribosomes. The nucleus is in the center of the cell. I created the replica with a wire ball." ---**Felicity**

"The cytoplasm is the cell filter. Did you know that the cytoplasm takes up 80% of the cell! The cytoplasm is clear and contains all the other organelles. The cytoplasm is made up of 2 parts: the ectoplasm, and the endoplasm. I created the replica with plastic wrap." --- **Jacob**

"The Endoplasmic Reticulum is a membrane-enclosed passageway for transporting materials such as the proteins synthesized by ribosomes. There are two types: rough and smooth. Rough endoplasmic reticulum has ribosomes attached to it and the smooth endoplasmic reticulum does not have ribosomes attached to it. The Endoplasmic Reticulum's function is to make lipids, break down chemicals, and move materials around. For the design of the Endoplasmic Reticulum, I used pipe insulation to form the curvy part, blue spray paint for the color, and red and pink cotton balls to represent the ribosomes that connect to the Endoplasmic Reticulum." --- **Owen**

"The nucleolus is located in the nucleus and makes ribosomes. After creating ribosomes, they are released into the nucleoplasm. The nucleolus is in both animal and plant cells, it is usually shaped spherically, and is colored black. I used a foam ball and painted it black." --- **Grace**

"DNA is the genetic material in humans and almost all other organisms. It carries the instructions for any living thing to develop, reproduce, and survive. DNA is made up of four chemicals: guanine, thymine, adenine, and cytosine. I made a DNA molecule model from wire, foam balls, and a foam base." --- **Cal**

"The chromosomes are located inside the nucleus. The chromosome stores six feet of DNA inside of them. It looks like a squashed X. Every human has 23 pairs of chromosomes or 46 chromosomes. I created my chromosomes out of pipe cleaners." --- **Mariel**

"The lysosome is a part of a cell. The job of the lysosomes is to dispose of any broken-down proteins, molecules, or DNA. Along with that the lysosome also kills any bad bacteria or virus that comes into the cell. Overall I think that a cell without lysosomes would be completely DOOMED... I created my replica out of a plastic bowl, pom-poms, and some plastic wrap. Then I put the pom-poms in the bowl to represent broken down proteins, molecules, and DNA. Then I taped plastic wrap to the top so the pom-poms wouldn't fall out." --- **Adam**

"The cell membrane is the gatekeeper of the cell. It is located on the outermost portion of an animal cell and acts as a border that separates the cell from other substances in the environment. The cell membrane is also known as the plasma membrane and is made up of a lipid bilayer. The cell membrane is only one part of the cell, but as one can see it is a very important part of it. It is the gatekeeper of the cell and keeps everything flowing in and out of the cell. I created my replica with pipe cleaners, two flat sheets of plastic, pom poms, blue paper, beads, and a whole lot of hot glue."--- **Jake**

"Proteins and vesicles are key components of a cell. Some things they do is transport proteins or other materials to parts of the cell that need it to keep thriving. Also, proteins are required for the structure, function, and regulation of the body's tissues and organs. For my replica I had a clear ball representing the vesicle and pipe cleaners with beads on them representing the proteins." --- **Joe**

Local Sports



Photo courtesy: Brookfield Academy

Brookfield Academy Climb Team members.

B.A. Climb Team Earns First Place Finish

By Melissa Ericksen

The Brookfield Academy Climb Team earned a first-place finish at a Wisconsin High School Climb League competition on January 7. Lily Childress, Leora Schmidt, Isaac Jansen, Matteo Fernandez-Tyson, Joshua Schwartz, Izabel Johnson, Grant Erlinder, Quinn Kaiser, Emma Canga, Divyraj Zala, Danny Reiner, and Jacob Reiner advanced to finals, and five of these students, including Leora Schmidt (D1), Joshua Schwartz (D2), Izabel Johnson and Quinn Kaiser (D3), and Jacob Reiner (D4), won individual first place awards.

BEHS Ski Team Results

(BROOKFIELD) The Brookfield East High School Ski team's second ski meet was at Heiliger Huegel (German for "Holy Hill") for a Slalom race in January against Arrowhead, BA/ULS/LCL/Trinity, Wauwatosa, and University School of Milwaukee High Schools. Co-Captain, **Owen Kendler** had the fastest time for the Varsity Boys' team in the first run of 36.24 seconds and overall at 73.49 seconds and placed 11th overall. **Alexandra Ritchie** had the fastest time for the Varsity Girls' team in the first run of 38.89 and overall at 78.82 seconds and placed 12th overall. **Ella and Maya Kelsey** made their ski team debut on Girls' JV. Ella finished 8th and Maya finished 14th to lock a 3rd place team result for the JV Girls' team. Representing JV Boys as their top finisher was **Minges Nachtgaeller**.

PPMS Wrestling Stats

(ELM GROVE) The Pilgrim Park Middle School wrestling team hosted the West Milwaukee Panthers on Friday, January 7, and won the match 72-12. The following wrestlers pinned the opponents: **Jake Vetter, Trevor Newman, Xander Volkman, Ashton Krebs, Jackson Hundt, and Luke Frowirth**.

The team defeated the Bay Lane Patriots on January 11 --- winning the match 64-12. The wrestlers who pinned their opponents include: **Xander Volkman, Jack Tranchita, Roman Muthupandiyam, and Caden Steib**.

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Library News and Programs

February 2022

13600 Juneau Blvd., Elm Grove, WI 53122

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The Six Wives of Henry VIII

Thursday, February 17, 7:00 p.m. Online via Zoom

Queen, lover, mother, outcast, victim, survivor: Meet the six wives of Henry VIII as presented by Martina Mathisen of Edu-tainment Living History in this one-of-a-kind program. Discover compelling truths about these remarkable women from an intriguing time in history. These fascinating women led equally fascinating lives, apart from the manner in which they ended, filled with tales of power, personality, and politics. Do these six famous wives deserve their popular labels? Meet all six wives of Henry VIII and find out for yourself.



NOTE: Advance registration is required to receive the zoom link for this program. Visit elmgrovelibrary.org to register.

Now Showing...



The library has a new exhibit case! Made possible thanks to a donation from the Friends of the Elm Grove Library, it will display exhibits relating to library history, village history, and community stories on a rotating basis. The first display features

photographs and information about the C. Sanders & Sons blacksmith shop. Next time you're in the library, check it out!

News' Hounds

& other beloved creatures

Adopt a Pet at the Elmbrook Humane Society

By Anita Alfaro

Are you looking for a great cat with an amazing personality? Then look no further! **Choo Choo** loves to rub against everyone's legs and will chase after string toys all day if you let him! He isn't super fond of other cats or dogs but is absolutely in love with people! If you are looking for a kitty to add to your family, look no further because Choo Choo is ready to steal your heart!

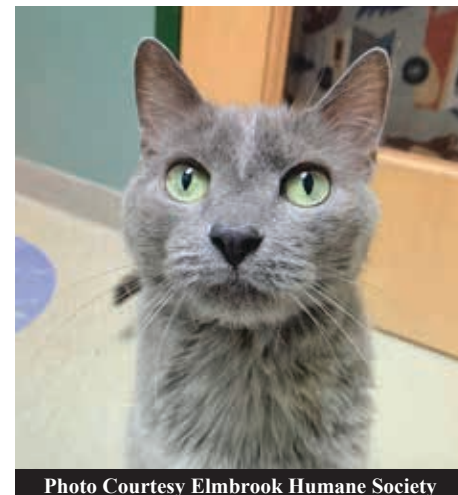


Photo Courtesy Elmbrook Humane Society

Choo Choo

For more information, call (262) 782-9261 or visit <https://ebhs.org>.



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