

Elm Grove NEWS-INDEPENDENT

FREE

Vol. 14 No. 6

Serving Elm Grove, Wisconsin & Neighboring Communities

February 2024

Freedom of the Press is Essential. Community News Matters.

On the Ballot this Spring

Village Clerk / Deputy Treasurer **Katie Penella** has confirmed that “there will be no Primary Election on February 20, 2024 for the Village of Elm Grove or Elmbrook School District --- and no statewide or Waukesha County-wide primary elections being held.”

The April 2nd Spring Election will include candidates for State offices: Justice of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal Judge, District II; Waukesha County Circuit Judge, Branch 2 and County Board Supervisor, District 12; School District of Elmbrook Board of Education; and 3 seats on the Elm Grove Board of Trustees. (See our March edition for details.)

Now is *The Winter of Our Discontent...*

(Glorious Spring and Summer to arrive in coming weeks)



Photo by Lisabeth Passalis-Bain / News-Independent

In excess of a foot of snow piles on an Elm Grove home’s back deck, weighing down nearby trees during a major snowstorm in January 2024. (Read about how the DPW helped manage the event – Page 3.)

COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES

NEW BERLIN WEST PERFORMING ARTS CENTER SEASON 2

Joshua Michael Band, Dan Lepien Band, & The WhiskeyBelles
(Classic Country)
7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9

The 5 Card Studs
(60's and 70's Radio Hits)
7 p.m. Friday, April 19

Goran & Morgan of The Gufs
(Acoustic 90's Alternative Rock)
7 p.m. Friday, May 17

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

Scan QR Code for more Information.

Expect Excellence School District of New Berlin EDUCATION FOUNDATION OF NEW BERLIN

Milwaukee Man Arrested for Elm Grove Burglaries

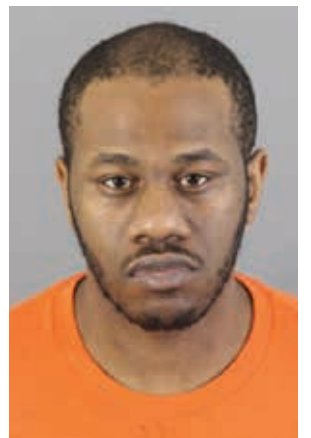
From the files of the Elm Grove Police Department

On January 26, 2024, 28-year-old, **Zaccheus Perkins**, of Milwaukee, was charged in Waukesha County Court with Burglary and Attempted Burglary. After a multi-jurisdictional investigation, Perkins was arrested and charged for Burglary and Attempted burglary to two separate homes in Elm Grove (on the 1500 block of Sunset Drive and the 14400 block Westover Road) during the early morning hours of September 28, 2023. Perkins is said to have gained entry into one home through an unlocked patio door and removed cash from a wallet and a vehicle key fob. He allegedly attempted to enter a second

home through a patio door. Perkins appeared in court on January 26, 2024. His cash bail is set at \$60,000.

Information obtained from area residents was valuable in helping the EGPD solve these crimes. The department noted. “We’d like to thank all the residents that came forward with information related to this incident. We would also like to remind residents to always lock your house and car doors and report any suspicious activity in a timely manner.”

(See: Public Safety Reports – Page 8.)



Zaccheus Perkins

Elm Grove Woman’s Club and Noble Catering & Events



Celebrate your life’s moments with us!



Book your tour now!
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We Thank these Friends of *The News*

- *Kiwanis Club of Elm Grove – Golden K
- *Geri Fotsch
- * Elm Grove Beautification Committee
- *Elizabeth & James Lange
- *Lacey, Herbie, Gus Gus & Toby
- *Bruce & Susan Davidson

for helping to **Sponsor** this edition.

NOTE:

If you **LOVE** this hyper-local newspaper & want to support it as a **Friends of The News** member, please complete the form on Page 5.

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"I Know Where You Live!"



Lisabeth Passalis-Bain

A Valentine to The Grove

By Lisabeth Passalis-Bain
(with Thanks to Dr. Seuss)

IT SHOULD BE SAID
FOR IT IS TRUE,
THIS WAS NOT WRITTEN
AT THE ZOO.
THIS WAS NOT WRITTEN
IN A CAR,
AT VILLAGE PARK,
OR
AT O'DONOGHUE'S BAR.

THESE GREETINGS COME
TO LET YOU KNOW
THAT DESPITE
"ALL THE PLACES
YOU WILL GO"
YOU'RE NEVER FAR
FROM THOSE
WHO LOVE YOU
WHEN YOUR
HOME - SWEET - HOME
IS 5-3-1-2-2.



Katie Panella Serves Village of Elm Grove as Clerk / Deputy Treasurer

Katie Panella, a lifelong resident of the City of Waukesha, was appointed to the position of Clerk / Deputy Treasurer on November 16, 2023, with an official start date of December 11, 2023.

Katie came to Elm Grove after holding a position with the City of Waukesha Clerk / Treasurer's office as the Deputy Clerk / Treasurer, and prior to that worked for the New Berlin Police Department as a Police Clerk.

Asked about her interests and hobbies she responded, "I am a big basketball fan, specifically the Boston Celtics! I do enjoy going to Milwaukee Bucks games as well! I love outdoor activities and traveling to new hiking destinations. If I am not doing an outdoor activity, I am usually in the gym doing Les Mill workout (Body Pump or Body Combat) or I am at home reading a True Crime book."



Katie Panella

Katie's work for the Village includes "executing all duties of the Clerk in accordance with WI Statute 61.25. I attend Village Trustee, Board of Review, and Committee of the Whole meetings. I process and issue liquor license applications, bartender licenses, and special event permits. I administer elections in compliance with federal and state election laws. Additionally, I train poll workers/absentee processors/Special Voting Deputies, record voter participation in the Statewide Voter System, help register new residents, mail out absentee ballots, enter absentee ballot applications. I also process the Accounts Payable for the Village along with Utility billing and creating the tax bill," she noted.

As Elm Grove's newest Clerk / Deputy Treasurer, Katie's message to readers is this: "I am looking forward to continuing the great service for the residents of Elm Grove that they deserve and expect."

Ceci Cornell Named Distinguished Young Woman of Elm Grove

Elm Grove resident Ceci Cornell, a junior at Brookfield East High School, was selected as this year's Distinguished Young Woman (DYW) of Elm Grove during a competition held at the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts in January.

The event, in which 22 girls from Brookfield and 3 girls from Elm Grove competed, consisted of 4 categories: Interview (15-minute interview with a panel of judges), Fitness (on-stage fitness routine), Self-expression (30 second answer to a question on stage), and Talent (Ceci sang *Journey to the Past* from Anastasia the Musical).

DYW, the largest national scholarship program for young women, began in 1958 and aims to help competitors gain leadership skills and achieve their full potential through scholarship opportunities

Winning a specific category awards a scholarship, along with winning overall. Ceci won both.

At BEHS, Ceci is involved with numerous extracurricular activities including: Genesis A Cappella (competitive a cappella group), Vocal Collective, *Spartan Banner*, Chinese Club, National Honors Society, Student Council, and Link Crew.

"This year, I will continue to volunteer for the club and attend other local competitions around Wisconsin. In August, there is a state-wide competition, which every local overall winner attends. The winner of that advances to nationals in Alabama," Ceci noted.

"I'm so grateful for the opportunities Distinguished Young Women has given me. I can't wait to compete in August again and continue to grow through this program!" she said.



Ceci Cornell

The village of Elm Grove is hosting its 7th Annual Winterfest in the Park on February 24th from NOON to 4:00 p.m.

Vendors, businesses and organizations are planning to setup booths to celebrate the winter season and to showcase what they are all about.

Come celebrate Winter at the park!



This year's Winterfest event will take place near the Village Park pool and pavilion.

Spring is coming... ADVERTISE!

Promote your Business, Club, Organization, Event, School, Church, Items for Sale, Candidacy for Public Office, etc.

To request a Rate Sheet & Reserve Space,
E-mail:

elmgrovenews@yahoo.com
Or, Call: (262) 782-6193



Village Update

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

January saw wet snow and ice impact our community. I would like to thank the entire Public Works and Forestry Teams for the commitment to clear our streets. The effort was huge and I appreciate the long hours devoted to dealing with this major snow event. My appreciation also extends to the Fire and Police teams as they dealt with down wires and various emergency calls throughout the week. Well and done and many thanks!

***Congratulations and Welcome.** Please join me in welcoming a new member to the Elm Grove Police staff. **Nathan Anhalt** was welcomed to the Department on Monday, January 15th in a swearing in ceremony at Village Hall. Nathan joins the team with experience as an officer at the Wisconsin State Fair PD since 2014. Welcome Nathan! (Editor's Note: See Page 8 – story & photo.)

***Highland Road Activity.** In 2024, the Board will be seeking proposals to construct a Pathway from North Avenue to Gebhardt Road. While preparing for the Bid, engineers identified the culvert under Highland, installed over 50 years ago (probably much earlier) was failing. To properly coordinate the Pathway construction, this culvert needs to be replaced in advance of the Pathway, to avoid rework costs. The Board took action in January to approve the engineering work and commencement of a request for proposal to install a new culvert. Funding will be provided through the excess funds generated in 2023 from greater interest income earned above budget.

***Committee of the Whole Meeting.** The meeting was dedicated to the following:

- An update of Tax Incremental Financing (TIFs) and how this impacts the communities annual tax levy was presented. This discussion centered around the Village's need to carefully manage the tax levy to maintain services and not create a future budget issue by increasing the tax levy to the maximum, for the Village.



- Village staff presented the projects that they have on their plate to complete in 2024. The projects were organized by major area and were extensive. As we look to 2024, the Village Board will be reviewing the Staff's capacity to complete these projects and help prioritize their completion, as needed.
- Daylighting Project and timing of referendum. Extensive discussion was held with Village staff surrounding the ability to develop a project cost estimate for the project based on the engineering work completed to date. Based on the discussion, the Board asked staff to continue to work with Stantec, our outside engineering firm, to more fully define the scope of the project and develop a project cost estimate. The deadline for submitting a referendum question for the April ballot passed in January. Therefore, the Board will be targeting to have this question on the August or November ballot. It is not anticipated this will NOT postpone the project, however, will provide time to fully develop and complete the scope of work and cost estimate.

***Snow Removal and Public Safety.** Please use extra caution as slippery roads present new challenges. Additionally, as the recent snow event proved, ruts can create safety issues. Please watch out for children at bus stops and pedestrians. Additionally, please make sure to move all vehicles off the road to allow for efficient plowing by our Public Works team.

***We Energies and Power Disruption.** The Village is in regular contact with We Energies related to the causes and corrective actions We Energies is looking to take over the next several years to improve the overall power distribution network. This storm was a real challenge and crews from many states came to Wisconsin to restore power as timely as possible. However, 72 hours without power was a real hardship to many of us. Look for updates in the Village monthly e-mail as staff works with We Energies to understand future plans.

***Caroline Heights / Mandel Construction.** Many residents have commented that a crane has now been installed on the construction site. We have been assured by the construction company that the movement of the boom is safe and normal as it adjusts to wind changes. For Weekly updates, please refer to the Village website: www.elmgrovewi.org, for updated information on the project. In addition, Mandel will be providing the Board quarterly updates with the next update scheduled for February, 2024.

As we move through February, let's celebrate the longer days of sunlight!



Winter Storm in Elm Grove: January 8th – January 24th

Excerpts from a news release by Department of Public Works Director, Richard Paul, Jr.

In a very short time, the Village received a whopping 29" of snow. This is more than half the average seasonal snowfall totals for a typical winter in Southeast Wisconsin which is normally 40" – 50" with an average January snow total coming in at 13.67".

Among the events: Clearing downed trees and hazard trees by EGPD, EGFD, and DPW crews; Repairs to equipment; Traffic signal malfunctions at Watertown Plank Road and Elm Grove Road; Village Hall and DPW (+ numerous residential and business) power outages; DPW fuel tanks offline without power available, requiring DPW trucks and

equipment to fuel up in Wauwatosa, the nearest Diesel pumps in operation; Blowing snow and subzero temperatures. Each event required full DPW crew participation.

Statistics:

- Total lane miles plowed: estimated 672
- Total salt usage: 291.5 tons
- Brine application: 1260 gallons
- Trees/branches removed: 50+ during storm, ongoing
- Total labor hours: 891.75

Some of the impacts:

- Christmas Tree pick up delayed. Residents should make sure trees are not buried in snow. Pick up resumes as soon as possible.
- DPW staff was very dedicated to accomplishing the safest streets achievable while addressing other emergencies that arose, all while balancing Fire Calls during their day shifts as needed.

We thank the residents for your continued patience as we work through this extraordinary event.

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
www.kiwaniselmgrove.org

* Insurance

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Imperial Hair Care of Elm Grove

13425 Watertown Plank Road in the Elm Grove Park & Shop

(262) 784-4241

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

IN A SPEECH ACCEPTING THE NOMINATION TO THE U.S. SENATE, ABRAHAM LINCOLN SPOKE- "A house divided against itself cannot stand." HE WAS NOT SPEAKING OF POLITICAL DIVISIONS.

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS - JUNE 16, 1858

THE SUPREME COURT HAD RULED IN THE DRED SCOTT v. SANDFORD CASE (1857) THAT THE CONSTITUTION DID NOT INTEND CITIZENSHIP FOR BLACK PEOPLE. HIS OPPONENT, STEPHEN DOUGLAS, FAVORED COMPROMISE.

"I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free."

WITH THE DRED SCOTT RULING OPENING THE POTENTIAL FOR THE EXPANSION OF SLAVERY, LINCOLN URGED THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR COMPROMISE.

"I do not expect the Union to be dissolved. I do not expect the house to fall - but I do expect it will cease to be dissolved. It will become all one thing, or all the other."

THIS WAS NOT A POLITICAL ISSUE TO LINCOLN. MORAL ISSUES ARE NOT TO BE ANALYZED THROUGH THE TINTED AND DISTORTED LENS OF PARTY AFFILIATION. THEY ARE TO BE EXAMINED BY A UNIVERSAL SENSE OF JUSTICE FOUND IN MEN'S HEARTS WHICH CANNOT BE IGNORED.

Our History: *Remembrances of Things Past*



Photo courtesy Stephen K. Hauser

The offices of Enterprize Glass Services at 1053 N. 115th Street in Wauwatosa housed the Sterling Spring Water & Beverage Company for six decades.

Whazzit?

By Stephen K. Hauser

Back in the 1950s and '60s, it was not unusual to find a dozen or so cars parked in front of the **Sterling Spring Water & Beverage Company** at 1053 N. 115th Street in Wauwatosa at 8:00 a.m. on a Saturday. Area scoutmasters and little league coaches, along with local families (mostly dads with their kids) from Wauwatosa, Elm Grove, and Brookfield had all driven to Sterling's bottling plant and headquarters to await being waved inside by a company employee. Once admitted, they would be offered wooden crates and set loose to fill them with "short-fills", glass bottles of various Sterling sodas that were overstocks or had been underfilled in the bottling process. Flavors available, all at a discount bulk price, included orange, grape, root beer, "green river" and a "cola" with a flavor that rather missed the mark in an attempt to emulate the taste of Coke or Pepsi. Sterling's "cola" was the most sought-after prize of the day.

My father, along with neighbors **Clem Janicki**, **Sam Potter** and other area dads, took turns car-pooling on Saturday mornings, driving their kids to pick up a weekly supply of soft drinks for their families. The car-pooling, purchase of an "off-brand" soda and the Saturday discounts on these "short-fills" saved them money for their sometimes-stretched suburban family budgets. With mortgages, car payments and growing families to feed, every little bit helped when it came to saving money. And thirsty youngsters consumed lots of soda pop.

Let loose inside the building, the small fry were at a distinct disadvantage when competing against the larger neighborhood kids. My friend and neighbor **Mike Meyer** and his older brother **Steve** were able to elbow some of us out of the way and gather up the "cola" bottles first, leaving us to divide the remaining spoils between the less favored orange and dreaded grape. But even achieving the ultimate victory of a dozen bottles of coveted "cola" could prove to be a triumph later second-guessed. I recall my friend **Jamie Potter** had complained to his dad **Sam** that the "cola" they had bagged at Sterling's wasn't particularly good when compared to the name brands. "That's just your imagination," Sam would inform him. "You can't tell the difference! You only think you can!" I also remember my own father telling me something similar. It was a crude (and unsuccessful) attempt at employing child psychology.

Sterling Beverage was a venerable local purveyor of bottled spring water and soft drinks. The building they occupied had been built in 1889 alongside the tracks of the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad to serve as a produce depot. Area farmers would load their agricultural goods onto freight trains for shipment to market. It served this purpose until 1907, with Sterling taking up residence in the 1910s. They bottled spring water from



Photo by Lisabeth Passalis-Bain / EGNU

Sterling Beverage bottles from the collection of Stephen K. Hauser.

a fourteen-foot well housed in a shed (still standing) near the back of the property. By the 1920s, they were also bottling soft drinks and, during Prohibition, even ran a line of beer for their workers and selected friends (according to at least one former employee). Their beverages were stocked in local grocery stores for decades, but as time went on, they found it increasingly difficult to compete with the more popular and better known national brands. Thus, the early Saturday morning "short-fill" ritual at Sterling's plant was to be short-lived. The company went out of business in 1971 and the building went on to house a sheet metal manufacturer and, later, a glass block company.

The Wauwatosa property had sat vacant for seven years when it was acquired by **John Foley** to house his twin businesses, Enterprize Glass Service and Foley Framing services. Foley's business had previously been located in West Allis since 1986, and he had honed his skills in the glass trade since 1978. He spent a year remodeling and repairing the former Sterling property and opened his new location in 1996. Interestingly, the old well in the shed still produced fresh spring water, but the expense of reemploying it for use would have proven daunting, so Foley ordered it capped. Instead, he has done well in cutting and placing glass in homes, offices and businesses and his custom work in framing paintings, photographs and memorabilia in high quality context is widely regarded. Some of his fine work is on display in his showroom, which I visited recently in preparation of this article.

Talking with John Foley, an able conversationalist, and touring the old Sterling building brought back many memories of sitting in the car with my dad (or other neighborhood dads) and my friends early on Saturday mornings, circa 1959, awaiting the opening of the plant's front door. Sometimes, as I've often noted before, those days seem far away and long ago, and other times it is all as fresh as yesterday. I'm going to grab a Coke.

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

News Briefs



District Spelling Bee Winners Announced

(BROOKFIELD) On January 17th, 21 students from the five School District of Elmbrook elementary schools, and Pilgrim Park and Wisconsin Hills middle schools participated in the District Spelling Bee.

After 21 rounds, the top district speller was **Keshav Karun**, a 6th grader from Wisconsin Hills Middle School.

The runners up included:

- ***Prisha Gupta**, 5th Grade, Burleigh
- ***Krishna Karody**, 5th Grade, Swanson
- ***Jack Vaidy**, 5th Grade, Tonawanda
- ***Rishani Mohan**, 5th Grade, Burleigh
- ***Nolan Scott** 8th Grade, Pilgrim Park

All six students move on to the regional bee at CESA 1.

New Scout Troop for Elmbrook Area Girls to Meet in Brookfield

By Wende Fedder Gorniak

There is a new scouting troop starting in Brookfield for Elm Grove and Brookfield residents. American Heritage Girls (AHG), sponsored by Brookside Baptist Church, is a national Christ-centered character and leadership development program dedicated to the mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community, and country.

AHG Troop 0345 will meet twice a month, and it is the first troop of its kind to launch in the Brookfield and Elm Grove areas.

There will be an information night on Friday, February 23, 2023 at 4 p.m. at Brookside Baptist Church, 4470 Pilgrim Road, Brookfield.

For more information please go to www.americanheritagegirls.org.

Free COVID-19 Tests Available

Every U.S. household can order 4 more free COVID-19 self-tests. Also called at-home tests and over-the-counter tests, these are one of several tools that protect you and others by reducing the chances of spreading COVID-19. Self-tests can be taken at home or anywhere, are easy to use, and produce rapid results.

You can place an order in these ways:

- Online at COVIDTests.gov
- By calling 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489)
- By calling or emailing the Disability Information and Access Line (DIAL)

at 1-888-677-1199 or

DIAL@usaginganddisability.org (for people with disabilities)

53 one 22

Elm Grove Community Foundation

www.elmgrovefoundation.org

NEW at the Community Foundation

Foundation Board Elects New Member

The Elm Grove Community Foundation (EGCF) is proud to introduce the recently elected member of the board.

Dan Idstein

Support the Community Foundation with Planned Gifts

The mission of the Community Foundation is to provide quality of life enhancements to the Village of Elm Grove with projects for which tax dollars are unavailable.

A planned future gift through your will or trust, can assist the community and provide a lasting legacy for you or a loved one and provide enjoyment for all present and future Village residents. You might also consider designating the Community Foundation a beneficiary of your retirement plan, life insurance policy, or a portion of appreciated stock.

To learn more about how you can make a planned gift to the Community Foundation, please visit www.elmgrovefoundation.org/contact.

BOOK IT! Oktoberfest - September 20 & 21, 2024



Calendar of Events – February 2024

Thursday – FEBRUARY 1
BLACK HISTORY MONTH begins

- **Elmbrook Garden Club**
 Presentation by the Dahlia Society - 6 p.m. at the Brookfield Public Library, Harnischfeger Room. FREE to the Public.

Friday – FEBRUARY 2
GROUNDHOG DAY

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
 Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: **Lynda Thayer**, Elmbrook Historical Society; Topic: “Update on Happenings at the Museum” kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Sunday – FEBRUARY 4

- **Elm Grove Beautification Committee Invasive Species Task Force** meets at 11 a.m. at Elm Grove Village Park. Contact: beautification@elmgrove.wi.gov for information and to volunteer.

Tuesday – FEBRUARY 6

- **Wisconsin Arts Educators Association – Gallery Opening** at the **Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts**, Brookfield. View student artwork from across Southeast Wisconsin. Students in 4K through high school will be showcasing their painting, drawings, pottery and glass sculptures in the Ploch Art Gallery. Artwork will be on display through February 24th. An award reception will be held on Saturday, February 24 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and is open to the public.

Thursday – FEBRUARY 8

- **“Underwood Creek Daylighting” project**
 presentation by **John Schindler**, 7 p.m. at Elm Grove Woman’s Club, 13885 Watertown Plank Road. FREE to Elm Grove residents. RSVP at www.egwc.org.

Friday – FEBRUARY 9

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
 Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: **Bennet Merens**, Wisconsin Consumer Protection, Topic: “Identity Theft” kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Saturday – FEBRUARY 10

- **Elm Grove Fire Department** will offer FREE fire extinguisher inspections to the owners of Elm Grove homes and businesses, 9 a.m. to Noon at the EGFD, 13600 Juneau Blvd. Contact the Fire Inspector, **Scott Burgardt** at (262) 782-6700, ext. 252 or email sburgardt@elmgrove.wi.gov for more information.

Sunday – FEBRUARY 11

- **Elm Grove Beautification Committee Invasive Species Task Force** meets at 11 a.m. at Elm Grove Village Park. Contact: beautification@elmgrove.wi.gov for information and to volunteer.

Wednesday – FEBRUARY 14
VALENTINE’S DAY



Thursday – FEBRUARY 15

- **OWLS meeting** – 11:30 a.m. at Community United Methodist Church, Elm Grove; Program: “Has Wisconsin Politics Finally Hit Rock Bottom or Will 2024 Be Even Worse?” A non-partisan overview and ‘2nd Choice’ voting presentation by **Mordecai Lee, PhD**, professor Emeritus, UWM. www.cumceg.org/OWLS

Friday – FEBRUARY 16

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
 Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: **Logan Kein**, Elm Grove Recreation Manager; Topic: Shaping Tradition for Future Generations kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Sunday – FEBRUARY 18

- **Elm Grove Beautification Committee Invasive Species Task Force** meets at 11 a.m. at Elm Grove Village Park. Contact: beautification@elmgrove.wi.gov for information and to volunteer.

Monday – FEBRUARY 19
PRESIDENTS’ DAY

Tuesday – FEBRUARY 20

- **School District of Elmbrook Board of Education** meeting – 6 p.m. at the District Office, 3555 N. Calhoun Road, Brookfield Live Stream: <https://www.youtube.com/user/elmbrookschoolsmedia> www.elmbrookschools.org/board

Friday – FEBRUARY 23

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
 Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: **Mark Moore**, surgeon; Topic: “Saving Lives in Vietnam During War” kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com
- **American Heritage Girls Scouting Troop #0345** will hold an Information Night, 4 p.m. at Brookside Baptist Church, 4470 Pilgrim Road, Brookfield. www.americanheritagegirls.org (See story – Page 7)

Saturday – FEBRUARY 24

- **Winterfest** at Elm Grove Village Park Noon to 4 p.m.
- **Sharon Lynne Wilson Center**
 Art reception. (See February 6 listing.)

Sunday – FEBRUARY 25

- **Elm Grove Beautification Committee Invasive Species Task Force** meets at 11 a.m. at Elm Grove Village Park. Contact: beautification@elmgrove.wi.gov for information and to volunteer.

Tuesday – FEBRUARY 27

- **Elm Grove Board of Trustees**
 Public Meeting – 7 p.m. at Village Hall Court Room; Agenda & Live Stream: www.elmgrove.wi.gov (262) 782-6700

Community United Methodist Church

14700 Watertown Plank Road
 Elm Grove

Welcomes you to attend
 our 6-weeks long

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

“Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts & Outlaws”

Thursday, FEBRUARY 15
 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, FEBRUARY 18
 10:40 a.m. to Noon

Tuesday, FEBRUARY 20
 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Info:
www.cumceg.org/biblestudies

The weather outside is frightful,
 Donating books is really delightful,
 So, if you have a big overflow,
 Let them go, let them go, let them go!

If you have books collecting dust (gasp!) that you are done with, we encourage you to donate them to the Friends of the Elm Grove Library Used Book Sale. Just take them to the library during regular operating hours. A tax receipt will be given upon request. The 2024 Used Book Sale will occur March 7-10 at Village Hall.

Thank you! The Used Book Sale Committee

It's black & white & read all over Elm Grove & neighboring communities.
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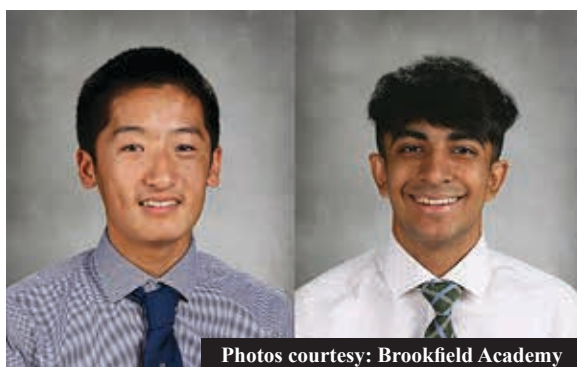
March 4 - 5, 2024

News Briefs

Coca-Cola Scholarship Regional Finalists Announced

By Melissa Ericksen

Brookfield Academy seniors **Adrian Yin** and **Krish Sharma** were named Regional Finalists in the prestigious Coca-Cola Scholars program. Only three students from Wisconsin and 250 students nationwide advanced to this level of the competition. Ultimately, 150 students will be selected as Coca-Cola Scholars who each will receive a \$20,000 college scholarship as well as opportunities for mentoring and networking with Coca-Cola executives and other business leaders.



Adrian Yin

Krish Sharma

Photos courtesy: Brookfield Academy

Local Student Receives Writing Contest Award

By Melissa Ericksen

Brookfield Academy Sophomore **Neerja Ahuja** earned second place in a national Bill of Rights Day contest sponsored by the federal courts. Students in grades 5-12 submitted essays and art projects proposing a new amendment to the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights.



Neerja Ahuja

Photo: Brookfield Academy

The panel of judges included U.S. Circuit Judge **Diane Pl Wood** from the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, U.S. District Judge **Katherine M. Menendez** from the District of Minnesota, and U.S. Magistrate Judge **Kellie M. Barr** from the Southern District of Indiana.



Photo courtesy: School District of Elmbrook

Key Club members from Brookfield East and Brookfield Central high schools with items donated to Milwaukee Rescue Mission.

Elmbrook Schools, Community Donate Purses and Supplies to Milwaukee Rescue Mission

(BROOKFIELD) This past December, a total of 445 purses, bags and backpacks were delivered to the Milwaukee Rescue Mission's Joy House for the annual Purse Project drive on behalf of those in need in the Milwaukee area this winter. The bags were stuffed with blankets, books, warm clothing, health and beauty essentials, and other valuable items by the high school Key Clubs to give to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Milwaukee. The bags and supplies were generously donated by Elmbrook staff, students, and community members at all schools throughout the last few months.

Georgia Purtell and **Morgan Schmus** collaborated with local business **Divine Consign** to secure more supplies for the drive, and 25 Key Club students from both high schools helped stuff the bags and load the van. The Facilities and Grounds teams also helped to coordinate the drop-off of the supplies. The Mission displayed the bags and purses on shelves for guests to pick up for the holiday as needed, and the remaining purses and supplies continue to be distributed through the cold winter months.

"This drive continues to show the generosity and selflessness of the Elmbrook community and we are grateful to all that helped make this effort possible," reflected **Jean Loepfe**. This is Elmbrook's ninth year of contributing to this cause and the District is grateful to all who participated.

The project was led and organized by Elmbrook School District Office's **Jean Loepfe** and had support throughout the District. Two Wisconsin Hills Students



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News' Hounds & other beloved creatures

Adopt a Pet at the Elmbrook Humane Society

By Morgan Gourley

Hello, wonderful people! I'm Danny, and I've been told I'm the best boy in the whole wide world. Ready to find out why? Well, let me tell you all about it!

First and foremost, I've got this amazing talent for snuggling. Seriously, it's one of my favorite pastimes. If you're in need of a warm and fuzzy companion, I'm your guy. I've been practicing my snuggling skills, and I've got to say, I'm pretty much a pro.

Now, let's talk about my love for rolling around in the grass with my toys. There's something about that fresh air and the joy of play that really gets my tail wagging. Oh, and speaking of toys, I'm the show-and-tell champion. I love showing off my collection to all my friends - human and furry alike. I've got quite the repertoire, and I'm always up for a game of fetch or a playful romp.

Speaking of friends, playing with my puppy pals is another one of my specialties. I'm a social butterfly, and there's nothing better than a day filled with canine companionship. Whether it's a game of chase or just hanging out, count me in!

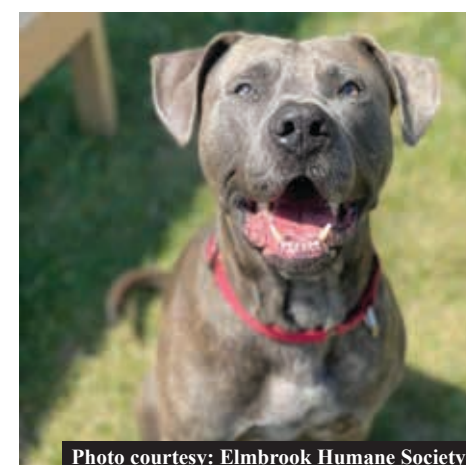


Photo courtesy: Elmbrook Humane Society

Danny

You know, I've become a bit of a favorite around here with the staff and volunteers. They say it's because of my loving heart, and I'm on a mission to find a person deserving of all the love I have to give.

If you're in search of the perfect snuggle partner, playmate, and all-around best boy, then look no further - I'm Danny, and I'm ready to bring joy, love, and endless smiles into your life. Let's make it official, shall we?

Meet me at 20950 Enterprise Avenue, (off Barker Road) Brookfield. www.ebhs.org. (262) 782-9261.

News Briefs



Photo courtesy: Scout Troop 156G

Eagle Scout **Cassie Vincent** and her parents.

Troop 156G Announces Its Newest Eagle Scouts

By Rob King

Ellie Schaefer and **Cassie Vincent** earned their Eagle Scout rank on January 20th, 2024. They are the third and fourth scouts to earn the rank Eagle Scout in Troop 156G.

Ellie is a Freshman at Brookfield Central High School. She joined the troop in June of 2020. Ellie's Eagle project was to build three benches for the new Fox River Trail. Ellie has also earned 1 Eagle Palm, which is awarded for every 5 merit badges above what is needed for the rank of Eagle.

Cassie is a Sophomore at Wauwatosa East High School. Cassie was a founding member of Troop 156G as she joined in the spring of 2019. Her project was to build flower boxes for the front of the new building at Wauwatosa East. Cassie has earned 3 Eagle Palms.



Photo courtesy: Scout Troop 156G



Eagle Scout **Ellie Schaefer** and her parents.

Winter Snowstorm Damages Trees, Shrubs in Village

By James Lange

Elm Grove got hammered with heavy snow on Friday, January 12 that turned upright trees into "weeping willows" with many of their branches frozen to the ground. Evergreens, particularly tall arborvitae and slender, columnar evergreens look like they are doing yoga as they bend and starch over, some also getting frozen to the ground. The combination of a lot of heavy, wet snow followed by arctic temps was a brutal combination for Elm Grove's trees and shrubs. Many trees, limbs and shrubs broke under the weight, and we will not know all the damage until we thaw out. But you can start assessing your yard to see where you may need a new shrub or tree.



Photo courtesy: James Lange

The Elm Grove Beautification Committee (EGBC) is partnering with Johnson Nursery with a spring tree, shrub and plant fundraiser. Plant pick-up will be at the Elm Grove Earth and Arbor Day Celebration on Saturday, April 27th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Village Park. To place your order, go to www.jnplants.com/online-plant-sales to find the EGBC sales link where 15% of your sale is donated back to EGBC and reinvested into our village.

Planted in 2010, this Cornelian Cherry Dogwood, weighed down by heavy snow, looks to be only about 50% + of the height that it was before the snowstorm.

A few planting tips:

- Consider the mature size of your tree or shrub when planting in your yard
- Do not plant under or near power lines.
- Consider smaller scale trees, such as natives, ironwood or musclewood trees.
- Have common buckthorn? Plant shrubs to create a natural hedge for wildlife and cut down and treat common buckthorn over time.

- Have a large space in your yard? Plant an oak tree, a keystone species.
- Do not plant in the Elm Grove Right-of-Way by your street.
- Keep your new plantings mulched, watered and protected from deer.

"This storm will devastate a large amount of plant material throughout Southeast Wisconsin. There will be a lot of correctional pruning when the snow finally leaves."

--- Ron Hill, Village Forester

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.

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Public Safety Reports

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



Photo courtesy: Elm Grove Police Department

Officer **Nathan Anhalt** was sworn in on January 15 as the Elm Grove Police Department's newest member. Officer Anhalt joins the EGPD after having served with Wisconsin's Capital Police at Wisconsin State Fair Park since 2014, where he was promoted to Sergeant and was a commander of their mounted unit. Officer Anhalt is also a Veteran of the United States Army with whom he served from 1999 to 2007 and had several deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Elm Grove Fire Department will offer FREE fire extinguisher inspections to the owners of Elm Grove homes and businesses, on Saturday, February 10 from 9 a.m. to Noon at the EGF, 13600 Juneau Blvd. Contact the Fire Inspector, **Scott Burgardt** at (262) 782-6700, ext. 252 or email sburgardt@elmgrovewi.org for more information.



The Police Department is currently taking applications for the **2024 Citizen Police Academy Class**. Participation is limited to anyone working in the Village of Elm Grove or Village residents. The class will meet every Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for ten weeks, beginning on April 10th and concluding with a graduation banquet on June 12th. Applications can be obtained in the Police Department lobby or online at <https://elmgrovewi.org/206/Citizen-Police-Academy>



Photo courtesy: Elm Grove Police Department

On the evening of December 22, 2023 several EGPD Officers and Detectives executed a search warrant in the City of Milwaukee as a result of a theft investigation that originated in Elm Grove. During the search warrant investigators recovered several items that were stolen from Elm Grove as well as 17 firearms and narcotics.

This case remains under investigation.

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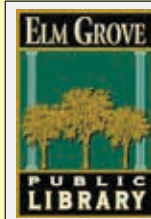
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Library News and Programs

February 2024

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Wolf Kahn: Bliss in the Struggle / Tuesday, February 6, 6:30 p.m.



Across the broad spectrum of his long and prolific career, Wolf Kahn created his own unique Color Field style – combining the luminosity of Turner, sweeping brushstrokes of Rothko, and Impressionistic palette of Monet, with Abstract Realism. Experience the serenity of his work in the final lecture in the art history lecture series, "The Great Awakening: Painters of America."

Presented by Professor Karri Fritz-Klaus of Cornerstone History Symposium.

Mad Science Presents: Brixology Bridges / Wednesday, February 7, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.



Learn about the engineering and construction of bridges with a Mad Scientist, then apply what you learn to building a project using LEGO® bricks. All supplies will be provided. Registration is required at elmgrovelibrary.org. Space is limited. Grades K-5.

Normal Aging, Dementia, and Brain Health: What should I know?

Thursday, February 15, 1:00 p.m.

As we age, we often find ourselves more concerned about our memory. We also may hear from others that we are "losing it" or not functioning as they believe we have or should be. We may also be mulling ways to increase our overall health, including our brain health.



Join us to discuss normal aging changes, signs for concern, next steps to take for your health, and how Waukesha County can provide support and resources. Presented by dementia care specialists with the Waukesha County ADRC. Please register for this program in advance at elmgrovelibrary.org.

An Evening with Nick Petrie / Thursday, February 22, 7:00 p.m.

In conjunction with Boswell Books, the Elm Grove Library welcomes bestselling author Nick Petrie to celebrate *The Price You Pay*, the propulsive eighth installment in his award-winning Peter Ash series. In conversation with Noah Weckwerth of the Elm Grove Library.



Nick Petrie's writing has been described as "nonstop action at a machine gun pace," (C.J. Box) and "a maestro, wielding his keyboard with the deftness of a master conductor's baton." (*Providence Journal*). Advance registration is appreciated at elmgrovelibrary.org. This event is free to attend. Books will be available for sale.

Nick Petrie is the author of eight novels in the Peter Ash series. His debut, *The Drifter*, won both the ITW Thriller award and the Barry Award for Best First Novel, and was a finalist for the Edgar and Hammett Awards. He lives in Milwaukee, where he is at work on the next Peter Ash novel.

Valentine's Day

WordSearch



CUPID LOVE HUGS HEART CHOCOLATE GIFT SWEET KISS DATE ROSE MOVIE PARTY FEBRUARY FOURTEENTH CARD LETTER ARROW DOVES ROMANCE ADORE PINK VALENTINE POEM BELOVED SECRET



Young Writers & Reporters

February Feelings

By Abigail Davidson
4th Grade - Tonawanda

Red and pink colors aglow,
The temperature is dropping low,
Cupid's coming, he's all around,
Soon his arrows will be found,
Roses, Chocolates, and Valentines given,
That's how good some people are livin',
But overall everybody is nice and kind,
That is why February is so Sublime!

Pink

By Mila Webb and Lena Janz
4th Grade - Tonawanda

Parts of hearts have been shared
No candy now I'm scared
The new year has just begun.
Valentine's Day is so fun.
It's only February, there's much to come.
Everyone here sees pink like bubble gum.

February

By Ty Eli and Hudson
4th Grade - Tonawanda

Frightening weather
Exciting Valentine's Day
Burr, the weather is cold
Up in the sky snow is falling
Ready for spring
Amazing snow
Ready for Valentine's Day
You will love it

Love

By Sakshi Kodgi, 4th Grade - Tonawanda

Hardworking,
Loving,
Selfless,
And
Forgiving,
are traits everybody
should have.

Kindness

By Robin Cervero-Vrab
3rd Grade - Tonawanda

Kind is great
I am kind
Nice means kinds
Don't be mean please
Now let's be so kind
Easy! Kind is easy.
So, let's be kind
So, let's be respectful, too

My 8th Birthday Party

By Autumn Nilsen, 3rd Grade - Tonawanda

May 28th, it was still my birthday morning! I turned 8 years old! I was in my bed awake and my sister was still in bed sleeping. I could hear my aunt and cousins downstairs playing, so I went downstairs. They looked like they were really getting somewhere. I asked what they were doing. My auntie answered "I'm going to the grocery store and Cranky Al's." "Can I please come?" I asked her. She smiled and said "I'm sorry I totally forgot it was your birthday!" I answered, "It's ok!"

We got in the car and left. At the grocery store I picked some flowers to bring home. Then we went to the doughnut store. My parents and my sister were already eating so I joined in after my mom gave me my first present.

After donuts we went outside and started to decorate for my birthday party! I did the sign that said (hula hoop contest 1:00). My sister and dad put the flamingos up and my cousin (3) cleaned the bathroom. It was pretty hilarious.

Finally, we went upstairs and got changed because it was time for the party. People came and came. We played for a while, then my neighbors came and gave me cards. It was such a special day and I had a great birthday party! It was my favorite birthday party ever!

"My students read Alan Gratz's book, *Refugee*. It's historical fiction and follows the path of 3 teenagers on their journeys of freedom riddled with despair, discrimination and perseverance. I gave all of my students a different page from the book in order to "find" their poem. Articles, pronouns, overused verbs, etc... were crossed out and the words left were what my writers used to create their "found" poem. These are 4 examples of excellence."

----- Jenny Walsh, Pilgrim Park Middle School, Grade 7 - Sapphire ELA teacher.

Path of Life

By Japji A.

life's engineering a maze-like design
crafted for a singular route
a destined line
the tyrant of this life
hands a fair fight

gesturing north and south, a defiant stance
attacking the unwavering focus
rendering it an idiot

the cards have been dealt, a masterful
scheme
the tyrant of this life snatches this territory
beneath

weights on shoulders, to be perfect as ever
but the life before me whispers
never, never, never

*Theme: Stay on track and never let anything
get in your way.*

Sea of Chaos

By Ronan K.

the crying siren of the police car caught
in the turmoil
the pandemonium's noise beating
at eardrums
crowd rearing buck in surprise
as truncheons hit flesh
rioters beating at the police, never stopping
a policeman spies you and rears towards you
arm raising eyes swimming in anger
then, the blow never comes
everything is quieter than a mouse
like time has frozen
glancing around, the crowd is still yelling
but you hear none of it
the air holds its breath and you walk away

*Theme: Even in the most chaotic place, you
can find calm.*

Ocean Storms

By Sam P.

storms deliver a vicious message
interrupting peaceful summer days
massive winds blow over near fields
gray storms sending the oceans violence
breaking the quiet

ocean's green jacket of algae thrown
on the beach
dark clouds lie low under sky
round caps of water like a company
of military men
slamming wet fists flatten sand
waves are wet feet sprinting from the sea

hungry tides capsize
ocean's condemned violence stretches
for ages
storm calls it a day and backs down
a sudden quiet
rows of waves round out
calm returns

Life of the Party

By Etienne J.

Their souls learned of freedom
Life as awake as a heartbeat
Hidden rhythm shifts
People raised the root
Music playing loud causing heavy and
wobbling shifting beneath their feet
Food on tables are like their homeland
gained freedom into their soul
Then music hushes, he trumpets or rhythm
counting
Sleepy souls swap secret
Hushed voice whispering to trade the secrets
Eventually people and families appear to be
returning to their homes.

Theme: The music is the life of a party.

My Perspective:

Assisting and Providing Funding for Low-Income Projects in Brookfield, Wisconsin

By Abhika Singh

8th Grade, Pilgrim Park Middle School

Brookfield, Wisconsin, like many American cities, faces the challenge of ensuring equitable living conditions for all its residents, particularly those from low-income backgrounds. Brookfield, while known for its affluent neighborhoods, is not immune to the disparities that affect low-income residents. Supporting low-income projects is not just a matter of social justice; it's a vital step towards fostering a more inclusive and prosperous community. In Brookfield, initiatives aimed at assisting low-income populations are present but often underfunded or limited in scope.

Strategies:

- 1. Public-Private Partnerships:** Engaging businesses in public-private partnerships can provide a sustainable funding source for low-income projects.
- 2. Grants and Subsidies:** Local government can offer more grants and subsidies specifically targeted towards low-income housing and education programs. These funds can be pivotal in creating and maintaining affordable housing units and providing educational resources to low-income families.
- 3. Philanthropic Efforts:** Encouraging philanthropic efforts through community fundraising events and campaigns can generate additional funds. This approach also serves to raise awareness about the challenges faced by low-income residents.

In conclusion, supporting and funding low-income projects in Brookfield is not just an act of charity; it's an investment in the community's future.

Eating Disorders Awareness

By Janavi Wagle

9th Grade, Brookfield East High School

February is National Eating Disorder Awareness month, dedicated to promoting awareness and educating those in need of help. An eating disorder, such as Anorexia Nervosa, Bulimia, and Binge Eating, results from the way one feels about food and their body image. Common signs are restriction of food, excessive exercise, food rituals, eating rapidly, fluctuating weight, purging by self-induced vomiting or overusing laxatives, mood swings, isolation and health-related factors such as stomach issues and low blood pressure. Eating disorders have the highest mortality rates of all psychiatric illnesses. According to the National Institutes of Mental Health, an eating disorder is a fatal illness due to associated medical complications and suicide risk.

The National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders, says an estimated 9% (28.8 million) of the United States population will have an eating disorder in their lifetime. Eating disorders can be seen in any age, gender, race or ethnic groups, but are more prevalent in adolescents and young adults. Although the exact cause of eating disorders is unknown it can be related to genetic, psychological or environmental factors. In recent years, the use of social media and digital platforms for entertainment have increased the challenges related to body image and mental health.

The journey of treatment and recovery is often long, expensive and challenging. An advisable multidisciplinary team approach includes support from psychiatrists, psychologists, counselors, dietitians, social workers, families and specialized treatment centers. Success can be achieved by support. The first step to recovery is to recognize the signs of eating disorders and seek help.

Send a message of **LOVE** to Your Valentine!



Local Sports

Local Students Awarded Evans Scholarships

(GLENVIEW, IL) – **John Warren, Jr.** of Elm Grove, a student at Marquette University High School and Milwaukee resident **Jacob Kaepernick**, who attends Brookfield Central High School, are among sixteen students from the state of Wisconsin who have been awarded the Evans Scholarship – a full housing and tuition college grant offered to golf caddies.



John Warren



Jacob Kaepernick

John was sponsored by Blue Mound Golf & Country Club; Westmoor Country Club sponsored Jacob.

Each caddie has a unique story that reflects the scholarship's four selection criteria: a strong caddie record, excellent academics, demonstrated financial need and outstanding character.

The students will begin college in fall 2024 as Evans Scholars, with awarded universities to be finalized by March 15. The Evans Scholarship is valued at more than \$125,000 over four years.

"We are thrilled to welcome these student caddies to what will be an exceptional class of new Scholars from across the nation," said Western Golf Association (WGA) Chairman **Joe Desch**. "Their dedication in the classroom, on the golf course and in their communities represents what our Program has been about since 1930."

Evans Scholars selection meeting interviews will continue nationwide through spring. When the 2023-24 selection meeting process is complete, an estimated 340 caddies are expected to be awarded the Evans Scholarship.

The WGA, headquartered in Glenview, Illinois, has supported the Chick Evans Scholarship Program through the Evans Scholars Foundation since 1930. Known as one of golf's favorite charities, it is the nation's largest scholarship program for caddies.

Currently, a record 1,130 caddies are enrolled at 24 universities across the nation as Evans Scholars, and more than 12,040 caddies have graduated as Evans Scholars since the Program was founded by famed Chicago amateur golfer Charles "Chick" Evans Jr.

"We are proud to welcome these young individuals to the Evans Scholars family," said WGA President and CEO **John Kaczowski**.

Scholarship funds come mostly from contributions by more than 36,000 supporters across the country, who are members of the Evans Scholars Par Club program. Evans Scholars Alumni donate more than \$15 million annually, and all proceeds from the BMW Championship, the penultimate PGA TOUR Playoff event in the PGA TOUR's FedExCup competition, are donated to the Evans Scholars Foundation.

Brookfield East Ski Race Team Competition Results

The BEHS Ski Race Team took on Slinger, Catholic Memorial, and Franklin High School at The Rock on the night of January 10th for their first slalom race of the season. Slalom racing is not the for the faint of heart and first-time slalom racers, **Allison Armbruster, Emre Evran, Calder Smith, and Claire Muldoon** conquered the course.

The Girls Varsity Team achieved a 2nd place overall finish! Senior, **Anna Majewski** scored the fastest slalom run at 25.2 seconds. Top finishers included **Anna Abernethy** (5th), **Anna Majewski** (8th), and **Ella Kelsey** (10th). Varsity Boys were led by **Eren Evran** (12th), **Nate Langford** (15th) and **Tyler Frank** (17th). The Girls and Boys JV team were led by top finishers, **Juliana Zosel and Ben Nye**.

The BEHS ski team raced slalom in heavy fog, sleet and ice Thursday, January 25th against DSHA, Marquette, University School, and White Fish Bay at Heiliger Huegel Ski Club. That didn't stop senior, **Anna Majewski** from an outstanding 6th place overall finish for Girls Varsity nor her sister, **Sara Majewski** from scoring the fastest slalom run of the team! Rising star and sophomore, **Allie Falci** had a solid performance with a 3rd out of 30 place finish for Girls JV. The Varsity Boys were led by freshman, **Tyler Frank** with a strong 10th place overall finish and **Calder Smith** with the fastest slalom run.

Pilgrim Park Wrestling Team Defeats New Berlin

The PPMS team scored a 66-33 victory over New Berlin on January 24. The wrestlers who pinned their opponents were **Andrew Kilmer, Easton Staehler, George Fadeski, Rylan Wick, Jordan Wick, Will Habich, Isaac Braatz, Deandre Ehlen, Josh Botsch, and Theo Pronold**. Also, great matches were turned in by **Lucas Schneider, Kayden Gibson, and Ben Ceilkay**.

BEHS Basketball Player Scores 1,000+ Career Points

Congratulations go out to **Andrew Graf** of the Brookfield East Boys Varsity Basketball Team. On Saturday, January 20th against Kettle Moraine, Andrew surpassed 1,000 career points for his varsity basketball career. Andrew becomes the 7th Spartan in school history to reach this milestone. Andrew was presented with a game ball prior to the Spartans home game on Tuesday, January 23rd.



BEHS Wrestling Team Scores Win Over Rival BCHS

The Brookfield East Varsity Wrestling Team who won their match on January 25 against Brookfield Central in exciting fashion 41 to 39. The Spartans got wins on the mat from **Johnny Botsch, Lincoln Goldsmith, Colin Seifert, Evan Knechtges, Tristan Viljevac, Danny Sayas, and Ethan Knecht**.

Young Writers & Reporters

When I Got My Bunny

By **Aspen Borkowski**
3rd Grade – Tonawanda

It was a hot sunny day in Iowa and we were at a friend's house. Another friend took us to a farm and we saw so many bunnies and turkeys. They had 300 bunnies to look at. It was crazy. I didn't know what to say. "Kids, in a little bit we have to go home!" said my Mom. So, we left.

The next day my mom went back to the farm and they decided to bring a bunny back. When she showed us our new bunny Coco, I was so happy. We were so jumpy. We were in love with it, we fed it and played with it. Later that day, all of us went on a boat ride. We had a blast and their dog even came, too. We were on the Mississippi River. A little bit later all of us went back to the house and went to bed. The next day we went fishing and swimming on the Mississippi River. At 3:30 we had to go home. It felt like 500 hours in the car. The problem was our bunny peed on Tia. It smelled gross!

Finally, we got home and Mom fed the bunny iceberg lettuce. Mom didn't know that bunnies could NOT eat that kind of lettuce, so the bunny died that night. I was crushed. I hope I get a new bunny.

Fab Nails Glam Look

By **Autumn Nilsen**, 3rd Grade - Tonawanda

You'll Need: No-Chip Nail polish, a chair, a hard, hard surface, nail polish remover, towel

Have you ever noticed that your nails seem plain? Well, you want FAB! I'll help you. Get a grown-up and come on! LET'S PAINT YOUR NAILS!

- * Step 1: Take your nail polish and uncap it. You'll see that there is some goeey stuff. That is the nail polish. You might think the goeey stuff looks strange but that's just the nail polish.
- * Step 2: Next, use the little brush on the cap and make little strokes on your nail. Do that on all your nails until the nails are FAB! You can carefully paint glitter on nails. That is, if you like glitter.
- * Step 3: Third, if you mess up a little, that is OK! You can dip the Q-tips in the nail polish remover. Then use that Q-tip to gently dab away your mistake.
- * Step 4: You can paint cool designs on your nails with Q-tips!
- * Step 5: Let your nails dry. After they are dry, top with no-chip polish!

Conclusion: Congrats! You have FAB nails now!

Pearl

By **Will Phelan**, 3rd Grade – Tonawanda

It was a hot summer day in August. My Dad went to get a new puppy. When he came back I saw a cute little puppy. My brother and I went outside. We saw our new puppy Pearl, eating leaves. It's cute when she attacks, she pounces right for you, then she tries to corner you. She ran as fast as her little legs could carry her. She loved it outside! My other dog Gus sniffed her. Pearl is a little rascal.

We brought her inside. She took off and ran around the house. She fell asleep under the couch. She woke up and I carried her around. Then we put her in her kennel. She wasn't happy in the kennel! She was yippy! "Yip yip!" yelled Pearl. She was so noisy. When she was quiet, we finally let her go outside. She ran as fast as she could around us. She ate leaves and acorns and pretty much everything she sees. It's crazy. I love my new dog Pearl.

"There is something delicious about writing the first words of a story. You never quite know where they'll take you."
--- **Beatrix Potter**

Should I Declaw My Cat?

By **Claire Fee**
7th Grade, St Mary's Visitation

Declawing your cat is a big decision that could change both you and your cat's lives forever. Declawing a cat means taking away their claws, so you get rid of the scratching problem. However, cats are tiptoe walkers meaning they walk on the pads of their feet that hold the claws. For them that means they have to walk flat footed which strains their muscles that aren't supposed to be in that position. This can cause arthritis in the future. A cat's claws are connected to the first knuckle in their paw, which is equivalent to taking off the part of your finger that holds the finger nail. If you remove that first joint in your finger it's harder to grip things. For cats they use their claws to climb and jump long distances that are higher from their original position. However, with some cats with clawing problems there are a range of solutions to solve this problem. Cats don't like orange peels or other citrus scents that you may like. If you can find one that you like and spray the furniture maybe this can solve your scratching problem. It all comes down to whether you think it's best in the long run though.



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Green is Good!



Photo courtesy: Jennifer Studebaker

Volunteers gather on the bridge at Elm Grove Village Park showing care for our watershed during Milwaukee Riverkeeper's 2023 Clean Up.

Dive into Our Water-shed By Jennifer Studebaker, Elm Grove Green Team

Wondering what you can do this month for the environment? Your Elm Grove Green Team wants you to spend time actively thinking about our watershed! (A watershed is a specific area of land that drains into a specific body of water.)

Did you know that Underwood Creek running through Elm Grove is part of the Menomonee River Watershed, which ultimately drains into Lake Michigan? That means things like trash along the Creek, our lawn pesticides and fertilizers, and salt used to de-ice walkways at our homes, are making their way into Lake Michigan.

Don't just go with the flow! Here are a few things you can do:

- * Attend the February 8th Daylighting Underwood Creek Information Session, at 7 p.m. at The Woman's Club to learn about restoring our watershed. Register to save your spot at EGWC.org.

- * Make sure you/your snow service use as little salt as possible. (The Menomonee River Watershed improved from a D+ in 2021 to a B+ in chloride – there's still room to do better!)

- * Join in our community's annual Riverkeeper Clean Up event which will be held with all others on Saturday, April 20th. Help us clean up our Underwood Creek!

- * Educate yourself by reading Milwaukee Riverkeeper's annual *Milwaukee River Basin Report Card*.

- * Choose Lake Friendly restaurants, bars, cafés and businesses from the list at <https://www.plasticfreemke.org/support-local>. Already 30+ businesses are doing their part of protect local waters with guidance from this Plastic-Free MKE program.

- * Attend the next Elm Grove Green

Team meeting Feb. 20th at 6:30 p.m. at Village Hall or tell us you'd like to receive sustainable Elm Grove news, events, tips and more by emailing us at ElmGroveGreenTeam@gmail.com. Help us make a splash!

- * **Coming Soon:** An opportunity to add solar power to your home for less by participating in a solar group buy. Watch for more details coming from your Elm Grove Green Team!

- * **Good Job Waste Warriors!** Each month our partners at JOHNS help us celebrate Elm Grove neighbors doing a good job placing appropriate items in the blue recycle bins. In February we're sending special thanks to the Waste Warriors at 1105 Terrace Drive, 12900 Gremoor Drive, and 13955 Marcella Avenue. If you're not sure what can/can't be placed in the blue recycling bins, check out the list at <https://www.johnsdisposal.com/recycling-information/>.

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, 14420 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122-2423.

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

News Briefs

Wisconsin VFW Teacher of the Year Named



Photo: Brookfield Academy

Karen Ray

(BROOKFIELD) Brookfield Academy (BA) Upper School teacher **Ms. Karen Ray** has been selected as the Wisconsin VFW High School Teacher of the Year and will receive her award at the organization's upcoming statewide meeting in Wisconsin Rapids. She will now advance to the VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award competition.

Ms. Ray earned this recognition based on her exemplary performance across four distinct criteria: Citizenship, Innovation, Resources, and Passion for Teaching.

Currently teaching Western Civilization II, Honors Western Civilization, and Middle East Studies, Ms. Ray has taught at BA for more than a decade. Ms. Ray's commitment extends to organizing assemblies commemorating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Veterans Day, where she brings historical artifacts into the school lobby and shares compelling stories to captivate students' imaginations. She has recorded the stories of more than 1,500 veterans, building bridges between generations. Notably, she has traveled to each country she teaches about, enhancing her personal knowledge and inspiring students with a profound understanding of different cultures.



Photo courtesy: School District of Elmbrook

Members of Pilgrim Park Middle School teams, Alpha Geek and B.U.I.L.D.

Elmbrook Students Advance to National Competitions

(ELM GROVE) Pilgrim Park Middle School teams, Alpha Geek and B.U.I.L.D., recently competed in the Wisconsin State First Lego League Challenge tournament and came away with first and third place, respectively. Team Alpha Geek will be traveling to the FLL World Festival in Houston, Texas in April. They will be competing against national and international teams of all FIRST levels. Team B.U.I.L.D. will be traveling to the Western Edge Open in Long Beach, California. They will experience 2 days of competition in late May. This is the second year in a row that Elmbrook teams from Burleigh/PPMS have traveled to international competitions (B.U.I.L.D., Lightning Bolts traveled in 2023).



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- SNOW SHOVEL

WINTER VEHICLE EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT



Ice & Snow - Take it Slowly!

These guidelines provide a comprehensive approach to staying safe on the road during winter weather, encompassing proactive measures for winter driving and specific actions to take in emergencies.

Winter Driving Precautions:

- Know Before You Go - Ensure you have the means to receive important weather alerts and notifications; check on road conditions before your commute.
- Slow down on slick or snow-covered surfaces to maintain control and prevent accidents.
- Don't Crowd the Plow - Avoid crowding snow plows as they travel slowly, make wide turns, and frequently stop or exit the road.

Emergency Situations Driving in Winter Weather:

- Stay focused on yourself, your passengers, the car, and your surroundings if stopped or stalled.
- Stay with your car and avoid overexertion.
- Enhance visibility with bright markers on antennas or windows and keep the interior dome light on.
- Beware of carbon monoxide poisoning; clear the exhaust pipe of snow and run the car sporadically for warmth.
- Avoid running your vehicle for extended periods with windows up or in an enclosed space.
- Prepare a Winter Vehicle Emergency Supply Kit.



About

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