

The UNDERWOOD CREEK DAYLIGHTING PROJECT is the subject of a Referendum about which Elm Grove residents will vote on November 5th. The above graphic shows the Project area west of the railroad track, in the eastern section of the Park & Shop parking lot, between Watertown Plank Road and Wall St.

## **Public Information** Meetings to be Held

Two Underwood Creek Daylighting project public information meetings will be held on Thursday, October 24 at 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the Court Room at Elm Grove Village Hall, 13600 Juneau Blvd.

See VILLAGE UPDATE - Page 3 and visit www.elmgrovewi.org for details about the project.

Visit **<u>myvote.wi.gov</u>** where the Wisconsin Election Commission provides access to the following:

- See what's on your ballot.
- View your voter information and past voting history.
- Register or re-register if you've moved.
- Request an absentee ballot OR follow the progress of your absentee ballot.



- Chase Russell Oliver / Mike ter Maat (Libertarian)
- Jill Stein / Rudolph Ware (Wisconsin Green)
- Claudia De la Cruz / Karina Garcia (Party for Socialism and Liberation)
- Cornel West / Melina Abdullah (Justice for All)
- Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. / Nicole Shanahan (We The People)

### **United States Senator:**

MICHALSKI

STATE ASSEMBLY

- Tammy Baldwin (Democratic) Eric Hovde (Republican)
- Phil Anderson (Disrupt The Corruption)
- Thomas Leager (America First)

### **Representative in U. S. Congress – District 5**

• Ben Steinhoff (Democratic) • Scott Fitzgerald (Republican)

### **Representative to Wisconsin Assembly – District 13**

• Robyn Vining (Democratic) • Tom Michalski (Republican)

For more **CANDIDATES & REFERENDUM** information, See



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 $\checkmark$  Bipartisan leader who authored or coauthored 37 bills that were signed into law by the Governor

- $\checkmark$  Expanded access to childcare and worked to lower the cost for families
- $\checkmark$  Passed legislation to eliminate taxes on retirement income for seniors
- ✓ Increased school funding, including additional funding for special education and mental health services
- Passed legislation to **combat the increase in human** trafficking and drug abuse hurting communities in Southeastern Wisconsin

;;;0

## Tom Michalski for Assembly

### **RE-ELECT TOM ON OR BEFORE NOV. 5!**

### **ON THE BALLOT** Page 3

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### We <u>THANK</u> our ADVERTISERS & these Friends of *The News*

\*Jane McMullen \*Geri Fotsch \*Kiwanis Club of Elm Grove-Golden K \*Mary Ann Rachow \*Brookfield Wildlife Habitat Team \*Bruce & Susan Davidson \*Tom & Jane Dwyer \*The Silver Spur BBQ \*Dana Cable \*Elm Grove Beautification Committee \*A Faithful Reader \*Elizabeth & James Lange \*Lacey, Herbie, Gus Gus & Toby \*Dana Cable for helping to **Sponsor** this edition. (See "Friends" form – Page 11.)

# **Public Safety Reports**

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





### Photos courtesy: EGPD

(At top - left) A railroad gate arm is bent downwards after being struck by a truck and trailer.

(At bottom - left) A screen shot taken from video footage shows a white truck and trailer proceeding westbound on Watertown Plank Road following the incident.

### **Railroad Accident in Elm Grove, Truck Driver Cited**

\*September 19, 2024 - Officers directed traffic at the Watertown Plank Road / Legion Drive railroad crossing due to a truck and trailer failing to stop for the railroad crossing flashing red lights and bells which were signals for the approaching train. As the vehicle struck the railroad gate arm it was bent into the path of the train. A few moments later the oncoming train struck the arm bending it into the ground and disabling the crossing arm. The offending vehicle remained on scene. Trains were stopped and officers remained at the crossing until railroad service technicians arrived.

The driver, identified as **Greg Mehring** of Greger's Tree Service, was issued a citation for violation of WI §346.44(1)(b), entitled, "Fail to stop/RR crossing signal." The citation carries a bond amount of \$155.50 and 6 points can be assessed to the operator's driver's license. The optional initial municipal court appearance date is October 30, 2024. The driver is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Per CP Rail Police the estimated cost to repair the damage to be \$700.00. The owner of the property damaged as a result of this incident is The Canadian Pacific Railroad Company. Restitution for the property damaged as a result of this traffic incident is between the operator/ owner of the business and the CP Railroad Company and/or their respective insurance companies.

If railroad crossing lights begin to flash or the bells begin to ring, STOP! A train is coming. You must yield to the train and remain stopped until the lights have stopped flashing and the gates have lifted.



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Thanks to the generous **donations of The Elm Grove Citizens Police Academy Alumni** members we were able to show our appreciation for the Elm Grove Police Department with a Blackstone outdoor grill, cover, accessories and propane tank this month. The CPAA worked with Elliot's Ace Hardware to obtain this requested equipment to keep our Police and Fire Department members well fed on training days and during shift meals.

**Fire Prevention Week is October 6-12**. "Check Your Smoke Detectors" is this year's theme. Open house is on October  $8^{th}$ , 6:30-8:00 p.m. (See details on Page 5.)

During **Elm Grove Trick-or-Treat on Saturday, October 26th from 5-7 pm** look for Elm Grove Police and EMS distributing 1000 glow necklaces, purchased by CPAA, to help keep kids visible and safe during this fun community activity.

## Village Update

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

Welcome to fall with the beautiful changing leaf colors on the many trees within the village. I hope everyone can explore village park and enjoy the remaining days of warmer weather.

### \*Congratulations!

A huge shout-out to the Elm Grove Community Foundation for a successful Oktoberfest celebration. The attendance was fantastic and it was great to see all the activities and children enjoying the event. Well done!

### \*Welcome!

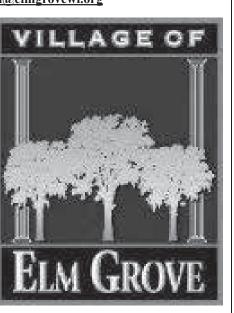
Mark Becker has joined the Village as its Department of Public Works Superintendent / Forester. Mark previously served as an employee of the City of Brookfield for over 13 years. I can say with certainty that based on Mark's education and background, the Village is very lucky to have him joining our team in this critical position.

#### \*Referendum on the November 5<sup>th</sup> **Ballot** – Underwood Creek Daylighting Project

As required by Village ordinance for public works projects greater than \$1 million, a referendum to approve the Underwood Creek Daylighting is on the November Ballot.

Underwood Creek currently flows in a buried box culvert under the park and Shop parking lot and under the east side of the Sendik's store, before daylighting east of the 890 building. The installation of the box culvert and its parking lot covering occurred without prior approval from the Department of Natural Resources ("DNR") many years ago. The DNR will not approve any significant repairs or changes. If the box culvert fails, the parking lot above could collapse, rendering a main commercial node of the Village paralyzed.

Daylighting was part of the original Storm Water Management Plan ("Plan") formulated in 2003 in response to the history of severe flooding in our community and it also included the formation of Tax Increment District #2 (TID #2). Many who experienced it will remember life before the first phase of the Storm Water Plan was completed along with the damage and the personal tragedies that occurred. The Plan significantly reduced recurrent flooding in the Village. The initial scope of the Project was modified at that time, resulting in a delay of the completion of the Creek Daylighting, however, daylighting remained the ultimate goal. Over time, costs have increased, and the handling of contaminated soil regulations have become more restricted and have driven increased costs (approximately \$2 million). One thing that has not changed is the need to complete the Plan to further lessen the risk of damaging and dangerous storm events and flooding, while creating a pleasing community amenity.



- Completing the extension of the TID #2 expiration date to help fund the project within State guidelines. This will provide at least \$4.2 million of available funding for the Project.
- Engineer's current cost estimate is \$8.5 million, inclusive of a 10% (\$650,000) contingency of project cost. Every effort is being pursued to lower costs as the design work is finalized.
- Earmarking funding of approximately \$6.3 million of stormwater funds from current storm water fees each resident currently pays over the next 20 years. This amount includes the interest on debt issued to fund the construction costs.
- Residents will not incur additional taxes or special assessments to fund and complete the project.
- As the Project is further defined and certified drawings and a contract is executed, additional grants will be applied for with the goal of lowering the overall net cost of the Project.
- The Board will host two informational meetings on October 24<sup>th</sup> at the Village Hall at 3:30 p.m. and again at 6:30 p.m. to answer all questions and discuss resident concerns.

This project has been in the planning stages for nearly 20 years. Your Board has identified a Plan to complete the project without any additional taxes on our community. To leverage the \$4.2 million of TID #2 funding available, the Village needs to be under contract by April, 2026 and construction commenced soon after. I am passionate about completing this Project to improve safety and reduce storm water risk while enhancing the downtown. I will be voting YES on November 5th. As always, I am available via email at jkoleski@ elmgrovewi.org to answer any questions or provide additional information. Thank you for listening and your continued support of the Village Board.

## **Business & Club Directory**

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### **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

# **Classifieds**

**Furniture for Sale** 

- \*COFFEE TABLE: solid cherry, 72" long x 17" wide
- **\*DESK**: 7-drawer, glass over top, dark
- \*Pair of occasional CHAIRS, dark wood, ivory seats

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# On the Ballot ... (Continued from Page 1)

### District Attorney

Leslie Boese (Republican)

Waukesha County Clerk

Meg Wartman (Republican) •

- Waukesha County Treasurer
  - Jennifer Grant (Republican)

### Waukesha County Register of Deeds

• James R. Behrend (Republican)

State Referendum (Vote "Yes" or "No")

"Eligibility to vote. Shall section 1 of article III of the constitution, which deals with suffrage, be amended to provide that only a United States citizen age 18 or older who resides in an election district may vote in an election for national, state, or local office or at a statewide or local referendum?"

(EDITOR'S NOTE) Section 1 of the Wisconsin constitution currently states that "every United States citizen age 18 or older who is a resident of an election district in this state is a qualified elector of that district."



For the past two years, the Public Works Committee and Village Board have been actively reviewing plans, updating engineering renderings and drawings, and working to define an estimated cost to daylight Underwood Creek. Specific actions taken include:

- Purchasing the One Hour Martinizing property and its demolition.
- Negotiating with the Railroad to • acquire only the land necessary for the project.
- Negotiating easements with property owners.
- Contracting with an Engineering Firm to design the project and review options.
- Applying for and receiving nearly \$700,000 of grants to support this project from 2018 forward.
- Defined pathway location and a pedestrian bridge crossing for safe access and recreational use. (Current drawings and renderings are available on the Village's website: www.elmgrovewi.org)
- Performing environmental and other soil testing and analysis.

### \*Public Works Update

- Thank you to the entire Public Works team for their efforts getting our 2024 paving work completed. Restoration of grass and other clean-up, including road striping is next on the agenda.
- The Highland Pathway is still hung up at the state railroad commission. The team is aggressively seeking State Administrative approval of the Village's plan to cross the railroad tracks and complete the work before the snow flies.

Let's enjoy the beauty of fall and crisp clear weather!

A "YES" vote means that you approve changing the wording from "every" to "only," and clarify that applies to all local, state, and national elections and referendums.

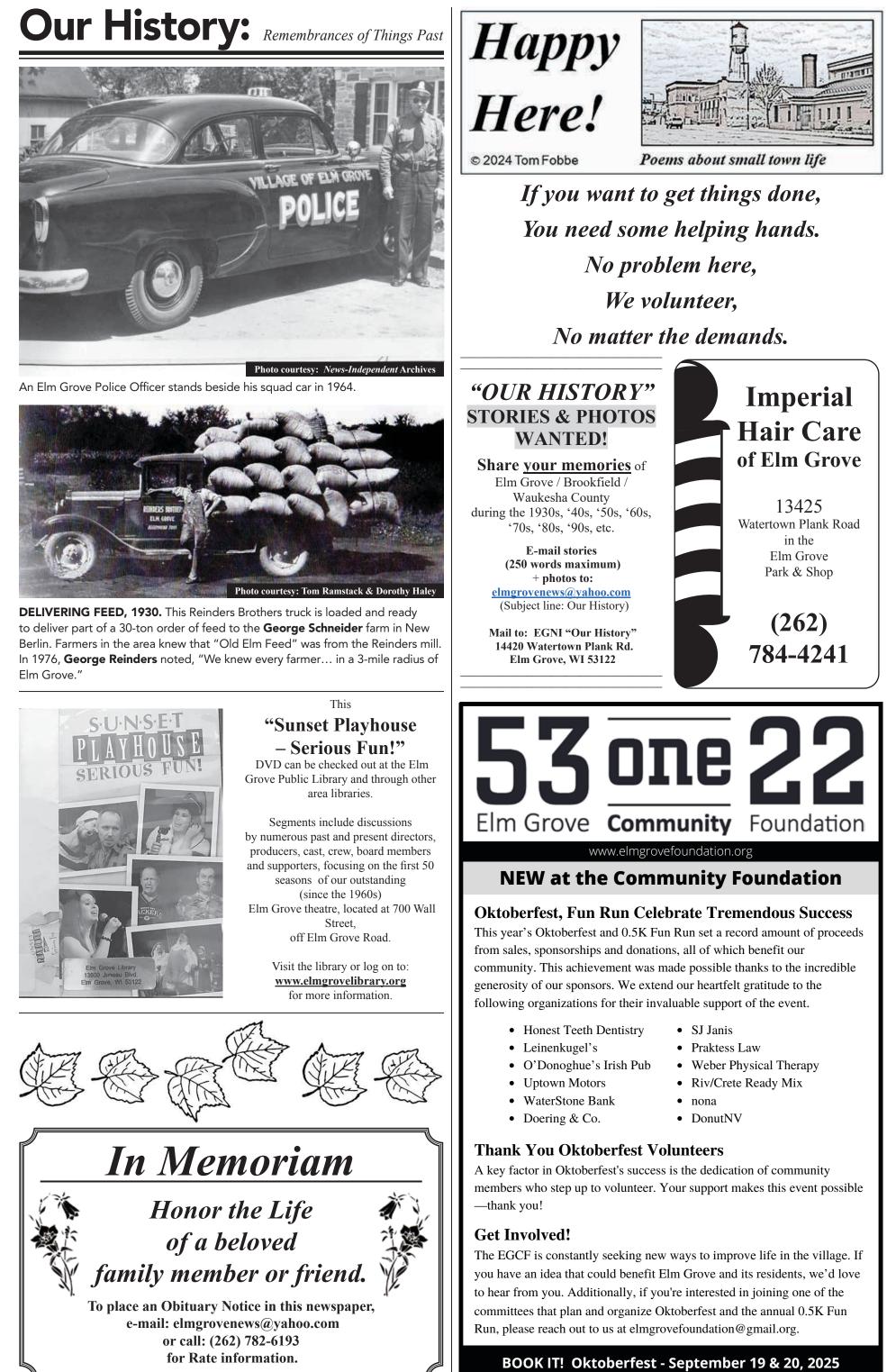
A "NO" vote means that you want the word "every" to remain in the document.

\*\*\* There are currently no cities, towns or villages in Wisconsin that allow noncitizens to vote in local elections.

### Municipal Referendum (Vote "Yes" or "No")

"Shall the Village of Elm Grove complete the Stormwater Management Plan developed in response to severe flooding by daylighting and realigning Underwood Creek south of Watertown Plank Road through the downtown area? The existing creek enclosure located under the Park and Shop parking lot and the Sendik's building is failing, and will not receive permitting for significant repair from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Village will acquire land and easements and construct a naturalized streambed for the purpose of Village stormwater management. This project will protect public safety, create public space, connect pedestrian pathways and enhance the economic viability of the downtown. The project will be paid for with funding from Tax Incremental Financing District #2, existing storm water fees, and grants. The total project cost SHALL NOT exceed \$8,500,000."

Page 4



# Calendar of Events – October 2024

**Tuesday – OCTOBER 1** Elm Grove Building Board Meeting – 5:30 p.m. at Village Hall Agenda: <u>www.elmgrovewi.org</u>

Wednesday – OCTOBER 2 Elm Grove Beautification Committee Meeting – 6:30 p.m. at Village Hall, Park View Rm. Agenda: <u>www.elmgrovewi.org</u>

Friday – OCTOBER 4 Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K Meeting – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Senior Center; Speaker: Cindy Baylor, Lutheran Church Charities; Topic: K-9 Comfort Dogs. <u>kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com</u>

Sunday – OCTOBER 6 Elm Grove Beautification Committee Invasive Species Task Force Meets at 11 a.m. at Elm Grove Village Park. Volunteers welcome. beautification@elmgrovewi.org.

Monday – OCTOBER 7 Elm Grove Plan Commission Meeting – 6 p.m. at Village Hall. Agenda: <u>www.elmgrovewi.org</u>

**Tuesday – OCTOBER 8** Elm Grove Sustainability Committee Meeting – 6:30 p.m. at Village Hall Agenda: <u>www.elmgrovewi.org</u>

Friday – OCTOBER 11 Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K Meeting – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Senior Center; Speaker: Dan Riedel, Woller-Anger; Topic: Current State of Insurance Industry. <u>kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com</u>

Sunday – OCTOBER 13 Elm Grove Beautification Committee Invasive Species Task Force Meets at 11 a.m. at Elm Grove Village Park. Volunteers welcome. beautification@elmgrovewi.org.

Monday – OCTOBER 14 INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

Elm Grove Public Works / Utility Committee Meeting – 5:30 p.m. at Village Hall Agenda: <u>www.elmgrovewi.org</u>



Tuesday – OCTOBER 15 Elm Grove Building Board Meeting – 5:30 p.m. at Village Hall Agenda: <u>www.elmgrovewi.org</u>

Thursday – OCTOBER 17 OWLS – Seniors' Group Travel to Lake County, IL, Great Lakes Naval Museum, Base Tour, Shops of Long Grove, IL, Sock Monkey Museum Sponsored by Community UMC Guests are welcome. http://www.cumceg.org/owls

Friday – OCTOBER 18 Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K Meeting – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Senior Center; Speaker: Rob King; Topic: Update of Troop 156 Activities <u>kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com</u>

Sunday – OCTOBER 20 Elm Grove Beautification Committee Invasive Species Task Force Meets at 11 a.m. at Elm Grove Village Park. Volunteers welcome. beautification@elmgrovewi.org.

Monday – OCTOBER 21 Elm Grove Library Board Meeting – 5 p.m. at Village Hall

Public Safety Committee Meeting – 6:30 p.m. at Village Hall Agendas: <u>www.elmgrovewi.org</u>

**Tuesday – OCTOBER 22 Elm Grove Board of Trustees** Public meeting – 7 p.m. at Village Hall Courtroom (262) 782-6700 Agenda: **www.elmgrovewi.org** 

Thursday – OCTOBER 24 Underwood Creek Daylighting project public information meeting: 3:30 p.m. in the Court Room at Elm Grove Village Hall, 13600 Juneau Blvd. (262) 782-6700

Friday – OCTOBER 25 Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K Meeting – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Senior Center; Speaker: John Schindler Topic: Status of Creek Daylighting Project kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

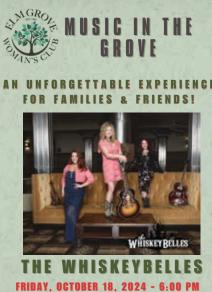
## Friends of Elm Grove Library Holiday Book Sale November 9<sup>th</sup> \* 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Our delightful selection of stocking stuffers and other gifts for your friends and family --- young and young-at-heart. Pristine Journals, Books, CDs and DVDs, Puzzles, and Games Saturday – OCTOBER 26

Village of Elm Grove Trick or Treating 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Sunday – OCTOBER 27 Elm Grove Beautification Committee Invasive Species Task Force Meets at 11 a.m. at Elm Grove Village Park. Volunteers welcome. beautification@elmgrovewi.org.

Thursday – OCTOBER 31 HALLOWEEN



13885 WATERTOWN PLANK ROAD Adults \$22, Students \$12, Under 5 Free Food & Bevenages available for Purchase Tickets Avilable for Purcahse WWW.egwc.org

## **Elm Grove Fire Dept. Open House** When October 8, 2024 6:30pm – 8pm

### Elm Grove Recycling Center Hours

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

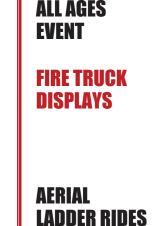
OCTOBER 1-14 Tuesday & Thursday 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 15-31 Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday, Noon to 4:00 p.m.

www.elmgrovewi.org

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# **News Briefs**

### Junior Guild to Offer Grants to Non-Profits

(ELM GROVE) The Elm Grove Junior Guild is a community of women committed to the education, wellness and protection of all women and children. The group's commitment takes the form of service, awareness and financial support.



Seventy-five percent of all money raised through annual fundraising efforts, including the Tree of Giving Gala, is granted to 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that serve the women, children and families of Waukesha and Milwaukee counties. Typical grant disbursement is in the range of \$500-\$10,000.

Additionally, the organization gives twenty-five percent of money raised to support projects within our home community, the Village of Elm Grove. We invite all non-profit organizations to apply for funding through our grant programs.

### The grant application process begins on October 1. The deadline to submit applications is November 30, 2024.

After the initial round of grant application review, the Elm Grove Junior Guild will invite finalist organizations to the Elm Grove Woman's Club (13855 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove) on February 5, 2025, sometime between 6:30 p.n. - 9:00 p.m., where a representation from each organization will give a brief (estimated 3-5 minute) presentation to the group about the proposed project.

Visit elmgrovejuniorguild.org/grants for application details.



Amy Ehlinger gathers with fellow Scouts, friends and family members at the Blue Star Memorial. This is at the former location of American Legion Post 449, now situated on 124th St. in Brookfield.

### Scout Improves Blue Star Memorial as Eagle Project

Amy Ehlinger, a Scout in Troop 156, led a group of fellow Scouts, friends, and relatives to improve the Blue Star Memorial, at the corner of Juneau Blvd. and Legion Dr., as part of her Eagle Scout project.

The brick walk had weeds growing and dirt between the bricks, and a section of the walkway had shifted downward towards a culvert. Amy had her group remove the dirt and weeds from between the bricks and worked with some of her team to rebuild the section of bricks that had shifted. Then, her team installed polymeric sand between the bricks to prevent dirt and

(ELM GROVE) In early September, Elm Grove resident weeds from coming back. Her team also shifted the rocks in the culvert to hold the bricks more securely and pulled weeds from the garden and in the culvert.

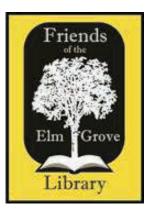
> In the next few months, Amy will work to complete a few more merit badges in order to attain the rank of Eagle Scout.

> Troop 156, for both boys and girls, meets at Pilgrim Park Middle School on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. The Kiwanis Club of Elm Grove - Golden K is the Chartering Organization for Troop 156, Troop and Pack 32 at St. Mary's Visitation, and Pack 156 at Tonawanda Elementary.

### Friends of Elm Grove Library to Hold Holiday Book Sale By Kathy Tusing and Carla Stensberg

The leaves may be falling, but your holiday shopping list is calling! Get a head start for those book lovers on your list at the Friends of the Elm Grove Library's Holiday Book Sale! You will find fun items for the children you love, interesting items for friends you enjoy, and maybe even a special something for yourself.

We have a wonderful selection of books for adults and children, DVDs, CDs, journals, and gently used puzzles and games. They are priced reasonably and are gift worthy. Only cash or checks are accepted.



The sale is Saturday, November 9, 2024, from 10 a.m. until

4 p.m. in conjunction with the "Holiday in the Grove Celebration". The sale is located in the library foyer and extends into the hallway of the village building. It is a convenient location, easy parking, friendly helpers, and low prices.

We are also one of the stops on the horse-drawn wagon ride! You can combine fun with shopping! All proceeds will go to supporting our local library and all its services. See you on the 9<sup>th</sup>!

### **Got Milk-weed? Share Your Pods!** By the Elm Grove Beautification Committee

Did you know that by sharing milkweed seed pods, you can help save monarchs? Milkweed is this butterfly's only one-stop shop for egg-laying, caterpillar food and habitat. They can't survive



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without this plant. The Elm Grove Beautification Committee is collecting milkweed pods at Village Hall until October 18th as part of our Mayors' Monarch Pledge.

"Last year we accomplished 14 of the actions for the Pledge, and this year we're aiming for 19," says Nicci Sternitzky, Beautification Committee Chair. "About 15% of Elm Grove homes have milkweed, and we're trying to double that by sharing information and giving away free milkweed plants with a \$10 purchase at our June native plants sale. We'll donate the pods to The Monarch Trail's Pod Palooza Milkweed Seed and Fluff Party on October 19<sup>th</sup>."

A milkwood pod collection bin at Elm Grove Village Hall.

The Monarch Trail is a one-mile trail near

(Milwaukee) County Grounds Park that's a critical flyway for monarch butterflies as they migrate south from Canada and northern Minnesota and Michigan.

"Mother Nature has an ingenious way of transporting and spreading these seeds with the airborne silk, but so few make it to a spot that will allow them to germinate," says Barb Agnew, President of The Friends of the Monarch Trail, the nonprofit that is protecting and restoring the Trail. "We store the seeds for next year's Trail projects, and we also share them with other local monarch friends groups restoring habitat, like Lincoln Park and the Beerline Trail. The monarch-milkweed connection highlights the relationships between plants, insects and the ecosystem that supports all living creatures."

## **News Briefs**



Brookfield East semifinalists (from left to right): William Marshall, Alden John, Grant Atkinson, Noah Ren, Hannah Yoo, Shilpa Kumar, Mellynda Jia, Emily Enright, Rohith Kumar, Kyra Auchampach, and Elisabeth Hillmann.

## Local Students Named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

(BROOKFIELD) The National Merit Scholarship Corporation has named eight of Brookfield Academy's 74 seniors, 11 Brookfield East seniors, and 13 Brookfield Central seniors as National Merit Semifinalists. Skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies are the criteria upon which Semifinalists are selected.

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition that began providing recognition and scholarships in 1955. Approximately 1.3 million high school juniors entered the program this year by Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Qualifying Test.

Students, who have been named Semifinalists, will now advance in the process and have the possibility to be named Finalists and then have the opportunity to be considered for National Merit Scholarships.



Brookfield Academy semifinalists (Front row, left to right) **Rohan Gandhi, Cynthia** Yu, Alexis Wilson, and Ashna Dagam; (Back row, left to right) Sanjit Madireddi, Harrison Koss, Shrivatsaa Kannan, and Grace Mueller.



Semifinalists from Brookfield Central High School (Front row, left to right): Avaneesh Muralidharan, Meera Rao, Theodore Stull, Saathvik Gowda, Swara Inamdar, Rawan Ahmed, and Alice Chen; (Back row, left to right) Joshua Wang, Viraj Bhagat, Kartik Ramachandrula, Jonathan Rossi, Arnav Nandakumar, and Swar Khopkar.

## Elm Grove Beautification Committee Milkweed POD COLLECTION

In order to help The Wauwatosa Monarch Trail in its mission, we are taking milkweed pod donations now through October.18th

- paper bag
- · zip code from where collected
- type of milkweed

Drop off in the lobby of village hall in the collection box marked for milkweed pods

Collect only ripe pods. Pods do not always ripen at the same time, so you should assess each pod individually. You do not need to remove the pod from the plant to assess ripeness.

Pods are ripe when they open at the seam with light pressure. If the seam does not split

# Tell us about your GOOD NEIGHBORS

(300 words or less)

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E-mail your story + a photo of your neighbor(s), if available to: <u>elmgrovenews@yahoo.com</u> (subject line: "Good Neighbors")

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

Dolly Parton's



## **ELM GROVE** Library News and Programs October 2024 13600 Juneau Blvd., Elm Grove, WI 53122 LIBRARY 262-782-6717 | elmgrovelibrary.org

### Rembrandt's Sublimity Radiating from the Soul / Tuesday, October 8, 6:30 p.m. In some sense, all painting is about the handling of light: the life-

giving natural light of the day, the glow from a candle, the moonlight bathed gently in its brightness...but only Rembrandt's paintings have a mystic aura about them. Join us as we survey the life and work of an artist widely considered one of the greatest in history: Rembrandt van Rijn. Presented by Professor Karri Fritz-Klaus of Cornerstone History Symposium.



#### Recycling: Up Close & Personal / Wednesday, October 16, 6:30 p.m.

We use a lot of finite resources. Discover the numbers behind consumption on a global and nationwide scale, and how you can reduce this number. Find out what happens to many of these materials, and how recycling helps us **RECYCLE** manage much of what we consume. Presented by the Waukesha County Department of Parks and Land Use. This is the second program in the 2024-25 Elm Grove Beautification Committee Winter Lecture Series, with partner support from the Elm Grove Library.

#### Maximize Your Medicare Benefits / Wednesday, October 23, 1:00 p.m.

This presentation will provide an overview of Medicare Parts A, B, C and D as well as supplemental insurance and an explanation of how they fit together. The program will also include information about Medicare's annual open enrollment period and an explanation of how to use and understand the plan comparison tool on Medicare's website. Presented in conjunction with the ADRC of Waukesha County and GWAAR (Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc.). Please register in advance for this presentation at elmgrovelibrary.org.

#### Minerals, Fossils & Crystals: Delve into the science of geology and hobby of rock collecting / Wednesday, October 23, 7:00 p.m.

Join geologist and paleontologist Jason Rehorst for an allages program about minerals, fossils, and crystals. During the course of the program, Mr. Rehorst will teach attendees how to build and maintain a rock collection, talk about the geological history of Wisconsin and what fossils can be found



nearby, and explain how the Ice Age shaped the landscape of Wisconsin for thousands of years. Attendees will be able to examine and handle various fossils and minerals! BONUS: Be sure to visit the Virtual Museum of Geology's Traveling Educational Display, on view at the Elm Grove Library during the months of October and November.

#### An Evening with Paulette Brooks, author of Not Just a Homemaker: The Extraordinary Life of Sheila MacGregor / Wednesday, October 30, 7:00 p.m.



For fans of Marie Benedict and Kate Morton, Not Just A Homemaker is the historical fiction debut from retired Elm Grove librarian Paulette Brooks. Misinformation on an Indiana park sign and a terse obituary motivate Meg, a persistent librarian, to uncover the little-known story of an extraordinary Scottish woman named Sheila, whose legacy is the creation of MacGregor Park near Indianapolis.

While Sheila MacGregor is recovering from wartime trauma and Meg Livingstone is fleeing from an abusive situation, both survive challenges with help from best friends. A century separates them, yet each finds solace in the same woodland farmhouse where they resolve to treasure their hard-won independence.

Join us in celebrating a book five years in the making that spans three continents. In conversation with Elm Grove librarian Noah Weckwerth. This event is free to attend. Books will be available for sale.

Coming Soon: Shelf Life Sweepstakes November • December • January • February Did you know the Elm Grove Library has a monthly email newsletter? Since 2021, Shelf Life has delivered the latest library news, recommendations, card benefits and miscellany. We want to make sure you're receiving it, and to get you started, we're sweetening the pot! Beginning in November, a Willy Wonka-style fever will be sweeping the library: a fever you can only get in on if you read Shelf Life.

During the months November, December, January, and February, "golden tickets" will be hidden throughout the library, and these scratch off tickets could yield unique and fabulous prizes. The only way to get the clues and determine the locations of these tickets is through each month's issue of Shelf Life. If you're already reading Shelf Life, thank you! If not, don't hesitate to subscribe before the first "golden ticket" issue lands in inboxes November 1. Scan the attached QR code or visit libraryaware.com/3479/subscribers/subscribe to sign up for Shelf

## Young Writers & Reporters

### Wisconsin Star Flag

By Micah Sayner, 6th Grade - Pilgrim Park Middle School

I've always loved flags! At the 2024 International Academic Competitions (IAC) National Championships, I was the Opening Ceremonies Wisconsin Flag Bearer and the fifth-place finisher in the Maps and Flags competition. www.iacompetitions.com

So, when Minnesota announced they were holding a flag design contest, I was inspired to create a new flag for Wisconsin! Our original flag was made 161 years ago in 1863. Back then, half of the country had blue flags with their state seal on it.

Today, many of them still have those flags, but states like Minnesota, Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona have redesigned their flags to be really special. They have bold colors and simple shapes that make them really stand out.

I want the same for Wisconsin, so I've created the WI Star Flag!

Blue stands for our lakes and rivers. Green stands for the North Woods and nature. Yellow stands for our strong agriculture and bright cities. The 5-point star represents Wisconsin's five regions: Northern, Northeast, Southeast, South Central, and West Central.

I believe we can have a flag that represents everywhere and everyone in Wisconsin, and looks cool, too! Please show your support for the WI Star Flag by signing our petition on Change.org!



**Micah Sayner** 



Micah's Wisconsin Star Flag design.

# Green is Good!

### There's Green on the Ballot November 5th By the Elm Grove Green Team

If you needed another reason to visit the polls this upcoming election day, consider this: The Village needs your vote to complete the final, essential part of its stormwater management plan. It involves rechanneling Underwood Creek from where it runs under the Park and Shop parking lot through downtown Elm Grove to a naturalized, floodwater-absorbing stream bed. The restoration, which will start south of the bridge on Watertown Plank Road, includes a bicycle/walking path as our own riverwalk, wide quarried limestone steps along the gentle grade down to the creek for sitting by the water, and native plantings.

"The existing enclosure over the creek on November 5th, and by this time next year, is failing, and if it does fail, we'll have the we may already see salmon making their way potential for flooding in the downtown and high costs for emergency repair," said John Schindler, Village Trustee and Chair of the Public Works and Utilities Committee. "Daylighting the Creek has so many advantages, from public safety and avoidance of unplanned costs to residents, to all of the environmental and recreation benefits. If approved we expect to have shovels in the ground in early 2025 and substantial completion by the end of the year."

"The funding for this project is coming from grants, Tax Increment District #2 funding and existing stormwater management fees the Village already collects on our tax bills," said Schindler, who has a background in Hydrogeology.

If you have questions, be sure to attend a public information session at Village Hall on October 24th at 3:30 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. You can also find out more on the Village website at https://elmgrovewi.org/573/Underwood-There's a great Creek-Daylighting explainer video, too at: bit.ly/daylight2025.

Be sure to cast your vote for the referendum



Life. We send one email each month. That's it. See you at the library...and good luck!

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So why is this a referendum question? Due to a change of the local ordinances in 2022, anytime the Village plans to spend more than \$1 million on a Public Works project it must go to a Village-wide vote. While the total cost of the project is capped at \$8.5 million, residents won't see a tax increase.

upstream from Lake Michigan to spawn.

#### How You Can Become a Waste Warrior!

Each month our JOHN'S trash management pros tip us to who is doing an outstanding job with their trash and recycling. This month, we're recognizing our neighbors at 2020 Hawthorne Drive (clean recycling), 1690 Berkshire Drive (great recycling to trash ratio), and 13100 Lee Court (excellent recycling effort) - kudos!

Have questions on upping your recycling game? Stop in the Elm Grove Library O'Neill Room on October 16th at 6:30pm for Recycling: Up Close & Personal, a presentation by Waukesha County Department of Parks and Land Use that's sure to have the answers you need.



# Young Writers & Reporters

### **Sports**

By Prisha Gupta 6th Grade - Pilgrim Park Middle School

Sports. Sweaty, active, sports..... What do YOU think when you hear that word?

To be honest, most people think that means wearing stinky jerseys, playing on fields, and running and getting sweaty. But that's WRONG. There's so much more than that. Way more.

If you ask anyone what sports means, that's about the answer you'll get. But if you search up "Sports" in the dictionary, you'll get something like "Recreation or activities," Well, THAT'S right. Almost everyone's idea of sports is games like soccer, tennis, baseball, etc. You know, sports that are VERY common. But sports like those aren't the only ones. Sports can be anything that involves a little activeness, whether it's physical or not. Sports can be mental, too, like Science Olympiads or spelling bees. But most people only think PHYSICAL sports are, SPORTS! But like the dictionary says, sports are anything of recreation. You don't have to be athletic, active, or play common games like soccer and tennis to say you play sports. But sports ARE good for you. So, the next time you think about playing sports, remember that there are 100s of sports out there, waiting for you. All you have to do... is play them.

6 Mile Hike

(though Pictured Rocks in Michigan) By Charlie Mikolajczyk 1st Grade - Brookfield Christian School

We went on a hike Without a bike

We walked with our feet It felt like a week

We stomped through some mud My dad said, Good Job, Bud!

Third grade students at St. Mary's Visitation School wrote about some of their favorite and least favorite candy in preparation for Halloween.

The best candy is Reese's because it has chocolate and peanut butter. The worst candy is Smarties because it has no flavor. Too much candy will make your teeth fall out and then it is hard to talk. Not enough candy equals no fun on holidays. - Jake

The best candy is Charleston Chew because it is so marshmallowy and chocolatey. The worst candy is black licorice because it is just so bad. Too much candy is a tummy ache just waiting to happen. Not enough candy equals sad children. - James

The best candy is Reeses because it has peanut butter. The worst candy is M & M's because they melt in your hands. Too much candy is broken teeth and cavities. Not enough candy is the worst day ever. - Scott

The best candy is Mike & Ike because they are chewy and they can get stuck in your teeth. The worst candy is Twizzlers because they are twisty and that means you will have a twisted mouth. Too much candy is good because you get a candy ache. Not enough candy is sad because I have less fun on Halloween. - Susie

The best candy is Oreo Hershey's because it is crunchy and chocolatey. The worst candy is Reese's pieces because the peanut butter tastes weird and I don't like chocolate and peanut butter together. Too much candy is too much sugar. Not enough candy is always a bad day. - Graham

The best candy is Skittles and Tic-Tacs because they are tasty. The worst candy is Milky Way because it is yucky. Too much candy is a sugar rush!!! Not enough candy is only 20 pieces! - JJ

The best candy is Reese's because it is chocolate juiciness. The worst candy is jelly beans because they taste like a sweaty sock. Too much candy is awesome because it tastes like a sweet summer. Not enough candy is all of the candy in the world. - Madeline

The best candy is Skittles because they taste like strawberries, grapes, lemons, and lime. It also makes my tongue brown. The worst candy is Sourheads because it is too sour and it makes my eyes water. Too much candy makes my tummy have an explosion and makes me also feel like a balloon. Not enough candy makes my tummy growl for - Elizabeth dessert candy.

The best candy is Swedish Fish because they are sweet and sour and they have designs on them that are cool. The worst candy is dum-dums because they can make your mouth very sticky and have weird flavors. Too much candy is a big scary nightmare and a big stomach ache. Not enough candy is very, very, very bad for you. – Liesel



The best candy is 100 Grand because it has caramel and chocolate and a lot of other things. The worst candy is Almond Joy and lollipops because you can't chew lollipops and I don't like almonds. Too much candy makes me feel sick because my belly is full. Not enough candy makes me mad because I didn't get a lot on Halloween. - George R.

The Best candy is Three Musketeers and Kit Kat because I like the chocolate in the Three Musketeers and the waffle and chocolate in the Kit Kat. The worst candy is Andes because I don't like mint and Andes have a lot of mint. Too much candy gives you a stomachache. Not enough candy does not keep me awake. - Reagan

The best candy is Skittles because it is a popular candy and you can do a lot with them. The worst candy is Red Vines because the strawberry taste is not good with the gummy. Too much candy is not good for you because it could give you a stomachache. Not enough candy is the worst because candy - Lucy is delicious.

## **WANTED: Young Writers & Reporters!**

Students in Grades K-12 are invited to submit:

NEWS ITEMS, SHORT STORIES, POETRY for consideration. (about 200 words maximum)

Send items to: <a href="mailto:elmgrovenews@yahoo.com">elmgrovenews@yahoo.com</a> Subject line: Young Writers

# News' Hounds

& other beloved creatures

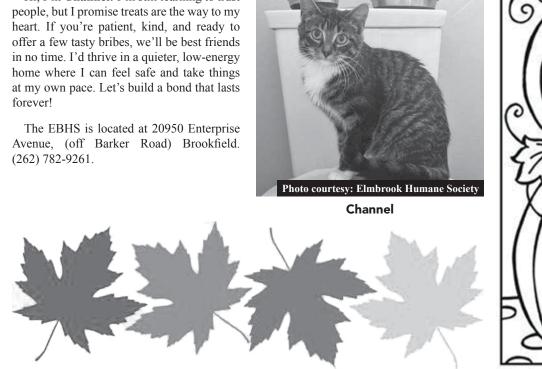
Adopt a Pet at the Elmbrook Humane Society

# Coloring for Kids (of ALL ages!)



### **By Morgan Gourley**

Hi, I'm Channel! I'm still learning to trust



# **Letters to the Editor**

- Letters regarding issues of concern to the Elm Grove / Elmbrook / Waukesha County community will be considered for publication on a space available basis.
- Submissions (about 200 words max) must include the writer's name, community of residence & phone #.
- Mail to: EGNI, 14420 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122-2423.
- E-mail: <u>elmgrovenews@yahoo.com</u> (Subject line: Letters to the Editor)

## Vote Yes for Daylighting Project Referendum

There are several good reasons for the Daylighting project. The most compelling is stormwater management. Stormwater runoff from all of Elm Grove and parts of Brookfield drain into Underwood Creek. In 1958, the creek was encased in a concrete culvert. At that time Elm Grove had fewer homes so there was more area where rain and snow could soak into the ground. In the 60 years since the creek was enclosed, more impermeable surfaces have been added to the Village. Larger homes built with decks, driveways and other surfaces that do not absorb water generate runoff that is directed into and through the downtown culvert. The total cost of the Daylighting project is many times more than the value of the properties in downtown EG. If a major flood were to happen and further damage the deteriorating culvert it will likely collapse causing damage to the parking lot and buildings of the Park-n

-Shop. The property owners would not have incentive to take on the high cost of emergency repairs to the downtown area. The Village would need to make downtown safe for residents. The emergency services and construction would likely be much higher than a planned project.

Through the daylighting project, The Village will gain a downtown amenity with connectivity for our pathways, a pocket park, green space, and a riverwalk. Wildlife will get the ecological benefits of an open stream. Residents are all responsible for the stormwater running through the culvert and we will all gain from this improvement downtown. VOTE YES for the daylighting project referendum on the November Ballot.

Stacy Barry Coffey Elm Grove

# **Local Sports**

### **PPMS Cross Country Meet Results**

(ELM GROVE) Pilgrim Park Middle School Girls Cross Country Teams (both the 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> grade team and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade team) took 1<sup>st</sup> place at the September 18 meet.

Harper Szesterniak won the 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> grade race. Other scorers for the team included: Eileen DeLisa, Olive Bern, Natalia Ramirez, and Sophia Lutz.

The first 8<sup>th</sup> grade girl to cross the finish line was **Chloe** 

Kozaks. Other scorers in the meet were: Brooklyn Haugen, Amelia Harmelink, Nora Schneider, and Vonne Stollenwerk.

The 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys teams competing at the Pilgrim Park Cross Country Invitational took home 1<sup>st</sup> place finishes with outstanding performances by many athletes.



In the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade race **Nicasio Fink** received the first-place medal overall with 200 runners in the race. PPMS student **Abram Reiter** was 7<sup>th</sup>, **Landon Meidam** – 9<sup>th</sup>, **Aaron Culver** – 16<sup>th</sup>, and **Brennan Muldoon** finished 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **Mountain Bike Racing Team Achieves Top Finishes**

Brookfield East High School 9<sup>th</sup> grade student **Isaac Braatz** and **Miles Vepraskas**, a Pilgrim Park Middle School 8th grader, are being congratulated on their 1st and 2nd place finishes, respectively, at the Wisconsin Cyclocross Series race in Sheboygan in September.

### READERS ARE WELCOME TO SUBMIT 'LOCAL SPORTS' & OTHER NEWS BRIEFS / PHOTOS TO:

elmgrovenews@yahoo.com

# **Community Needs**

### **Blood Donations**

\*American Red Cross of Wisconsin Visit <u>www.redcrossblood.org</u> or call (800) 733-2767 to schedule an appointment or locate a nearby blood drive.

\*Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin Donor Centers: 8733 Watertown Plank Rd., Wauwatosa 638 N. 18<sup>th</sup> St., Milwaukee 2111 Springdale Rd., Waukesha Call 1-877-BE-A-HERO 1 (877) 232-4376 or visit: versiti.org/Wisconsin.



### **Food Banks / Pantries**

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

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

> \*Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin

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

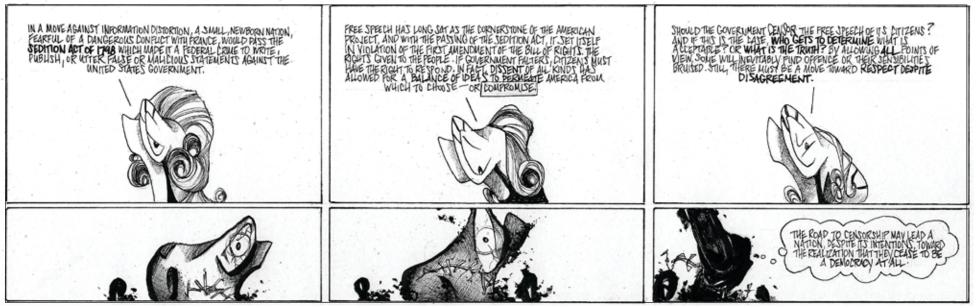
\*Hunger Task Force 201 S. Hawley Court, Milwaukee Call (414) 777-0483. Cash donations





& volunteers are needed to help build "stockboxes" for seniors and do other work. E-mail:<u>info@hungertaskforce.org</u>

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



# **News Briefs**



The Elm Grove Woman's Club, 13885 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, will present 'Music in the Grove' on October 18 from 6 to 8 p.m., featuring The Whiskey Belles.

Hank Williams passion, Carter family harmonies, with a little Hee Haw mixed in for good measure. The Whiskey Belles are an all-female traditional country and Americana trio based out of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The Belles are widely known for captivating shows featuring their own take on classic and obscure vintage-country, Americana, folk-revival and roots-country tunes, with their witty originals sprinkled in. They've been compared with the Pistol Annies, Dixie Chicks and The Trio (Dolly Parton, Emmy Lou Harris & Linda Ronstadt). The Whiskey Belles have personalities as big as the Texan skyline - they have a great time on stage, and love to share the fun with their audience.

(See AD – Page 5)

## Vehicle Modification Program

## Providing up to \$7,000 in funding for scooter & powerchair lifts for your vehicle in Waukesha County

Funding provided by State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation



# In Memoriam

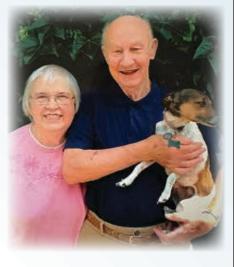
## <u>لو</u>

Harvey Albert Witte (1927-2024)

Harvey Albert Witte, 97, of Elm Grove, passed away peacefully on August 13, 2024. He was born August 2, 1927, in Boon Lake County, Minnesota.

He attended Northwestern College in Watertown and continued his studies at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon. In 1954, he graduated and was united in marriage to Georgene Spiering, of Milwaukee, and began his ministry in South Dakota.

Harvey continued his ministry at Apostles Lutheran Church – Milwaukee, until 1967, before accepting a call to Apostles of Christ Lutheran Church – Wauwatosa, where he ministered until his retirement in 1998.



In 1998, Harvey and Georgene made Elm Grove their home and celebrated a milestone anniversary of 70 years on June 26, 2024. Together they raised three daughters and one son, all of whom he had the privilege of baptizing, confirming and marrying.

Harvey enjoyed bowling, gardening, following politics, reading and traveling. He knew how to get anywhere on any road, even before GPS! In retirement he worked part time at Selig Leasing and Lords' Dental Studio.

He is survived by his wife, Georgene, his children Suzanne (Rev. Mark) Rieke, Glorianne (Craig) Adams, James (Mary) Witte, Jeanne King; 8 grandchildren and spouses; 6 greatgrandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and their families.

Relatives and friends greeted the family August 22, 2024 at Christ Lutheran Church – Wauwatosa. A funeral service was held the same evening.

Harvey's legacy of faith, kindness and love for Jesus will continue to inspire those who were blessed to know him. His compassion and dedication touched the lives of many individuals. He will be greatly missed.

Contributions in Harvey's memory may be made to community.wels.net (World Missions-Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod) and Christ Lutheran Church -Wauwatosa, 724 N. 112<sup>th</sup> Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53226.



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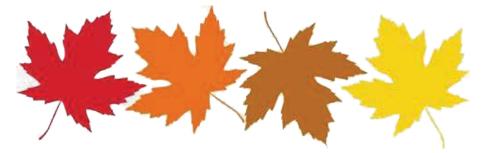
- be a resident of Waukesha County
- aged 18 or older, AND:
- have a physical disability\* which significantly impairs your ability to drive, ride, or access a personal vehicle; or that

requires use of a mobility device or transfer aide which cannot be accommodated in a personal vehicle without modifications. • no disability verification required

#### **Eligible vehicle:**

- vehicle owned by you, or an immediate family member
- mobility provider must determine your vehicle qualifies for the modification

Additional information is available at: <u>www.waukeshacounty.gov</u> or call (262) 548-7902



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## Saturday, November 2

Scholarship Testing and Admission Screening for the 2025-26 school year – by appointment

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Sincerely,

Lisabeth Passalis-Bain, Founder / Owner / Publisher / Editor Elm Grove News-Independent LLC



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