Elm Grove NEWS-INDEPENDENT

FREE

Vol. 9 No. 9 | Serving Elm Grove, Wisconsin & Neighboring Communities | November 2021

Freedom of the Press is Essential. Community News Matters.

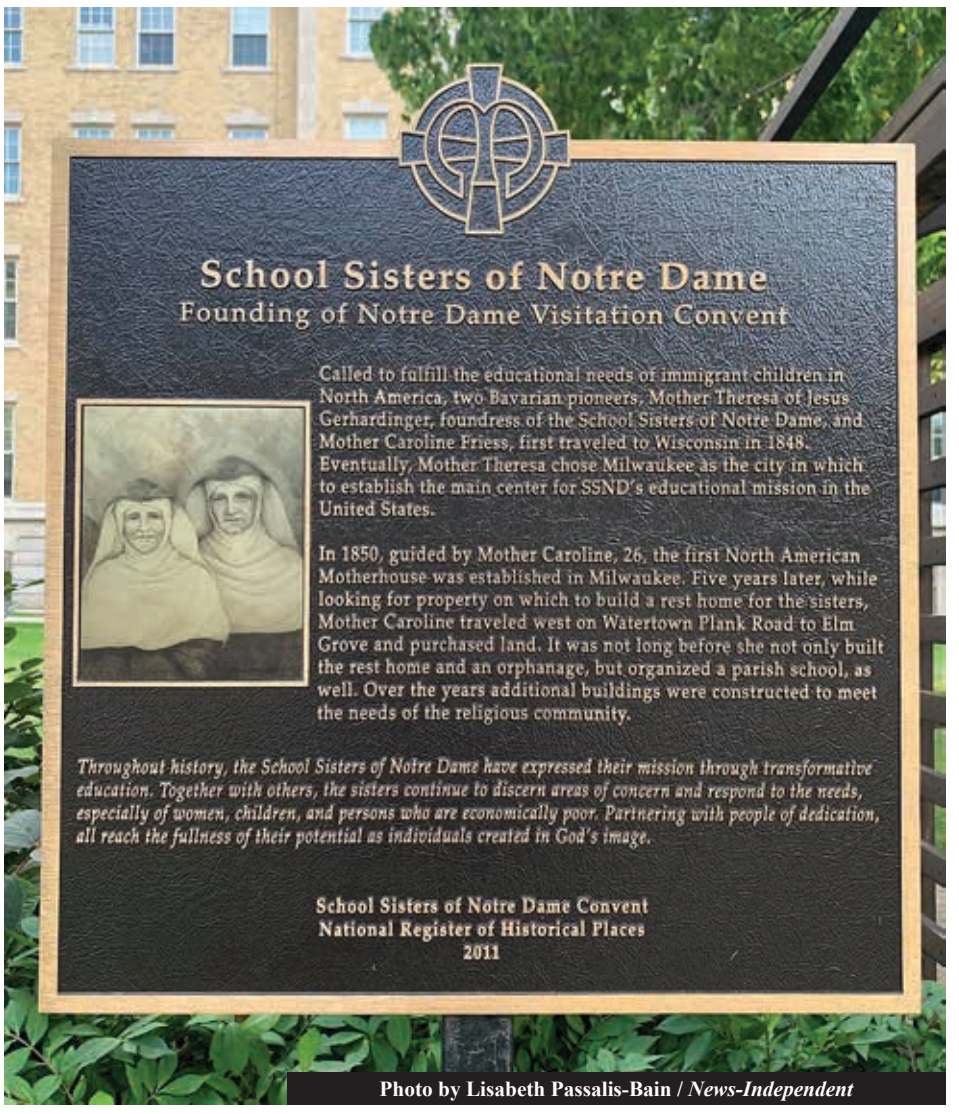


Photo by Lisabeth Passalis-Bain / *News-Independent*

A sign located on the Notre Dame of Elm Grove campus, 13105 Watertown Plank Rd.

A Farewell Message & Reflection

By Debra Marie Sciano, SSND
Provincial Leader, School Sisters of Notre Dame Central Pacific Province

As the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) prepare to move from Notre Dame of Elm Grove (https://www.ssndcentralpacific.org/who-we-are/locations/notre-dame-of-elm-grove) to Trinity Woods (https://trinitywoods.com/) on the campus of Mount Mary University, (in early December 2021) we are filled with much faith, love and gratitude. There is reminiscing and sadness, but also celebration. Ultimately, we are focused on our next mission, which will unfold at Trinity Woods, and we go forward in unity and peace.

Our mission is to proclaim the good news, directing our entire lives toward that oneness for which Jesus Christ was sent. One of the many joys of our mission is that we can, and do, live it anywhere; wherever we are called and the need is greatest. We are also called to balance the needs of our Sisters with the needs of the many communities we serve. Trinity Woods will help us fulfill those needs.

Since the founding of the SSND in Bavaria, Germany, in 1833, we have been educators in the broadest sense. Our focus is on transforming the world through education. What better place to continue that than at Trinity Woods, which is an intergenerational community providing opportunities for Sisters, senior laypeople and unmarried women students with children under age 12.

Photo courtesy: School Sisters of Notre Dame

Debra Marie Sciano, SSND

Trinity Woods was developed by a partnership between Mount Mary University, the School Sisters of Notre Dame and Milwaukee Catholic Home. In addition to providing private residences, Trinity Woods features early childhood development facilities for up to 100 children. All buildings are fully interconnected by a Town Center that incorporates numerous spaces to bring people together in friendly conversation, dining, prayer, learning and socialization.

(See SSND – Page 4)

About *The Elm Grove News-Independent*

Celebrating 11+ years in business!

CURRENT PRESS RUN: 5,000 copies per monthly edition
Published by the first day of every month.

- 3,100+ mailed to **every residence, business & P.O. Box in Elm Grove, Wisconsin 53122** via USPS.
- 1,800+ Non-mailed copies are available for pick up at many locations in Elm Grove & Brookfield, including:

Elm Grove Public Library / Brookfield Public Library / Sendik's of Elm Grove / Elliott's Ace hardware

Printed copies are also hand distributed to community groups, individuals, schools, churches & at area events.
To receive a PDF of our current edition via e-mail, contact elmgrovenews@yahoo.com.

READ current & many past editions at www.ElmGrove.news (Click on Archive)

****

Support Your Locally-focused Newspaper. ADVERTISE!

TO REQUEST A RATE SHEET:
E-mail: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com or Call: (262) 782-6193

****

Community News Matters. Help us provide it.

**********ECRWSS****
Postal Customer
Elm Grove, WI 53122

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE PAID
Elm Grove, WI
Permit No. 30

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

News & Advertising
elmgrovenews@yahoo.com
(262) 782-6193
www.elmgrove.news
Click on ARCHIVE to read past issues.

Photographer / Photo Editor
James L. W. Bain
Production & Distribution Assistant
Christos Passalis-Bain
Web Designer / Webmaster
Nicholas Passalis-Bain
Production Artist
Chaysze Zee

Published monthly.
Distributed via the U.S. Postal Service to every Residence, Business & P.O. Box in Elm Grove, Wisconsin 53122. **Additional copies available** at select locations within Elm Grove & neighboring communities.
Online @ www.elmgrove.news

Mailing address:
Elm Grove News-Independent
P.O. Box 372
Elm Grove, WI 53122-0372

Copyright 2021 by Elm Grove News-Independent LLC
All rights reserved.
Any reproduction without written permission from the Publisher is prohibited.

Village Recycling Center / Yard Waste Facility
900 Wall Street, Elm Grove
for **VILLAGE RESIDENTS ONLY**

----- OPEN in NOVEMBER -----
Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday: Noon – 4 p.m.

Questions: **(262) 782-6700**

"I Know Where You Live!"

Lisabeth Passalis-Bain

Happy Birthday!

Doug Pommerening

November 7th

Photo courtesy: Bob Fischer

Bob Fischer (at left) with **Brian Bieganski** in our nation's capital.

Elm Grove Veteran Takes 'Honor Flight' to Washington D.C.

Elm Grove resident **Bob Fischer** didn't really mind rising early on August 28 to take a free plane ride to the east coast. For this 87-year-old Korean War Veteran, it was a special, once-in-a lifetime journey --- an Honor Flight --- heading first to Baltimore, Maryland, then on to Washington D.C. Two planes, each with 100 passengers (50 veterans and their companions/guides) made the trip.

"My guide **Brian Bieganski** picked me up at 5 a.m. in Elm Grove to go to the airport. Brian lives in South Milwaukee and works as a Fireman / EMT in Madison. He paid $500 to go along. He's a super guy!" Fischer said. Bob and his wife, **Mary Weller,** got acquainted with Brian and his wife, **Justine,** during a breakfast in the Village the week before the trip.

While on the plane, each veteran was given a bag filled with greeting cards and letters. Bob said he received "131 greeting cards from people at his condo, Kiwanis members, even some grade school and high school students from Albuquerque, New Mexico."

Washington D. C. highlights included: Respectfully viewing the Wall with its 58,280 names, representing American killed during the war in Vietnam; watching the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier; visiting the Airforce

Memorial and the Iwo Jima Flag Raising statue, and, on a lighter note, enjoying complimentary dessert from an ice cream truck.

It had been a long and eventful day and even after the planes and their most Honorable passengers returned to Milwaukee at 11:30 p.m., one more thing happened. Friends and family members, including his wife **Mary Weller**, gathered en masse to welcome all of the Veterans home. "Seeing Mary (and the others) there almost brought a tear to my eye," Fischer said. "I'd recommend it to anybody to take that trip. I'm so glad I did it."

Bob Fischer served in the U.S. Navy from January 31, 1955 through January 1959. His home port was Pearl Harbor.

Honoring Our Veterans

LIBERTY, FREEDOM, AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Without a strong sense of individual character and personal responsibility, it is impossible for liberty to endure. We pause today to recognize the sacrifices made by veterans of every branch of the United States military.

We honor them daily by continuing to teach our students about freedom, liberty, and the courage and conviction required to protect these sacred privileges for generations to come.

As our students learn to respect and treasure the freedoms and ideals upon which this country was founded, they develop strong convictions regarding personal responsibility.

God Bless our veterans and all those who serve on active duty around the world. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families.

God Bless America.

BROOKFIELD ACADEMY
3462 N. Brookfield Rd. • Brookfield, WI 53045 • 262-783-3200
An Independent College Preparatory School K3 – Grade 12

Letters to the Editor

- Letters regarding issues of concern to the Elm Grove / Elmbrook / Waukesha County community will be considered for publication on a space available basis.
- Submissions (max: 200 words) must include the writer's name, community & phone #
- Mail to: Elm Grove News-Independent, Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 372, Elm Grove, WI 53122-0372.
- E-mail: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com (subject line: Letters to the Editor)

Bringing Lake Michigan Water to Village is Beneficial to Residents, Businesses

We believe it is essential for Elm Grove residents to understand the value of obtaining a reliable municipal water source from a Firefighter's perspective.

For the most part, the buildings along Watertown Plank Rd (WPR) are pretty old and are predominantly wood in construction. Virtually none of these buildings have a sprinkler system to provide protection in the event of a fire. If a fire started in any of these buildings, the fire would quickly spread within the building and become a significant fire. When you add that many of the buildings are built relatively close to each other, you have a situation where a fire in one building can spread to a neighboring building.

The Elm Grove Fire Dept. will arrive at a fire with our two tankers and over 8,000 gallons of water, which is sufficient to handle many of our needs. But because Elm Grove does not have a municipal water system, many structure fires require the setup of a temporary water supply. It is a timely process that involves calling in additional water tankers from New Berlin, Tess Corners, Menomonee Falls, and possibly further out. Water tankers from neighboring communities need time to arrive and then set up a shuttle system. The tankers must make frequent trips to fill up their tank at a high-volume hydrant and then deliver it to the fire, dumping the water into temporary holding tanks to be used by our fire engines. The tankers repeat this process until the fire is extinguished. A fire in the business district can grow to a large fire that will rapidly consume the available water.

If there were high-volume fire-hydrants in the business district along WPR, the resources needed to set up the tanker shuttle are no longer required. Once a fire engine connects to a nearby fire hydrant, the firefighters can direct their energy to fight the fire, saving valuable time in the process. Resulting in better-protected property and possibly saving lives.

There are community wells with fire hydrants in some of Elm Grove's neighborhoods. These fire hydrants typically cannot supply enough volume of water required to fight a fire. City water from Wauwatosa or Brookfield provides the volume of water needed to fight larger fires. A few years ago, there was a house fire on Fairhaven, just three homes north of WPR. The West Allis FD laid over 1000 feet of large diameter hose from the hydrant on 124th and WPR to get the volume of water to fight the fire. A time-consuming and labor-intensive process. The connection would have been quickly accomplished if Elm Grove had high-volume city water fire hydrants on WPR.

There are additional advantages to having fire hydrants on WPR.

- Reduction of fire insurance for the buildings near a fire hydrant
- The property value of the businesses near a hydrant will increase
- Availability of water to put sprinkler systems in commercial buildings
- The homes and neighborhoods near the water main may connect

If residents connect to municipal water, the benefits include:

- Possible reduced cost of fire insurance
- Elimination of the need for expensive water treatments
- Power outages will not interrupt fresh running water
- Elimination of the red stain in sinks, toilets, baths & showers

We support the current proposal to contract with Wauwatosa to bring Lake Michigan water down Watertown Plank Rd. The existence of high-volume fire hydrants will dramatically enhance Elm Grove Fire Department's ability to protect the business district and its immediate surrounding area. Additionally, the longer-term viability of the business district is improved, and by extension, the Village as a whole will benefit.

Thomas A. Michalski
Brian Naylor
Allen Oehlke
Claudia Roedl
Ryan Boehm
Dick Eisenmann
Tim Flanner
Joseph J. Coffey
James Phillips
Tim Chisholm
Jennifer Morris
Sam Steigerwald
Roger Sphar

Elm Grove Residents & Members of the Elm Grove Fire Department

Village Update

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

Two new members of the Village Planning Commission were recently unanimously approved by the Village Board. **Natalie Schneider**, a civil and environmental engineer who works at the City of Brookfield and **Sarah Winia-Smith**, a research scientist at the Medical College bring the Commission back to full strength.

The Administrative and Personnel Committee recently directed Village staff to prepare a report outlining options for attracting new emergency medical staff for the Village EMS service. Elm Grove, like every other community in the state is facing difficulty hiring new staff to maintain services and replace existing members who retire or take positions elsewhere. The Committee also approved creating sleeping accommodations in the fire department to allow EMS staff who live outside of the immediate area to have a rest space. The shortage of help for our EMS and fire service is not a new problem. We have been spoiled by the excellent service provided by highly skilled and dedicated resident volunteers for a long time. Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics are required to be licensed and the required training takes hundreds of hours. The City of Brookfield recently accepted a federal grant to hire additional staff for their fire department to help with growing ambulance calls.

I, like many other residents, have enjoyed watching the pair of **Sandhill Cranes** who have taken up residence in the Village Park for most of the summer. Village staff have named the pair "**Mort and Sheila"** and have many stories of the birds peering in the windows of Village Hall. In is very evident that these two birds have become very acclimated to people, dogs and cars and show no fear. Wild cranes normally migrate south for the winter, and I am hoping Mort and Sheila remember to leave before winter hits.

For most homeowners Fall means it is time to clean the yard in preparation for winter. Raking leaves, cutting back flowers and bushes and picking up sticks to make a tidy yard are part of many homeowners' routines. I want to encourage all to **consider the Xerces Society phrase that "Leaves Are Not Litter**," One of the most important things we can do to support butterflies and other invertebrates is to provide them with the winter cover needed to survive. Leaving the leaves doesn't mean you should leave them on your lawn, but you can rake some over garden beds, under trees or around wood piles. Most insects that work as pollinators in your yard stay in your yard over the winter if you help them survive. For those of you who like birds but aren't as fond of bugs it is important to remember that all songbirds feed their young invertebrates. Newborn songbirds don't eat seeds, they eat bugs. But, speaking of seeds, if you leave the heads on some flowers, you can watch birds which don't migrate feeding on them all winter.

The Elm Grove Police and Fire Commission has selected Lieutenant Jason Kubiak to be our new Police Chief when existing **Chief Jim Gage** retires on January 6, 2022. **Assistant Chief Jason Hennen** is also retiring on January 6th and **Sergeant Ryan Unger has been appointed Assistant Chief**. In addition, **Sergeant Natalie Riley has been promoted to Lieutenant.**

Oktoberfest was blessed with beautiful weather this year and enjoyed success in the new two-day format. **Oktoberfest, sponsored by the Elm Grove Community Foundation expects to realize about $32,000 in profit** to use for future community projects.

The Elm Grove Business Association **"Walk the Plank"** October Halloween celebration attracted many families to learn about Elm Grove businesses and share in Halloween treats.

Engineering and planning is moving forward to relocating a small portion of the Underwood Creek stream bed and stabilizing the stream banks, near the pedestrian bridge over the pond in the northeast section of the park, west of Legion Drive. The current creek location is over and near the buried 42-inch sanitary sewer interceptor which carries wastewater from Brookfield and Elm Grove to the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District for processing. Water flows in the creek erode the soil covering the interceptor and threaten interceptor integrity.

Activities to kick off our holiday season. The Elm Grove Woman's Club hosts their annual two-day Arts and Craft Fair on November 12 and 13. The Business Association Holiday Festival, including horse drawn wagon rides will be held on November 13th. And over at the Elm Grove Library the Annual Mini Book Sale will take place on November 13th. Mark your calendar to join the Friends of Elm Grove Library for the "Lights of Love" annual tree lighting ceremony.

Kudos to Village staff and the Finance Committee for wrapping their work to craft our **2022 Village budgets**. Both the O&M and Capital budgets will be on the November agenda for the Village Board.

The **Village Board agreed to seek a matching grant from the Department of Natural Resources** to help with Whitetail deer and Canada goose control efforts in the Village. We have received the grant many times in the past and it does help cover our costs for these efforts.

Status of the Proposed Redevelopment of the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) Campus: Discussion and consideration of the future of the SSND campus has been an ongoing effort for a long time. After a couple of years of evaluation, the School Sisters announced their decision selecting Mandel Development to purchase and redevelop the campus in Spring of 2020. The SSND campus is currently zoned "Institutional" and use other than a defined institutional facility requires a rezoning, modification of the Village Development plan and review and consideration of the specific land uses and buildings.

(See VILLAGE UPDATE – Page 10)

Business Directory

* Community Organizations

Kiwanis – Golden K of Elm Grove Wisconsin

Come Join Us, men & women, to serve the children of our community. We meet each Friday at 9:30 a.m. in the St. Mary's Senior Center in Elm Grove. We have wonderful speakers each week, and we have lots of fun.

kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com
www.kiwaniselmgrove.org

Elmbrook Rotary

People of Action

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

Fridays – 7:00 a.m.

www.elmbrookrotary.org

Join us to make a difference in the world!

* Insurance

Woller-Anger & Company, LLC

930 Elm Grove Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122
(262) 789-2500
"Building Relationships … Insuring Success!"

ADD Your Listing
$5.00 per line (5 lines minimum)
Per edition
Logo: $20.00 extra
Contact: **(262) 782-6192**
or E-mail: **elmgrovenews@yahoo.com**

Our History: *Remembrances of Things Past*

Photo courtesy: Tom Ramstack

WORLD WAR I VETERANS: (left to right) **George Reinders, John Ramstack,** and **Joseph Ramstack**, all members of Wisconsin's 32nd Red Arrow Division, pose in uniform in France in 1918.

A *Waukesha Freeman* article, dated February 6, 1919, noted, "**Pvt. George Bresnan**, who has been overseas for over a year, stopped at the Behling home, at Elm Grove, for a couple of days last week en route to his home at Madison, Minn. While in the service he was wounded in the foot with a piece of shrapnel and was gassed. He was in a hospital in France for two months."

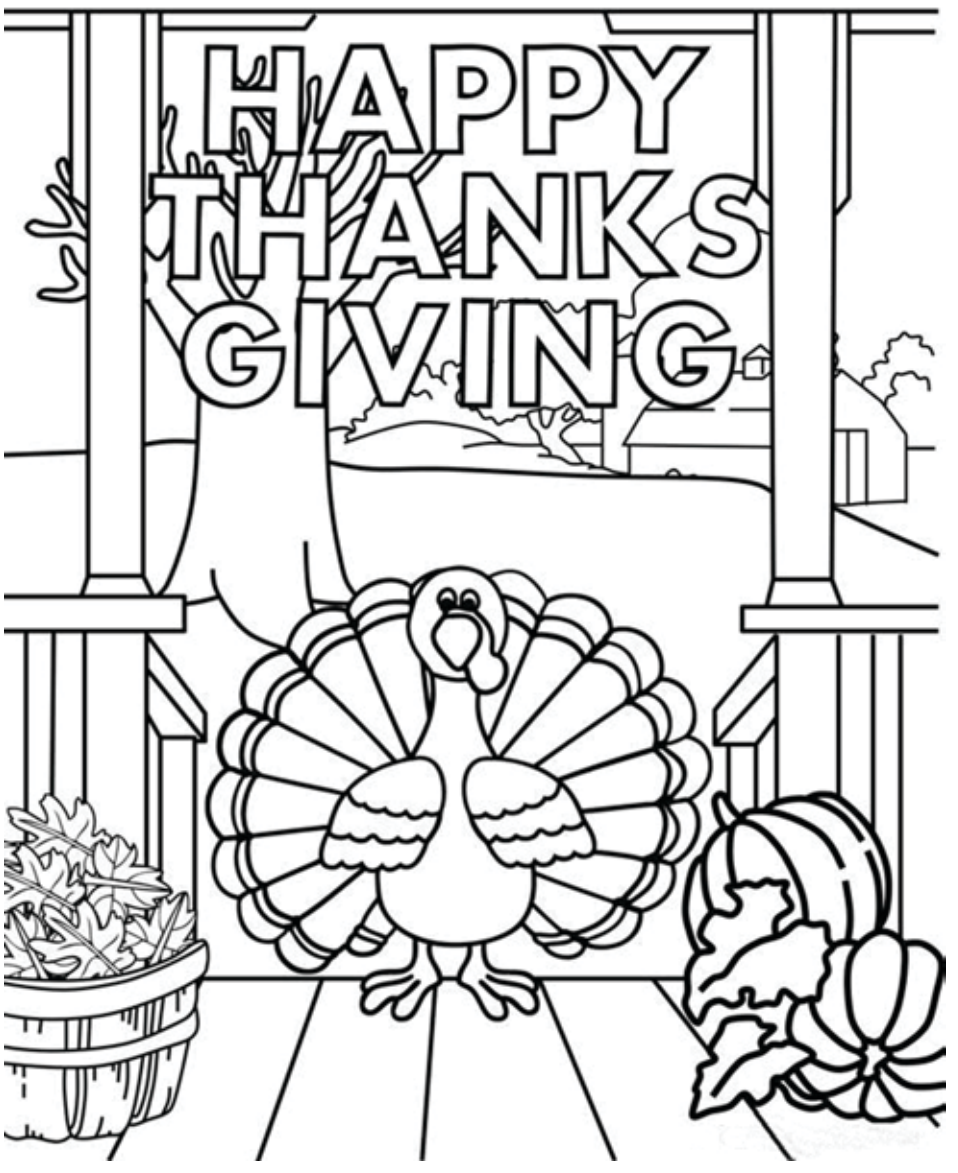
Photo courtesy Stephen K. Hauser

AMERICAN LEGION MEMBERS Herbert **C. L. Belling (at left) and John W. Rasmussen** attend a 1984 Memorial Day event at the Stenz-Griesell-Smith American Legion Post #449 (when the Post was located in Elm Grove on the corner of Legion Drive and Juneau Boulevard, prior to its move to Brookfield).

As chronicled in "*Following The Trail*" (c. 1998), a book of local history compiled by **Stephen K. Hauser** and **Jean Stackpole** and sponsored by the Elmbrook Historical Society, Belling served in the Great War (World War I) as a sergeant with Company K from Beaver Dam and was shipped to France with the U.S. Army Expeditionary Corps. Rasmussen was a corporal at the Army Training Center in Oshkosh and served stateside.

As the book notes: "The 1984 Memorial Day parade in Elm Grove was the only one rained out in the history of the event. Still, Belling and Rasmussen were prepared to ride in the open-top car designated as the World War I vet's vehicle. It would be the last Memorial Day ceremony that both would participate in. Sgt. Belling and Cpl. Rasmussen were the last two World War I veterans active in Post #449. Belling, of New Berlin, died in December of 1986 at 92. Rasmussen, of Elm Grove, died in April of 1987 at 89."

Coloring for Kids (and Adults)!



Remember & Thank All Veterans

Veterans' Day – November 11th

SSND (Continued from Page 1)

The name Trinity Woods has a special significance and was chosen with thoughtful consideration. 'Trinity' simultaneously reflects the Catholic/Christian faith and the three entities that are sponsoring this community. 'Woods' reflects growth, wisdom and the beautiful, wooded grounds.

For many of our Sisters, Trinity Woods is a homecoming because so many were educated at Mount Mary University and many taught there. Mount Mary is one of our Sponsored Ministries and several of our Sisters are in leadership and teach there.

As we prepare to 'go home to Trinity Woods,' I have been asked many times, "Won't the Sisters miss Elm Grove?" Yes, of course, we will. The people of Elm Grove have been welcoming and loving since SSND first arrived in 1859 to establish an orphanage. We have been blessed by God for many decades to live on such beautiful land. Many of our Sisters are buried on this sacred property, including **Mother Caroline Friess**, who led the growth and expansion of SSND in North America. While we will maintain the cemetery, we are now sharing this beautiful property with new owners. We hope and pray that we have used it in the best way possible and now turn it over to its next owners with confidence that our legacy will love on and that the property will serve others well, as it has served us.

If you read some of the letters from Blessed Theresa Gerhardinger, our foundress, and Mother Caroline, many of them lovingly guide Sisters establishing new missions. Some letters are very practical about how many shirts to pack or how much money to take; some are more focused on meeting the needs of their new community or how to close one chapter and begin anew. Common themes are gratitude, openness and oneness.

During this time of transition, we continue this tradition and pray in gratitude for all God has provided us, all those who walk with us, all those we currently serve and all those we will serve. We will continue to pray for you and we ask that you pray for us, especially during this time of great transition.

With peace and many blessings,
Debra M. Sciano, SSND

The School Sisters of Notre Dame Central Pacific Province is part of an international community of women religious whose mission is to proclaim the good news, directing their entire lives toward that oneness for which Jesus Christ was sent. The sisters live and minister in 62 dioceses, 25 states, Ghana, Guam, Italy, Japan, Kenya and Nepal. They continue the sacred work of their foundress, Blessed Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger, to transform the world through education, giving special emphasis to women, young people and those who are poor.

Calendar of Events – November 2021

Tuesday – NOVEMBER 2

- **Elm Grove Building Board**
  Meeting: 5:30 p.m. at Village Hall
  Agenda: www.elmgrovewi.org

Friday – NOVEMBER 5

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
  Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club; Program: Marquette Univ. Engineers Without Borders, "Guatemala Engineering Projects"
  http://www.elmbrookrotary.org

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
  Meeting at St. Mary's Senior Center – 9:30 a.m.; Speaker: Frank Souk on `"Medicare Program".
  kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Sunday – NOVEMBER 7
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Thursday – NOVEMBER 11
VETERANS' DAY

- **Brookfield Academy**
  Lecture: 8:45 a.m., "The Spirit of Service and Development of Leaders in the U.S. Military: An important perspective from a Veteran"; Speaker: Jeff Rauh, BA Alum, Class of 1980.
  Open to the public. Tickets are free and can be reserved by emailing: linda.pryor@brookfieldacademy.org.

Friday – NOVEMBER 12

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
  Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club; Program: TBA
  http://www.elmbrookrotary.org

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
  Meeting: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Senior Center; Speaker: Bob Lijewski on "Underwater Archaeology of the Great Lakes Ship Wrecks".
  kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com.

- **Elm Grove Junior Guild**
  Application deadline for 501(c)3 nonprofit grant applications. Forms at: https://elmgrovejuniorguild.org/grants

- **Elm Grove's Holiday Open House:**
  Downtown + Elm Grove Woman's Club's "Christmas in the Grove"

Saturday – NOVEMBER 13

- **Elm Grove's Holiday Open House:**
  Downtown + Library Mini Book Sale + EGWC's Christmas in the Grove

Tuesday – NOVEMBER 16

- **Elm Grove Building Board**
  Meeting: 5:30 p.m. at Village Hall
  Agenda: www.elmgrovewi.org

- **Elm Grove Beautification Committee**
  Lecture Series: "Everything You Need to Know About Composting" by Ryan Laswell of Waste Not & Nourish – 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall – O'Neill Room. FREE & Open to the Public. Registration not required.

Thursday – NOVEMBER 18

- **Brookfield Academy**
  Lecture: 8:30 a.m.; "The Blessings of Liberty"; Presenter: Roger Ream, President of The Fund for American Studies, Washington D.C. and Recipient of the 2021 Bradley Prize. Open to the public. Tickets are free and can be reserved by emailing: linda.pryor@brookfieldacademy.org.

Friday – NOVEMBER 19

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
  Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m. at Western Racquet Club; Program: Dr. Daniell Bastian (Mayor of Einhardstadt Seligenstadt), "Brookfield's Sister City in Germany"
  http://www.elmbrookrotary.org

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
  Meeting: 9:30 a.m., St. Mary's Senior Center; Speaker: Adam Plowman on "Evolution of the Beverage Can".
  kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com.

Monday – NOVEMBER 22

- **Elm Grove Board of Trustees**
  Meeting: 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall Court Room. Open to the Public.
  Agenda: www.elmgrovewi.org.

Thursday – NOVEMBER 25

Happy Thanksgiving

Friday – NOVEMBER 26
Village Hall Closed

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
  No Meeting; National Day of Thanksgiving Weekend
  http://www.elmbrookrotary.org

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**
  Meeting: 9:30 a.m., St. Mary's Senior Center; Speaker: Mark Ehlinger on "Boy/Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts".
  kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com.

Sunday – NOVEMBER 28
HANUKKAH BEGINS

Mini Book Sale

Saturday, November 13th
10 a.m.—4 p.m.

Elm Grove Library
13600 Juneau Blvd.

Varied selection of books & gift items perfect as stocking stuffers for children & friends!

Face masks encouraged

Proceeds benefit Friends of the Elm Grove Library

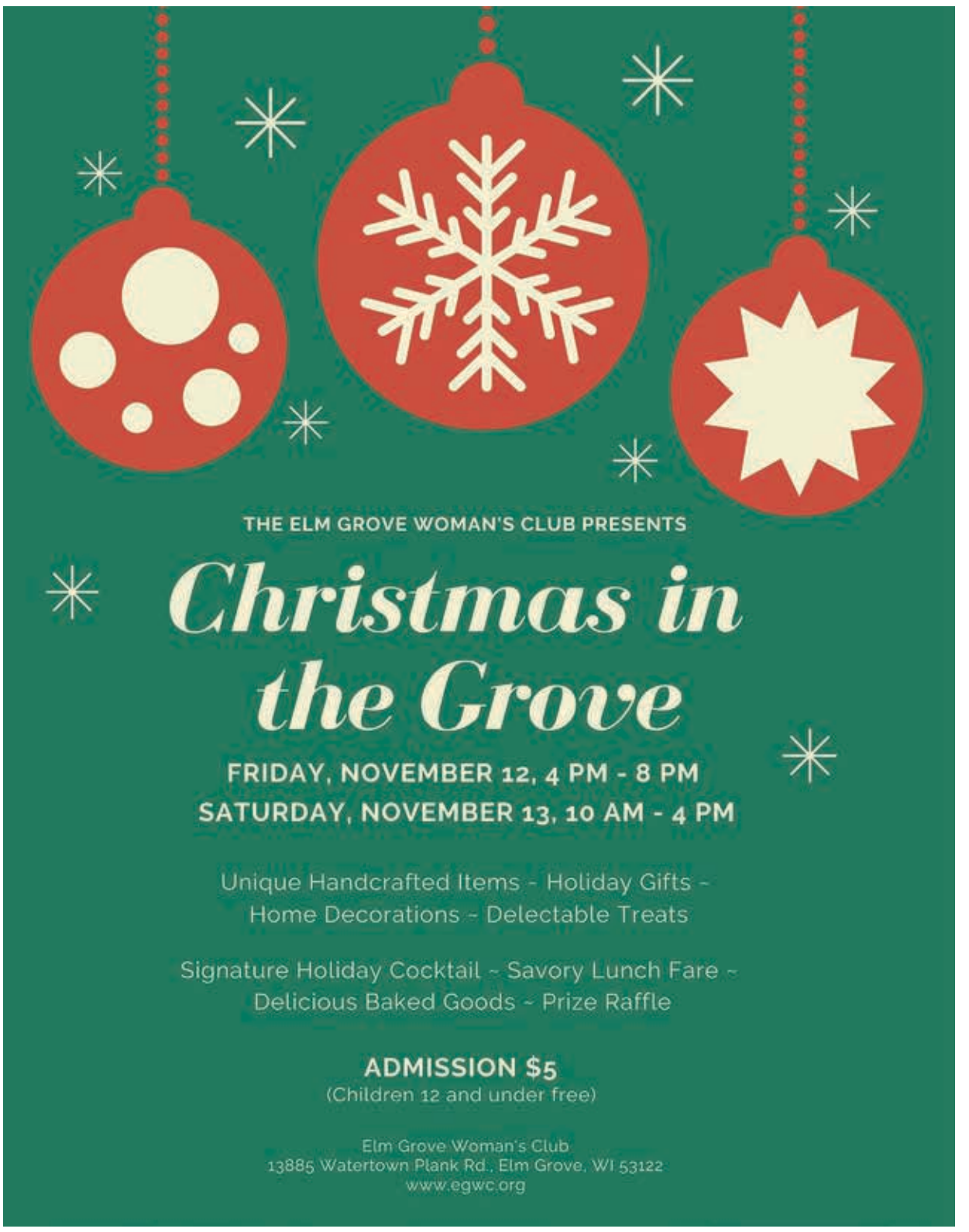
Community News matters.
Help us provide it.

ADVERTISE
in
The ELM GROVE NEWS-INDEPENDENT

Promote your business, organization, event, school, church, items for sale, etc.

To request a Rate Sheet,

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



News Briefs

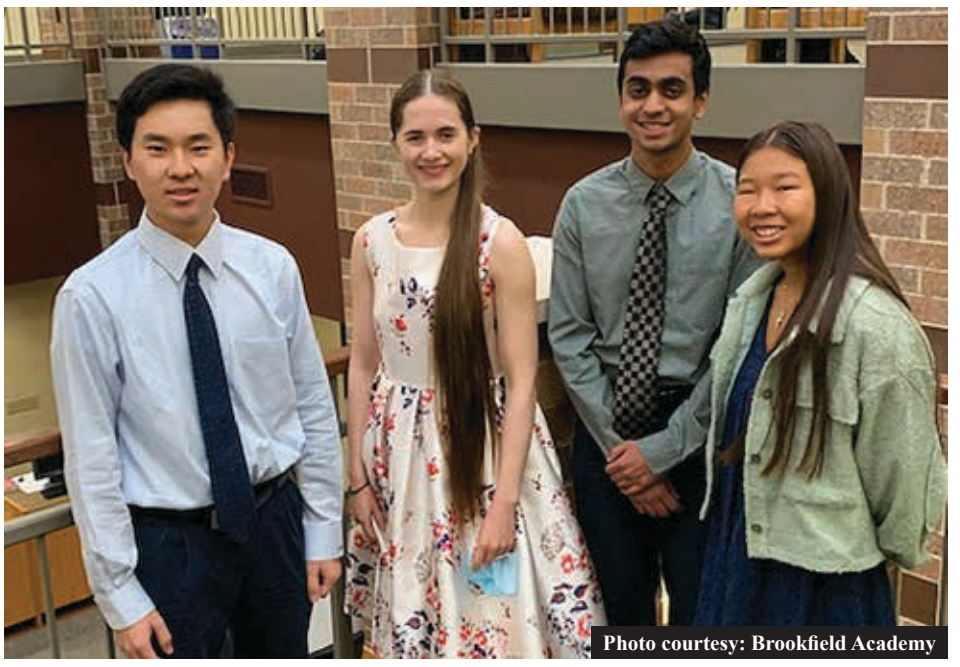


Photo courtesy: Brookfield Academy

HIGH ACHIEVEMENT: Brookfield Academy students who earned perfect scores on the ACT (left to right) junior **Alexander Li,** and **seniors Megan McCarty, Aditya Gopal, and Anna Marshall**. Only about 5,500 students out of the total 1.67 million students who took the test received a perfect score, less than one half of one percent.

Mini Book Sale to be Held at Elm Grove Library

By Kathy Tusing

Back by popular demand and in conjunction with Elm Grove's Holiday Open House, the Friends of the Elm Grove Library (FOEGL) are pleased to announce that on Saturday, November 13th from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., a Mini Book Sale will be held in the foyer and hallway outside of the library. For your early Holiday shopping, we have chosen a wonderful selection of pristine adult and children's fiction and non-fiction. There are also journals, DVDs, CDs, and other giftable items for those special people on your list and for yourself. Cash and checks are accepted. All proceeds go to further enhance your library experience.

**For everyone's safety please note:
Vaccinated: Mask not required.
Not Vaccinated: Mask encouraged.

AFFORDABLE LUXURY

ELM GROVE HEIGHTS

Independent Senior Community
Beautiful 1 & 2 bedrooms
Premium Location
Non-Smoking
Pet-Friendly
Clubroom
Fitness Center
Complimentary Coffee Bar
Heated Underground Parking
Complimentary Coffee Bar

Available Now!
262-894-1520

13040 W. Bluemound Road, Elm Grove
www.elmgroveheights.com

Photo courtesy: Elmbrook Garden Club

Rich Truog and **Mary Ann Truog** at an Elmbrook Garden Club presentation.

Elmbrook Garden Club Activities, Meetings

By Rose B. Heald

Members of the Elmbrook Garden Club (EBGC) enjoyed a presentation by **Mary Ann and Rich Truog**, owners of Lavender on Lilly Road, LLC, at their monthly meeting, held Thursday, October 7, at the Brookfield Public Library. The Truogs' love affair with lavender began with a visit to their son in the Pacific Northwest, where they became fascinated by the beautiful and abundant lavender fields in the Sequin and Port Angeles area of Washington state. Upon returning to Wisconsin, they enrolled in classes and proceeded to plant lavender at their home in raised beds. Their business was started in 2014, with Rich taking care of the lavender beds, while Mary Ann develops and makes new soaps and other lavender based products. The Truogs are popular vendors at the Brookfield Farmers Market.

The EBGC meets the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. from September through June; no meeting is held in January. Club members are actively involved in a variety of community projects, including the Elmbrook Nature Center where the club planted three butterfly gardens in 2015, 2018, and 2021 that are registered as a Monarch Waystation. The club's next meeting will be held at the Brookfield Public Library November 4 with a workshop by **Kate Shoemaker** on decorating beaded gourds. For further information about EBGC, contact **Lisa Gelhaar**, Membership Committee Chair, at (414) 712-9259.

Photo by Nicci Sternitzky

Elm Grove Beautification Committee members (from left) **Katie Forecki, Amy Forecki,** and **Becky Rintelmann** design and build a new compost bin at the Department of Public Works yard, as DPW employee **Mark Vipond** admires and advises the progress. The Committee thanks Village Forester **Ron Hill** for his assistance in seeing this project to completion.

Village Shares Composting Resources

(ELM GROVE) Did you know that more than half of all municipal waste is compostable? That includes 21% food scraps, 15% paper, 8% yard trimmings and 8% wood waste.

If the thought of composting has seemed overwhelming, the Elm Grove Beautification Committee has pulled together several helpful resources that just might make it easy for you to get started.

Start by learning. Attend the free Beautification Committee Winter Lecture Series at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 16, in the Village Hall O'Neill Room, where Ryan Laswell from Nourish Farms in Sheboygan will expand your knowledge base and answer your questions. You can learn about how valuable compost is for plants and soil health. Not only does it help retain moisture, suppress plant diseases and reduce the need for fertilizers, but it also encourages the production of beneficial bacteria and fungi that help create humus. Registration is not required, and refreshments will be served.

You also can take advantage of multiple options available within the village to help divert compostable material from the landfill. If you want to compost at home with a bit of help, you can sign up for one of the two services available in our area: Waste Not LLC or Compost Crusaders. Both provide weekly pick-ups at home. Waste Not provides a 5-gallon bucket and picks up most kitchen waste while providing finished compost each season. Compost Crusaders has subscriptions for 32- or 64-gallon containers, which will accept all compostable items, indoor and yard.

If you are interested in more hands-on learning, the Beautification Committee has constructed a three-bin system at the Elm Grove Recycle Center. The Committee is planning informational sessions on composting this fall while providing educational materials to anyone interested. Please see the village website www.elmgrovewi.org for further details.

News Briefs

Photo courtesy: Jen Morris Photography

Elm Grove Woman's Club members on the 2021 Christmas in the Grove committee (left to right) Club President **Laurie Hanson, Lisa Armitage** and **Amanda Schomburg,** event co- chairs, with **Lisa Becker, Kay Noel** and **Linda Davidson.**

Woman's Club Has Active Year; Next Event: "Christmas in the Grove"

By Kay Noel

The Elm Grove Woman's Club has stayed active through the pandemic thanks to the creative thinking of its members. Our Village was treated to outside activities "Holiday in the Grove" Art Show in October, "Fire and Ice" in January, "Spring Arts Festival" combined with the High School Art Scholarship competition in May, and Tailgate Trivia all summer. Now, thanks to the vaccine, we can get back to normal. Our chorus, under **Pat Engelhart**, is singing again, our Book Clubs are meeting again. The Women to Women Committee supporting local organizations and programs addressing the needs and concerns of women and children is active again. The Express Goodwill Committee is again stepping in and helping where needed. Our Directory Committee is in full swing. To report a change to the Directory (phone # or address), contact **Alice Hirt**, (262) 786-9932 alicehirt@att.net.

We are once again gathering in our Club House for meetings and lectures; we are gathering for Bunko and Gentle Yoga. And we are looking forward to a shopping trip to Chicago's Michigan Avenue, December 1, a New Year's Eve Celebration, "Shake the Chandelier", "Fire and Ice Ball" in February, Spring Arts Festival and Art Scholarship in May and the Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast, May 30. These are just some of the upcoming events, watch your local news for the latest. It's exciting and we are looking forward to seeing you at the Club.

Our holiday season again begins with Christmas in the Grove. It will be held Friday, November 12, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 13, 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. The Show will feature a juried exhibition and sale of handmade gifts, wearable art and collectables. The women of the club serve delicious food and desserts as part of the show. There will also be a bake sale. The Elm Grove Woman's Club supports charities with a focus on women and children.

The Elm Grove Business Association sponsors The Elm Grove Holiday Open House the same weekend with horse drawn carriage rides (Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.) and various fun events throughout the Village.

Photo courtesy: Elmbrook Rotary

Engineers Without Borders (EWB) members and local volunteers work to provide clean drinking water in Guatemala. Communities are at the heart of EWB-USA approach to development. Their engineering expertise can only be put to work when a true partnership is formed with those requesting their services.

Elmbrook Rotary Club Awards Grant to Engineers Without Borders

By Harry Farchmin

Elmbrook Rotary Club (ERC) began a partnership to support the Marquette University Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Student Chapter in 2017. The club's goal was to establish an on-going relationship, leverage future support from other local Rotary Clubs, and also compliment the on-going ERC projects with Common Hope in Guatemala.

Recently, Elmbrook Rotary awarded a $5,000 grant to the Marquette University chapter. The current project being designed by the Marquette students is to provide clean water for El Tesoro, Guatemala. This is a community of about 324 people located one hour north of the municipality of San Martin Jilotepeque, department of Chimaltenango, Guatemala. Since the 1990s, they have implemented different methods to capture fresh water. Each one has been problematic. Water arriving to their households is often contaminated, leading to health problems.

These people live in extreme poverty, and purchasing clean drinking water is very costly. The community requested help to collect water from the sources, construct a conveyance, distribution, and storage system, and connect to the homes' tap stands. The source of the water is a spring about 4 km from the system. Approximately 115 families will receive a tap stand to serve the entire community of over 324 people.

The grant funds from ERC will be used to purchase materials for the project. Because of COVID-19, the Marquette team responsible for building the system was unable to travel there. EWB Guatemala provided a local volunteer engineer and organized local resident volunteers to construct the project and collaborate with the team leads in Milwaukee. The teams meet virtually to discuss the project's progression on a regular basis. Implementation of the water project is scheduled for August 2022.

Both ERC and the Marquette EWB chapter continue to collaborate on projects to benefit communities who need to better their living situations but do not have the resources to accomplish this goal. Further information about Marquette University's Engineers Without Borders is at: https://ewbmarquette.wixsite.com/ewbmarquette. Information about the Elmbrook Rotary Club can be accessed at: www.elmbrookrotary.org.

News Briefs

Photo by Chris Schulta

Jack's Toy Shop received these contributions from Elm Grove Junior Guild members.

Elm Grove Junior Guild Drives Support Jack's Toy Shop and Beat Childhood Cancer

By Sarah Wynia-Smith

The Elm Grove Junior Guild officially kicked off the 2021-2022 season of service with a set of twin drives to support both G9/Beat Childhood Cancer and Jack's Toy Shop. September was Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and both of these organizations are dedicated to supporting and raising awareness for children struggling with a cancer diagnosis.

G9/Beat Childhood Cancer is the outgrowth of multiple family foundations merging with the common goal to fund research and clinical trials treating childhood cancers. Despite cancer being the top cause of death in children, research into treatments remains woefully underfunded. The sledgehammer style "kill anything that grows" approach of traditional chemotherapy and radiation are often devastating and create new complications that can persist even when cancer is in remission. In 2005, a local four-year-old boy named **Jack Bartosz** was diagnosed with neuroblastoma. In 2007, Jack's neuroblastoma relapsed; his physicians were in the middle of researching a more tailored treatment. The Bartosz family saw a critical fundraising need, creating the I Back Jack Foundation. The first goal was a million dollars. Meeting that goal, the Bartosz family continued their fundraising with the foundation; the new treatment is now used worldwide.

The I Back Jack Foundation gifted Children's Hospital of Wisconsin to start Jack's Toy Shop. It is a free toy shop housed within the MACC Fund Center Clinic for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. Jack sadly passed away in 2012, but his legacy and playful spirit live on in Jack's Toy Shop. Children of all ages receiving treatment can choose toys. In September, Elm Grove Junior Guild members purchased and donated 81 toys. These included LEGO sets, UNO card games, play doctor bags, pop-its, play-dough, and other activity sets. **Jill Fahner**, a Child Life Specialist at Children's Wisconsin says "While in clinic, children often need to have a variety of procedures done, and we want to make sure that they are able to pick out a little something special when they leave. All the toys in

Photo courtesy: Beat Childhood Cancer

Jack Bartosz

the 'shop' are received through generous donations in the community."

The legacy of Jack does not stop there; Jack's surviving twin sister **Annie** came up with a new name for the I Back Jack Foundation: Gold in September, also known as G9. Over the years G9 has raised millions on its own, but in 2020 merged with other family foundations to become a part of Beat Childhood Cancer. This consortium has amazingly funded clinical trials for childhood cancer research at 60 hospitals across the USA. Jack's mom **Sarah** notes "We always need help and involvement! The truth is that we need people to help us raise awareness of Gold and the need for support of childhood cancer. Kids deserve less toxic treatments and that is what Beat Childhood Cancer is doing by making trials available, even here in WI."

Seeing the need for involvement, the Elm Grove Junior Guild community service co-chairs **Chris Schulta** and **Jamie Niederbaumer** set up a Penny War to take place at the Junior Guild's September membership kickoff event. Each of the 11 subcommittees within the group decorated containers and members were instructed to bring their loose change to add to their favorite containers. This one-night fundraiser yielded over $400 to give to Beat Childhood Cancer.

If you are interested in donating toys to Jack's Toy Shop, visit https://giving.Childrenswi.org/ways-to-give/donate-items and label the donation as "MACC Fund Center Clinic." If you are interested in contributing to Beat Childhood Cancer, find their website at www.beatcc.org or on Instagram or Facebook.

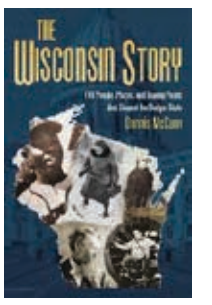
Library News and Programs
November 2021

13600 Juneau Blvd., Elm Grove, WI 53122
262-782-6717 / elmgrovelibrary.org

Identity Theft: Protect and Prevent
Tuesday, November 2, 6:30 p.m. O'Neill Room

Identity theft is the fastest growing crime in the United States. The more you learn, the less vulnerable you are, especially heading into the holidays. This seminar will cover the different types of identity theft and how to recognize and prevent them. Receive tips for safeguarding personal information and how to spot the red flags of a scam. Presented by Francesca Johnson, Agency Liaison for the Wisconsin Bureau of Consumer Protection.

The Wisconsin Story / Thursday, November 11, 7:00 p.m. Community Room



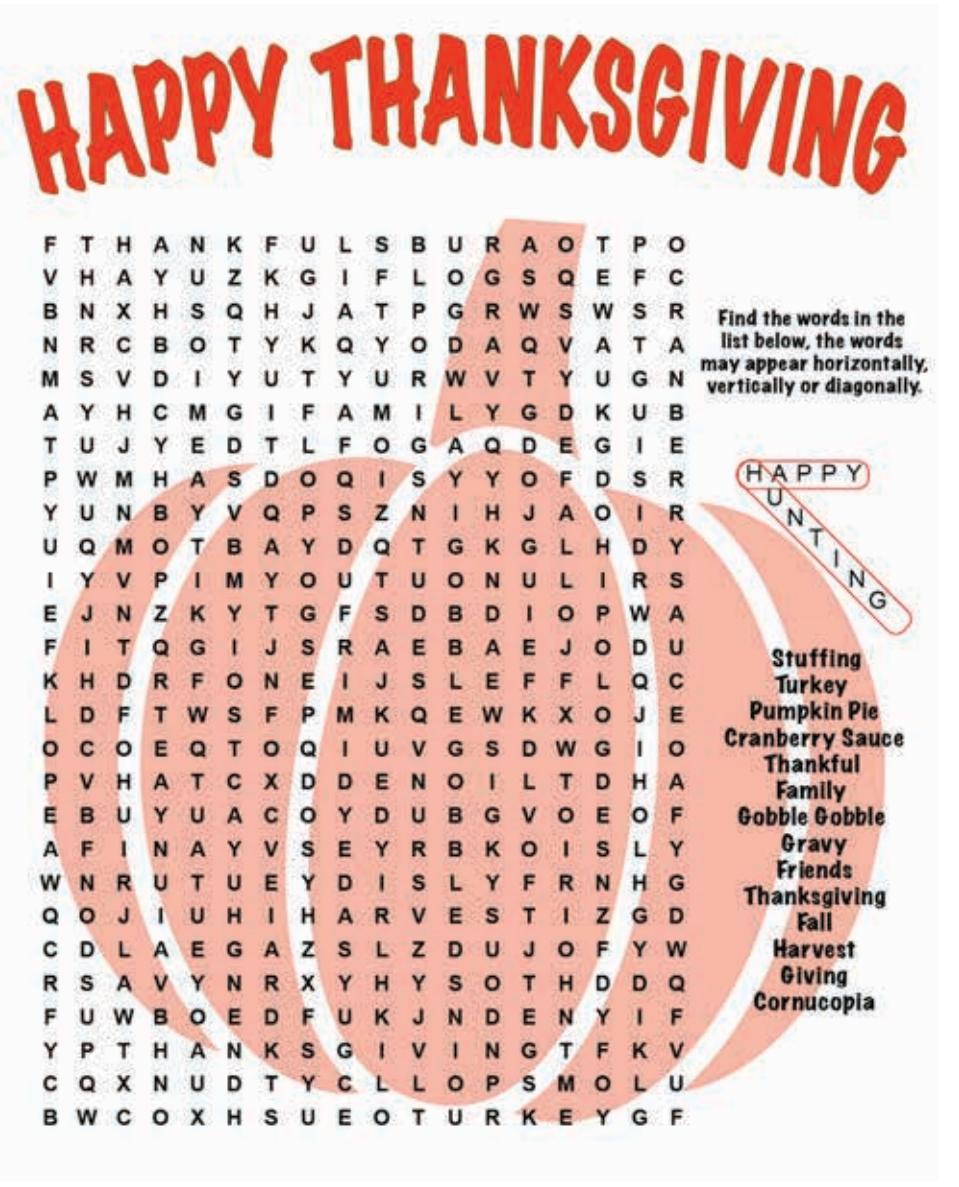
Learn about the events and people that shaped Wisconsin's past. Author Dennis McCann will share stories from his book, *The Wisconsin Story: 150 People, Places, and Turning Points that Shaped the Badger State* and give us an answer to the question, "What makes Wisconsin, Wisconsin?" Free to attend. No registration required.

Brainfuse HelpNow - On-Demand, Anywhere Online Tutoring for All Learners

The Elm Grove Library now offers an online homework and skills help tool for students and adult learners. Brainfuse HelpNow is designed for a wide range of academic needs, whether it's tackling a tough homework problem, mastering a particular topic, or writing a paper. HelpNow's features include:

- Homework Help Interact with live tutors in math, science, reading/writing, social studies, PSAT/SAT, ACT, AP and state standardized tests. Live tutoring from HelpNow experts is available every day from 2:00 PM - 11:00 PM CST.
- 24-Hour Writing Lab Submit essays and other forms of writing for constructive feedback.
- Homework Send Question Submit homework questions for expert guidance.
- Adult Learning Center Access a library of rich adult learning content (GED) and live, professional assistance in resume/cover letter writing, U.S. citizenship prep, MS Office Essential Skills Series, and more!

Visit bridgeslibrarysystem.org/helpnow to get started.



Young Writers & Reporters

Veterans' Day

By Jorja Frias
4th Grade - Tonawanda

You should appreciate the veterans because they served in the war/military for you and helped save America. And I am telling you this because almost half of my family was in the military. Me and my friend **Henry Zvesper** both agree that Veterans Day should be honored more.

The People of Elm Grove! I love Veterans' Day and so should you because, if you do not appreciate your veterans, they will feel bad and stop serving for America.

Next time you see a veteran that you know say, "thank you for your service". Because it always feels nice to be recognized for the good you have done for the community.

I hope I persuaded you on how to love and appreciate your veterans after everything that they have done for you, your friends, family, the state, and the country. I need you to do me a favor, just think of everything that Veterans have done for everyone you know, Everyone you don't know. They have done lots and lots for everyone and I hope you know that.

Thank you so so very much for reading my story on how to love and appreciate your Veterans.

Fun & Cool November

By Carson Gaulke
4th Grade -Tonawanda Elementary

After October, it is November! November is a cool month for me and my older brother for 2 reasons. (1) It's my birthday and my brother's birthday. (2) Thanksgiving! Every Thanksgiving, me and my family sit down in the dining room and eat a really good Thanksgiving meal. While we eat, we get to watch a Simpsons Thanksgiving episode. Lots of stuff in the meal is good. The turkey is good. The mashed potatoes are good. And the Pumpkin Pie is good! And because of Veteran's Day, we thank veterans. My grandpa was a World War II veteran. He jumped from planes and used a parachute. Jumping out of planes with a parachute would be cool. That's why November is a cool month for my family.

Autumn & Family Fun

By Amaya White
4th Grade -Tonawanda Elementary

It's finally Autumn and I love doing lots of things! For example, I love making leaf piles in my backyard. Once, we made this really deep leaf pile. We got to jump from the deck, into the awesome leaf pile and back on to the deck to do it again. You must try it out, it's the best! And we also took pictures this year. It was much, much more fun this year because we got to take pictures with my sister's baby. Doing all of this makes me feel like I have such big happy feelings when my family comes together.

My Grandpa

By Tucker Scharer
4th Grade - Tonawanda Elementary

My grandpa is a great grandpa. He is funny and loving. He also served in the war and he went out and helped fight for our country with many other brave men and women. We should remember all those people who risked their lives for our country and also hopefully made kids want to be a veteran and help fight for our country just like my grandpa.

Teacher Interviews

By Lilly Meyer
4th Grade - Tonawanda

So, I interviewed all the 4th Grade girl teachers (I didn't have time for **Mr. Z**)

The first question I asked was "Why did you want to become a teacher?" And they all said they like working with children.

The next question was "How did they become a teacher?" **Mrs. Leffler** said Marquette. **Mrs. W.** said Whitewater, and **Mrs. Lampe** said Madison.

The next question was "why 4th grade?" Mrs. Leffler said 4th graders are eager to learn and work well each other; and Mrs. W. said 4th graders are fun and excited about learning; Mrs. Lampe said 4th graders start acting like young adults.

Then I asked "If you weren't a teacher what would you be?" Mrs. Leffler said a designer. Mrs. W. said she wanted to be a meteorologist. And Mrs. Lampe said a nurse.

And the final question I asked was "What other schools did you teach at?" Mrs. Leffler taught at a lot of schools in Wauwatosa. Mrs. W. said Ronald Reagan and Summitview Elementary. Mrs. Lampe taught in Milwaukee Public and at Hillside and Burleigh.

Now those are my teacher interviews. Hope you like it!

The Day I Had Bad Luck

By Freya H.
4th Grade - Tonawanda

Today when I woke up, I was way too tired to even get out of bed. When I finally got out of bed, I went to the bathroom to brush my teeth. "Looking good!" I said to myself. As I picked up my toothbrush I accidentally put soap on my toothbrush instead of toothpaste. "Ugh! Oops, I accidentally put soap on my toothbrush, no wonder it tastes bad. Well at least that woke me up!"

As I went downstairs, I went to eat breakfast. I was still lazy, so instead of getting milk, I got out the orange juice bottle. I didn't notice at first I had orange juice, but once I sat down, oh I screamed, "AH! This is disgusting!" "Well, no breakfast for me!"

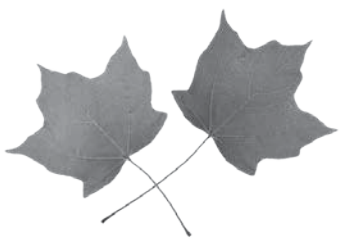
Once I got to school two things happened. Number One, I slipped on some spilled water. Two, I failed a test. Once I got home, I ran to my room and when I got there, I stubbed my toe, so I cried even more "This is the worst day of my life! When will this day end!" "Well I can at least sleep in now."

By Jack Pinon
1st Grade,
St. Mary's

Trees
House
Apples
Nuts
Kites
Fish
USA
Love

By Elliott Falk
1st Grade,
St. Mary's

Trains
Helicopters
Apple Pie
Nature
Kindness
Family
USA
Love



Veterans' Day

By Henry Zvesper
4th Grade – Tonawanda

The veterans in our country should be appreciated more because they fight specifically for you. And I am going to try to persuade you, the people of Elm Grove, to try harder to recognize the true spirit of Veterans' Day. Veterans' Day is a very important holiday and I will tell you why. The veterans in our country risk their lives for you almost every day. And so far, they have been very successful. Also, the veterans inspire new technology, new ways to build different things, and new ways to think of things. The true spirit of Veterans' Day is recognizing what they do for us and the rest of the U.S.A. In conclusion, Veterans' Day should be better recognized because they help us so much every day and they inspire lots of new things. And that is why I think Veterans' Day should be better recognized.

Autumn

By Ella N.
4th Grade, Tonawanda

Autumn is my favorite season because I love trick or treating. We always get so much candy and have so much fun, and I like picking costumes for trick or treating. I also like putting up our Halloween lights and seeing them at night. And we always carve pumpkins, me and my sister draw what we want the face to look like on our pumpkins, then, our dad carves it. And that's why I love Autumn so much.

Fall / Thanksgiving

By Victoria S.
4th Grade, Tonawanda

Fall is...
Fall is raking.
Fall is turkey.
Fall is calm.
Fall is leaves.
Fall is fun.
Most importantly, fall is your friends and family.

About me: I love Thanksgiving when you get to be with your family. I like turkey and stuffing. I like the mashed potatoes, too.

Autumn

By Autumn
4th Grade, Tonawanda

A is for the smell of Apple Pie
baking in the oven.
U is for an umbrella to hide under
when it rains.
T is for colorful trees and leaves
that fill the sky.
U is for the unity of nature's ways.
M is for the Macy's Day parade,
with all the cool floats.
N is for the newness of autumn leaves.

Fall

By Jacob Katula
4th Grade – Tonawanda Elementary

In the fall the leaves are orange, yellow and red.
In the fall you might need another blanket in bed.
In the fall you will wear a coat in the cool air.
In the fall you can find a sleeping bear.
In the fall the colors are bright and bold.
In the fall you might catch a cold.
In the fall you might jump in a leaf pile up so high.
In the fall you might see some birds flying into the south sky.
In the fall and when it's done.
Just remember that you had lots of fun.

By Vincent Flint
1st Grade, St. Mary's

Trees
House
Angels
Nature
Kindness
Fish
USA
Life

Attention Parents & Teachers!

Students in K– Grade 12 are invited to submit the following for possible publication in an upcoming edition:

INTERVIEWS & REPORTING:
About Family, Friends, School, Club, Neighborhood, Church, Scouting, Athletic & Community Service Activities, etc.

CREATIVE WRITING: Short Stories

POETRY: Free Verse, Rhyming, Haiku, etc.

******* 200 words maximum*******

==========

E-mail submissions
(note the writer's name, school / home-school & grade)
to:
elmgrovenews@yahoo.com (subject line: Young Writers)

News Briefs

Elm Grove Junior Guild Accepting Nonprofit Grant Applications through November 12th

By Sarah Wynia-Smith

The Elm Grove Junior Guild is happy to announce that our local 501(c)3 nonprofit grant application is open through November 12th, 2021! Every year we grant several $500-$10,000 awards to projects serving women or children in Milwaukee or Waukesha counties.

An application can be found at www.elmgrovejuniorguild.org/grants, and inquiries about the application process can be directed to granting committee co-chairs **Anne Zechlinski and Sarah Danforth** at grants@elmgrovejuniorguild.org .

elm grove JUNIOR GUILD
rooted in the community since 1966

The Elm Grove Junior Guild is a community of women dedicated to the education, wellness and protection of women and children within and beyond our community. Our commitment takes the form of service, awareness and financial support.

Classifieds

Listings are **$25 per issue (up to 20 words)** + 50 cents for each additional word.
$20 extra per photo or logo.
E-mail: elmgrovenews @yahoo.com or call (262) 782-6193.

Home Improvement

Tom's Painting
No Job Too Small!
Interior, Exterior, Caulking, Staining
Small Drywall Repairs
Senior Discounts. Great Referrals.
30 Years Experience.
Call (414) 719-0138

Legal Issues

What Documents Will Your Family Need?

By Attorney Isabell M. Mueller

After you pass away, your surviving family members will need to gather many of your personal and financial records in order to settle your affairs. Keeping these documents organized and accessible is important for both you and your loved ones. Your filing system doesn't need to be elaborate, just organized. Your family will need the following documents when the time comes:

- List of Funeral Instructions and prepaid funeral contracts
- Last Will and Testament
- Revocable/Living Trust agreements
- Prenuptial/postnuptial agreements• VA File Number, Military discharge papers
- Birth certificate and Death Certificate
- Marriage license or Divorce Decree
- Medicare Card/Health Insurance Card
- Bank statements, checkbooks, check registers, certificates of deposits
- Safe deposit rental agreement and keys
- Deeds, mortgages, leases, homeowner's insurance information
- Stock and bond certificates and account statement
- Pension, IRA, retirement statements/ current employee benefit information
- Life insurance policies or statements
- Last several years' income tax returns
- Documentation regarding any debts, such as auto loans or credit cards

It is not necessary to give copies of these documents to anyone during your lifetime, but they should be easily accessible in the event of your death. The information should also be kept reasonably current.

Lastly, if you maintain important information on your computer, or have social media accounts, leave instructions regarding username and password information. Not having this information can cost both time and money. Maintaining organized personal and financial records is one of the best gifts you can give your family.

LAW OFFICES OF ISABELL M. MUELLER
Estate Planning, Probate, Wills & Trusts, Powers of Attorney
890 Elm Grove Rd, Ste 202, Elm Grove WI 53122
414.430.1722
www.muellerlawoffices.com
Find Us On Facebook!

Village Update (Continued from Page 3)

Numerous other studies and review such as traffic, public safety, infrastructure etc. also take place as a project is more fully defined. The original concept included 3 apartment buildings, side by side townhouses along Red Barn Land and a Senior housing facility west of Green Meadow near the railroad tracks. The first step in the Village consideration process took place after the developer submitted a request for the Village Plan Commission to hold a "Conceptual Review. "The purpose of a conceptual review is to provide a high-level presentation to allow the Planning Commission to give an opinion on whether the project is likely to meet requirements and concerns before either the Village or the developer incur the high costs necessary to move a project application forward.

The proposed development requires the acquisition of a **municipal supply of water from Lake Michigan** to be successful. The extension of clean Lake Michigan water has been the wish of many Elm Grove residents and businesses for decades. The initial extension provided by this redevelopment could serve as the backbone to provision of water downtown and into the neighborhoods.

Since the summer of 2020, public meetings discussing various aspects of the proposed redevelopment have been conducted to consider several issues:

- Village Board: issues of process, finances, public involvement
- Public Works and Utilities Committee: streets, sewer, water, stormwater
- Police, Fire and EMS departments: evaluation of impacts expected from the proposed development
- Village consultant to analyze possible vehicular traffic impacts
- Analysis of possible impacts on public school system
- Planning Commission: eighteen different criteria considered to evaluate compliance with rules of "Planned • Development Overlay District" review
- The Village hired Ehlers and Associates to serve as financial consultant to evaluate risk and benefits of the project
- During the evolving process the Mandel development team held neighborhood meeting and small group meeting and Village Board members met with various Village groups to discuss and encourage input.
- During the many months of review since the Conceptual presentation numerous changes have incorporated into the proposed redevelopment.
- The side-by-side townhouses on Red Barn have been eliminated
- The Senior housing has been eliminated
- Single Family housing has replaced the Senior housing and the side-by-side townhouses
- The total number of proposed housing units has dropped from 400 to 256
- The density of units per acre has dropped from 15.6 units / acre to 10.1 / acre
- Significant building design, materials have been incorporated

Three different analyses of the possible traffic impact have been conducted and found negligible impact. I realize it seems a little hard to believe that traffic from 258 units wouldn't plug up Watertown Plank Road. First realize that whether a renter or a single-family homeowner virtually no leaves for work or returns at the same time as their neighbor. Plus, some likely tenants will be retired or working second or third shift and the medical complex. Think about it; when you leave your home to shop, go to work, or get the kids are all your neighbors lined up behind you at the first intersection? Of course not.

In the last three months **the Village Manager, Finance Director, Attorney, and the Village President have participated in many hours of negotiation over a proposed development agreement.** The Development is a contract which defines all the obligations and guarantees of the Developer and the Village. There have also been numerous meetings between the Village staff and the financial consultant to analyze the proposal finances and issues surrounding a possible Tax Incremental Finance (TIF) grant.

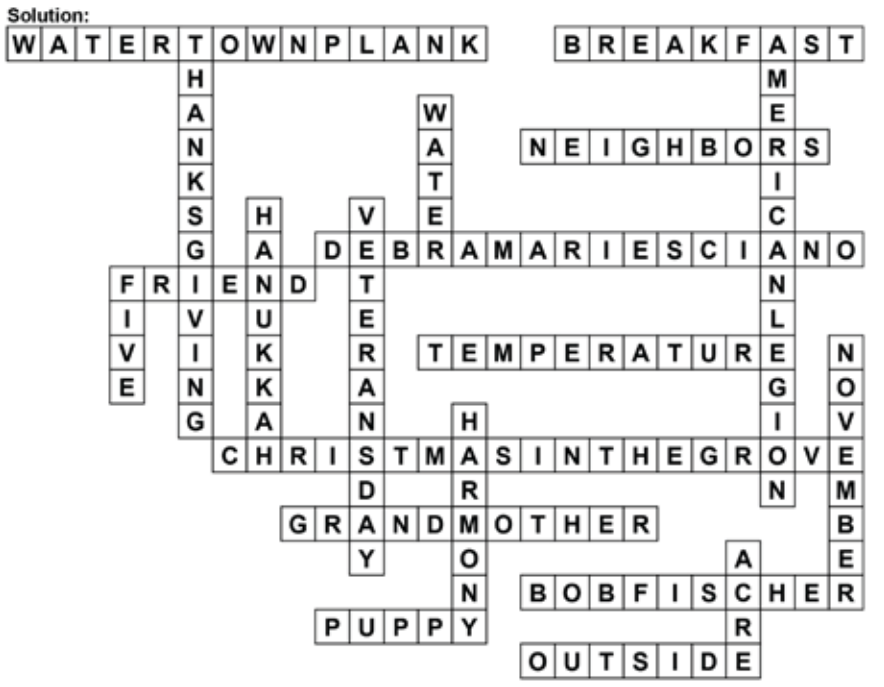
The TIF concept has been existence for decades in Wisconsin. The TIF process is an economic development tool used to help accomplish redevelopment of sites which have unique/expense issues. Essentially it is a process where a community borrows money to help pay for some aspects of a project and the NEW property taxes of the project are then used to pay back the loan. The value of the project is the asset backing the loan and the community loan payment has first call on project tax payments.

Negotiations with the City of Wauwatosa to supply **potable water services** to the site (and the rest of Elm Grove eventually) are nearing completion.

Now, **we are nearing the end stage of the redevelopment proposal review**. Once all parties agree on a final draft for the Development Agreement and the financial analysis is provided by Ehlers they will be distributed to Village Board and Committee members and be available to the public. A public hearing before the Village Board to hear public comments on the final proposal details will be held two weeks after a notice is issued.

All materials and documents of the proposed development review are available on the Village website for review: https://www.elmgrovewi.org/679/School-Sisters-of-Notre-Dame-Campus-Rede

Solution:



News Briefs

Photo courtesy: Brookfield Academy

Brookfield Academy's girls junior varsity 2 volleyball team gather for a group photo. The team recently won the JV2 Conference Championship.

2022 Senate Scholar Program Invites Applicants

(MADISON) The Senate Scholar Program is an intensive week-long educational program offered by the Wisconsin State Senate and running on January 23-28, February 13-18, and March 6-11. Admission to the program is highly competitive and is limited to 33 academically exceptional high school juniors and seniors from around Wisconsin. Each Senate Scholar receives a hands-on, up-close view of the Legislature's role in our democracy.

Senate Scholars gain experience in such diverse areas as policy development, constituent relations, and processing legislation by working with Senators, legislative staff and University of Wisconsin faculty. Applications are at: https://legis.wisconsin.gov/ssgt/senatescholar

News' Hounds

& other beloved creatures

Adopt a Pet at the Elmbrook Humane Society

By Anita Alfaro

It is sweet, beautiful **Harmony**'s turn to finally have her forever home! This precious little girl has been in foster care where we have learned that she is quiet, timid, and affectionate, loving and a loyal companion once she is comfortable and knows she can trust you. If you have room in your life and home and are seeking a lifelong friend, consider Harmony! If you are interested in Harmony, please call 262-782-9261 or visit https://ebhs.org/cats to learn more.

Photo Courtesy Elmbrook Humane Society

Harmony

Photo courtesy: Jennifer Morris Photography

(Shown, from left) Village of Elm Grove Trustee **George Haas, Trustee Kristina Sayas,** Captain **Joe Coffey,** Trustee/Firefighter **Tom Michalski,** Chief **David Kastenholz,** and **Nelsen Maldonade** of AAA at the Elm Grove Fire Department Open House.

Elm Grove Fire Department Awarded AAA Grant

(ELM GROVE) The Elm Grove Fire Department (EGFD) was recently selected to receive a grant from the Midwest Region of AAA. The grant of $1,131.60 will be used to purchase safety vests and lighted safety traffic cones for the Fire Department. The check was awarded during Fire Prevention Week at the EGFD Open House on October 5, 2021.

Elmbrook Senior Taxi Welcomes Riders

By Tom Slavinsky

How would you like to once again have lunch with your friends Monday to Friday for only $1? And as a bonus, you can stay afterwards for a variety of fun activities. You bet you would. Well now you can because Waukesha County is reopening the Senior Lunch program on November 15th at the Brookfield Senior Center.

With a "taxi card" issued by the Waukesha County Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), individuals can schedule a discounted ride to and from the Senior Center by calling the Elmbrook Senior Taxi at (262) 785-1200. (Register for the card at www.waukeshacounty.gov.)

The Elmbrook Senior Taxi is available to meet your transportation needs. When you call the office to schedule your pick up, **Jim,** our new Transportation Manager, will be there every day to book your rides. Of course, **Lenny and Susan** are also available to help you with rides not only to the Senior Center, but to the grocery stores, medical appointments, or social visits.

As the number of rides continue to increase approaching pre-COVID levels, the Taxi has added five new drivers to

complement our efficient and friendly drivers that you are used to seeing. Our four vehicles are fully staffed and on the road Monday to Friday as early as 7 a.m. and even as late as 6 p.m. One car is available on Saturday (however the office is closed) to ensure that we can meet your weekly transportation needs.

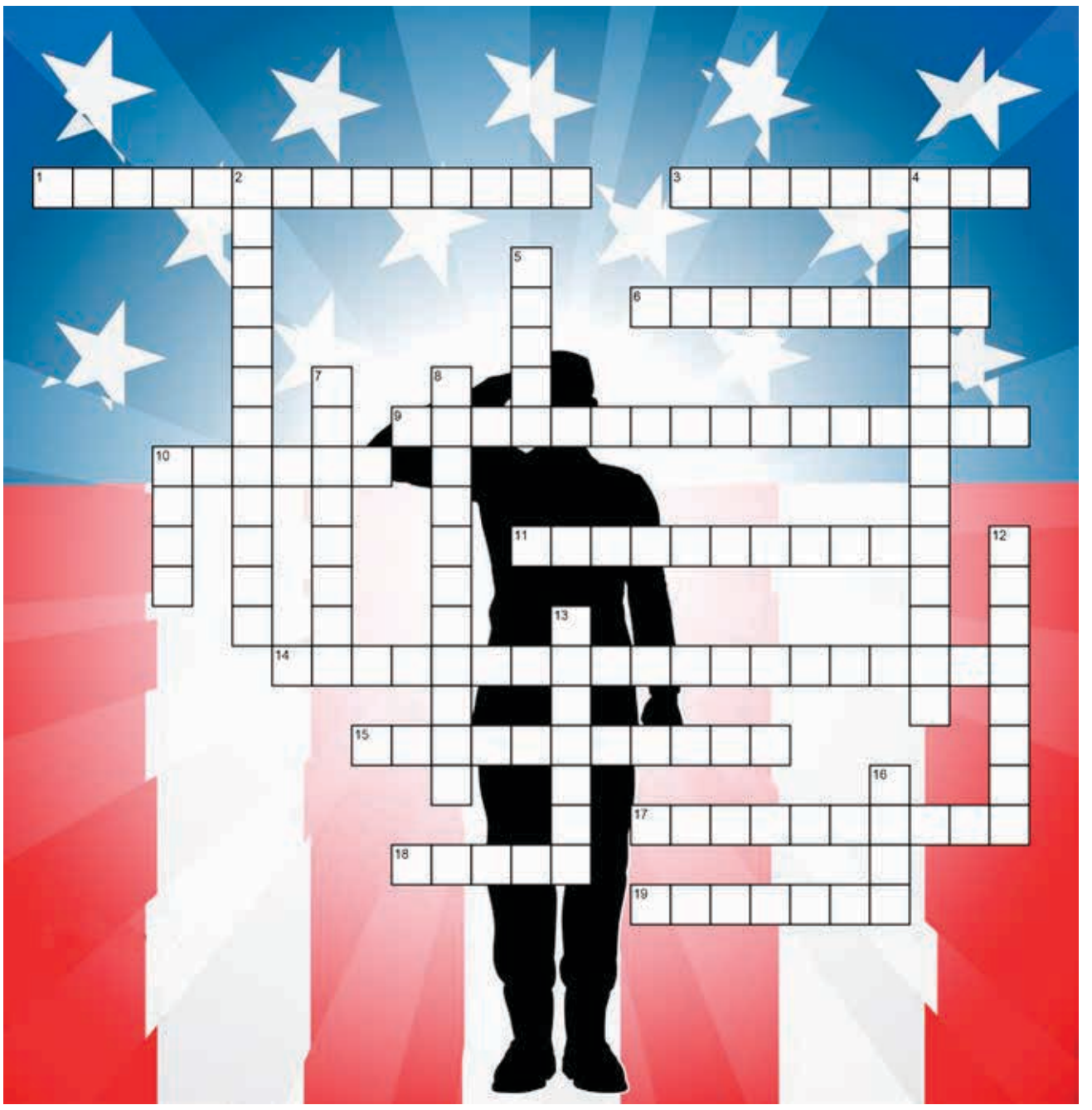
The Elmbrook Senior Taxi always strives to listen to our customers. During the last year, feedback on our "new" van caused us to trade in that vehicle and purchase a gently used Sonata sedan. So now, all four cars are your traditional sedans, with the room and comfort of getting in and out that you expect.

Once again, thank you for your trust and support over the years as we close in on 30 years of service to our seniors and disabled adults.

Don't Miss Our November Discount!
Call Now!
BILL'S TREE SERVICE
Tree Removal • Tree Trimming • Stump Grinding
All major credit cards accepted
Support your local Contractor
Call for a quote today: 262-896-9150 | aaa-landscaping.com

Community Crossword #17

By Lisabeth Passalis-Bain / elmgrovenews@yahoo.com



ACROSS

1. A main road in Elm Grove (2 words)
3. First meal of the day
6. People living in a home near yours
9. SSND's Provincial Leader (3 words)
10. A buddy or pal
11. Degree of hotness or coldness of something
14. Elm Grove Woman's Club event, November 12 & 13 (4 words)
15. Your mother's mother is this relative
17. Elm Grove resident on Honor Flight (2 words)
18. A young dog
19. Opposite of inside

DOWN

2. Holiday celebrated on November 25
4. Brookfield organization – Post 449 (2 words)
5. Liquid discussed in Letters to the Editor
7. Jewish holiday that begins November 28
8. November 11th holiday (2 words)
10. Number of World War I veterans shown in the Our History section
12. The 11th month of the year
13. Name of the cat available for adoption (See News' Hounds – Page 11)
16. 43,560 square feet equal an _____

SOLUTION: PAGE 10

Public Safety Announcement

Please remember to…

WALK "AGAINST"
(in the opposite direction as) **TRAFFIC**
That way vehicles can see you coming & you can see them.

RIDE A BIKE "WITH"
(in the same direction as) **TRAFFIC**
Use designated walking or cycling paths whenever possible.

DRIVERS:
SLOW DOWN & obey the Speed Limit:
25 MPH throughout the Village of Elm Grove.
Watch out for walkers & cyclists this fall and all year long.

PEDESTRIANS IN CROSSWALKS
have the right of way as soon as they start to cross.
STOP FOR THEM.

Please do your part to keep everyone safe.
A message to readers from the Elm Grove News-Independent.