



# Elm Grove NEWS-

# INDEPENDENT



Vol. 9 No. 10

Serving Elm Grove, Wisconsin & Neighboring Communities

December 2021

*Freedom of the Press is Essential. Community News Matters.*

## Village of Elm Grove 2022 Elections Preview

By Lisabeth Passalis-Bain  
[elmgrovenews@yahoo.com](mailto:elmgrovenews@yahoo.com)

Elm Grove residents who wish to take an active role regarding current and future issues of importance to our Village may want to consider running for a seat on the Board of Trustees next year.

A Primary Election, if needed, will be held on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 with the Spring Election set for Tuesday, April 5, 2022.

Village Board seats up for election include those of **Trustees John Domaszek, George Haas, and Patrick Kressin**, whose terms all expire on April, 19, 2022.

To qualify as a candidate, you must be a citizen of the Village of Elm Grove, age 18 or older, have resided in the Village for at least 10 days before any election, and be an eligible elector.

The first day for circulating nomination papers is December 1, 2021. The deadline to file nomination papers, declaration of candidacy, and campaign registration statements with the Village clerk is not later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, January 4, 2022. For more information, contact **Michelle Luedke**, Village Clerk at (262) 782-6700.



Photo courtesy: Tom Michalski

## Safe “Meet-up” Spot Available at EGPD

Elm Grove Trustee **Tom Michalski** was recently asked if the Village could provide a secure meet-up spot, where individuals could safely gather while completing a local online purchase or exchange.

“Fortunately”, Michalski noted, “there was an old sign in the Village Hall for just that purpose. All we had to do was put it up in the Police station’s parking lot. The location is under video surveillance, and hopefully our residents will feel safe when completing a transaction.”



Photo by Connie Petersen

Mrs. Petersen’s second grade class at Tonawanda Elementary hosted a class food drive for Journey House.

## Elm Grove Plan Commission to Hold Public Hearing on Possible Tax Incremental District (TID)

(ELM GROVE) On Monday, December 6th at 6:00 p.m. in the Court Room at Village Hall, the Plan Commission will hold a **Public Hearing for public comment on the proposed creation of Tax Incremental District #3, its proposed boundaries, and its proposed Project Plans.** The Plan Commission may take action on a recommendation of the Project Plan to the Board of Trustees at this meeting.

Additionally, the Commission will continue the review and possibly make a

recommendation to the Board of Trustees on the request for approval of a Certified Survey Map, Comprehensive Plan Amendment, Conditional Use Permit (Continued Cemetery Use), Rezoning and Redevelopment Plan for the School Sisters of Notre Dame Campus.

Those who wish to comment during this meeting may complete a “Public Comment Pre-Registration form” available on the Village of Elm Grove website: [www.elmgrovetwi.org](http://www.elmgrovetwi.org).



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Dr. Jon Robinson

## Dr. Jon Robinson Named Physician of the Year

Elm Grove’s Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Director **Dr. Jon Robinson**, a long-time Village resident, has been named the 2021 Physician of the Year by the Wisconsin EMS Association.

Earlier this year, Jon organized a series of COVID-19 immunization sessions for Village residents, assisted by qualified EMS personnel and community volunteers, including many members of the Elm Grove Woman’s Club.

Dr. Robinson has helped to advance the quality of EMS services here, so that all members of the Elm Grove Police Department (EGPD) currently have EMT-Basics status and some are qualified as EMT-Paramedics.

In addition to his work as a physician, Dr. Robinson is a fully sworn police officer and a member of the Milwaukee Fire Department’s Heavy Urban Rescue Team and the Walworth County SWAT Team.

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*\*  
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# “I Know Where You Live!”



Elisabeth Passalis-Bain

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**  
from My Family to Yours



Photo by Elisabeth Passalis-Bain

**Christos Passalis-Bain** (at left), **Kelly Main**, **Vee Laabs**, and **Greg Reynolds** play video games, live-streamed on Twitch.

## 4 Friends Raise \$20,000+ During 25-Hour Gaming Marathon to Benefit Children’s Miracle Network

Every year in early November groups of enthusiastic gamers take on the challenge of playing a myriad of video games for many hours, all to raise money in support of the Children’s Miracle Network, an alliance helping hospitals around the country of which Children’s Wisconsin is a part.

marathon Extra-Life stream featuring **Greg+Vee+Kelly+Christos** began. 25 hours and 18+ games later, the group of friends had raised \$10,264. An anonymous donor matched the first \$10,000, resulting in an impressive total of \$20,264.

“People were very receptive to the dollar-match idea and because of that we made the most of any team in Wisconsin,”

Christos said, adding: “Now, some patients who wouldn’t normally be able to afford a life-saving procedure at Children’s Wisconsin can have it.”

For details about how you can donate to the Children’s Miracle Network, visit: <https://chw.childrensmiraclenetworkhospitals.org>.



### Imperial Hair Care of Elm Grove

**Remember to book your Christmas haircuts early!**

13425 Watertown Plank Rd.  
In the Elm Grove Park & Shop

**(262) 784-4241**  
Evening Appointments Available



Photo by Terry M. Warner

Former Elm Grove resident **Terry Warner** constructs replicas of Village buildings that he remembers from his youth. Story and more photos in **OUR HISTORY** – Page 4.



## Celebrate Change.

Ready to try something new? At Trinity Woods, enjoy the freedom of maintenance-free living and time to pursue your passions. Say goodbye to the burdens of homeownership: leaf raking, lawn mowing, and the inevitable... snow shoveling. Change is good!

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INFORMATION OFFICE  
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*A partnership of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Mount Mary University, and Milwaukee Catholic Home. | Equal housing opportunity. All faiths welcome.*





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

**----- OPEN -----  
Saturdays  
DECEMBER 4, 11 & 18  
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

Questions:  
Contact Richard Paul, Jr.,  
Director of Public Works  
**(262) 780-6643**  
[rpauljr@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:rpauljr@elmgrove.wi.us)

# Village Update

By Neil Palmer, President – Village of Elm Grove    [npalmer@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:npalmer@elmgrove.wi.us)

**Dr. Jon Robinson, Elm Grove EMS Director**, has been named “Physician of the Year” by the Wisconsin EMS Association. Dr. Robinson organized a local COVID-19 vaccination effort which provided first and second dose vaccinations to more than 1,000 residents and Village staff. Jon, his wife Sue and others have grown and staffed the Village EMS service over the past 3 decades. While most of us likely do not want to see the EMS at our door step, I hope everyone is grateful to have such a highly skilled and dedicated service one phone call away.

**The Village Board of Trustees held a public hearing** in late November to receive public comments on the request to rezone the land of the School Sisters of Notre Dame campus from the current Institutional Use to Residential and Planned Development Overlay (PDO) and to amend the existing Comprehensive Plan. Twenty residents spoke both for and against the proposed rezoning by ZOOM and in person.

Informal discussions of redevelopment of the School Sisters campus began about 5 years ago. After the Sisters announced they had selected Mandel the consideration became more formalized as shown on the charts.

**In addition to all the events listed above** there have been numerous small group meetings with different groups in the Village. The Village staff, Attorney, Finance Director and the Village president have participated in hours and hours of meetings with our financial and engineering consultants and negotiating sessions with Mandel and the City of Wauwatosa.

# Who’s Who at Village Hall

13600 Juneau Boulevard, Elm Grove, Wisconsin 53122  
**(262) 782-6700    [www.elmgrove.wi.us](http://www.elmgrove.wi.us)**

- Village President:** NEIL PALMER    [npalmer@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:npalmer@elmgrove.wi.us)
- Trustees:** KATY CORNELL    [kcornell@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:kcornell@elmgrove.wi.us)  
JOHN DOMASZEK    [jdomaszek@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:jdomaszek@elmgrove.wi.us)  
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KRISTINA SAYAS    [ksayas@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:ksayas@elmgrove.wi.us)
- Village Manager:** DAVE DE ANGELIS    [ddeangelis@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:ddeangelis@elmgrove.wi.us)
- Zoning & Planning Administrator/Assistant to Village Manager:**  
TOM HARRIGAN    [tharrigan@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:tharrigan@elmgrove.wi.us)
- Clerk/Deputy Treasurer:** MICHELLE LUEDTKE    [mluedtke@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:mluedtke@elmgrove.wi.us)
- Finance Director:** MONICA HUGHES    [mhughes@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:mhughes@elmgrove.wi.us)
- Municipal Judge:** TIM STEINLE
- Village Attorney:** HECTOR DE LA MORA
- Clerk of Courts:** MARY DOYNE    [mdoyne@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:mdoyne@elmgrove.wi.us)
- Public Works Director:** RICHARD PAUL, JR.    [rpauljr@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:rpauljr@elmgrove.wi.us)
- Forester:** RON HILL    [forester@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:forester@elmgrove.wi.us)
- Recreation Director:** JEROD MIKKELSEN    [jmikkelsen@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:jmikkelsen@elmgrove.wi.us)
- Library Director:** SARAH MUENCH    [muench@elmgrove.lib.wi.us](mailto:muench@elmgrove.lib.wi.us)  
Elm Grove Public Library (262) 782-6717

**POLICE – FIRE – MEDICAL EMERGENCY: CALL 9-1-1**  
**Police Department (non-emergency) (262) 786-4141**  
**Police Chief:** JIM GAGE    [jgage@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:jgage@elmgrove.wi.us)  
**Fire Chief:** DAVID KASTENHOLZ    [dkastenholtz@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:dkastenholtz@elmgrove.wi.us)  
**Medical Director:** Dr. JON ROBINSON    [jrobinson@elmgrove.wi.us](mailto:jrobinson@elmgrove.wi.us)

MEETING DATE	GOVERNING BODY	REVIEW TOPICS
September 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	Plan Commission	Conceptual Review
October 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	Building Board	Conceptual Review
January 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Board of Trustees	Formal Redevelopment Submittal
February 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Building Board	Architectural Working Session
March 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2021	Plan Commission	Site Plan Review, PDO Request
March 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2021	Building Board	Architectural Working Session
March 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Building Board	Architectural Working Session
March 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Plan Commission	Site Plan / Civil Engineering Review
April 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Building Board	Architectural Working Session
April 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Public Works and Utilities	Traffic Impact Analysis Review
April 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Plan Commission	Site Plan, Traffic Analysis, CSM
April 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Building Board	Architectural Working Session

MEETING DATE	GOVERNING BODY	REVIEW TOPICS
May 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2021	Plan Commission	Single-Family Lots, Traffic Analysis, Site Plan
May 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Plan Commission	School Impact Analysis
May 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Building Board	Architectural and Landscaping Working Session
June 2 <sup>st</sup> , 2021	Public Works and Utilities	Storm Water Management Report Review
June 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Building Board Review	Architectural Working Session
June 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Board of Trustees	Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) Request
June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Plan Commission Review	Single-Family Lots, Conditional Use Permit (Cemetery Use), CSM
July 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2021	Building Board Action	Recommendation on Architectural and Landscaping Plans
July 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Plan Commission	Public Comment Session
August 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Committee of the Whole	TIF “101” – Presentation made by Ehlers and Associates
September 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Plan Commission Review	PDO Review Criteria
November 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Committee of the Whole	Review of Mandel TIF Request with Ehlers and Associates
November 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Committee of the Whole	Review of Draft Development Agreement
November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Board of Trustees	Public Hearing – PDO Rezoning, Amendment to Comp. Plan

**The Village Board continues** to consider the request to redevelop the campus zoning, the request for rezoning, Tax Incremental Financing, and negotiating an agreement with the City of Wauwatosa to supply municipal water from Lake Michigan. It is anticipated that the Board will act on some or all these matters before the end of the year.

**The Public Works Committee and the Ad Hoc Pathway Committee held a joint meeting** to discuss a comprehensive planning approach for roadway and

pathway improvements. The Village Board has expressed strong support for efforts to improve and expand the Village pathway system while also maintain streets. The two groups will meet again in January, after the completion of street condition evaluation. The goal of the two committees is to create a plan and calendar for future improvements.

At the regular November Village Board meeting the **Village Board approved the 2022 Operating and Capital Budgets**

# Business Directory

## \* Transportation

*Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays*  
from **Elmbrook Senior Taxi**  
Serving Elm Grove, Brookfield, Butler  
and the surrounding areas, including  
hospitals and doctors’ offices.  
**262-785-1200**

## \* 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](mailto:kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com)  
[www.kiwaniselmgrove.org](http://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](http://www.elmbrookrotary.org)  
*Join us to make a difference in the world!*

## \* Insurance

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recommended by the Finance Committee. The new budget calls for a total tax levy of \$7,444,435, an increase of \$141,024 or 1.93%. The estimated tax rate on property for the new levy is \$5.9982 per \$1,000 of value. This budget satisfies the requirements of the State levy limits and the State expenditure restraint program.

**2022 User fees** will increase for sewer service, stormwater management fees and solid waste services to \$1,012.18 for a single-family residence. This 33.59% increase over 2021 is due to a 58% increase in solid waste fees and the Board decision to move the annual Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District annual charge from tax levy to the user fee.

Also, at the November Board meeting the **Village Board voted unanimously to approve a two-year contract with the Police Department Union**. The new contract calls for a 2% increase in pay beginning on January 1, 2022 and a 1% increase on July 1, 2022. The same 2%/1% increase was granted to most non-represented staff.



# Our History: Remembrances of Things Past



Scale models of Elm Grove buildings from decades past.

## My Childhood Memories of Elm Grove

By Terry M. Warner

The photo (above) of my mostly scratch-built from memory HO-scale composite-model, shows how Elm Grove looked 60+ years ago, while I was growing-up there, as a kid.

Although, some structures aren’t in their original spots (to allow room on a small area), they include: The Depot, Reinders Bros. silos, Wayne’s Barber Shop, The “Cove” bar, Elm Grove Inn, Sunset Playhouse (which was originally a turquoise color), The Milwaukee. Road “Cannonball” commuter train\* (along w/automobiles that pre-date 1960). The Depot was destroyed in an infamous train wreck (people still talk about). The Cove-bar & barber shop were both destroyed by fires.

Other future models I have planned (waiting in the wings) are C. Sander’s Blacksmith Shop, Food Fair groceries, Leland School, & any other buildings (existing or now-gone in 2021), that “played a role” in my childhood. I hope you enjoy ‘em.

\*Incidentally, that commuter train, came in handy, at times. If Dad’s ol’ ‘53-Ford-coupe, wouldn’t start on a cold winter’s morning, he’d call a taxi to take him down to the depot and catch the 7 a.m. train to his job in downtown Milwaukee.



Terry Warner poses in front of his childhood home on Circle Drive in 2021.

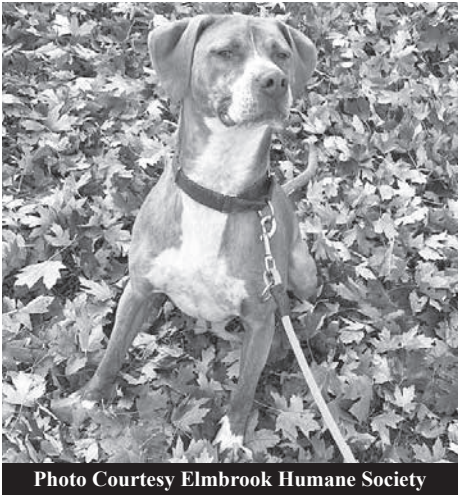
Terry M. Warner, a long-time Minnesota resident, grew up in Elm Grove. His family home was on Circle Drive. He attended K-12<sup>th</sup> grades here and graduated from Brookfield Central High School – Class of 1973. Terry says that he hopes to move back to the Village someday and “come home again”.

## News’ Hounds & other beloved creatures

### Adopt a Pet at the Elmbrook Humane Society

By Anita Alfaro

Hello friends! My name is **Frankie** and I would love to be your adventure buddy. I am a fun-loving, outgoing dog who loves to explore my world, learn new things, and make new friends. I have a lot of energy and would do best in a home that will give me lots of opportunities to get both physical and mental exercise. I would do great on hikes, runs, or sniffing expeditions with my amazing nose. I am still working on my manners and would do best in a home with no kids, and no cats since I love to chase small critters. I do enjoy the company of other dogs and would love a dog friend to play with! I recently got the chance to hang out in a foster home for a week and they said I was so much fun. I started learning



about crate training, waiting for food and to walk through doors, and walking on a leash. They said I was a huge snuggle bug. I also really enjoyed hanging out with their dog, we were best buds! If you think we would be a great match for each other, ask about meeting me today! Call (262) 782-9261 or visit <https://ebhs.org> for more information.



## Kate Gregg-Warren (1855-1908) wrote about childhood friends gathering at their family’s home

“When the long winter evenings came on and the family gathered about the blazing wood fire one of the children would be delegated to go down into the cellar and bring up a big pan full of apples. These were Spitzenburgs, Greenings and Seeknofathers (all popular 19<sup>th</sup> Century Wisconsin apples) while a good-sized pitcher of cider would accompany them, and we would all sit down by the hearth to warm a while eating and drinking. Sometimes when young folks came in to spend the evening, a kettle of maple sugar was hung over the fireplace and we would sugar off, bring in pans of snow on which to make wax.



Photo and story courtesy of Tom Ramstack

Sisters (Left to right): **Sarah, Kate, and Clara**—were members of the **Gregg family** whose family’s farm was located in Brookfield (section 25) during the middle years of the 19th Century. Kate married **Joseph Warren** and managed her family’s household throughout most of her adult life. In 1905, Kate wrote a colorful journal describing memories of her childhood days on her family’s life on their farm in the Elm Grove area during the 1850s and 1860s.

## News Briefs

### B.U.I.L.D. Lego League Challenge Team Advances to Sectionals

(BROOKFIELD) The PPMS/Burleigh Lego League Challenge team B.U.I.L.D. #44199 participated in the MUHS regional competition on November 13. Team members **Eythan K., Jonathan B., Elizabeth B., Levi D., Sullivan K., Zander K., Aylin C., and Hannah Z.** participated in the robot game, and gave presentations on their community outreach, project design, and robot design as part of the competition.

The team won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Core Values category and placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Robot Game. They will move on to the Waukesha Sectional on December 18.

Help grow the program in 2022. If you are willing to co-coach a Lego League Challenge or Lego League Explore team in the Summer / Fall of 2022, contact: [Blackj@elmbrookschoos.org](mailto:Blackj@elmbrookschoos.org).

### Register to Receive Landscape Pesticide Notices

(MADISON) – The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection’s (DATCP) landscape pesticide registry is available until February 1, 2022 for homeowners and renters to sign up for 2022 growing season notices. Registrants receive advance notice from commercial lawn care companies that apply pesticides to lawns, trees, and shrubs to nearby property. As a registrant, you can submit addresses on or near your block that you want to receive notification for. There is no cost to register, and you must re-register every year. February 1 is the last day to sign up on the landscape registry for the 2022 season.

To register, use either of the following methods:

- Online: Visit <https://mydatcp.wi.gov> and click on “Registries/Lists” and select “Landscape Registry.”
- Paper: Download, fill out, and mail a paper form available at [https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs\\_Services/LandPestReg.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/LandPestReg.aspx).

The landscape pesticide registry will start March 15, when pesticide applicators are required to notify individuals at least 12 hours in advance when registered addresses are to be treated with pesticides. The registry applies only to commercial landscape applications. The registry does not apply to the following:

- Homeowners or landlords who do their own pesticide applications
- Pesticide applications to the inside or outside of buildings; including around a workplace, school, or day care center
- Pesticide use in agriculture

This registry is a service offered by DATCP. For the 2021 growing season, over 4,400 addresses were registered to receive notice. Pesticide is a broad term that can include herbicides, fungicides, and insecticides. To learn more about the landscape pesticide registry, visit [https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs\\_Services/LandPestReg.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/LandPestReg.aspx).



# Calendar of Events – December 2021

**Wednesday – DECEMBER 1**

- First day for Village Trustee candidates to circulate nomination papers to appear on February Primary / Spring Election 2022 ballot  
  
(Details – Page 1)

**Friday – DECEMBER 3**

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**  
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Western Racquet Club; Program: Annual Meeting (Elections/Reports)  
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**  
Meeting – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: Patty Metropulos CEO, Kathy’s House (Hospital Guest House).  
[kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com](mailto:kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com)

**Saturday – DECEMBER 4**

- **Elm Grove Recycling Center / Yard Waste Facility**, 900 Elm Grove Road; Open: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Sunday – DECEMBER 5**

- ”Lights of Love” events at Village Hall, 3:30 to 5 p.m. (Details below)

**Monday – DECEMBER 6**

- **Elm Grove Plan Commission**  
Meeting: 7 p.m. at Village Hall.  
Agenda: [www.elmgrovewi.org](http://www.elmgrovewi.org).

**Tuesday – DECEMBER 7**

**PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY**



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

**Friday – DECEMBER 10**

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**  
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Western Racquet Club; Program: Sheriff Eric Severson, “Programs & Services of the Waukesha County Sheriff’s Office”  
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**  
Luncheon, Members only  
[kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com](mailto:kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com)

**Saturday – DECEMBER 11**

- **Elm Grove Recycling Center / Yard Waste Facility**, 900 Elm Grove Road; Open: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Elm Grove Beautification Committee**  
“Bird Lovers” meeting: 10 a.m. in the O’Neill Room at Village Hall.

**Friday – DECEMBER 17**

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**  
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Western Racquet Club; Program: Holiday Program (Club Talent Featured)  
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**  
Meeting – 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Senior Center; Speaker: Kiwanis member Dick Boulay, Book Review, “Sapien’s: A Brief History of Humankind”.  
[kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com](mailto:kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com).

**Saturday – DECEMBER 18**

- **Elm Grove Recycling Center / Yard Waste Facility**, 900 Elm Grove Road; Open: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Monday – DECEMBER 20**

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

**Tuesday – DECEMBER 21**  
**FIRST DAY OF WINTER**

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

**Friday – DECEMBER 24**

- CHRISTMAS EVE**  
Village Hall Closed
- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**  
No Meeting  
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**  
No Meeting.  
[kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com](mailto:kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com).

**Saturday – DECEMBER 25**  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



**Friday – DECEMBER 31**


- NEW YEAR’S EVE**  
**DRIVE SAFELY!**
- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**  
No Meeting  
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis Club – Golden K**  
No Meeting  
[kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com](mailto:kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com).



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## Lights of Love

PLEASE JOIN THE FRIENDS OF THE ELM GROVE LIBRARY AT VILLAGE HALL ON  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, FROM 3:30-5:00PM

AS WE CELEBRATE THE START OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON AND  
ILLUMINATE THE VILLAGE TREE!

**ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE:**

- ★ SOCIALLY DISTANT PHOTOS WITH SANTA ★
- ★ SANTA’S MAILBOX FOR KIDS WHO WANT TO GET THEIR LIST IN EARLY! ★
- ★ ORNAMENT COLORING FOR THE CHILDREN’S TREE ★
- ★ A FESTIVE HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE BY SUNSET PLAYHOUSE ★
- ★ TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY ★
- ★ TAKE HOME TREAT BAGS FOR KIDS ★



# Happy Holidays!

On everyone’s list,  
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S64 W15732 Commerce Center Pkwy.  
**(414) 422-9344**

**PEWAUKEE**  
1268 Capitol Dr.  
**(262) 695-8990**



# News Briefs



Photo courtesy: @elm\_grove\_park

Ducks at Elm Grove Village Park

## Calling All Bird Lovers!

(ELM GROVE) If you would be interested in meeting up with other bird lovers within the village on a quarterly basis to discuss all things related to birds and how we can support our feathered friends and the village’s Bird City WI designation, let us know.

Please e-mail **Karen Lloyd** at [knlloyd@gmail.com](mailto:knlloyd@gmail.com) or **Nicci Sternitzky** at [asternitzky@wi.rr.com](mailto:asternitzky@wi.rr.com), or join us at our first meeting on Saturday, December 11th, 2021 at 10 a.m. in the O’Neill Room at Village Hall.



Photo courtesy: Elmbrook Rotary Club

Gathered during a recent Elmbrook Rotary Club meeting are (left to right) **Ralph Gould** (Chair of the ERC’s Business Person of the Year selection committee), **Tom Michalski** (Village of Elm Grove Trustee, Waukesha County Board Supervisor, and selection committee member), **Phil Landry** (2021 awardee), & **Dr. Thom Arndt** (ERC President).

## Elmbrook Rotary’s 2021 Business Person of the Year Announced

(ELM GROVE) The Elmbrook Rotary Club (ERC) reports that **Phil Landry**, Owner of C3E Geomatics, LLC, is the recipient of its 5<sup>th</sup> annual Business Person of the Year Award which recognizes the leadership and accomplishments of a successful Brookfield or Elm Grove individual.

In a span of five years, Phil completed his bachelor’s degree and founded C3E Geomatics, LLC, a land surveying company, in 2017. Community support, sharing, and mentoring have been a significant part of Phil’s life and career. This includes being a supporter of the Community Warehouse, an organization designed to support background-challenged individuals by providing employment, job skills, and practical housing support. Phil also supports Partners in Hope, a faith-based community reentry program for ex-offenders run by Community Warehouse. C3E Geomatics is also writing a custom career packet about land surveying for The Community, another organization working to aid offenders in their career decisions long before release. The long-term goal is to be able to offer employment opportunities and mentorship to the individuals served by these organizations.

Phil founded his business with the goal of helping ex-offenders because he himself served a two-year prison sentence. During his time of incarceration, Phil came to understand that he needed to make a radical

change in his life so that he wouldn’t end up in prison again. Even with Phil’s careful planning for his release (including enrolling in a university, arranging for a place to live, and applying for financial aid), he still needed the additional support of community organizations and a local church in order to get established on the right path. Because he understands the tremendous hurdles ex-offenders face when released back into society, he feels committed to supporting released offenders in the greater Milwaukee area.

In order to continue growing the business he founded in 2017, Phil needed to gain professional licensure in the state of Wisconsin. However, he faced numerous obstacles in this process because of his criminal record. Working with a local assembly member as an advocate, Phil finally obtained licensure and has been able to grow C3E Geomatics from a revenue of \$65,000 in 2017 to \$385,000 in 2020. He is projected to make well over \$500,000 in 2021.

*Elmbrook Rotary Club was chartered in 1983 and is a part of Rotary International, founded in 1905. The club is an active group of over 80 individuals of business professionals and community leaders with a wide range of backgrounds. Rotary International’s official motto is “Service Above Self,” and the club’s slogan is “We Rise & Shine,” referring to the fact that it was the first breakfast club in Rotary District 6270.*

## Elmbrook Education Foundation Announces New Board Members

(BROOKFIELD) The Elmbrook Education Foundation (EEF) has added six new board members this school year. Board members serve a three-year term and are actively involved in all fundraising endeavors as well as awarding of grants and scholarships.

**Beth Dobrzynski**, EEF Executive Director, said, “We welcome our new board members and look forward to working with them as we partner with the School District of Elmbrook. As a working board, each member is integrally involved in our success.”

**Bongard**, Owner, The World in Leather; **Jessica Gonzalez**, Executive Consultant for Nonprofits; **Jessie Grimm**, Assistant Professor at Concordia University, Acute Care Physical Therapist with Froedtert and the Medical College of Wisconsin; **Helen Ramon**, Senior Program Officer at Bader Philanthropies; and **Katie Rasoul**, Leadership Development Coach at Team Awesome to its 2021-2022 Board of Directors.

For more information, please contact Beth Dobrzynski at 262-844-3742 or [elmbrookeducationfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:elmbrookeducationfoundation@gmail.com). [www.elmbrookschoools.org/elmbrook-education-foundation](http://www.elmbrookschoools.org/elmbrook-education-foundation).

# AFFORDABLE LUXURY



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# News Briefs



**Photo by Shelley Swanson**

The Elmbrook Nature Center includes many native plantings and serves as a haven for area wildlife.

# Elmbrook Garden Club Volunteers at Nature Center

By Rose Heald

The Elmbrook Garden Club (EBGC) has been volunteering at the Elmbrook Nature Center since the 1980s. Four members of the Club, including **Shelley Swanson, Judy Newman, Nancy Gloe, and Dawn Wallace**, volunteered at the Nature on October 27 to complete various projects, including weed pulling, seed collecting and trail maintenance.

The Nature Center, located west of the Brookfield East High School on Lilly Road, welcomes elementary school students yearly to explore the effects of climate change on amphibians, as well as bird identification, native plants, seed dispersal and wild life habitat. In 2014, funding provided by the Elmbrook School District,

PTA, and EBGC allowed for replacement of a 400-foot boardwalk over a wetland as part of an Eagle Scout project. Most recently, EBGC has planted three butterfly gardens in 2015, 2018, and 2021, which are registered as a Monarch Waystation. This “Pollinators’ Paradise” includes over 20 plant species, including several kinds of milkweed.

Meetings of the EBGC are held at the Brookfield Public Library the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm. No meetings are held in December or January. Members of the public are welcome to attend. For membership information, contact **Lisa Gelhaar** at (414) 712-9259 or **Rose Heald** at (262) 606-0125.

# Elmbrook Humane Society Names New Executive Director

(BROOKFIELD) – **Natalie Hoskins** has been promoted to Executive Director of the Elmbrook Humane Society (EBHS), succeeding long-time Executive Director **Heather Gerke**.

Natalie got her start in the animal welfare industry at EBHS in 2009 as an Animal Caregiver. Even as a young child, she aspired to have a career where she could work with animals in some capacity. Her career path has aligned with that aspiration, and, throughout the years, she took on many roles within the organization, including Humane Officer, Shelter Operations Assistant Manager, Customer Relation Manager, Director of Animal Care and Field Services, and Director of Special Projects.

Natalie says that she is eager to combine the skills and knowledge she has developed in all her different positions to build on the great foundation that has been established at EBHS and to further its mission and vision as the Executive Director.



**Photo: Elmbrook Humane Society**

**Natalie Hoskins** with a feline friend.



# Fairview South School Organizes Winter Clothing Drive for Area Families

(BROOKFIELD) - Through December 17th, Fairview South School is collecting new and gently used coats, snow pants, winter boots, hats, and mittens, on behalf of the School District of Elmbrook. The Annual Winter Outwear Drive will collect and distribute winter outerwear to families in need in our community. All sizes of winter outerwear will be accepted (infant, toddler, children, and adult sizes).



Fairview South and Project Strive staff and students will be taking a lead role in this drive by sorting, washing and packaging orders as part of ongoing efforts to provide meaningful opportunities for students, as well as impactful community engagement.

We will be asking that all new or gently used winter outerwear donations be dropped off on days when school is in session at Fairview South, 3525 Bermuda Blvd., Brookfield through Friday, December 17, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Donations are to be placed in barrels located outside by the front entrance.

Families in need of any winter outerwear items, can complete this form between now and February 1, 2022: <https://forms.gle/B28fHY6jht7oHQE97>. Once you complete the form, you will be contacted when your items are ready.

Contact **Ann Czajka** between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at (262) 781-9464 or email: [czajkaa@elmbrookschoools.org](mailto:czajkaa@elmbrookschoools.org) with any questions.

A promotional advertisement for Bill's Tree Service. The background is a light blue gradient with a pattern of white stars and stripes, reminiscent of the American flag. On the right side, there are two large, stylized stars with red and white vertical stripes and blue points, also featuring white stars. The text is arranged as follows:  

- WINTER DISCOUNT** in large, bold, white capital letters on a dark blue rectangular background.
- Call Now!** in large, bold, yellow italicized letters on a dark blue rectangular background.
- BILL'S TREE SERVICE** in large, bold, red capital letters.
- Tree Removal • Tree Trimming • Stump Grinding** in bold, dark blue text.
- All major credit cards accepted** in bold, dark blue text.
- Support your local Contractor** in bold, dark blue text.
- Call for a quote today: 262-896-9150 | [aaa-landscaping.com](http://aaa-landscaping.com)** in red italicized text.
- Essential work done while maintaining social distancing** in black italicized text.



# News Briefs

## Elm Grove Junior Guild Donates \$8,980 to the Village of Elm Grove

Defibrillators, Funds for Park Events, Fire Training, and Goats to Eat Invasive Species Among Funded Projects

By Sarah Wynia-Smith

The Elm Grove Junior Guild raises money throughout the calendar year to support many projects; November was the month to donate funds towards specific requests from the Village of Elm Grove for requests totaling \$8,980.

### \$2000 Grant - Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) for Public Use

In the case of a sudden unexpected cardiac arrest, automated defibrillators are used to revive an individual while waiting on further emergency medical support. The Village of Elm Grove requested a defibrillator for use either at the Village Park pool house or the Village Hall to use in such emergency situations. The Junior Guild granted \$2,000 towards the purchase of an AED unit.

### \$3,400 Grant - Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) for Elm Grove Police Supervisor Squad Car

Elm Grove Village Manager David DeAngelis noted, “The Police Supervisor squad car needs a new automatic external defibrillator as the old one has become obsolete. Often times the Police Sergeant / Supervisor is the primary or 2nd responding police officer to EMS calls. As has been demonstrated early defibrillation is one of the most significant medical resuscitative interventions in cardiac arrest. Elm Grove has many residents who have survived cardiac arrest because of police EMT intervention with defibrillation prior to the ambulance arrival.” This \$3,400 grant will go towards purchase of a top of the line AED for the police.

### \$580 Grant - Fire Department Training Materials

The volunteer fire department in Elm Grove graciously donates time and resources towards outreach in Elm Grove schools, preschools, and an annual open house during October’s Fire Prevention Month. While there, the firefighters distribute information about fire safety to children. These funds will purchase materials to educate our youngest citizens



about the dangers of fires.

### \$1,000 Grant - “Tunes on Tuesday” Concerts in the Park Series

A favorite annual occurrence at the Elm Grove Village Park is the “Tunes on Tuesday” series of outdoor concerts. Sometimes it feels like all of Elm Grove is in attendance! This \$1,000 grant will go towards costs associated with putting on this beloved summer music series.

### \$1,000 Grant - Movies in the Park Summer Series

In the summer, village residents get to enjoy free outdoor movies for all ages. Broadcast on an outdoor screen and accompanied by popcorn and the stars, this movie series in the past has included Disney movie favorites and great summer flicks. This \$1,000 grant will assist the recreation department in putting on this movie series.

### \$1,000 Grant - Goats for Village Park Invasive Species Control

I have intentionally saved the most interesting item for last, which is \$1,000 towards renting a pack of traveling goats to help manage invasive species in the Elm Grove Village Park. Many of us learn as children that goats will eat nearly anything, and that includes invasive plant species like buckthorn, garlic mustard, and even poison ivy! The Elm Grove Beautification Committee will use these funds to fence off an area of the park, secure the goats, and put on an event where the public can see this in action. Stay tuned for a future announcement regarding this event.



## Lights of Love Brings Funds, Festivities to the Library

By Kayte Parkin

Each December, fans and friends of the Elm Grove Public Library gather at Village Hall for the holiday tree lighting ceremony. The tree lighting is just one aspect of the annual Lights of Love fundraising campaign presented by the Friends of the Elm Grove Library (FOEGL).

This year’s Lights of Love celebration will be held from 3:30-5 p.m. on Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> and will feature indoor and outdoor events. Between 3:30-4 p.m., children are invited to drop off their letters to Santa, take a photo with him in the children’s area of the library, and color an ornament in the Community Room. Beginning at 4p.m., there will be a festive holiday story time performance by Sunset Playhouse in the O’Neill Room. Following the performance, all guests will head

outside to enjoy caroling by **Tom Leahy** and local Girl Scouts. Finally, one lucky young library patron will “flip the switch” and turn on the village tree for 2021. The tree lighting will occur at approximately 4:45 p.m.

Recently, Lights of Love has raised between \$15,000-\$20,000 each year to support the wonderful Elm Grove Library. Throughout the years, the money has been used for a variety of purposes, including an increase in the print, electronic, and audio materials at the library, adult and youth programming, specialty furnishings, and more. Donations can be dropped off at the circulation desk, made online at [friendsofelmgrovelibrary.org/lightsoflove](http://friendsofelmgrovelibrary.org/lightsoflove), or mailed to Lights of Love, PO Box 5111, Elm Grove, WI 53122.

# Read All About It!



## Library News and Programs

December 2021

13600 Juneau Blvd., Elm Grove, WI 53122  
262-782-6717 / [elmgrovelibrary.org](http://elmgrovelibrary.org)



### The Essential Christmas Carol

Wednesday, December 1, 7:00 p.m. O'Neill Room

Through storytelling and performance, author and entertainer William Pack will share the curious origins behind one of the most popular stories ever written. Then, using the 1867 Dickens script, Pack will perform an abridged reading of *A Christmas Carol* enhanced by a modern recreation of a magic lantern slideshow popular during Dickens’ lifetime. Free to attend. No registration required.



### First Friday Films / Friday, December 3, 1:00 p.m. O’Neill Room



Join us for the story of musical icon Aretha Franklin. First Friday Films is a matinee film series for adults. On the first Friday of every month, a new release movie will be screened in the O’Neill Room at 1 p.m. Popcorn and water provided. Free admission, no RSVP needed. *NOTE: The library itself will be closed 12/3 for a staff training day.*

### Annual Holiday Event for Families

Thursday, December 9, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

- Craft activities throughout the evening (5-7:30 p.m.)
- Meet-and-greet with your favorite ice Princesses presented by StoryBook Enchantments (5:30-6:30 p.m.)
- Advance registration required. Visit [elmgrovelibrary.org](http://elmgrovelibrary.org) to register. Registration deadline is December 7.



### Take Home a Binge Box Today!

Binge boxes are the newest collection at the library. They are boxed sets of four DVDs, all based around a theme. Examples include: “Spy Games” (spoof spy movies), “An Austen-tatious Affair” (Jane Austen films reimagnied), and “Italian Sojourn” (films set in Italy). Binge boxes check out for 14 days. Try one today!

# Deck the Paws

## HOLIDAY WISH LIST DRIVE FOR ELMBROOK HUMANE SOCIETY

December 6th–19th, 2021

Drop off sites are located at the Village of Elm Grove Village Hall, Library, and Police Station.

### Wish List Items

- Canned Kitten Food	- Soft Cat & Dog Treats	- Bleach
- Canned Grain Free Cat & Dog Food	- Canned Pumpkin	- Potty Pads
- Dry Puppy & Kitten Food		- Paper Toweling
		- Stamps

**elmbrook humane society**  
Friends for Life



# Young Writers & Reporters

## Christmas!

By Gus Kolbe  
4th Grade, Tondawanda

Have a holly jolly Christmas, is probably all you are hearing right now. It’s the start of December and I am so excited to put up my Christmas tree, hang up stockings, and go sledding. My dad takes me every year to go skiing and we go up and down the hills, talk on the ski lifts and just enjoy each other’s company. Christmas reminds me of why I should be happy and spread joy to everyone. But waking up on Christmas morning is my favorite part because you can smell the fresh cold breeze, see a fresh white blanket of snow outside, and smell the sweet scent of the pines on the Christmas tree. Overall, Christmas is my favorite time of the year. Happy Holidays!

## Christmas and Winter

By Mila Barian  
4th Grade -Tonawanda

Christmas is one of my favorite holidays. I am very excited to celebrate it, and I know other people celebrate Hanukkah and Kwanzaa, so happy Hanukkah and Kwanzaa. One of my favorite memories on Christmas is when we wake up and then, after we open some presents, we get some cinnamon rolls with my family. One new thing we are doing on Christmas is we go over to my grandma J’s house and we have German pancakes. We also get to see our family that lives far away. My mom’s birthday is also in December and my best friend’s birthday. We always celebrate both. I love making snowmen with my family and going sledding on the big hill at the park. Also, I can’t forget snow angels. Also, we make Christmas cookies and a gingerbread house. I love celebrating Christmas. Merry, Merry Christmas, have a wonderful winter.



## My Dog Scout

By Addy Ladwig  
4th Grade -Tonawanda

My pets are important to me, even though my dog can be naughty. For example, one morning I woke up, went downstairs to the main floor of my house, and saw my little sister’s shoes chewed up on the ground. Another time when I walked home from school and opened the door, I saw my own shoes chewed up. To add on, one day my older dog Penny was sitting on the couch when my naughty dog Scout came over and jumped over Penny. With all this evidence, this shows my dog can be a naughty dog but my pets are still important to me.

My dog Scout is funny to my family. For example, she lays on her back and rolls around if she thinks my family is mad. Another example is that she lays on her belly with her front legs out in front of her and her other legs behind her. Also, sometimes she puts her paws on my shoulders and she and I dance together. Another example is one time my family and I were sitting on the couch when we saw my dog chewing on a pillow. Then my dog looked up and saw us looking at her, and she dropped the pillow and made a suspicious face that made me and my family laugh. In summary, this shows me that my dog is funny to my family and is important to me.

## Colors

By Victoria Zheng  
8th grade - Brookfield Academy

Pink, Blue, Purple, Red, Green  
There is a whole rainbow of colors  
Each representing something different  
They are woven together  
In an absolutely magical way  
The sun shining in the center

Children play before it  
Taking awe in its beauty  
Their reflections shown  
in the water below

People walk past daily  
Never stopping to truly take in its wonder  
Or its message  
Of hope and faith

No one  
Except for me

Everyday  
I go to the same sandwich shop  
Get the same sandwich  
And sit down at the same place  
And look into the same sunset

I admire it in its full value  
I look beyond its cover  
Into its message  
Its music  
Deep within

Colors  
Filled with thought  
Beautiful  
Magical colors  
Woven together  
Into a beautiful mural

## My Mom Brings Joy in Christmas

By Brynna Dobbe  
Grade 4 - Tonawanda

My mom brings actual joy in Christmas. Many kids in the world think Christmas is about getting. But, it’s the opposite. Christmas is about giving, and my mom shows that. Just last year, my mom bought presents for children whose parents couldn’t afford them. This year, we are donating money to homeless shelters for kids who don’t get presents. She brings joy to kids who don’t always get joy. She teaches kindness. And we can be kind by doing the same thing my mom does. We are getting more and more greedy, as kids can’t wait for Christmas, not because it’s Jesus’ birthday, but because of presents. And Jesus is not being celebrated as often as Santa. And Santa does bring joy, but a greedy joy to specific kids who don’t realize they are lucky their parents can even **afford** gifts. Like toy cars for toddlers, they can’t even afford them. Almost the entire world loves kids, and others hate to see kids suffer. Because the kids have trouble getting gifts, the parents suffer to watch their kids’ sad faces as they find a rock under their tree. Christmas brings joy to all who are kind hearted, but we help those who cease to get presents every Christmas.

## Christmas

By Mady Kaiser  
4th Grade - Tonawanda

Every year, usually near the end of Christmas or even before, we go on a horse-drawn carriage. Last year a huge white horse with cherry brown speckles (flea bitten coat color) led next to a brown horse (a bay). I love horses and got a picture next to them. They are so empowering, just towering over you. After that, we eat with family and sometimes friends. Christmas is a time for us to come together and enjoy.

## What Christmas Means to Me

By Julia McWey, 4th Grade -Tonawanda

Christmas means spending time with the ones you love.  
Christmas means hanging ornaments on a tree like a dove.  
Christmas is fun and in our case not under the sun.  
So come on, go home, and chill  
And enjoy the exciting Christmas thrill.

## Interview: Ella Norvik

By Helena Holtan  
4th grade - Tonawanda

(Ella is a friend of mine and I am going to interview her today.)

Ella’s favorite color is violet because she thinks it is an awesome color and a pretty color.

Ella’s favorite holidays are Christmas and Halloween. She likes Christmas because she goes to her grandma’s house on Christmas Eve and Halloween because she likes trick or treating.

Ella’s favorite animal is a giraffe.

## Snow

By Satvik Reddy  
4th Grade - Tonawanda

Snowy day out the window.  
Never stops snowing.  
Outside it’s cold.  
Water from melted snow.  
Man cleaning the snow.  
Always a snow mountain.  
Neat and clean snow.  
Snow is the best.

## Christmas Traditions

By Isabel T.  
4th Grade -Tonawanda

Each year for Christmas we have many traditions. To start off, on the first of December my elf, Frosty, comes. My elf Frosty brings an Advent calendar that I get to open every day for the month of December. Also, Frosty will hide in a new spot everyday making me excited to wake up and see the new hiding spot. Secondly, one of the first things we do is get our Christmas tree the weekend of Thanksgiving! After we get our tree, we begin to decorate the whole house. We also decorate cookies to enjoy at our Christmas Eve dinner. Some of my favorite cookies are star shaped sugar cookies with decorative sprinkles, peanut butter balls, and gingerbread man. I decorate cookies with my two grandmas, my mom, and my two sisters. Another tradition during the holiday season is to go visit Candy Cane Lane and see all of the houses decorated. After Candy Cane Lane, we watch one of my favorite Christmas movies which is *Home Alone*. We watch this movie with a warm fire and hot cocoa! Lastly, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are filled with family and friends. With all of these traditions it makes Christmas so special.

## Santa

By Carson Gaulke  
4th Grade -Tonawanda

Snowy looking beard  
All the reindeer on the roof  
Never be naughty  
The presents are here  
Always giving gifts

## Winter

By Jacob Katula  
4th Grade -Tonawanda

Winter is a time filled with snow  
Winter is a time to say “ho ho ho”  
Winter is a time to stay warm  
Winter is a time you could get hit by a snowstorm  
Winter is a time where trees get sold  
Winter is a time where you can catch a cold  
Winter is a time to have lots of fun  
Even when it is done

## Holidays

By Lily D. - 4th grade, Tonawanda

Halls filled with decorations,  
Ornaments of different types,  
Lights on the Christmas tree,  
I know the wreaths look beautiful,  
Dreams of sugar plums,  
A little bit of magic,  
Yule logs burning in the fireplace,  
Santa comes tonight.



## My Birthday

By Mj Hoffman  
4th Grade - Tonawanda

In the winter, I have my birthday on December 2. For my birthday I get to invite a couple friends to have a sleepover. We have popcorn and we go into the basement and watch tv. But then we play games like tag hide in seek and then it is cake time. That is the most fun part because I think the cake is delicious and my friends sing happy birthday. Then we eat cake. But then my second favorite thing is presents! Because you get to open the presents from your friends and then you get to open them and play with them. And then we go in the basement and watch tv and when my parents say to turn off the tv then I grab a flashlight and we tell scary stories. Then when it’s morning we get breakfast and we play games and wait until they have to go.

## Interview: Julia McWey

By Jorja Frias  
4th Grade- Tonawanda

I interviewed my friend Julia McWey about Christmas. I asked her five questions. First, I asked her, “If you could pick one present in the world to have, what would you have?” and she said “I would have two billion fidgets.” Then, I asked her, “Would you rather spend the whole day learning about Jesus or get presents?” and she said, “I would spend the whole day learning about Jesus, but as long as I get extra presents on my birthday.” Next, I asked her, “What makes you joyful on Christmas Day?” She said, “Spending time with my family and baking/eating Christmas cookies.” Now, I asked her, “If your sisters got a piece of coal on Christmas would you share the toys that you got?” and she replied, “Yes, because I love them and even though they do some things wrong I want them to have a good Christmas.” Finally, I asked her, “If your family was having a Christmas family movie night on Christmas Eve and your sister picked out a movie that you did not want to watch, would you watch it?” She said, “Yes, I would.” Thanks so much for reading my interview about Julia McWey.



# Legal Issues

## Buying Investment Real Estate – How to Protect Your Personal Assets

By Attorney Elisa M. Ruer (262) 269-9140

When you purchase a piece of real estate for investment purposes to rent, to flip, or to use as a vacation or second home, you should purchase the property using a Limited Liability Company in order to protect the other assets you own.

Yes, owning a property in the name of a Limited Liability Company has costs.

- Filing fee for the Articles of Organization in Wisconsin \$130.00
- Annual Report Filing in Wisconsin \$50.00
- Legal Fees to prepare an Operating Agreement (less than you are probably thinking)
- Filing of a separate tax return every year
- Separate insurance policy
- Increased interest rate (as rates are higher for investment property as opposed to homestead)

Yet, those costs are far less than the risk you have to your personal assets if you

don't purchase using a Limited Liability Company.

Example: If you rent the property to a third party and someone slips and falls, you will most likely have enough insurance in place to satisfy the amount due as determined by the parties involved, and/or the court if the matter were to go to trial. However, what if a horrific fire takes place and lives are lost, will you have enough insurance coverage? If not, if you own the property in your name, then all assets in your name (personal assets) are free for the taking. Whereas, if the property is owned by the Limited Liability Company, only the assets of that Limited Liability Company are available for the taking – which would be just that one single property.

Chances are low -but, depending on your risk tolerance, and your personal assets, you may want to consider owning any property, other than your homestead, in a Limited Liability Company.

### LAW OFFICES OF ISABELL M. MUELLER

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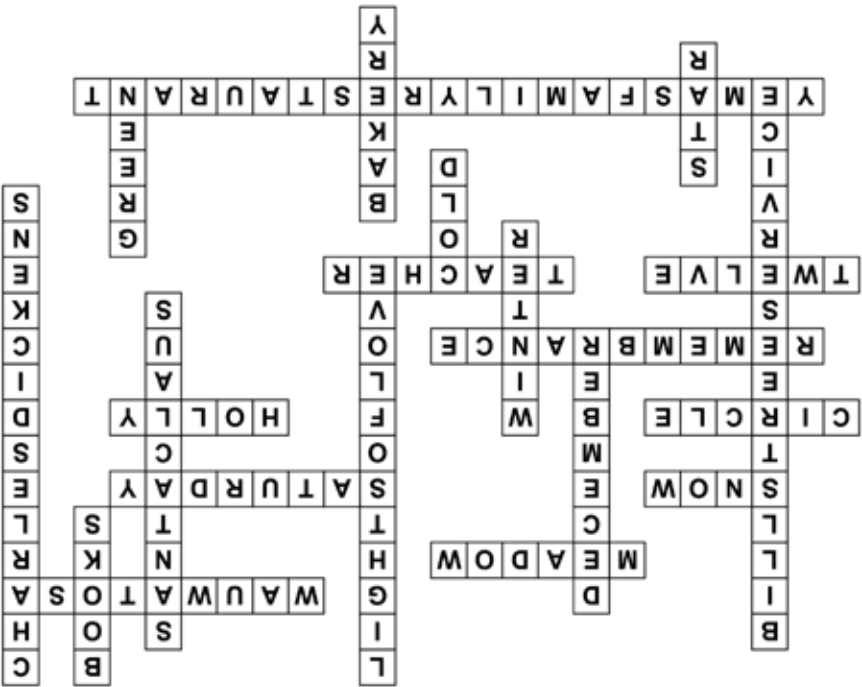
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## Announcements / Greetings

**Happy Birthday, Jody!**  
**Happy Birthday, Chris!**



Solution:

# 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: EGNI, Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 372, Elm Grove, WI 53122-0372.
- E-mail: [elmgrovenews@yahoo.com](mailto:elmgrovenews@yahoo.com) (subject line: Letters to the Editor)

## Road Repair Appreciated

So many of our roads have crumbled over time. So, I'm delighted with how well our road fixers can handle this! A big job!

Along North Avenue especially --- from West to East (Brookfield to Wauwatosa) our roads are being fixed even as people are still allowed travel on them. How well those Road Workers have figured this out!

Those roads recently turned smooth through their road workers. It looks like we end up with two smooth roads going in both directions, plus sidewalks along both edges.

Another Blessing --- Road Workers --- Thanks!

**Doris Kaun**  
Elm Grove

# Community Wish Lists

## The FOOD Pantry Serving Waukesha County

Donations can be dropped off at the Food Pantry, 1301 Sentry Drive, Waukesha, 53186. Donations by check are also welcome. Call (262) 542-5300. Top of Form

Hosting a food drive with your congregation, school, community group, neighborhood, or workplace is easy to do and makes a big impact. Call the Food Resource Manager at (262) 522-2374.

- **Donation Hours:** Mon. – Fri., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Additional evening hours: Thur., 5 to 8 p.m.; Sat., 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- **Service Hours:** Mon. – Fri., 1 – 3 p.m.; Additional evening hours: Thursday, 6 to 8 p.m.; Sat., 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

# Coloring for Kids (and Adults)!





# News Briefs



Photo courtesy: Brookfield Academy

The Brookfield Academy boys and girls cross country teams have been doing well. In mid-October, the boys won their first conference title since 2008 and the girls team had a strong second place finish.

Read  
Current  
&  
past editions  
of the  
*Elm Grove  
News-Independent*  
at  
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Photo courtesy: Brookfield Academy

Veterans who are members of the local non-profit organization, War Dogs, visited Brookfield Academy and shared their stories with students.

## Brookfield Academy Observes Veterans’ Day

By Melissa Eriksen

Veterans’ Day was a true celebration at Brookfield Academy. Special assemblies were held in the Primary and Lower School, Middle School, and Upper School. **Jeff Rauh**, a Brookfield Academy alumnus and veteran, spoke to parents and Lower School students. **Mrs. Kathleen Grasse** who served with the United States Air Force addressed the BA Middle School

students, and the organization War Dogs visited the Upper School. The War Dogs organization works to educate individuals in our community about the important role dogs have played in supporting our military over the years. They brought several dogs representative of the breeds that most commonly work in these types of positions.

## B.E.H.S. Women’s Swimming & Diving Team State Champions, Again

(BROOKFIELD) On November 13, the Brookfield East Girls Swimming and Diving Team won their third straight Division 1 state championship. The girls won a total of nine events and swept all three relays, breaking five state records in the process.

This year’s event was held at Waukesha South where the Spartans won the title with a margin of 40.5 points over Arrowhead. Sophomore **Maggie Wanezek’s** performance in the 100 Yard Backstroke with a time of 51.59 set a state record in the event and is the #1 time in the country this season. In addition, senior **Abby Wanezek** broke her own state record in the 50 Yard Freestyle with a time of 22.54 and also took home the 100 Yard Freestyle with a time of 49.35. A record time of 1:31.13 was set by the 200 Yard Freestyle Relay swimmers

**Abby Wanezek, Audrey Olen, Reese Tiltmann and Lucy Thomas.** Second fastest event times in the country and state records were set by junior **Lucy Thomas** in the 100 Yard Breaststroke with a time of 1:00.00; and the 400 Yard Freestyle Relay team of **Abby Wanezek, Audrey Olen, Reese Tiltmann, and Maggie Wanezek** with a time of 3:19.32. **Lucy Thomas** (200 Yard Freestyle) and **Reese Tiltmann** (500 Yard Freestyle) also took home individual golds.

Other top state performances were **Audrey Olen**, 5th in the 200 and 6th in the 100 free; **Callie Gregg**, 15th in the 100 breast and 22nd in the 200 individual medley; **Clara Newman**, 16th in diving; **Paris Fullerton**, 16th in the 100 fly and 20th in the 100 back; and **Kamryn Dembny**, 17th in the 100 fly and 100 back.



Photo by Danielle Mathai

FIELD TRIP: Great Harvest bakery owner **Lance Van Der Ploeg** (at left) poses with members of St. Mary’s Visitation’s third grade Brownie troop #1313 during their visit on November 6.



Photo courtesy: School District of Elmbrook

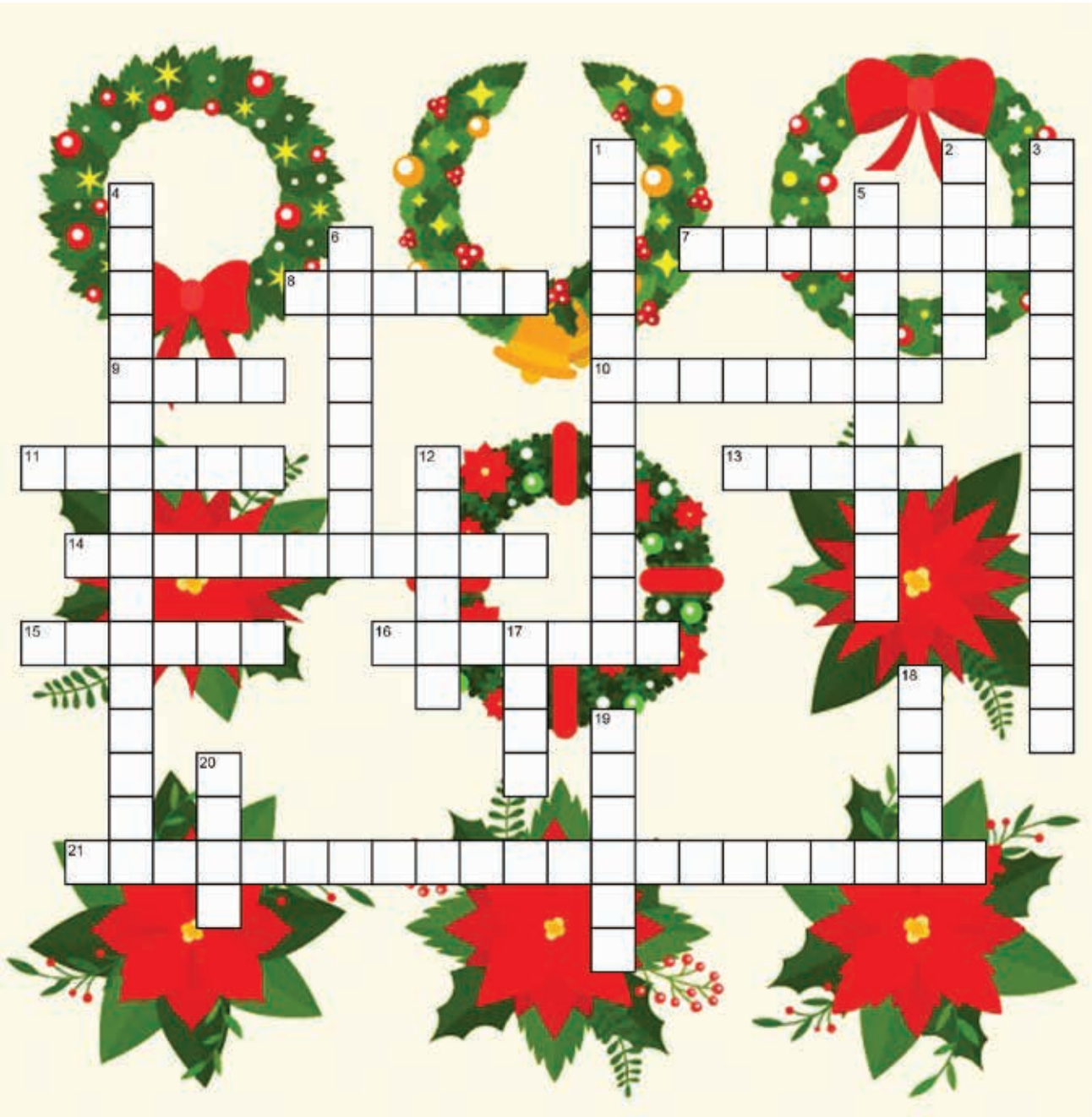
A colorful aquarium inhabited by several fish + Sponge Bob Square Pants is enjoyed by students, staff, and visitors at Fairview South School in Brookfield.





# Community Crossword #18

By Lisabeth Passalis-Bain / [elmgrovenews@yahoo.com](mailto:elmgrovenews@yahoo.com)



- ACROSS**
- 7. Community east of Elm Grove
  - 8. Green \_\_\_\_\_ Place (Elm Grove street)
  - 9. Crystals of ice formed from the vapor of water in the air
  - 10. Day of the week that Christmas will be celebrated this year
  - 11. Victoria \_\_\_\_\_, North & South (Elm Grove streets)
  - 13. \_\_\_\_\_ hock Lane in Elm Grove
  - 14. December 7<sup>th</sup> is Pearl Harbor \_\_\_\_\_ Day (See Calendar – Page 5)
  - 15. Number of *News-Independent* editions published each year
  - 16. School instructor
  - 21. New eatery at 890 Elm Grove Road (See Page 1) (3 words)

- DOWN**
- 1. Friends of the Elm Grove Library event on December 5<sup>th</sup> (3 words)
  - 2. Check these out at the Library
  - 3. Author of “A Christmas Carol” (2 words)
  - 4. Business (on Page 4) offering a Winter Discount (3 words)
  - 5. He says “Ho! Ho! Ho!” and brings gifts on his sleigh (2 words)
  - 6. The 12<sup>th</sup> month of the year
  - 12. December 21st is the first day of this season. (Bundle up!)
  - 17. Opposite of “hot”
  - 18. Combine red and blue to make this color
  - 19. Buy cakes, cookies, bread, etc. there
  - 20. Place this 5-pointed item on the top of a Christmas tree

SOLUTION: PAGE 10



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**Sendik's / Elliott's Ace hardware / Yemas Family Restaurant**

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