



Elm Grove NEWS-

INDEPENDENT



Vol. 9 No. 2

Serving Elm Grove, Wisconsin & Neighboring Communities

April 2021

Freedom of the Press is Essential. Community News Matters.



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

A panoramic view of Elm Grove Village Park on a tranquil autumn day.

Elm Grove to Host **Earth Day, Arbor Day** Activities at Village Park

By Anne Spaltholz

Celebrate planet Earth and Arbor Day on Saturday, April 24, with several activities in the Elm Grove Village Park for people of all ages. It's the fun, outdoor activity we all have been waiting for after a chilling and COVID-restricted winter.

At your leisure, take a stroll along the walking path surrounding the pond and pause to read chalked information on the path about birds, trees, nature, bees, and more. Learn even more while challenging yourself with geocaching throughout the park. Information for the caches will be available on the Elm Grove Beautification

Committee section of the Village website (www.elmgrovetwi.org) by April 22 and available at the event on April 24.

Hoppe Tree Service will host a Kids Climb event. Enjoy story time and crafts at the Elm Grove Public Library. Bring your unwanted broken crayons; they will be collected and recycled.

Help expose the park's beautiful native plantings by helping pull garlic mustard from 10 to 11 a.m. Meet at the path entrance near the Monarch Waystation bed where informational booths will be set up.

Most other events run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. throughout the Village Park and at the library. Stop by the information booths hosted by the **Elm Grove Beautification Committee, Elm Grove Green Team, Brookfield East SEED Club, Invasive Species Task Force, Waste Not Composting** and Village Forester Ron Hill. All events are **FREE** with no registration required.

Contact: egbeautification@gmail.com with questions or for more information.

ELECTION

April 6, 2021

See Sample Ballot – Page 3





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Photographer / Photo Editor

James L. W. Bain

Production & Distribution Assistant

Christos Passalis-Bain

Web Designer / Webmaster

Nicholas Passalis-Bain

Production Artist

Chaysze Zee

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"I Know Where You Live!"



Elisabeth Passalis-Bain

Take care.

Stay Well!



Coming in our May 2021 edition...

A ‘Remember Our Veterans’ Section

Memorial Day is May 31, 2021.

To Remember & Honor Veterans, the **NEWS-INDEPENDENT** invites readers to submit a statement (50 words max.) about an individual who served our Country (you, a relative or friend) during a past war / conflict or in peacetime, including those who are now serving in the military and those who are deceased. Please include the person’s name, branch of service, rank, years and places served. A high-resolution photo head shot (in or out of uniform) is also welcome. E-mail items to: elmgrovenews@yahoo.com or mail to: P.O. Box 372, Elm Grove, WI 53122. We will include as many items as space permits. Call (262) 782-6193 with questions / comments.



Photo courtesy of the Sternitzky family

Gathered at Elm Grove Village Park are **Nate Carlstrom, Julian Favreau, Kimberly Hazelwood, Caden Sykora, Ariana Sykora, Will Turner, Veronica Turner, Anne Spaltholz, Amy Forecki, Nicci Sternitzky, Nelson Williams, Katy Williams, and Chris Turner.**

Local Residents Help with Village Park Clean Up

By Nicci Sternitzky

The local Boy and Girl Scout troops, Brookfield East High School (BEHS) SEED Club, Elm Grove Beautification Committee, Elm Grove Green Team, and friends all joined forces on a beautiful spring day, March 21st, 2021, to pick up all of the trash around the ponds in anticipation of the upcoming prescribed prairie burn.

Trash pick-up participants not pictured above include **Langston Ford, Drew Sternitzky, Deb, Will, and Vera Baesemann; Mark Ehlinger; Annie, Mila, and Arie Barian; Lyndley Annie, Theo, and Molly Woodd; Katy, Richard, Ben, Jack, and Brooks Edwards; Jodi, Mike, Joey, Susie, Rosie, and Bobby Perrone; and Stella Williams.**

SSND to Present Earth Day Event Via Zoom

(ELM GROVE) April 22 is Earth Day! The School Sisters of Notre Dame’s Shalom North America office has invited **Sister Sharon Zayac, OP**, to share a special contemplative reflection to celebrate Earth.

“Journey to the Heart: Falling in Love with Earth” will consider the question: What does Earth yearn for us to experience in all her myriad voices?

The presentation will take place on April 22, 2021 from 2 to 3 p.m. CT via Zoom.

Link: <https://zoom.us/j/94793163760>.

No advance registration is required.

Sharon Zayac is a Dominican Sister of Springfield, Illinois. She is co-founder of Jubilee Farm, her congregation’s 164-acre center for ecology and spirituality, just west of Springfield. In 2001, Sharon received a Masters of Earth Literacy from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College in Indiana, becoming that program’s first graduate. Sharon writes, speaks, and leads retreats on ecology, spirituality, Laudato Si’, and the climate crisis. She has a particular passion for sharing the Cosmic Creation Story and its implications for life and faith.

For additional details visit: ssnd.org/events/earthday21/.

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Letters to the Editor

News Briefs

- 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: 250 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 (subject line: Letters to the Editor)

In Appreciation

Heartfelt thanks to Dr. Jon Robinson, Director of the Village EMS, and the generous volunteers who assisted in providing COVID vaccines to eligible Elm Grove residents.

The process, which was extremely well organized and conducted, filled a vital role in providing easy access to residents over 65, in healthcare, or public service.

This is yet another shining example,

reflective of the quality of life and services offered in our Village.

While the past year has presented the world with fear, uncertainty, change, and many challenges -- it is a source of great comfort to be a part of a community that can be counted on to assist in vital areas.

Darlene Rose
Elm Grove

Vote for Tom Michalski, Village Trustee

I am proud to support Tom Michalski in his fifth bid to serve as Elm Grove Village Trustee. It is this simple: Elm Grove needs Tom, and I am asking you to vote for him April 6.

Tom has the experience, drive and selfless ability to put the needs of the community first. As a former Trustee, I have seen Tom work tirelessly on several issues, including the Juneau pathway (and other pathway/safety issues in Elm Grove), Reinders and SSND developments as well as leading annual personnel reviews of our village staff. For me, there is no doubt that Tom’s attention to detail on these and other issues has helped improve and advance the quality of life that we as residents have all enjoyed.

For the past five years, Tom has also served as Waukesha County Supervisor. I don’t believe we have ever had a Trustee serve as Supervisor. Because of

his role as Supervisor, Tom was able to secure a \$100,000 grant from the State to cover a portion of the Watertown Plank bridge’s cost—a direct savings to Elm Grove taxpayers! In addition, the Sisters of Notre Dame were able to get COVID-19 vaccinations weeks before they were eligible. Tom also helped save an Elm Grove family’s home when it was scheduled to be demolished for the County’s North Avenue project.

As you can see, Tom cares deeply about our Village. As Trustee, he has proven to be a good listener, makes thorough and thoughtful inquiries, and helps whenever he is able.

Please vote for Tom Michalski April 6.

Patty Kujawa
Village Trustee, 2011 – 2019
Elm Grove

Driver Cards for People Who Are Undocumented Belong in the Proposed State Budget

(EDITOR’S NOTE: The School Sisters of Notre Dame are members of the WISDOM organization: www.wisdomwisconsin.org and Sisters are on the Immigration Task Force.)

Driver Cards for people who don’t have proper documents is not just good policy: it has fiscal impact and included in the state budget. Fees from cards issued by the DOT generate income. The state’s Division of Executive Budget analysis determined in 2015 that allowing for driver cards will increase state revenue by \$3,000,000. Additionally, it will boost the broader economy by purchase of car insurance and other related expenses.

being able to get to jobs; being afraid to drive children to doctor appointments; cars impounded for driving without a license; being deported for having done so.

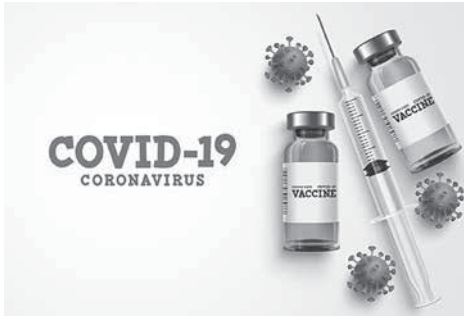
There is no reason for this. It is cruel. People without documents drive the economy in Wisconsin. They work, even without proper documentation. Undocumented immigrants in Wisconsin paid an estimated \$101.1 million in state and local taxes in 2018. People without documents provide the unseen labor that makes life more enjoyable. They are 11 million strong in this country. Their U.S. born children are growing up, and watching, and they will be voting.

Members of the Joint Finance Committee should do the right thing. They should make sure Driver Cards stays in the 2021-23 budget.

Sister Barbara Pfarr, SSND
Elm Grove

Update: Waukesha County COVID-19 Cases

*Source: www.waukeshacounty.gov



As of March 22, 2021, Waukesha Co. had recorded a total of 41,668 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 498 deaths.

- *ELM GROVE: 559 confirmed cases
- *CITY OF BROOKFIELD: 3,652 cases
- *TOWN OF BROOKFIELD: 590 cases
- *NEW BERLIN: 3,997 cases
- *CITY OF WAUKESHA: 8,075 cases
- *VILLAGE of MENOMONEE FALLS 3,811 cases

**** Sign up to receive a **weekly Waukesha County COVID-19 newsletter** with vaccination updates (who’s eligible now / next; how to get vaccinated; tracking vaccinations countywide and more). www.waukeshacounty.gov

***** Election: April 6, 2021*****
Elm Grove Village President, Trustee Candidates Forums Held at Village Hall

By **Lisabeth Passalis-Bain** / elmgrovenews@yahoo.com

The Elm Grove Junior Guild recently hosted two Candidates Forums to offer residents a chance to compare the views of candidates for Village President and the Board of Trustees. The first event, held on March 24, gave current Village President **Neil Palmer** and challenger **Mary Inden**, a former Trustee, the opportunity to explain their positions on various community issues and topics of interest.

Trustee candidates **John Den Boer**, **Katy Cornell** (incumbent), **Tom Michalski** (incumbent), **Kristina Sayas**, **Jennifer Stuckert**, and **Ted Wentzel** were invited to participate in a similar Forum on March 25.

Both free, public Forums, moderated by Elm Grove Junior Guild President **Sarah Wynia-Smith**, were live streamed via the Village website.

Those interested in watching a recording of the events can do so by visiting [Facebook.com/elmgrovejuniorguild](https://facebook.com/elmgrovejuniorguild) for details. Check the Village website: www.elmgrovewi.org for additional Election information.

Official Ballot
Nonpartisan Office
April 6, 2021

HC 69

Notice to voters: if you are voting on Election Day, your ballot must be initialed by two (2) election inspectors. If you are voting absentee, your ballot must be initialed by the municipal clerk or deputy clerk. Your ballot may not be counted without initials (See end of ballot for initials).

General Instructions

Judicial

If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, ask an election inspector for help (absentee voters: contact your municipal clerk).

To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this: ●

To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked "write-in" and fill in the oval next to the name like this: ●

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

State Superintendent
Vote for 1

☐ Jill Underly

☐ Deborah Kerr

☐ write-in:

Circuit Court Judge, Branch 10
Vote for 1

☐ Paul Bugenhagen Jr.

☐ write-in:

Municipal

Village President
Vote for 1

☐ Mary Inden

☐ Neil Palmer

☐ write-in:

Village Trustee
Vote for not more than 3

☐ John Den Boer

☐ Thomas Michalski

☐ Jennifer Stuckert

☐ Katy Cornell

☐ Ted Wentzel

☐ Kristina Sayas

☐ write-in:

☐ write-in:

☐ write-in:

Judicial

Court of Appeals Judge,
District 2
Vote for 1

☐ Jeffrey Davis

☐ Shelley Grogan

☐ write-in:

Circuit Court Judge, Branch 7
Vote for 1

☐ Maria S. Lazar

☐ write-in:

Circuit Court Judge, Branch 8
Vote for 1

☐ Michael P. Maxwell

☐ write-in:

Circuit Court Judge, Branch 9
Vote for 1

☐ Michael J. Aprahamian

☐ write-in:

School District

Elmbrook School District
School Board Member, Area IV
Seat
Vote for 1

☐ Jean Lambert

☐ write-in:

Elmbrook School District
School Board Member,
At-Large Seat
Vote for 1

☐ James Thomas Gunsalus

☐ Mushir Hassan

☐ write-in:

Continue voting at top of next column.

Past Times



St. Mary's Orphanage, Elm Grove, Wis.



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St. Mary’s Orphanage

By Michele Levandoski / mlevandoski@ssnd.org
Archivist, School Sisters of Notre Dame North American Archives

In June 1859, an infant named **Mary Ryan** was the first child admitted to St. Mary’s Orphanage in Elm Grove, Wisconsin. Her mother died in childbirth and her father died shortly after. The orphanage, operated by the School Sisters of Notre Dame, housed and educated hundreds of girls until it closed in 1940.

St. Mary’s Orphanage only accepted girls and there were rarely more than 50 children at any given time. Many of the girls who came to the orphanage had lost both parents, but others had at least one living parent. In these instances, a single parent would place their daughter with the Sisters because they were unable to find anyone to care for the child while they were at work.

There is little information about what life was like at the orphanage prior to the 1920s, except for the occasional mention in the convent chronicle. In April 1877 there was a smallpox outbreak in the orphanage. The sick were separated from the healthy

and the slits in the sickroom doors were stuffed with rags. Only Sisters who had smallpox were allowed to work as nurses and little bags filled with camphor were worn to prevent the spread of the disease. Despite these precautions, 18 children, two babies, two candidates and two Sisters got sick. Everyone recovered, except for one of the infants.

Accounts from girls who lived at the orphanage in the 1920s and 1930s describe structured lives that were regulated by prayer, school, housework and play. The girls wore matching dresses, all had the same Buster Brown haircut and each was given a number which was sewn into all of her clothes.

The girls attended Mass daily and school during the week. The rest of their time was filled with chores and play. The girls did a variety of chores around the orphanage, including cleaning, working in the kitchen, laundry, ironing, helping on the farm, sorting apples, darning socks,

GUARDIAN ANGEL ORPHANAGE 1936

Daily Life at the Orphanage

6:30 Rising.
6:50 Morning Prayers.
7:00 Holy Mass followed by breakfast.
8:00 Domestic Duties.
8:45 Call for School — Interrupted by 15 minutes recess at 10:00.
11:30 Noon Dismissal.
11:45 Lunch.
1:00 Back to School.
3:30 Dismissal.
4:00-5:00 Supervised Study Period.
5:00 Dinner.
5:30-7:00 Recreation spent out-of-doors if possible.
7:00-8:30 Needlework — Stocking Darning — Mending — Reading.
8:30 Rosary-Night Prayers and by 9:00 all lights out.

The younger girls turn in earlier — whilst our High School Students have longer hours — but 9:30 finds them all enroute to bed.

Saturday's Routine is somewhat varied — we have no regular Daily order as each Saturday brings different duties and with them different hours. On Saturdays we rise an hour later and retire after "Perpetual Help" Devotions which is usually 7:30. We are happy to—for Saturday is a hard day. It's wash day, mangling day — ironing day and extra cleaning day.

Sunday finds us up at 6:40 and in the Chapel for Holy Communion at 7:15. After breakfast we have High Mass, Sermon and Benediction at 8:30, the 2nd and 4th Sunday we have vespers at 4:00 p.m. From 10:00-11:00 we have study period, the rest of the day is ours. We have Sodality Meeting—Mission Prospect Works, etc.

OUR SOCIETIES

The Blessed Virgin Sodality. We belong to the Prima-Marianum. Our officers for the year 1936-1937 are:

Prefect	Margaret Zimmer
Vice-Prefect	Silvia Branski
Secretary	Ruth Kearns
Librarian	Kathryn Harden
Banner Carrier	Gloria Genzmer

They hold meetings the first Sunday of each month preceded by the recitation of the Blessed Virgin's Office. They have their Communion that same Sunday. Members led in by banner and wearing the medal. The 3rd Sunday of month they sponsor some social activity for the Sisters of the Marianum members are all H. S. S. and 7 and 8th grade girls, their principal feast is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on which day they have reception into the Sodality. St. Agnes is the second patron. The officers and others attend the regional meetings of Sodalities in Milwaukee.

GUARDIAN ANGEL SOCIETY

Members—all 3, 4, 5, 6 grades who have made their first Holy Communion. Second Sunday is G. A. Sunday—lead in with banner wearing badges. Meetings also held. Members take charge of the entertainment of girls for different occasions.

President Lorraine Meier
Secretary Juanita Hernandez
Banner Carrier Annie Troontino
Vice President Jeanette Roebel

H. S. S.—6, 7, 8 grade girls. Object: To foster love for the Missions. Girls make Purificators, Chalice Cloths, etc. Take part in activities of the Senior League—"Christ the King" their Patron.

President Silvia Schaezner
Secretary Madeline Zimmer
Vice President Helen Whalen
Constitution same as those of Senior League.
Third Sunday of the month is Mission Sunday.
3, 4, 5 grades belong to the Holy Childhood Sodality.

HAND MAIDS

4th Sunday of the month. All girls are members. They keep Vigil before the Blessed Sacrament on Holy Thursday. The fourth Sunday of the month they take turns in Sentinel Duty from 10:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Birthdays are celebrated once a month. The hand maids take it upon themselves to entertain the groups among themselves. All Saints Day is a big day for all the girls as they all have Name day on that day.

OUT-DOOR ACTIVITIES

Among the out-door activities we count tennis, roller skating, baseball, croquet. Hikes are also very frequent. Sand boxes, swings, teeter totters are among the playground equipments. Once a week if possible we go to the lake for a swim. This is always a big day as it means the packing of dinner and supper lunch, a long ride in the truck, swimming, wading and lots of other fun.

The first week of vacation we begin our out-door life which means meals in the open. Breakfast, dinner and supper are taken in our out-door dining room. A screened pavilion is on our playgrounds. Meals are brought from the main kitchen via the coaster also our water for dishwashing. Rain or shine finds us outside as we have more than one pavillion under which we seek shelter. Our sewing and mending is done outside too. The girls take turns in helping in the garden, hot house and all around.

During the winter they go sleigh riding, ice skating and out for brisk hikes. Indoors—they have ping pong, volley ball, bad minton, hop scotch, etc. The little ones have their doll-buggies, play house, etc. Different games for both in and out-of-doors—progressive games, table games.

They also have quite a nice library and this last year we've been trying to open class room library

running errands and even operating the switchboard. Sunday was the only chore-free day.

The family room was outfitted as a playroom with games and toys. In the evening, the girls would gather in their pajamas to listen to stories. Four times a year they were shown a movie. There was also a playhouse, a swing set, slide and tennis court on the grounds.

The Sisters found ways to make things special for the children. In the summers, the girls spent time at **Archbishop Samuel Stritch’s** summer home on Okauchee Lake and in the winter, the girls would take sleigh rides. The Sisters especially went out of their way to make Christmas special by decorating a large tree in the family room and laying out gifts for each girl.

In 1923, the orphanage at Elm Grove was licensed under the name Guardian Angels Orphanage. At the same time it became affiliated with the Catholic Social

Welfare Bureau, which meant that it fell under the direction of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

In 1940, the Archdiocese consolidated orphanages and the children at Guardian Angels to other orphanages, boarding houses or home to relatives. The last four girls left Elm Grove on August 16 and the orphanage was officially closed.

Sister Eustace Roy, who worked at the orphanage for several years, wrote the following: “The dispersion was painful. The social worker took some to their destination. Some were taken by me. Day by day the number grew smaller until no one was left. Once settled in their new home the girls were happy. By the end of June, 1940, no children could be heard at play, no children’s voices could be heard in the choir. We missed them, of course, but the change was beneficial for them.”

Classifieds

Listings are **\$25 per issue (up to 20 words)** + 50 cents for each additional word.
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A Reflection: How I Became a Sister

By Sister Judy Fleisner, SSND

I became a certified nursing assistant after high school. I worked at the hospital on the orthopedic unit. I belonged to a prayer group for college age people. One evening we were discussing what we wanted to do with our lives. I shared that I wanted to help people, maybe as a missionary. The sister in charge of the group said there were lay missionaries. Then she looked at me and asked, “Why don’t you become a sister?” I looked at her and said, “Me a nun? Yah right!” I thought to myself, “No way!”

I went home that night and prayed. “God, I want your will for my life, but in this I have to say no.” I couldn’t get this thought out of my mind so I talked with another sister. She told me there was a

weekend gathering for women thinking about becoming sisters. It was the next weekend. I told her I had to work that weekend. She encouraged me to see if I could trade weekends with someone. I went home and again prayed. “God, I’ll ask one person to work for me. If she says yes, I’ll go. If not forget it.” I went to work the next day and asked Rita if she could trade weekends to work with me. She said, “I’d love to.” I was shocked. So, I went to the gathering for women interested in being sisters. It was held at the motherhouse in Mequon, Wisconsin. I enjoyed it and thought I could do this.

The rest is history. I became a sister in 1987. I am so happy I did.

Calendar of Events – April 2021

Friday – APRIL 2 GOOD FRIDAY

- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Zoom
Online Program: Mike Hogan, “Spikes Kickoff”.
Contact: markzalewski8803@gmail.com
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
- **Elm Grove Kiwanis – Golden K Club**
Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
Speaker: Nola Hitchcock Cross, attorney. Topic: “General Healthcare Fraud”. kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Sunday – APRIL 4 EASTER



Tuesday – APRIL 6 SPRING ELECTION

- **Elm Grove residents VOTE**
7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Village Hall

- **Versiti Blood Center BLOOD DRIVE**
3 to 7 p.m. at Dixon Elementary School, 2400 Pilgrim Square Drive, Brookfield.
To make an appointment, call (262) 785-3970 or visit: bit.ly/dixonelementary040621.

- ## Friday – APRIL 9
- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Zoom Online
Program: Rick Harnish, “High Speed Rail Alliance”
Contact: markzalewski8803@gmail.com
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis – Golden K Club**
Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
Speaker: Dr. Justin Peterson, D.O. Topic: “Hip and Knee Pain Solutions”.
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Thursday – APRIL 15

- **Elm Grove Plan Commission**
Meeting: 6 to 8 p.m. at Village Hall Court Room.

- ## Friday – APRIL 16
- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Zoom Online
Program: Lane Grindle, “Milwaukee Brewers”
Contact: markzalewski8803@gmail.com
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis – Golden K Club**
Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
Speaker: Mark Hansen, Elmbrook Superintendent of Schools. Topic: “Annual School District Update”
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

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Thursday – APRIL 22 EARTH DAY



- ## Friday – APRIL 23
- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Zoom Online
Program: Dan Jongetjes, “Single Stream Recycling—How It Works and Where It All Goes”
Contact: markzalewski8803@gmail.com
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>

- **Elm Grove Kiwanis – Golden K Club**
Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
Speaker: “Mr. Eddie Daniel, Preserve Our Parks.
Topic: “A Wealth of Nature”
kiwaniselmgrove@gmail.com

Saturday – APRIL 24

- **Elm Grove Beautification Committee Earth Day / Arbor Day celebration** at Village Park.
(See story – Page 1)

- ## Monday – APRIL 26
- **Elm Grove Board of Trustees**
Meeting – 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall
Agenda: www.elmgrovetribe.org
Watch via Live Stream at:
<https://elmgrovetribe.org>

- ## Tuesday – APRIL 27
- **Elm Grove Plan Commission**
Meeting: 6 to 8 p.m. at Village Hall Court Room.

- ## Friday – APRIL 30
- **Elmbrook Rotary Club**
Meeting: 7:00-8:00 a.m.—Zoom Online
Program: Beth Dobrzynski; Topic: “Elmbrook Education Foundation”
Contact: markzalewski8803@gmail.com
<http://www.elmbrookrotary.org>
 - **Elm Grove Kiwanis – Golden K Club**
Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
Speaker: Jim Hahn, astronomy buff.
Topic: “The Milky Way; The Galaxy We Call Home”.
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VISION

- ★ Transparent and open local government
- ★ Common sense economic development
- ★ Preserving the unique village character

LOCAL INVOLVEMENT

- ★ Vice-President, Elm Grove Community Foundation
- ★ Chair, Elm Grove Oktoberfest
- ★ Elmbrook Rotary

CONTACT

- ★ Website: www.tedwentzel.com
- ★ Social: facebook.com/tedwentzel
- ★ Email: tedforelmgrove@gmail.com



“I am passionately committed to serving the Village of Elm Grove and look forward to what our community can achieve together.”

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Clubs & Organizations



Scouts pose for a group photo at their Arrow of Light ceremony. (Top Row - left to right) **Connor Dodd, Jose Frias Jr., Xander Matola, Julian Anchor, and William Turner** (Bottom Row – Left to right) **Isabella Radomski, Cole Fuchs, Charlie Dworak, and Dylan Gaulke.**

Cub Scouts Hold Arrow of Light Ceremony

By Chris Turner

At 6 p.m. on Saturday, February 27, Pack 156 crossed over eight boys and one girl to Scouts BSA Troops 156B and 156G. The Arrow of Light ceremony took place at the Elm Grove Woman’s Club.

The scouts completed their Arrow of Light, which is the culmination of many years in cub scouts and allows the scout to be welcomed into Scouts BSA before completing 5th Grade.

Crossing over scouts were **Isabella Radomski, Julian Anchor, Connor Dodd, Charlie Dworak, Cole Fuchs, Dylan Gaulke, Jose Frias Jr., Xander Matola and William Turner.**

The scouts look forward to starting with the Troop and especially going to Summer Camp at Long Lake.

Cubmaster **Chris Turner** and Den Leader **Bob Dodd** passed the torch to the Pack’s new Cubmaster, **Ben Pliske.**

Interested in scouting?, Please



Isabella Radomski

contact **Ben Pliske**, benpliskie@gmail.com (for Grades K-5) or **John Kuenzle**, scoutmaster@pactroop156.org (for 6th Grade and above).

Elmbrook Alumni Network Established

(BROOKFIELD) Alumni from both Brookfield Central and Brookfield East High School are invited to join the Elmbrook Schools Alumni Network.

The platform allows graduates to reconnect with their classmates, find information on upcoming reunions, share interests and memories, and much more. Through the Alumni Network platform, graduates will have unique and exclusive give-back opportunities such as mentoring students or career speaking opportunities. Registered alums will also receive exclusive quarterly eNewsletters with District updates, news, and upcoming events.



Alumni can sign up via e-mail or by using the social sync option, allowing those interested to easily connect through Facebook or LinkedIn accounts, keeping profiles up-to-date and contact information private.

Help build a network of Elmbrook Alumni across the globe - sign up now at alumni.elmbrookschoools.org.



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2021-2022 Rotary Global Grant Scholar Announced

By Larry Myers

Rotary International (RI) District 6270 is pleased to announce the selection of **Alaina Eckert**, Sussex, Wisconsin, as its Global Grant Scholarship applicant for 2021-2022. She was referred as a candidate by the Elmbrook Rotary Club.

Ms. Eckert is a graduate of Sussex Hamilton H.S. and of The University of Wisconsin—Madison. She has already begun a dual degree, Master of Science/Master of International Nature Conservation, in a cooperative program of the Georg-August Universität in Göttingen, Germany, and Lincoln University in Lincoln, New Zealand.

The practical approach of the program is to preserve the integrity of nature, in combination with the assessment of risk management and conservation strategy, and offers an invaluable experience in the education of international conservation. The four-semester program offers new perspectives to maintaining biodiversity and ecosystems that allow local communities to be resilient to future ecological changes, maintain economic stability and growth, use adaptive conservation management strategies for both the betterment of the community and the ecosystem, and preserve critical ecological systems. Thus, Ms. Eckert’s program of studies aligns with RI’s newest Area of Focus, “Environment,” which becomes effective on July 1, 2021.



Alaina Eckert

The amount of the Global Grant Scholarship is U.S. \$30,000. RI District 6270 is providing \$16,667 of that amount, and The Rotary Foundation is matching it with another \$13,333. The Rotary Foundation, RI districts, and Rotary clubs invest in our future leaders and philanthropists by funding scholarships for graduate study through the Global Grant Scholarship program.

Information about Rotary’s scholarship programs can be accessed at: <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/scholarships>.

Information about the Rotary Peace Fellowships, the most prestigious and most generous fellowships in the world, can be viewed at: <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/peace-fellowships>.

Elm Grove Junior Guild Announces 2021 Scholarship Essay Contest

(ELM GROVE) Students who will graduate from high school in June 2021 and reside in the Elmbrook School District or attend Brookfield Central or Brookfield East High School are eligible to enter the Elm Grove Junior Guild’s (EGJG) annual essay contest. One award of \$2,000.00 will be presented.

The topic for this year’s contest is: “In what ways do you see your community changing? What have you done to contribute to positive change in your community and what impact has this had?”

Download an application at: www.elmgrovejunorguild.org/scholarship The



application deadline is April 9, 2021. The winner will be notified no later than May 7, 2021.

The EGJG, a non-profit community organization, is a group of women committed to the education, wellness and protection of women and children, within and beyond our community.

News’ Hounds & other beloved creatures

Adopt a Pet at the Elmbrook Humane Society

By Heather Gehrke

Do you daily activity outdoors? If so, perhaps you would want a canine companion to enjoy time outdoors with? **Lennon** is a great dog who really enjoys and benefits from daily exercise. He loves walks, he wouldn’t mind being a running partner, would enjoy getting to see all the wonderful trails Wisconsin has to offer, and of course would look forward to relaxing at the end of the day with you!

If you would like to learn more about Lennon or meet him, please call 262-782-9261 or complete an adoption application at <https://ebhs.org/dogs/>.



Photo Courtesy Elmbrook Humane Society

Lennon

News Briefs



Brookfield Academy's National Merit Finalists (clockwise from left) **Eliana Jensen, Ashley Zhu, Daniel Perelman, Ali Warraich, Xavier Nye, and Taytem Matthews.**

Brookfield Academy Students Named National Merit Finalists

By Marie O’Brien

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation has announced that six Brookfield Academy seniors have been selected as National Merit Finalists. Those recognized include: **Eliana Jensen, Daniel Perelman, Ali Warraich,** and **Ashley Zhu**, all of Brookfield; **Taytem Matthews** of Dousman, and **Xavier Nye** of Mukwonago.

More than 1.5 million juniors in about 21,000 high schools entered the 2021 National Merit Scholarship program. About 15,000 students advance to the Finalist Level. These six students have met the requirements to advance to Finalist standing--- and will be considered for National Merit Scholarships to be offered later this spring. Merit Scholarship designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

Elm Grove Student Named to Honor Roll

(WYOMING) The University of Wyoming has announced that **Jordan Rebecca Kobliska** of Elm Grove is on the 2020 fall semester Provost’s Honor Roll. The Provost’s Honor Roll consists of undergraduates who have completed at least six but fewer than 12 hours with a minimum 3.5 grade-point average for the semester.



KATY CORNELL

FROM ELM GROVE

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★ Committed to a vibrant Village

★ Dedicated to preserving what makes our Village great

★

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Pilgrim Park Students Win Forensics Medals

(ELM GROVE) The School District of Elmbrook has announced that 14 members of the Pilgrim Park Middle School Forensics Team, nearly half of those participating, earned medals at the Nature Hill Forensics meet on Saturday, March 13th.

The results include:

- Demonstration: **Hrishikesh Srivathsan** – 1st place
- Humorous Solo Acting: **Anushka Chandrashekar** – 2nd place
- Infomercial: **Ethan Zhang** – 3rd place
- Informative Speaking: **Audrey Zheng** – 1st place; **Elizabeth Sayas** – 1st place; **Sam Sayas** – 2nd place; **Aditi Moorching** – 3rd place
- Moments in History: **Callum Mayne** – 1st place; **Jenny Mei** – 2nd place, **Elizabeth Zuniga-Meyer** – 3rd place
- Persuasive Speaking: **Jake Zheng** – 2nd place
- Serious Solo Acting: **Anna Ewig** – 2nd place; **Samika Sabesan** – 3rd place
- Storytelling: **Violet Diderrich** – 3rd place

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www.waukeshacountygreenteam.org

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Open House

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Individual Tours Beginning at 11:30 am

Registration Required

More information at

brookfieldacademy.org/Open-House

SATURDAY, MAY 1

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for the 2021-22 school year – by appointment

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News Briefs



Scholarship recipients from Brookfield East and Brookfield Central high schools.

Students Receive Herb Kohl Foundation Awards

(BROOKFIELD) This year in the School District of Elmbrook, Brookfield Central High School seniors **Niyati Hansaria**, **Manasvi Paturu**, **Natalie Winn**, and Brookfield East senior **Alena Wadzinske** were awarded Excellence Scholarships on behalf of the foundation for their academic leadership. Excellence Scholarship recipients have demonstrated excellence in the academic arena and a high motivation to achieve, have displayed a broad range of activity and leadership outside the academic setting, and have shown strong promise for succeeding in college and beyond.

“The Kohl Foundation’s dedication to Wisconsin students and faculty is nothing short of exceptional,” said Superintendent **Mark Hansen**. “Congratulations to Niyati, Manasvi, Natalie, and Alena on this great recognition.”

The selection committee for the Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Scholarship and Fellowship Program has announced recipients of the 2021 Herb Kohl Foundation awards for students, teachers and principals. The students are among 200 graduating seniors that will receive a \$10,000 scholarship from the Foundation.

Read All About It!



Library News and Programs

April 2021

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

Celebrate National Library Week with These Events!



NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

APRIL 4-10, 2021



Spring Scavenger Hunt / Begins Monday, April 5

Back by popular demand! Our fall scavenger hunt was such a hit that we’re bringing it back to celebrate National Library Week. Drop by the library beginning Monday, April 5 and pick up your scavenger hunt card. Then, venture out into Village Park and see what you can find! Discoveries will be made, prizes will be won! The Scavenger Hunt is open to all ages and an ideal outdoor family activity.



Virtual Program: Wisconsin Lumberjack Legends and Lore



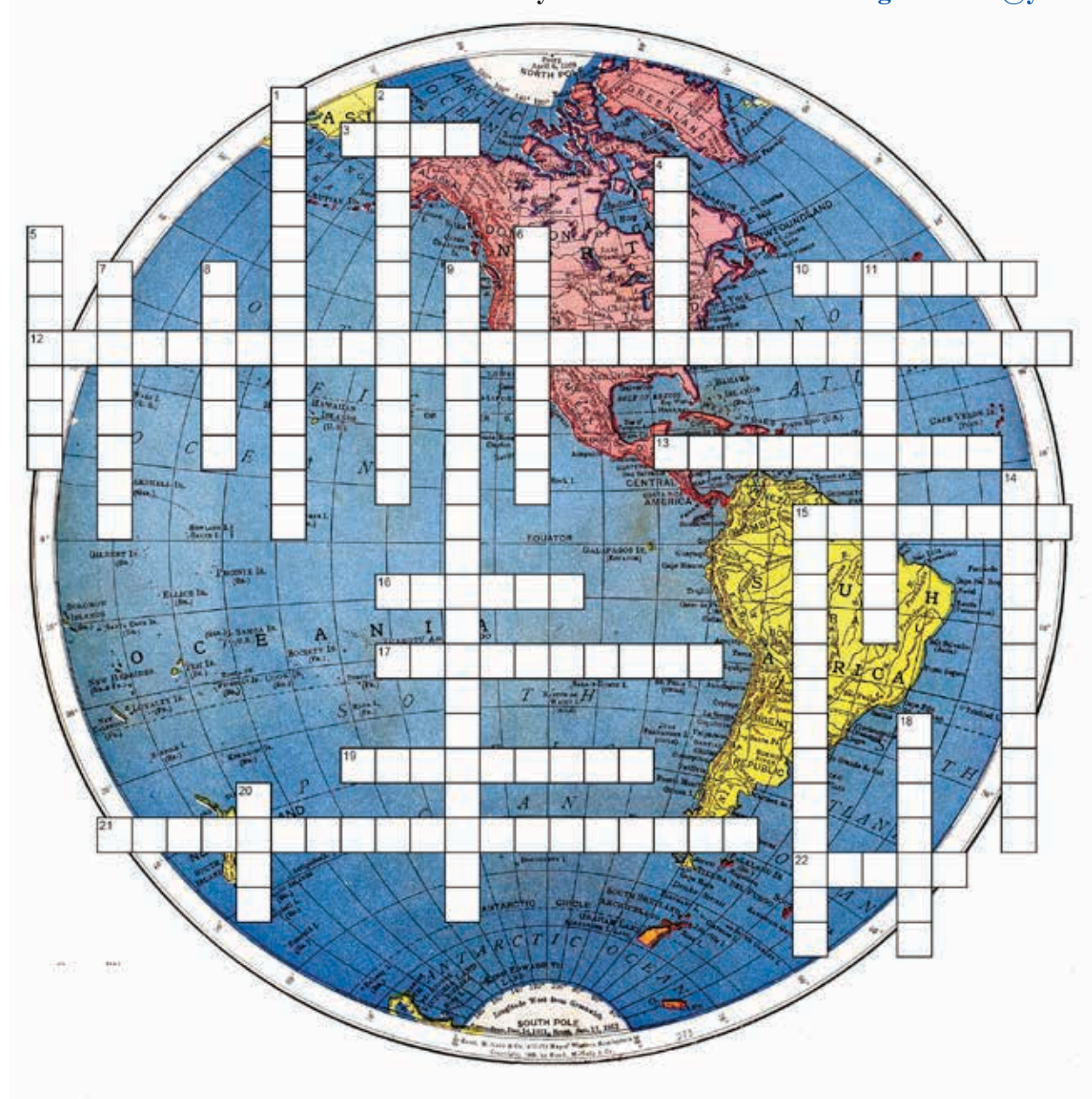
From Paul Bunyan to the Hodag, this program is filled with all of the Lumberjack traditions, superstitions, and legends. Filled with tall tales of mysterious creatures lurking in the woods, boasts of supernatural feats, and every yarn in-between, this program celebrates our lumberjack history. Presented by Chad Lewis.

NOTE: This virtual presentation will be available to view on demand at elmgrovelibrary.org beginning Monday, April 5. It will be available for the entire month of April. Enjoy this unique journey into Wisconsin history on your schedule!



Community Crossword #11

By Lisabeth Passalis-Bain elmgrovenews@yahoo.com



- ### ACROSS

 - 3. Distance of 5,280 feet
 - 10. Room containing an oven, sink, refrigerator, etc.
 - 12. School known as WCTC (4 words)
 - 13. Recreation area with slides, swings, monkey bars, etc.
 - 15. The part of a building that is wholly or partly below ground level
 - 16. Number of days in April
 - 17. He serves as Elmbrook Schools Superintendent (2 words)
 - 19. Village of Elm Grove Clerk of Courts (2 words)
 - 21. Business at 15630 Watertown Plank Road. Pick up copies of the *News-Independent* there. (3 words)
 - 22. The space or room in a building immediately below the roof
- ### DOWN

 - 1. Page 6 feature: Clubs & _____
 - 2. The number of *News-Independent* copies printed per monthly edition (2 words)
 - 4. A plot for growing fruits, flowers, or vegetables
 - 5. Daisies, Roses, Petunias, etc.
 - 6. Be especially kind to our planet on April 22nd, the date of this annual celebration (2 words)
 - 7. Elm Grove is located in this County
 - 8. Holiday celebrated on April 4th
 - 9. Bibliophiles will celebrate this from April 4th-10th (3 words) See “Read All About It!” – Page 8
 - 11. The number of pounds in a ton
 - 14. File this with the I.R.S. by May 17th (2 words)
 - 15. Governmental body that meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at Elm Grove Village Hall (2 words)
 - 18. Village of Elm Grove Forrester (2 words)
 - 20. Cast a ballot

Legal Issues

Estate Planning: Common Revocable Trust Mistakes

By Attorney Isabell Mueller

The revocable trust, also known as the “living trust” has long been an important option in estate planning. It can greatly simplify the management of your assets in the event of incapacity as well as the settling of your financial affairs after you pass away. It is crucial, however, that the trust be executed and administered correctly. Common mistakes include:

1. Assuming that the trust protects your assets from creditors: During your lifetime, your revocable trust is an extension of you and, as such, is just as liable for your debts as you are personally. This includes any costs of long-term care. The trust is equally responsible for any legitimate debts upon your death as well.

2. Not funding the trust: Simply executing a revocable trust is not enough. Once the trust has been completed, it must also be funded. This process involves coordinating the assets with the trust by either titling the asset into the name of the trust or naming the trust as the beneficiary to receive the assets upon your death. This is particularly important for any assets outside of Wisconsin. Neglecting this step could result in a probate proceeding or even undermine the estate plan entirely.

3. Improperly funding the trust: Some assets should never be titled to the

trust. Instead, the beneficiary designations should be coordinated with the trust, which may require specialized language. However, in many instances the best, most effective option may be to not coordinate them with the trust at all. This is particularly true of retirement accounts. The process of funding the trust should be done under the guidance of an estate planning attorney or an experienced financial professional.

4. Not naming enough alternates: Your estate plan should address not only the immediate future but also the long term. Your trust may not be administered until well into the future and your successor trustee(s) may no longer be able to serve in that capacity. Do you have enough alternates named? If not, a court proceeding may be necessary to address the situation.

5. Not reviewing the trust. Your trust should be reviewed upon any major life change. However, even the simple passage of time creates a need to review the plan. Your trust and the funding of the trust should be reviewed every five years or so to ensure that it all remains properly coordinated. You may have moved, changed banks or brokerage firms, or you may have even retired. Your life is a work in progress and your trust plan needs to be one as well.

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EARTH DAY WORD SEARCH

After finding all the words, the leftover letters will spell a hidden message starting from the top row, left to right.

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

BOXES	CANS	BOTTLES	BROWN	CARDBOARD
FLOWERS	GLASS	CLEAN	GARBAGE	COMPOST
GRASS	LIGHTS	NATURE	LAKE	DIRT
GREEN	METAL	PLASTIC	LITTER	EARTH
PLANTS	PAPER	REUSE	POLLUTED	PLANET
SPRING	RECYCLE	SAVE	TRASH	SOIL
TREE	REDUCE	WATER	WASTE	WORMS

Young Writers

(Continued from Page 9)

Spring is Coming

By Lucille Trotta

4th Grade - Tonawanda

Flowers are blooming
and the sun is coming out.
Springtime is here. Birds are chirping
and butterflies are flying,
Snow is melting
and spring break is coming on soon.
Trees are growing.
Kids are playing outside.
Easter is coming soon.
Ask the Easter bunny for a chocolate
treat.
And clouds are clearing out,
leaves are coming onto trees.
Kids will play outside riding bikes,
Playing with friends
and playing in playhouses
and jumping on trampoline
Grass is growing, seeds are sprouting
and kids find four leaf clovers.
Streams are running,
animals coming out from hiding.
Sports are coming soon.
Like they say,
April showers bring May flowers.

Spring

By Zachary Kressin

4th Grade - Tonawanda

Soon summer will be here
Play outside for the rest of the year
Run in the sun
In the summer fun
No snow in spring
Go outside and play on the fresh green

Spring

By Jack Marks and Henry Fuchs

4th Grade - Tonawanda

Easter eggs red and blue,
some for me and some for you.
Easter baskets full with joy,
sometimes you can get a toy.
Easter eggs are hidden just for you to find
something is inside
for you to have with pride.
The days are getting warmer
and birds are coming out.
Flowers blooming,
play outside with friends.

Spring is coming

By Noah Mogren

4th Grade - Tonawanda

Spring is coming
Playtime is near
Reading books
In the meadows
Nearby
Grass is growing

Volleyball

By Adrienne Eberle

St. Mary's Visitation – 8th Grade

Volleyball is a complicated sport
May take years to learn
but is worth a shot
You can play on or even off the court
Time for the game you will have to allot
With the rotations, hits, serves, and aces
If you play club you are sure to travel
You will go places and meet new faces
And maybe even drive on some gravel
You will need to have good strength
in your arms
You could play tournaments
and you may win
If you have good platform
with your forearms
Maybe your serves will have
some good topspin
Whether you are a novice or a pro
Volleyball you will surely not outgrow

April Fool's Day

By Penelope Saidai

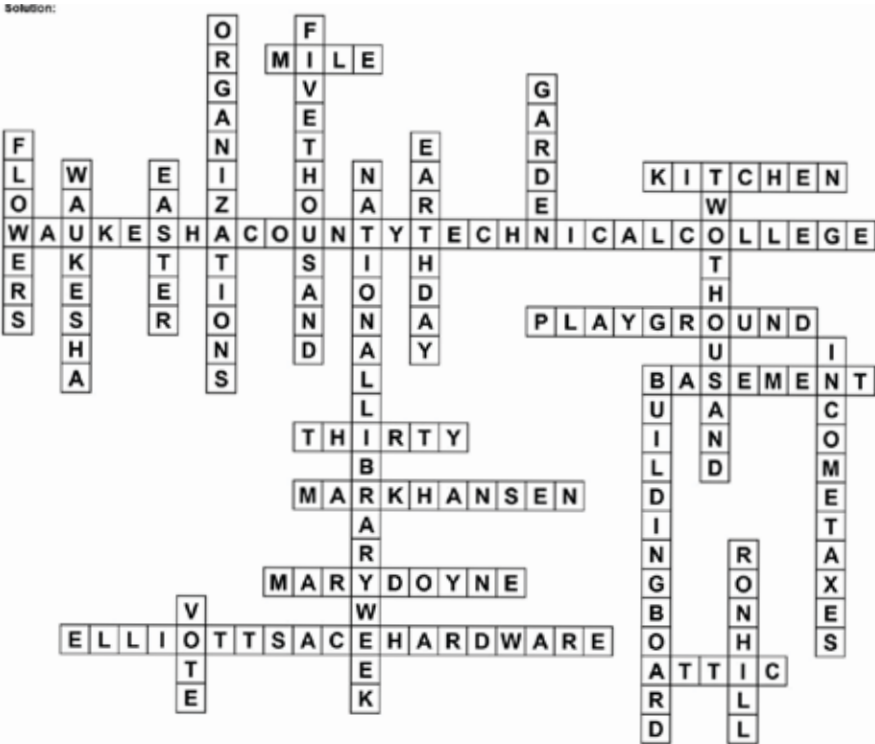
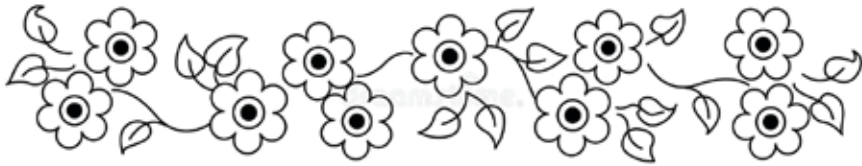
4th Grade - Tonawanda

On April first
The jokes will burst
On you dear,
Fake fingers, whoopee cushions
It is here.

Spring is Here!

By Augusto Santos Salado and Emmanuella Schmidt, 4th Grade - Tonawanda

Spring out of your bed Quarantine is coming to an end
See your friends Covid is coming to an end
No more early morning calls Now you know that Spring is here!!!



News Briefs



Following their local success, Brookfield Academy’s Gold Key winners (Left to right): **Morgan Allen, Thomas Elfelt, Karina Rodriguez, Aine Rogers** and **Anneke Zaiser** went on to compete at the national level.

Brookfield Academy Students Win Scholastic Art Awards

By Marie O’Brien

Brookfield Academy is proud to announce that 25 Upper School art students were recognized for their artistic talents by Scholastic Art Awards – Wisconsin in February. The following students earned 36 awards in a wide variety of categories:

- **Morgan Allen** of Oconomowoc, Gold Key (Drawing & Illustration). **Nominee for the National Scholastic American Visions Award
- **Leonardo Astorga** of Milwaukee, Honorable Mention (Drawing & Illustration)
- **Sydney Dehne** of Brookfield, Silver Key (Sculpture)
- **Jacqueline Dieck** of Menomonee Falls, Honorable Mention (Painting)
- **Hannah Ding** of Brookfield, Silver Key (Mixed Media)
- **Kyra Doherty** of Elm Grove, Honorable Mention (Sculpture)
- **Thomas Elfelt** of Brookfield, Gold Key (Printmaking)
- **Chloe Fritz** of Milwaukee, Honorable mention (Printmaking)

- **Curtiss Holley** of North Prairie, Silver Key (Fashion) and Honorable Mentions (Printmaking, Fashion-3, Art Portfolio)
- **Lucheng Huang** of Brookfield, Honorable Mention (Drawing & Illustration)
- **Aya Khraisat** of Franklin, Honorable Mention (Digital Art)
- **Genevieve Kopp** of Brookfield, Silver Key (Digital Art), Honorable Mention (Digital Art)
- **Maggie Kosidowski** of Menomonee Falls, Honorable Mention (Drawing & Illustration)
- **Daniel Novacek** of Hartland, Silver Key (Sculpture)
- **Ellie Plamann** of Milwaukee, Silver Key (Digital Art), Honorable Mention (Digital Art), Honorable Mention (Drawing & Illustration)
- **Alexandra Prange**, of Madison, Honorable Mention (Sculpture)
- **Karina Rodriguez** of Milwaukee, Gold Key (Art Portfolio), Silver Key (Printmaking)
- **Aine Rogers** of Milwaukee, Gold Key (Sculpture)



- **Mira Santo Tomas** of Wauwatosa, Silver Key (Sculpture)
- **Amalia Seeger** of Brookfield, Silver Key (Printmaking)
- **Katherine Shalyaev** of Brookfield, Silver Key (Printmaking)
- **Isabella Toledo** of New Berlin, Honorable Mention (Film & Animation)
- **Ella Wareham** of Elm Grove, Honorable Mention (Sculpture)
- **Estelle Watts** of Menomonee Falls, Silver Key (Fashion)
- **Anneke Zaiser** of Elm Grove, Gold Key (Printmaking), Silver Key (Film & Animation), Honorable Mention (Mixed Media)

Brookfield Academy Students Named U.S. Presidential Scholar Candidates

By Marie O’Brien

Two Brookfield Academy students are in the running for one of the highest academic honors available to graduating seniors. **Daniel Perelman** and **Rhea Singh** are among 4,500 candidates for the 2021 class of the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program.



There are three paths to becoming a Presidential Scholar. Most students are selected based on their broad academic achievement and high scores on either the SAT or ACT. Approximately 20 students are also selected based on their abilities in the fine arts such as visual arts, performing arts or creative writing and 20 more qualify based on their accomplishments in career and technical education fields. Application to the program is by invitation only.

Perelman and Singh are among only 82 candidates from Wisconsin in the running to be Presidential Scholars this year.

A panel of educators will select 600 semifinalists and the Commission on Presidential Scholars, appointed by the President, will select finalists. The U.S. Department of Education will announce up to 161 Presidential Scholars this spring.

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* Community Organizations



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www.kiwaniselmgrove.org

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April 6th

General Election

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Key points ...

☒

Strong student outcomes

☒

Bring back core values

☒

Tax payer transparency

☒

Conservative fiscal budgets

☒

Be the voice of the community

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YOUR VOTE COUNTS

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We Keep Your Plants Healthy
& Looking Their Best

RENOVATION
Breathe New Life Into Your
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TREE & SHRUB CARE
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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.

