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New story for Old Glory at cemetery

Wisconsin Memorial Park replacing worn flags ahead of Memorial Day

By Chris Bennett
Special to The Freeman

After more than three decades in the cemetery business Garrett Rose admits no one celebrates Memorial Day weekend quite like Wisconsin Memorial Park.

Rose is Wisconsin Memorial Park's general manager. The facility is located at 13235 W. Capitol Drive in Brookfield.

Wisconsin Memorial Park is best known throughout southeast Wisconsin for the vigor with which it commemorates the time annually reserved to recall those who gave their lives in defense of democracy and America.

Memorial Day weekend at Wisconsin Memorial Park consists of concerts, memorial services, historical displays, food and array of other festivities. The mood is made even more compelling by the more than 1,500 flags that decorate the grounds.

Rose said more than more than 4,000 people typically come through Wisconsin Memorial Park during Memorial Day weekend. It is his solemn responsibility to deliver a Memorial Day experience unlike any other that is compelling Rose to act.

Fewer flags will adorn Wisconsin Memorial Park this coming Memorial Day. In an odd bit of irony, something at a cemetery — the final resting place for those bid an earthly farewell — wore out and must itself be put to rest.

"We've come to a point where many of these flags



Submitted photo

Wisconsin Memorial Park is in the process of replacing tattered flags as Memorial Day approaches. Garrett Rose, general manager of the cemetery, said it's a matter of respect and honoring veterans.

are unsuitable to fly, according to the United States Government's Flag Code," Rose said. "Either they're ripped, or torn, or faded."

Rose said staff at Wisconsin Memorial Park inspected the flags following Memorial Day 2017 and removed about 400 from the collection. About 1,000 to 1,100 will fly this coming Memorial Day weekend as the memorial park starts working through the process of replacing tattered flags.

"My concern coming into this Memorial Day is for those families who come are expecting to see their grandfather's flag flying, and it will not be here," Rose said. "We've done our best to



Garrett

We are simply unable to reach all these families to get the word about what we are doing."

The United States Flag Code is a federal law that defines the display and care of the national flag of the United States of America. The code dictates that flags be removed from service and disposed of in a respectful manner when its condition

reach out to these families."

"Our records going back 30 or 40 years are good, but people move, and phone numbers change.

prevents it from being suitable to represent the United States of America.

New flags coming

Rose and his staff will have new flag poles and flags ready for those families who choose to purchase the replacements. The previous cotton flags will be replaced polyester flags and aluminum poles.

The original flags — some of which are being cycled out of service — were draped on caskets to honor the deceased's service to the United States and donated by loved ones of veterans interred at Wisconsin Memorial Park.

"The really important

thing, for me, is to express the reason why we're doing this," Rose said. "We are fulfilling the Flag Code and respectfully honoring past and present veterans with flying flags that truly honor our veterans."

Wisconsin Memorial Park was founded in 1929 and stakes a claim as being one of the more beautiful, prestigious cemeteries in Wisconsin and the United States.

The facility is on 146 pastoral acres that are populated with maple, oak, ash, birch and pine trees, as well as many species of animals. Wisconsin Memorial Park features four chapels, two outdoor spaces for services, and an art collection.

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INSIDE



New look, new name at Country Springs Hotel

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Here comes the bride!



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Joe Thomas reflects on his career



SPORTS/Page 4B



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Beer gardens returning to county parks this summer

More locations announced;
hours extended

By Katherine
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262-513-2644

WAUKESHA — When the days finally warm up, area residents will want to celebrate and they'll be able to do that at one of the numerous beer gardens planned for Waukesha County parks this summer.

Raised Grain Brewing Co. is again partnering with Waukesha County Parks to hold the beer gardens, which will kick off May 14 at Eble Park, 19400 W. Bluemound Road, Brookfield. The kickoff will include three days of events to celebrate the opening of the beer garden season and the 30th anniversary of Eble Park.

There will be triple the number of beer garden locations in 2018, custom beer steins available and new food and entertainment options for patrons.

"This year's beer garden season brings a lot of new experiences for Waukesha County families," said Nick Reistad of Raised Grain Brewing Co. in a statement. "In addition to new locations, music, and activities, the season is kicking off with a big opening weekend celebration."

All Pop-Up Beer Garden locations will be open Thursday and Friday from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.,

and Saturday from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. A rotating list of five of Raised Grain's beers will be on tap, and custom beer steins will be available for purchase. The Pop-Up Beer Gardens will also have food trucks, yard games and music. Some parks have swimming access and playgrounds.

In addition, the Pop-Up Beer Garden is expanding to nine Waukesha County Park locations in 2018 from three in 2017. Minooka, Fox Brook and Naga-Waukee Parks will continue to host beer gardens, and Muskego, Menomonee, Fox River, Nashotah, Mukwonago and Eble Parks will host their first beer garden events this season.

"The Pop-Up Beer Gardens draw more people into our parks — some for the first time — to enjoy our wonderful facilities," said Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow in a statement. Raised Grain, our local brewery, has been an excellent partner in creating this enjoyable experience for all ages."

Annual sticker members will have access to the park, while day pass visitors will receive a beer token with their daily entry pass (\$6 for entry and one token).

For full details on the Pop-Up Beer Gardens, visit rgbrewing.com/beer-garden.



Kenny Yoo/Special to The Freeman

Raised Grain Brewing bartender Kasey Englebert pours some beer during Waukesha County's first beer garden kick off at Minooka Park in Waukesha last summer. Below: The hands of Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow as he poured some beer courtesy of Raised Grain Brewing Co. last summer, in celebration of Waukesha's first beer garden at Minooka Park.

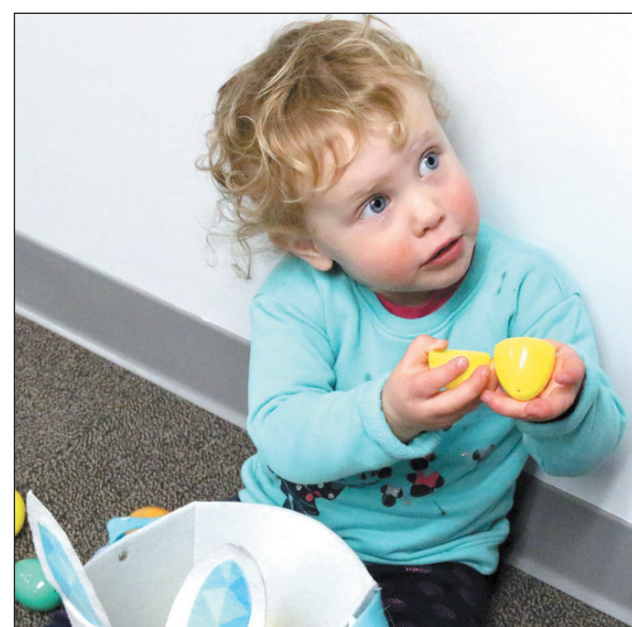


Elm Grove Easter egg hunt springs indoors



Mary Catanese/Special to The Freeman

Emma Basel spreads eggs around the Community Room of Elm Grove Village Hall on March 31 as the Easter Bunny watches. The Elm Grove Junior Guild brought the annual Easter Egg Hunt inside due to inclement weather.



Hailey Walter shows an egg to her father, Jeff, during the Elm Grove Junior Guild's annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 31.



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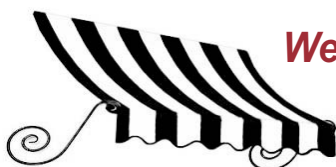
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The Freeman’s fighting spirit has continued during its 159 years. The Freeman was a strong advocate for women’s right to vote. And the paper set a state precedent by winning a lawsuit that defined open records law in Wisconsin.

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Freeman wins WNA General Excellence Award

WAUKESHA — For the third time in 10 years, The Freeman has won the first place General Excellence Award from the Wisconsin Newspaper Association — the top award for its circulation range.

On April 13, Publisher & Editor in Chief Bill Yorth accepted the award on behalf of the publication.

“Winning first place for general excellence in the Wisconsin Newspaper Association contest for the third time in 10 years shows The Freeman’s consistent commitment to producing a high-quality local newspaper,” Yorth said. “This is very well-deserved recognition for our hardworking staff. I’m very proud of them. The Freeman team is dedicated to serving our great community by providing local news and information essential to the lives of our readers. As The Freeman begins its 160th year, we are honored to be a part of the paper’s rich heritage and carry on a tradition of excellence.”

The awards for work done in 2016 and 2017 were announced during the WNA’s annual convention in Madison.

The General Excellence Award is judged on an overall evaluation of the newspaper, including quality of writing, use of photos and artwork, sports pages, treatment of public notices, and advertising design and layout.

The Freeman also won the award in 2008 and 2016.

In addition, The Freeman won first place awards in the advertising division. Colleen Miller took a first place



Photo by Katherine Michalets, Freeman Staff

The Freeman took home the first place General Excellence Award from the Wisconsin Newspaper Association for work done in 2016 and 2017.

award for “Best Grocery Ad” and Pat Scheel got a first place award for “Best Use of Art Service.”

Night Editor Steve Van Dien took second place for “Best Headlines.”

Managing Editor Katherine Michalets said she was extremely proud of the hard work of The Freeman’s staff and was pleased that it was being recognized by the WNA.

“We have a highly committed, hardworking staff who give it their all every day to create the best newspaper possible for our readers. To be recognized by the WNA reiterates that we are doing what we set out to do — create a dynamic local newspaper that upholds The Freeman’s long history of journalism excellence,” Michalets said.

— Freeman Staff



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Elmbrook district hosts school safety forum

By Ashley Haynes
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262-513-2681

BROOKFIELD — School safety has inundated local communities with concerns and questions particularly after the school shooting in Parkland, Florida.

To help address those questions, Elmbrook School District administrators and members of local police departments held a school safety community forum the last week of March at Brookfield Central High School. Topics included how active shooter training has changed over the last decade-plus and how community members can be proactive.

“I consistently wonder and worry as a parent about this new future we’re preparing our kids for,” said Superintendent Mark Hansen. “This is the new norm and I want you to rest assured that we have prioritized this issue as our highest priority in the School District of Elmbrook.”

He explained that since the Parkland shooting, work in school safety has accelerated dramatically

and district officials have identified the best practices for addressing threats. This includes moving on from the old-fashioned practice of locking down classrooms to a more modern philosophy of run, hide and fight, which can give a victim more options.

Work has been ongoing, however, even before Parkland. All 10 schools in the district had their exterior doors repositioned six years ago for security. All doors are double-locked with a buzzer and identification system. Panic buttons are also available and background checks are required for all volunteers. A tip hotline will soon be implemented so community members can share possible threats to school safety.

“This is not what I expected to be preparing for as an educator, but it is what it is right now,” said Hansen.

The theme of the evening, coming from multiple leaders in the community, was if you see something, say something. Elm Grove Police Lt. Jason Kubiak emphasized that parents should monitor social media, as they are often the

first line of defense when discovering critical information. He also said police are working with schools to make sure active situation drills are more dynamic, so staff and students are better prepared. This includes staff going through active-shooter scenarios to familiarize themselves with the sound of gunfire, how to react and how to help wounded students.

“We needed to give the options to teachers and students so when a situation arises, they do have more than one option,” said Kubiak.

Brookfield Police Capt. Phil Horter said community members should no longer deny that these situations can and will happen, especially with two prominent shootings having happened in the Brookfield area.

He said police have increased the amount of weaponry they carry to accommodate different scenarios. They are also constantly practicing their responses in live-action shooter scenarios, similar to a more advanced game of paintball.



Mary Catanese/Special to The Freeman

Bunny and bubbles

Emma Luedke holds her new bunny, Ollie, while her sister Grace blows bubbles at home after school recently. Ollie was adopted at the Humane Animal Welfare Society to replace Emma’s 8-year-old bunny that recently passed away. She wanted a bunny that was small and “Ollie was so cute.”

Christmas Clearing Council names new executive director

By Cara Spoto
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262-513-2653



Hein

WAUKESHA — The Christmas Clearing Council of Waukesha County has hired former board member Sarah Hein as its new executive director.

Hein assumed the post on March 20, succeeding Ruth Page Jones, who held the job for 12 years.

Hein is a 2002 graduate of Carroll University, where she earned a degree in communication. She was a member of the Christmas Clearing House board of directors from 2004 to 2008 and from 2014 to 2017.

board of directors to help make sure that children in families that are struggling financially are not forgotten at Christmas.”

Founded in 1959, the Christmas Clearing Council promotes and coordinates giving to families in need during the Christmas season.

Becky Brock, president of the charity’s board of directors, said Hein was the unanimous choice of

the board.

“We are confident that Sarah’s passion, dedication and leadership skills will help us continue to serve our clients. Her experience on the board and her vision for the future of this organization will help us remain a vital resource for deserving families,” Brock said.

Hein lives in Merton with her husband, Ben, and their three sons.

For more information about the Christmas Clearing Council, visit christmasclearingcouncil.org.



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History on hold: Elmbrook Historical Society postpones Civil War Encampment

BROOKFIELD — The Elmbrook Historical Society announced in its March newsletter that the popular Civil War Encampment has been postponed this year.

The decision to put a pause on the event was made after the director for the event stepped down from their position, said Linda Thayer, president of the EHS. Although the historical society has tried for months to find a replacement, their efforts have been unsuccessful, she said.

Another reason for putting the annual event on hold was a lack of volunteers.

The Civil War Encampment takes about 50 to 60 people over several days to run efficiently and there just wasn’t enough to pull it off.

“This was a very difficult decision, as this is our largest annual fundraiser,” Thayer said. “We hope to have the event again in 2019.”

Although this popular event has been tabled, there are several other opportunities to fundraise, learn about history and bask in community togetherness. EHS holds various lectures, tours, dinners, holiday celebrations and exhibits throughout its open season.

Founded in 1977, the Elmbrook Historical Society is a nonprofit educational organization and an affiliate of the Wisconsin Historical Society. It has more than 175 members whose goal is to care for, research, exhibit and preserve the history of Brookfield and Elm Grove. This includes historical buildings in both communities. For more information on events, how to become a member, or other general inquiries, visit www.elmbrookhistoricalsociety.org or call 262-782-4057.

— Adriana Ramirez,
Special to The Freeman

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By Chris Bennett
Special to The Freeman

According to information on the website of the LLS, myeloma is cancer of the



Asimakopoulos

"When we receive a grant in the chapter area, we want to showcase the work being done in the state," Klug said. "We're very fortunate to have these prominent medical institutions, along with a lot of amazing innovation, in our state."



Dave Fidlin/Special to The Freeman

Mayor Steve Ponto, pictured with his family, is sworn in for his third term as the city's top elected official.

By Ashley Haynes
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262-513-2681

Electronic cigarettes or “e-cigarettes” have become a popular alternative to smoking aimed at slowly helping adults kick the habit, but usage among teenagers has skyrocketed. The National Institute on Drug Abuse says that in 2016, e-cigarette usage reached 16.2 percent among twelfth-graders and 30 percent of teen e-cigarette users started smoking within six months of using one. One of the most popular e-cigarettes is called the JUUL, and the Elmbrook School District is

"Students may not understand the damaging effects of e-cigarettes or vapes. Most vapes contain a high level of nicotine, a powerfully addictive drug that can sustain

“Our goal is to further reduce the number of minors who possess or use

The company encourages parents to talk to their children about the dangers of nicotine. Information on illegal sales can be reported at youthprevention@juul.com.



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So long, Country Springs; say hello to The Ingleside Hotel

Ballrooms, fitness room revamped and updated

By Chris Bennett
Special to The Freeman

WAUKESHA — As the Country Springs Hotel is transformed under its new ownership, the goal is to make it warmer, friendlier, and even more inviting.

This summer, the Country Springs Hotel will cease to be known by that moniker and will instead be renamed and rebranded as The Ingleside Hotel.

Tiffany Woodward, director of marketing and water park sales at the Country Springs, said “ingle” is a synonym for fireplace. The new name is meant to evoke a feeling of coziness.

“The whole message — the whole branding message — is comfort and warmth,” Woodward said. “There’s that natural feeling to it.”

According to published reports, the sale of the property to the Waukesha Hospitality LLC — an affiliate of the Minneapolis-based Burwell Enterprises, Inc. — was announced in November. Plans for renovations and an eventual name change were announced at the same time.

Renovations at the property are well underway and are being executed to update the facilities and rebrand the property in the wake of its sale. The Gettys Group, which is based in Chicago and is a hotel design and development firm, is overseeing the process.

“They’re looking at updating it to make sure we’re providing wonderful, renovated space with the same service people have come to expect,” Woodward said. “The property has so many perks. It’s neat to see

“The whole message — the whole branding message — is comfort and warmth. There’s that natural feeling to it.”

— Tiffany Woodward, director of marketing and water park sales at the Country Springs

that updated, fresh new look not only for the guest rooms but the meeting rooms as well.”

Woodward said renovations will likely continue in the coming years, but also said the ballrooms and a section of guest rooms are already done. Woodward said she’s held photo shoots in both the new guest rooms and ballroom to highlight the updated décor.

The Country Springs now boasts more than 40,000 square feet of newly renovated meeting space. The guest rooms and ballrooms were updated to look fresh and natural. The white base of color in the ballrooms allows newlyweds hosting receptions a neutral palette from which to decorate.

The new owners of the property also updated the wireless internet and audio-visual equipment.

The plan for renovating the guest rooms is to take them out of service in wings, renovate the rooms on that wing, and put them back in service. The plan allows for guest rooms to continue to be available during renovation. Woodward said staff at the Country Springs is excited to be getting the first wing of guest rooms back in service within the month.

“I think the guests have really enjoyed some of the renovations as they take



The Country Springs now boasts more than 40,000 square feet of newly renovated meeting space, which was updated to look fresh and natural.



The first wing of renovated guest rooms should be available to Country Springs Hotel guests by the end of the month.

place,” Woodward said. “They already get to experience a brand-new fitness center, and the ballrooms are already done.

“We’ve been trying hard to communicate to our guests all the changes happening. We’re getting a lot of positive feedback.”

The remainder of the renovations this year call for the restaurant and lobby to be refreshed and renovated.

Work on Wildflowers Restaurant will start in early summer and hopefully be complete sometime in July. The restaurant will be renamed Didi’s, which

Woodward said is in honor of the new owners’ childhood nanny. The lobby will be renovated at the same time.

For all the talk of renovations — of new colors and spaces, of new trim and paint — what will endure about the Country Springs when it becomes The Ingleside Hotel are the people who make the property work.

“(The new owners) really saw a property where a lot of the staff have been here for years,” Woodward said. “It’s a great team, and a great location.”

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD

Patriotic-themed BBQ restaurant proposed

Maryland-based eatery would replace shuttered Boston Market

By Dave Fidlin
Special to The Freeman

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD — A barbecue restaurant priding itself on its patriotism could soon replace the shuttered Boston Market building in the Town of Brookfield, following a favorable review of the eatery’s conceptual plan April 24y.

The Plan Commission gave its thumbs up on Mission BBQ, a Glen Burnie, Maryland-based restaurant chain that has more than 60 locations across the U.S. The company made its first foray into Wisconsin in January with plans of opening in Kenosha.

Chris Lavoie of civil engineering firm CM Lavoie and Associates discussed logistical plans for the former Boston Market property, 18340 W. Bluemound Road, which closed at the beginning of this year.

A new 3,385-square-foot building for Mission BBQ is expected to replace the existing Boston Market building, which was constructed in 1994, Lavoie said.

While renovating the existing facility was considered to accommodate Mission BBQ’s operations needs, Lavoie said it made more sense to raze it instead and start from scratch.

“It’s cheaper to just scrape it and start new,” Lavoie said.

In addition to serving up a variety of barbecue dishes, Lavoie said Mission BBQ has embraced patriotism in its operations plans. The company, he said, honors the men and women who are sworn to protect and serve the U.S.

Each location of Mission BBQ, founded on Sept. 11, 2011, pays homage to the sworn members of the mili-

tary each day at noon as an outward sign of the company’s philosophy, Lavoie said.

“This is a good story,” Lavoie said. “We’re happy to be here.”

Several commissioners said they believed Mission BBQ would be a good addition to the town and would complement the other establishments in the surrounding area.

Once he is given the green light to proceed, Lavoie said it would take about 120 days to open the Mission BBQ location.

The Town Board is to review the Plan Commission’s favorable recommendation May 1.

Other business

The commission also recommended a conditional-use permit be granted for a proposed 130-foot mobile communication tower for Verizon Wireless at 17740 W. Bluemound Road. The land eyed for the new tower is behind the Don and Roy’s Motorsports dealership.

Residents living in a condominium development near the proposed site sounded off on the plans during a public hearing. Town officials, however, said their hands largely were tied because of state legislation limiting much of their authority over such issues.

Although Verizon has wireless infrastructure elsewhere in the town, Eric Lennington of Ton 80 Realty Services, the firm representing Verizon, said the wireless provider needs an additional tower because of ongoing demand.

“The network can only handle so much traffic,” Lennington said. “I mean, you’ve got kindergartners on iPads now.”



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Here comes the bride!

Godey's Lady's Book was one of very few printed magazines that lasted through the Civil War. It was published between 1830 and 1878. Louis A. Godey's Philadelphia women's magazine had an annual \$3 subscription rate.

The most beloved component in each issue was a picture of French fashion. This was before color printing. Mr. Godey printed the black-and-white image of French designer clothing and each sheet was hand-tinted to add color. This process required 150 women to individually hand-tint, then stitch the centerfold page into every volume. Inevitably, each copy had a degree of variation in tinting skill; your neighbor's version could differ from yours.

These fashion inserts recorded the progression of clothing and hair styles for almost 50 years. The publication's success was largely due to Mr. Godey hiring a female editor, which was totally unheard of. When these pages are found today, many are framed and authentic examples that will have a center crease, proof it was delicately removed from the magazine. Framed examples can be found today with value ranging from \$25-\$75.

Note: Before 1840, wedding dresses were often made from common color fabrics and had shorter length. These dresses could be worn for future occasions, but also pure white was difficult to achieve. In 1840, Queen Victoria married Prince Albert and initiated a widely copied trend when she chose a pure white wedding gown. Brilliant, strong colors of the



BARBARA EASH
Antiques Appraised

monarchical regalia showed well on white.

Top it off

Recently, I attended a wedding where the grandmother's personal collection of vintage cake toppers was a charming and popular part of the reception decorations. Bride and groom figures on top of wedding cakes were not used extensively until the 1920s; earlier ones were wax or bisque with a 2-inch height. Most vintage cake toppers found today are from the mid-20th century. With each generation, clothing styles changed on cake toppers. This 1920s example is 4 inches in height, the groom wears a tuxedo, the bride has a satin gown and bobbed hair.

The most valuable examples are found from the World War II era with a military groom and a short, tailored dress on the bride. Most are regarded as family treasures and very few reach the marketplace. Condition, color fading and damage will affect value. Today's example is worth \$55.00.

Meet-and-greet

If your family has generational items that you have been curious about, bring the item for a \$10 verbal appraisal on Friday or Saturday, May 11-12. Barbara Eash will be at designXchange, 600 Hartbrook



Drive, Hartland. She will be there on both days from noon to 3 p.m.

Submit an item for consideration

Do you have an item or collection of items that could be shared in a future newspaper column? Let Barbara Eash hear about it!

To have your item or collection considered send the following information: up to three, sharp, well-lit photos of front & back of the item(s), measurements as well as any history or hearsay, length of ownership and your full name,

address and daytime phone number. Mail: Waukesha Antique Shop, ATTN Barbara Eash, 1427 E. Racine, Ave. Unit E-2, Waukesha, WI 53186 or email: beappraisals@gmail.com. If your item(s) are considered for a future column, we will contact you. No photos can be returned and no purchase of items will occur.

(Barbara Eash is a member of the Certified Appraisers Guild of America, specializing in appraisals of antiques and collectibles and has extensive experience writing and speaking about antiques.)



Elmbrook schools approve changes to school calendar

District revisits having voting in schools

BROOKFIELD — Elmbrook School Board members approved updates to the 2018-19 school year calendar that aim to make sure stu-

dents are safe and secure in the wake of the Parkland, Fla., school shooting. After receiving feedback from concerned parents on having schools open to the public as polling locations, realigning the district calendar was identified as a viable solution.

"When people went to vote in February, the Parkland shooting was so recent and a

light bulb just went off. Every other day of the year, the school is locked and now the school is wide open," Kelly Michaels, Brookfield city clerk, told The Freeman in a past interview.

The calendar updates will move a "Teachers Records Day" from Nov. 5 to Nov. 6. "Teacher Development Day" has been moved from Feb. 11 to Feb. 19 and another

Teachers Records Day has been moved from March 29 to April 2.

Elmbrook isn't the only school district to revisit the concern of polling places in schools. West Allis-West Milwaukee School Board members voted earlier this month to approve the district working with West Allis to gradually begin taking polling places out of

school buildings.

WA-WM chose not to alter the school calendar and cited the process limiting the district's flexibility developing school calendars in the future, especially when it comes to planning around holidays like Easter that can affect the entire calendar.

Wis. Stats. 5.25(1) states that any polling places cho-

sen shall be public buildings, unless the use of a public building for this purpose is impracticable or the use of a nonpublic building better serves the needs of the electorate. While schools do not have to be used, they are often chosen because of their space and prominent locations.

—Freeman Staff



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