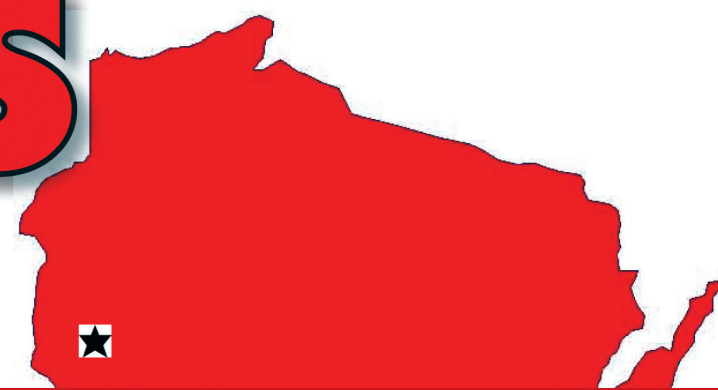


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THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023

The Class of 2023 is graduated from Elmwood and Spring Valley High Schools



It's caps off in graduation celebration tradition for the Spring Valley High School Class of 2023. Photo by Paul J. Seeling

In outdoor ceremonies 73 students receive diplomas

SPRING VALLEY and ELMWOOD, WI – Both Elmwood and Spring Valley High Schools celebrated the graduations of the Class of 2023 in outdoor ceremonies last Friday evening, May 19, 2023. The graduations took place on the school's respective football fields.

The weather was a little chilly and cloudy at first but gave way to a lovely sunny twilight.

The Elmwood Schools also celebrated the graduation of the eighth grade in addition to the senior Class of 2023. They came in a Procession prior to the senior class.

Both school bands played the traditional "Pomp and Circumstance" Processional as the senior graduates filed in wearing their graduation robes and mortar caps looking "smartly" dressed for the auspicious occasion they were embarking on.

The SVHS Treble Choir performed the "Star-Spangled Banner" followed by a warm Welcome to all by District Administrator John Groh. The SVHS Choir then sang "On My Own." Principal Chris Segerstrom

spoke to the class, saying, "This isn't an ending, but a beginning," as he congratulated them and wished them well in the future.

Next were the Valedictory and Salutatory Addresses. SV had their four Valedictorians, Martin Gland, Rondell Hybben, Grace Webb, and Mattie Wilk speak briefly with memories and thank you. Salutatorian Tyra Johnson spoke of memories and offered thanks as well in her brief speech.

This was a similar format in Elmwood with Superintendent Glenn Webb Welcoming all to the ceremonies. Principal Thomas Sauve spoke to the Middle School graduates and offered them congratulations and encouragement as they continue on their academic journey into high school.

The Elmwood Concert Choir and Incoming 8th grade sang a lovely rendition of "Come What May." Then it was time for the traditional Senior Presentation of Flowers and Thank you to Parents. This is always a touching moment in the

Continued on Page 10...



What's inside...



PAGE 4: A PAGE FROM A FAR PLACE - Gators in the Everglades. Photo by Don Blegen

Photo of the week



Gary and Ani both medaled in the 21st Annual Uff Da Run. Photo by Paul J. Seeling

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Photo of the Week!

FINAL results from this month's

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Yes – 64%

No – 36%

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Continued on Page 10...

Shane Bauer to join WWH Board, and serve as Chair of Finance committee

Submitted by: Ryma Lindquist, WWH Communications Director

BALDWIN, WI -- Western Wisconsin Health (WWH), Chief Executive Officer, Eilidh Pederson is pleased to announce that the WWH's Board of Directors has selected and unanimously approved the addition of a new member to their governing body. Shane Bauer has been selected to join and serve Western Wisconsin Health in this way. In addition to joining WWH's Board of Directors, Shane will also serve as the Chair of WWH's Finance committee.

Shane serves as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Pillar Bank, whose flagship location is in Baldwin. Shane brings decades of experience in the banking and finance industry. The financial acumen and innovative approach that Shane brings to the role will be critical for WWH.

Ensuring financial success is an important component of WWH's value of sustainability and Shane's expertise will aid WWH in continuing to achieve financial success. When Shane was asked why he wanted to

join the WWH Board of Directors he said "I joined the board to help support the continued growth of WWH. Diversification of skills on a board is critical, I believe my background as the CEO of a community bank will provide a financial perspective that will help strengthen the organization."

Shane Bauer is also currently serving on the Washington County Planning Commission and the Washington County Board of Adjustments and Appeals. During his 30-year banking career, he has served on 14 different boards in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Shane will join current President of the Board, John Buelow, Vice President, Christine Penfield, Secretary/Treasurer, Deanne Koll, and Directors Ron Siler, Danielle Johnson, Dane Rasmussen, Eric Russell, and Brandon Graber.

WWH Board Chair, John Buelow commented that, "We are fortunate to be adding someone of Shane's experience and community commitment to the board of Western Wisconsin



Shane Bauer has been selected to join WWH Board, and also serve as Chair of Finance committee. Submitted photo

Health. Shane has extensive experience serving our community. Pillar Bank has been a cornerstone supporting many businesses and individuals in western Wisconsin."

Western Wisconsin Health is honored to welcome Shane to the team.

2023 Memorial Day Services



Memorial Day will be observed on Monday, May 29, 2023, attend an inspirational service if you can. File photo by Paul J. Seeling

Area commemorations for Monday, May 29

Compiled by Cari Cornelius
Woodville Leader/Sun-Argus/
Gateway News

WESTERN WISCONSIN – Each year on the last Monday in May, the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. Military

are honored. Originally known as "Decoration Day," Memorial Day began following the Civil War. According to History.com, "The Civil War, which ended in the spring of 1865, claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history and

Continued on Page 10...

Click It or Ticket seat belt safety campaign begins

Awareness messaging, enforcement efforts encourage seat belt use to save lives

Submitted by WisDOT Office of Public Affairs

MADISON, WI -- As Memorial Day weekend and summer travel season approach, law enforcement

agencies across Wisconsin, including the Wisconsin State Patrol, are stepping up patrols for the annual Click It or Ticket campaign. The increased enforcement of seat belt violations runs through June 4, 2023, nationwide.

State law requires all drivers and

passengers to wear a seat belt when traveling in Wisconsin. Children must also be in the proper child safety seat for their age and size. The simple action of buckling up is proven to save lives in a crash.

"Buckling up is such an easy step – and it's one of the most important

things you can do every time you get in the car. Remind your loved ones that you want them to come home safely. Every trip, every time." State Patrol Superintendent Tim Carnahan said.

Wisconsin's primary seat belt law allows law enforcement to stop and

cite motorists for failing to wear a seat belt. Penalties are higher for transporting unrestrained children. Passengers can also be cited for not wearing a seat belt.

Raising awareness -- The goal of Click It or Ticket is not simply to issue citations, but to educate the

community on the importance of wearing a seat belt. A 2022 survey found 87.5% of Wisconsin motorists wear seat belts. That number has been dropping in recent years and falls below the nationwide seat belt use rate of 90.4% in 2021.

Continued on Page 10...

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...'GRADUATION' cont. from Page 1

graduation ceremony in Elmwood. The Salutatorian Luisa Eng was introduced, and she gave her address to her class and the assembly. Eng was followed by the address of Valedictorian Brooke Schwebach.

The Elmwood Commencement Speaker was Michael Shoup. The 29 members of the Elmwood Class of 2023 were presented by Principal Chris Sauve. In Spring Valley, the 44 members of the Class of 2023 were presented by MS/HS Principal Chris Segerstrom. With all requirements met for graduation by all of the 73 total students the Diplomas were Conferred to the happy graduates of the Classes of 2023.

Congratulations to the graduates of both Spring Valley and Elmwood

High Schools! Best wishes to you as you enter your next life chapters!

...'MEMORIAL' cont. from Page 1

required the establishment of the country's first national cemeteries. By the late 1860s, Americans in various towns and cities had begun holding springtime tributes to these countless fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and reciting prayers.

For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30. In 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees. The change went into effect in 1971. The same law also

declared Memorial Day a federal holiday."

Each year, the local American Legions and Auxiliary Units honor these men and women with services at local cemeteries and celebrations. The planned events for this year include:

Spring Valley: The Ricker-Danielson Legion Post 227 will be having their service at Handy Andy Park in Spring Valley at 9:30 A.M.

Woodville: The Woodville American Legion Post 301 will be holding their cemetery services at the following times: Immanuel Cemetery - 9:20 A.M., Lone Pine - 9:40 A.M., Southside - 10 A.M., Sunset 10:30 A.M., Program to be held at Sunset.

Wilson: The Matson-Miller American Legion Post 330 will

be holding their cemetery services at the following times: Teegarden Cemetery (HWY 12)- 8:45 A.M., Forest Hill Cemetery (Knapp Hwy 12) - 9:15 A.M., Wilson Lutheran Cemetery (310th St.) - 9:40 A.M., St. Michaels Cemetery (Hwy 128 and 29) - 10:00 A.M., Brookville Cemetery (Cty Rd. N) 10:30 A.M., Oakwood Cemetery (Hersey) - 11:00 A.M., St. Bridget's Cemetery (70th Ave. Wilson) - 11:30 A.M., Wilson Legion Hall Post 330 - 11:55 A.M. - Potluck at the hall to follow.

Elmwood: The Crain-Ottman American Legion Post 207 and Auxiliary Unit 207 will hold their Memorial Day program on May 29, 2023, at the Veteran's Memorial Park in Elmwood, WI. This year's speakers are 52-year Legion Member Gregory Baskin and SGT Logan

Butler. The schedule for the outlying cemeteries is as follows: St. John's Lutheran - 8:15 am, Oak Ridge - 8:30 am, Spring Lake - 8:50 am, Sacred Heart - 9:30 am, Old Rock Elm - 9:45 am, Poplar Hill - 10:00 am, Welcome Home Assisted Living - 10:20 am, Veterans Memorial Park - 11:00 am

...'CLICK IT' cont. from Page 1

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation's seat belt awareness campaign features former Packers star Donald Driver, who appears in a series of videos promoting seat belt use.

"Our hope is, through enforcement and education, more Wisconsinites will recognize the value of wearing a

seat belt. No matter how far you're traveling - just going down the street, or across the state - Donald Driver's message helps remind us that seat belts can become an easy habit," Bureau of Transportation Safety Director David Pabst said.

In addition to Click It or Ticket, WisDOT's Buckle Up Phone Down campaign encourages drivers and passengers to be aware of the dangers of not wearing a seat belt throughout the year. Take the Buckle Up Phone Down pledge at wisconsin.gov/BUPD. Join as an individual, community group, or business and commit to traffic safety on every trip.



Here is the Elmwood Class of 2023. Photo by Holly Galbreath



These are the SV Class of 2023 Honor Students that were recognized in the Graduation Ceremony on Friday, May 19, 2023. Photo by Paul J. Seeling



Elmwood Class of 2023 Valedictorian, Brooke Schwebach. Photo by Holly Galbreath



Elmwood Class of 2023 Salutatorian, Luisa Eng. Photo by Holly Galbreath



SV Valedictorian (one of four) Martín Gland gives his Val address to his class, family, and guests. Photo by Paul J. Seeling



SV Valedictorians Grace Webb, and Mattie Wilk speak briefly together with memories and thank yous. Photo by Paul J. Seeling



RIGHT: Rondell Hybbsen another SV Valedictorian gave an address to the Commencement assembly. Photo by Paul J. Seeling