



Local boys, 20,
go from pizza
delivery drivers to
business owners at
Chanticlear Pizza.
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STAR NEWS

Ubu has retired
and moved into
the Guardian
Angels Care
Center.
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Saturday, March 5, 2022 ★ Vol. 150, No. 10

Elk River ★ Otsego ★ Rogers ★ Zimmerman

Freshly designed Star News; delivery now done by USPS

Thousands have signed up for U.S. Mail delivery and there's still time to register if you haven't

Welcome to your new Elk River Star News. With this edition, we debut a totally new delivery system and a fresh new appearance.

We hope you enjoy reading this week's news and we look forward to hearing your reaction.

For the past several months, we've been telling you, our Star News readers, about our plan to transition to a new tab-size paper format, as well as changing our delivery method to U.S. Mail.

The first thing you'll notice is the new size and design. Newspapers around the country use this "tab" format, and the benefits are many. The smaller page format allows readers to easily

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'This is my home'



1989 ERHS graduate who calls Ukraine home stays put in the face of war

by Jim Boyle
Editor

A 1989 Elk River High School graduate who now lives with her husband on a small farm outside of Kyiv, Ukraine, has decided not to evacuate in the wake of the Russian invasion of their country that began on Feb. 24.

Baima works as a language teacher at a small international school in Kyiv, and says she will stay with her brave Ukrainian husband and warrior, Yurii Potapenko.

"Whether I survive this war or not, I remain true to my teenage aspiration to help bring peace to the world," said Diane Baima, whose maiden name is Westphal and who still has family living in Elk River.

The Elk River native dreamed of diplomacy through language learning as a junior high school student in Elk River. And she has done her part as an adult.

"But now is the time to fight," she told the Star News on Feb. 26.

Her brother Lanny, who lives in Wisconsin and is an interim pastor for a large congregation in Peoria, Illinois, said he had hoped she would be able to get out to safety.

"She won't abandon her husband, and I certainly respect that," Westphal said. "I know the depth of her commitment."



Diane (Westphal) Baima

Submitted photo
A view of the sunset on Feb. 26 at the home of Diane (Westphal) Baima and her husband, Yurii Potapenko, in Kyiv, Ukraine. Baima, an Elk River native, has decided to stay with her husband despite the Russian invasion of their country.

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City of Otsego public hearing
See these and more public notices
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