

Voice of the Village People

December 1, 2019 – Vol. 10, No. 4

MORNING COFFEES and MUG AND CHUG: Prairie Village residents are reminded that all are invited to the Tuesday and Thursday morning coffees at 10:00 A.M. at the Village Coffee House. And the same goes for the Mug and Chug (cocktail/social hour) at 5:00 P.M. each Wednesday afternoon at the Village Coffee House. Lively conversation is guaranteed at both activities. Also, Fairhaven's Executive Director Paul Kuenning attends the coffee at 10:00 A.M. on the second Tuesday of each month.

GARBAGE PICKUP: December's bulky collection date is the second Thursday, December 12th. A copy of the schedule has been posted at the Village Coffee House.

NEWSLETTERS: Copies of Fairhaven and Seniors in the Park newsletters are available in the brochure box on the porch, and inside, of the Village Coffee House. Please feel free to submit an article for the Prairie Village newsletter if you have any interest in sharing information with other residents – either e-mail to Nelda at nelronbergsten@gmail.com, or deliver or mail a “hard” copy to 852 Acorn Ridge.

FURNACE FILTERS AND SALT: It is that time of year again . . . time to think about preparing for/responding to our winter weather. If anyone needs additional salt for sidewalks, driveways, etc., it is available at the Village Coffee House, 854 Acorn Ridge. Furnace filters can be found there, as well.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CALENDAR ITEMS

Wednesday, the 4th – Bridge at the Village Coffee House – 1:00 P.M.
Euchre at the Village Coffee House – 3:30 P.M.

Saturday, the 7th – Bean Bag Baseball at the Village Coffee House – 9:00 A.M.

Tuesday, the 10th – “Cookies for Breakfast”/Paul Kuenning's monthly report at the Village Coffee House – 10:00 A.M.

Thursday, the 12th – Bulky garbage/bulky recycling pickup
Poker at the Village Coffee House – 2:00 P.M.

Saturday, the 14th – Bean Bag Baseball at the Village Coffee House – 9:00 A.M.

Tuesday, the 17th – Fairhaven Book Club – 9:30 A.M. in the Lower Level Conference Room at Fairhaven

Wednesday, the 18th – Bridge at the Village Coffee House – 1:00 P.M.
Euchre at the Village Coffee House – 3:30 P.M.
Crime Book Club at the Village Coffee House – 6:30 P.M.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CALENDAR ITEMS, continued

Saturday, the 21st – Bean Bag Baseball at the Village Coffee House – 9:00 A.M.

Saturday, the 28th – Bean Bag Baseball at the Village Coffee House – 9:00 A.M.

Additional “UPCOMING CALENDAR ITEMS” of note:

Please read more about these events in the Fairhaven newsletter:

Fairhaven Choir Concert on Wednesday, the 4th, in Fellowship Hall, featuring Prairie Village’s own Dick Piehl, Max Rigert and Tina Plath.

There are several special meals being offered by Dining Services around the Christmas and New Year’s holidays. Please note those dates and join other Prairie Villagers at Fairhaven in celebrating the season.

COOKIES FOR BREAKFAST

Paul will be making his regular monthly report to Prairie Village residents on Tuesday, December 10th, and Lyndia Fry is organizing Cookies for Breakfast that morning. Please call Lyndia at 815/501-3626 if you could contribute home-baked cookies for that event.

PRAIRIE CHICKS

There will be no Prairie Chicks gathering in December. They will, however, be meeting for lunch at Fanatico’s on January 22nd, the fourth Wednesday. Please contact Jeanne Shiras, with regrets only, regarding your inability to attend.

BEAN BAG BASEBALL

Residents are reminded that the Saturday morning Bean Bag Baseball games are open to all. The skill level exhibited by even the most veteran players is, alas, less than what those players might wish. There is no set number of players, so if anyone is interested in coming and giving this fun activity a try, they would be more than welcome. There is no need to commit to attending every week, as all of the current players have flexible schedules and are occasionally absent due to other commitments. So, please consider joining the group at 9:00 on Saturday mornings for an hour to an hour and a half of fun.

PAUL KUENNING’S NOVEMBER REPORT TO RESIDENTS

Paul Kuenning met with Prairie Village residents at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, November 14, 2019, expressing appreciation to Maintenance Director Chris Fritzsche and his crew for the fantastic job they have done in preparing for winter. Chris was also present and

PAUL KUENNING'S NOVEMBER REPORT TO RESIDENTS, continued

reminded residents that his crew would be out plowing and shoveling all snowfalls that measure an inch or more in depth, adding that if streets are icy, the streets will get attention even if there hasn't been as much as an inch of snow. Chris advised that last year there were problems with obtaining salt for spreading on streets because of limited supplies. He asked that if residents become aware of an area that is a problem, they should put in a work order so that it can be attended to.

Paul noted that the window washing has been completed. One resident raised a question regarding condensation which had been forming inside of their windows after the house had been power washed. Residents were reminded that any newer home may experience excess humidity, accompanied by condensation on or inside of windows, because drying out the cement in the foundation and floor in the basement/crawl space can take several years. Chris advised that running the furnace fan to facilitate movement of air should help speed up that process, noting that these buildings have been built very tight, which in all likelihood exacerbates this problem.

Residents were also advised that due to the early onset of winter, all fall trimming of bushes and other landscape items didn't get done. Also, the fall roto-tilling of the garden didn't get done. All of these projects will be taken care of in the spring.

Paul announced that at long last the flu vaccine had been received, and that nurses would be at the Village Coffee House on Tuesday, November 19th, from 10:00 A.M. to NOON to give flu shots to any residents who wished to avail themselves of this service.

Paul noted that the windows have been installed in the new Community Center, adding that the project is progressing, with plumbers and electricians hard at work. He indicated that he has been conferring with sound people, computer people, and others in making arrangements for installation of those systems. He noted that now that the building is taking shape, some minor unanticipated changes had to be made to the original plans. He noted that pouring the blacktop, which had been slated for being done this fall, was also delayed until spring due to the early arrival of winter.

He reported that he has also been in consultation with Tall Grasses about re-planting our prairie, advising that there will be tall grasses around the pond next to the building. He also noted that the City has an official formula regarding a certain number of trees and other plantings at the site.

One resident inquired about the cost of the building, and Paul indicated that the total cost will be \$4.1-\$4.2 million, and that that figure includes all furnishings and other interior accoutrement. He also indicated that they would be happy to accept any donations that anyone might wish to contribute.

Paul also discussed questions about signage. He advised that he had contacted the City about installing signs directing traffic at the entrance to the south round-about when a driver is exiting Acorn Ridge. Also, he has been discussing possible options for signs depicting house numbers for the eyebrows. He indicated that they have also been discussing the possibility of installing larger house numbers above the garage doors, although if they do that, the current numbers above the front doors would be retained.

He also announced that the new siren has been installed and should help Prairie Village residents hear emergency warning signals.

PAUL KUENNING'S NOVEMBER REPORT TO RESIDENTS, continued

Also, in the interest of security, Paul advised all residents to lock their cars if they are parking them outside for any reason. Since those cars often have the remote control for their garage door in them, a thief would have easy access to residents' homes should they get inside an unlocked car that is parked outside.

Paul advised that repairs on the lobby elevator are taking a great deal of time. The two elevators in that location are of 1984 vintage, and the repairs on the inoperable one will cost approximately \$200,000. Further, it is expected that the repairs will take another six months or more to complete. The extensive timeline results from the need to custom-design and manufacture the control board, as well as the need to meet current building codes.

He reported that they have begun the interview process for filling the vacancy which will be created upon the retirement of Linda Peterson next June.

Residents expressed appreciation to Gary Fry and Sue Brey for the successful creation and implementation of the Prairie Village care system.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW FOUR- LEGGED RESIDENTS:

Ken and Nancy Rowley have welcomed their new friend into their home and into their hearts. Since he was acquired on Halloween, and he is totally black, except for some white on his chest, he had to be named Spooky, right?

And Ron and Nelda Bergsten have recently adopted two kittens, which original came to Prairie Village for an extended "visit" under a foster care program with



the Humane Society of Jefferson County. Staff members at HSJC consider this situation a "foster failure" (in the sense that the Bergstens will no longer be providing foster care), but are pleased that Fiona, the black one, and Lavinia will have a forever home in Prairie Village.

