

# Voice of the Village People

April 1, 2020 – Vol. 10, No. 8

**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:** April’s bulky collection date is the second Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto:nelronbergsten@gmail.com), or deliver or mail a “hard” copy to 852 Acorn Ridge.

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING CALENDAR ITEMS

Obviously, there are no upcoming calendar items – and this isn’t an April Fool’s joke. There certainly isn’t anything that is even remotely amusing about a world-wide pandemic. However, I did find this cartoon amusing:



We do have a bit of Bean Bag Baseball news: Pat Smith reports that her team won last weekend’s game due to the fact that the other team forfeited by not showing up.

# **Prairie Villagers: Party, Party, Party?????**

We most certainly will when we are released from coronavirus jail time. When will that be? We do not know, but it will be a humdinger of a celebration. I'm having cabin fever listening to talking books, as I'm peddling my stationary bike and doing counted cross stitch. Finally, the weather is cooperating, and we can fully enjoy the outside paths. I'm not planning a date for this future party only to have it canceled again. You will all receive an email stating when and where – when of course, the all clear is given. In the interim, stay well and be safe!

Judith Moldehauer

## **PAUL KUENNING'S MARCH REPORT TO RESIDENTS**

Paul Kuenning met with Prairie Village residents at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, March 10, 2020. Paul was accompanied by Karen Boyle, Director of Nursing, and they spoke at length about recent concerns and procedures being put in place for dealing with the coronavirus epidemic. They indicated that they had already had three staff meetings to educate the staff about the situation. Karen indicated that the coronavirus is a respiratory condition a little more tenacious than SARS, which is also a coronavirus. She indicated that individuals with underlying medical conditions are the only ones who need to worry. [Editor's Note: recent news reports would indicate that health experts are now indicating that people of all ages may be at risk of contracting the virus.] She noted that the virus is being spread person to person, and no other species of animal is involved in the transmission of the virus. She stressed the importance of staying home if you don't feel well, adding that symptoms related to infection by the virus included cough, fever, and shortness of breath. She added, however, that there are many different diseases that present with these symptoms. Residents were advised to contact their primary care physicians in the case of any illness, whether potentially related to the virus or not.

Karen indicated that the average age of Fairhaven residents is 89 years. They have implemented a sign-up sheet for visitors, and were specifically inquiring if visitors had recently visited the state of Washington. She noted that the CDC was recommending the use of sign-up sheets in order that transmission of the illness could be tracked should a case appear at Fairhaven.

She also emphasized the importance of frequent hand-washing and of coughing into your elbow, adding that Fairhaven already has in place extensive procedures for dealing with this situation.

Paul indicated that choir and other activities would continue as usual for the time being, adding that if there were an outbreak here, or even as close as Janesville, that might change.

It was suggested that the We Care Team could be a big help in getting groceries delivered, etc.

[Editor's Note: Please note that with the rapid release of information during subsequent days, some of the information in this report was subject to change. For instance, it was only the next day that Fairhaven residents were given further limitations of movement, and the day after that, Thursday, March 12th, when Fairhaven went into a total lockdown.]

## **PAUL KUENNING'S MARCH REPORT TO RESIDENTS, continued**

Finally, Karen noted that they felt very fortunate that there had been no problem with typical influenza this year.

Paul also spoke about the change in Fairhaven's rating, noting that although the rating has dropped to 4-star, they are still 5-star for staffing and quality care. The original overall 5-star rating had been impacted only by issues related to documentation, rather than the care itself.

He advised that plans were underway to organize a tour of our Community Center. And he spoke briefly about staffing, reporting that Linda Peterson would be going on vacation at the end of March, so David Gackstatter would be graduating to a desk from his work table. He also noted that Gayle Beck is also retiring and that Dawn Rocha will be taking over Gayle's duties. And he advised that Chris Fritzsche has given his notice. Although Chris hasn't given a specific date, he will be leaving Fairhaven to go into private business.

Kathy Ross announced that Jerry Hancock would be speaking on criminal justice reform in Fellowship Hall at Fairhaven at 10:30 on Thursday morning, and she encouraged anyone who might be interested to attend.

## **PRAIRIE VILLAGE LIBRARY UPDATE**

Thanks to all of you who've let me know that you've found books and puzzles in our Library to occupy some of your spare time. Please continue to use them!

The recent loan of large print books from the Fairhaven Library has apparently been well received. It points out that, as we continue to develop our library here, it will be good to have more large print books here. These books are in the front window of the Coffee House, with instructions on how to check them out, so for those of us who want and/or need large print, enjoy!

As some of us have discussed, we're asking that you hold donations until we're closer to getting into the Community Center. I know now's a great time to sort through and figure out what books you can donate, so keep up that good work – just hold them for now since we are out of shelf, closet and floor space.

Kathy Ross

Hi, Prairie Village Neighbors,

It's been a strange, unique time in Florida this year due to the Coronavirus. I've still enjoyed golf and tennis, despite all the closures. All recreation centers, swimming pools, churches, restaurants and bars are closed. The normally busy town squares are closed, too. So things are ghostly quiet! The grocery stores have bare shelves in the paper products aisles, and in other areas, too. I've been looking for disinfectant wipes for a month!



My friend Chris Nelson has been visiting for the past few weeks. We hopefully will return to Wisconsin on March 31st. It all depends on the airline not cancelling our flight. Neighbors here posted a sign with a basket of ribbons at the entry to our cul de sac saying they would give assistance to anyone who tied a ribbon to their lamppost – for help shopping for groceries, etc. It's a caring community!

The weather has been great with abundant sunshine and warm temps! Supposed to be in the high 90s this weekend.

Hope to see all of you back in Prairie Village in early April.

Warm wishes.

Sue Mealy



We do have an update of sorts on wildlife here in Prairie Village:

On March 10th we spied this fox digging at the base of a tree in our backyard.



Although it's a bit hard to see, we were rewarded by seeing what it was that the fox was digging for: namely, a rabbit.

Ron and Nelda Bergsten



And Ron cleaned out the duck houses, and put new bedding in them. So, they are all warm and cozy (in a manner of speaking) and ready for occupancy. If past years are any indication, we should have several clutches of wood duck and hooded merganser ducklings this summer.

Ron and Nelda Bergsten

