

Voice of the Village People

March 1, 2021 – Vol. 11, No. 7

GARBAGE PICKUP: March's bulky collection date is the second Thursday, March 11th. A copy of the schedule has been posted at the Community Center.

NEWSLETTERS:

PLEASE NOTE PANDEMIC PROCEDURE FOR DISSEMINATING COPIES OF FAIRHAVEN AND SENIORS IN THE PARK NEWSLETTERS

Copies of Fairhaven newsletters, as well as copies of The Park Bench, the Seniors in the Park newsletter, are available immediately outside the front door of the Community Center. You will note that the brochure box which "graced" the porch of our previous Coffee House has now been placed in that location, so please help yourself to copies of each. 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: If anyone needs additional salt for sidewalks, driveways, etc., it is available in buckets on the front porch at the Model House, 828 Burr Oak Trail. Furnace filters are available in the Community Center and can be found on a wooden shelf across from the kitchen.

NOTE FROM PAUL KUENNING

It certainly is nice to have the new Community Center open. As you begin to use the building, please let us know if you notice something that needs attention. Just like moving into a new home, as you begin to live in it there inevitably needs to be some adjustments. Two bookshelves for the library and two hallway slim line tables are on order.

Gatherings. We continue to say if you use the new building do so at your own discretion. Continue to keep groups small, social distanced and wearing masks. If you are not feeling well, please do not participate, but stay home and contact your physician if symptoms continue.

Two things we are currently monitoring now as the vaccine is being distributed: how the vaccine will protect in the event you come down with Covid or test positive, and can it be shared. The second is the implications of the variants. Right now our positivity rate is 4.8% and this is the lowest it's been in quite a long time. Things are moving in the right direction.

On the main campus we continue to keep our precautions in place. Many ask why? It's because of the proximity to neighbors and the skilled and assisted living areas being connected and most vulnerable. Guidance from the CDC and DHS have not yet changed their guidelines but are now reviewing to determine what changes can be made.

NOTE FROM PAUL KUENNING, continued

Indoor window visits started this week for the main campus residents. Time slots are available in 30-minute intervals and may be arranged by calling the social worker or the apartment resident to check for available days and times. Guests are asked to arrive 20 minutes early to allow for a Covid test before visiting.

Spring is in the air, and Tim is working on plans for two additional units in the southern eyebrow on Burr Oak Trail. Strong interest continues in Prairie Village as we come into this time of year.

Occupancies in skilled, assisted living and memory care continue to be very concerning as we work through the implication and impacts of Covid-19. Apartments are also the same, with many different floor plans available. We are hopeful that with spring we will be able to see some changes in guidelines that will allow for further opening of our community.

Staffing continues to be a challenge as we have many positions open in housekeeping, dietary, Nursing: RN, LPN's, receptionist.

If you know anyone who would like to work part time or full- time, please let us know. We are looking for someone at this time to help with window visits for evening and weekends.

Last week I was contacted by a Prairie Village resident who lives along the edge of the University woods property. They were startled when a person in military uniform came out of the woods and into their back yard and again disappeared into the woods. This happens to be the University ROTC group in drills. Contact was made with the director of the university ROTC program. They let me know that they usually do drills Thursdays from 3-5. So, if you see someone dressed in military gear on a Thursday, it's the ROTC group on drills. He shared with me that he will ask that they remain on the University side.

If you are interested in a Knox Box for your home, please contact Paul for further information. This is a secure box that hangs over your front door that only police and EMS have access to in the case they are called to your home for an emergency.

Are Toilet Bowl Tablets Actually Safe?

Can you put chlorine tablets in your toilet tank?

You may have seen chlorine tablets advertised as effective methods for cleaning a toilet tank. However, after doing some research, you're still not sure whether chlorine tablets are safe for toilet tanks. The short answer is no. Chlorine, while good for your swimming pool, is not good for your toilet.

Quality checks indicated that toilet parts should not have worn out, so they conducted further studies and discovered that the chemicals in the drop-in cleaner tablets will eventually damage the flush valve, flapper, and other parts in the tank.

Are Flushable wipes really flushable?

Toilet paper is designed to disintegrate in our pipes and sewage systems, but wipes are not. They're typically made with synthetic materials, plastics or polyester, that won't break down. So, even if they flush down your toilet, they end up clogging our sewers.

Shane Niman, Director of Facilities

MORNING COFFEES and MUG AND CHUG: Prairie Village residents are reminded that, provided that strict protocols related to wearing a mask, social distancing, and limiting attendees to allowable numbers, Tuesday and Thursday morning coffees at 10:00 A.M. at the Community Center are now allowed. And the same goes for the Mug and Chug (cocktail/social hour) at 5:00 P.M. each Wednesday afternoon at the Community Center.

COMING IN APRIL 2021

TUESDAY BRIDGE AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER

START DATE: TUESDAY, APRIL 6th

WHEN: WEEKLY, 1-4 PM

WHERE: MAIN MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

CONTACT: SUE STANLEY @ 262-473-3016 or 920-542-8580

You must reserve a spot. We have room for 4 tables (16 players). Players must wear a mask and have received vaccine shots.

Bring your own beverage; coffee and water are available.

Library Update

Yes, we are still celebrating getting our Community Center Library back! We will be getting two additional bookshelves in the spring, so please know that there will be more room on some of the jammed-packed shelves. There's an overflow collection of books in the wall cabinet to the left of Fiction/Mystery-Thrillers.

Donations

Books, magazines, and newspapers can be left in the box on the Library table or in the cooler on my porch (as well as returns). Please limit non-fiction book donations to history and biographies. Should you have movies or books on cds you'd like to donate, those will be much appreciated. (Leave any such donations on the table in the Library. I don't want them to freeze on my porch.) If you have such to lend, not donate, let me know, and we'll sort out a system of neighbor to neighbor loans.

Large Print Books on Loan from Whitewater Library

These books are on the shelves in three groups: fiction/mystery-thrillers, non-fiction, and Westerns. Please help yourself! I'll be in contact late this month asking for returns since they're due around then.

Library Update, continued

Whitewater Community Reads 2021

Some of you will recognize this from having seen a notice about this program of the Whitewater Library in the Fairhaven newsletter. If it's not familiar, look at your newsletter again or let me know. If you want to participate but don't want to submit your titles, let me have your list and I'll get your titles to the Library. This is the fourth year the Library's sponsored this program and it's not unexpected that participation was down last year. Let's help meet this year's goal of 1000 titles officially having been read here in Whitewater.

Puzzlers

If you want to jazz up your puzzling, here are some ideas from an insert my daughter found in a puzzle:

“Embrace the unexpected-If you usually start a jigsaw with the borders, try starting with the middle. If you tend to work from left to right, try working from right to left.

Activate multiple senses-touch or move the pieces with the opposite hand to the one you normally use.

Engage the brain's attention-...try turning the jigsaw upside down...

Incorporating these techniques...will create brain food for new connection and a healthier brain.”

If you're interested in reading the full article, let me know.

Our puzzles are in the room next to the library. There are two vertical shelves with Puzzles signs, which are generally 1000 piece puzzles. The horizontal shelves between them have few piece puzzles and some collections (e.g., we have a lot of kitten puzzles!). Please help yourself.

If you've questions or suggestions, let me know.

Kathy Ross

Getting our coronavirus vaccinations is certainly an important milestone on our path back to a normal lifestyle. Given the opportunity, please express your appreciation to The Sweet Spot for their generous donation of cookies to the cause.



The deer were frequent visitors to my backyard this winter, sampling my birdseed! I enjoyed cross country skiing here in Prairie Village, an activity I hadn't done for years! Thanks to Diane Soffa who cut the trail along the woods and tree line so several of us could enjoy this fun winter activity! Photo is courtesy of Curt McCulley. Sue Mealy

