

# Voice of the Village People

March 1, 2024 – Vol.14, No. 7

**MORNING COFFEES, GIRL TALK, and HAPPY HOUR:** Prairie Village residents are reminded that all are invited to the Tuesday and Thursday morning coffees at 10:00 A.M. in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Community Center. And the same goes for the Happy Hour (cocktail/social hour) at 4:00 P.M. each Wednesday afternoon in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Community Center, and for the Girl Talk gatherings (ladies only, please) on Fridays at 10:00 A.M. in the Library at the Community Center. Lively conversation is guaranteed at all of these activities.

**GARBAGE PICKUP:** March's bulky collection date is the second Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. A copy of the schedule has been posted at the Community Center.

**MEALS, MEALS – DO YOU NEED MEALS?** For short-term, due to an illness or accident, recent hospitalization, bereavement, etc., contact Colleen Endisch – 262-325-1460. And for Whitewater Meals on Wheels (MOW) long-term (\$10 per meal) contact Marguerite Willman, 708-822-0539.

**NEWSLETTERS:** Copies of Fairhaven and Seniors in the Park newsletters are available on the brochure rack inside the Community Center. 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

Saturday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> -- Bean Bag Baseball (Multi-Purpose Room) – 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, the 5<sup>th</sup> -- Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) – 1:00 P.M.

Wednesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> – Hand and Foot (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Thursday, the 7<sup>th</sup> -- Cribbage (Conference Room) – 2:00 P.M.  
Movie Night (Multi-Purpose Room) – 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, the 9<sup>th</sup> -- Bean Bag Baseball (Multi-Purpose Room) – 9:30 A.M.

Sunday, the 10<sup>th</sup> – Daylight Saving Time begins – “spring ahead”

Tuesday, the 12<sup>th</sup> -- Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) – 1:00 P.M.

## **IMPORTANT UPCOMING CALENDAR ITEMS, continued**

Wednesday, the 13<sup>th</sup> – Duplicate Bridge (Meeting Room and Office) – 1:00 P.M.  
Rummikub (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Thursday, the 14<sup>th</sup> – Bulky garbage/recycling pickup  
Poker (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Saturday, the 16<sup>th</sup> -- Bean Bag Baseball (Multi-Purpose Room) – 9:30 A.M.

Monday, the 18<sup>th</sup> – St. Pat's celebration (Multi-Purpose Room) – 4:00 P.M.

Tuesday, the 19<sup>th</sup> -- Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) – 1:00 P.M.

Wednesday, the 20<sup>th</sup> – Hand and Foot (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Thursday, the 21<sup>st</sup> -- Cribbage (Conference Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Saturday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> -- Bean Bag Baseball (Multi-Purpose Room) – 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, the 26<sup>th</sup> -- Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) – 1:00 P.M.

Wednesday, the 27<sup>th</sup> – Duplicate Bridge (Meeting Room and Office) – 1:00 P.M.  
Rummikub (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.  
Crime Book Club (Library) – 6:30 P.M.

Thursday, the 28<sup>th</sup> – Prairie Chicks (meet at the Community Center to carpool) – 11:30 A.M.  
Poker (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Please note that information about all activities scheduled at Fairhaven can be found in the Fairhaven newsletter, copies of which are available in the lobby at the Community Center.

## **PRAIRIE CHICKS**

Prairie Chicks will meet at the Community Center on March 28<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 A.M. We will carpool to The Real MacCoy's. Call Elizabeth by March 21<sup>st</sup> at 262-473-5783 to RSVP or for questions. Subject to change.

## UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS:

I have decided that during this month of Lent I will be moving Movie Night to Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 P.M. so it does not interfere with Wednesday Lenten services.

This month's movie will be the comedy "**My Blue Heaven**", starring Steve Martin, Rick Moranis, Joan Cusack, Carol Kane, Deborah Rush, Willian Hickey and Melanie Mayron. All are well-known actors and actresses.

Vinnie Antonelli (Steve Martin) trades the mob for the witness protection program, and they move him to a small suburb in California. But for Vinnie, old ways die hard. You will enjoy this film, with lots of chuckles and big laughter. Snacks and drinks are always served.

**Vagabond Diners** will first return on **Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 P.M.** We will try something very different this time, as we will be dining at COZUMEL Mexican Restaurant. Not everything on the menu is spicy & hot, so have no fear; you will find things on the menu to suit your taste. Call me (Judith) at 262 473 4055, by April 4<sup>th</sup> to join our April Vagabond dining outing.



It's time for another St Pat's celebration.

When: March 18, Monday, 4:00 P.M.

Where: Community Center (Sign up will be at the Center)

Who: YOU (you don't have to be Irish to attend)

What: An Irish meal completed with your potluck offerings.

What else? The Warblers will entertain at the end of our meal.

Another note: You don't have to wear green, but the Irish think it is a pretty nice color! Mark your calendar!

I hope you are thinking and considering our FIRESIDE THEATRE outing for June 30<sup>th</sup>. I know it seems far in the future, but that is the only way I could arrange to have the best seats in the house in the first and second row of Y section. It will be a laughter-filled production of "NUNSENSE", preceded by the Fireside's great Sunday Matinee Brunch.

If you have any questions and/or would like to reserve your great seats, call me (Judith) at 262 473 4055 by **Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>**. Our deadline for reserving these choice seats is the following day, so no last-minute calls.

## CRIME BOOK CLUB

Our read for February was The Moonflower Murders by author Anthony Horowitz. A good read, and I am very sorry that these three broken ribs have waylaid me more than I anticipated—therefore, I will not be leading a book study this month (February).

## **CRIME BOOK CLUB, continued**

Our read for March will be the fourth in the “A THURSDAY MURDER CLUB MYSTERY” series titled ‘The Last Devil to Die’. The author is Richard Osman, and we have enjoyed his first three novels in this series.

We will meet again in the Community Center on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M. when hopefully my ribs will not be barking at me every time I breathe.



## **GARDEN SIGN-UP**

It is time to start thinking about gardening this year. Hans Hahn arranged for manure to be delivered for our garden last fall. Bob Aulik and Bob Behrens spread the manure. Sometime near the middle of May the garden will be rototilled. I will then lay off the plots, and we can start planting. When the garden starts producing, the gardeners often leave excess produce on the bench outside the fence near the shed. Produce left on the bench is available to anyone who wants it.

Garden plots are 6 feet by 25 feet for a half row, and 6 feet by 50 feet for a full row. It is also possible to get just a quarter of a row. Last year the requests and the ground came out even. We have more people that have moved in. If requests are greater than supply, the full rows will be allocated by lottery. Everyone who wants a plot should get a plot.

If you would like a plot in the garden, please contact me:

Jake Gerlach, 759 Burr Oak Trail, [gerlaj@gmail.com](mailto:gerlaj@gmail.com)

262-729-0119

Reminder: do not reply to the Prairie Village newsletter as that would not get to me.

## **LIBRARY UPDATE**

For those of you who were not at the February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting where I reviewed the current status of our plans for more bookshelves in the Library:

- Jim Schumacher is developing his plans for their construction. There is no timeline for their completion. Please thank him (and Kathy!) in advance for their continued generosity to our community.
- Fairhaven is paying for the materials. Once those are purchased, we can calculate the per bookshelf or bookcase expense – if anyone is interested in donating funds as a memorial or honorary gift to the Library.

## LIBRARY UPDATE, continued

- Until we have these, I will be temporarily moving some books out of the Library, replacing them with donations currently in my garage.

Thanks to everyone who supports our Library. Fiction, mystery /thrillers, people (biographies, memoirs), and history are our preferred donations. Please leave those in the cooler on my porch or let me come get them from you.

Thanks, Kathy Ross

### When is Daddy coming home? An American Family during World War II

By Richard Carlton Haney

Our neighbor and retired UWW history professor Dick Haney has gifted our Library a copy of his book “When is Daddy coming home?... The preface begins “The arrival of the heart-breaking War Department telegraph is planted deep in my memory, even though I was only four years old. The death of my father became a defining moment in the lives of both me and my mother.” Besides the “emotionally powerful” text, the book includes an impressive collection of family photos (see page 7 for a beautiful wedding portrait and page 14 for a very early photo of our neighbor). Originally published by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press in 2005, Dick has received word that it is scheduled for re-publication. We are grateful for this special donation that you will find on the round table in the Library.

**WE WANT TO EXTEND A BIG**

**WELCOME**

**To Rich and Susan Schilt, who moved into 830 Acorn Ridge**

Thanks, once again, to the elves who decorated the tree at the Community Center. Its lights and valentines have presented a lovely greeting to those entering the building during February.



Prairie Village Care Teams are made up of Volunteers who donate their time, energies, and experience to help all Villagers who may have a need in certain areas. Available to all are temporary meals, rides to wherever, free library, kitchen at the Community Center, plus others who keep Prairie Villagers aware of all the activities and how to enjoy them! There is always room for new volunteers and new ideas to expand our horizons!

## **Between**

Somewhere between fading daffodils  
and pumpkins ripening on the vine,  
there's a perfect summer's day waiting.  
It's the one that starts just right,  
and ends that way, too.  
It won't be the same for everyone.  
For me it's the one bracketed  
by color at both ends—orange in the  
morning and golden at sunset  
with plenty green for background  
and lots of love to spend on it.

2/11/2024, from Gerry Bertsch

**Did You Know?....Now You Know!**

**Rusty Kapela**

## **U.S. landed unmanned Odysseus spacecraft on the Moon!**

On February 22, 2024, the Intuitive Machines Odysseus lunar lander was the first American spacecraft to land on the moon since Apollo 17 did so more than 50 years ago (1972)!

### **Key Points:**

- It was the first private spacecraft ever to make a soft landing there (near Moon's South Pole).
- It carried 6 NASA scientific instruments, an EagleCam for outside selfies and a part for a future telescope.
- The spacecraft is 14 feet tall, 5 feet wide and has 6 landing legs. With fuel it weighed 4200 pounds.
- It was launched by a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.

## Did You Know?...., continued



## Let's talk about our Moon!

### Key Points:

- Today it orbits 238,900 miles away from Earth
- It would take you 5.5 months, traveling at 60 mph, to go from the Earth to the Moon
- Moon's orbit speed is 0.635 miles per second, or 2,286 miles per hour
- Moon is moving/drifts away from the Earth about 1.5 inches per year
- Same side always faces Earth (same rotational speed as Earth)
- Lunar month is 29.5 Earth days long
- Diameter is 2159 miles (1/4 of Earth)
- Mass is 1.23% of Earth's mass
- Surface gravity is 1/6 of Earth's gravity
- Escape velocity from Moon's gravity is 5,300 miles per hour
- Surface temperature ranges from -276F in the shade to +284F in sunlight
- No atmosphere or magnetic field
- Gravitational tug of Moon and Sun create 2 high tides and 2 low tides per day on Earth
- Moon was volcanically active until about 1.2 billion years ago
- About 1.4 billion years ago it was about 212,000 miles away from Earth
- About 2.46 billion years ago it was about 201,600 miles away from the Earth and the Earth-day was about 17 hours long
- Moon formed 4.51 billion years ago, shortly after Earth's birth
- Formed from debris related to collision of the Earth with a Mars-sized proto-planet (Theia)
- The presence of the Moon helps to stabilize Earth's rotation on its axis and prevent large variations in the Earth tilt axis
- There is a wobble in the Moon's orbital path. When the Moon's orbit is more in line with the Earth's equator, the tides are exaggerated, resulting in greater coastal flooding on Earth



Lunar gravity does affect the density of Earth's atmosphere, on a very small scale. When the moon is overhead the air pressure of atmosphere on the side of the Earth increases very slightly. Additionally, research suggests rainfall on that side of the Earth is about 1% lighter. These changes are imperceptible for most humans and dwarfed by other ongoing weather processes.



## Did You Know?...., continued

Ongoing research suggests the lunar-induced ocean tides we experience partially affect the movement of the ocean's warm and cold-water currents as well as influence the El Nino and La Nina cycles. Additionally, some researchers have noted a very small increase in air temperatures over the North Pole and South Pole regions when the Moon is overhead, perhaps related to more sunlight being reflected off the surface of the Moon. However, all of this research suggests any influence of the Moon on Earth's short-term (day-to-day) weather is exceedingly small.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Future\\_of\\_Earth](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Future_of_Earth)

<https://theconversation.com/how-did-the-moon-end-up-where-it-is-114930>

<https://www.astronomy.com/science/our-moon-has-been-slowly-drifting-away-from-earth-over-the-past-2-5-billion-years/>

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20210820-the-subtle-influence-of-the-moon-on-earths-weather>



**DON'T FORGET!**

**TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ON MARCH 10<sup>th</sup>**