

Voice of the Village People

April 1, 2024 – Vol.14, No. 8

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: April's bulky collection date is the second Thursday, April 11th. 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, or deliver or mail a “hard” copy to 852 Acorn Ridge.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CALENDAR ITEMS

Tuesday, the 2nd -- Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) – 1:00 P.M.

Wednesday, the 3rd – Hand and Foot (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Thursday, the 4th -- Cribbage (Conference Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Saturday, the 6th -- Bean Bag Baseball (Multi-Purpose Room) – 9:30 A.M.

Monday, the 8th – Total Solar Eclipse

Vagabond Diners meet at Cozumel Restaurant – 5:30 P.M.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CALENDAR ITEMS, continued

Tuesday, the 9th – Shannon and Brian presenting reports at coffee (Multi-Purpose Room)
– 10:00 A.M.

Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) – 1:00 P.M.

Wednesday, the 10th – Duplicate Bridge (Meeting Room and Office) – 1:00 P.M.
Rummikub (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Thursday, the 11th – Bulky garbage/recycling pickup
Poker (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Saturday, the 13th -- Bean Bag Baseball (Multi-Purpose Room) – 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, the 16th -- Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) – 1:00 P.M.

Thursday, the 18th -- Cribbage (Conference Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Friday, the 19th – Fairhaven Handbell Choir Concert (Olm Fellowship Hall) – 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, the 20th -- Bean Bag Baseball (Multi-Purpose Room) – 9:30 A.M.

Sunday, the 21st – Draw the Circle Wide Lecture at United Methodist Church – 1:00 P.M.

Monday, the 22nd – Pot luck and High School Choir performance (Multi-Purpose Room) --
4:00 P.M.

Tuesday, the 23rd -- Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) – 1:00 P.M.

Wednesday, the 24th – 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 25th – Prairie Chicks (meet at the Community Center to carpool) – 11:30 A.M.
Poker (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Saturday, the 27th -- Bean Bag Baseball (Multi-Purpose Room) – 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, the 30th -- Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) – 1:00 P.M.

Please note that Shannon Schoville and Brian Robinson will be joining us at coffee on Tuesday, the 9th, at 10:00 A.M., to provide updates on construction, marketing, etc.

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 be getting together on Thursday, April 25, 2024 for our monthly luncheon date. We will meet at the Community Center at 11:30 A.M. to carpool to Jessica's Restaurant in Whitewater. Please call Pat Smith – 262.473.3770 or Sue Brey – 262.458.2311 to make your reservation.

FAIRHAVEN HANDBELL CHOIR CONCERT

The Handbell Choir, featuring Prairie Village's own Tom Ryan as Director, will be presenting a concert on Friday, April 19th, at 10:00 A.M. in Olm Fellowship Hall. The music will include some Joyful Music, some Majestic Music, and even some Pretty Music. Please mark your calendar for this delightful event.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS:

Our big **FIRESIDE THEATRE** outing deadline, to reserve your ticket, is fast approaching. Please call me if you are interested in seeing "Nonsense". It's funny, and we will have loads of laughter, besides eating from the sumptuous buffet. The deadline is May 20th, when I must call in my number attending. So, arrive at your decision to join us by calling Judith at **262 473 4055** before the deadline approaches. I look forward to hearing from you. If I don't reach a set amount of attendees by the check in deadline, the discounted group rate will not apply. I will cancel and personally lose the nonrefundable payment I have made for these tickets.

I will start collecting the money for the tickets around the end of April. The date for the show and brunch is June 30th. The group discounted rate is \$89.29 per person, and that includes tax and tip.

The Vagabonds outing this Month will be venturing to **COZUMEL restaurant** on April 8th. Meet at the restaurant around 5:30 P.M. We will eat in the back area of the building. I hope to see you there.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS, continued:

April Village Event: Monday, April 22nd, 4:00 P.M., High School choir. This is a general potluck with no special entrée. We will rely on residents to provide the main dish entrees. The reason that we begin at 4:00 is so that the meal can be completed prior to the High School arriving as it fits their schedules. This also allows for us to visit with our neighbors following the performance and before it is too late. There is a sign-up in the Community Center. Is it on your calendar?



We hope so.

Did you know? There is a suggestion box at Fairhaven that takes ideas from both Fairhaven and Prairie Village. Do you have an idea for an activity, a change to some procedure, an idea for something new? If you do, put your idea in the box which is located near the front desk at Fairhaven. Remember that this is not a place for work orders or for complaints. It is a way for you to share your great ideas with the people who might be able to follow up on them. In the long run, it may make our lives here at Prairie Village even more enjoyable for us.

CRIME BOOK CLUB

Our read for the month of March was “The Last Man to Die” which is the fourth in the Thursday Murder Club series by Richard Osman. The action takes place in the town of Fairhaven in a retirement community. The series is great and if anyone is interested in reading a fun mystery, I highly recommend this one. I have a personal copy of this book I will lend to anyone who has been reading the series and might be ready for the 4th book in the series.

Our read for the month of April is “An Unwanted Guest” by Shari Lapena. Shari has been on the New York Times Bestselling Author List, so hopefully; this should be a good read. We shall see.

Just a reminder that we will be meeting on April 24 and again on May 29th.

That May 29th date is a change, so please note that on your calendars. I am scheduled for cataract surgery on May 20, so I did not think I should be planning to lead this illustrious group on our scheduled date of May 22nd. We will then take a break during June, July and August.

Happy Reading and Happy Easter

Kathy Schumacher

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR SHORT-TERM LEASE

An updated list of Medical Equipment for short-term lease is posted in the Community Center office. A reminder that this is for short-term loan only. If you or your family is in need of any of these items, or you have any items to add to the list, contact Steve Lade at 262-458-2261.

HOME RESPITE ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Please be reminded that if you or a loved one would like a break from caregiving, this committee can furnish a volunteer to visit at your home while you can have time away. Dates and times are flexible. If you would like to utilize this service, contact Steve Lade at 262-458-2261.

The First United Methodist Church of Whitewater is excited to welcome Janan Najeeb and Dr. Rachel Buff to our *Draw the Circle Wide Lecture Series*.

The public is invited to the *Draw the Circle Wide Lecture Series* to hear Janan Najeeb and Dr. Rachel Buff on Sunday, April 21st, at the First United Methodist Church sanctuary, 145 S. Prairie Street, Whitewater. From 1:00 - 2:30 P.M. adults and youth alike are invited to their presentation, “*Ending the Genocide: Towards a Shared Future for Palestinians and Jews*”, as they examine the current and historical struggles for hope, healing and justice in Israel and Palestine. Following a question-and-answer opportunity, a reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

If you have an interest in helping the birds of our community, we need your help in clearing the purple martin houses. This is done regularly during April thru Sept (or whenever the Martins migrate).

The work does not require a great deal of time. The “clearing” consists of removing the sparrow eggs every few days.

If interested, please let me know that you would like to help. Any extra help would be appreciated. Thank you, in advance.

Bonita Schauder (608 359 1375)

Email: bschauder12@gmail.com

Neighbors Who Write Books

I’ve put Tom Stanley’s Mythmaker: Biography of a Big Coach in Small-Town Wisconsin, 1913-1956, Dick Haney’s When Is Daddy Coming Home?, and recently the late John E. Crawley, DVM’s Tails of a Cow Doc (yes, that’s Olive’s husband) on the table in the Library. If you go to look for any of these, you may not see them since they are being read (or at least are not there very often but keep looking.

Those donations prompt me to wonder if anyone else (or a family member) has authored a book that they would like to share with us. If so, thanks in advance, and it will join this special collection on the Library table.

LIBRARY UPDATE

Fiction, mystery/thrillers, history, and “people” donations are always welcome. Leave them in the cooler on my porch or I’ll come get them. If you’ve suggestions or questions, let me know. Thanks to everyone who supports our Library in any way. Kathy Ross

PRAIRIE VILLAGE CARE TEAMS

These teams have been organized to help provide opportunities for all Prairie Villagers to know and help their neighbors. Each team has a leader who coordinates their volunteers to assist where needed.

The teams are:

Steve Lade: Home Respite Care and Medical Equipment Loans

Jerri Stevenson: Kitchen in the Community Center

Kathy Ross: Community Center Library

Colleen Endisch: Temporary Care Meals

Sue Brey/Gary Fry: Ride Share. . . giving rides to appointments, etc.

Judith Moldenhauer: Social Events

Jeanne Shiras/Sue Brey: Welcome for new arrivals

Phyllis Schmidt: Fitness Program, Yoga

David Yochum: Community Center Calendar

Wayne DeLoach: Welcome Packet and Directory

Tom Dosemagen: AV Tech for Community Center

Nelda Bergsten: Village Newsletter

These Teams are looking for volunteers, as well as ideas for more ways to be helpful to our neighbors.

I am still collecting egg cartons.

Elizabeth Asher Ph 262-473-5783.

An Infinity of the Unknown

Every morning, I read of
new discoveries of cosmic consequence—
the universe is twice as old as once thought,
or it's expanding at an irregular pace
as though each galaxy is
a world unto itself. They
pull and push against each other
or hold on with enthusiasm.
Our ignorance about the cosmos
increases daily. I can't wait to read
tomorrow's science news.

3/22/2024

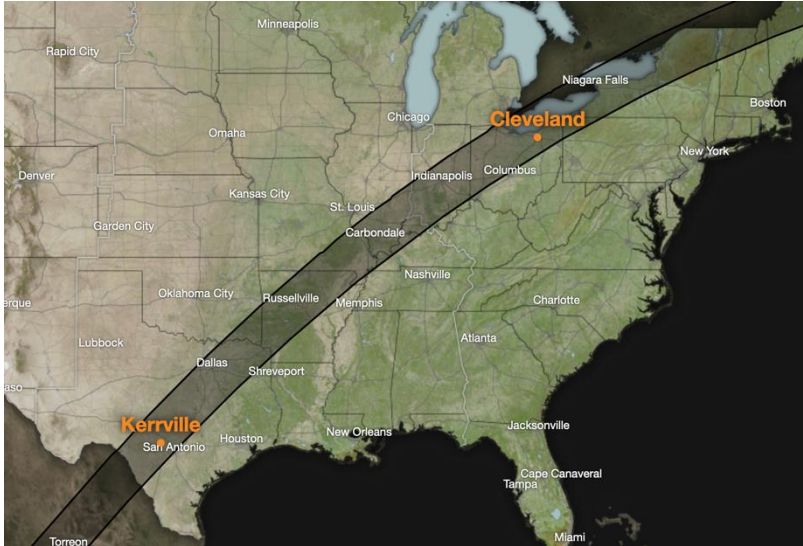
Gerry Bertsch



The tree in the lobby at the Community Center has been beautifully decorated once again, this time with an Easter theme. Thanks go out to those responsible.

Total Solar Eclipse in the U.S.

The U.S. will experience a total solar eclipse on Monday April 8, 2024. Who will be able to “see” the total solar eclipse? Below is a map showing the path of totality stretching from Texas northeast through southeast Missouri through Ohio into northern Maine.



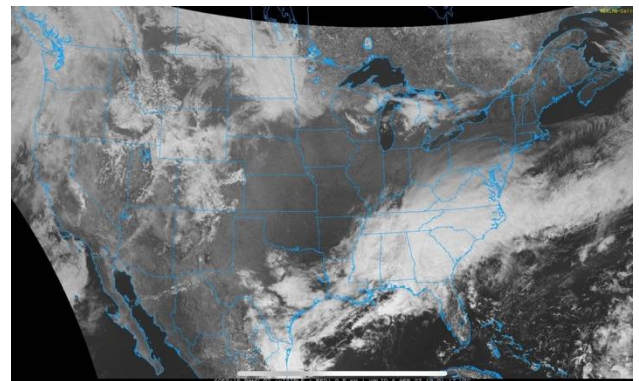
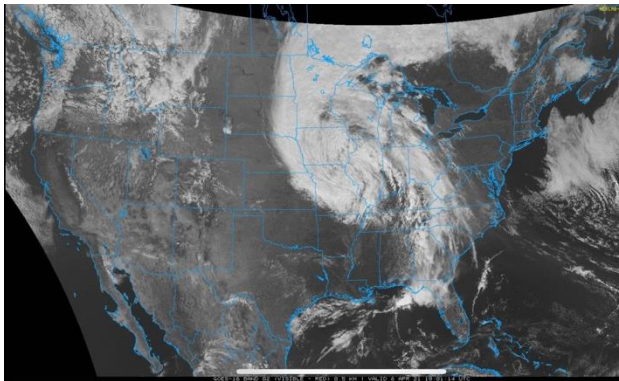
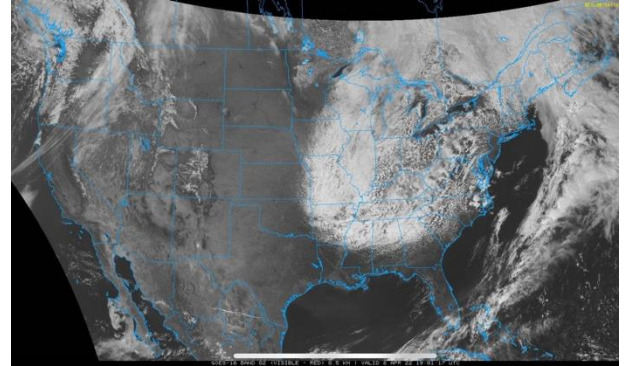
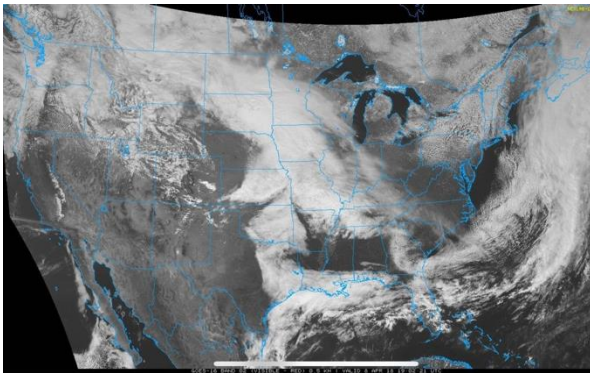
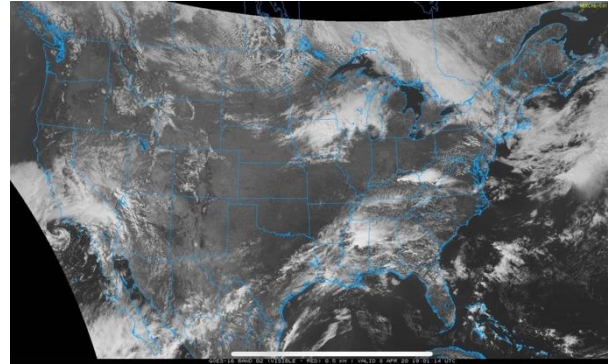
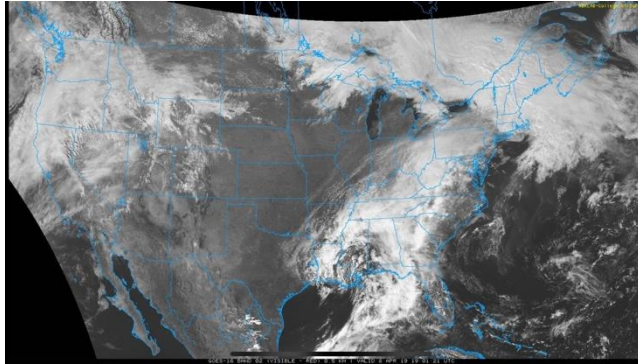
Key Points:

- The duration of totality can range from a few seconds to over four minutes.
- Maximum totality duration will occur near the center of the path.
- The Sun will be partially blocked out for about two and a half hours total in some locations.
- The eclipse occurs when our Moon blocks the Sun’s light.

The image below shows the percentages of the blocking of the Sun’s light outside of the totality path.



Of course, one has to hope for little or no cloudiness in their location in order to observe the eclipse. There is no guarantee your location on April 8, 2024, will have clear or nearly clear skies. Below are satellite pictures of the U.S. showing where clouds were located on April 8th in the past 6 years. It appears southwest Texas has a better chance of have little or no clouds on April 8th each year. Other locations are hit or miss.



Good luck observing the 2024 total solar eclipse! The next one will be on Aug. 23, 2044, and is observable only in North Dakota, Montana, Canada and Greenland.

