

Voice of the Village People

May 1, 2025 – Vol. 15, No. 9

GATHERINGS WHICH TAKE PLACE ON A WEEKLY BASIS:

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. The knitting/crafting/jigsaw puzzling group meets in the Sun Room at 2:00 P.M. every Thursday afternoon. And, finally, the men gather for conversation on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 A.M. Lively conversation is guaranteed at all of these activities.

GARBAGE PICKUP: May's bulky collection date is the second Thursday, May 8th.

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.

Please note that the **DEADLINE** for submitting info, photos, etc., for the June issue is Wednesday, May 28th.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CALENDAR ITEMS

Thursday, the 1st -- Cribbage (Conference Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Knitting Group (Sun Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Saturday, the 3rd – Bean Bag Baseball (Multi-Purpose Room) – 9:30 A.M.

Sunday, the 4th – J-Hawk Earlybird Triathlon – beginning at 8:00 A.M.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CALENDAR ITEMS, continued

Tuesday, the 6th -- Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) – 1:00 P.M.

Wednesday, the 7th – Movie Night (Multi-Purpose Room) – 6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, the 7th -- Hand and Foot (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Thursday, the 8th – Bulky garbage/recycling pickup
Poker (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Saturday, the 10th – Bean Bag Baseball (Multi-Purpose Room) – 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, the 13th – Paul at coffee this morning (Multi-Purpose Room) – 10:00 A.M.
Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) – 1:00 P.M.

Wednesday, the 14th – Duplicate Bridge (Meeting Room and Office) – 1:00 P.M.
Rummikub (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Thursday, the 15th – Bring-your-money Qdoba lunch (Multi-Purpose Room) – 4:30 P.M.
Cribbage (Conference Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Saturday, the 17th – Bean Bag Baseball (Multi-Purpose Room) – 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, the 20th -- Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) – 1:00 P.M.

Wednesday, the 21st -- Hand and Foot (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Thursday, the 22nd – Prairie Chicks (meet at Community Center to carpool to lunch) – 11:15 A.M.
Poker (Game Room) – 2:00 P.M.

Saturday, the 24th – Bean Bag Baseball (Multi-Purpose Room) – 9:30 A.M.

Tuesday, the 27th -- Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) – 1:00 P.M.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CALENDAR ITEMS, continued

Wednesday, the 28th – 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.

Saturday, the 31st – Bean Bag Baseball (Multi-Purpose Room) – 9:30 A.M.

PLEASE NOTE – Paul will be at coffee on Tuesday morning, the 13th, at 10:00 A.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. In the event that the supply at the Community Center has been depleted, additional copies are available at the front desk at Fairhaven.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS:

EARLY BIRD TRIATHLON

Sunday, May 4th

J-Hawk Aquatic Club is once again sponsoring this event. Participants will be running through Prairie Village with some runners appearing around 8 A.M. Please step outside and encourage the runners as they come through Prairie Village. They have indicated that runners especially appreciate Prairie Village as part of the route of their race.

Movie Night Wednesday, May 7th, at 6:30 P.M.

This is the third time I will schedule this movie. The Feb and March attempt to show this turned out to have horrible wind, snow, and ice. So, I canceled both months' showings.

Movie Night always loves to please its audience with their suggestions, and this is a good one.

This is a great opportunity to sit back and enjoy a blockbuster Academy Award Winner titled "Places in the Heart" with Sally Field, John Malkovich, Danny Glover, Ed Harris, Amy Madigan. We also have sub titles on this movie if you have hearing problems.

The movie is set in the 1930s in Waxahachie, Texas.

This is a picture that leaves an indelible impression of faith, courage, love, and most of all, endurance. You will love it.

Fresh popcorn, soda, and beer are always served.

SEE YOU AT THE MOVIES !

LUNCH BUFFET ON THE 15TH --

It's another bring-your-money event. On *May 15*, Qdoba will be catering a meal for us. Qdoba is a make-your-own buffet; there is a restaurant here in Whitewater. Mexican, yes, but not necessarily hot. You will pick the ingredients for your Qdoba Bowl; we will label each ingredient as to hot or mild. We will have chicken, brisket, rice, cheese, beans, salsa,



guacamole, sour cream, corn relish, chips, pico de gallo. *The cost will be \$15.00 and includes*

a burrito bowl, beverage and dessert. There is a sign-up sheet at the Community Center, and we ask you to pay at the event. We need to have our count by May 11; that is a bit early but we need to get our numbers to Qdoba so they can prepare for us. Arrival time is *4:30 and we will eat by 5:00*. The Social Committee hopes you will enjoy this no-work, no fuss meal!



A Prairie Village fun outing!

Prairie Villagers, you're invited to climb aboard our Prairie Village Conestoga wagon to take a trip to see & hear "Oklahoma, the Musical" at the Fireside Theatre. This American classic was the first show ushering in the immortal songwriting team of RODGERS and HAMMERSTEIN.

This bright, brassy & boisterous musical comedy is filled with colorful costumes, breathtaking dancing, side-splitting humor, and a musical score featuring such hits as "People Will Say We're in Love", "Surry with the Fringe On TOP" and the rousing title number "Oklahoma!" The special rate for our group is around \$10.00 less per person than if you went individually. Our show date is Sunday, Oct. 19th, 2025, and will include the big, beautiful Fireside brunch, offering many sumptuous selections. We will arrive around 10:30 A.M., giving you ample time to attend church prior to the brunch and show.

The cost is \$89.55 per person, and that **includes tax and TIP.**

Judith Moldenhauer is starting to take reservations, so call her at 262-473-4055 to reserve your seats, which are limited. She always has great seats, guaranteeing a wonderful time with your Prairie Village friends and neighbors for this outstanding show.

PRAIRIE CHICKS

Calling all Prairie Chicks -- May 22nd we will go to Paddy's Irish Pub in Fort Atkinson. Meet at the Community Center at 11:15 A.M. to carpool. After lunch we will go to the Hoard Museum. RSVP to Elizabeth Asher by May 15th

262-472-5783

CRIME BOOK CLUB

Our book selection for the month of April was *Good Bad Girl* by Alice Feeney. There were a few members who did not care for this book but the majority really enjoyed the read. Some read it twice! The author incorporated an interesting way of using flashbacks and character development to entice the reader to keep going. However, one of our members did not finish the book.

The book selected for the month of May is *The Spy Coast* by Tess Gerritsen. The author began her career as a medical doctor and then turned to writing and published her first novel in 1987. Her novels have been praised as “pulse-pounding fun” so we shall see.

As a reminder to you all, we will meet May 28th before we take a break for the summer months. That means after summer we will meet on August 27th just for me to distribute books for our September adventure.

In Crime, Kathy Schumacher

A question has arisen about the possibility of including Whitewater Unified School District music and theater events in our newsletter calendar. So – what are your thoughts? Please let Nelda know what you think of the idea.

And on a related note – Contact if you are interested in concerts or plays at the University. I will put information on the table in lobby of the Community Center. Look for it in September.

Elizabeth Asher

And, an Amish fund raiser will be taking place towards the end of May.

County Line Rd. and Hwy 59. They will be calling me with the date.

Have any questions call me. This is for their school. Cost is donations. Elizabeth Asher

May 2025 Prairie Village Library, Etc. Update

Our Library – A Gift

Our neighbor, Carolyn, shared a video of the interior of the Community Center at the April Resident Council meeting. When we got to the Library, she described it as “Kathy’s gift to us.” I thanked her then and now for that kind thought, but it made me think about how this gift of easy access to reading in Prairie Village came to be:

- There was a day when one or some of our original neighbors walked into what is now Caroline Forester’s second bedroom and made the first contributions of books and

bookcases to our Library. Nelda and the late Ron Bergsten donated at least one of those bookcases.

- Shortly after everything shut down with COVID, Pat Smith asked how we could get more large print books. Some came from the Whitewater Library, while most came from the Fairhaven Library.
- Sue Brey wondered if we could have a Little Free Library. Soon thereafter, Jim Schumacher asked when it could be put up. Shane Nieman, Director of Facilities and Grounds, came out in one of his early days on the job and met with a group of us to discuss its location. Next thing, we know, we have a Little Free Library! That was in April, 2020. For several months thereafter, our late neighbor Lee Murray regularly reported on the comings and goings there.
- Then there was the day (maybe days?) that John LaChance, a now retired maintenance worker and I spent in the Library sorting out how to get straight shelves in the bookcases where most of our mysteries currently are. That was an issue since those bookcases were originally designed with slanted shelves – like you’d use with newspapers and magazines
- Then there are our new bookcases and your donations to underwrite the materials expenses. Not to mention the many times I’ve found a cooler full of books or on my porch bench. I’ve assured several families who were cleaning out their parents’ homes that I’ll take anything they couldn’t use. I regularly find books in other Little Free Libraries and at the Community Space that become part of our collection.

So, you see, there are many people and circumstances that have contributed to this gift of our Prairie Village Library so we always have something to read. (Forgive me if there’s an obvious piece of our history that I’ve forgotten.)

What Books Can You Take from Our Library?

Someone asked if the books that were in the white boxes on the round table in the Library were there to be taken. The only “rules” for any books in our Library are:

- Take whatever you want – be it on the shelves, on the countertop, or on the “New to Us” tables. Christmas books and the Guidepost cozy mystery series are inside the corner cabinet on the wall.
- “You” for these “rules” is defined as all Prairie Village residents, family/friends, or Fairhaven staff.
- We’re grateful when you return our books (either to the return box in the Library itself or to the cooler on my porch-881 BOT). If you thought enough of a book to borrow it, somebody else may enjoy it, too.

If you’re curious about those books that were in the white boxes, I refer you to my email that Gary forwarded on February 14. For now, those authors (Baldacci, Connelly, Grisham, Housewright, Krueger, and Woods) are on top of the cabinet in the corner or on the right-hand bottom of the new bookcase #2 (Sandford and Silvia).

*Yes, there are temporarily two “New to Us” tables. For logistical and personal reasons, I fell behind with sorting for a couple of months. So, using the hallway table is a temporary overflow location for “new” books.

Bookcase #2

As some of you already know, Jim completed our second bookcase. Fairhaven Maintenance delivered and anchored it to the wall in the Puzzle Room on April 22nd. For now, it houses part of our History and People books. (The rest of those are in the small bookcase in that same room.) I decided to shelve all those together since frequently we have books by the same authors that haven’t been in the same category. We’ll see how that works out.

Little Free Library Back Home

By now you may have noticed that our newly refurbished Little Free Library is back home on the path between Acorn Ridge and Burr Oak Trail. Thanks again to Jim for doing the work. Thanks to Steve Cawkins, Fairhaven Maintenance, for taking it down and returning it. And, yes, there are books in it!

What’s on the Round Table in the Library

During the recent move of our People and History books, I saw several about local and state events that I have left on the round table. In case anybody’s interested.

Donations

Fiction, mystery-thrillers, history and people (biography, autobiography, and memoir) are always welcome. It works best for my “system” that donations are left on my porch in the cooler. Thanks to all of you who support our Library in any way. Questions and/or suggestions, let me know.

ETC.

Prescription Bottle Collection

Yes, I am still collecting clean, unlabeled prescription bottles -- thanks to those of you who leave them in the cooler on my porch. Forgive me if the following sounds ungrateful. Leaving bottles in the Library return box or any other place besides inside the cooler on my porch can result in my not getting them in our donation simply because I can easily leave it in the car, my coat pocket, etc. When I find them on the porch, I walk straight to the collection basket inside my front door with them. Again, I’m a systems person - thanks.

Greeting Cards Update

Thanks to all of you who have donated for the greeting cards offered by the Friends of Fairhaven since late summer. Those donations total \$325. To give context about how these funds are used, that’s a bit more than what we’ve budgeted for next year’s Epiphany Fruit.

I’m taking a break from the cards until August. Should you, however, have a card “emergency”, let me know. I have birthday, get well, sympathy, graduation, wedding, and miscellaneous cards that you’re welcome to look through. And, of course, you can shop for cards and other things in the Mini Mart on Monday and Wednesday afternoons.

Kathy Ross



Dear Prairie Village folks. Thanks so much for your love, care and support with Dolores's funeral. It was much appreciated.

Dick Piehl

Welcome to spring ??????

There was about five minutes of hail at about 7:30 A.M. on Friday, April 18th. The largest pieces were about the size of a quarter, which melted away quickly.

Tom Ganser



Cherry Pie

Now, if only the wind would stop blowing so hard, it would be easier to walk in the parking lot or cross the street. Walk on, I say, a warmer day will come to shed your clothes and take in the breeze. No one will notice or care that you've taken advantage of the sun, only that you've found joy

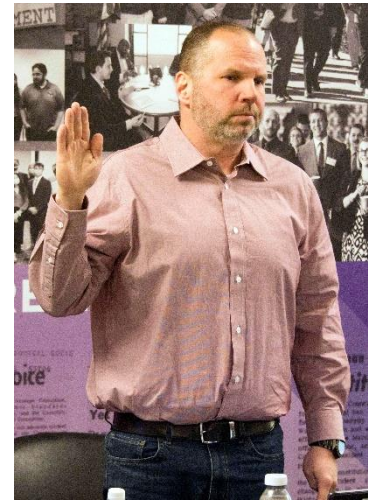
Gerry Bertsch (4/14/25)



Bob and Bev Aulik shared these pictures last week, sharing these wonderful harbingers of spring.



Patrick Singer was elected as President of the Common Council at their meeting on April 15, 2025, and the Oath of Office was administered by City Clerk Heath Boehm to Neil Hicks, Prairie Village's representative to the Council. Tom Ganser



Aldermanic District 5 (Wards 11,12,13)

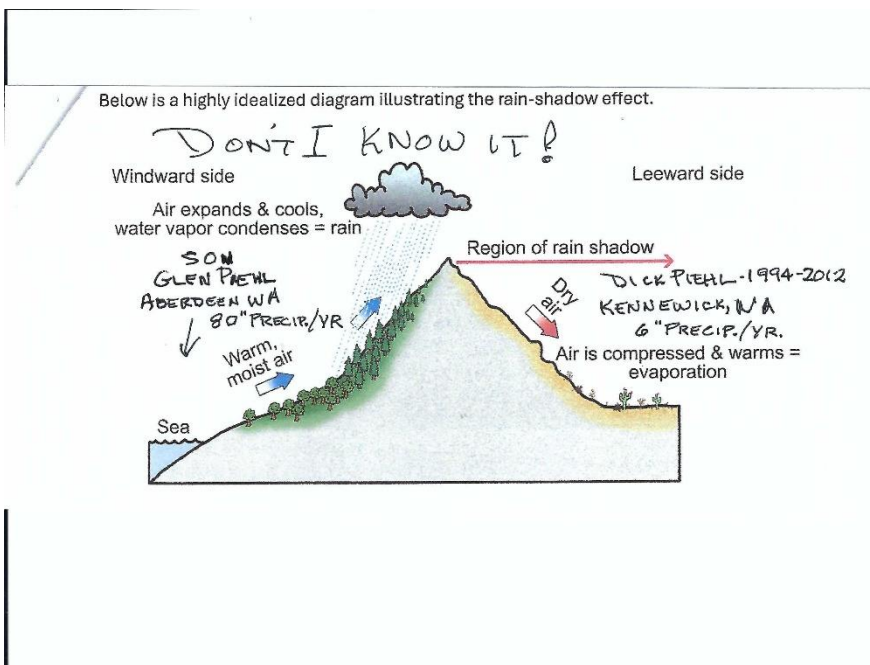
Neil Hicks

Term expires: 2027

Address: 1254 Tower Hill Pass

Phone: 920-723-7859

Email: nhicks@whitewater-wi.gov



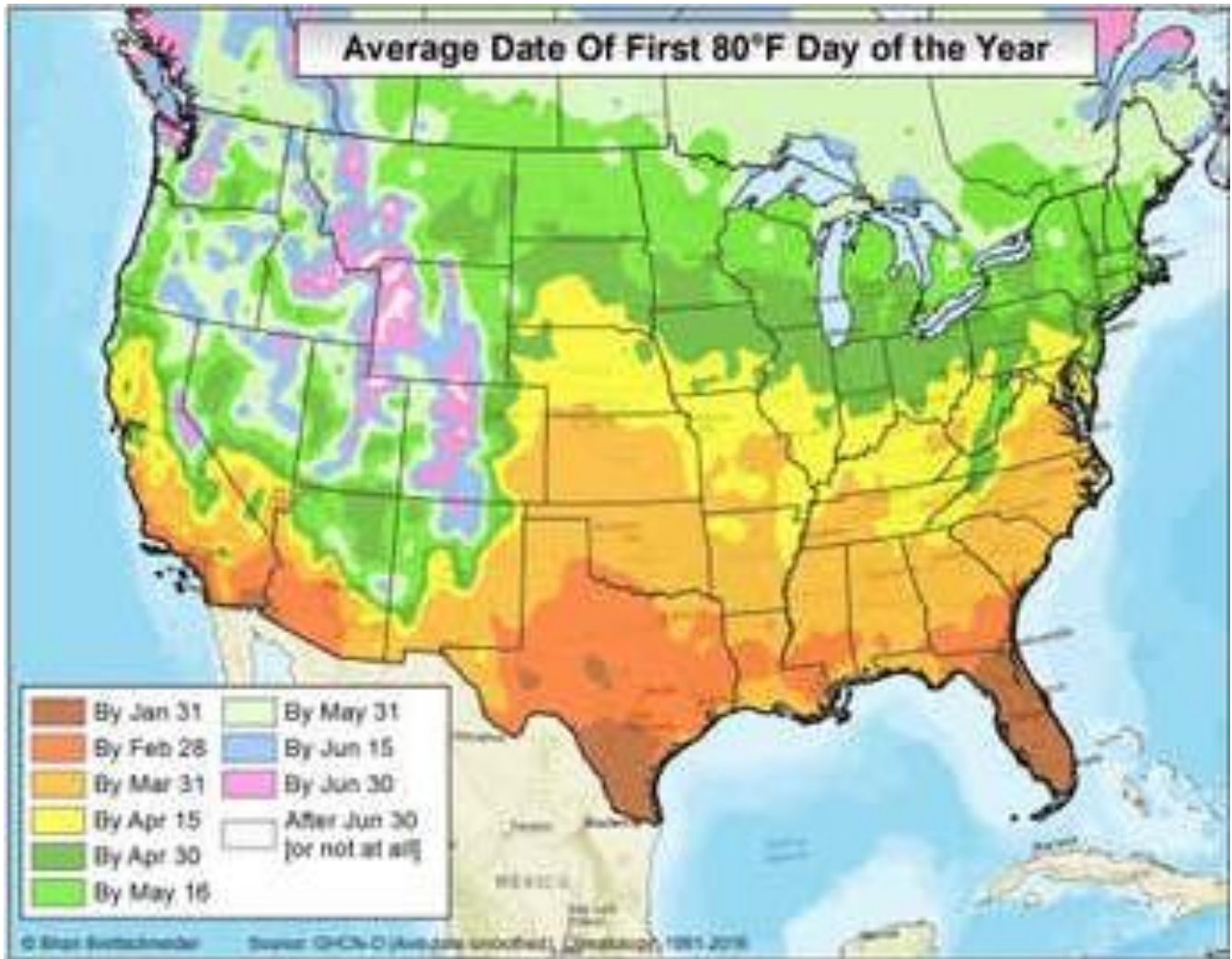
After noting Rusty Kapela's weather article last month, Dick Piehl apparently felt compelled to share his thoughts on the "rain shadow effect" of mountains.

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

Many people associate summer with daytime maximum temperatures in the 80s.

Temperatures across the U.S. really start to warm up in the months of April and May, leading to summer during the months of June-July-August. Many locations start to experience daytime temperatures in the 80s, which can be very welcoming after a long, cold winter.

So, let's take a look at when temperatures normally start to reach 80 degrees or higher across the U.S. Below is a map showing the average date of the first observed day of the year with 80F or more.



Key Points:

- Southern parts of California, Arizona, Texas and Florida usually experience their first 80F by the end of January!...but this doesn't happen every day at that time of the year.
- By April 15th much of the southeast quarter of the nation has seen a day with 80F.
- By the end of May the far northern areas near the Canadian border have experience 80F.
- Higher mountain elevations over the Western U.S. and the Appalachian Mountains experience 80F later than surrounding lowlands and valleys.
- Enjoy your summer!!!