

Voice of the Village People

December 2025 - Vol. 16, No. 04

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 the Girl Talk gatherings (ladies only, please) on Fridays at 10:00 A.M. in the Library at the Community Center. The kitting/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: December's collection date is the second Thursday, December 11. A copy of the schedule has been posted at the Community Center.

MEALS, MEALS - DO YOU NEED MEALS? For long-term, due to 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 an interest in sharing information with other residents - either e-mail to Carolyn at behrecar@gmail.com or deliver or mail a "hard" copy to 833 Acorn Ridge.

Please note that the DEADLINE for submitting info, photos, etc., for the January issue is December 27.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CALENDAR ITEMS

Tuesday, the 2nd - Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room) 1:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, the 3rd - Duplicate Bridge (Office and Meeting Room), 2:00
Hand and Foot, (Game Room), 2:00 p.m.**

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CALENDAR ITEMS, continued

Thursday, the 4th - Cribbage, (Game Room), 2:00 p.m.

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

Tuesday, the 9th - Tuesday Bridge (Multi-Purpose Room), 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, the 10th - Rummikub (Game Room), 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, the 11th - Poker (Game Room), 2:00 p.m.

Knitting/Crafting/Jigsaw Puzzling Group (Sun 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.

Wednesday, the 17th- Hand and Foot (Game Room), 2:00 P.M.

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

Knitting/Crafting/Jigsaw Puzzling Group (Sun Room), 2:00 P.M.

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

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

Wednesday, the 24th - Rummikub (Game Room), 2:00 P.M.

Thursday, the 25th - CHRISTMAS

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.

Wednesday, the 31st - Hand and Foot (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. 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:

A note from the Social Committee:

As you know, this year the Social Committee has planned some Bring-Your-Money events for which we ask for a specific contribution to cover the entire cost of the meal/dessert. For other events, we do not charge a flat amount because we include pot-luck items and items provided by the Social Committee (brats, chicken, buns). Instead, we ask for free-will donations that will cover the cost of the food items purchased by the Committee (as well as napkins, beverages, cups, dish soap, etc). All money collected is put in the treasury and is used to cover individual expenditures by the committee. Extra monies may be used for replacement items for the kitchen or for holiday meals for residents. It should be noted that we independently support our social events. We receive no monies from Fairhaven or any other organization.

The Turkey Dinner was sponsored by the Social Committee; \$7.00 was contributed for the \$17.00 per meal charge. We paid \$1323 for the meal which included a tip. The treasury balance is \$178.52: \$154.14 goes to the Social Committee, \$24.38 goes for Community Center decorating.

FILTERS AND SALT:

It is that time of year again . . . time to think about preparing for/responding to our winter weather. If anyone needs additional salt for sidewalks, driveways, etc., it is available in buckets on the front porch at the Community Center. Furnace filters are available in the Community Center and can be found on a wooden shelf in the storeroom across the hall from the kitchen.





Our December Gathering will be an Old Fashioned Christmas Potluck and will include a sing-a-long. The date is Saturday, December 13. We will gather at 4:30 for socialization and will eat at 5:00. You may sign up for the meal in the Community Center. There will be a suggested donation to cover the cost of supplies. Please sign up by December 11. You will also have the opportunity to sign up for volunteer tasks. We appreciate the help that many, many of you offer for each event. There will be Christmas singing by the Warblers Hopefully, this will be a good start to your Holiday Season.

Shannon will attend the Coffee Hour on December 9 at 10:30.

**Deadline for the January Newsletter
will be December 27**



Stop and admire the new Christmas Tree in the foyer of the Community Center:

We would like to thank Mary Ann and Bob Ehrike for donating our beautiful new Christmas Tree to the Community Center. Their support helps make our community events even more festive and enjoyable for everyone.

Chasing Leaves

In New York City no one bothers to pick up leaves. Children marvel at their design and collect a few on assignment from school. Adults try to avoid the ginkgo seeds lying in ambush underfoot. The odor. But

I love the sight of autumn winds chasing leaves that they can't catch. A light snowfall traps them and steals their crackle. Then, silence, except for the wail of the wind blowing sad regrets thru empty branches.

11/9/2025 Gerry Bertsch

Upcoming Events - Judith Moldenhauer

Movie Night: Monday, December 8, 2025



Join us for Movie Night on Monday, December 8, 2025, at 6:00 PM, as we watch the classic 1983 film, A Christmas Story. This beloved movie follows the adventures of Ralphie Parker, a young boy in the 1940s, as he tries to convince his parents, teachers, and even Santa Claus that a Red Ryder B.B. gun is the perfect Christmas gift. Share in the fun and nostalgia of this timeless holiday tale while enjoying buttered popcorn, soda, and beer, which will be available throughout the evening.

Movie Night 2026: Introducing “LUDWIG”

Looking ahead to next year, beginning on Monday, January 5, 2026, we are excited to present a British series titled LUDWIG for our monthly Movie Night.

This captivating series centers on a brilliant, middle-aged, and shy man who is known for creating puzzles for newspapers and publishing puzzle books. The main storyline unfolds when his

identical twin’s wife reaches out to him after her husband, a police detective, goes missing. She asks him for help in finding her husband, setting off a compelling thread that runs through the series. Each episode also offers an additional, unique story, ensuring a fresh and engaging experience every month. As always, enjoy buttered popcorn and beverages while you watch.

Movie Night dates for 2026 are as follows: Monday, January 5; February 9; March 9; April 13; and May 11. All at 6:00 pm.



December 2025 Prairie Village Library, Etc. Update

Library News

Christmas books are on the Ping Pong Table through early January. Our puzzle master, Shirely Kurth, has Christmas puzzles displayed on that countertop. Enjoy! Please check the “new to us” books on the countertop in the corner by the Fiction bookshelves, when you’re looking for your next great read.

Books (fiction, mystery-thrillers, and non-fiction “People”) are always welcome. Please leave in the cooler on my porch – 881 BOT. Puzzle donations can be left in the Librar

ETC

The Whitewater Library reopens December 8. I’ve been there – and it is a remarkable transformation.

Whatever prescription bottles you leave in my porch cooler are recycled to Rock County Health Net.

Christmas greeting cards are available at the Community Center. Please remember to pay!!!

Thanks for supporting Friends of Fairhaven/Mini Mart.

Food donations to the Community Space – At last count, between us, Fairhaven and Hearthstone, we donated almost 500 food items in November. As I understand it from the Fairhaven newsletter, the donation boxes at Hearthstone and Fairhaven were to be removed at the end of November. I’m going to keep our box in the Library and will take in whatever is left there. We’ve focused on non-perishable items, but should you have perishable items to donate, give me a call to discuss how to do that – with or without me taking in your donations. Money donations are always appreciated.

Questions/suggestions, please ask - Kathy Ross

MENDING SERVICES

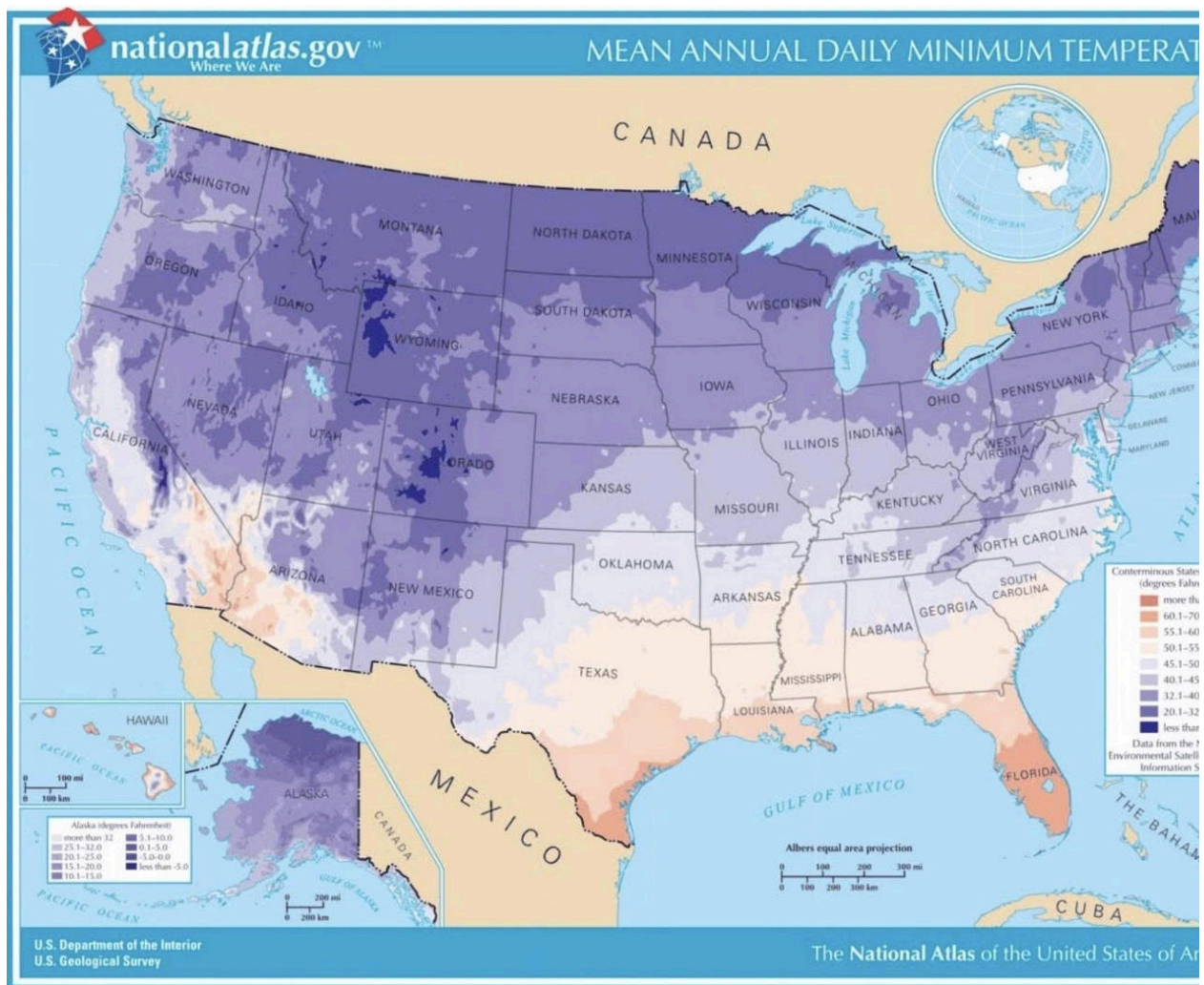
Do you have articles of clothing that need repair and/or alternations. I would be pleased to offer my services to handle those problems. Please contact me at 854 Acorn Ridge or call me at 651-341-4264. Caroline Forster

Cold Overnight Minimum Temperatures This Winter – Happens Every Year!

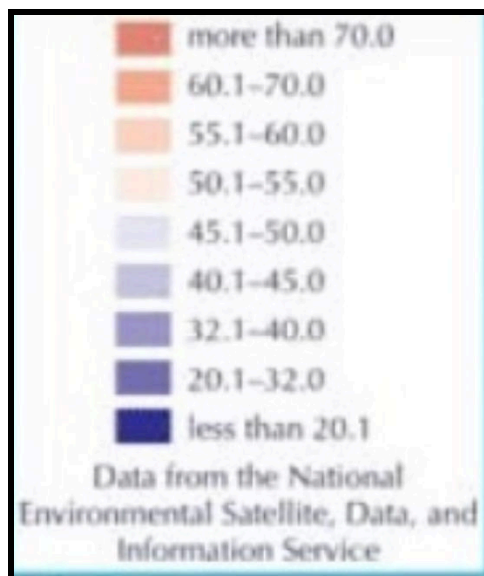
As usual, we've entered into yet another winter season and we have to put up with cold overnight minimum temperatures. This is especially true in the northern States and up in the mountains. This means some of us will experience blizzards, snowstorms, ice storms and just general crappy weather.

For the most part our coldest overnight minimum temperatures occur during the months of December, January and February. For simplicity, let's calculate that overnight minimum temperature such that half of the nights during the entire year have a minimum temperature below that value and half of the nights during the year have a minimum temperature above that value. This value is known as the "mean" annual daily minimum temperature.

Below is a map showing the mean annual daily minimum temperature. The lowest or coldest values are in the northern states and mountainous areas. No surprises here, but at least you can see the gradients and changes from state to state. Keep in mind – our cold overnight minimum temperatures during the winter season skew the yearly mean value to lower readings than what you would expect.



The colored temperature legend associated with the map above is difficult to read, so below is a zoomed-in version. Values are in Fahrenheit (F).



Key Points:

- Those locations shaded with light tan and darker oranges have mean annual minimum temperatures of 50F or higher.
- Those locations shaded with light gray and darker blue colors have mean annual minimum temperatures colder than 50F.
- Here are some values for the warmer locations: Atlanta GA – 50, Phoenix AZ – 64, Miami FL – 70.
- Here are some values for the colder locations: Duluth MN – 31, Denver CO – 36, Chicago IL – 38, Cleveland OH – 39.

Below is map showing the all-time coldest temperatures observed in each state. Where do you live?

