

theVillage

May/June 2021



Photographed by Kylee Kinsman

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Winter (November) | Spring & Summer (April) | Fall (August)

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Police Department Celebrates 50 Years of Service

The Pleasant Prairie Town Board established the Pleasant Prairie Police Department in 1971. The department began with a five-person part-time police force, which phased out the previous three-person Pleasant Prairie Township Constables. Leonard Clark, who had previously served as a Pleasant Prairie constable for 18-years, became the township Police Chief. The newly formed municipal police force held similar duties to constables, enforcing township ordinances, and wore badges and arm patches to identify them as Pleasant Prairie Police.

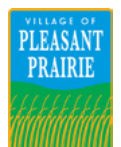
For several years the department was staffed by part-time officers and did not provide 24-hour coverage. It wasn't until 1980 that Pleasant Prairie appointed its first full-time Police Chief, Raymond Gram, and hired its first full-time officers.

By 1981 the Pleasant Prairie Police Department was a 24-hour operation with four full-time officers, including Chief Gram, supplemented with part-time officers. After incorporating as a Village in 1989, the department's size grew dramatically from seven full-time township officers.

April 30, 2021, marked 50 years for the Pleasant Prairie Police Department. The Police Department now consists of 36 full-time officers patrolling an area covering approximately 33 square miles with 20,000 residents and is lead by Police Chief David Smetana. Chief Smetana's priority is addressing the department's need for critical incident preparedness. The amount of training offered in the police department has increased in recent years; evidence collection, accident investigation, human trafficking, animal

neglect, impaired driving, and death investigation are just a few Pleasant Prairie Officers' training opportunities.

Over the last 50 years, many dedicated officers have provided outstanding public service to Pleasant Prairie citizens, serving the community in multiple capacities. Duties in the Police Department have grown to include Detective Bureau, S.W.A.T., K-9 and Motorcycle Units, Hostage Negotiation, and more. New technologies are used, like 360° HD in-squad camera systems and body cameras, to help protect officers and gather evidence. Pleasant Prairie Police's mission is to be the model of excellence in policing by building partnerships with our community and being professional, competent, and compassionate. ■



*Invested in
Community!*

Beverly Woods Storm Water Improvements

Following a virtual public hearing on Monday, March 15, the Village Board approved Final Resolution #21-10, authorizing the construction of public improvements and levying special assessments against benefited properties connected with the Beverly Woods Storm Water Improvement Project. Area residents petitioned the Village Board in 2017 to repave the streets; however, before pavement rehabilitation can move forward, improvements need to be made to the subdivision's storm water system. Beverly Woods Subdivision is located between 83rd and 85th Streets and 43rd Avenue and Cooper Road.

The total cost of the storm water improvement project is around \$1.4M. The Village is paying for the initial installation of the storm water improvements with the Clean Water Utility. The utility will cover the cost associated with replacing the existing inadequate storm water infrastructure. A portion of the project will be reimbursed to the utility by a special assessment district consisting of one hundred benefited properties. The project's special assessment totals approximately \$422,663 and covers all new and necessary additions to the storm water system. The average rate per single-family lot is \$4,357. Property owners may pay the active assessment in full within 30-days or pay ten annual installments at an interest rate of 6.25%.



The virtual public hearing allowed attendees to ask questions about the proposed improvements and assessments. Poor roadside drainage contributes to premature roadway and asphalt deterioration, leading to future repair investments in shorter periods. Members of the Village Board determined the project needed to move forward to improve the area's inadequate roadside drainage. Replacing the subdivision's obsolete and aging infrastructure will allow pavement rehabilitation to begin. The storm water and repaving projects are both anticipated to be completed in 2021. □

Two Infrastructure Improvement Contracts Awarded

During an April 5 meeting, the Village Board awarded contracts for two infrastructure improvement projects. The contract for the Beverly Woods Storm Water Improvement project was awarded to Reesman's Excavating & Grading, Inc., of Burlington WI, for \$1,255,109.75. A separate contract for the first phase of the Chateau Eau Plaines Water Main Relay project was awarded to Campanella & Sons, Inc. for \$1,872,844.26.

The Beverly Woods Storm Water Improvement project is moving forward to correct the subdivision's rural cross-section roadways that were platted in the 1970s. The improvements will replace failing storm sewer infrastructure to improve roadside drainage, generally consisting of new storm sewers, inlets, sump pump laterals, and ditching that will redirect storm water to a regional

storm water management pond. The work is being completed to prepare Beverly Woods for road repaving.

The second project is focusing on replacing the water mains within the Chateau Eau Plaines Subdivision. The original ductile iron pipes installed in 1977 need to be replaced. The native soils in the area have corroded the water



mains. Pipe leaks were observed during Chateau's 2020 storm sewer construction project. Village staff inventoried the area's water mains that need replacement and decided to move forward with the project to prevent drinkable water loss and minimize the need for emergency repairs. The project consists of two phases. The first phase is budgeted for 2021 and will replace the aging water mains in the Chateau storm water project area before repaving the subdivision's roadways.

Sealed bids were accepted for each project. Village staff received seven bids for the Beverly Woods Storm Water Improvement project and three bids for the Chateau Eau Plaines Phase 1 Water Main Relay project. Reesman's Excavating & Grading and Campanella & Sons had both submitted the lowest bid for their respective projects. □

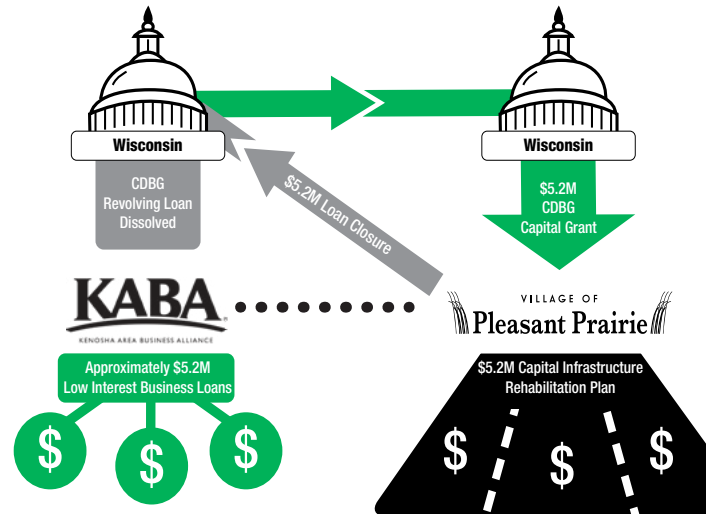
Pleasant Prairie, KABA Partner to Retain Grant Funds

The Village of Pleasant Prairie applied for a grant on behalf of Kenosha Area Business Alliance (KABA) to retain funds currently connected with a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Revolving Loan Fund that KABA administers.

The State is currently working to dissolve CDBG Revolving Loan programs statewide. The State asked loan administrators to either return Revolving Loan dollars or partner with a municipality to redirect those funds to qualifying projects under the CDBG Capital Grant Program. KABA manages the CDBG Revolving Loan program in Kenosha County, totaling about \$5.2 million. KABA approached the Village and through discussions were able to identify qualifying projects in Pleasant Prairie for the CDBG Capital Grant program.

Identified projects support areas in need of rehabilitation due to aging infrastructures (sanitary sewer, storm water, roads, and water lines). Sections in Chateau, Timber Ridge, Beverly Woods, and South of 85th Street are the top four areas for improvements. The combined various cost associated with the projects consists of approximately \$5.2 million. KABA received approval from the State of Wisconsin. Because the projects were already part of the Village's existing Capital Plan, there is no financial impact to the Village. The plan consisted of Pleasant Prairie paying \$5.2 million to the State to dissolve the CDBG Revolving Loan program, with the State then issuing \$5.2 million in CDBG Capital Grant funds to Pleasant Prairie, and KABA can retain the \$5.2 million CDBG Loan Funds to continue programs that aim to ensure future investments, raise the tax base, and develop high paying jobs throughout the community.

"The Village and KABA have a long history of working together," said Nathan Thiel, Village Administrator. "The Village is grateful to play a supportive role. KABA is a phenomenal partner and an asset to Kenosha County and our community."



The above graphic is a visual representation of the steps taken to close the CDBG Revolving Loan Program.

The Village Board, on September 21, 2020, adopted Resolution 20-24 to approve the Citizen Participation Plan for the CDBG Capital Grant Program. The adoption of the resolution was the initial step to applying for the CDBG Capital Grant. By executing the plan, in essence, the Village pays the funds to the State of Wisconsin that KABA is required to return, and the State re-issues the amount to the Village in the form of a capital grant.

"We appreciate our long-standing partnership with the Village of Pleasant Prairie and their willingness to work with us to ensure this funding remains in Kenosha County, ready to help companies here continue to thrive," said Todd Battle, KABA President.

Since 2013, KABA has helped secure over 4,000 jobs, \$1 billion of capital investment, and 8.5 million square feet of new buildings. □

Highway 50 Construction Update

The Highway 50 reconstruction project is underway by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT). Travelers should plan extra time when traveling in the area and use alternate routes when possible. Work crews ask drivers to slow down and use extreme caution when driving through construction zones. Obey the posted speed limit and signing. Watch for workers or flaggers and do not use cell phones or text. WisDOT recommends motorists detour along Green Bay Road, STH 158, 118th Avenue and East Frontage Road during construction periods.



Long-term Closures

- 74th Street access east of 104th Avenue is scheduled to close long-term.
- 91st Avenue north of STH 50 will close long-term.
- 94th Avenue is scheduled to close to traffic from 74th Street to St. Catherine's Drive for approximately two months.
- STH 50 eastbound exit and entrance ramps at 77th Avenue are scheduled to close to traffic through summer.

Access to residences and businesses will be maintained. □

Old Green Bay Road Closure for Second Phase of Main Street Market

Bear Development is working on the second phase of construction for Main Street Market. On March 22, work crews started reconstructing a section of Old Green Bay Road between 95th Street and an area between the Froedtert South Clinic's north and south driveways.

Construction crews will maintain access to the clinic throughout construction from the clinic's south driveway. Message boards are installed on both ends of Old Green Bay Road, at 95th Street and State Trunk Highway 165 (STH 165), letting drivers know access to the clinic is from the south entrance off Old Green Bay Road, near STH 165.

The goal for the second phase of construction is to widen Old Green Bay Road, between STH 165 and 95th Street, to accommodate increased traffic to Main Street Market. Phase two detours traffic along 95th Street, Green Bay Road, and STH 165. The project team thanks drivers for their patience throughout the construction period and anticipates project completion by early July. ☐

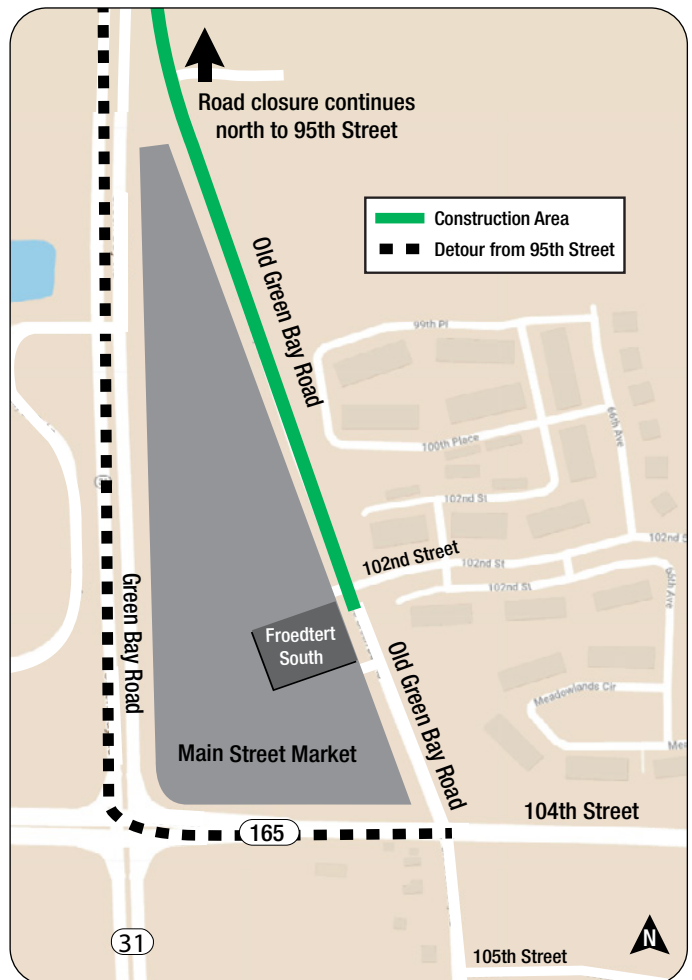


Photo Contest

Submit photos to the **Pleasant Prairie Through Your Frame Photo Contest**, and your photos could appear in a Village Calendar, on the Village website, or in other Village communications. The Village of Pleasant Prairie is seeking photos that portray the beauty of the community throughout the year.

All photos must be taken within the Village of Pleasant Prairie. Minors must have parental consent to enter the contest. The entry form and complete list of contest rules are available at PleasantPrairieWi.gov/Photo.

Entries must be submitted by August 13 and open voting will be August 16-20. We look forward to seeing your photos! ☐

Rummage/Garage Sale Seasonal Reminders

The Village has specific guidelines that must be followed when you consider having a rummage/garage sale.

Rummage/garage sales may be held no more than six calendar days, whether or not consecutive, within any calendar year per property. Only personal property can be sold.



Rummage/garage sales cannot be held between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. One unlighted temporary sign of not more than 18 square feet per side and less than five feet in height is permitted on the property having the sale. The sign may only be displayed for three days and must be removed within 24 hours of the close of sale.

If you have any questions related to rummage/garage sales ordinance, contact the Village Clerk by email at clerksoffice@plprairie.com or call **262.694.1400**. ☐

Transforming the Village's Digital Payment Experience

The Village of Pleasant Prairie's Finance Department is transitioning to Invoice Cloud for online payments. The new cloud-based payment software will significantly enhance the Village's digital payment process, creating a new and improved user interface. The Village plans to adopt the enhanced payment technology that provides safer and easier ways to pay bills before the end of 2021.

Village utility bills, including water, sewer, garbage and recycling, and clean water, will be the first payments to transition to the new technology. By the end of 2021, the new system will also allow real estate tax and parking ticket payments. Users will be able to schedule one-time payments, set calendar reminders, enroll in an auto payment, and save checking or credit information for easy payments in the future. Payments can be made online, by text, or by phone. The software will make it easy for residents to transition from paper to paperless. The main goal behind switching to the Invoice Cloud payment solution is to create a simple and secure experience for users to pay when, how, and where they want. □

"Migrating to Invoice Cloud will bring modern online payment solutions to Pleasant Prairie residents," said Kathy Goessl, Finance Director. "Combining the Village's various payments in one place will bring convenient options that allow users to set payment reminders and schedule digital payments." □

InvoiceCloud™



Kenosha County COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center



Kenosha County has set up a call center to help schedule COVID-19 vaccinations. The call center is available Monday to Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The Kenosha County COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center can be reached at **262-605-6799**. Appointments can also be made online at bit.ly/KCCCOVIDHub

Appointments are limited to people that live or work in Kenosha County and meet the current Wisconsin Vaccine Group priority. □


KENOSHA COUNTY
Public Health

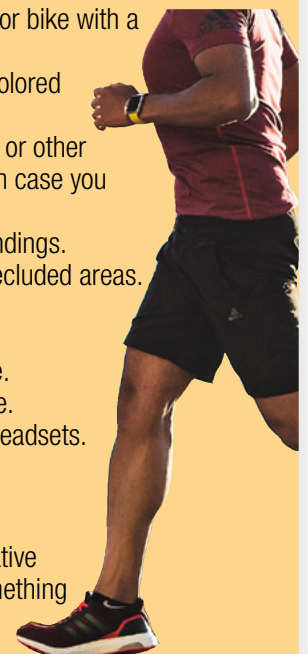
262-605-6799
8 a.m.—5 p.m. • Monday—Friday • Hablamos Español

Walkers, Runners, and Cyclists Safety

The Pleasant Prairie Police Department wants to remind walkers, runners, and cyclists to take the following steps to remain safe when out on the bike trails and when walking in public areas.

- When possible walk, jog or bike with a buddy.
- Wear reflective or light-colored clothing at night.
- Always take a cell phone or other device to communicate in case you need to call for help.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Avoid walking alone in secluded areas.
- Keep your keys ready.
- Walk with confidence.
- Carry an alarm or whistle.
- Don't talk on a cell phone.
- Avoid using earbuds or headsets.
- Make eye contact.
- Go with your instincts.

These are just a few preventative safety tips, but if you see something suspicious call the police. □



Progress in the Prairie

HARIBO



HARIBO held a private groundbreaking celebration in December 2020 to commemorate the company's 100th Anniversary. HARIBO has begun constructing its first North American manufacturing facility in Pleasant Prairie. The 137-acre development site is located off 122nd Avenue and Goldbear Drive. The vertical walls being constructed in Prairie Highlands Corporate Park can be seen from a distance when looking west across I-94. The future facility will be approximately 500,000 square feet and represents more than a \$300 million investment. The company plans to initially produce HARIBO's iconic Goldbears with more fan favorites to follow. HARIBO expects the first phase of construction will be completed by late 2022. □

Kroger



Kroger and its U.K.-based technology partner, Ocado, are progressing on their new fulfillment center in Pleasant Prairie. The 58.4-acre development site includes a 30,000 square foot office space building, with an attached 300,000 square-foot fulfillment center that will be air-conditioned and refrigerated to store food products. The new facility is located at 9091 88th Avenue. It will serve as an automated grocery and home delivery fulfillment center that will fulfill orders for customers in Wisconsin, northern Illinois, and northwest Indiana. The fulfillment of customer orders will be facilitated on-site by automated and manual product selection methods. Company officials anticipate the facility will employ 400 people at startup and potentially 700 within five years. □

Nexus



Nexus Pharmaceuticals has made excellent progress on their three-story, 84,000 square foot manufacturing facility in Prairie Highlands Corporate Park. The company is nearly complete with Phase One of their multi-phase, multi-year project that consists of constructing an almost \$100 million plant with cutting-edge technology to support sterile injectable drug production. The facility expects to create more than 77 new jobs in high-tech manufacturing, analytical testing, quality control, and supply chain management. Nexus anticipates commercial production will commence in 2022. □

Pleasant Prairie Power Plant Demo



We Energies initiated abatement plans for the Pleasant Prairie Power Plant. The razing project started with outbuildings and disconnecting utilities. The power plant property covers nearly 570 acres, stretching north from 95th Street to Highway 50, taking up the area between the Union-Pacific and Canadian-Pacific railways. The restoration of the entire site will continue throughout 2021. We Energies plans to retain about 80 acres of land for the substation and transmission lines to continue operations and sell the remaining property to support future developments. □

River View Neighborhood Project Advancing



On Monday, April 19, the Pleasant Prairie Village Board approved five requests from Fiduciary Pleasant Prairie HC, LLC (FRED) for the River View project, which will develop 95 acres of vacant land located south of State Trunk Highway 50 between 104th and 115th Avenues. The approvals advance the River View Neighborhood project, which received conditional Master Conceptual Plan approval in February 2020.

Portions of public right-of-ways were platted in 1977 and were never constructed due to the resources needed to improve the property. A Certified Survey Map and Land Division and Development Control Agreement were created to incorporate new dedicated rights-of-way and easements.

The River View Neighborhood project separates development property into four separate lots. The first totals 30.13 acres, designated for the Seasons at River View multi-family apartment development. The second lot will be for future senior housing on 22.32 acres. The third lot, 2.95 acres, and the fourth lot, 21 acres, are intended for future commercial development. The Village Board approvals allow public and private improvements to be made to the vacant land.

The Village Board also approved amendments to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Zoning Map, and Zoning Text. The development property will include several storm water basins that will evacuate water west to the Kilbourn Road Ditch. Approximately 13.9 acres of wetlands within the development site will remain undisturbed and transition into the Park, Recreation, and Other Open Space lands.

FRED plans to begin construction shortly after closing on the property in May. The 300-unit Seasons at River View apartment complex will be the first development. The multi-family housing will consist of 16 two-story buildings, 12 buildings with 20-units, and four 15-unit buildings. Community amenities will feature a clubhouse with a fitness facility, resort-style pool, and leasing office with on-site management. □

Green Bay Trail Condominiums



Kenosha-based Harpe Development LLC is making significant progress on the Green Bay Trail Condominiums project. The development is located on the southeast corner of Old Green Bay Road and 104th Street (STH 165), near the Main Street Market development. The project consists of 20 multi-unit buildings, with a total of 40 units. The condominium development plan has 20 two-unit ranch-style condos that incorporate two-car attached garages and full basements. □

Vista at Creekside



The Vista at Creekside completed development on 14.5 acres, located at 91st Street and Old Green Bay Road, extending from Creekside Circle. The apartment development features 20 apartment homes in each of the seven buildings, with detached garage buildings and a resort-style clubhouse. Buildings are thoughtfully designed to be both functional and attractive, offering residents one, two, and three-bedroom floor plan layouts. The homes are income-restricted and have varying levels of requirements to qualify. □

Pleasant Prairie Contracts Mueller Communications

Education Campaign for Public Safety Staffing

On Monday, April 5, the Village Board approved a Letter of Agreement between the Village of Pleasant Prairie and Mueller Communications (Mueller). The Milwaukee-based marketing and communication firm has significant experience working with municipalities on public education campaigns in advance of referendums. Mueller will assess public safety staffing options, propose the best possible solutions, facilitate public discussion, and prepare for a potential referendum in 2022.

Over the past several years, the Village Board and Staff have evaluated public safety staffing needs, particularly in Fire & Rescue. In 2018, the Fire Chief conducted an internal assessment of the Fire Department. In 2019, McGrath Consulting conducted a third-party review of Fire & Rescue, which provided staffing recommendations. In 2020, the Village Administrator and Fire Chief further evaluated staffing recommendations and provided guidance to the Village Board. Now that the Village has thoroughly studied the public safety staffing issue, Village Staff is prepared to engage the community.



Mueller Communications

“We know our public safety staffing needs and now need to know what the community will support,” said Nathan Thiel, Village Administrator. “The Village plans to utilize Mueller’s services to promote community engagement and education around the need for additional Fire & Rescue and Police staff, and conduct research to bring a solution forward.”

Mueller’s process consists of a three-phased approach:

- Phase One is a research and assessment phase that will collect data and develop an Options Assessment that outlines the Village’s budget challenges and potential funding solutions.
- Phase Two will distribute an educational community survey to all Pleasant Prairie homes, informing residents about the public safety-related challenges and seek community feedback on available options to fund new Fire & Rescue and Police personnel. The survey results will help Village Staff understand community perception and guide the Village’s funding option.
- Phase Three focuses on educating the public on the referendum question. It is dependent on the community survey feedback, which will determine if the Village should move forward with a referendum.

Mueller quoted the first two phases in the three-phase process at approximately \$19,000. The Village has sufficient funds in reserves due to a one-time 2020 project expense for referendum marketing that the Village did not use. Payment for Mueller’s services will utilize reserve funds through a 2021 budget amendment. This item supports Village Strategic Initiative Seven to develop financial strategies, including a referendum to support an increase in public safety staffing and Fire Station 3. □

Fire Department Conducts Hazmat Training

On March 20, the Pleasant Prairie Fire Department conducted an eight-hour Hazmat training to mitigate a possible chlorine leak or release. Chlorine is an element used in industry and found in some household products, which can release chlorine gas if mixed with certain cleaning agents.

Fire & Rescue personnel on duty worked scenarios with a one-ton chlorine prop that mimicked a possible chlorine leak from a transport vehicle. Fire crews were trained on the dangers of chlorine, site management, and decontamination if a spill or release occurs. Fire & Rescue teams learned about the immediate signs and symptoms of chlorine exposure. □



Special Investigations Unit

The Village of Pleasant Prairie has entered into a Special Investigations Unit Agreement between the City of Kenosha. The agreement forms a joint jurisdictional effort between the City and Village, allowing Pleasant Prairie Police to assign a detective to a Special Investigations Unit that Kenosha Police leads. The agreement will combine and coordinate law enforcement resources between both Police Departments. The primary objective is to coordinate enforcement efforts, disrupt illegal use and abuse of controlled substances, and remove illegal weapons from the community. This agreement enables the investigation unit to cross jurisdictional boundaries and conduct criminal investigations that affect both jurisdictions.

"The Special Investigations Unit Agreement will benefit the City of Kenosha and Pleasant Prairie Police Departments," said David Smetana, Pleasant Prairie Chief of Police. "This agreement allows Pleasant Prairie personnel to obtain additional resources during significant drug and violent crime investigations, creating a collaborative approach between departments that focuses on teamwork and building multi-jurisdictional relationships." □

Burglary Scam Alert!

The Pleasant Prairie Police Department has seen an increase in calls regarding suspicious subjects approaching resident homes in what appears to be a potential ruse or scam. The Police Department is working to notify the community of the scheme that often consists of subjects that distract homeowners while another enters the home to steal property. Please see the tips below on how to prevent becoming a victim.

How Does it Happen?

- Individuals will use a ruse to maneuver homeowners outside or to another area of the home.
- Common ruses include tree trimming, roof repair, contractor, utility, or cable/TV work.
- While one individual distracts the homeowner, another enters the residence to burglarize.
- Cash and jewelry are common targets.
- The elderly are the most frequent victims of ruse burglaries.

What Can I do?

- Never allow anyone into your home without a prescheduled appointment.
- Call companies to confirm identities and ensure there are legitimate workers in the area.
- Store any cash or jewelry in a safe or lockbox.
- Keep an eye out in your neighborhood and immediately report any activity to the police.
- Never leave doors unlocked.
- Educate family and neighbors about these types of crimes.

Keep an eye on neighbors and call the Police Department at **262.694.7353** to report any suspicious activity. If possible, try to obtain the vehicle license plate, color, make/model, and offender description. □

Bicycle Lanes

To Pass or Not to Pass



Occasionally questions arise relating to the responsibilities of bicyclists and motorists who are sharing the road. One of the questions asked most frequently is whether or not an automobile can drive in a bicycle lane.

There are limited times when an automobile may merge into a designated bike lane. According to state statute, "No operator of a motor vehicle may drive upon a bicycle lane or bicycle way except to enter a driveway, to merge into a bicycle lane before turning at an intersection, or to enter or leave a parking space located adjacent to the bicycle lane or bicycle way."

It is illegal for a motor vehicle to enter a bike lane to pass another vehicle.

The Village would like to remind drivers to please use extra care when sharing the road with bicyclists. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation reminds motorists that:

- Bicycles belong on the road.
- Cyclists need room to get around potholes, sewer grates and other obstructions.
- Leave at least three feet when passing bicycles, more room at higher speeds.
- Change lanes to pass any bicycle in a narrow lane.
- Train yourself to scan for fast moving bicycles and motorcycles, and for pedestrians, when making a turn and before leaving a stop light or sign.

The Village would like to thank both drivers and bicyclists for obeying traffic safety rules and respecting other travelers on the roadway. □

Pleasant Prairie Police Appreciation Association

Friends of Pleasant Prairie Police

The Pleasant Prairie Police Appreciation Association was founded in 2017, encouraging residents to show support for Pleasant Prairie Police. Since its inception, the Police Appreciation Association has funded programs that enhance officer morale and safety. The association strives to show respect by recognizing officer devotion, training, and the risks taken to keep this community safe. Annually in May, the Police Appreciation Association hosts "Celebrations at the Station" with community groups and businesses during National Police Week to express their thanks to officers and department staff.

In 2017, donations facilitated the purchase of body cameras for every officer, well ahead of national recognition

of the cameras' importance. In 2018 and 2019, the association funded an officer wellness program that provided professional assistance to deal with job-related stress that accompanies law enforcement. Association members have hosted children's events at the station, and in 2019, donations funded individual officer trading cards to hand out when on the job or during school visits.

In 2020, the association purchased five body shields for the Police Department to enhance officer safety. The body armor shields are lightweight and foldable to store inside patrol vehicles. In dangerous situations, an officer can unroll the shield for an additional measure of protection against firearms.



"The body armor shield is easy for an officer to deploy and use for an extended period," said Dave Smetana, Pleasant Prairie Police Chief. "Heavier shields can be cumbersome, awkward, and hard to maintain. Currently, we have a tactical vest in each squad along with a ballistic helmet; these shields will augment those tools and offer our officers another level of protection."

The Pleasant Prairie Police Appreciation Association is a 501c3 charitable organization that strives to send a clear message to Village Police Officers that, "The residents of Pleasant Prairie respect and support you." For information on volunteering, requesting a sign, or how to donate, visit PIPrairiePoliceAppreciation.org or email FriendsPPPA@gmail.com. □



Donations to the Prairie Police Appreciation Association has provided Police Officers with body cameras and residents with thank you signs.



2021 Water Quality Report Now Available

The 2021 Water Quality Report is now available at PleasantPrairieWi.gov and, at Village Hall (9915 39th Avenue) or Prange Municipal Center (8600 Green Bay Road).

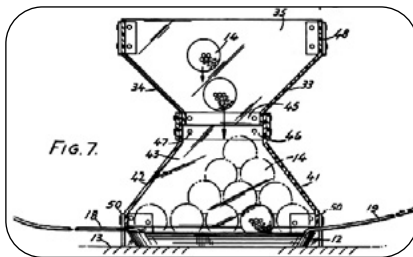
To learn more about drinking water safety you can also visit the Wisconsin DNR website at, dnr.wi.gov/topic/drinkingwater.

If you have questions regarding Pleasant Prairie's Water Utility or water quality, you can reach Public Works by telephone at **262.925.6700** Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. □

Historical Society The Great Pyramid of Golf Balls

If you have ever seen a pyramid-shaped stack of golf balls, it was probably stacked using an invention by Pleasant Prairie local Jack E. Thomsen. Thomsen, who passed away on February 13, 2020, was the owner of Transcendental Golf—a golf range on 116th Street, just west of Sheridan Road. Thomsen's geodesic shaped home (reminiscent of a golf ball) was also located on the property. Not only was his home spherical shaped, but he also slept in a round bed. In an interview with the Kenosha News in 1990, Thomsen named the reason for this being that “the sphere is harmonious with the transcendental.” Thomsen had a keen interest in Far Eastern religions, philosophies, and teachings, which he incorporated into his approach to golf. He viewed golf as “a form of meditation and a means of establishing a connection between one's physical and spiritual self, and then beyond.”

In his life, Thomsen was many things—golfer, painter, writer, business owner, and as previously mentioned, an inventor. Among his many U.S. Patents for popular golf-related products



Pyramid Stacker patent drawing

are the Pyramid Tray and Stacker, the Swing Doctor and Putting Rod, and the Crooked Lies Circular Golf Mat, which is used for practicing variable lie angles.

The Pyramid Stacker was Thomsen's signature product. He patented the product in 1994 and it is now used across the world by amateurs and professionals alike.

Not only is a pyramid aesthetically pleasing, but it is also practical by creating a consistent inventory of golf balls. The consumer will always know exactly how many golf balls they are getting. The Stacker comes in five sizes, ranging from 55 to 285 golf balls per pyramid.



Pyramid Stacker donated by Kathryn Thomsen

The Historical Society recently received a collection of items from Thomsen's Transcendental Golf, donated by his sister Kathryn Thomsen. The collection includes several Pyramid Trays and Stackers, golf clubs, trophies, paintings, photographs, and the original U.S. Patents for the Pyramid Tray and Stacker.

The Historical Society can be reached at [262.577.5115](tel:262.577.5115) or info@pleasantprairiehistoricalsociety.org. Check out the website, PleasantPrairieHistoricalSociety.org, and follow at Facebook.com/PIPrairieHistoricalSociety. □

Dog Ownership Reminder



It is a violation of Village Ordinances to allow your dog to run at large, meaning that your dog must be properly leashed and under your control when away from your property. When taking your dog off your property, please keep your dog properly leashed and make an effort to keep your and your neighbor's property reasonably clear of dog waste. Thank you for your cooperation and responsibility as a dog owner. □

Memorial Day, May 31

Village offices and the Residential Recycling Center will be closed on Monday, May 31 in honor of Memorial Day. There will be no garbage collection on Memorial Day. Scheduled pick-ups will resume on Tuesday, June 1 and be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week.

Independence Day, July 4

Village offices will be closed on Monday, July 5; however, garbage and recycling collection will continue as regularly scheduled. Village offices will reopen for regular business hours on Tuesday, July 6.

Lake Andrea Beach Opens June 11

Daily and seasonal park passes are sold at the entrance to the beach. Please visit RecPlexOnline.com to learn more about Lake Andrea Beach and the summer hours of operation. □