

theVillage

May/June 2020



Photographed by Shannon Neal

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Let's Get Social



Twitter [@PIPrairieWI](#)

Facebook [@villageofpleasantprairiewi](#)

LinkedIn [@pleasantprairie](#)

Safer at Home Order Extended to May 26

Village offices will remain closed during this time.

Memorial Day, May 25

Village offices and the Residential Recycling Center will be closed on Monday, May 25 in honor of Memorial Day. There will be no garbage collection on Memorial Day. Scheduled pick-ups will resume on May 26 and be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week.

Independence Day, July 4

Village offices will be closed on Friday, July 3; however, garbage and recycling collection will continue as regularly scheduled. The Residential Recycling Center will be closed on Saturday, July 4, in honor of Independence Day. Village offices will reopen for regular business hours on Monday, July 6.

Lake Andrea Beach

Please visit [RecPlexOnline.com](#) for Lake Andrea Beach information and summer hours of operation. ☐



Printed on recycled paper

As our community has been dealing with COVID-19 since March and will be under the “Safer at Home” order until May 26, I wanted to take the opportunity to recognize the many personal sacrifices being made by every member of our community. On behalf of the entire Village, I thank you for your continued patience and support in an effort to protect the public health and safety.

The Village’s mission statement is: **To promote and preserve investment in our community.** When emergencies happen, we learn what we are made of and if we are true to our values. The community support has been incredible. I know of neighbors assisting neighbors. Several businesses and community members assisted our Emergency Services to access masks, gloves, alcohol wipes, and other sanitation materials. I have been impressed with the way our Village has rallied together. Thank you for being an invested member of Pleasant Prairie. I hope you know we are equally invested in you.



Despite the significant personal sacrifices at this time, I have received several supportive compliments from residents and no complaints. I also want to recognize the incredible job our professional staff has done in responding to this crisis. I want to highlight just a few of the significant accomplishments and ways they continue to deliver critical services:

- Our Village Clerk and staff did an incredible job processing a large number of absentee ballot applications and ballots, over 4,460, of which 1,250 voters used the successful drive-through. Because of their efforts, our citizens were extremely responsive and patient during the April election.
- Fire and Rescue and Police have remained responsive and set an incredible tone and presence in our neighborhoods.
- Our I.T. department was ahead of the curve and had the enormous task of coordinating technology and access so administrative staff could work from home.
- There have been no interruptions in high demand services like garbage collection, water and sewer, or building and zoning permits.
- We have hosted several virtual public meetings, with good citizen participation.

Now, one of the best examples of investment in our community, the RecPlex, also happens to be one of the hardest-hit functions of the Village due to COVID-19. To date, no taxpayer dollars go to support this comprehensive fitness center in our community. The facility operates entirely on memberships, programs, and rental revenue, and membership fees are currently on hold during its closure. While the closure of RecPlex has a dramatic fiscal impact, the Village continues to make investments in the facility. Maintenance crews are taking the opportunity to use the time to clean, upgrade, and make repairs.

This year will be the 20th anniversary of the facility. When RecPlex opens again, I hope you will show strong support, so that we can continue to maintain this investment in our community. Unlike other recreational, private, and non-profit facilities, the RecPlex currently does not qualify for federal stimulus because it is owned and operated by the Village. It will need the whole community’s support when it comes time to open again.

In closing, I hope you will enjoy this newsletter, as it highlights the many ways we came together during this crisis. We indeed can be proud of our community, our services, our employees, and our ability to rise above hard times. This pandemic will end. We will be better for it because we are invested in each other and our community.


John Steinbrink Sr.
Village President



*Invested in
Community!*

Site and Operational Plans for El Camino Restaurant



During a public meeting on Monday, March 9, the Pleasant Prairie Plan Commission approved Site and Operational Plans for a new full-service restaurant. The new restaurant will be known as El Camino and occupy the existing 6,830 square foot building located at 9900 77th Street, former Famous Dave's Restaurant. Dino Katris requested approval on behalf of the Roots Hospitality Group. The restaurant will include an outdoor dining area and serve dishes that are a blend of Mexican, East Asian, and American cuisine.



The El Camino restaurant will be an upscale establishment that consists of fresh kitchen-cooked dining in an authentic Southern Californian atmosphere. The restaurant intends to be open from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., with supply delivery hours between 6:00 a.m. and noon. El Camino's opening is anticipated for June (depending on the State's COVID-19 pandemic restrictions) and will employ 60 full-time and 30 part-time employees over two shifts.

The Roots Hospitality Group owns and operates three different restaurants: The Lucky Star pub in Burlington, Wisconsin, La Fogata Mexican Grill, and Waterfront Warehouse, both located in Kenosha, Wisconsin. The Roots Hospitality Group has a goal of creating unique dining experiences. Their experienced and responsive team is ready to tackle this new restaurant.

A Digital Security Imaging System (DSIS) for compliance with the Village's security ordinance and related access easement was also approved as part of the site and operational plans. □

Nexus Taking Shape

The new Nexus Pharmaceuticals, Inc. building shell is under construction in Prairie Highlands Corporate Park. The frame of the building is going up quickly and has an interesting design, that will bring a unique look to the landscape in the area.

The \$85 million three-story manufacturing facility is being constructed at the northwest quadrant of County Highway Q and 128th Avenue, west of I-94. When complete, the facility will support the production and supply of injectable drugs.

Nexus Pharmaceuticals headquarters are located in Lincolnshire, IL, and Nexus is expanding its business with this Pleasant Prairie manufacturing facility. □



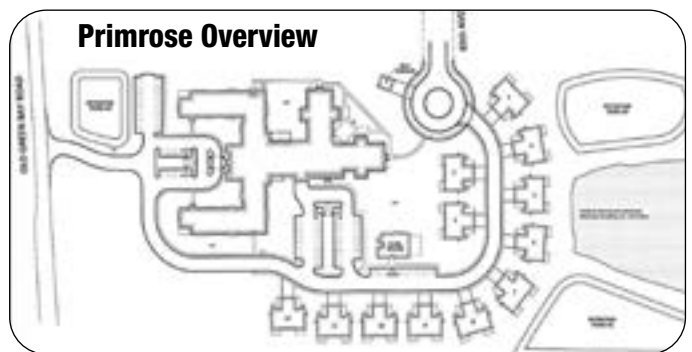
Senior Housing Planned for Lakewood Neighborhood



Primrose Retirement Communities is proposing a senior living development on the 18 acre property located east of Old Green Bay Road, between 105th and 107th Streets. Following the open public hearing, on Monday, March 9, the Plan Commission approved a Comprehensive Lakewood Neighborhood Plan Amendment and Conceptual Plan for the senior housing project. The development will be known as Primrose of Pleasant Prairie, and includes 56 assisted living units, 26 memory care units, and 24 independent living units.

The senior living development intends to house residents that are 55 years and older. Along with the various living options identified within the concept are spaces for organized social, educational, recreational, and leisure activities. Monthly rent for a two-unit independent living villa is proposed to be approximately \$3,400. The price includes utilities (except telephone/internet), an emergency response system, all yard care, snow removal, household maintenance, light housekeeping, and access to the clubhouse.

The developer plans to extend 65th Avenue south from the Green Bay Trail Condominium development's cul-de-sac. A private road will also be constructed to connect the 65th Avenue extension to Old Green Bay Road, providing access



to the villas and connecting the parking areas that serve the Assisted Living and Memory Care buildings. Village staff also recommends that the developer design, construct, and pay for a rural cross-section roadway on 107th Street. The connection of 107th Street will allow access from Old Green Bay Road to 59th Avenue, providing Village emergency personnel, garbage collection and snow plowing easier access to the area.

When completed, the development will require approximately 40 to 60 employees to serve the senior community. Construction is proposed to begin in late summer or early fall of 2020. The villas are expected to be ready for occupancy in the fall of 2021, with the assisted living and memory care building by the end of 2021. □



2020 Water Quality Report Now Available

The 2020 Water Quality Report is now available at PleasantPrairieWi.gov and, when facilities re-open, 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](tel:262.925.6700) Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. □

Froedtert Pleasant Prairie Hospital Plans Expansion for Cancer Care Clinic



The Froedtert Pleasant Prairie Hospital, located at 9555 76th Street, plans to expand the northeast corner of the building to construct a Cancer Care Clinic. During a virtual public meeting on Monday, April 13, the Pleasant Prairie Plan Commission approved site and operational plans for the proposed 6,700 square foot addition and 12,000 square foot interior renovation at the hospital.

The addition will feature a new entrance for the Cancer Care Clinic and outpatient area for cancer care patients and their families. The expansion will consist of additional clinic space, exam rooms, and outpatient treatment areas for patients receiving various care, including radiation and chemotherapies.

The building expansion will connect with the existing hospital at key access points to allow the natural movement of patients, staff, and supplies around the facility. Building exteriors will blend into the existing building, using the same aesthetically pleasing natural materials of brick, stone, and window glazing that is throughout the campus.

Hospital construction and renovation will move forward in three phases. The first phase consists of site work and expanding the building shell. The second phase will construct a new infusion center. The third phase intends to renovate and build-out a medical oncology clinic. The Cancer Center plans to remain open during all periods of development. The project is anticipated to conclude in fall of 2021.

When complete, the Cancer Care Clinic plans to operate approximately 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and by appointment on Saturday. Currently, the hospital has 671 full-time, and 419 part-time employees spread over three shifts. The cancer care addition, at full built out, is expected to add eight full-time and part-time positions. □

Village Board and Commissions Hosting Virtual Meetings

The Village of Pleasant Prairie resumed public meetings on April 6, utilizing an online software, called GoToWebinar. Future Village Board and Village Commissions meetings will be hosted virtually online, to limit exposure and prevent the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), until regular in-person sessions can resume. Residents can connect to the virtual meetings to listen, watch, or raise a virtual hand to speak at the time of the public comment.

Online sessions offer an extra level of transparency, allowing residents to watch and interact safely from their homes. The public can listen and participate virtually by registering for meetings at PleasantPrairieWi.gov/GoTo. Citizens wishing to participate need to register individually for each meeting because every session has a unique access code that will email out upon registration. Users that would like to call in to listen without comment can dial the number and access code associated with the meeting they want to hear.

There is an option to attend in-person at a virtual site hosted in the Village Hall Auditorium. Please note the Village Board and Committee members will not be present at Village Hall and will participate in the meeting virtually. In-person attendance is not recommended due to concerns surrounding COVID-19, but those wishing to attend the virtual site should RSVP by calling [262.694.1400](tel:262.694.1400).

“The Village is taking the COVID-19 situation seriously,” said Nathan Thiel, Pleasant Prairie Village Administrator. “The virtual solution has been developed to allow meetings and business to continue to move forward while providing public access.” □



Thomas Terwall's Service to Pleasant Prairie Community

Thomas Terwall (Tom) passed away in March, 2020. He dedicated his life and diligently served the people of Pleasant Prairie community in various roles for 41 years.

Tom served on the elected Board of Pleasant Prairie since 1977 -- first as a Pleasant Prairie Town Supervisor for 10 years, then as a Town Chairman for two years and then as the first Village President for six years.

In the 1980s as a Town Board member and volunteer with the Pleasant Prairie Fire & Rescue Department, Tom pushed for the development of EMT-D defibrillation rescue service level. In 1988-1989, Tom promoted the development of the EMT-I rescue service level. And, in 1991 he and other members of the Pleasant Prairie Fire & Rescue Department were the first graduates of the Paramedic rescue service level, being the smallest municipality in the State of Wisconsin to achieve that accomplishment.



Tom was instrumental in creating the Village Administrator position and staffing the Village with professionals in all areas of the community's government.

On May 1, 1995, Tom was appointed to the Pleasant Prairie Plan Commission, where he served for 23 years with dedication, including his time in the role of Chairman of the Commission.

Tom influenced many highly esteemed economic development projects during his time serving the Village, most notably the creation of the first Village Tax Incremental Financing District and the development of the LakeView Corporate Park. As a professional executive at Cherry Electric, Tom sought to bring private sector knowledge and practices to the growing Pleasant Prairie community.

Tom advocated in transitioning the community from a Town without its own planning or zoning staff to a Village dedicated to comprehensive planning beginning in 1989 with the Village's incorporation and hiring of a Village Planner. Tom further supported the development and implementation of planning efforts ranging from the 1985 Chiswaukee Prairie/Carol Beach Land Use and Protection Plan to the 2010 Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan. Tom was dedicated to bringing balance to the community and a voice to residents by his mindful approach to planning as it related to environmental and economic development issues.

The Village sincerely acknowledges Tom for being a visionary and helping to shape the community of Pleasant Prairie into what it has become today. Well done Tom! You will be missed. □

Farewell and Welcome

Michael Serpe Exiting Village Board Trustee Seat

Michael Serpe (Mike) has lived in the community since the mid-1970s.

The retired law enforcement officer was first elected to the board in 1989 when the town became a village. After 31-years serving, Mike has decided to retire from his position as Village Board Trustee.



"I am looking forward to golfing and working on my garden," said Mike Serpe. "I will miss the rewarding business relationships, involvement, and satisfying work I have done for the Village."

Although Mike is retiring from the Village Board, he will retain his position as chairman of the Village Plan Commission.

Brock Williamson Incoming Village Board Trustee

The vacant Village Board Trustee seat ran unopposed during the 2020 Spring Election and is being filled by Plan Commission member Brock Williamson.



Brock has been on the Village Plan Commission and Downtown Steering Committee for the past few years, gaining knowledge for the road ahead. He was sworn in as Village Trustee on April 15, his term in office extends through April 14, 2022. □



COVID-19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

Village of Pleasant Prairie is closely monitoring the latest developments surrounding Coronavirus (COVID-19). Decisions have been made to align with National, State, and County Health Departments' guidelines to maintain social distancing and limit public gatherings. All precautions being put into action are necessary to protect residents, businesses, and staff. The below timeline of events depicts the steps taken to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 in Wisconsin and the Village of Pleasant Prairie.

Wisconsin Timeline

January 30, 2020

The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern.

March 12, 2020

Wisconsin declared a public health emergency and directed all agencies to support efforts to contain COVID-19 in the state.

March 13, 2020

Governor Evers orders all schools to close by the middle of the following week, and to reopen in April. Within a few days, the closure was made indefinite.

March 17, 2020

Governor Evers orders a statewide ban of all gatherings of more than ten people, closing all bars and dine-in restaurants (delivery or pickup orders are still permitted).

March 23, 2020

The governor announces a month-long Safer at Home order that will go into effect and prohibit all non-essential business and prohibit all non-essential travel in Wisconsin.

March 24, 2020

Safer at Home order goes into effect, requiring everyone in Wisconsin to stay at their home or place of residence, except in limited circumstances; working to flatten the curve of infections of COVID-19 in Wisconsin.

April 17, 2020

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services extends the Safer at Home order through Tuesday, May 26.

Village of Pleasant Prairie Timeline

March 13, 2020

The Village staff met and outlined an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) to forecast pandemic impacts on services, manage personal protective equipment supply levels, and develop a Village response to help lessen the spread of COVID-19.

March 16, 2020

The Pleasant Prairie Village Board passed resolution 20-11, declaring a state of emergency for the Village of Pleasant Prairie. The declaration enables the Village to make decisions to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

March 17, 2020

Village staff began setting up work from home options and testing virtual meeting software.

March 18, 2020

All Village facilities close to the public, including the RecPlex, until further notice. The decision to close was made to ensure the well-being of the public, members, and staff.

March 23, 2020

The Village Clerk's Office implemented the election drive-thru at the Roger Prange Municipal Center. Absentee voting was held March 23 through April 3. The voting site processed 1,250 votes.

April 6, 2020

The Village of Pleasant Prairie resumed public meetings on April 6, utilizing an online software, called GoToWebinar. Virtual meetings will continue until regular in-person sessions can resume.



Thank you

The Village of Pleasant Prairie appreciates all of the local support and contributions the public safety departments are receiving from the community.

The Police Department and Fire and Rescue have received food, protective gear, and sanitization supplies from residents and local businesses. Here are some of the donations received:

- EMCO Chemical: N95 masks and isopropyl alcohol
- Grinus Enterprises: Gloves and two respirators
- Kenosha County Emergency Management: N95 masks
- Kenosha County Sheriffs: Masks and Tyvek coveralls
- Mission BBQ: Individually packaged breakfast
- Motion Industries: Gloves and two respirators
- Niagra Bottling: Cases of bottled water
- Olive Garden: Individually packaged dinners
- Operation Fetch: 40 pounds of gourmet dog treats
- Residents: Masks, cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer

Uline added support by helping expedite two orders of sanitation products to help personnel safely perform their duties during the COVID-19 outbreak. □

RecPlex Improves Facility During Closure

In response to the Wisconsin Department of Health's order to close public schools and to align with CDC guidelines, RecPlex closed to the public on March 18.

During the closure, RecPlex maintenance staff has been hard at work, making improvements throughout the facility. Here are a few of the numerous projects that are underway:

- Draining and cleaning the Olympic-size swimming pool
- Refinishing wood floors in the fitness studios and racquetball courts
- Painting accent walls in the fitness studios
- Replacing over 175-floor tiles throughout the facility
- Melting ice rinks to place updated logos and clean the dasher boards
- Cleaning and re-grouting the locker room showers
- Installing LED light fixtures in multiple areas
- Painting handrails and steps
- Hanging new banners throughout the facility
- Replacing two outdated rooftop units
- Deep cleaning and sanitizing the entire facility

The Village of Pleasant Prairie and RecPlex staff are aware the facility meets many needs for different populations and does not take the decision lightly. The facility is committed to the health and well-being of the public, the valued members, and staff.



Memberships are currently on hold and will remain on hold until the facility reopens. For paid-in-full members, the membership expiration date will be extended by the number of unused days due to the closure. Additionally, all billing for repetitive services, like personal training and childcare, has been put on hold.

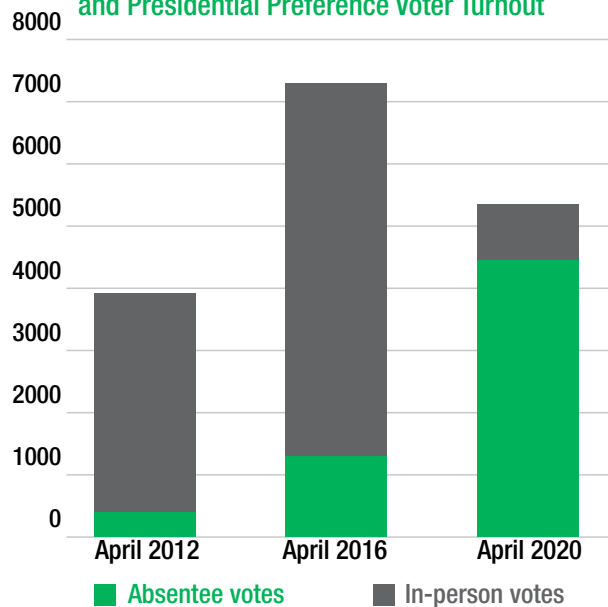
RecPlex thanks the community and valued members and looks forward to the facility re-opening to the public to promote health and well-being once it is safe. □

Election Synopsis

The Village Clerk's Office processed a large number of absentee ballot applications and ballots in April, for the 2020 Spring Election/Presidential Preference. The Clerk's Office received 4,460 absentee ballots, of which 1,250 voters used the successful drive-through option that was held at the Roger Prange Municipal Center.

In addition to the absentee ballots received, 930 residents came out for in-person voting on April 7, for a 42% turnout. The community's patience and support throughout the election was appreciated. Voters interested in voting absentee for the remainder of 2020 can visit myvote.wi.gov to complete an absentee application. ☐

Village of Pleasant Prairie April Spring Election and Presidential Preference Voter Turnout



Radio Systems Upgrade for Rescue Personnel

The Pleasant Prairie Village Board approved a Communication Stability Proposal with Baycom, Inc. for the amount of \$802,950 on March 16. The very high frequency (VHF) radio systems upgrade is needed to replace the current radio system that is over 20-years-old. The radios are utilized by Police, Fire, and Public Works to communicate daily.

The recommendation to move forward with the proposal was made by Village staff, who feel it is necessary to ensure safety personnel can communicate clearly during an emergency situation. The current radio system has received various upgrades, but with the growth of the Village over the past ten years, the reliability of coverage has diminished. The number of instances where law enforcement cannot send or receive communications to the dispatch center has increased, creating a significant public safety concern.

"Special events and incidents require communications to be reliable," said Police Chief David Smetana. "Law enforcement engages in situations that require clear communication channels, without the clutter of the normal radio traffic. These situations include; high-risk traffic stops, building searches, and crime scenes."

Pleasant Prairie began evaluating costs to upgrade communication equipment during the 2020 budget process, now that exact costs are known, the Village plans to finance the project through short term borrowing. Critical communications for emergency responders must be available at all times to ensure the safety of responding Police and Fire personnel. ☐

Highway C Shared Use Path Construction Update

The bike-and-pedestrian bridge over the Des Plaines River, alongside Highway C in the Village of Pleasant Prairie is nearing completion. The bridge is part of a new multi-use trail that will run from Bain Station Road to 114th Avenue.

The bridge is expected to be open to through traffic, once guardrails are installed. The work is part of a plan to create comprehensive trail networks to encourage biking and walking for commuting and recreation.

The Village thanks drivers and residents near the area for their patience as this project is completed. ☐



Photo courtesy of Kenosha County

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. ☐

Dog Park Areas Closed

The Village of Pleasant Prairie closed the dog park areas at Ingram Park on Friday, April 24. The decision to close the dog park came after a recommendation from Kenosha County. The goal is to slow the transmission of COVID-19 and limit the spread of the disease through animal to animal contact.

"I understand the dog park areas at Ingram Park are a valuable outlet for pets," said John Steinbrink Jr., Director of Public Works. "Having dog park areas closed might be challenging, especially now when the community is seeking outdoor activities; however, the action will ensure the safety of residents and their pets."

Closing the dog park will limit public places where a large number of people and dogs gather. According to the latest information from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), there is evidence that COVID-19 can spread from people to animals. The CDC reported that a small number of pets, including cats and dogs, have been infected after close contact with people that tested positive with COVID-19.

Closure signage is up near the dog park entrance gates. Residents should take pets for walks on leashes while maintaining at least six feet from other people and animals at all times. The Ingram dog park areas will remain closed until further notice. ☐



Protecting the Sewer System



Pleasant Prairie Public Works would like to remind residents not to flush any household sanitary wipes down the toilet, even those labeled "flushable." Please dispose of those items in the trash. Cleaning, disinfecting, makeup, personal, and baby wipes do not break down the same way toilet paper does and causes problems in home plumbing systems and the municipal system as a whole. Only toilet paper should be flushed down the toilet. ☐

Photo Contest

Have you captured the beauty of the many natural areas in Pleasant Prairie throughout the year? If you answered yes, then you should enter your photos into the **Seasons in the Prairie photo contest**.

Your photos could appear in a Village Calendar, on the Village website, or in other Village communications. We are seeking photos that take place in all four seasons and portray the beauty of our community throughout the year.

Photos will be judged based on content and quality. We ask that all photos be taken within the Village of Pleasant Prairie and that no people are in the pictures.



Minors must have parental consent to enter the contest. Entry form and a complete list of contest rules are available on the website at **PleasantPrairieWi.gov** by clicking the photo contest icon at the bottom of the homepage.

Entries submitted between May 4 and August 21 will be judged in late September, and three winners will be selected. Winners will receive a gift certificate to a Pleasant Prairie place of business. We look forward to seeing your photos! ☐

Village Green Center



The Village of Pleasant Prairie is rescheduling the Village Green Center open house. The initial meeting, scheduled for April 2, was canceled due to COVID-19 public gathering restrictions. The project is moving forward, and a new date will be selected once public gatherings can resume.

Village staff, along with the Downtown Steering Committee and RINKA (architects, planners, and designers), have been working together to confirm the Designing Downtown Pleasant Prairie visions and goals. Based on those visions and goals, RINKA has developed a Concept Draft Master Plan and Civil Site Analysis that they are eager to present to the public.

The proposed Village Green mixed-use “downtown” development consists of approximately 180 acres of land, generally located at Springbrook Road and State Highway 165. A video update with information on the Village Green Center can be found here, rinka.com/vgc. ☐

Camera Partnership



The Pleasant Prairie Police Department has an ongoing crime fighting partnership with Village residents. The initiative, known as the **Community Camera Partnership** enables residents to share video footage from home security cameras, aimed outdoors, if a crime or suspicious activity occurs in their neighborhood.

The department sees the partnership as a modern day extension of the Neighborhood Watch Program, and will use the footage to solve crimes in the community more efficiently, and to deter future crime from occurring. Through a short questionnaire on the Village website, residents can log their home as a location where a camera may be able to provide assistance should a crime or suspicious activity occur. The locations will be marked on a map. If a crime is reported near one of the locations, officers would then know that they could contact a resident in the area and potentially ask to look at their camera footage.

It is important to note that all aspects of this program are completely voluntary, and that at no time would the police have any remote access to the security system. The homeowner remains in complete control of their personal camera system.

Residents who wish to participate can access the online questionnaire at **PleasantPrairieWi.gov/departments/police/** by clicking on “**Community Camera Partnership**” in the left-hand column. Questions about the partnership, or those wishing to share video footage without completing the questionnaire, can email **police@plprairie.com**. ☐

2020 U.S. Census



The Village of Pleasant Prairie has partnered with the U.S. Census Bureau to support the 2020 Census. As a partner, the Village will be working to ensure the community is accurately represented.

Every ten years, the U.S. Census Bureau counts all the people residing in the United States. The count affects the allocation of funding for our community's public resources, roads, hospitals, schools, and more.

An accurate snapshot means our community will receive the funding, services, and business support we deserve and need.

The 2020 Census is happening now. Residents can respond online, by phone, or by mail. To learn about the upcoming census, visit 2020census.gov. □

E-Newsletter

If you are interested in receiving the email version of the Village Newsletter, visit PleasantPrairieWi.gov and click on the newsletter signup icon near the bottom of the page.

You can choose to opt-out of the paper mailing list by emailing newsletter@plprairie.com. Include your name and postal mailing address along with the words "email only." □

Historical Society "Protesting the Powder Plant"

You might know about the devastating DuPont Powder Plant explosion that occurred in Pleasant Prairie on March 9, 1911. Millions of pounds of dynamite exploded, destroying the plant and nearby homes and farms, and causing damage throughout the county. The massive shock from the explosion was felt over 500 miles away. It is one of the famous events in the history of Pleasant Prairie and Kenosha County.

However, the explosion in 1911 was only the worst of many blasts that occurred at the powder plant. Smaller accidents occurred regularly. It wasn't long before locals viewed the plant as a public nuisance. After one explosion in 1906, Pleasant Prairie residents protested against the rebuilding of the plant. The Kenosha Evening News reported that people were beginning to have "grave fears that should an explosion occur which would include the entire plant, Kenosha would be pretty badly shaken, and there would be a great loss of property." Quite an accurate prediction.



Efforts to close the plant in 1906 failed. After the 1911 explosion, there were renewed efforts to shut it down. In 1913, the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors resolved to take steps to close the plant by preventing the manufacture and storage of such large quantities of explosives. But once again, the powder company prevailed. The plant did not close until 1930 when shipping costs to the east and west ended its profitability.

The Historical Society can be reached at HistoricalSociety@plprairie.org or [262-947-3600](tel:262-947-3600). Check out our website PleasantPrairieHistoricalSociety.org and follow us at Facebook.com/PIPrairieHistoricalSociety. □



Photo courtesy of Dan Wade

Interior of dwelling three-quarters mile away after powder explosion. March 9, 1911, Pleasant Prairie, Wis.