

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

FEB

Town Board Meeting 6pm - 8pm

MAR

Paris School Spaghetti Supper 4pm - 6:45pm (Live auction at 7:15)

MAR

Plan Commission Meeting
7pm - 9pm

<u>MAR</u>

Town Board Meeting 6pm - 8pm

<u>APR</u>

5 Spring Election 7am - 8pm

APR

Plan Commission Meeting
7pm - 9pm

APR

Annual Meeting 6pm - 8pm

<u>APR</u>

Town Board Meeting 6pm - 8pm

<u>May</u>

County Household Hazardous Waste Collection 8am - 1pm @Kenosha County Center

MAY 46

Plan Commission Meeting 7pm - 9pm

MAY

Town Board Meeting 6pm - 8pm

JUN 10

Shred Day 8:30am - 11:30am

JUN

Plan Commission Meeting 7pm - 9pm

JUN

Town Board Meeting 6pm - 8pm



### **INTERNET SERVICE UPDATES**

In an effort to improve internet service to all town residents, the Town Board partnered with E-vergent.com, LLC to apply for a state grant to help fund the building of a fiber optic cable network that would have provided internet wiring to every house and business in the town. Other cable companies also submitted proposals to cover some or the majority of the town along with portions of Brighton and Bristol. The E-vergent proposal would have had the Town participating in the cost of building the network, with the town potentially contributing in excess of \$2M of the expected \$5.5M cost. Cable and internet service provider Spectrum's proposal was selected by the state for the grant. Spectrum's proposal does not call for the Town to contribute any funds to the project.

Spectrum is currently negotiating the language of a contract with the state to finalize the funding. They are not free to discuss details with the town until the contract is finalized. The grant does require Spectrum to have the network in place by no later than the end of 2024. As we understand it, the proposal would provide high speed internet (minimum of 100 Mbps download and 100 Mbps upload) cable to the outside wall of each residence. Each resident will arrange for connection into their home and a monthly service plan themselves.

In the Town's bid, the board proposed to provide internet cable to every residence in the town, regardless of the location of the house. Spectrum's proposal commits to providing internet to every residence that is included on a Public Service Commission map that reflects census blocks that are not served by high speed internet. It appears that those maps show areas that have internet, when in fact they do not. Once Spectrum has finalized the contract, we will sit down with them to determine exactly what areas they will cover as part of the grant. The town board is committed to find solutions that will provide coverage for the entire town.

We have a tab on the Town website – under "Residents", labeled TV, Phone and Internet. We will add updates to that tab as we learn more.



# **REMEMBER - No Plastic Bags in Recycling!**

The Town paid over \$400.00 in penalties in November due to recycling material in plastic bags being placed in the dumpsters at Pheasant Run. The company that processes the recycle material monitors each delivery and assesses fines if plastic bags are detected. Those fines are paid by the Town. Use paper grocery bags to collect your recycle material or dump them loose into the bins. It is important we follow the rules. Do not use plastic garbage bags or plastic grocery bags to contain your recycles. Recycles should be clean and include only the allowed items.

# February 2022 VOLUME 8

**CRIME** 

The Town has used website notices, newspaper coverage and notices from Paris School to parents to share our concern about the rising number of burglaries in the Town and surrounding communities. Websites like Westofthel.com have been very good about sharing information. If you have not done so already, please look at the town website for advice.

The Sheriff's department is actively investigating the burglaries. They feel they are making progress but do not have anything they can share at this time. The incidents have been different enough so that we cannot tell you to look for a certain color of car or truck or give you a description of suspects. Locations of the burglaries have been scattered from Hwy 45 to the interstate, from Hwy A down to Hwy N. We ask you to remain vigilant, to report any suspicious activity and to secure your homes and vehicles.

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#### **NEW EQUIPMENT**

The Fire and Rescue Department is always researching equipment that will help us better serve the community and

visitors that pass through our town. This year the Fire and Rescue Department chose to purchase a new battery-operated Hurst rescue tool. This lightweight compact tool can easily be placed on a fire truck, ambulance, or UTV. This provides versatility and efficiency for the department in rescue situations. The tool can easily cut through and spread apart metal, which is often required for accidents involving machinery or vehicles. We are very excited to have this Hurst rescue tool available to us to help better serve our community.



We are in the process of planning a meeting or open house that will include input from the Sheriff's department and information on home security – including information on purchasing and installing video surveillance systems. We will mail out notices and post it on the website once we have a date and time.



On Sunday March 13th, Daylight Savings time begins.
We would like to remind everyone that this is a good time to test
your smoke detectors and change your batteries.

- Homes with hard wired smoke detectors still use batteries as a back-up during power outages
- When changing batteries follow manufacturer's instructions and battery recommendations
- After changing the batteries be sure to push the test button to ensure that it works properly
- If you have children in the house, use this time to have them hear the sound so they are not afraid and know what it means
- Review and practice your family exit plan and meeting place







### **TOWN HALL PROPERTY**

You may have noticed the town property looks a little different. We have a bright new sign that Diana and Leah use to post information and upcoming events on. We removed some trees that were dying out front. The monument was professionally cleaned and the memorial walk and bricks were scrubbed by volunteers. The Paris Happy Workers 4-H club has established a community garden at the town hall and built some raised beds as well as a conventional garden.

#### **WELCOME!**

Have you had a chance to come in and say hi to Leah Edquist? Leah was hired in October to serve as the deputy clerk/treasurer for the Town. Leah and her family are residents of the town, so you may already know her. We are glad to add her to our staff. Leah has a business background as well as a graphic arts degree and we intend to make use of all of that skill and knowledge. Make sure you stop in and say hello and introduce yourself if you don't already know Leah.

## **PARIS SOLAR UPDATES**

Paris Solar began the physical preparation of some of the sites that will be used for solar arrays in the fall of 2021. They began to build gravel access driveways on some of the sites and sited some of the culverts needed for highway access. This winter, they have crews working to remove trees that participating landowners have agreed to cut so as to allow for maximum sun access. Full construction activity for the project is scheduled to begin in April of 2022. The construction phase will have a significant impact on the community and we will work with Paris Solar to address any issues that come up.



#### **HWY N RESTRICTIONS**

Kenosha County has enacted changes for Hwy N in the Town of Paris. As of February 7th, Hwy N is now classified as a Class B Highway from Hwy 45 on east to 128th Ave. This classification reduces the legally permitted weight allowed on trucks. The restriction does not apply to farm trucks moving crops seasonally. If you want additional information, we will have a link posted on the town web site.

## **SOMERS GROWTH AREA — I-94 DEVELOPMENT**

A Kansas City based development firm is pursuing the potential purchase and development of a property on the south side of Hwy E, at the interstate. Flint Development is proposing a mixed-use Business/Logistic Warehousing development on approximately 130 acres. They are working through the approval process with the Village of Somers at this time. The landowner had attached the land to the Village of Somers per the Intergovernmental Agreement in November of 2020. The Town has participated in the approval process as allowed by the agreement. Flint has been very responsive to input from the Town and Village and It appears that this will be a high quality development.



# LANDFILL ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITS

Just a reminder that there is a link on the Town website to JSA Environmental. The Town contracts with JSA to conduct regular onsite audits of the landfill and operations with regard to environment. Any interested party can review the reports on line, which contain photos and maps.

The Town also receives a copy every quarter of the reports that Waste Management files with the Wisconsin DNR that contains the results from both water and air samples that Pheasant Run is required to collect and analyze. Those reports are available at the Town Hall if anyone wanted to come in and review them. The town board is considering expanding our scope of services with JSA to have them review those reports as well.



Saturday, May 7th 8am -1pm @ Kenosha County Center

Flyer with information available at the Town Hall.



## N-95 MASKS

Kenosha County has received a significant supply of N-95 facemasks for distribution to residents. The county has placed supplies at each municipal building. Diana and Leah have masks available for anyone who is interested at no charge while supplies last. Masks can be picked up at the town hall during regular business hours.



