

SPECIAL POINTS  
OF INTEREST  
IN THIS ISSUE

- TOWN HALL MEETING
- NEW TRUSTEE
- ELECTRIC AGGREGATION
- TURKEY TROT
- ROUTE 31 TURN LANES

# Village Messenger



INFORMING THE RESIDENTS OF PRAIRIE GROVE

FALL/WINTER 2011

## FROM THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Much has taken place since our last newsletter edition. We have approved a new commercial project to be located at the intersection of Route 176 and Valley View Roads, begun construction of our first park and purchased new vehicles in our police and public works departments to better serve our community. We feel it is necessary to keep the lines of communication open with you so that you are aware of important matters such as this and through as many channels as possible.

In addition to this bi-annual newsletter, the Village President will be hosting two Town Hall meetings in the next six months. The Village's listserv is another great way to gather information about upcoming meetings and events. You can easily join by logging onto the Village website at [www.prairiegrove.org](http://www.prairiegrove.org) and enter your email address in the box provided within the left hand column. As always, if you need immediate attention, you may contact the Board or Village Staff at (815) 455-1411.

In this issue of the Village Messenger, you will find information relative to the President's Town Hall Meeting, proposed Electricity Aggregation Program, our newest Village Trustee, status of the Route 31 Turn Lanes project, 2nd Annual Turkey Trot and more!

The Village of Prairie Grove has been committed to providing a high level of service for those who live, work and play within our corporate boundaries and has succeeded in doing so within its self imposed challenge to do more with less. This has and will continue to be accomplished by implementing sustainable practices to preserve our assets, find new methods by which to maintain our property, expand communications with our public, reduce expenditures and seek out grant and other revenue generating opportunities. We look forward to speaking with all of our residents and welcome you to our meetings and other wonderful family activities we host from time to time.

**Village President**  
Stanley C. Duda

**Administrator**  
Jeannine M. Smith

**Village Clerk**  
Kim Minor

**Village Treasurer**  
Jean Smith

### Trustees

William Randal Baudin II

Lisa Behm

Todd Greenwald

Everett Pratt

Michael E. Breseman

David K. Robak

### Village Hall Staff

**Director of Public Safety**  
Ron Lyons

**Public Works  
Superintendent**  
Tim Carone

**Building Secretary &  
Police Secretary**  
Laura Jonasen

THE VILLAGE SCENE

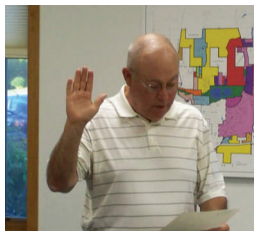
**In Our Boardroom**

**TOWN HALL MEETING**

President Duda is committed to open lines of communication with Village Residents. Being aware of issues that matter to our residents is what makes Prairie Grove an effective local government.

**The President has scheduled a Town Hall Meeting for Wednesday, November 30, 2011 7:00pm in the Village Hall Boardroom.**

**WELCOME TRUSTEE PRATT**



Please join us in welcoming Trustee Everett Pratt to the Village of Prairie Grove Board of Trustees. Everett has been a resident of the Village for 9 years and has extensive knowledge in business development as well as strategic and organizational planning having worked for Northrop Grumman Corp. and having served his Country as a Lieutenant General in the United States Air Force.

Trustee Pratt holds a term of 4 years expiring in April 2015.

**SCHEDULE OF VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS**

- December 20, 2011
- January 17, 2012
- February 21, 2012
- March 20, 2012
- April 17, 2012

7:00 PM in the Village Hall  
RESIDENTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Any changes to this schedule or meeting location will be posted in front of the Village Hall and on the website. The Planning and Zoning Commission and any other special meetings will be posted on our website and in front of the Village Hall 48 hours prior to meeting.

**Remember:** you can always check the Village website for meeting dates, times and locations. If you sign up for notifications through our listserv we'll deliver the information right to your inbox! Find out more at [www.prairiegrove.org](http://www.prairiegrove.org) and sign up for notifications on our home page.

**Electric Bundle**

The Prairie Grove Board of Trustees recently adopted Ordinance No. 520; an ordinance providing for the submission to the electors of the Village of Prairie Grove, the question whether the Village should have the authority to arrange for the supply of electricity for its residential and small commercial retail customers.

Municipal aggregation allows local governments to bundle—or aggregate—residential and small commercial retail electric accounts and seek bids for a lower cost source of power, similar to how municipalities negotiate contracts for waste disposal.

The savings potential for residents and small businesses in participating municipalities is upwards of 20%.

All eligible residents and small businesses are automatically enrolled. Those who don't want to participate can "opt-out" of the program. **This aggregation program can only be implemented when the voters approve a referendum in a primary or general election.** The next available election will be held in March of 2012.

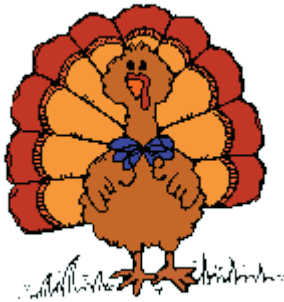
After a ballot issue is approved by the voters, the Village will solicit bids for the municipality's aggregated load. These bid rates would be compared to ComEd's rates and the municipality would only move forward if the new supplier's rate is favorable. If no savings could be realized, the municipality has the option of making no change and continuing to purchase power with ComEd.

Whether the municipality moves the electric supplier or not, residents would continue to call ComEd in the event of service disruption. And ComEd would continue to send the residents their monthly bills.

The Village of Prairie Grove has taken the first step in this process by passing an Ordinance that allows the following question be placed on the March 2012 ballot:

***Shall the Village of Prairie Grove have the authority to arrange for the supply of electricity for its residential and small commercial retail customers who have not opted out of such program?***

Should the voters choose to aggregate its electric supply then the Village will host two public hearings before going to bid in early June. Residents could expect to see their bills lowered by the end of summer.



# Village of Prairie Grove Parks and Recreation

2011 Turkey Trot Family Fun Run November 24, 2011

Come join us for a 5k Run or a 1.5 mile Family Fun Run  
Thursday November 24, 2011 8:00 am

Registration is \$10.00 per individual and \$15.00 per family.

Sponsored in part by:

Alison Kruger, Licensed Massage Therapist and



1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Prizes in categories Male/Female; 18 and over/under 18

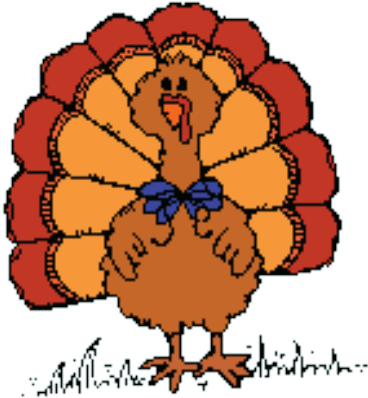
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**All proceeds will benefit Prairie Grove's 1<sup>st</sup> Park**  
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We will also be collecting canned goods for the  
Family Health Partnership Clinic located in Woodstock, Illinois

Below are some suggested items  
Pasta, Pasta sauce, Tuna, Cereal, Soups containing meat,  
Granola bars, Jelly, Rice, Applesauce

*The Clinic has no refrigeration so everything must be canned or dry.*

# 2011 Turkey Trot 5K Race and Family Fun Run November 24, 2011



## Village of Prairie Grove Parks and Recreation

### Entry Form

“I do not run to add days to my life, I run to add life to my days.”

– Ronald Rook

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Registrant's Name	Sex	Birthdate	Age	Fee
				\$ 10.00

#### Waiver and Release

I, have signed this entry form intending to be legally bound, hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators and release any and all rights and claims for damages I might have against the Village of Prairie Grove and the Race Committee, and officials and other sponsors of this event and their representatives for any and all injuries including death suffered by me in the event. I attest that I am physically fit and have sufficiently trained for the event. Furthermore, I hereby grant full permission to any and all of the foregoing to use my photograph or any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose. This entry is invalid unless signed by the entrant. If entrant is under 18 years of age then entry must be signed by parent/guardian. The official race director reserves the right to reject any entry.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian if under 18: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to Village of Prairie Grove, 3125 Barreville Road, Prairie Grove, IL 60012

\$10.00 per individual \$15.00 per family

## Police Protection

### WHILE YOU ARE AWAY

Free vacation watch services are available to all residents. It is necessary for residents to come to the Police Department office at the Village Hall and fill out a vacation watch form. This form is also available to print out on the Village website. Vacation information CANNOT be accepted by telephone. Here are some important reminders before you leave home:

- **Keep all doors & overhead garage doors locked**
- **Store bicycles out of sight**
- **Keep newspapers and mail picked up**
- **Take every precaution to prevent theft or burglary**
- **Do not post your vacation status on social networking sites**



## Around Town

### WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES

**Sailing World, Inc.**, 4507 Ray Street  
**Lauderdale Lakes Marina**, 2101 Route 176  
**Complete Metal Service**, 2510 Route 176, Unit A  
**Architectural Metals**, 2510 Route 176, Unit B  
**Smokes and Spirits**, 4410 Route 176, Unit 1

## Along Our Roads

Public Works Superintendent Tim Carone has some helpful information for the coming winter season.

### SAFETY DURING THE SNOW SEASON

During our snowy months, garbage cans should be kept at least 2 to 3 feet off the drivable portion of the road along your driveway. If they are on the edge of the road, they create a road hazard for motorists and the snowplow operator. Caution is recommended when approaching a Village snowplow truck. Keep a safe distance, 100 feet or more when behind a snowplow truck, especially near intersections. The truck may need to backup to effectively snow plow and salt those areas.

### MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

While the weather is still fair, you might want to check the condition of your household mailbox and post. If the post is not sturdy, it probably needs to be replaced because of rotting below the surface. When replacing the mailbox or post, make sure the front of the box is 6 to 8 inches behind the curb or drivable portion of the road and the bottom of the box is 40 to 44 inches from the grade of the roadway, per the United States Postal Service.

## Route 31 Turn Lanes

The Village of Prairie Grove has been in constant contact with the Illinois Department of Transportation ("IDOT") to remind them of how risky travel onto and along Route 31 continues to be.

IDOT's response to date has been to install additional signage; however, a safety project was recently approved to incorporate turn lanes onto Ames and Edgewood Roads from Route 31. Since traffic signals do not meet IDOT's warrant criteria, there will only be turn lanes added to Route 31 allowing for stacking of vehicles and providing for safer passage along this critical north/south route at this time.

The project was originally scheduled to commence this fall; however, due to difficulty in obtaining land to expand the road right of way, the project has been rescheduled for a spring 2012 commencement.

To provide feedback on transportation matters in Prairie Grove, log onto [www.2040mchenrycountyplan.org](http://www.2040mchenrycountyplan.org) and [www.ILRoute31.com](http://www.ILRoute31.com).



Village of Prairie Grove  
3125 Barreville Road  
Prairie Grove, Illinois 60012  
815-455-1411

Fall  
into  
Winter

{ In seed time learn, in harvest teach, in winter enjoy! William Blake (1757 –1827) ~ British poet, painter and printmaker }



## Important Information

**Village Hall: 815-455-1411**

**Current office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM**

**Village Police Department**

**FOR AN EMERGENCY, ALWAYS DIAL 911 or**

**McHenry County Dispatch 815-338-2141**

**For non-emergency police and general office inquiries, call 815-455-3918**

**Regular administrative office hours 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM**

**Public Works: 815-477-3665**

**Building Department: 815-455-0920**

Please call to schedule building inspections. A 24-hour notice is required.

### **Building Permits**

Village Building Permits are required for most home improvement projects, including: new buildings, sheds, decks, basements, fences, room additions, garages, patios, driveways, gazebos, sun rooms, screen rooms, swimming pools, hot tubs, fireplaces, siding, re-roofing and lawn irrigation.