

Somers July 4th Celebration Parade and Ice Cream Social Everyone Invited!!!

The Somers parade starts at 2:00 PM on July 4th.

Beginning at the intersection of Highways H and E, the parade route proceeds east on Highway E, ending at Somers Elementary School. The parade length is approximately 1-1/2 hours. Immediately following the parade, please join us for a free ice cream social held in the Village/Town Hall .

FREE PARKING

- Somers Elementary School
- Shoreland Lutheran High School back lot by the track and baseball diamonds
- Village/Town parking lot before 12:00 PM ONLY

...more information on page 2



Thank you to the Parade Committee for volunteering your time and talent toward making our July 4th celebration such a success!

MORE PARADE INFORMATION*(CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)****Food and Beverages for Sale***

Shoreland Lutheran High School (Highway E west of Highway H) will be selling grilled items, chips, and beverages until the parade starts at 2:00 PM.

Somers Fire & Rescue Association will be selling hot dogs, brats, snacks, and beverages at the fire station and along the parade route from their motorized ATV food cart. Selling starts at 10 AM until the end of the parade.

***Free Ice Cream Social***

Thanks to generous donations from people and businesses in the community, free cake, ice cream, coffee, and water, will be served by volunteers from Bethany Lutheran Church inside the Village/Town Hall. Please plan on joining us in this long-time friendly Somers tradition. The ice cream social begins immediately following the parade.

Helpful Hints & Tips**Roads Closed Prior and During Parade**

The following roads will be closed starting at **12:00 PM** to general traffic. Only emergency vehicles and parade entrants will be allowed to enter.

HWY E between HWY EA and 100th Avenue

HWY H between HWY A and HWY E

HWY H between HWY E and HWY L

82nd Ave. & 80th Ave will be closed to access to HWY E

Restrooms (ADA Compliant)

Somers Elementary School

Fire Station at the Village/Town Hall

Neumiller Woods (west of railroad tracks)

Garbage Containers

Fire Dept. at Village Hall, Hwy E & H, 80th Ave. & E, 82nd Ave. & E, Hwy EA & E/Somers Elementary School

**Somers Explorers and Firefighters****Participate in American Lung Association's*****"Fight for Air Climb"***

Members of Somers Explorer Post #463 and Fire and Rescue Department stepped up to the challenge of raising money for the American Lung Association's "Fight for Air Climb" annual fundraiser. The event was held on March 10, 2018 at the US Bank Center in Milwaukee. Eight Explorers climbed up 47 floors (1,034 steps) to earn money from pledges they collected.

Our Somers Fire & Rescue Department receives many calls for assistance due to breathing difficulty. Not being able to breathe efficiently is stressful for people and this worthwhile event supports research in lung health and environmental programs to combat the many causes of difficult breathing.

Investment in Infrastructure and Growth



Roads and Streets

We continue to make major improvements in our aging Village and Town roads and streets. Commencing mid-late summer 2018, \$367,179 of road projects will begin on 113th Avenue and 4th Street, 61st Avenue, 12th Avenue, 82nd Avenue, 63rd Avenue, 10th Place and 10th Street. A second project focusing on 63rd Street will be added in the second half of 2018.

New Stormwater Utility District

On January 23, 2018, the Village Board approved the creation of a new Stormwater Utility District, Ordinance 18-001, which will shift funding of stormwater management from the General Operating Fund to a new Stormwater Utility Fund. The new Utility District is timely as it follows our historic eight inch rainfall on July 11, 2017 where Somers incurred \$230,000 in flood damage. A stormwater utility, as authorized under Wisconsin Statutes, allows municipalities to create a system for collecting, transporting, pumping, treating or disposing of stormwater.

Water Main Project

In January 2018, we completed a one-year \$3.6 million water main project. The new main extends from Highway L and 41st Street west to Highway H. It supports additional fire protection to the First Park 94 industrial campus located on Highways H and S. 80% of the cost is funded by First Park 94.

Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project

In March 2018 a \$376,302 contract was awarded to line or replace old aging clay sewer laterals that connect sewer service from the road to resident homes. Many laterals date back to the 1950's and have problems with cracked pipes, leaking joints, roots, and holes that cause improperly ground water infiltration. Work is currently in process on 52nd Avenue with 16th Place to follow. Work in the following years will focus on the Sheridan Road corridor.

New Water Study

In conjunction with the Kenosha Water Utility, a 2018 water study will address future water demands on our water system that will be triggered by changes in land use and development.

Public Works Equipment

A new sewer utility service truck has ordered and shall replace an aged truck which will reduce maintenance costs and eliminate reliability issues.

Public Safety

New public safety equipment has been purchased for rescue workers and firefighters. Additionally, effective April, 2018, a full-time firefighter/paramedic has been hired to replace a seven-year vacancy in full-time staffing. Adam Pisula's extensive qualifications and experience includes Wisconsin EMT/Paramedic license and Certified Firefighter II level as well as Certified Fire Inspector.

I-94 Corridor Land Use Study

This study will outline possible new future land uses for the I-94 corridor. A new proposed 2050 land use plan will address market trends, new boundary agreements, and infrastructure needs resulting from the Foxconn development on our north border and I-94. Thank you to the over 100 people who attended and voiced their opinions at the May 1, 2018 listening session.



FOXCONN—*How to Get Correct and Current Information*

Introduction

The Foxconn campus and related infrastructure, highway, environment, and computer projects are FAST PACED and complicated. We highly recommend that Somers residents and businesses go directly to these links to obtain CURRENT, OFFICIAL, and CORRECT information. Projects have the potential to change quickly and the changes will be reflected in the news shown on the links below. The links below are the same place where Kenosha County and all Village and Town municipalities obtain their updates.

Public Update Meetings

Monthly meetings are held at the Mt. Pleasant Village Hall in Racine County.

<https://wisconnvalley.wi.gov/Pages/Events.aspx>

Local Roads (Highways A, E, H, and KR)

Overview of local Somers road projects including maps, traffic closures, new traffic patterns, etc.

<https://projects.511wi.gov/fdr/full-project-overview/>

All I-94 North-South Freeway Southeast News

Overview of travel times, traffic closures, detours, and maps.

<https://projects.511wi.gov/i94nouthsouth/>

Wis. Dept. of Natural Resources—Wisconsin Foxconn Technology Group Development Project

<https://dnr.wi.gov/Business/Foxconn.html>

Wisconn Valley—Foxconn in Wisconsin

<https://wisconnvalley.wi.gov/pages/home.aspx>

Wisconn Valley E-Newsletter

<https://wisconnvalley.wi.gov/Pages/news.aspx>

I-94 Exit/Entrance Ramp Changes

Now until Thanksgiving

Coming from Chicago north to Somers: exit ramp to Hwy. E eastbound open.

Coming from Milwaukee south to Somers: must use exit ramp on Hwy. 142 or Hwy. 20 in Racine. Proceed to Hwy. E on county roads.

Driving to Chicago south: Hwy. E southbound entrance ramp open.

Driving to Milwaukee north: Proceed on county roads to entrance ramps on Hwy. 142 or Hwy. 20 in Racine.

Exit and entrance ramps for Hwy KR and Hwy 11—closed north and southbound.

Special Information About Highway KR Potential Railroad Overpasses

- This area is **currently in the “design” phase**
- 60% of the preliminary **design planning** is expected to be completed by November 1, 2018
- Phase II construction is expected to **begin 2021**

Property owners along or near Highway KR east of Highway H are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to voice their concerns and ask questions relating to their specific parcel **NOW**.

The contact at Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the **PLANNING AND DESIGN** is Steve Hoff, Project Manager. Contact him at 262-548-6718 or steve.hoff@dot.wi.gov. Questions may also be directed to Cynthia L. DeVor (consultant to the DOT) at 262-510-8901 or cynthia@devorpr.com



Free Smoke Detector Program
For all Village and Town Residents
Offered By
Somers Fire & Rescue Dept.

Hear the Beep!
It's FREE!

- Check existing smoke alarms
- Install free new smoke alarms (if needed)
- Provide home fire safety information

To schedule a time to have a representative from your Somers Fire & Rescue Dept.
 visit your home, please contact:

Adam Pisula at apisula@somers.org or call (262) 620-3275

Captain Joe Scruggs at jscruggs@somers.org or call (262) 620-3275

Please have this information available when you call for your appointment.

1. Your name, address, telephone number
2. Number of people living in your home, number of rooms, number of bedrooms
3. Do you currently have smoke detectors? Are they over ten years old? Are they hard wired or battery operated?



Administrative Offices

Holiday Closing

July 4

September 3

November 22 and 23

December 24 and 25

December 31

January 1, 2019

Partisan Primary Election

August 14

U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Senate, State Assembly, State Senate, and Kenosha County elected officials

General Election

November 6



SAFEMEDICINE
 DISPOSAL PROGRAM

Drop-Off Unused/Expired Medications

At Somers Fire & Rescue Dept.

Somers residents can conveniently drop unused/expired medications in the disposal box located near the Somers Fire & Rescue Dept. front desk. Collection hours are during regular office hours, Monday through Friday, between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM excluding holidays.

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Inhalers, liquids, ointments and creams, over-the-counter medications, pet medications, prescription drugs, sprays.

***Please cross out your personal information or peel off the label if you are dropping the medication off in its original package. It is acceptable to place all medication in a sealed baggie into the drop box.*

Historical Somers Items Donated to UW-Parkside Archives & Research Center for Safekeeping



Three former Commanders of the Somers VFW Post #2751 donated historical items to the University of Wisconsin-Parkside Archive Center for safekeeping and preservation.

David E. Hart, Sr., Julius Mianeki, and Larry Fliess, all former Somers Post Commanders, met with Melissa Olson, Head of UW-Parkside Archives and Area Research Center and Jackie Klapproth Nelson, Somers Village/Town Historian met at the Somers Village/Town Hall to document the donation. On behalf of the community of Somers, we thank all our veterans for their service and thank former Post #2751 for this wonderful contribution of Somers history.

Preserving the Village and Town of Somers pioneer and local history is an important step in making sure future generations can learn about our community. Melissa Olson and Jackie Klapproth

Nelson have teamed up to help Somers residents who wish to donate historical items, giving them a permanent, safe home.

OTHER ITEMS RECENTLY DONATED

Smith Family—Items and photos of Smith pioneer family and Somers farming from 1800's.

Klapproth Family—Letters and photos dated 1939-1945 from Daniel Klapproth who served in the US Army in the Panama Canal Zone.

Somers Civic Association—Items and photos from the 1980's of Somers parade, ice cream social, Miss Somers contests, and Firemen's Ball.

Heide Family—Original records dating back to the mid-1800's from Somers Bullamore Forks, Pike River, Washington, and other grade schools in Somers.



Somers contracts with Robert W. Melby, Jr. of Clawz and Pawz to address nuisance animal complaints, lost/found dogs, abuse, neglect, and other animal issues. At the request of the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department, please contact Mr. Melby for assistance **BEFORE** contacting the Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Melby can be reached 24 hours a day/7 days a week at (262) 880-3482. We encourage all dog owners to obtain a current ID tag and/or an ear chip so every effort can be made to return your pet.



Enjoy the summer and visit one of Wisconsin's most beautiful parks located right here in Somers. There are miles of paved walking trails, wooded trails along Pike River, playgrounds, covered picnic pavilions, a dog park, and the new Biergarten. Entrances are located on Highway A (Berryville Road) and County JR.

A MESSAGE FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT...George Stoner



Foxconn. It is a hot topic in our Somers community. On a daily basis I field questions from concerned property owners about the impact of Foxconn on their property use and values, as well as questions about what will happen to our community as we know it. Yes, our community will change as we continue to move forward. This is an exciting time of growth but it is also a time to move forward thoughtfully, making sure our community continues its strong tradition of quality development that addresses the needs of our residents, as well as respecting those who own property and have lived here for generations.

The Village's financial condition is excellent. We have budgeted funds again in 2018 to reinvest in our community by upgrading sewer laterals and Village/Town roads, as well as safety and public works equipment and computer systems. Many of our projects are underway. As always, if you have concerns or questions, please call and talk to me about them. It is important that you obtain correct information. I can be reached at the Village/Town Hall 262-

859-2822 or email me at gstoner@somers.org.

A MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN CHAIRMAN...Mark A Molinaro, Jr.



Summer is upon us and outdoor activities are in full swing. It is great to see the sports season getting under way as kids finish out the school year and look forward to summer vacation. I'd like to remind everyone that Somers offers many opportunities to enjoy the outdoors this summer: miles of multi-use trails, Hawthorn Hollow Nature Sanctuary, Petrifying Springs Park and Golf Course, and Somers Memorial Park and Veteran's Pavilion.

I want to urge all those in the Town of Somers to keep in mind that we are a vibrant and active community. Your Board of Supervisors are fully engaged with the Village Board to keep the Town on solid financial footing while making the necessary expenditures on infrastructure and other critical Town needs. While I recognize the boundary agreement and subsequent incorporation of the Village has significantly diminished the long term outlook for the Town proper, it is critically important that we remain diligent about protecting the Town resources and residents until the scheduled year 2035 sunset. Please join us at a Town Board meeting

and let us know your thoughts and concerns. There are many great things happening in Somers and your input is valuable. I welcome your telephone call or emails and can be reached at 262-705-800 or at mmolinaro.org.

WE Energies Adds Second Transformer in Somers Doubles Capacity

WE Energies will add a second transformer substation on land owned by the University of Wisconsin-Parkside on Berryville Road (Highway A) just west of 22nd Avenue. Built in 2000, the original substation has

experienced 4% annual load growth. Adding the second substation within the current easement area is a proactive move that will serve as a backup to restore power in the event of an outage, and it will double future service capacity needs as Somers experiences future development. The request for a Conditional Use Permit for the expansion of an existing electric utility substation was approved by the Village Board on April 24, 2018.

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS HELD IN SOMERS SOMERS HOSTED SPRING 2018 MEETING



The Council of Governments is a group of representatives from the County of Kenosha, City of Kenosha, Kenosha County Towns and Villages, and the State Legislature all of whom meet to promote positive relationships and discuss items of mutual interest and concerns. Topic highlights include:

- Lake Michigan shoreline protection
- Opioid epidemic prevention and the justice system
- School safety and state funded grants
- Dark Store legislation
- Gateway and Parkside addressing skilled labor needs
- Significant growth county-wide and impact on services
- Agribusiness in Kenosha County
- State passing legislation that impacts local government causing new challenges
- Foxconn projects impacting traffic and roads
- Housing in Kenosha County

The Village and Town of Somers newsletter is published by the Village/Town of Somers for public education and informational purposes. This newsletter is distributed to the residents via the U.S. Postal Service.

William Morris, Village/Town Administrator, Managing Editor

Jacqueline Klapproth Nelson, News and Creative Editor

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HIGH ANGLE RESCUE

Somers Fire & Rescue responded to a person who had fallen down a steep Lake Michigan embankment when the edge broke away, causing a fall of ten feet with a total distance to the bottom of 20 feet. Unable to climb back up, a Kenosha County Technical Rescue Team who specializes in high angle rescues responded as well as Somers ladder truck #6331 with special equipment. The person, who was hoisted up using ropes, pulleys, harnesses and other equipment, was rescued safely with very minor injuries.

Please use caution when walking near the edge of Lake Michigan bluffs as there may be little support under the edge.

Somers Attends Convention Seeking Retail Development

In a joint effort to proactively seek retail development, Somers, Pleasant Prairie, Bristol, Salem Lakes, the City of Kenosha, County of Kenosha, and KABA (Kenosha Area Business Alliance) retained consultants to provide a retail development plan that will assist in seeking development that will serve the needs of our residents and visitors. Representatives of these communities, including George Stoner, Village President and Bill Morris, Administrator, attended the world's largest global gathering of retail real estate professionals at the May ICSC RECON convention in Las Vegas where they met face-to-face with prospects.

Stoner and Morris attended the convention with a printed and digital Somers development package to distribute to interested parties. A "Discover Somers" demographic and community profile was included in addition to maps and statistics of development opportunities and site locations.

Upon returning from the convention, George Stoner, Bill Morris and Jason Peters prepared a prompt response and follow-up to all interested parties with the goal of answering questions and encouraging prospects to make a visit to our community.