



## *Somers' 4th - A Good Ol' Hometown Parade!*

The annual Somers 4th of July parade is a go!

Last year's parade was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Anyone interested in entering the parade can fill out a form on the Somers website and mail it to:

Parade Committee, P.O. Box 197,  
Somers, WI 53171

It can also be faxed to: 262-859-2331

Staging begins at noon and ends at 1:30 p.m. at Shoreland Lutheran High School, 9026 12th St. Use the east entrance.

Roads will close at noon at the intersection of Highway E (12th Street) and Highway H (88th Avenue).

The parade route begins at the Shoreland Lutheran High School west entrance, proceeds east on Highway E (12th Street), turns right onto 72nd Avenue (Highway EA) and ends at Somers Elementary, 1245 72nd Ave. It is approximately 1.5 miles in length.



Marching bands take part in the 2019 4th of July parade.

*The Somers newsletter is now online only. The new publication is expected to be available quarterly instead of bi-annually which will make the information more timely.*

*The newsletter will be in a pdf format which can be printed or easily read on any computer.*

*This new delivery method makes it available to a broader audience and saves the Village money on printing and mailing cost.*

*We hope you like it!*

# Staff updates

## Clerk/Treasurer

After 14 years as the Somers Clerk/Treasurer, Tim Kitzman has retired.

"We all thank him for his 14 years of service," said Somers Administrator Jason Peters.

Mary Ann Cole, who was the Assistant to the Administrator has become Clerk/Treasurer.

"Tim has been very helpful making the transition very smooth," she said.

Cole had her first test run with elections in Somers for the primary.

"She is more than ready for the position," said Peters.

## Assistant to the Administrator

Cassandra Bodenbach stepped into the role of Assistant to the Administrator on March 1. She is a familiar face as she was working as the front office clerk.

"She has done a great job," said Peters. "I look forward to working with her in this new position."

## Public Works

Andrew Kreye was hired as Foreman in the Somers Public Works department. Bryan Paielli was hired in the Public Works I position. He will take Bob Rojas' position. Rojas is retiring in May after working more than 24 years for Somers.

Andy Kreye is a local resident. He previously worked in a municipal public works department.

Bryan Paielli was also hired in Public Works. Bryan will replace Wayne Johnson who is retiring in May after working more than 23 years for Somers.

Bryan is a Somers resident and has technical and mechanical experience working in public works.

We look forward to their contribution to the Village of Somers.

# New development

Somers welcomes the following new businesses to the area:

■ **Taco Bell** - The restaurant chain will be located in Somers Market just south of the Starbucks. It will feature a 300-square-foot outdoor patio.

■ **Golden Oil** - The Amoco gas station and office building is under construction at the corner of 22nd Avenue and 12th Street.

■ **Popeyes** - The restaurant will be located at the northeast corner of Highway S and Brumback Boulevard.

■ **Kwik Trip** - A travel center has been approved at the corner of Highway S and East Frontage Road. It will include 24 fueling stations, 10 lanes for diesel truck fueling and 106 parking spots for semis.

■ **The Sanctuary at Pike River** - This is a multi-family housing development on an 88-acre parcel located on the northwest corner of Green Bay Road and Highway L. It consists of 42 buildings containing 330 one- to three-bedroom units and a clubhouse.



The Sanctuary at Pike River



Popeyes



Golden Oil



Kwik Trip

## Keep Somers looking good

*As a reminder, there are Village/Town ordinances regulating the upkeep of your property. The ordinances address items such as grass cutting, how a trailer should be kept and junk cars.*

*Chapter 9 of the ordinances addresses junk and abandoned vehicles, chapter 10 addresses public nuisances and chapter 21 addresses property maintenance requirements.*

*For more information, Village/Town ordinances can be found under the Government tab on the Somers website at [somer.org](http://somer.org).*

**Kenosha County Executive  
Jim Kreuser  
announces a**

## Household Hazardous Waste, E-waste & Refrigerant Collection Event

### Household hazardous waste items include:

Household cleaning items, aerosol cans, bug sprays, vehicle related fluids, oil-based paints, paint removal products, fluorescent bulbs, pool chemicals and garden/outdoor related products.

### E-waste (electronic waste) items include:

Computers, laptops, fax machines, keyboards, mice, stereos, scanners, iPods, TVs, VCRs, DVD, CD and MP3 players, printers, phones, copiers, power tools, toner cartridges and electronic toys.

### Refrigerant waste (containing freon) items include:

Refrigerators, water coolers, freezers, air conditioners, water heaters, dehumidifiers, microwaves and other household appliances.

### Do NOT bring the following materials:

Liquid paint, tires, infectious or biological waste, compressed gas cylinders, explosives, radioactive waste, medical and pharmaceutical waste and commercial or business waste. These materials will NOT be accepted.

Bring your items to the  
Kenosha County Center  
19600 75th Street, Bristol, WI 53104

**on Saturday, May 1, 2021  
from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

For more information, please visit the Kenosha County website at [www.kenoshacounty.org](http://www.kenoshacounty.org) or contact the Extension Kenosha County Office at 262-857-1945.





# Spring general election

The 2021 Spring Elections are April 6.

If you need to request an absentee ballot, you can do it online at [MyVote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov), or through the Somers Clerk/Treasurer.

The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot by mail is 5 p.m. Thursday, April 1, unless the elector is indefinitely confined to home or a care facility, in the military, hospitalized, or serving as a sequestered juror.

If one of these exceptions applies, contact the Somers Clerk/Treasurer regarding deadlines for requesting and submitting an absentee ballot.

If you are mailing your absentee ballot, the Postal Service recommends that you allow up to seven days for your ballot to get there. If you have

## February election numbers

*In the Feb. 16 Primary Election, participation was as follows:*

- 64 votes were cast in the Town
- 507 votes were cast in the Village

not returned your ballot within that time frame, it is recommended to return the ballot in person to the Somers Clerk/Treasurer's office or to use the designated ballot box before the deadline.

There are two designated boxes, one in front of the Village Hall, the other in front of Somers Fire Station 2, 818 12th St. (Highway E).

Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on April 6 to be counted.

The Somers Village Hall, 7511 12th St. (Highway E), is open for in-person absentee voting as follows:

- 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, March 29 to April 1
- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 2.

Somers Clerk/Treasurer Mary Ann Cole can be reached at 262-859-2822 or [MCole@somers.org](mailto:MCole@somers.org).

For more information about the races, candidates or to see sample ballots, visit [somers.org/departments/clerk-treasurer/elections-voting-information/](https://somers.org/departments/clerk-treasurer/elections-voting-information/)

# Pritzker updates

The Pritzker Archives & Memorial Park Center construction is proceeding as planned. The construction company has completed the grading on the property and has been working on the Pritzker Military Archives Center building foundations, lower-level wall forming, concrete, insulation, and water-proofing the floor slab. They will soon be putting up the final wall section of the basement structure.

The developer has been talking to Root-Pike WIN to discuss ways to improve stormwater runoff and potentially restore a more natural state of the Kilbourn Ditch which goes through the property.

Somers is in the process of extending the water and sewer infrastructure to the property and will begin construction as soon as weather permits. All easements for the infrastructure project have been acquired by the Village.



Foundation is going in



# Water diversion

Growth in Somers is extending west. Water diversion is needed based on population projections and includes construction of new developments like the Pritzker Archives & Memorial Park Center. Part of the project involves the extension of water and sewer utilities to the property. All easements necessary for the utilities have been acquired. Because the western part of the Village is located across the subcontinental divide between the Lake Michigan basin and Mississippi River basin, Somers must apply for a water diversion permit from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

"The requested diversion amount is sufficient to serve the current population and the projected ultimate buildout population," Douglas Snyder, consulting engineer with Baxter & Woodman, indicated in the application. "This water diversion is based on population projections rather than current development, and represents the culmination of a 10-year effort to expand municipal water service throughout the Village."

The request is to divert up to 1.2 million gallons of water per day, and only 20,000 gallons is anticipated as the average annual water consumption for the Pritzker Archives & Memorial Park Center.

The application was filed with the state DNR and is being reviewed to make sure it fulfills the Great Lakes compact diversion requirements. A public hearing and comment period will be held later this spring.

The Village's application would not require review by all Great Lakes states and Canadian provinces under terms of the compact, said Adam Freihoefer, DNR water use section chief. He said the amount of water that would be used and not returned to the lake is far below the 5 million gallons per day threshold that would trigger regional review.

"In the case of the Village of Somers, they'll just need state approval for this application," said Freihoefer.

"We've been working on this for a very long time," Somers Village Administrator Jason Peters said, adding that it is part of a plan for future development.

The Somers request for a water diversion is no surprise to Marc Smith, policy director of the National Wildlife Federation.

The water withdrawal would pose no significant impact to Lake Michigan and water levels, Smith said. He added that all water returned to the Great Lakes basin would be treated by the Kenosha Water Utility.

Somers buys water from the Kenosha Water Utility, but operates its own water system. The Kenosha Water Utility approved the water withdrawal amounts and facilities are adequate to meet the Village's diversion request if approved.

More information and updates are available online at [dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/WaterUse/Somers.html](http://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/WaterUse/Somers.html).

## Free Carbon Monoxide Detector Program

Somers residents in need of a carbon monoxide detector are invited to reach out to the Somers Fire & Rescue Department.

A limited number of alarms are available for free. If interested, call 262-620-3285 or email [api-sula@somers.org](mailto:api-sula@somers.org) and firefighters will gladly come to your home and install a new carbon monoxide alarm.

# Infrastructure upgrades are ongoing

## Sheridan Road

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has approved the replacement of the water mains in the Sheridan Road area through a 30-year loan from the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program. Construction should start shortly. Oakes Construction, the contractor, plans to start near Highway KR.

The sewer mainlines and laterals in that area will also be rehabilitated through a 30-year loan from the Clear Water Fund. The contractor for the project, Musson Brothers Construction, will be starting shortly as well.

The two projects will happen concurrent as to minimize disruption. The road will be resurfaced once the utilities have been updated.

## Pumping Stations

Seawall and 7th Street Sewage Pumping Stations are being upgraded this year. August Winters & Sons will be doing the work. They were the contractor for the other stations as well. The construction is planned to be completed by mid-April.

The village plans to update two more pumping stations next year.

*The Village and Town of Somers "Connecting With Your Community" newsletter is published by the Village/Town of Somers for public education and informational purposes. This newsletter is distributed to the residents through the Somers website in a easily printable format.*

*Jason Peters, Village/Town Administrator, Managing Editor. Kevin Poirier, News and Creative Editor.*

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