

VILLAGE VIEWS

VILLAGE OF SLINGER NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2020



Welcome to the first edition of Slinger's new quarterly newsletter!

This will provide up-to-date information on Village programs, procedures and events. We're working on setting up an email list for automated delivery of future editions.

The Village's COVID-19 Experience

Can you remember all the way back to January of this year? Back when we were starting a brand-new calendar and it looked like 2020 was going to be just another normal year? Wouldn't that have been nice! Unfortunately, the Coronavirus had other plans for all of us and this year has turned out to be anything but normal. Here in the Village, we have made very effort to keep up with the fast-changing developments and implement adequate safety precautions while still maintaining Village services and utilities. Village Hall remained, and remains, open throughout the crisis. We also made sure residents, businesses, and visitors were aware of the different options for reducing direct contact such as our online payment system forms found on the Village website: www.vi.slinger.wi.gov. We observe social distancing and comply with any mask regulations when appropriate distances can't be maintained.

We continue to monitor the pandemic situation and explore ways to make interactions at Village Hall as safe as possible. Many thanks to all Village employees and other community members who have been working to keep everyone safe during this stressful time! For more information on the status of COVID-19 in Washington County, consult the Washington Ozaukee Health Department website: www.washozwi.gov.

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Be sure to follow the progress of the Village's trail project, as discussed on Page 3 inside.

Conducting Elections in a Pandemic



It was all hands on deck during April's elections. Public Works Operator Travis Rusch was one of many Village employees who filled in for pollworkers.

There's no denying that elections in the midst of the pandemic this April were more than a little challenging. Village Clerk Tammy Tennes and her staff worked hard to conduct a successful election and they're using that experience to prepare for the next two rounds: the August 11th Primary and the November 3rd General Elections. These will both be held in the new Public Works building which will allow more room to maintain social distances. Elections staff is also preparing for higher volumes of absentee ballot requests.

More information on voting and absentee ballots can be found on the Village website (www.vi.slinger.wi.gov) or at the State's My Vote site (<https://myvote.wi.gov>). Whichever way you decide to vote, be sure to participate in the elections. Your vote matters!

The Slinger Parks & Recreation Department has been offering a wonderful series of free music events in Community Park. These take place on most Wednesday evenings until September 2nd, with a grand finale/Homecoming Party tentatively scheduled for Friday, September 25th. Food trucks from Little Switzerland and the Wisconsin Meat and Sausage Company are on hand to provide tasty local treats, along with the Ein Prosit beer garden concessions and the Broken Earth farm stand. The fantastic lineup includes Slinger native Jacob Olson, Tae, Dani Daly & Kris Crow, Dirty Boogie, Amelia Ford, Rudy & Vee, Hometown, and Wasted Talent. Each evening has been sponsored by a Village business: Four Star Homes, Forte Bank, Dittmar Realty, HFR Electric, Exit Realty, Joe's Slinger Service, and Zuern Building Products—we're very grateful to each of these terrific community supporters! These events provide a great opportunity to enjoy a lovely summer evening with delicious food and fantastic tunes. We hope to see you there!

Slinger Parks & Rec Offering Activity Options

This year's pandemic conditions have really changed the look of our Parks & Recreation programming, to say the least. Parks & Recreation Director Tony Dobson and his staff continue to work on modifying existing programs and creating new recreational opportunities to provide safe and healthy options for our community. As of the beginning of August, the youth flag football leagues are still scheduled using recommended safety guidelines. There's also a Youth Fantasy Football League that sounds like it'll be a lot of fun.

"Let's Dance" classes for children ages 2—11 are being presented in coordination with the Jackson Joint Parks & Recreation Department. They're also offering fun classes like "Be a Rocket Scientist" and "Mad Science Robot Invasion". Check out all the possibilities on the Village website or the Parks & Recreation Department's Facebook page!

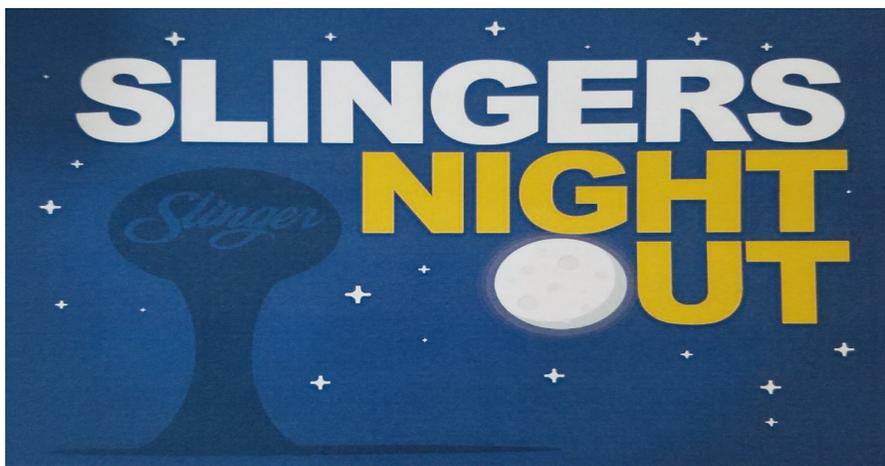
Music in the Park Continues to Rock!



Slinger's National Night Out—Delayed, but Worth the Wait!

Slinger will be participating in this year's National Night Out event on its delayed date—Tuesday, October 6th. The event will be held from 5pm—8pm at Community Park. There will be music and food trucks and raffles. Community groups and businesses will be on hand to exhibit their activities and services. One of the highlights of the evening will be the Slinger Fire Department's National Fire Prevention Week demonstrations. They'll have some of their equipment on display and will have fun activities for kids and grownups alike. It's a terrific way to get to know your community and meet more neighbors! Another big part of the evening will be the grand opening of the Slinger trail. You can read more about the trail below. The project is on track to be completed by early October, so we plan to celebrate this with a ribbon cutting ceremony during Slinger's Night Out.

There will be something for everyone at Community Park on October 6th—fun for the whole family!



The Village's Ice Age Trail Project is Moving Right Along

One of the Village's big projects this year is the trail that you can see going in between Community Park and Cedar Creek Road. This will re-route a section of the Ice Age Trail that goes through Slinger, taking it off the street and winding it through lovely fields and wetlands behind Little Switzerland Ski Hill to reconnect with Cedar Creek Road to continue to the Polk Kames section. The Village is also installing a loop that will take you around the Glen Hill pond for another scenic route. Students from Slinger High School are constructing benches and interpretative signage that will be lovely features along the walk. The trail will provide an off-street connection for walking or biking between the Middle School neighborhood and Community Park.



Hartford Road Project— It's Been a Challenge

The other major project the Village is completing this year hasn't been nearly as much fun as the trail. The reconstruction of Hartford Road and James Street has provided a lot of challenges and headaches. We appreciate all the patience and flexibility that residents in the area have shown as their roads have been ripped up all summer. This project will produce a lot of significant improvements in water and sewer distribution, stormwater management and traffic safety. We know it's been very frustrating to live through, but we're working hard to make the improvements as quickly and safely as possible. Thank you for bearing with us through it all!



The Library is Providing Fall Fun!

Your Slinger Community Library has had to make a lot of creative adjustments this year as the ongoing pandemic has placed serious limitations on their programs and procedures. Even though in-person programming isn't possible at this time, Library staff has done a lot of research and planning to provide some wonderful remote and safe-distance fun. Pre-school Story Times are available via Google Meets every Wednesday at 9:30am, with corresponding craft kits available to pick up at the Library.

Monthly fun includes At Home Scavenger Hunts, Take n' Make kits for children, teens and adults, and virtual Lego Challenges. There are also Teen Trivia events—September's Teen Trivia will focus on the Hunger Games series.

Check out the Library's website (www.slingerlibrary.org) or Facebook page for all the details!

Come See the New Public Works Facility!

It's a little hard to see tucked in behind the Library, but the Village's new Public Works facility is worth checking out. Everyone will have the chance to look it over on Monday, September 28th from 4pm-7pm at the Public Works Open House. Village equipment will be on display and other Village Departments will be there to show our residents and businesses how your tax dollars are being put to work. The Slinger Parks & Recreation Department will also hold a Public Information Meeting on their proposed 5-year Parks & Open Space Plan during this time. There will be information on Village committees and other ways to get involved with your community. We look forward to seeing you there!

