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MARCH 2023

 The FREEMAN & ENTERPRISE

Lake Country

THIS MONTH

Chenequa • Delafield • Hartland • Merton • Nashotah • Okauchee • Pewaukee

The Grain's construction in Delafield expected to be finished this fall

DELAFIELD — The Grain, a \$25 million development featuring two, four-story buildings under construction at 705 Genesee St., is Delafield's first mass timber development. The timbers are on site and ready to be installed.

The buildings will include office, retail and restaurant spaces. The development includes 125 combined surface and underground parking stalls, along with 60,000 square feet of office space and 18,000 square feet of retail and restaurant space. Leasing is still available for retail, restaurant and office tenants, according to a statement from the developers.

Hendricks Commercial Properties announced that venture-backed AI company, Synthetiaic and Midwest Insurance Group are the first two tenants of The Grain.

The Grain is using a state-of-the-art construction method that combines solid wood panels and beams to create a strong and versatile structure, according to a statement. The method is environmentally friendly and a low carbon alternative to concrete and steel.

"The Grain is transforming a vacant lot in the middle of downtown into a one-of-a-kind space for businesses," said Rob Gerbitz, president and CEO of Hendricks Commercial Properties, in a statement. "Using mass timber construction is putting Delafield on the map as a city that takes pride in providing sustainable, top-quality amenities for its residents and local businesses."

The construction on both buildings is expected to be completed this fall. For more information about The Grain, visit <http://bit.ly/3YjLi3M>.



A rendering of The Grain, a \$25 million development featuring two, four-story buildings at 705 Genesee St. in Delafield. Construction is expected to be completed this fall.

Courtesy of Hendricks Commercial Properties

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Bell Tower Memorial project receives donation

PEWAUKEE — The Bell Tower Memorial (BTM) project received a \$25,000 donation from Circle Electric of Butler. The BTM project is being built in the Kiwanis Village Park in Pewaukee. The donation secures the entire electrical portion of the veteran and community memorial as proposed by Corporate Contractors, Inc., CCI, of Beloit, according to a statement. For more information on how to help build the memorial, visit <http://bit.ly/3ZpTswL>.



Courtesy of Bell Tower Memorial
From left to right: Cheri Enters, BTM administrator; Ryan Kastanek, Circle Electric; Jayne Ruelle, BTM marketing; Jean Miller, BTM treasurer/board member; and Bill Rheingans, veteran/BTM board member.

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B.





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C.

How sweet it is!

Assessing the value of some cookie jars

Sweet treats were a small indulgence for Americans in the 1920s when cookie jars became trendy. Many companies began promoting cookie containers that brought whimsy to dreary kitchens. These ceramic jars were marketed in Woolworth's, Kresge's and similar local stores. A popular design was Little Red Riding Hood manufactured by Hull Pottery Company, Crooksville, Ohio and patented in 1943. It was the most copied cookie jar design. Both domestic and foreign companies made reproductions with a wide assortment of sizes, colors, shapes and detail variances (and even the reproductions have been copied).

Very few vintage cookie jars are found in mint condition. Most jars have a large amount of surface wear and original designs have faded or vanished due to high use and many scrubbing.

As with most collectables, value is determined by:

1.) Condition: no chips or cracks

2.) Rarity of design: the quantity originally produced

3.) Comparables: the number currently on the market and

4.) Current market demand

Today, most cookie jars have nominal value. Shown are a few sweet examples:

A.) Hand-decorated canning jar that was repurposed:
Prior to refrigeration, canning crocks were used for preserving food. Housewives often decorated these durable stoneware crocks to label the contents. Then they called it a "make-do.") **Current market value is about \$40.**

B.) This Puss n' Boots set manufactured by the Shawnee Company from Zanesville, Ohio included an open-mouth creamer and lidded sugar bowl that matched the cookie jar. The felines have gilt trim on their hats, bows and flowers for a bit of kitchen bling. **Three-piece set is \$175.**

C.) "Ovenproof Corn King" was also manufactured by the Shawnee Company from Zanesville, Ohio. This corn-shaped covered bowl, salt and pepper shakers and matching cookie jar were originally all sold separately. **Current value of the four-piece set is \$225.**

(To schedule an appraisal appointment at the Waukesha Antique Mall (or at your location), email Barbara J. Eash: beap-praisals@gmail.com (fees vary).)

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A firefighter’s dedication to the community

Walker a volunteer with the Hartland Fire Department for 44 years

By Faith Rae
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HARTLAND — Hartland resident Shjonna Petersen was worried to see firefighters and a fire truck outside of her home on her Ring camera on March 4. But a wave of relief settled over Petersen when she spotted a little boy and one of the firefighters playing a fun game of catch.

The Hartland Fire Department responded to a carbon monoxide alarm in an apartment complex that day. After making sure no hazard existed, Lt. Patrick Walker, 67, decided to interact with one of the young boys standing nearby the scene.

“It was so cute. It relieved my nerves once I saw that,” said Petersen, who was at work when the fire personnel showed up. “Being in Lake Country, I moved here from somewhere else, and just seeing how strong the community is and the support for each other is really cool.” Walker spotted a 7-year-old boy with a football in his hands. Having grandchildren about the same age, Walker asked the boy if he knew how to go out for a pass.

“He started running, I threw him the ball and he brought it back. I said, ‘We can do better than that,’ so I did it a couple more times, and he was catching the ball with a big smile on his face,” Walker said. “I like to talk to little kids when I’m in my fire gear because everybody likes to talk to a fireman.”

Walker has been a volunteer firefighter for the Hartland Fire Department for 44 years, and prior to that, he was with the North Lake Fire Department for two years. He has been an EMT since 1982.

The Hartland community has been Walker’s home since he was 10- years-old, and knowing many people in the community, Walker knows the importance of interacting with everyone around him.

“It’s especially gratifying to go on a medical call when the people know who it is that’s walking in the door to help them,” Walker



Courtesy of Shjonna Petersen

Lt. Patrick Walker, volunteer with the Hartland Fire Department for 44 years, after responding to a call and determining no hazard existed on the scene March 4.

said. “It makes a big difference.” When there is no active emergency during a call, the firefighters make an effort to try and talk with members of the community. Sometimes they even let children go inside of the truck and walk around.

“We like to see their eyes light up and their big smiles. These trucks seem so big to a little 7-year-old,” Walker said. “We try to encourage them and let them know that we are friendly so if

there ever is danger they can trust us, and maybe inspire them to become firefighters someday.” Being a volunteer firefighter is a big commitment, and Walker said if it wasn’t for the support of his wife and family, he wouldn’t be doing it for as long as he has.

“We get a lot of calls in the middle of family functions and we have to go to them,” Walker said. “That’s something that comes with the job. But the fami-

ly has to be supportive otherwise it doesn’t work.” Walker’s entire family understands the commitment it takes to be a firefighter, as many of them have gone into the field as well. His son and son-in-law are both Hartland firefighters and EMTs. His son-in-law is a lieutenant, and his son is a deputy chief with the department. His daughter is an EMT in Waukesha and works in the emergency center at St. Luke’s. And Walker’s

dad was a fireman in the Marine Corps back in World War II.

In his free time, Walker plays all over the Lake Country area as drummer in the After Hours Band, stays active and spends time with his grandkids, all while staying committed to his role as a firefighter.

“A lot of people do what I do and it’s nothing special,” Walker said. “It’s just trying to be friendly to little kids.”

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